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Mr Ray Beagle, chief negotiator for the employers, said that while the basic claim was only 75 per cent, it would amount to almost 100 per cent when considered in relation to all the different aspects of the men's wages — including hourly rates, cost-of-living clauses, overtime mileage rates and fringe benefits.

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Meanwhile, it was announced in Detroit yesterday, the crisis - ridden Chrysler motor corporation has sacked 2,200 workers at five of its seven US plants.

The corporation has already planned to lay off 37.000 workers for one 37,000 workers for week during the next fort-night in addition to closing and the New Year.

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All three big manufacturers are now hard hit and will undoubtedly try to recoup their losses through sackings at home and further attacks on workers in their British and Continental subsidiaries.



'Don't rock the boat!'

A cartoon from the union journal 'United Electric'.

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35,000 Income Tax officers yesterday began an overtime ban which will seriously disrupt tax collection and refund-

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Lawrence said after being charged that in the light of the US Command Inspectorinvestig his censorship charges and the offence with which he is charged, he is seeking 'the legal aid of several prominent US attorneys'.

General strike

This case, which highlights the prospect of repressive measures against soldiers who protest over the US war policy, opens against a background of

South Vietnam's 118 trade unions issued a joint statement on Wednesday claiming that 'the current troubles may lead to a

By a foreign correspondent

growing crisis in the war and the Saigon regime.

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situation of the country now in the process of fighting the communist aggressor and rebuilding its economy'.

Workers moving

Hard-hit by inflation and by the rampant corruption in Saigon and the other cities of South Vietnam, the working class is now unmistakably moving against the discredited puppet regime. When even the gangster unions Thieu has imposed on the South Vietnam workers threaten general strike action against the war, Thieu's number is up.

Defying his threats of public execution, the members of Thieu's own handpicked 'parliament' are becoming more and more hostile to his regime, which now staggers on only by ● PAGE FOUR COL. 4 →

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Nothing could make clear the relationship between the Labour leaders' support for the Vietnam slaughter and the attacks on workers in Britain better than Jenkins's Chicago assurance at the British-American Chamber of Com-merce that the freeze and squeeze would continue in Britain.

Now is the time to take into every trade union branch and shop stewards' committee the demand that the labour movement mobilizes to break Wilson's support for the brutal

Leading trade unionists, writers and members of the Communist Party — defying their leaders' official line — continue to support our campaign to stop the visit paign to stop the visit.
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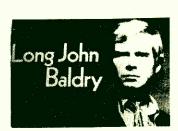
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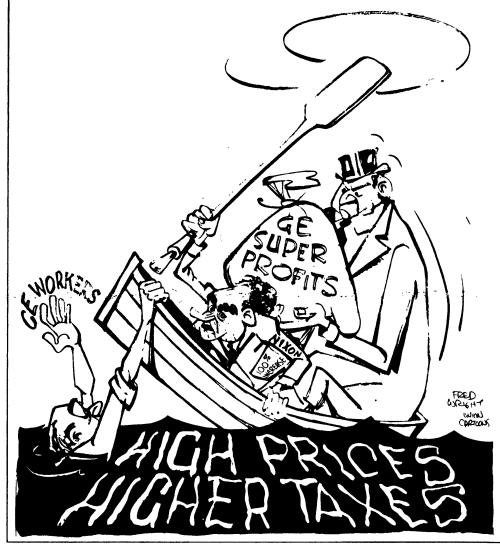
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BOB SEATON LOOKS AT THE LIFE OF JOHN McLEAN PART ONE:

WHEN THE first imperialist war began in August 1914, the Second International collapsed. All but a small minority of European socialists fell in behind their 'own' national governments.

Most of those who did 'oppose the war' adopted what Lenin called a centrist position, deploring war, but objectively vacillating between support for their 'own' bourgeoisie and support for the international working class.

In Britain, the Independent Labour Party was the main example of this tendency.

Only very small sections of European socialism adopted anything like a fully 'internationalist' position on the war -adopting the slogan 'Our chief enemy is at home', and working for the revolutionary overthrow of their own bourgeoisie.

Chief amongst these was the Bolshevik Party, led by Lenin. Lenin, often almost entirely alone, was able to analyse and learn the lessons of the collapse of the Second International. He was able to apply these lessons in 1917, when the Bolsheviks under his leadership proved that they had prepared themselves theoretically so as to be able to lead the working class of Russia to

But both before and after 1917, Lenin stressed that socialism could never be built in a single country, that the proletarian revolution must be an international revolution.

Constantly therefore he sought to analyse the tendencies at work in the workingclass movement internationally.

During the period of the war and the Russian Revolution he naturally looked mainly at those parts of the world where the revolution seemed most imminent.

He was particularly concerned with Germany, and with the 'internationalist' elements there led by Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht.

Correct emphasis

Events were to prove this emphasis correct, for, in 1918-1919, it was only the betrayals of the Social - Democratic leaders-including their complicity in the murder of Liebknecht and Luxemburg which prevented the workingclass from taking power.

In Britain, which had the oldest working class and most ment in the world, it appeared that the lessons of reformism were being learnt more slowly.

The Labour Party was building up its strength on quite explicitly reformist demands, and was aided by the largest 'socialist society' the Independent Labour Party.

The parties which had revolutionary programmes — especially the British Socialist Party, and the Socialist Labour Party — were never able to become anything more than small sects.

And they were shot through with internal weaknessesnationalism and reformism in the BSP, syndicalism in the SLP, etc.

In speaking of the response to the war in Britain, Lenin realized that only minute sections of the movement could be characterized as internationalist.

He knew of nobody who, like Liebknecht in Germany; had 'called upon the workers and soldiers of Germany to turn their guns against their own governments'.

But there were those whom he spoke of as 'closest to the internationalists in deed'.

These included some ILPers, some isolated groups, and some BSPers, of whom the best known was 'the Scottish socialist school-teacher McLean'. John McLean (1879-1923). Clydeside revolutionary.





WORKERS' PRESS

McLean

Scottish socialist



A contemporary newspaper photograph of the Glasgow Green anti-war demonstration addressed by John McLean.

was mentioned several times by Lenin in his analyses of the war, and of the stages through which the revolutionary movement had to go between the catastrophe of 1914 and the

triumph of 1917. The first stage after 1914, wrote Lenin, was contained in 'the action of individuals, whose boundless energy represented everything honest that remained of that decayed "official" socialism [of the Second International] which is in reality social-chauvinism'.

The main representative of this stage in Britain was John McLean.

Radical elements

It was no coincidence that some of the most militant leaders (as well as some of the most weak-minded traitors) in the British working-class movement should have come from Scotland.

As Trotsky pointed out 'Where Is Britain Going?'

'The most radical elements of the contemporary British labour movement are mostly of Scottish or Irish race. (This law is not extended, of course, to cover the Scotsman, Mac-Donald.) The union in Ireland of social and national oppression, in the face of sharp conflict of an agrarian with a

This brings out two points, which find expression in

This will be discussed further below, in the light of

Secondly, Trotsky indicates the way in which the development of industrial capitalism was a sharper process in Scotland than it was in England.

Pre-industrial Scotland was a smaller, poorer, more backward country than England. From the 17th century on the rising bourgeoisie in both countries forged links-aided notably by the political union of the two countries in 1707which enabled them to advance

Then they were able to build an industrial society based on the exploitation of the working

capitalist country, gives the conditions for sharp changes in consciousness. Scotland set out upon the road of capitalism later than England; a sharper break in the life of the masses of the people causes a sharper break in political reaction.

McLean's life. Firstly the contrast between the sources of Irish 'radicalism' and Scottish 'radicalism', the first deriving partly from the fact of national oppression which never occurred in Scotland.

McLean's retreat into nationalism at the end of his life.

together into the 19th century.

which I was born, it is because my people were swept out of the Highlands.' His father died at the age of 43, when McLean was only nine. He left his widow with four children. Three others had died in infancy. Mrs McLean had to undergo great sacrifices to support the family. McLean later said it was the experience of his mother's self-denial that made him determined 'to use his education in the service of the

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McLean's life reflects this.

His parents were both driven

out of the Highlands to the

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side. At his trial for 'sedition'

in 1918, McLean himself said:

'When I stand true to my class, the working class, in

The rapidity and brutality

worse than in England.

rural areas and pushed them in-

The Scottish bourgeoisie, in

But in Scotland, with its

England.

England.

workers'. He became a pupil-teacher and attended classes at Glasgow University, graduating in 1904. Meanwhile he had advanced from the rigidly Calvinist Free Church Christianity in which he had been brought up, through secularism, to socialism.

The 'common - sense' reformist socialism of Robert Blatchford's 'Merrie England' attracted him first. But soon he was reading Marx's 'Capital', a book which, his experience studying Political Economy at University taught him, the bourgeois professors believed they had 'buried' long

In his mid-20s, McLean joined the Social-Democratic Federation. This was the largest of the Marxist groups in Britain in the age of the Second International (it was

later called the British Socialist

Party), but it was not very strong in the West of Scotland. Soon McLean was a wellknown propagandist, and spent his holidays travelling the length and breadth of Scotland and into the North of

England. In 1906, he began to hold winter classes in Marxist economics in Glasgow. These were to become very popular, attracting hundreds of workers in the period before and during

the war. McLean's method of exposition, and indeed his whole way of life, was in sharp contrast to the attitudes of the leadership of the SDF, of whom one dissident said that, for them, the Revolution had become merely a formal proposition 'in which one may profess belief . . . as the converted costermonger professes his faith in Christ . . . without such profession seriously affecting his social and political

Weaknesses

But in at least one very important way McLean's own development reflected one of the weaknesses in the SDF and

The party's paper 'Justice' sent its delegates off to the Copenhagen Congress of the Second International in 1910 with a lengthy discourse on the most scenic route to take, but with very little discussion of the issues which were to be raised.

John McLean was formally opposed to such an antiinternationalist position, and when, during and after the war, he edited his own paper, 'Vanguard', he stressed the importance of the movement outside Britain.

Yet his own development occurred in very isolated circumstances. He played relatively little

part in the English movement,

far less the international

movement. This was to be most clearly reflected after the war when he failed to see the significance of making contact with

the Bolsheviks and the Third founded in 1919.
When the

When the imperialist slaughter began in 1914, McLean opposed the chauvinist position of the BSP leadership and took up a line against the war. Taking up a statement from the BSP leadership urging a campaign of hate against German militarism, he wrote that:

'Our first business is to hate the British Capitalist system.' This was close to Lenin's slogan, 'Our chief enemy is at home'. But the content of McLean's analysis was a long way from Leninism.

It was not linked to the fight to build up a new sort of revolutionary party—hence McLean was unable consistently to take up the question of the betrayals of the chauvinists of Social Democracy. Nor was he able fully to analyse the imperialist nature of the

Radical critique

His near-isolation from the polemics of European socialism made it impossible for him to transcend an analysis deriving mainly from the liberal-radical critique of imperialism in Britain, associated with men like J. A. Hobson.

The fact that McLean was unable to break completely with the methods of the old leadershins and to take up the theoretical fight for a new revolutionary leadership on Bolshevik lines had immediate

practical consequences. He had many 'supporters' on Clydeside, workers who had responded to his propaganda, or had been through his economics classes.

He was tireless in his propagandist work. But it remained propagandist. He was unable to build up an organized political force.

All regional programmes as BBC-except at the following times:

REGIONAL

1.05 p.m. Addola Dduw. 1.30 Watch With Mother. 1.45-1.53 News and Weather. 4.20 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Crackerjack. 5.40 Junior Points Of View. 5.50 National News and Weather. Midlands and East Anglia: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Midlands Today, Look East, Weather. 11.57 News Summary, Weekend Prospects for Anglers, Road Works Report. 6.00 Entertaining With Kerr. 6.25 Quiz Ball. 6.45 The Virginian. North of England: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Lool North, Weather. 11.57 News Head

Scotland: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Reporting Scotland. 8.25-8.50 Current Account. 11.05-11.35 Monty Python's Flying Circus. 11.35 News Headlines, Weather.

Northern Ireland: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Scene Around Six, Weather. 11.57 News Headlines, Weather.

Wales: 1.30-1.45 p.m. Ar Lin Mam. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.45-7.05 Heddiw. 7.05-7.30 Bob Yn Dri. 7.30-7.55 Week In Week Out. 10.00-10.30 Llygad Y Geiniog. 11.57 Weather.

South and West: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Points South Today, Spotlight South-West Weather, 11.57 News Headlines, Waather, Weekend Road Works Re-

ITV

10.30 24 Hours.

11.55 Weatherman.

4.10 p.m. Ballet For All. 4.40 Hatty Town. 4.55 Lost In Space.

FRIDAY

7.55 Not In Front Of The Children. 8.25 Golden Silents.

8.50 The Main News and Weather.

Part one. 10.00 Marty Feldman in Marty

9.10 The Forsyte Saga.

Michael Bentine intro-

duces movies from the National Film Theatre.

Re-screening of serial:

BBC 1

5.50 News. 6.03 Today.

6.30 Peyton Place. 7.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 7.30 Randall and Hopkirk (De-

ceased). 8.30 On The Buses. 9.00 Manhunt. 10.00 News. Parkin's Patch. The Players and the LSO.
With Dudley Moore,
Michael Flanders and

the London Symphony Orchestra. 12 midnight Modern Man-Th Loser?

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 4.14 p.m. Puffin's Birthday Greetings. 4.25 The Ghost and Mrs Muir. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 News. 6.00 Channel News and Weather. 6.10 Channel Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 On The Buses. 7.30 Marcus Welby MD. 8.25 Feature Film: 'The Turning Point', with William Holden and Alexis Smith. 9.50 A Date With Danton. 10.00 London. 11.00 Peyton Place. 11.50 News and Weather in French followed by Weather.

SOUTHERN: 4.00 p.m. Houseparty. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 Hatty Town. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 News. 6.00 Day By Day. 6.00 Scene South-East. 6.40 Out Of Town. 7.00 On The Buses. 7.30 Marcus Welby MD. 8.30 Parkin's Patch. 9.00 London. 10.30 Lonnie. 11.00 London. 12 midnight News Extra. 12.10 a.m. Weather followed by Cardinal Heenan.

WESTWARD. As Channel except. 4.12 p.m. News Headlines. 4.14 The Gus Honeybun Show. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.25 Sports Desk. 11.00 London. 12 midnight Faith For Life. 12.06 a.m. Weather.

a.m. Weather.

HARLECH: 4.20 p.m. It's Time For Me. 4.26 Castle Haven. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.01 Report. 6.20 Batman. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 The Friday Film: 'The Furies', with Barbara Stanwyck, Wendell Corey and Walter Huston. High spirited daughter defies her arrogant father when she falls in love with the man her father hates. 9.00 London. 10.30 Funny You Should Ask: new panel game. 11.00 London. 12 midnight Weather.

Harlech (Wales) as above except: 4.26 p.m. Interlude. 4.29-4.55 Crossroads. 6.01 Y Dydd. 6.30-7.00 Welshscene.

ANGLIA: 4.25 p.m. Newsroom. 4.35 The Romper Room. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 It Takes A Thief. 8.00 Mr and Mrs. 8.30 London. 10.30 LSO Jubilee. 11.30 Horror Film: 'Shadow Of The Cat', with Andre Morell and Barbara Shelley. 12.55 a.m. Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 4.00 p.m. News 4.02 Women Today. 4.15 Peyton Place. 4.40 Once Upon A Time. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 News. 6.00 ATV Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 The Players and the LSO. 11.30 Midlands Member: Tony Gardner, MP for Rushcliffe. 11.45 Internol. Colling. 12.14 Rushcliffe. 11.45 Interpol Calling. 12.14 a.m. Pulse followed by Weather.

News. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.00 UTV Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Friday Cinema: 'Atomic City', with Gene Barry, Nancy Gates, Milburn Stone, Lydia Clarke and Lee Aaker. 8.30 London. 10.30 Sportscast. 10.55 Friday Night. 11.00-12 midnight London.

YORKSHIRE: 4.00 p.m. News. 4.02
Houseparty. 4.15 Felix The Cat. 4.20
I've Married A Bachelor. 4.55 Tarzan.
5.50 News. 6.00 Calendar and
Weather. 6.30 Wheel Of Fortune. 7.00
Parkin's Patch. 7.30 On The Buses.
8.00 Marcus Welby MD. 9.00 Happy
Ever After: 'The Prank', with Ann
Lynn and William Marlowe. Christmas party at a prepancy testing mas party at a pregnancy testing laboratory. 10.00 News, 10.30 York-shire Special: Soccer in the Seventies. 11.00 London. 12 midnight Late

GRANADA: 4.15 News Headlines followed by Hatty Town. 4.25 The Short Story. 5.00 Joe 90. 5.20 Woobinda—Animal Doctor. 5.50 News. 6.00 Newsview. 6.05 The Beverly Hillbillies. 6.30 All Our Yesterdays. 7.00 On The Buses. 7.30 Put It In Writing. 7.35 The Name Of The Game. 9.00 London. 10.30 The Players and the LSO. 11.30 The Big Valley.

TYNE TEES: 4.08 p.m. Newsroom. 4.10 Ballet For All. 4.40 London. 4.53 Newsroom. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today. 6.30 The Beverly Hillbillies. 7.00 Parkin's Patch. 7.30 On The Buses. 8.00 The Wild, Wild West. 9.00 London. 10.30 The Players and the LSO. 11.30 Monster Movies: 'Frankestein', with Boris Karloff. The daddy of them all. 12.50 a.m. News.

SCOTTISH: 4.20 p.m. Scotland Early, 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.00 Scotland Now. 6.30 A Handful Of Songs with Alasdair Gillies, Robin Hall. Jimmie McGregor and Tsai Chin. 7.00 The Legend of Jesse James. 7.30 The Peyton Place Hour. 8.30 London. 10.30 In Camera. 11.00 London. 12 midnight Late Call.

GRAMPIAN: 4.16 p.m. Plupp. 4.25 Castle Haven. 4.55 Tarzan. 5.50 News. 6.00 Grampian News. 6.10 Why On Earth? 6.30 Bugs Bunny. 6.35 Bonanza. 7.35 Adam 12. 8.00 The Dave King Show. 8.30 The Saint. 9.30 McCue's Music. 10.00 News. 10.30 Points

BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 6.30 Time Machines. News and Weather. 8.00 Waterline:

Yacht-life of British retired in Malta. 8.25 Cold Comfort Farm. 9.10 Italian Cinema: 'The Bandits of Orgosolo'.

Directed by Vittorio de Seta. Sardinian shepherd turns to banditry. The leading roles are all played by Sardinian shepherds.

Yet the bourgeois authorities

-particularly the officials of

the Ministry of Munitions-

were more afraid of its leaders

a well-conceived scheme to

divide the CWC leaders off

from the workers out of whose

immediate struggles the com-

the weakness of the committee,

yet, despite his general

'following' on the Clyde, he

had no alternative organization.

As one civil servant pointed

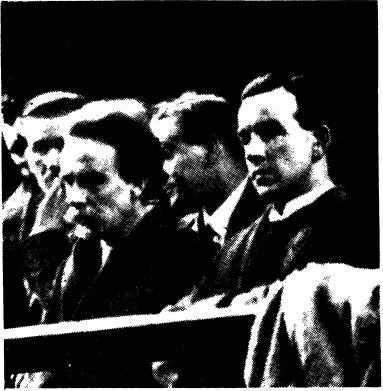
McLean was able to analyse

mittee had sprung.

They knew that it required

than they were of McLean.

10.40 News, Weather. 10.45 Line-Up.



Gallacher and Kirkwood, members of the Clyde Workers' Committee, on trial for encouraging munitions strikes during the First World War.

The wartime demand for munitions led to a big drive on Clydeside (and throughout Britain) for 'dilution' of the skilled labour force, which threatened the whole position of the engineers in particular.

This raised the consciousness of these workers to the extent that they were able to wage strike struggles in spite of the ruthless tactics of the government and the 'patriotic' humbug of its allies in the

The official trade union leaderships refused to lead these struggles and 'unofficial' leaderships were created. Notable amongst these was the Clyde Workers' Committee, led by men like William Gallacher, David Kirkwood and Arthur McManus.

McLean was on this committee for a time at the end of 1915, but he broke with it over its failure to take up a political fight against the

The Committee had put forward the demand for the nationalization of the munitions firms and for workers' participation in management, as a condition for co-operating in the policy of 'dilution'. This McLean argued correctly was merely asking for a share in the management of slaughter, unless it was linked to a fight against the war.

The Clyde Workers' Committee was unable to go beyond its essentially syndicalist ideas, and was eventually smashed by the government in March 1916.

out early in 1916: 'The removal' from Glasgow

of men like Gallacher and Kirkwood, 'would at once cause a big strike', unless tactics were carefully worked

Sentences

But McLean, he felt, not being a worker, could probably be more easily dealt with. He was dealt with several times during the war. First, he received a mild sentence for making the statement 'I have been enlisted for 15 years in

the socialist army. God damn

all other armies'.

Thereafter he was sacked from his job as a teacher by the Govan School Board. In 1916, he received a three-year sentence, and in 1918 a fiveyear sentence for offences under the Defence of Realm Acts—making statements prejudicial to recruiting and likely to cause disaffection amongst the civil population,

The mounting pressure of the working class on Clydeside was such however that McLean served only a small proportion of these sentences, about 15 months of the first, and only six months of the second. The second part of this

article will appear in tomorrow's Workers Press.

Liebknecht (pictured above addressing a meeting in 1918) was among the few with Lenin's Bolshevik Party to oppose the war under the slogan 'the chief enemy is at home'.

John Maynard Keynes: His

'general theory'

came too late

to influence

policy in the 1930s.



of its decay.

Unemployed workers from **Tarrow** march during the big depression.

This has been a matter not Economic theory as taught in the universities, one of the of choice, but of necessity; a 'purest' forms of capitalist ideology (in the Marxist sense), sign not of the viability of has-slowly and often reluctantly-adapted itself to this this mode of production but While the most influential

crisis evaded economists in the Anglo-Saxon tradition were always prag-

'ECONOMICS AND POLICY' A Historical Study by Donald Winch. Twentieth Century Studies Series Hodder and Stoughton, 63s.

Reviewed by Tom Kemp

EOOK REVIEW

Then, with foreign investattention on the theories and ment resumed, British exports policies of professional economists and, to a lesser extent, could once again flourish and the pound sterling could look of politicians, civil servants the dollar in the face. and bankers—in that order. Little attention is given to what was said in the press or to the policies of the political No one, except other economists, can believe that policy was really determined by the economists. Because it is difficult to trace out the influence of big business and the banks that does not at all mean that it was not paramount. For all its pretentions to make a weighty contribution to the issues, this book really enced a boom. skates round them. The Gen-

eral Strike is only mentioned in passing and nothing is said about the sharpening of class antagonisms which followed the end of the First World War. The question of Britain's

imperialist position, and its decline as a consequence of the war and the pressure of the United States, receives hardly a mention.

Every effort is made, indeed, to evade the unpleasant reali-ties and find 'technical' reasons for Britain's economic difficul-

The realism of the treatment does not improve when Professor Winch moves on to consider the 1930s, when, so he claims, 'a new era of policymaking' began.

The experience of the world economic depression shook confidence in the virtues of the market as a self-equilibriating mechanism.

Each country sought its own salvation by insulating itself as far as possible from the shocks transmitted from the world market.

International monetary chaos took the place of the automatic gold standard.

It was in this situation that Keynes, already an accepted authority, emerged as something like a prophet—the role in which he is still cast by admirers such as Winch.

It can be shown that there was little in Keynes which was new or original and that much of his theory was confused and contradictory.

control over the money supply, the state could and should do

competition, the balanced budget—the old shibboleths of 19th-century policy—had to be sacrificed in order to make capitalism work.

in a market assumed to be

competitive, Keynes empha-

sized the forces which deter-

mined investment, savings,

total output, the level of em-

ployment and the other aggre-

role than most economists had

hitherto been prepared to

Through its taxing and

spending powers, or through its

policy in the 1930s, though it was distinctly a product of the

Although the state was forced to intervene directly in

His theories tended to prove of the past 25 years. that the market provided no automatic way of ensuring that problem of inflation and disthese remained at or near the cussing policy in both Britain and the United States, his highest attainable level. This gave the state a new and more positive economic

treatment of the 1950s and 1960s is summary and confined to the field of policy. International monetary questions, and in particular the

relationship between US imperialism and the world market, including Britain, are hardly mentioned.

Armaments spending is dealt with by an equally discreet silence. The book is therefore certain of success

with his fellow-economists. professional economists, whose numbers in any case greatly

adherents of Keynesianism, its victories at the policy level were less complete. However, the burden of

Winch's argument in the closing chapters is that government policy has been the major factor in making possible capitalism's expansion since 1945. His conclusion, that 'like it

or not, we have entered into an era not merely of extensive state involvement in economic affairs but of continuous and detailed economic management', would seem to be obvious.

Assuming the indefinite existence of capitalism, his postscript is mainly concerned with the ways in which economics can make a contribution to its efficient functioning, especially through the guidance it can offer to policy-makers.

In fact, he has provided a kind of source-book for 'the official economic adviser' working within government machinery.

Certainly an change in the ideological role of the economist has taken place in the past two decades as a concomitant of the development of state-managed capitalism increasingly domin-

Apologetics for the freelyfunctioning market mechanism would clearly be out of place.

a new expertise in handling complex quantitative data (input-output analysis, mathematical economics, econometrics).

They no longer merely have to defend capitalism as its 'hired prize-fighters' in their

more and more directly into the running of the system and

their ideological commitment

lyse the workings of the capitalist mode of production with the objectivity which Marx appreciated in Ricardo.

matic enough to accept that there were circumstances which warranted the intervention of the state in the economy, at least until the 1930s it was assumed that the laws of the market should be allowed the fullest possible scope for operation.

The object of policy, it was held, should be to contribute to this-notably by maintaining free trade, balancing the budget and upholding the gold standard.

It was on these bases, indeed, that British capitalism had assumed world predominance in the 19th century.

The First World War brought fundamental changes in the international structure of capitalism which most economists and policy-makers were slow to appreciate.

In the 1920s, they continued to hope that Britain's pre-war power could be restored by orthodox methods, including the return to the gold stand-

In fact the orthodox policies pursued by Conservative and Labour governments in the 1920s only made matters

Realities of money

There was a permanent core of over one million unemployed and the old centres of British industrial power remained depressed even when, as in the closing years of the decade, other countries experi-

This book examines these policies in some detail, but mainly as background to explain the impact made by the teachings of John Maynard Keynes from the 1930s onwards.

Professor Winch centres his

BOOK REVIEW

Journalist misses roots of Sino-Soviet conflict HARRISON E.

Salisbury needs no introduction to those who have read his previous books — 'Behind Lines—Hanoi' and 'The Siege of Leningrad'.

DURING the 20th cen-

tury, the state has come

to play an indispensable

role in the functioning of

capitalism.

This 'New York Times' journalist is an observer of the growing tensions within world Stalinism and claims he has inside information about the development of what he calls 'The Coming War between Russia and China'.

Salisbury sets out to show that the present tensions between China and the Soviet Uniontensions which already led to a number of bloody border battles between Chinese and Soviet troops—have their origins in the century Mongol invasions and the Tsarist attempts to seize Chinese territory in the 19th

century.
For him, the Sino-Soviet conflict is merely another manifestation of great power diplomacy, this time between 'socialist' rather than capitalist states.

While one cannot deny that the border questions have their roots in the unequal treaties squeezed out of China by Tsarist imperialism before 1905, Salisbury's 'explanations' along these lines tell only part of the story.

Above all, the Sino-Soviet conflict is a symptom of the mortal crisis of world Stalinism.

Gained territory

Tsarist Russia, as Salisbury points out, wrested large stretches of territory, particularly on the Pacific seaboard, from the moribund Manchu dynasty.

In the Treaty of Aigun (1858) China was forced to cede the north bank of the Amur River. The Treaty of Peking, two years later, tore away the whole Amur basin and a considerable strip

of coast right down to the

Korean border. In a further series of unequal treaties at the end of the century a combination of bribery and superior armed forces won the Tsar considerable interests in Manchuria and the Kwantung peninsula.

Though the Tsar lost the Manchurian concessions as a result of the catastrophic Russian defeat in the 1905 war with Japan, the Siberian territories were retained. Russian expansion into formerly Chinese territory also pushed ahead in central

All the imperialist nations-Britain, France, Russia, Germany, Portugal, the United States were at this time crowding in to dismember China and establish colonies and concessions there.

Their activities led to the 1900 'Boxer' Rebellion and the First Chinese Revolution of 1911, led by the Nationalist Sun Yat-sen.

Smashed 'prison'

The Russian Revolution of 1917 smashed the Tsarist 'prison of the nations' and stimulated a massive movement of the Chinese

Within four years of its formation in 1920, the Chinese Communist Party commanded support of millions of industrial workers and poor peasants.

The Soviet attitude to China, under Lenin, was the reverse of the Tsarist policy.
But Lenin's undertakings to aid

the Chinese Revolution with military and economic specialists became a weapon in Stalin's hands after Lenin's death. Under Stalin's orders, Borodin

orated closely with the Nation-

alists and urged the young Com-munist Party into a bloc with travelled to Moscow to negotiate a treaty of alliance with the Soviet Union. In 1927, Chiang butchered the leaders of the Chinese working class and defeated the growing workers' revolutionary move-

'THE COMING WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA

AND CHINA'

By Harrison E. Salisbury

Pan books 5s. (25p.)

Review by John Spencer

criminal Menshevik policy of 'the bloc of four classes' was chiefly responsible for this crushing blow, despite the warnings of Trotsky and the Left

The Chinese Communist Party was forced to undertake the long and bitter peasant struggle which culminated in the victory of the Chinese Revolution in

Though Mao and his followers now profess the most rabid worship of Stalin, almost every step in the 1949 Revolution, as Salisbury correctly points out, was achieved in defiance of Stalin's

Following the victory of the 1949 Revolution Mao Tse-tung

Salisbury quotes Khrushchev's statement that Stalin treated Mao 'like a suppliant' during these negotiations.

The treaty, signed after long weeks of hard secret bargaining, reflected this: not only did Stalin retain all the old Tsarist terriconquests, but he demanded that the 'special position' in Manchuria—control of Port Arthur, and Kwantung-be retained, and stipulated a series of unequal economic agreements.

Soviet pittance

Stalin pledged only 300 million dollars in aid over a five-year period, making a total of only 60 million dollars a year. Interest on the sums was fully

when the US forces threatened to cross the Yalu, and China had no interest in provoking war with the United States less than two years after the end Chinese Civil War.

Bitter blow

The victory of the Chinese Revolution in 1949 represented in reality a bitter blow to the Soviet bureaucracy.

Like the Yugoslav revolution of 1941-1945, the overthrow of capitalism in China threatened the carefully protected edifice of 'socialism in one country'.

Just as in the case of Yugo slavia, Stalin strove might and main to hold the Chinese Revolution in check and to impose his own control over it. Stalin's heirs continued his

policy almost to the letter, as Salisbury shows. Though forced to disgorge Port Arthur and the Kwantung peninsula—nearly two years after the date set for handing over these territories in the 1950 treaty— Khrushchev contemptuously refused to discuss with Mao any revision of the unequal treaties.

On the contrary, he began encouraging 'volunteers' to go by their thousands into the 'empty

The Sino-Indian war and the withdrawal of Soviet specialists in 1960 marked the open break between China and the Soviet

Union.
The dispute that had festered under the surface for so many years broke openly as both sides exchanged wilder and wilder charges and counter-charges. In the 1962 border war with India, the Kremlin came down quite openly on the side of the

capitalist Indian-government.

Both sides build up vast troop concentrations along the common border and China began all-out preparations to develop nuclear

In 1966 China exploded its first atomic bomb. The tone of the polemics—increasingly bitter-more and more to military threats

Salisbury speculates on the possibility of a Soviet 'preemptive strike' against the Chinese nuclear stations in Sinkiang and Inner Mongolia and a blitzkrieg attack on

Ample evidence

There is no doubt that sections of the Soviet bureaucracy want war with China. Salisbury produces ample evidence of this.

He shows how the most backward Black Hundred racialism is systematically whipped up against the 'yellow peril' inside the USSR —a policy fully in line with the bureaucracy's persecution of national minorities in the USSR

The Soviet bureaucracy is re-

vealed as counter-revolutionary to the core and carrying out the old Tsarist policy of chauvinism in order to preserve themselves from the threat of revolution. But the Chinese bureaucracy itself cannot oppose the Soviet Stalinists from any principled standpoint.

Once again, the Stalinist theory 'socialism in one country' plays its pernicious counterrevolutionary role.

Because of their slavish Stalinworship (shared by a powerful section of the Soviet bureaucracy -ironically by their most bitter Soviet opponents) the Chinese leaders can make no revolutionary appeal to the working class in the Soviet Union, which hates Stalinism from bitter experience.

the Chinese bureaucracy only provides ammunition for their oviet opponents. Not only can the latter hide

On the contrary, the policy of

restore Stalinism', they are able to influence large sections of backward workers with talk of 'defence of the fatherland' against the 'yellow menace'.

Nationalist relations

igainst China. Stalinism remains the most deadly enemy of both the Chinese

and the Soviet workers. The Russian and Chinese workers must root out this parasitic growth by revolutionary means in combination with the

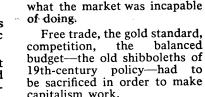
The fight for the Fourth International to lead these struggles and overcome the legacy of Stalinist counter-revolution Asia remains the only way to fight against the danger of Salis-

willing already, on a purely their war preparations behind propaganda that China wants to

The Soviet bureaucracy is thus enabled to establish relations with the Nationalist Chiang Kaishek regime in Formosa and, of course, to work constantly for an alliance with US imperialism

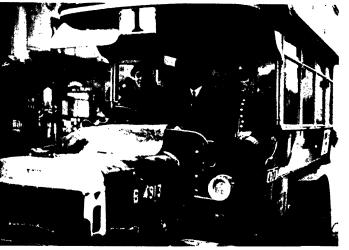
working class of eastern Europe

'coming war'.



Keynes's 'General Theory' came too late to influence

depression.



The General Strike: A scab bus driver in London under police protection.

When his 'General Theory' appeared in 1936, however, bourgeois economics was at its lowest point. It was unable to explain the persistence of unemployment or the depth and intensity of the crisis. The policy recommendations

it had made had palpably little or no effect on the revival which had taken place from the depths of the depression in 1932-1933. Keynes had shown himself

pragmatic basis, to oppose 'orthodoxy' in specific cases. He had made his reputation as an opponent of the Treaty Versailles and reparations. He had criticized the return

to gold at the pre-war parity. He advocated protective tariffs when most of his colleagues stood by free trade.

What Keynes argued was that there was no force in the market which ensured full employment and thus the highest aggregate profit in the system as a whole.

He showed that, in the changed world conditions, the policies which had ensured the prosperity of British capitalism in the past were now burdens.

While most economists were preoccupied with the way in which prices were determined

the economy to prevent breakdown, it did so, as Winch points out, on a piecemeal basis, with no clear strategy.

It muddled through in a typically English way on the strength of the considerable advantages which British capitalism retained from the past and on the defeats inflicted on the working class in 1926 and then in 1931 by the betrayals of the Labour leadership.

Social-democracy had no alternative policy for the crisis.

Some of its supporters were thinking along the same lines as Keynes and took up his ideas. But this was not an alternative policy; it was only a more up-to-date method of saving the institutions of

private property and profit. Keynes was a declared enemy of socialism and the working class.

His intention was to save capitalism by providing the existing state with new tools for doing the job, i.e. for supplementing the laws of the market.

Winch writes as one who believes that Keynes made a revolution in economic thought and policy.

He clearly accepts that Keynesian policies, subject to some amendment and improvement, provide the means for

standpoint. He makes no real analysis of the underlying forces or the main problems Although referring to the

enabling 'managed' capitalism

since 1945 is made from this

His treatment of the period

to cope with its problems.

Although the majority of increased during and after the Second World War, became

ated by the big monopolies.

Economists have developed

In so doing they have become indispensable both to the state and to the big corporations.

books or from the lecture platform. They have now been drawn

has therefore become not less but greater than before. Few of them can now ana-

Rather than making a break became the leader of a school which was in essence reaction-

with the past in a radical direction, therefore, Keynes



Chinese troops seen during the recent Ussuri River incidents on the Soviet-Chinese border.

Stalin's ambassador was the last diplomatic representative to transfer from the Nationalist forces to the Chinese Red Army in 1949, long after Mao's forces had turned the Nationalist re-

Sharply criticized Stalin's own Great Russian chauvinism had become clear even before Lenin's death. He and Dzherzhinski were sharply criticized by Lenin for their con-

duct in the course of negotiations with the Georgian national leaders in 1922. In the course of the Chinese Revolution Stalin made it abundantly clear that he would hang on to all the territories torn from China under the Tsar. At the end of the Second World War, Soviet troops oc-cupied Manchuria and under

Stalin's direction proceeded to strip its industrial assets.

The big stocks of Japanese arms that fell into their hands were given, not to the Chinese Red Army, but to Chiang Kaishek, the chief enemy of com-

tained the most cordial relations

with this butcher of the workers.

Right up to 1949, Stalin main-

repayable. As Salisbury says: 'Compared to the aid the United States was giving even to small Asian countries this was a pittance and the terms were

He describes the joint-stock companies established under the

Borodin and the American Stalinist Anna Louise Strong were consigned to prison camps, in one of which Borodin died during 1953.

lands' in Eastern Siberia, building up big industrial and military those of a miser.'

treaty as 'not much different from the kind of deals Standard Oil or Shell Petroleum made with weak colonial countries'.

The victory of the Chinese Revolution was followed almost immediately by a purge of Stalin's 'China experts'.

Almost all the Soviet specialists on China were imprisoned and the majority died. There is no doubt that Stalin considered them 'too close' to

Mao Tse-tung. This was not all. Salsibury puts forward considerable evidence to show that the Korean War was begun at Stalin's instigation and that the chief aim of the war was to bring the whole of Korea under Soviet influence, thus ringing China from the east.

The Chinese, he points out,

were only drawn into the war

complexes in the disputed areas. Bulganin and Khrushchev set out deliberately to woo friends among the capitalist states of Asia, above all to win support against China from the Indian ruling class.

China, on the other hand, tried to set up the Bandung alliance of 'anti-imperialist' states (the alliance collapsed almost completely with the defeat of Sukarno in Indonesia).

In 1958, the Soviet leaders refused to back China in her

No backing

campaign to oust the Nationalist troops from the offshore islands. The Soviet Stalinists now desbombardment Quemoy and Matsu as 'a deliberate provocation of the US and Chiang Kai-shek troops'. They claim that China's action

common interests of China and the Soviet Union' The Chinese rightly claim that the question of Formosa is an internal one.

violated the terms of the 1950 treaty which demands consulta-

tion over 'all important inter-

national problems affecting the

Confusion

over dock

BY PETER READ

THE INTERVENTION of

the government Chief Whip

and Bermondsey MP Robert

Mellish spells a warning that

concerted efforts will be

made to divert the fight

against the closure of the

Surrey docks into a blind

Mellish has told the Surrey

men he believes the docks can

He hopes to ask the Minister of Transport within two

Recalling the redundancies

caused in the area last year by the Hay's Wharf closure, Mellish says the Port of

London Authority should take greater account of the social

Confuse

This is to confuse the

The closure of Hay's and

The PLA has spent virtually

This is shown very clearly

'Pioneered'

The crew of the Tilbury

No 34 berth are 'all capable

of interchanging in the

operation of mechanical equip-

ment . . ., small in numbers but highly-skilled and doing

the work of the far greater

number of men which would

be required by conventional,

Unable to directly implement the Devlin scheme's Phase Two because of the

strength of the organized dockers, the employers have

embarked on a programme of

closures and building of new

— intensively worked — con-

loose timber'.

tainer ports.

PLA themselves

'The

now the threatened Surrey

consequences of closure.

weeks to stop the closure.

be made to pay their way.

Italian motor workers show the way

The fight against speed-up at Pirelli

THE MILAN PIRELLI plant has been a centre of struggle throughout the post-war period. It is the main buyer of petro-chemical synthetics from Agip (the state petrol firm) and the major supplier of tyres to Fiat and cables to the state telecommunications and electricity industries.

By our foreign correspondent

Incensed by the importing of tyres from Greece and Spain Pirelli workers turned over management cars at the Milan plant.

Broken ■ The average number of persons per room only three years ago was higher in Israel • In education, there is a particularly high promises 'drop-out' rate, after primary school, of children from families of Asian or African origin—reasons being bad home conditions and economic presin the 'promised land'

THESE ARE some of the facts and figures about conditions in the Zionists' 'promised land', which were revealed in the report of a special 'Conference on Human Needs' held recently in Jerusalem.

● Some 110,000 Jewish families in Israel

(about 17 per cent) are living in sub-standard

than in any Western country.

sures on the family.

CHARLES PARKINS

Social workers and government administrators participated.

The conference described housing as the most difficult social problem in Israel. It listed a number of consequences of bad housing conditions in the country.

Firstly, the shortage homes within the means of young couples, and the small of apartments was contributing to the declining birth

The Zionists are very concerned that the Jewish birth rate should increase.

Health hazards

Secondly, overcrowding causes serious health hazards, and lack of facilities for children to study made educational inequality inevitable. Thirdly, bad housing conditions and neglect caused 'a eeling of rootlessness' among

opment areas. Fourthly, this situation did not provide an incentive for qualified manpower to live

As this report shows, the points which concern its authors most are the ways in which the housing problem affects Zionist policies rather than the fact, in itself, that working-class families are suffering bad housing.

Needless to say the con-

ference could not advance any solution to the problem.
Incidentally, the fact that figures for Jewish families are collected and considered separately is a reminder, if one is needed, of the racialist nature of the Israeli state. It is nonsense for any Zion ist propagandists to pretend that Israeli citizens are 'equal

before the law'.

The report shows, of course, that Jewish workers, as well as Arabs, are oppressed by Israeli capitalism.

It also indicates the special oppression of Jews from Afro-Asian countries in Israel. The Zionists have often either pretended that these immigrants did not suffer any

disadvantages, or that 'educa-tion' would help them gain equality in Israeli society. This report shows that the conditions of Israeli capitalist society are perpetuating racial oppression of Jews of Afro-

the population of some devel-Refused housing

This aspect of Israeli society was highlighted recently by an incident at Lydda airport, when police were called to deal with some families from Persia who refused to accept housing being offered them in a development town.

This brought out the point that Jewish immigrants from Afro-Asian countries have to sign an undertaking, on arrival in Israel, to accept housing 'wherever available'.

such requirement is made on immigrants from

western countries. Bad housing conditions have been the subject of militant demonstrations by North African and Iraqi Jews in Tel Aviv and Haifa past.

Were these oppressed Jewish workers to join forces with the Palestinian masses, it would mean the downfall of Zionism.

that it does not intend to stick by the government's

Nixon — open the road for even more crushing defeats for These phoney 'peace' initiatives must be defeated.

BY JOHN SPENCER

Palestinian national movement

and Nasser's agreement with

Brown must foreshadow re-

pression inside Egypt and

Nasser's secret talks with Brown—who in this case is

the mouthpiece for Wilson and

closure, coupled with the movement of work down-river to container-handling ports such as Tilbury, is part and parcel of Lord Devlin's docks 'modernization' scheme Tenants directed and financed by the Labour government • FROM PAGE ONE no money on modernizing the Surreys because their plan has all along been closure, probably followed by the lucrative sale of the land for ago under the Labour Council. The rises will be implemented in February. Even higher increases can be confidently forecast for the future since the Tory GLC has made it quite plain developments similar to those proposed by the GLC on the St Katherine's dock site. guidelines. The Camden tenants' association has called upon Labour councillors to call a in this month's PLA magazine, which says: rent strike in protest against the rises—so far with no response. pioneered "mass production in the discharge of bulk timber carriers at No 34 Berth [at Tilbury] . . for the application of modern manning and handling methods to packaged timber. The main work on the Surreys is also the handling The magazine goes on to reveal why the employers want to close the Surreys and move their work elsewhere.

-Vicious new. attacks begin

THE CHEMICAL trade the Pirelli 'Bicocca' factory in Milan called one-hour stoppages and mass meetings on all shifts against the police repression of workers and trade union officials.

Workers at the Milan factory Famitalia also struck against the police charges on eight workers following a demonstration at Monte-dison's offices in the city. The state is now working

all out to bring legal sanctions against the labour movement. Two trade union officials, Michele Tedesco and Giusseppe Diotti, have now been charged with obstruction and threatening behaviour in connection with alleged incidents

dating back to April 1966. The revival of laws inspired by the fascist penal code drawn up under Mussolini is a threat to the entire Italian labour movement.

Piergiargio Bellochio, editor of 'Lotta Continua', a left-wing weekly, faces trial in Milan for 'inciting military personnel to disobedience, apology for crime and subversive propaganda'.

Verdict reasons The court, which a month sentenced Francesco editor of Operaio', to 17 months imprisonment, has now given

the reasons for its verdict. Tolin was held guilty, among other reasons, because he 'published anarchist theses and in particular urged workers to disobey the law at a politically inflammable moment'.

The struggle against police repression comes from the rank-and-file workers in the factories, forcing the union leaderships to release at least some of the strength of the

The Communist Party leadership, which has the following and the resources to mobilize a massive demonstration of up to 100,000 workers in Milan alone, has chosen to limit itself to a public meeting of protest in a hall with a maximum audience capacity of

The anti-working-class repressions in Italy are an international question.

The fascist laws used there are the forerunners of those which the employers will introduce throughout western Europe to stem the rising tide of working-class militancy.

The labour movement in Britain must oppose unconditionally the use of the state and its agents against the Italian working class.

This defeat imposed actual

In 1948, 21,000 workers

were employed at the

Bicocca plant, about two

miles from the city centre.

But by 1959, Pirelli had

run its labour force down

to 12,000 without reducing

The number of workers has remained constant since then,

about half of them being with

Pirelli since the early post-war period. This has helped

to create a great sense of

solidarity amongst the workers.

When unemployment rose

sharply in 1964, the employers

took advantage of the situa-tion to force the workers back

on pay and working condi-

shops, the Pirelli management

imposed a new contract that

than the expired one.

was in many ways far worse

These new terms included

abolition of bonus rates, the revision of piece-work rates and the doubling of the ser-

vice periods necessary for

Wage-cuts

Using lock-outs in different

wage-cuts on many Pirelli workers — an average worker has lost around 500,000 lire (£350) in the period 1964-1969 through the 1964 con-

When the contract came up for renewal in 1967, Pirelli workers struck solid for three days in February.

They were determined that there would be no repetition of the 1964 defeat. But the union leaders (socialist and Stalinist) hastened to sign a new contract that was only a modest improvement on its

The workers reacted angrily, attacking the union leaders for signing the deal over their heads.

Many left the socialist-led union, the CISL, while the Stalinist CGIL took a more 'left' position, saying that while the contract was unsatisfactory, it made it possible to secure improvements in the factory.

Despite these criticisms, they still signed it.

Committee

Frustration with the union bureaucracies led in 1968 to the formation of the Comitate file group) at Pirelli. Since May 1968 it has led

most of the struggles at the plant. Factory occupations began, masked by go-slows in key departments that brought practically the whole plant to

standstill. Soon the group was able to control the work tempo of the entire plant as it won support in all departments. December 1968 the

power of the workers forced

the management to concede to the new committees a say in the fixing of piece-work rates. Shop-floor organization had

bureaucracies had failed to do two years earlier—despite the pressure of a total strike.

The battle was joined again in 1969 as part of the overall offensive of the Italian working class for higher pay, shorter hours and improved social services and living con-

In mid-September Pirelli stated that no increase over 1,000 lire a month could be made to the production bonus —the union claim was for 15,000.

Sack threat

The management threatened workers with the sack and provoked them by importing tyres from Spain and Greece. The workers, incensed at Pirelli's deal with two fascist regimes, overturned the employers' cars in the manage-ment car park.

The next morning, the firm replied with a total lock out. Within minutes, the whole of Milan was at a standstill. Workers struck in solidarity with the Pirelli men at all the main factories, while bus and tram drivers left their vehicles in the middle of the roads.

Pirelli capitulated at once and the lock-out was ended. But the ferment inside the plant grew. The management offices in the Pirelli skyscraper building in the centre of Milan were occupied by workers in

shifts.

Fiats and all the other big employers were subjected to the same intense pressure. Without a united govern-ment able to stand firm against the strike avalanche, the engineering bosses had to give way, and conceded big wage increases, averaging around 12 per cent, to their workers.

All-out fight

All the strengths and the problems of the Italian working class are reflected in the struggle at Pirelli.

The workers can see that the union bureaucracy fears with the employers and respond with great willingness to a militant lead from the

factory floor.

But the struggle has remained essentially a trade union struggle, even though it has been conducted largely outside the formal limits of the three main unions. Even the most advanced workers in the leadership of

CORRECTION

The final paragraph in column three of Cliff Slaughter's fourth article on 'The Class Nature of the "International Socialism" Group' (Workers Press, Tuesday, January 6) should read 'Thus one finds that for all

their supposed hostility to Stalinism, the state capitalists actually confer upon the Stalinist bureaucracy an in-dispensable role in history as the initiators of a new and necessary social order. Hallas quotes the following passage from Trotsky . . .

the Pirelli rank-and-file committee shy away from political questions and regard the Communist Party's role as of little importance.

The counter - revolutionary role of Stalinism is ignored by these workers at their—and their whole class's—peril.

Leadership

The present situation in Italy — exemplified by the enormous militancy and class confidence of the Pirelli wor-

kers-cries out for bold revolutionary leadership that can lift the struggle from a trade union to a political level, to-

Groups of workers in key factories are beginning to learn of the developments made by Trotskyism in Britain and have shown a great interest in the Workers Press.

The construction of the Italian section of the Fourth International is now an immediate and most urgent task.

wages to productivity, even

though in a limited way, opens

The management will insist

the door for work-study.

ductivity

Sunday.

B-LEYLAND (BATHGATE) WORKERS ACCEPT **PRODUCTIVITY**

A PAY and productivity deal was accepted yesterday morning at a mass meeting of the 2,500 shop-floor workers at British-Leyland's Bathgate Scotland plant.

After an argument over the voting method, the deal was passed by a majority of 16.

In addition the validity of the vote has been called into question because a local bus strike prevented up to 1,300 more men from attending the meeting.

The deal gives a flat £2 10s increase and an additional payment of up to £2 a week tied to a 10 per cent productivity increase.

Yesterday's decision verses the rejection by the shop stewards last month of the condition tying the increase to maintaining a level of output at 106 per cent (bonus level).

The deal is in line with Lord Stokes' drive for Measured-Day Work in the combine because the tying of

Newscaster ● FROM PAGE ONE

courtesy of the US High

The crisis of the Thieu government has blown up in the faces of his US masters right at the start of a growing military drive by the National Liberation Front which threatens to rival the scale of the 1968 Tet offensive.

Like his predecessor Johnson, US president Nixon is deeply mired down

Wilson's Labour govern-ment is now one of his few sources of uncritical sup-

London area, E Midlands, SE,

England, W Midlands, Chan-nel Islands, N Ireland: Mainly

the resurgent Spanish working class. Franco's ministers are forced to lean on the Stalinist regimes of eastern Europe in order to prop up the rotten edifice of Spanish

Edinburgh and E Scotland: cloudy with occasional rain.

Brown's phoney peace tour EGYPTIAN president Gamel Abdel Nasser is thought

to favour a 'negotiated settlement' in the Middle East, if reports of his private talks with British special envoy George Brown are to be believed.

According to Brown, Nasser admitted that while he had taken an uncompromising stand for the benefit of Arab public opinion, he was privately working for a negotiated settlement.

Brown is visiting eight Middle-East countries during his tour, including Israel, touting proposals for an agreement based on the UN Security Council resolution calling for Israel to withdraw from most of the territories occupied in the June 1967 war. Reports from Cairo indicate

Brown that he would be pre-

pared to 'go it alone' in negotiations with Israel, without

reference to Iraq, Syria or

While he would not nego-

The collapse of the Arab

summit' in Rabat last month

has made it easier for Nasser

to consider these proposals for

The intense activity of

secret diplomats like Brown

in the Middle East fore-

shadows a determined drive

to force a hateful compromise

down the throats of the Arab

Collaborating

collaborating in these moves.

ism and its friends in the

Soviet bureaucracy is now

turned on the Arab revolu-

The imperialists and the

All the pressure of imperial-

betrayal in the Middle East.

tiate directly with Israel, he would accept UN mediation.

other Arab countries.

that the productivity level has to be 'proved' by their that Nasser would be prepared to tolerate a separate peace experts.
The Department of Employbased on US proposals for an Israeli withdrawal, giving ment and Productivity's assessment of the deal, which Jerusalem international status is to come, will bring with it attempts to tighten the pro-'Go it alone' conditions Nasser is said to have told

Asturian coalfield

• FROM PAGE ONE them without pay until

Spain's fascist government so far has not dared to take any action against the strike, though the law provides heavy prison sentences for strikers.

General Franco's new

'technological' cabinet now faces a crippling fuel crisis. Stocks of coal are at rock-bottom, and it is desperately trying to import coal to break the strike, Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union are particularly from the United States and eastern Europe. The Asturian miners have already clearly exposed the weakness of the fascist regime, now mortally afraid

> Stalinists agree that Zionism must be imposed permanently on the Arab workers and peasants as a bulwark against the struggle of the Arab

masses.

tion.

Even if the Israeli leaders agree to these plans for a compromise peace in the Middle East, Nasser, Hussein and the other Arab leaders will be forced to smash the Arab guerrilla movements and overcome the united hostility of their own workers and peasants.

Betrayal

Such a 'peace' would be an outright betrayal of the



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Cannot pay Against the development of

Tilbury, which is proceeding apace (it already handles 100,000 containers a year) and the experiments with the LASH (lighter-aboard-ship) system at Sheerness, there can be no question of making the older, 'unmodernized', docks pay under capitalist account-

The employers' plans have to be fought as a whole, which means a principled struggle to throw out the whole Devlin scheme and for the nationalization of all ports and associated facilities under workers' control.

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.

achieved what the union GREET **WORKERS PRESS**

at a public meeting

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

Sunday January 25, 2-30 p.m. Town Hall, High Street

ACTON Speakers: SHEILA TORRANCE (National Secretary of the Young Socialists) MIKE BANDA (Editor of Workers Press) G. HEALY

(National Secretary of Socialist Labour League)

WEATHER

NW England and central Northern England, Glasgow area: Cloudy with periods of sleet or snow turning to rain during the day. Winds SE, strong to gale. Cold. Maximum Central Southern and SW

cloudy with occasional rain. Bright intervals. Winds SE, strong with gales in exposed places. Cold. Maximum 5C

Cloudy with periods of sleet or snow. Winds SE, strong to gale. Cold. Maximum 1C (34F). Weekend outlook: Mainly