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'The scale of speculative movements of capital is such that they can in a few days bring down a national currency. This is likely to go on as long as the international community has not become conscious of the need to adopt new rules concerning speculative capital movements and the international monetary system itself. The absence of any kind of convertibility introduces an element of uncertainty and paralysis, and we have been able to gauge the effects in the past few days.'

Not only are a whole number of currencies ready to go, including some, like the French franc, which seem temporarily strong, but the dollar is heavily under attack. The announcement of the United States balance of payments figures for the first half of this year will bring a new run on the dollar which will force Nixon to take action as he did last August.

Those measures, especially the ending of dollar convertibility, aimed to pass America's problems onto other countries by forcing them to reduce their balance of payments surpluses.

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While other countries try to defend themselves as best they can from the storm released by sterling devaluation the effect on the British economy will be sharp and not long delayed.

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The Labour Opposition showed itself completely unable to comprehend the depth or source of the crisis. Both Harold Wilson and Denis Healey, its main economics spokesmen, claimed that sterling was basically strong, gave Barber credit where it was due for successfully carrying out the operation of 'floating the pound' and engaged in cheap witticisms which distracted attention from the crisis.

As reformists who want to make capitalism work, they dare not admit that the system is heading for collapse. The measures which they called for to deal with the situation such as price-wage restraint, bringing back the Consumer Council (!) and keeping British beef in Britain only revealed their crass narrow-mindedness and reformist illusions.

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Neither the Labour nor Communist parties can face the reality of the situation. The old reformist and parliamentary compromises are finished. The need is to mobilize the strength of the working class to force the Tories to resign and bring back a Labour government which is held to socialist policies.

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BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

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● SEE 'THE £ AND JOBS' p. 12

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SLL PUBLIC MEETING—SUNDAY

DEFEND THE DOCKERS' RIGHT TO WORK
DEFEND BASIC DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS
DEFEND THE VIETNAMESE REVOLUTION
MAKE THE TORY GOVERNMENT RESIGN

SUNDAY JULY 2 7 p.m.

Acton Town Hall
Acton High Street, W.3.

Speakers:

G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)
SARAH HANNIGAN (London YS secretary)
CLIFF SLAUGHTER (SLL Central Committee)
CORIN REDGRAVE
LARRY CAVANAGH (Liverpool docks steward)

FUND—IT'S A RECORD See p. 12

workers press

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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WHAT WE THINK

BARRICADES COME DOWN

WHAT WHITE LAW thinks today, the Social Democratic and Labour Party says tomorrow—and the Republicans the day after that.

So it was with the ceasefire. So it is with the barricades—the last remaining symbol of defiance to the British military occupation.

It only needed a hint from the Ulster Defence Association, Vanguard group that 'selective' barricades were going up this weekend for the SDLP—in the person of Bogsider John Hume MP—to immediately launch an appeal for the removal of the barricades.

Together with representatives of Whitelaw and the Bogside Community Association, as well as various reformist-dominated tenants' organizations, he intended to make the first political incursion into the 'no go' areas on behalf of Whitehall.

After meeting with Whitelaw's officers, his party issued a statement which urged that the full benefits of peace should be bestowed on those who had suffered the most during the fighting and that the barricades should be removed in the interests of 'environmental improvements'.

Synchronously with this appeal came the announcement from Republican sources that three barricades would come down because they were 'rat infested'.

The barricades, of course, have only a symbolic and provisional significance since the IRA agreed to bury their arms together with the cause for which they fought—namely a united Ireland.

Once the secret wheeling and dealing with Heath's viceroy began, the Republicans—despite rhetorical flourishes to the contrary—quickly lost the political initiative and strengthened every reformist and pro-imperialist group in Ulster.

The SDLP which, like the proverbial Sam Weller, lives not so much on its own political wits but on the absence of wit in its Republican rivals, predictably has gained the most from this odious political manoeuvre.

So, thanks to the SDLP collusion and the IRA (Official and Provisional) capitulation, and only a few hours after the SDLP meeting, the Londonderry Commission bulldozer knocked a 12-foot path through the Little Diamond barricade

to the paradoxical cheers of the local residents.

Now Whitelaw is optimistic—and there is no reason why he shouldn't be—that another ten will come down. The UDA is now expected not to go ahead with its threat to put up barricades and establish Protestant 'no-go' areas in other areas of Belfast.

This decision has nothing to do with the opportunist appeal of the Official IRA to the UDA to postpone barricade building by one month in the interests of the Protestant working class (*sic*). Nor is it due to fear of a Provisional back-lash.

What the UDA-Vanguard leaders fear most of all is their credibility within their own working-class supporters—many of whom have become disenchanted with the game of barricade-building and the violence and callous indifference of the 'anorak brigade' towards ordinary Protestant workers.

This seems to explain the noticeable reticence of the bourgeois leaders—Craig and Smyth—to come to the forefront, and the emergence of Billy Hull—the Harland and Wolff shop steward—as the chief spokesman for action against Catholic 'no-go' areas.

Hull is cynically exploiting the fear and insecurity amongst Protestant workers that Whitelaw will make concessions to Catholic workers at the expense of Protestant workers and thereby undermine wages, conditions and union organization in Ulster.

This tactic of imperialism is not new. It was used effectively in the Negro ghetto of New York by the U.S. Republicans to undermine the New York Teachers' Union by inciting the 'Black Nationalists' against white teachers and to introduce non-union teachers under the guise of establishing so-called community control.

So long as direct rule and imperialism remain so long will the danger of an escalating sectarian conflict based on jobs and wages prevail.

Marxists in Ulster, while pointing out the betrayal of Republicanism, must oppose, without reservation, the anti-socialist, pro-imperialist doctrines of the Ulster Loyalist Workers' Association and fight for the creation of an all-Ireland revolutionary party based on Catholic and Protestant workers.

There is no other way forward for the Irish workers—Protestant or Catholic.

Moscow, Peking, Washington pressure

Hanoi is forced to 'peace' table

US PRESIDENT Nixon said in a televised White House press conference on Thursday night that America would return to the Vietnam peace talks in Paris on July 13.

North Vietnam and the National Liberation Front said yesterday that they would both attend.

The US team walked out of the peace talks on May 4 on the grounds that North Vietnam was not negotiating seriously.

In his first press conference for 13 months, Nixon told reporters that there would be no let-up either in the blanket bombing of the north or in the sea blockade.

He said the war situation in Vietnam had been 'completely turned round' since he ordered the stepping up of the bombing and the mining of North Vietnamese harbours on May 8.

He added that South Vietnamese troops were now on the offensive and yesterday Saigon forces continued their push into Quang Tri province against light North Vietnamese and NLF resistance.

Nixon believes that the pul-

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

verization of the north accompanied by the strangulation of supplies of arms and munitions openly connived at by the Russian and Chinese Stalinists has created conditions in which Hanoi is ready to make concessions.

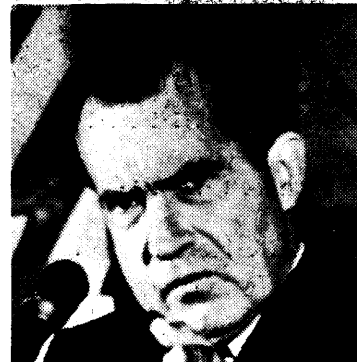
Saigon claimed yesterday that 'the communist side' had asked them to return to the conference table.

Following his recent visit to Hanoi after Nixon's talks in Moscow, Soviet President Podgorny said he expected the peace talks would restart 'soon' with 'new initiatives' from North Vietnam.

Nixon stressed in his 40-minute press conference that there would be no end to the bombing of the North until America's May 8 demands for an Indo-China cease fire and the return of US prisoners were met in full.

He said there had been three reasons for the bombing—to prevent the institution of a communist government in South Vietnam, to protect remaining US forces there and to obtain the release of US prisoners of war.

He said the US would not discuss the setting up of a coalition government in South Vietnam which included communists.



Nixon: First press conference for 13 months.

He said: 'We will not negotiate with the enemy for accomplishing what they could not accomplish by themselves.'

Nixon's terms for 'serious negotiations' in Paris would mean a complete and outright surrender by North Vietnam and the NLF.

Such a surrender would have been brought about largely by the calculated refusal of the Soviet and Chinese Stalinists to continue their aid to Hanoi.

In Paris on Thursday 8,000 left-wing demonstrators marched through the city in protest against American bombing of North Vietnam.

AROUND THE WORLD

Conciliatory CP gets a kick in the teeth

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

THE CEYLON Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike has openly rejected a plea by the leader of the Stalinist Communist Party to call a summit meeting of the coalition parties.

This call came as a move to patch up the differences now building up within the coalition parties.

It was only three weeks ago that some CP members voted against the government's new 'Criminal Justice Commissions Bill'.

CP secretary Pieter Keuneman, who is also the Minister of Housing in the bourgeois government, had accepted this Bill when it was discussed in the Cabinet.

Last week when the parliamentary group of Mrs Bandaranaike's capitalist Sri Lanka Freedom Party met at her official residence the party's right wing called for strong action against the CP members who voted against the government-sponsored Bill.

One motion on the agenda which was not put to the House called for the expulsion of the CP from the coalition.

This clearly shows the rightward move of the government, which survived the insurgent movement of students and rural youth last year only with the help of the Stalinists and the renegade, revisionist Lanka Sama Samaja Party.

While the right wing is getting more arrogant, the Stalinists have shown their real capitulation by withdrawing the Party's suspension order on Mr Thudawe, CP MP and Junior Minister of Education, who voted with the government on the Criminal Justices Bill and defied the Party line.

This was the preliminary concession made by the Stalinists to open talks with the right wingers in the government.

But the arrogant refusal by them indicates the preparation by the Ceylon capitalist class for a naked dictatorship as their only solution for the worsening economic crisis.

Jobs crisis in Argentina

TROUBLE continued yesterday in the Argentine cities of Buenos Aires, Tucuman and Cordoba, and army and police made nearly 300 arrests.

Unemployment in these major cities is running at over 7 per cent according to a report from the National Statistics and Census Institute. In Tucuman it has soared to 14.2 per cent. In Buenos Aires, with a third of the country's population, it is 7.4 per cent, in industrial Cordoba 7.2 per cent and in the key meatpacking centre of Rosario 6.2 per cent.

Briefly...

TWELVE leading Spanish workers' leaders jailed last week have been fined £1,500 each without trial or the alternative of two months' imprisonment for the 'crime' of illegal association.

OIL REFINERY maintenance workers throughout Australia yesterday voted at a series of mass meetings to go on indefinite strike after the oil companies had refused to negotiate claims for a 35-hour week, higher pay and doubling of shift penalty allowances.

SERIOUS unrest threatens southern Sudan unless there is immediate economic aid for the region from international organizations and governments, Sudanese vice president Abel Alier said yesterday.

ITALY'S airline pilots yesterday threatened new action if their present three-day strike ends without any concessions from the employers.

NEWSPAPERS affiliated to the Social Democratic Party in West Berlin, the 'Telegraf' and 'Nachwadespeche' are to close for 'economic reasons'.

JAPAN'S 11-week-old seamen's strike continued yesterday after union leaders rejected a new offer from the Central Labour Commission for Seafarers.

Smith bans all outdoor meetings

THE RHODESIAN government yesterday banned all outdoor political meetings in the country.

The move is aimed against the Rhodesian African National Council which led the recent campaign against the Anglo-Rhodesian settlement proposals.

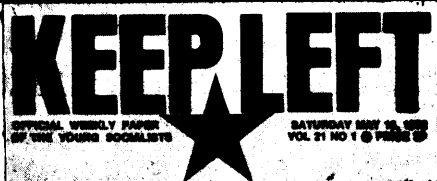
It follows the news that military activity against African nationalist guerrillas on the

Zambia and Mozambique borders are being stepped up.

From now on, all political gatherings will be restricted to halls where they can be kept under close supervision and control.

The ANC claimed yesterday that Rhodesian police arrested 40 of its members at Mtoko, 100 miles north-east of Salisbury, and were holding them for 'questioning'.

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YOUNG SOCIALISTS' REGIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK CAMPAIGN

**Dundee-Glasgow
RIGHT-TO-
WORK DIARY**

**From STEPHEN
JOHNS IN
SCOTLAND**

Few chances of jobs for youth in North West

THE SECOND Young Socialist regional Right-to-Work march sets off from Manchester today on a week-long campaign to Liverpool.

On the eve of the march figures were released showing the disastrous levels of unemployment in the greater Manchester area. Among school-leavers unemployment is the worst for 30 years.

The city has 750 teenagers out of work and a further 5,000 are due to leave school this month. Mr D. J. Driver, the city's

deputy principal careers officer, said: 'Obviously many of the 5,000 school-leavers will have found jobs, but it is certain that the existing unemployment figure will increase considerably.'

'The gloomiest prospect is for youngsters who would normally seek unskilled and labouring jobs.'

All that Driver can offer is further 'appeals' to employers to take on additional trainees. But he adds: 'In fact, they are recruiting less than in previous years.'

The situation is no better in Salford, the first stop on the march. Careers officer Robert

Brierley warns that the situation is 'bleak'.

At the end of the summer term 1,000 teenagers will be thrown onto the labour market. Few have a chance of earning a wage; the rest will go straight from the classroom to the dole queue.

Support for the march continues to arrive. Preston docks shop stewards are supporting the YS demand for the right to work.

Chairman of the shop stewards Phil O'Hagan said: 'Everybody has the right to work. We support the labour movement but not a Labour government which isn't socialist—a Tory government with galoshes on. We

understand that the Young Socialists are fighting to get the Tories out and we wholeheartedly support them.'

Preston railwaymen also gave their support to the YS campaign. 'This demand can only be achieved by getting the Tories out,' said Tommy Boardman, NUR shop steward. 'What we need is a new leadership in the trade unions to fight this government. We pledge support for a government fighting for socialist policies. Workers should be fighting for this, but the trade union leadership, even locally, haven't done a thing for us. We wish all success to the Young Socialists.'

FALKIRK THURSDAY

FALKIRK is one of the few towns in the industrial belt of Scotland with a relative low rate of unemployment.

The source of this relative prosperity is the Grangemouth petrochemical site which sits on the south side of the Firth of Forth pouring its ugly pall of smoke over the water.

British Petroleum are masters here. With ICI, they control the economy of the hinterland which includes Falkirk.

The prosperity, however, is a façade which hides an ever-increasing drive for more efficiency and more productivity. The inevitable offshoot of this campaign is redundancies.

Denis Bean, head of BP chemicals, warned Grangemouth and Falkirk this year:

'As far as 1972 is concerned I see no immediate improvement in the previous gloom which continues to affect the petro-chemical industry as a whole and our performance as a company.'

His six-point battle plan to local managers included an increase in prices wherever possible, a reduction of costs, maximum productivity and withdrawal from operations that are not profitable or where the prospects are poor.

Grangemouth's works manager, Tom Curle, has already announced that several of the older plants on the site will be closed over the next two years and that some redundancy or 'natural wastage' is inevitable.

The cut-back extends to ICI as well. They plan a limited rundown of their Organics Division during the next 12 months.

Squeeze

In other words even in areas of so-called boom, the big firms are launching an all-out drive to squeeze every ounce of productivity from the working class.

This, plus a number of minor closures, make Falkirk's future less rosy than it was two years ago. Unemployment figures in fact are already running at double the rate of last year.

The Falkirk authorities have a particularly vicious attitude to youth. One Baillie (a Scottish councillor who also serves as a police court judge) recently attempted to sentence two 'hooligans' to 100 hours' hard labour in the Falkirk parks—only protest from the unions stopped him. The same man likes to go out with the police patrols who disarm local youth going to the dances.

There the marchers were warned to keep off the streets by police and one lad was charged for carrying an 'offensive weapon'—a catapult in his back pocket.

Recently the police were out



on horseback in Grangemouth when rumours of gang fights spread in the town.

There has also been an attempt by Falkirk Provost William Feeney to close down bars with singers, dancers and discotheques — ending what little entertainment the youth have.

Our march today was the longest of the whole campaign—about 22 miles—but despite this distance and the heat the youth went straight out without a rest to sell 100 Workers Press in one hour when they arrived in Falkirk.

The local Camelon Labour Party has really helped us. They have given us a hall and cooking facilities for the night and the secretary Alan Hendry gave a personal donation of £2.

The march will be almost over when you read this diary and the youth will be entering Glasgow on their last lap.

The campaign has been a great success. The support and interest in the Young Socialists shown by local youth in the towns we visited has been particularly impressive.

But the most striking thing of all has been the way the youth on the march fought and fought all the way.

Many of the lads are very young, others are brand new to politics, but they all share

Women shoppers in Falkirk march to watch the YS marchers arrive in the town on Thursday

the confidence and political aggression that is unique to the young worker. They are a force that will certainly provide the revolutionary cadre to fight the coming battle. I'm sure the experience will be the same on the Manchester-Liverpool march.

Socialist Labour League

PUBLIC MEETING

OXFORD Wednesday July 5, 8 p.m.

Council Chamber
Oxford Town Hall

Speaker G. Healy (SLL national secretary)



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LOCK-OUT!



By our industrial correspondent David Maude

Tory Chippenham at first sight seems an unlikely setting for one of the most determined battle fronts in the engineering unions' national pay campaign — yet that's just what it is.

Three days ago 2,000 workers at the Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co completed their fourth week on strike for a substantial rise.

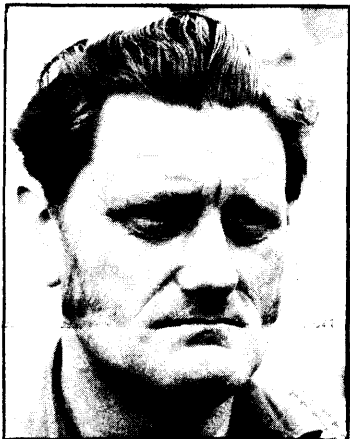
Now, halfway through the fifth week, there is still no trace of a crack in their will to win.

The centre of Chippenham — a genteel country town in the heart of rolling Wiltshire — presents no surprise to those who know it returned Tory MP Daniel Awdry by a 25-10 majority in the last election.

The Awdry family own a lot of property in the town and the surrounding farmlands. Their solicitors' business stands with a gaggle of others in quiet, expensive St Mary Street.

But down on the Westinghouse picket-line the strikers have given up touching their forelocks once and for all.

'You still had a kind of squirearchy here, with one or



Top: Pickets outside the Westinghouse factory. Their strike now enters its fifth week. Above: AUEW shop steward, Eric Cole.

two families dominating the town, until after the end of the war', Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' shop steward Eric Cole told me.

'The way management's been behaving in this dispute, you'd think it was still in existence. We're not having it, though.'

Average earnings for men are between £21 and £22 a week despite the high degree of precision to which they have to work and for which the company is world-famous. Some take home as little as £13.

Women working full time average £14-£15.

While they are anxious to avoid any implication that the strike is political in content, Eric Cole and Hector Walker, secretary of the local branch of the National Society of Metal Mechanics, point out that their members are as hard hit as workers anywhere else by rising prices, fares and rents.

Stewards representing all four unions in the factory submitted a claim in February for a substantial all-round increase plus the other points of the national claim.

Towards the end of May the company, which last year made a profit of close on £3m, offered £1.50. It refused to discuss demands for shorter hours, more holidays and further progress towards equal pay for women.

The unions—engineers, electricians, sheet metal workers and transport workers—issued seven days' notice of intent to take industrial action and on May 31 sat in.

At first management tolerated the action because they felt as long as workers were in the factory there was a chance some of them might feel the urge to work.

A letter sent out by executive director David Pollock on June 2 referred primly to 'the position which has arisen at

our Chippenham factory in the last few days', regretting that 'unfortunately, because of the action now being taken', there could be no further talks.

Clearly neither Pollock nor his labour-relations man, management executive Morley West, took their workers' action very seriously at that stage.

After all, it was almost the first such dispute in living memory. No doubt they thought the old relations would soon re-establish themselves.

But the company began to sustain real losses—estimated by stewards as amounting to £250,000 so far—and there was no sign of a crack in the workers' ranks, the tone began to change.

On June 7 West met full-time officials led by Stan Franklin, district secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

He asked them to recommend a return on the understanding that the company was willing to 'negotiate a settlement on improved terms'. The officials refused.

From this point on the company line hardened.

On June 23—significantly enough, the day after the Engineering Employers' Federation decided it 'could not come anywhere near' the unions'

national claim—Pollock sent out a further letter.

This said curtly that 'to protect further the future of the company . . . the company has no alternative but to inform you that we will have no work to offer you as from Monday, June 26, 1972, and, therefore, the factory will be closed'.

The factory would remain closed until workers promised to resume normal working, Pollock insisted. No further offer would be made while the strike continued.

He claimed the Westinghouse workers were 'having to bear the burden' of the unions' national policy in the South-West, but again held out the carrot of an improved offer on a return to work.

No one took the bait. There are still only 50-60 scabs working in the factory.

The attitude of the majority towards the letter was summed up by Hector Walker, who told me it was 'an exercise in union-bashing which didn't come off'.

Both Hector Walker and Eric Cole agreed that they were not just fighting Westinghouse, but the Engineering Employers' Federation, of which the firm is the backbone in the area.

They and their members are convinced they can meet the challenge.



ISRAEL MOVES AGAINST THE ARABS OF THE GAZA STRIP

BY OUR FOREIGN REPORTER

The Greater Israel Movement, an extreme Zionist organization, dreams of hegemony from the outskirts of Cairo to the suburbs of Damascus.

Its policies are being operated by the present Israeli government, which is systematically settling the Arab lands captured during the six-day war in 1967.

The most flagrant examples of this expansion have occurred in the Gaza strip, where hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs were driven from their homes after the original 1948 war.

Gaza has long been a hotbed of resistance to Zionist domination and its teeming slums have produced hundreds of fedayin (liberation) fighters.

The Israeli regime is now engaged in liquidating this opposition and imposing permanent control over the strip's unfortunate Arab inhabitants.

Earlier this year General Ariel Sharon, commander of the Southern Front, activated army contingency plans to eliminate the Bedouin population of the southern Gaza Strip and the area of occupied Egyptian territory immediately to the south.

The plans called for the evacuation of all wandering tribes, the destruction of their pastures, the stopping of their water-holes and the enclosure of the depopulated areas.

These were contingency plans, not to be used without authorization. General Sharon had no authorization from the Cabinet. Yet he obviously decided the government would not object.

After all, deputy premier Israel Galili went on record two months ago to the effect that the Gaza Strip was 'an integral part of Israel', while Defence Minister General Moshe Dayan has said Israel demands the right to settle on the territories now under occupation.

After Sharon had carried the plans into practice, Dayan not surprisingly backed him. To cover their tracks, the Defence Department reprimanded the Southern Front commander, then promptly forbade the press to reveal who had been reprimanded.

According to the monthly 'Israel and Palestine' eight different areas were fenced in:

'Four hundred dunums near Kfar Darom, 4,000 dunums near the Nahal Netzarim military village, 7,000 dunums in the Um Khaleb area (where a new settlement is to be built this year), 10,000 dunums in the Samiri area between Khan Yunus and Deir Balahk.'

The troops also fenced off the strategic pass at Pithat Rafiah, south of the old international border. The pass is ideal for tanks on their way to the northern Sinai region.

The army erected a 'security fence' 17 miles long and set Israeli guards along it.

As a further 'security' measure, the army then fenced off two more areas, totalling 66,000 dunums to prevent unauthorized infiltration. From this area alone, 4,800 Bedouin were forcibly evacuated.

At first the government proposed to make no payment for this expropriated territory which has been held for ages by the Arab nomads. By way of compensation, the evicted Arabs were given four kilograms of flour each.

Under some pressure, the government eventually offered about 200,000 Israeli pounds (about £33,000 sterling) to pay for this huge land-grab.

Even later, this sum was upped to about £1.3m sterling—still a derisory amount for expropriating such a large tract at gunpoint. Especially as, under international law, the land belongs to Egypt.

An added refinement of Zionist policy is the systematic division of the Gaza Strip into closely-patrolled segments.

Army engineers have driven so-called strategic roads across the strip through the refugee camps, bulldozing all houses in their path. The roads are then constantly patrolled by Israeli troops.

Israeli agents buy lists of wanted Arab resistance fighters and systematically hunt them down. Their families are sent to special deportation camps and they themselves get life imprisonment, if they are not killed outright.

This process completed, the areas are fenced in. The cleared areas are destined to be settled with reliable Zionist colonists, making the annexation of the Strip a fait accompli.

The liberal and left-wing opposition in Israel protested strongly at Dayan's endorsement of these blatantly annexa-

tionist moves. The government replied by clamping down censorship on the affair and threatening to close newspapers, like 'Ot', the Labour Weekly, which refused to toe the line.



Top: Israeli defence minister, Dayan. Above: Egypt's Sadat

Dayan visited the area on April 25 and said Israel considered itself the sole government in the Strip. It must therefore treat the inhabitants as inhabitants of Israel, even if they were 'foreign subjects', he said.

(The inhabitants of Gaza are Palestinians from the original territory usurped by Israel.)

Transport Minister Shimon Peres visited the Gaza Strip the following day. He said Israel would soon demand the annexation of Gaza in future negotiations.

He advocated an apartheid system of government for the Strip, declaring that the intention was to have a Jewish district and an Arab district with a government attached to the Knesset and local government in every district.

The Mayor of Gaza, Rasheed Shawa, has been condemned by Israeli newspaper 'Ha'aretz' for urging the United Nations to take control of the Gaza Strip. The paper described this statement as 'an anti-Israel gesture'.

Shawa's views were published by a Lebanese newspaper which asked his opinions about the possibility of establishing a Palestinian state in the territories occupied during the 1967 war.

Shawa replied that if, for the sake of argument, such an idea was put into practice, 'the subsequent state would be subservient to Israel, dominated by the Israeli defence army and controlled by the Israeli economy'.

This, he said, was unacceptable 'to any reasonable Palestinian, inside or outside the occupied territories'.

FRANCE AND THE H-BOMB

General de Gaulle's manic determination to endow France with an independent nuclear deterrent and a military policy aimed to take on all-comers landed his successors with some tricky problems.

One of them is the H-bomb tests on the Pacific atoll of Mururoa in French Polynesia, about which there have been protests from eight countries.

But if France is to have an independent deterrent, then a thermo-nuclear warhead for bombs and missiles must be developed. And that means tests.

The USA and the Soviet Union developed their nuclear warheads many years ago and now have large and growing stockpiles. The US carried out 188 nuclear explosions above ground in the course of her development of nuclear weapons and still engages in underground tests — 350 to date. The Soviet Union has carried out 142 tests plus 112 underground explosions.

By comparison the French programme has been small. It has been limited by the technological lag and the fact that unlimited finances have not been available.

In fact, by comparison with the nuclear giants, the French 'deterrent' has been operating on a shoe string and partly at the expense of other items in the military budget. This has shown up in the size, and particularly the equipment of France's mechanized divisions.

De Gaulle's determination to preserve independence from the US—while still by no means complete — has been bought at a price.

APPEAL TO NATIONALISM

It also means that French strategy is at odds with that of the NATO countries. The go-it-alone policy is clearly beyond France's economic and technical means and whether de Gaulle's successors like it or not, they remain dependent on NATO and thus on the Americans to ward off a hypothetical attack from the East.

Ever since the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968, French contacts with NATO, which were never entirely broken off, have tended to grow over the early warning system, anti-submarine defence and joint naval exercises.

De Gaulle's policy, while it caused some disquiet in French military circles, acquired a momentum which it has been difficult for his successors to arrest. Its appeal to nationalism has been and still is very strong. For many years after 1944 the French military had to knuckle under to the Americans with an army equipped, clothed and shod largely from US sources.

Military and right-wing politicians alike, with some support from the Communist Party Stalinists, look on de Gaulle as the leader who saved France from satellite status.

Possession of nuclear weapons has become a national symbol of independence and those foreigners who protest about the Mururoa experiments are written off as hypocrites. The idea of an independent strategy for their deployment and use, while it may be totally unrealistic, is clung to with something approaching fanaticism.

DECAYING CAPITALISM

All the contradictions of decaying capitalism are expressed here. While the Common Market is extended and its supporters in France, as elsewhere, lose no opportunity to stress the need for closer economic and political integration, control over the forces of destruction, which expresses the sovereignty of the national state in the highest degree, is jealously guarded.

Inside or outside NATO it is the same; the different ruling classes and their military representatives eye each other as rivals and even as potential enemies.

Military power remains an essential factor in international politics. It is to maintain and strengthen its position in Europe, against the United States and its Common Market partners, and not only against the Soviet Union, that the French ruling class spends millions on the nuclear 'deterrent'.

Preparations for nuclear war must be seen as an integral part of the capitalist crisis against which protests are completely ineffectual.

Yet even the comparatively small scale tests on a remote Pacific atoll represent a serious threat to the people of the area.

The exact area likely to be affected by radioactive fall-out cannot be predicted with complete accuracy. Radiation effects arising from the tests, although weaker, may be felt anywhere in the world.

Radio-active elements may be dispersed in the upper atmosphere and be felt on earth months or years later.

The French Foreign Ministry has answered protests with reassuring statements claiming that the previous tests have produced no significant effects from fall-out or radio-activity. However, a serious element of doubt remains, particularly because the long-term effects of even small doses of radio-activity cannot be known.

Some scientists maintain that the increase in the presence of the isotope strontium-90 resulting from even low power nuclear tests may cause death or disease among children.



THEIR YEN FOR ART TREASURES

BY ALEX MITCHELL. PHOTOGRAPHS BY P. J. ARKELL

It's not everyone's cup of cognac, but the summer fine art sales have commenced in London. St James and Mayfair to be more precise.

fetching £11,000. Nielson gave £980 for a clock, a set of chairs was sold for £750 to Grant, a ship's plaque bought £260, an early 19th century sofa went for £580 to Brage. If you can gather your breath, I should tell you that this was only the small time. This sort of stuff is really the knick-knacks for the American tourists. The really important sales were of the Impressionists, those artists who shocked the bourgeoisie a century ago with their outrageous Bohemian demeanour and their rejection of the prevailing artistic concepts.

There, this week, the following sales have been transacted. Glatz bought a Ch'ien Lung boar's head tureen for 1,400 gns, Mortimer paid £460 for an antique French oak coffer of Gothic style, Temple snapped up a 16th century central Russian icon of St Basil the Great of Cesarear for £2,400, Bartfield paid £62,000 for a book, the first issue of Audubon's 'The Birds of America', a letter written by John Keats to his brother

week. Sous Bois by Cezanne went for 78,000 gns, an Edouard Manet sketch was bought by Eisenbeiss for 45,000 gns, a Van Gogh was bought for £88,000, Corot's picture of 'A young woman in a country lane' was bought for £64,000. The Toulouse Lautrec 'L'Abandon ou les Deux Amies' wasn't sold. Bidding went to £150,000, a new world record for the artist, but this was not high enough for the family of the late Professor H. R. Schinz of Zurich. So, with no bids over £150,000, the auctioneer withdrew it. What, you might ask, is this vulgar extravagance all about? It is the art market having its annual fling. Dealers from all over the world gather at

the two leading auction houses, Christie's and Sotheby's, to buy whatever they can get their hands on.

The purchasers may regard themselves as art connoisseurs. But it's difficult not to see the whole exercise as simply a commodity market. Even the magnificent works of art are catalogued as 'Lot No 203' or 'Lot No 607'.

Workers Press visited the Christie's sale to savour the atmosphere and dynamics of the international art scene. The foyer—or should one say grand entrance—was abuzz with activity. It must be one of the few places choked with treasures where the security men wear top hats and don't carry guns. Well not obviously, anyway.

(By contrast the Museum of Modern Art in New York is almost a fortress. The uniformed officer on the turnstyle has an ugly black pistol in his belt).

We are presented with a catalogue of the day's commodities and ushered into the saleroom. We stand around the walls while the bidders take their seats in the body of the suffocatingly small room.

The audience oozes wealth. The man from the 'Sun' is

cynical about it all. 'Don't they make you sick,' he says loudly. 'These stinking rich.'

The most conspicuous features are those of the Americans. The ones with the plastic faces and ivy league shirts. Their wives are sun-tanned, bejewelled and as hard as nails. They chew gum.

It soon becomes clear that the row to watch is at the back. It's a set of neat Japanese gentlemen sitting motionless and expressionless. They face the front like children at school. They obviously mean business.

The pulpit is taken by a ruddy figure, rather like a colonel, who wastes no time in calling everyone to order.

'Lot number 101,' he says into the microphone, 'Tete de Chanteur de Rue' by Daumier.

At his left, a flunky in a jacket seizes hold of a charcoal drawing and holds it aloft.

By the time I've taken in this action, the bidding has skipped from 100 guineas to 300 guineas. Curious terminology. At Christie's you bid in guineas, Sotheby's in pounds. 'It's just tradition,' says a reliable source.

In fact, of course, they talk simply in terms of figures: 'What am I bid? One thousand,

one thousand five hundred, two thousand' etc. It's as if they're not—or can't be!—talking about pounds.

Lot 105 gave me the greatest anxiety. It was a Renoir oil painting of a bowl of flowers. I was standing in direct line of a very vigorous bidder. As the bids soared from £2,000 guineas to 30,000 guineas, the auctioneer repeatedly swept his eyes across the room and fixed me with his gaze as if waiting for a counter-bid.

Knowing the sort of situations that occur in Ealing Studio films I kept my hands firmly by my side, almost standing to attention, and tried not to blink or wink.

One had the feeling that if one rubbed the tickle on the end of one's nose the bidding would go screeching into the 50,000 gns mark.

Eventually it went for £32,000—which was a fantastic relief because I don't carry such sums around with me. When I'd gathered myself together I discovered that the purchaser had been Mr J. Raymond Wilson, acting on behalf of Japanese interests.

This was not Mr Raymond's only coup, if that's what it is. He went on to purchase a painting by German expression-

ist Emil Nolde for £58,000, another Renoir for £70,000 and £45,000 for a pastel by Picasso.

The Japanese themselves weren't short of a bid. They carried off a Modigliani for 100,000 guineas, the best price of the day. Fifty minutes later, when almost £900,000 had been exchanged for the works of art, the Japanese market had captured some 75 per cent of what had been under the hammer.

An American turned to his companion as they pushed out the door, 'These goddam Japs are everywhere'

Why the sudden interest by the Japanese? The auction houses would have us believe that the oriental savages are discovering the superlative beauty of Western art.

This is only part of the story. The Japanese are making their formidable offensive in the art world purely on the basis of speculation. Many have currency tied up in Britain and they correctly fear for the future value of the pound.

One dealer told us: 'The Japanese are a new phenomena in these markets. A year ago you would hardly have noticed them. But this year they are tending to dominate most of

Left: new on the scene—Japanese bidders. Above: the saleroom—the commodities are brought forward, the auctioneer presides. Right: Edouard Manet's 21½ by 17½ inch pastel which went for 45,000 gns.

the important sales. It's all bound up with the instability of currencies really.'

We asked one of the Japanese buyers what he intended to do with his purchase. He smiled engagingly and said he didn't know.

One got the impression it was more likely to move directly to a vault in the City of London than the foyer of the Mitsui Corporation in Yokohama.

There is only one way that the great art works of the world can be saved from the hoarders and speculators. That is the socialist revolution. Then these works can be permanently displayed for the enjoyment and education of everyone.

This is one of the gains of the Russian Revolution of 1917. Today in the Winter Palace in Leningrad can be seen the world's finest collection of Impressionist paintings. These were expropriated from the aristocracy and placed in the hands of the first workers' state.



The third part of the statement by the Workers Vanguard (Trotskyist) of Greece

THE BOLIVIAN REVOLUTION AND THE DEVIATIONS OF THE POR

The deviation towards the Popular Assembly

'Information Ouvrières', the OCI paper, informs us that after Miranda's unsuccessful coup and the significant demonstrations successfully instigated by the POR in January 1970, the Lora tendency was 'the only one' which put forward the slogan for the 'Popular Assembly' as a 'lever to accelerate the struggle for a workers' and peasants' government', a line fully approved by 'Information Ouvrières'.

Why? 'In order to channel revolutionary action to this end through a concrete organ.' But how? And why did the POR not think of channelling the revolutionary flood towards the concrete historical organ of Soviets? The revolutions of 1905 and 1917 showed us that the only road to the workers' and peasants' government is the road that passes through the soviets.

Bolshevik tactics are not opposed to the slogan for a constituent assembly. With this democratic demand we may seek a rostrum from which to explain our programme for real structural changes in the regime, for the conquest of wider democratic liberties, and for the overthrow of capitalism. In parallel, we seek to destroy the illusions held by the masses in the constituent assembly, and about parliamentarism generally.

But the slogan for the assembly for Bolsheviks, connected with our central slogan for a soviet system which expresses not only a higher form of the tactic of the United Front, is also a sure instrument, concrete, and historically justified, for the conquest of power, for a workers' and peasants' government; and after the conquest of power it is the best and most democratic system for the construction of the workers' state.

The theses outlined by Lenin on the question of the constituent assembly state clearly: '2. In formulating the demand for the convention of the Constituent Assembly, the revolutionary social-democracy, right from the start of the 1917 Revolution emphasized repeatedly that the soviet democracy is a higher form of democracy than the usual bourgeois "democracy" with a Constituent Assembly.

'3. For the transition from the bourgeois to the socialist regime, for the dictatorship of the proletariat, the democracy of the soviets of workers' soliders' and peasants' deputies is not only a superior form of democratic institution (compared with the usual bourgeois democracy crowned with a Constituent Assembly) but also a unique form, able to secure the most painless transition to socialism.'

The Trotskyists could have posed the slogan of the constituent assembly, demanding democratic rights and exposing

in this way the falsehood of the Torres regime. Torres, like most dictators, made endless promises of election and the restoration of 'democracy', but he had no intention of reinstating the legislative bodies which the previous dictator, Ovando, had abolished. Indeed, he refused to convene the Popular Assembly.

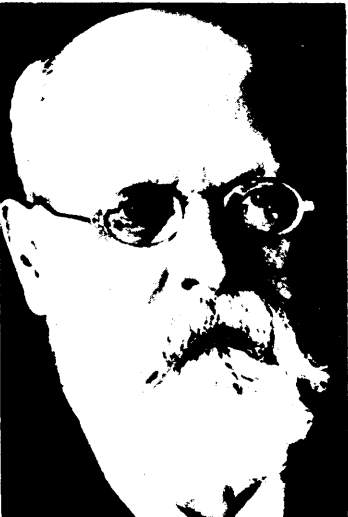
Even these pseudo-democratic institutions of the bourgeoisie are irreconcilable with the dictatorship. In the end, it was forced to accept its convention for demagogic reasons, at a time when it was powerless to crush the movement in any other way.

In the end Torres was forced to accept its convention for demagogic reasons at a time when he was unable to resist the pressure of the masses. However, when he was convinced that Lechin's party would dominate the Assembly, he accepted it as an advisory body. He was quite willing to accept the muted criticism of the type of the April 21 regime of the Greek colonels.

'Let them make speeches to let off steam', he was advised by his ministers. But he wanted the Assembly to be no more than a forerunner of the legislative body that would be elected after the drawing up of a constitution. Similarly in Greece, Papadopoulos created the 'small parliament', a harmless advisory body where 3,000 appointed people vote on behalf of 9 million—a corporate body cast in the mould of the fascist state of Mussolini or Franco.

Thus the POR, together with all the other parties of betrayal, played a leading role in the setting up of the Assembly which was to be designated 'Popular', a name indistinguishable from the dogmata of 'People's Power', but something which has nothing in common with the soviets of workers, peasants and soldiers.

The opening of the Assembly was postponed for a few days in order to give Torrest a little more time to cover himself by whitewashing this dirty building. This incident was typical of the relationship between the Popular Assembly and the government.



Karl Kautsky



Bolivian workers in La Paz during the fighting in September, 1971

Indeed the party of Lechin consistently defended the advisory character of the Popular Assembly and the support of the government. The same tactic was pursued by the pro-Moscow Stalinists, though Moscow itself did not find the Popular Assembly to its liking, and openly supported, as it does elsewhere, the Bonapartist regime as it was. The Maoists followed the same line, and by voting Lechin as president of the Popular Assembly, demonstrated their real treacherous co-existentialist nature.

The POR, perhaps without realizing it, in fighting for the Sovietization of the Popular Assembly, entered the slippery road of opportunism, in the service of the institution of 'People's Power'.

Soviets and Constituent Assembly

However the comrades of the POR omitted their basic duty, to put forward the slogan of soviets, to work for the country-wide extension of the committees, which to their credit, only they had built in the mines, and to crown this embryonic Soviet organization with a Congress of the committees on a national scale, and finally, to work out a soviet constitution.

Instead of directing the masses onto the road of 1905 and 1917, they pointed to 1879. 'The relationship between bourgeois and proletarian democracy', as Lenin wrote, attacking Kautsky's support for the Constituent Assembly against the soviets, was in Bolivia placed on a basis of debasing the concept of soviets. Consciously or unconsciously there was a renegation from our basic principle that 'soviet democracy is generally a superior democratic form to the Constituent Assembly' (Lenin) and a different class basis.

The leaders of the POR, and also the leaders of the French section, did not attempt to analyse the profound differences, not only between soviets and a Constituent Assembly, but also between soviets and this 'Popular Assembly of a soviet type'.

Soviets are organs of the revolutionary proletariat, waging a life-or-death struggle against capitalism for the triumphant victory of the proletarian revolution, for power of the type of the commune.

Before he became a renegade and a defender of constituent power against soviet power, synonymous with prole-

tarian dictatorship, Kautsky once wrote this:

'Today, the organization of soviets has behind it a great and glorious history. And it has in front of it an even greater one—and not only in Russia. Everywhere it is proven that faced with the gigantic powers at the disposal of finance capital, from the economic and political points of view, the previous methods of economic and political struggle are inadequate. We cannot ignore them. They remain indispensable during calm times. From time to time, however, there appear before us such tasks as do not correspond to these, the success of which can be guaranteed only by the joining of the economic and political means of power by the working class.'

But Kautsky reneged. Like the Mensheviks in 1905, he rejected the soviets as the instrument of seizing power and of the dictatorship of the proletariat. In opposition to the Mensheviks and opportunists of his time, Lenin proclaimed the soviets to be the basic organs for the taking of power and maintaining it after triumph of the revolution.

The Stalinists, after Thermidor, demolished the soviet structure of the USSR, and propounded the idea that in the capitalist countries the soviets could not and should not be created before the 12th hour of the uprising. By thus disorientating it from the dictatorship of the proletariat, they destroyed the Chinese Revolution.

The Maoists, with the guerrilla nature of their new (northward) movement, not only failed to establish soviets throughout China, as Trotsky observed, but threw the soviet theory out of their ideological arsenal after they had taken power.

The Pabloites passed on to the worship of 'new types of revolution', to the Cuban, Algerian, etc. 'roads to socialism', which bear no relation to any of the principles of the Permanent Revolution or sovietism.

Now, as a continuation of Pablo's Chilean parliamentary road to socialism, there appears before us the vision of the Bolivian 'soviet-type' parliamentary road to socialism!

The POR has turned its back on the soviets with the deceitful concept of the 'Popular Assembly' which was to be of 'a soviet type'. The comrades of the POR inform us that the Popular Assembly was convened by the political nucleus which developed

towards the end of 1970 as an organ of leadership and guidance of the General Strike.

A General Strike committee, with factory committees and 'committees of struggle' formed around it, can play the role of council-soviets. With their clear class nature, Trotsky saw in these committees a form of soviet. But he always stressed that these committees should be, had to be, committees of revolutionary struggle.

At the foundation of the Communist International in 1919, Lenin wrote that the soviet form was an international conquest after the creation of soviets in Germany and the committees of mass proletarian struggle in England (the shop stewards' committees). He proclaimed: 'The soviets are victorious around the world. They have won the sympathy of the workers.'

What happened in Bolivia? The General Strike committee could have created throughout the country a wide network of strike committees. These should have taken up the democratic and economic demands of the masses, opposing the conspiracies of the right wing and the Torres dictatorship, orientating them towards the conquest of power by the workers and peasants. In preference to this soviet road, the Bolivian Trotskyists attempted to sovietize the Popular Assembly, and thus entered in essence a 'new road to revolution'.

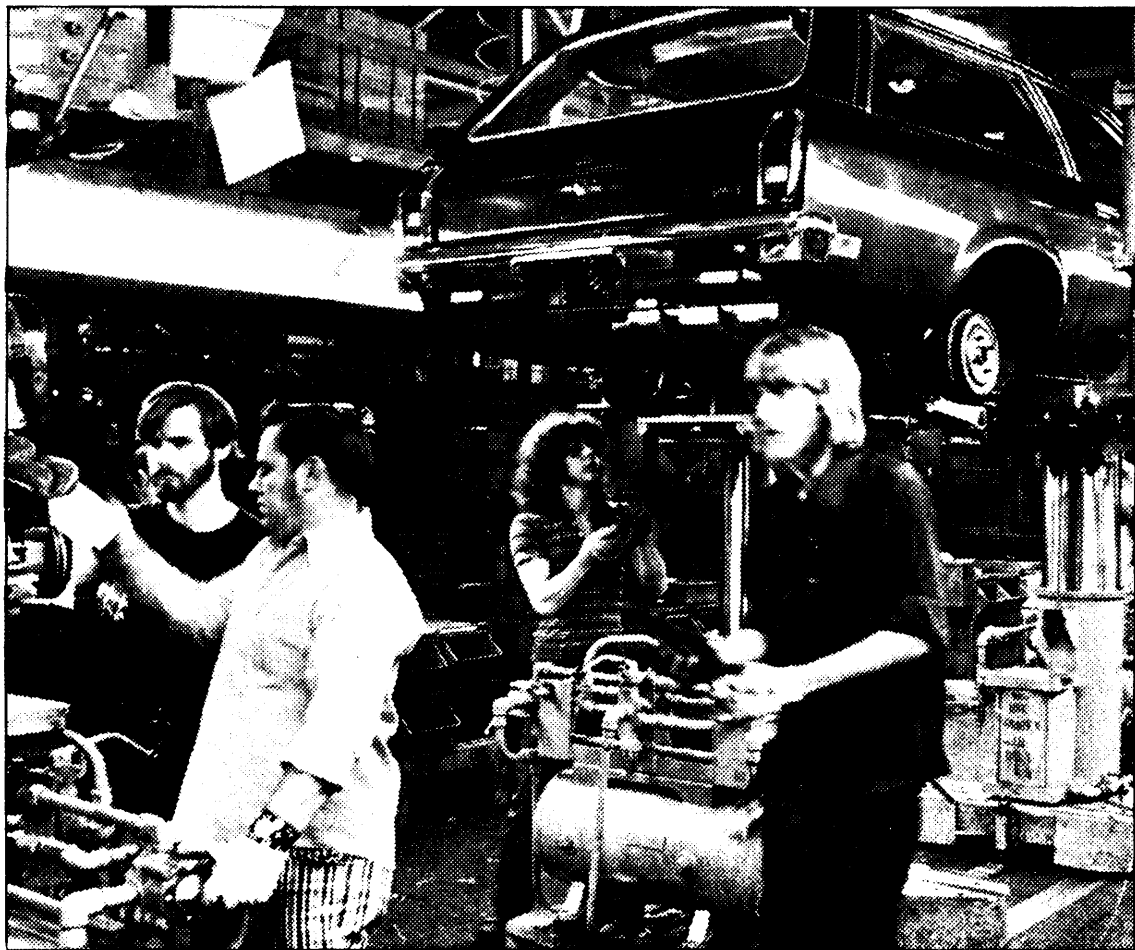
The Pabloites claimed to have discovered a 'new type of revolution', led by rebellious peasantry and a 'Jacobin' leadership 'which is unlike the others'. They boasted that they had enriched the theory of Permanent Revolution; in fact they had shamelessly distorted it.

Similarly the leaders of the POR and of 'Information Ouvrières'-OCI claim the discovery of a new organ for the conquest of power, the 'Popular Assembly of a soviet type'.

Why this distortion of the soviet theory? Why were they drawn to the parliamentarism? Why, instead of building soviets, did they try to frame a constitution, with which 'the Popular Assembly would deepen its roots in the Committees'?

Why the attempt to create a new, Bolivian-type of revolution, in place of the proven October? The Lechin tendency, the Stalinists and the 'Catholic Revolutionaries' dressed up the Torres regime with the cloak of parliamentarism. But what of the POR?

CONTINUED TOMORROW



DOLLAR ANXIETY

The currency crisis triggered by the Tory decision to float the £ will have far-reaching consequences for the American economy.

On the eve of the 1972 presidential elections, the economy has rarely been in worse shape.

Unemployment went up again last month to 5,092,000 and business activity reflected in the index of commodity production continued to fall.

The floating of the £ has not only plunged US businessmen into a fog of uncertainty, but it has also wiped away any advantage America gained from last December's Smithsonian agreement which effectively devalued the dollar by 12 per cent against gold.

US exports are again disadvantaged and this month's balance of trade recorded the fourth largest deficit ever, with losses running at over \$500m.

The balance of payments figures are unlikely to be good, given the high cost of waging the Vietnam war by air and sea and bolstering up imperialism just about everywhere from South America through Bangla Desh to Israel and the Lebanon.

In one week commencing June 18 the number of business failures rose by around 15 per cent and as the currency crisis broke, Wall Street share prices slumped.

Last week more banks, including San Francisco's giant Bank of America, put up their interest rates from 5 per cent to 5½ per cent—this is the rate charged on short-term loans to big business.

Industrial production was down last month, so were freight-car loadings. Production of oil, steel and autos also slumped.

America's machine-tool industry is described as 'severely depressed' and although there was a marginal rise in orders last month, makers say there is no prospect of an increase in their labour forces.

The unrelieved picture of the slide into slump finds another expression on the prices front where inflation has now reached critical levels.

On June 26 President Nixon lifted all quota restrictions on meat imports in a bid to curb inflation and further measures to curb food prices are promised—a sharp reversal of the



Top: American car workers on the assembly line. Above: Nixon with the head of the American equivalent of the TUC, George Meany

administration's policy last year.

The problem of meat prices has been aggravated by US producers holding supplies off the market speculating on a further rise in retail prices.

The American National Cattlemen's Association in Denver immediately condemned Nixon's move welcomed by beef-producing countries.

Officials of the Nixon administration are about to have talks with their Tory counterparts on the whole question of price and wage controls.

The administration is considering bringing a whole range of agricultural products under 'price discipline', but it is recognized that the real problem is to increase supplies.

Scrapping import quotas is unlikely to have much effect on the price index and even if it had, given the weak position of the \$, the result can only be to tilt the balance of trade further into the red.

The serious state of the economy is forcing Nixon to clamp down more and more heavily on wage rises through the national Pay Board abandoned by AFL-CIO (TUC) leader George Meany and other union representatives earlier this year.

The wage squeeze, plant closures and unemployment have produced a hefty anti-Nixon reaction among the American working class.

Dockers, hotel and restaurant workers, butchers, car workers, transport crews, construction men and aero-space workers are simmering with discontent over wage cuts and lay-offs and strikes and protests are mounting.

While union leaders like Meany refuse to mobilize the

working class to bring down the Nixon administration, demands for a new American labour party are gathering momentum.

The ball was set rolling last week when Minneapolis Central Labour Union Council pledged to try to build a Labour Party this year.

GRAPES OF WRATH AGAIN

Thousands of American farmers are being driven off their lands and forced to sell their farms to property speculators because of the crippling inheritance taxes imposed by the Inland Revenue Service.

The taxes are assessed at what the farmland could be sold for, rather than its value as agricultural land.

In the last ten years, the value of agricultural lands in large areas of the US within reach of the main cities has risen enormously as land speculators have bought every available piece of property.

However, the value of land for farming purposes has remained the same as it was ten years ago. The Revenue Service insists on assessing all farm land at the 'price at which property would change hands between a willing seller and a willing buyer'.

Inheritance taxes run as high as 25 per cent of the property's assessed value, and since land prices for development can be up to ten times the land's worth for agricultural purposes, many farmers are forced to sell to speculators simply to pay the tax.

The big property interests have a strong lobby in the House of Representatives to see that the law on inheritance taxes is not changed. They stand to make millions of dollars a year out of these forced sales.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

DIFFERENT SIDES

Harold Wilson's choice of economic advisers provides a searching insight into the party's politics. Last Tuesday Lord Balogh put the writing about the present currency crisis as firmly on the wall as any Tory peer.

He told the Tory 'Evening Standard': 'What next? With the economy still depressed under a weight of unemployment the (downward) floating of the pound might at least be expected to set off some degree

Act may well have its merits, but it cannot hope to supersede the changes in the functioning of the economy resulting from the vast increases in market power on both sides of industry. Both the cooling-off period and the ballot are (and have been seen to be) wholly irrelevant from the point of view of Britain's survival as a competitive trading nation.'

What, then, is required? Lord Balogh explains:

'Only if the government changes its basic philosophy on incomes and social services, if it goes back on its industrial policy and heeds Mr Feather's advice to put the IRC on ice anywhere, could we hope for a ceasefire from Messrs Scanlon and Jones on this vital front.'

But he himself senses that the time for collaboration between the union leaders and the Tory government may be passed and he concludes gloomily:

'There is little sign that the cumulative evidence of all but three decades has penetrated either side. An early end to the inflationary spiral, therefore, cannot be anticipated. Consequently social malaise is likely to grow—and tempers, too.'

The point Lord Balogh misses is that the only lesson either side can learn as the world crisis intensifies is that both are, very firmly on different sides.

A SMALL PRICE

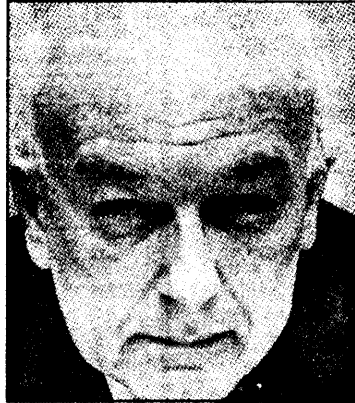
The price paid by capitalism for the death of workers is invariably small. And so it was with Rolls-Royce last week when Derby magistrates found they had failed to ensure a worker wore the correct breathing apparatus.

The worker died after entering a retort and being overcome by the gas argon, the court was told. The company pleaded guilty to contravening the Factories Act 1961.

The court was told that Mr Harold Blurton was asked to clean out the retort in the metal heat treatment department.

A foreman went to fetch safety equipment but was delayed by a telephone call. In the meantime, Mr Blurton climbed inside and was overcome and killed by the gas.

The company was fined £200.



Lord Thomas Balogh

of export led expansion.

'If we succeed in this, our difficulties might yet be alleviated. But it won't be enough. Only if wage-demands are curbed, only if the vicious circle of wage/price escalation is broken, will we be able to breathe freely. There is the rub.'

The Labour government tried to break the unions with its industrial relations legislation, doubtless guided by Lord Balogh. But they foundered on the determination of the working class to fight back.

The Tories look like going the same way, and Balogh notes:

'While a few of the old conservative Liberals still advocate the breaking-up of union power, though outlawing "monopoly" altogether, no Conservative government, whether French American or British, has yet done it.'

Balogh sees only too well that the ruling class and possibly their reformist lackeys in the Labour Party must take on and try to defeat the working class if British capitalism is to survive. But he draws back from the brink of outright war between them.

His answer is collaboration—just as it is the Tory answer. He told the Standard:

'The Industrial Relations

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Fighting the Tories' Rent Bill

Steel closures, higher rents: Corby faces grim future

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

CORBY workers not only face the prospect of the Tories closing down the town's steel works but also of the Labour council implementing the 'fair rents' Bill.

Of the 31 Labour councillors, only seven have definitely committed themselves against implementation. Twenty-four remain on the fence and then there is the one Tory.

Last Monday the Corby Rents and Housing Action Committee and the trades council organized a two-hour stoppage of work in Corby

faces grim future

'What about some action' demand after 1,000 stop for two hours

which won the support of 1,000 workers.

Demanding non-implementation by the Labour council were steelworkers, almost the entire workforce from Golden Wonder Crisps and groups from Timpsons Shoes and Sealed Beans.

At a public meeting during

the stoppage, the platform, dominated by Communist Party speakers, offered no way forward for the tenants.

David Leigh, chairman of the Hemel Hempstead tenants, said: 'Let the assessor come, give him a welcome he'll not forget. Knock the Bill for six and if necessary the Tories with it.'

When Ernie Roberts, assistant general secretary of the AUEW, claimed engineers had forced the Tories hand alongside dockers, miners and railwaymen, he was greeted by roars of: 'What about the national claim?'

After the meeting, two AUEW stewards at Sealed Beans, Brian Bird and Freddy

Hope told Workers Press about their disappointment with the proceedings:

'It's fine to talk, but what about some action? Look, we should have had a General Strike to bring down the Tories over the Industrial Relations Act, and it is the only way to proceed now. This government is opposed in every quarter over their policies,' said Brian.

'Even if the council refused to operate this Bill they would send the Commissioners in.'

We also interviewed a number of the Corby workers who joined the march held last Monday through the town. Some of their views are printed below:

JOAN LOVELT is a bus conductress for the United Services Bus Company in Corby:

I'm a Londoner born and bred, but we had to move to Corby two years ago because we couldn't afford to live in London any more. The prices you pay down there—we couldn't find a decent place to live.

But Corby is no better. My husband lost his job. On nights he was only bringing home £18 anyway. He worked in ERW Tubes. But the steel's beginning to close down in Corby.

He's gone back to London now. I can earn more than he did on the buses. I suppose I was lucky because I'd been on London Transport for five years, so I got a job when I came here. But even that's in the balance now with the introduction of those one-man buses.

I pay £8 to £9 tax a week. And then everything I buy is taxed. Where does all this tax go to? I'll tell you, it goes to keep these factory owners and hangers-on in idleness. They must be really laughing at us. We work all our lives to keep them rich.

And now the rents are going up. Mine should be reduced—not put up—with my husband gone. I tell you, lots of people are going to be evicted. It stands to reason. If they don't earn the money, they can't pay, can they?

You wouldn't mind paying all this tax and rent out if you got something back for it, if the council did something. But look at Corby! What has the Labour council done here? There's not even a hospital! (Corby's population is 55,000.)

The only places in Corby to go to are pubs, bingo halls and two cinemas, and one miserable bowling alley. What can the youth do here? We haven't got an open-air swimming pool. We have no ice-rinks. There's nothing for them.

The idea of a new town is to build a better life. Better life? At least if there were amusement arcades and coffee-bars they'd have somewhere to go and something to do. But they are left on their own. There's no family life these days. Both parents have to go to work to make ends meet. No wonder there's so much vandalism on this estate. The Labour council gives us nothing.

I used to be all for Labour, but now I have turned against them. They keep these rich people hanging on too. And it's a desperate situation under the Tories.

We should have a General Strike. There should be a communist government—not like the Russian one—a proper one, a proper socialist government. They'd have my support! They wouldn't be afraid to get rid of these hangers-on and give us the wealth we work for all our lives.



Women and girls from the Golden Wonder crisps factory in Corby who came out last Monday to oppose the Tory rents Bill.

PAT ELLIS a 31-year-old steel-worker and AUEW member:

It is certain that the Tories fear a General Strike and that is why they drew back on the docks issue. Mind, I think the union had a hand in that too. I don't think many of these leaders fancy leading a General Strike either.

I think this floating pound means devaluation. I can see a few bankruptcies, perhaps a few suicides too and it's for sure that they have no choice but to take us on to pay for it.

But it will do other things too. It will bring the working class closer together and in a united way to fight back. I agree, re-call the TUC, but will those at the top take notice? I think there is a lot of phoney fighters around, including some shop stewards.

I really feel worried about the developments taking place, as I have nine children and my basic wage is £20 for 40 hours. I have to take the overtime to live, but the future of the steel industry seems pretty bleak. I worry for my kids' future. I like the idea of the Councils of Action. Let me have any pamphlets on it for me to read.

SHEILA AND CHRIS. Two 25-year-old housewives whose husbands work in the steel industry. They have three and two children each respectively. Both do part-time work to make up the money. For working four evenings and all day Sunday they get approximately £5 a week. And that's what the rent is!

'We need nursery schools for the four-year-olds and at the other end the 16-year-olds are leaving school and there are no jobs for them to go to. What with no jobs and very little to do they get into trouble. Either there's the Bowl for them or the pubs and the youth turn to drinking very young. This could be a pleasant town if jobs were available, more youth facilities and, of course, lower rents. All there is are plenty of pubs and churches.'

Chris said: 'I support the dockers in wanting to strike. You've got to fight for your right to work and decent wages.'

Sheila said: 'The Tories try to work things out for themselves and try to keep the working class ignorant of politics. Sometimes you wonder about the unions, they go back on their word and won't fight through to the end to win.'

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TV

BBC 1

12.45 Weather. 12.50 Athlete. 1.15 Grandstand: Wimbledon; 1.20 Fight of the Week: Jack Bodel v Danny McAlinden, high-lights; 2.50 Irish Sweeps Derby. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Tom and Jerry.
 6.15 GUNSMOKE. Chato.
 7.05 FILM: 'DR WHO AND THE DALEKS'. Peter Cushing, Roy Castle.
 8.25 THE BLACK AND WHITE MINSTREL SHOW.
 9.10 A MAN CALLED IRON-SIDE. Little Jerry Jessup.
 10.00 NEWS, Weather.
 10.15 PARKINSON.
 11.15 ALL IN THE FAMILY.
 11.40 Weather.

ITV

10.35 Sesame Street. 11.35 Jackson Five. 12.00 World of Sport: 12.05 Golf; 1.10 News; Australian Pools; cricket scoreboard; 1.30, 2.00, 2.30 Racing from Newmarket; 1.45, 2.15, 2.55 Racing from Newcastle; 3.05 Golf; 3.55 Results, Scores, News; 4.00 Wrestling; 4.55 Results. 5.10 Train Now Standing. 5.40 News. 5.45 2 G's and the pop people.
 6.30 SALE OF THE CENTURY.
 7.00 NEW SCOTLAND YARD. Ask No Questions.
 8.00 SATURDAY VARIETY. Larry Grayson.
 9.00 FILM: 'TURN THE KEY SOFTLY'. Yvonne Mitchell, Terence Morgan; Joan Collins. Three women released from Holloway Prison attempt to come to terms with society.
 10.30 NEWS.
 10.40 OPEN NIGHT.
 11.25 ONE MAN ALONE.
 12.20 BEHIND THE SCENES.

BBC 2

9.05 Open University. 2.00 Wimbledon. 3.00 Film: 'Bullet for a Badman'. 4.20 Tutankhamun's Egypt. 4.40 Wimbledon. 7.05 Westminster.
 7.25 NEWS, Sport, Weather.
 7.35 SOUNDS FOR SATURDAY. Paco Pena, guitarist.
 8.25 CIVILIZATION. Part 3 Romance and Reality.
 9.15 MATCH OF THE DAY. From Wimbledon.
 10.00 PETS AND VETS.
 10.15 THE VISITORS. Part 3.
 11.00 NEWS, Weather.
 11:05 FILM NIGHT.
 11.40 MIDNIGHT MOVIE: 'THE LOUDEST WHISPER'. Audrey Hepburn, Shirley MacLaine, James Garner. Two schoolteachers whose lives are destroyed by a small girl's malicious lies.

Regional TV

SOUTHERN: 11.30 Yesterdays. 11.57 Weather. 12.00 London. 5.10 Primus. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 2 G's and the pop people. 7.00 London. 9.00 Film: 'The Skull'. 10.30 London. 11.25 News. 11.35 Strange report. 12.30 Weather. Epilogue.
HTV: 10.05 Tennis. 10.30 Sesame street. 11.30 Farming. 12.00 London. 5.10 Sale of the century. 5.40 News. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 2 G's and the pop people. 7.00 London. 9.00 Film: 'Death Lends a Hand'. 10.20 If it moves. 10.30 London. 11.25 Prisoner. 12.20 Weather.
HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 5.10 Sion a Sian.
ATV MIDLANDS: 11.55 Horoscope. 12.00 London. 5.10 Sale of the century. 5.40 News. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 2 G's and the pop people. 7.00 London. 9.00 Film: 'Crime of Passion'.

10.30 London. 11.30 Dick Van Dyke. 12.00 Who knows? Weather.
YORKSHIRE: 10.40 Yesterdays. 11.05 'Skippy'. 11.30 Lidsville. 12.05 London. 5.10 Primus. 5.40 News. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 2 G's and the pop people. 7.00 London. 9.00 McMillan and wife. 10.25 If it moves. 10.30 London. 11.25 Journey to the unknown. 12.25 Weather.
GRANADA: 12.00 London. 5.10 Guns of Will Sonnett. 5.40 News. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 2 G's and the pop people. 7.00 London. 9.00 Film: 'That Woman Opposite'. 10.30 London. 11.25 Danger man.
SCOTTISH: 11.25 Beagan Gaidhlig. 11.40 Clapperboard. 12.00 London. 5.10 Roadrunner. 5.40 News. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 2 G's and the pop people. 7.00 London. 9.00 Film: 'Family Doctor'. 10.30 London. 11.25 Late call. 11.30 On the house.



NEXT WEEK: André Previn plays and conducts during his Music Night on BBC 1 on Tuesday. Also on Tuesday, on BBC 2, Billie Whitelaw plays Judy Black in the fourth play in the series 'The Sextet'. It's called 'Follow the Yellow Brick Road'

SUNDAY'S

TV

BBC 1

9.00 Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan. 10.30 Eucharist. 11.30 Boomph with Becker. 1.25 Farming, weather. 1.50 Made in Britain. 1.59 News. 2.00 Wimbledon. 3.15 Film: 'Wake Me When It's Over'. 5.15 Onedin line. 6.05 News, weather.
 6.15 ALL IN A DAY'S WORK.
 6.50 SONGS OF PRAISE.
 7.25 FILM: 'WILSON'. Alexander Knox, Geraldine Fitzgerald. Life story of Woodrow Wilson.
 9.50 NEWS, Weather.
 10.05 SOLIDARITY. Play by Hector Macmillan.
 10.35 OMNIBUS. Groucho Marx and Frank Muir.
 11.20 INTERNATIONAL GOLF. Gay Brewer v Tony Jacklin.
 12.10 Weather.

BBC 2

9.35 Open University. 1.50 Cricket. 7.00 News Review.
 7.25 THE WORLD ABOUT US. Death of a Legend—documentary on wolves.
 8.10 AT YOUR SERVICE. British armed services acrobatics and aerobatics, electronically set to music.
 8.55 MUSIC ON 2. Barenboim plays Chopin.

Regional TV

SOUTHERN: 11.00 Service. 12.00 Weather. 12.05 Music. 12.30 Something to sing about. 12.55 Farm progress. 1.25 Out of town. 1.45 Stingray. 2.15 Sportsworld 72. 3.15 Film: 'The Fat Man'. 4.35 News. 4.40 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Songs for your delight. 11.45 Short story. 12.15 Weather. Epilogue.
HTV: 11.00 Service. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 Something to sing about. 12.55 Kitchen. 1.45 London. 3.15 Film: 'The Rising Moon'. 4.40 London. 7.55 Film: 'Living It Up'. 9.30 Mr and Mrs. 10.00 London. 11.15 Avengers. 12.15 Weather.
HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 12.05 Dan Sylw. 1.05 Llusern.
ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00 Service. 12.05 Music. 12.30 Something to sing about. 12.55 Kitchen. 1.40 Horoscope. 1.45 Yesterdays. 2.15 Sportsworld 72. 3.15 Film: 'Strongroom'. 4.40 London. 7.55

ITV

10.30 Yesterdays. 11.00 Service. 12.05 Kitchen. 12.30 Something to Sing About. 12.55 Out of Town. 1.15 Stingray. 1.45 University Challenge. 2.15 Sportsworld 72. 3.15 Jason King. 4.10 Catweazle. 4.40 Golden Shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 News.
 6.15 SAINTS ALIVE. St Bede.
 6.35 THERE GO I...
 7.00 STARS ON SUNDAY.
 7.25 DOCTOR IN CHARGE.
 7.55 FILM: 'THE FURIES'. Barbara Stanwyck, Wendell Corey. Daughter of wealthy cattle rancher falls in love with son of her father's bitterest enemy.
 9.50 POLICE 5.
 10.00 NEWS.
 10.15 MADLY IN LOVE.
 11.15 ELEVEN PLUS. Russell Harty introduces magazine programme.
 12.00 MUSIC IN THE ROUND.
 12.30 BEHIND THE SCENES.

9.40 DEMOLITION. An old wall comes down.
 9.50 THE ROADS TO FREEDOM. Part 2.
 10.35 THIS LITTLE THING WITH ME AND SPASSKY. Bobby Fischer on eve of his confrontation with Russian Grand Master of chess.
 11.25 NEWS, Weather.
 11.30 UP SUNDAY.

Film: 'Harlow'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Spyforce. Weather.
YORKSHIRE: 10.45 Talking hands. 11.00 Service. 12.05 Music. 12.30 Beloved enemy. 1.00 Kitchen. 1.25 Farming. 1.55 Calendar. 2.20 Snooker. 3.15 Film: 'The Boy Who Stole a Million'. 4.40 London. 7.55 Film: 'Not With My Wife You Don't'. 10.15 London. 11.15 Strange report. 12.10 Weather.
GRANADA: 11.00 Service. 12.05 Music. 12.30 Something to sing about. 12.50 Kitchen. 1.20 Yesterdays. 1.50 Mad movies. 2.15 Sportsworld 72. 3.15 Film: 'No Time for Tears'. 4.40 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Boys'. 10.00 London. 11.30 Man from uncle.
SCOTTISH: 12.05 Music. 12.30 Something to sing about. 12.55 Kitchen. 1.25 Yesterdays. 1.55 Out of town. 2.15 Sportsworld 72. 3.15 Film: 'Don't Ever Leave Me'. 4.40 London. 6.15 Class of 72. 7.25 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Condemned of Altona'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Late call. 11.20 Expansions.



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THE £ AND JOBS

DRIVING through the economy since the Tories took office has been mass unemployment. This is a table of major jobs cutbacks since the beginning of the year:

JANUARY	
BSC, Newport	1,120
Alfred Herbert, Altrincham	1,025
Port of London Authority	2,000
Coats Patons, Bolton	600
GEC/Marconi, Chelmsford and Wembley	1,105
FEBRUARY	
Redifon, Aylesbury	800
Triang, Erith and Redcar	750
Vauxhalls, Dunstable	800
Gamages, London	500
MARCH	
Arthur Sanderson, Perivale, Middlesex	1,000
Sexton, Son & Everard, Norwich	760
GEC, Rotheram	620
ICI, Harrogate, Doncaster	540
Ranco Motors, Tarnochside	540
APRIL	
Southern Stevedores, London	1,250
Burroughs, Dunbarton	1,000
Imperial Typewriter, Hull	500
GEC, Stafford	500
Smith Industries, Oxford	300
Harland & Wolff, Liverpool	450
MAY	
Ransome, Hoffman	
Pollard, Newark and Chelmsford	1,475
Triang, Merton	1,500
Wiggins Teape, Clackmannan	500
Metro-Cammell, Birmingham	300
Clark Chapman/John Thompson, Glasgow	470
JUNE	
BSC, Scotland	7,000
Full details have not been compiled.	

Show results or there's no more cash

Davies warning at UCS

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS IN GLASGOW

THE GOVERNMENT is to tie further financial support for shipbuilding on the Upper Clyde to new orders and increased productivity in the shipyard.

This policy was announced yesterday by Trade Secretary John Davies in Glasgow.

He warned that Govan Shipbuilders, which begins trading in the Govan-Linthouse and Scotstoun divisions of UCS today, would face, 'big, big problems' due to the depression in shipbuilding.

The minister revealed that the condition for further government aid depended on workers and management upholding new agreements to reduce so-called restrictive working practices and increasing productivity in the yards, and getting new orders on terms acceptable to the government.

Govan Shipbuilders will start trading with no confirmed orders. But two ships will be started in the yards in anticipation of winning two out of six contracts now under negotiation.

On redundancies—Davies would give no assurances.

Of Govan Shipbuilders he said: 'It would be right to say that the whole question of the workforce is a matter of direct discussion between management and unions. I think it would be inadvisable at this stage to make any bold statement.'

After his announcement, Archibald Gilchrist, managing director of the new company, said if the two orders were confirmed an immediate major

redundancy could be avoided.

The Minister also hinted that there would be redundancies at the Clydebank yard.

'It has always been implicit in a major re-build of Clydebank that there would be some dislocation of employment,' he said.

UCS liquidator Robert Courtney-Smith said the position at Clydebank would be clear after the yard holidays in three weeks' time.

The format transfer of Clydebank to the Texan oil rig builders, Marathon Manufacturing, is expected at the end of July and Govan Shipbuilders will take formal control of their three divisions in mid-September.

Yesterday's announcement does



Trade Secretary Davies

little to lift the threat of redundancies at UCS. The order position at Govan Shipbuilders is particularly bad.

Gilchrist has gone on record stating that he wanted to begin production with at least a year's work in hand. In fact he starts with no confirmed orders and only two good prospects.

And at Clydebank major redundancies seem certain after Marathon's announcement that they will only need an initial labour force of 137 men.

Steel plant closure 'another UCS'

WALSALL, Friday By DAVID MAUDE Our Industrial Correspondent

WORKERS at Stainless Tubes in Walsall, Staffs, will refuse to accept the loss of their jobs through closure, shop stewards have declared. Staff and manual workers at the factory have formed a joint committee to act over the management closure decision, announced on Thursday.

Alan Colpitts, 37-year-old works convenor for the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said: 'This is not just our fight, it is a town issue. This firm is the largest single employer at Walsall, and we could be facing an Upper Clyde situation here.'

'We shall involve MPs and councillors in our fight and we intend to stop here even after they have finished paying us.'

If the 1,400 men and women threatened are forced out of the factory they'll join 4,800 people without work in the area.

Closure of the relatively modern factory at Green Lane would increase the local jobless per centage—now 4.7 per cent—by almost a third.

Thursday's closure announcement from Tube Investments, who own the factory, came as a 'complete shock' to convenor Colpitts.

And Stan Griffiths, district secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, told Workers Press from his Wolverhampton office yesterday:

'We had been expecting a run-down of one department for some time, but there was never any mention of anything like this. This was a total surprise.'

The first thing union officials would want to know when they met the company on the issue was: Why? He claimed the company's circular did not explain anything.

Tube Investments says the main reason for its decision was the world economic recession over-capacity in manufacturing facilities globally and depressed selling prices in world markets.

In other words, Green Lane is a clear victim of the trade war. But Stan Griffiths, whose union is the biggest single organization in the plant, says he would think it unlikely that the company has no future plans for the factory.

Tube Investments is among the 30 biggest companies in Britain ranked by turnover.

With almost 70,000 workers nationally, the £273m company has been marginally increasing its return on capital in recent years. But the huge decline in world demand and massive pressure on

world selling prices decided its directors on harsh measures.

Three years ago local facilities for making stainless steel tubes were concentrated at Green Lane, and last year a £1.6m department for making long-length tubes primarily for the nuclear energy industry was commissioned.

Only two orders have come in for this, however. The last will be finished in six to eight weeks' time with nothing to follow.

Some welded steel production and other work will continue for a while. Redundancies will hit 950 manual workers and 500 staff.

ASTMS has 250 members at Green Lane who meet today and will demand their redeployment to other factories.

'We intend to keep out members in employment,' says ASTMS divisional officer Don Groves.

The AUEW district committee will meet on Monday night to consider its plan of campaign.

STOCKPORT council's Labour group in Cheshire has been fiercely attacked by Tory councillors for a decision to defy the government's 'fair rents' Bill. Said Tory group leader Ald Walter Knight: 'To oppose the law of the country is anarchy or revolution.'

Toolmakers out 14 weeks at Smith's

THE STRIKE of 70 toolmakers at Smith's Industries, Cricklewood, is now in its 14th week.

'Things are pretty stagnant at the moment,' a strike committee member said. 'They are not making any offers and we are not budging.'

This dispute is over a domestic claim for £6 plus the national engineers' claim for £6 and a 35-hour week. Stewards have said they would be prepared to negotiate on £8 plus the reduction in hours.

'We have refused to accept their latest offer which they say is about £5.40, but not everybody would have got that much. The average guaranteed increase would have been about £3.40 to £3.90, and there were loads of strings attached. One was that we accept redundancies. Another was that we would have to use our own tools. So we told them we were not interested.'

The strikers were a little bitter at the fact that trade unionists in other sections had agreed to use tools brought in from other firms outside.

They consider these tools to be 'black'.

Management has managed to resume five-day working.

The Smith's strikers are still receiving money from a weekly levy imposed on AUEW members throughout the North London district, although questions are beginning to be asked about how long it is going to go on.

'The district have decided to support us as the spearhead of the national claim in this area and it's up to the others to help us win,' said a picket.

'Morale is high on the picket line, but we are really looking for some new tactical move to help us make a break-through.'

RECORD FUND—£2,186.30

AT ONE stage it looked like we were not going to make our Fund this month, but you, dear readers, made up your minds and not only raised it—you raised more than ever before! Our target was £1,250. This month we asked you for a special effort and to try and raise £500 extra. This you did, in fact, you raised £936.30 extra! We do thank you all, over and over again.

Such support is overwhelming. From everywhere donations poured in and the fight was on. We are very proud of your enormous support for Workers Press. It clearly reflects the determination of our readers to be in the forefront of the struggle against the Tories.

But this great success must not make us complacent in any way. Thousands of workers in

every district will be mobilized into Councils of Action to make this government resign. Our circulation must constantly be increased. We must reach out into areas and win fresh readers wherever we go.

We cannot thank you enough for your magnificent effort—but we would like to make one last appeal. Next month we face a tough time with a number of our supporters away at our Summer Camp and on holiday. We would like to raise our target early, if possible by July 22. Help us therefore with an early start. Any more donations, post them to:

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London, SW4 7UG.

LATE NEWS WEATHER

PLESSEY workers, mainly, women, have begun an occupation of the Upminster factory. Their action—involving 500—was started following management's announcement to shut down the plant. Redundancies are due to start next month.

BUILDING workers at the £30m Amoco oil refinery site near Milford Haven, South Wales, have been sacked for staging a one-day strike in support of a 25p-an-hour, cost-of-living rise. And 140 of the 350 sacked men claim they have also been thrown out of their hostel on the site. Many say they have to sleep in parked cars or in the open because there is a shortage of accommodation in the area.

SALFORD, near Manchester, Labour council has decided overwhelmingly to halt the sale of council houses. They have back-dated the decision to the last election day, May 4, when Labour gained the majority.

EASTERN and southern England will be mostly dry with sunny spells. Western and northern England and also Wales will have isolated showers and sunny spells.

In southern and western Scotland and northern Ireland occasional showers and sunny intervals are expected, some of the showers being heavy. Temperatures will be near normal.

Outlook for Sunday and Monday: Mostly cloudy, with occasional rain at times, but also some sunny periods. Generally rather cool, but temperatures rising to near normal in east later.

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ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

The currency crisis and the working class

CROYDON: Monday July 3, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Rd.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday July 4, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue, Barking.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Tuesday July 4, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4.

EASTLEIGH: Tuesday July 4, 7.30 p.m. The buffet room, Town Hall.

LEICESTER: Wednesday July 5, 8 p.m. Queen's Hotel, Rut-

land St. 'Build Councils of Action'.

NORTH LONDON: Thursday July 6, 8 p.m. 'Bricklayers Arms', Tottenham High Rd, (nr White Hart Lane).

LUTON: Thursday July 6, 8 p.m. St John Ambulance Brigade Hall, Lea Road.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday July 6, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club (opposite New Cross Stn).

ACTON: Monday July 10, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Rd.

EAST LONDON: Tuesday July 11, 8 p.m. 'Aberfeldy', Aberfeldy Street, E.14. (nr Black-wall Tunnel).