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BY DAVID MAUDE INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

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When opposition to continuing talks with the government and the CBI was put to the vote, only two General Council members stood firm—George Doughty of the engineering union's Technical and Supervisory Section, and Alan Sapper of the cinematograph technicians.

But whatever the 'left' and other 'dissenters' may like to think, lack of real opposition has allowed the right wing on the TUC General Council to prepare for negotiations, which must involve a retreat even from their own proposals. In other words, they would like a £3.40 limit

rather than a £2 limit, but are prepared to settle for £2.50 or £2.75.

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The Tories plant to back up this state wage control with the Industrial Relations Act already on the statute book.

This is the logic of the decision by the leaders of the 194,000 government industrial workers to accept binding arbitration on their members' claim for a substantial pay increase.

Already the 110,000 power workers—whose leader, Frank Chapple of the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union, was in an extremely jovial mood following yesterday's General Council meeting—have had their pay claim reduced.

Instead of the expected claim for £5.50 on minimum rates, with proportionately more for semi-skilled and skilled workers, Chapple and his negotiating team lodged a claim for £5.50 across the board.

There will certainly be evidence in the near future of the backstage deals made over the last six months of TUC-Tory talks.

During these six months, the left of the TUC have issued only the mildest of challenges to their continuation by the right.

At the TUC Congress last month not a single left leader challenged the principle of state regulation of wages. And at the Labour Party conference last week the big unions sat silent as some smaller organizations described the talks as a noose around the neck of the trade union movement.

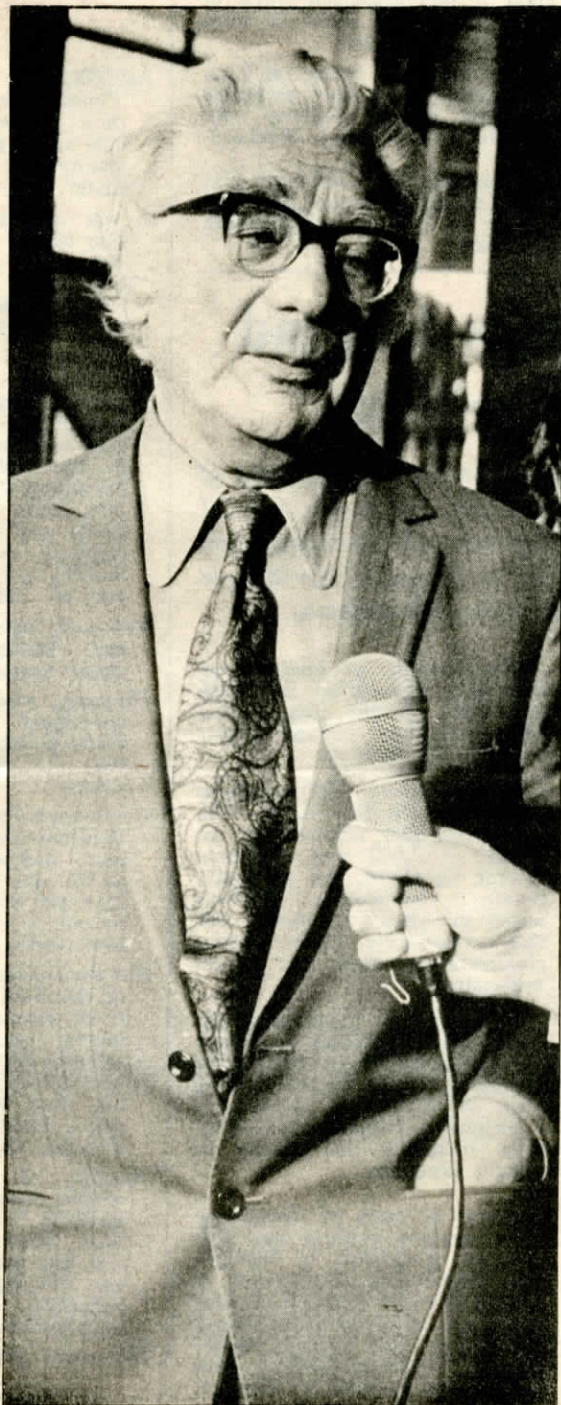
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● See Victor Feather's comments p. 12.



Chapple: Jovial mood

Sapper: Opposed talks



McGarvey joins Tyne yard boss in jobs scare

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

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McGarvey said that if the men did not return to work their shipyards could close and some might not reopen.

The union leader was backed by Sir John Hunter, chairman of the shipbuilding group, who claimed: 'If things go on indefinitely, the whole Tyne will be ruined and there will be no shipbuilding on the river.'

Swan Hunter's have a £110m order book which is being hit by the walk-out, now in its sixth week.

The boilermakers are demanding a £4.72 per week cost-of-living bonus and claim that boilermakers elsewhere get higher pay than they do.

So far, the management has refused to discuss the claim before a return to work. McGarvey is seeking to rescue the management.

'Swan Hunter's are in difficulties' he pleaded yesterday. 'They cannot get credit for some of the orders they already have.'

workers press

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11 1972 ● No 891 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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IT'S GETTING better but we still have a long way to go. Our target is £1,750 to collect by the end of this month. Let us build up our campaign in the areas immediately.

The trade union leaders' proposal to accept a ceiling on wages is just another step in the direction of this Tory government. Prices continue to rise, rents continue to go up and the only action these union leaders propose is to join up with the Tories against the working class.

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Awami League 'killed left wingers'

MAULANA BASHANI, leader of the Bangladesh National Awami Party has accused the ruling Awami League of killing 19,000 left-wingers in the nine months since independence. He accused the Lal Bahini—the private army of the Sramik League, the labour wing of the Awami League—and the Mujib Bahini, supporters of the prime minister, of 'secret killings'.

Informed Bengalis in London regard Bashani's figure for the number of killings as exaggerated, though there is no doubt that political murders have been widespread. Bashani himself narrowly escaped an assassination attempt last month.

Bashani is the outstanding opposition figure in Bangladesh, with a big following among the peasantry. He has become the Awami League's main target. Recently Home Minister Abdul Mannan accused the Maulana of destroying independence.

The League's propaganda has also made much of the treacherous Peking position of support for Pakistan and opposition to Bangladesh entry to the UN. Bashani himself has publicly attacked the Chinese policy, but the League still attempts to identify him with Peking.

His newspaper 'The Truth' has been closed down by government order together with other left-wing opposition papers.

The armed bands named by Bashani are the main bulwark of the shaky Awami League government,

'Secret killings' alleged in Bangladesh

headed by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. They have spearheaded a virulent campaign over the past few months against alleged 'banditry' and 'subversion'.

The Sramik League headed by Abdul Mannan—not the Home Minister—has a notorious record of strikebreaking and has in

the past frequently provided 'goon squads' against left-wing militants in the factories.

Last year, only days before the Pakistani army began its massacres in what was then East Bengal, Sramik League squads entered one Dacca factory to kill five NAP supporters.

Today it serves to bolster the regime of Mujib, whose immense popularity is wearing thin after nine months of Awami League rule. Elections for a new government are due to be held, probably in March next year, and Bashani is the only serious contender against Mujib.



Bashani—serious election rival to Mujib—claims spate of political murders

The Awami League forms a government of landlords and capitalists which can solve none of the colossal problems facing the workers and peasants of Bangladesh. Unemployment continues to grow and starvation is the order of the day for millions who have returned from enforced exile in India.

The Awami League's use of political terror against the opposition is an indication of the crisis facing Mujib's regime and its inability to keep the support of the Bengali masses.

Drop in agriculture exports

AGRICULTURAL export earnings of the so-called developing countries are falling further behind those of the advanced capitalist countries, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

The FAO's Commodity Review and Outlook for 1971-1972 said that in 1971 developing countries' earnings from agricultural exports dropped while those of developed countries went on rising.

The developing countries share of world agricultural trade has been falling for the last ten years and at the same time the rise in prices of imports of manufactured goods from Europe and America has produced a fall in the purchasing power of their agricultural exports.

The overall value of world agricultural trade increased only slightly last year, the reports said. But while the centres of capitalism in the US, Europe and Japan showed a rise of some £784m in the value of their trade, that of the 'developing' countries dropped by about £164m.

The FAO report is a further indication of the worsening terms of trade for the colonial and ex-colonial countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, which are being squeezed out even of the markets they once had by the imperialist powers.

Cold water on Vietnam deal

US PRESIDENTIAL envoy Henry Kissinger met North Vietnamese negotiator Le Duc Tho yesterday for the third time in three days, the longest session since the two men began secret talks three years ago.

But both sides have poured cold water on the idea that the talks mean a settlement is imminent.

Liberation forces are closer to Saigon than at any time since the Tet offensive in 1968 and in Cambodia Prince Sihanouk has

called for a general uprising against the US-backed Lon Nol regime.

The Saigon government has rushed an estimated 10,000 troops north of the capital to fight a battalion-sized force of liberation troops about 12 miles from the city centre.

The liberation troops, split up into small units were yesterday reported to be holding out, despite heavy aerial bombardment.

American B-52 bombers also attacked targets around Hue and Quang Tri in the north of South Vietnam.

Spanish mothers demand education facilities

FIFTY mothers with their children demonstrated in front of the town hall in Valladolid on Monday against the lack of school-places for their children. This followed a demonstration by over 200 mothers and children in Ermua in the Basque provinces against the lack of facilities for their children.

A report published over the weekend in Madrid revealed that over 100,000 working-class children are without school places this year.

This break-down of the educational system is also part of the crisis in the universities which Franco has just purged of opposition.

The opening of Madrid and Barcelona universities has been postponed on the pretext that there are not enough places available for students.

In Barcelona, 4,500 students have registered for courses. The authorities had planned for an intake of 2,000 new students. Doctor Caballero, the university rector, commented: 'Society wants everybody to study. But this is impossible. In the present circumstances, there can be no university.'

In Madrid the government has laid down its solution to university overcrowding; a disciplinary council of three professors has been established to hand out punishment to anti-Franco students, including the penalty of instant expulsion.

There is cash in abundance for cementing cultural ties with Stalinist academics. In Warsaw, the Jagiellonica University of Poland has just signed a cultural agreement with the University of Salamanca. The Spanish consul recently presented the Poles with 1,300 tomes of Spanish literature.

Whose victory on the Clyde?

ACCORDING to yesterday's 'Times', the Clydebank-Marathon settlement deserves 'an honourable place in the unique history of labour on the Clyde'.

It was 'an act of self-rehabilitation by the workers', says this Tory paper of the ruling class, bemoaning the fact that workers elsewhere did not have the same type of leadership.

The Stalinist 'Morning Star', of course, acclaims the deal as one of the greatest working-class victories ever. The work-in, the Stalinist daily claims, prevented the Ridley 'butcher' plan being operated on the Clyde and won 'the demand pursued over the last 15 months to retain all four yards and all jobs'.

This unity between the bourgeois and Stalinist press needs closer examination.

Certainly, when a top capitalist newspaper like 'The Times' starts praising a 'victory' it is time to ask 'Victory for whom?'

Communist Party steward James Reid now claims that the maximum number of unemployed at any one time will be fewer than 100 and that no-one will be out of work for more than four weeks.

But the engagement by Marathon of the total Clydebank labour force depends on a number of factors which are not yet settled. One of these is the winning of orders for converting two vessels into drill ships. Marathon has not yet obtained these orders.

Another is the transfer of orders from Marathon's other facilities to Clydebank. Marathon chief executive James Fox has said, ominously, that this will depend on Clydebank achieving 'quicker delivery and low costs'.

Not only are future jobs not

guaranteed, but the 'victory' claims gloss over the unpalatable fact that over 2,500 UCS jobs were lost in the course of the work-in. And unemployment in the West of Scotland went up by 17,000.

During the same period hard-core unemployment throughout Britain seriously increased.

All this was a result of calculated Tory policies.

Yet the Stalinists deliberately obscured the political implication of the UCS struggle. They refused to mobilize the nationwide working-class support for the Clyde men behind a campaign to bring down the Tory government.

Jobs will not be safe on the Clyde or anywhere else as

Tories' strategy. They allowed the government to use the threat of growing unemployment to secure a worsening of working conditions on the Clyde.

At Marathon this means the loss of six-months' bonus if production schedules set by the employers are not met.

The bonus is also lost if the workers put in less than 900 hours in six months due to any reason not accepted by Marathon.

Since the Stalinists have also accepted compulsory arbitration, this amounts to a no-strike pledge with built-in penalties. And this is valid for four years.

Yet co-operation with the employer is the order of the day for Reid, who declared yesterday:

'We can now concentrate on giving maximum co-operation to make a success of the Marathon venture.'

The Stalinist 'victory' consists of providing the employer with a labour force committed to reduced working conditions and with the constant threat of unemployment hanging over its head.

The UCS deal can only encourage the Tories. The Stalinists have strengthened the government in its determination to drive down workers' conditions.

Reid, Airlie and McGarvey have assured Heath of the continued collaboration of the Stalinists and Labour 'lefts', while the attack on wages, rents, prices and jobs is speeded up.

Coming as it does at a time when the TUC seeks closer collaboration with the government's state pay plan and the Labour leaders' move towards coalition, this settlement represents not a victory, but a setback for the working class.

What we think

long as the Heath gang remains in office. The choice facing the working class is clear: either bring the Tories down or knuckle under.

Right at the beginning of the work-in—on August 10, 1971—Reid declared: 'We have kept clear of politics. Our job is to save UCS. Political issues may come into it, but only in the fight to save UCS and not in bringing down the Tory government.'

From starting out by refusing to fight the Tories, the Stalinists ended up by accepting the

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£15m gas profits—but prices may still rise

GAS PRICES may go up again in spite of record-breaking sales and a £15m surplus for the industry last year.

This is indicated in yesterday's annual report from the Gas Council which disclosed the sales record and surplus along with statements from some area boards on the need for gas price increases.

The council's report says that eight gas boards and itself made surpluses totalling £20.2m and four boards made deficits totalling £5.1m. The industry's total surplus was therefore £15.1m in comparison with a £2m surplus the previous year.

A major factor in the latest surplus was an increase in total gas sales of 30 per cent over the previous year. Total sales were more than 8,000 million therms—'easily an all-time sales record'.

Now the 'Democratic' Tories join in

CHAIRMAN of the Democratic Conservatives Against the Common Market, Mr R. E. G. Simmerson, announced yesterday that his organization will put forward a candidate for the Lincoln by-election.

The by-election follows the resignation of Lincoln's pro-Market Labour MP, Dick Taverner, who was expelled by the local party branch for voting with the Tories for EEC entry in October last year. Taverner is fighting the by-election as a Democratic Labour candidate in favour of entry.

Simmerson said that Labour voters would be provided with a choice between pro- and anti-Market candidates and that his organization was dedicated to providing the same choice for Tory voters.

He also stated that Prime Minister Edward Heath was not a Conservative and that he was sure Conservatives would soon 'rumble' him.

'Here WAS the shipping forecast'

COASTGUARDS have been told by the Civil Service Union to stop sending weather reports to the Meteorological Office in protest at a government decision not to continue payment for the voluntary service. About 130 of the union's 800 coastguard members regularly send in the reports and the sums involved in payment are small.

The Met Office said: 'The weather reports supplied by the coastguards are of great value, particularly in the provision of forecasts for shipping. We hope this dispute will be settled quickly.'

Cheng is remanded

CHENG TZU-TSAI, the stateless architect taken unconscious from an airliner at London's Heathrow airport five weeks ago, was again remanded in custody for a week at Bow Street yesterday.

Cheng, who was convicted in New York of conspiring to assassinate General Chiang Kai-shek's son, appeared in connection with extradition proceedings initiated by the United States. There was no bail application.

Last week Cheng's solicitor, Benedict Birnberg, said the date of the hearing had been fixed for November 21. Cheng fled to Sweden while on bail in America and was being taken back to the United States when he was taken off the plane.

First victims of Lucas drive into Europe

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

LUCAS WORKERS at Fazakerley, Liverpool, are convinced they are the first victims of the firm's big drive into Europe. The concensus of opinion from the men as they settled into their second day of occupation was that they were pawns in the big Common Market game.

Certainly there is evidence to support their suspicions. In his last annual report company president Sir Bertram Waring, vice-president of the Engineering Employers' Federation, reported on the delightful prospect of business on the continent.

He told of the continual expansion of the firm's European subsidiaries and said they would prepare 'diligently' for the 'changing patterns of trade' entry would bring. The Lucas balance sheet shows that already one third of the combine's profit comes from abroad.

'But with the £12-a-week wage, the top skilled men get in "Condiessel" that's hardly surprising,' John Howe, a young shop steward leading the occupation, told me.

Condiessel is a shortened form for Constructora de Equipas Diesel SA, an associate company of Lucas' based in Barcelona, Spain.

At the factory gate, now emblazoned with the sit-in banner, one man held up an invoice. It was from Condiessel and read—'55 Kys—pumps, etc.'

'We send them the components and they do the assembly. Then the pumps come over here for distribution to stockists,' he explained.

This consignment was bound for the firm's depot in Aylesbury, Bucks.

Other straws are in the wind. In 1968 Lucas added Simms Motors and Electronics Company Ltd to their empire. This gave them a virtual monopoly of the car pump market.

'Now they are phasing out our range of pumps—they say there is no demand for them,' convenor Dave Martin told me.

'At Simms in Finchley production is being stepped up. We are just pawns in a game with this big monopoly.'

The workers' prompt action has, however, temporarily halted this bid to decimate the plant and close Lucas CAV's last interests in the north-west.

'This came to a head a couple of days ago,' said Mr Martin. 'They went round offering people a week's notice. If they accept they would get their full redundancy money plus eight weeks pay. Obviously they wanted to destroy the resistance before it started.'

The company, however, has lost the first round. Only an estimated 170 workers and staff picked up the cash before the sit-in strike was declared on Monday.

'At first it seemed that the company would take until January or February to start the closure. But they obviously updated their plans when we smoked them out over the closure.'

'We are determined to win this one. It's not the first occupation and the issue is the same—the right to work. We chal-

'We're releasing nothing'

WORKERS in occupation at the Lucas CAV plant at Fazakerley, Liverpool, were yesterday preparing teams to raise support throughout the combine.

A meeting of the Lucas shop stewards'

area committee was also convened last night to discuss what help could be given to the Fazakerley men.

Convenor David Martin told Workers Press: 'The management has not made any move

against us as yet, but they are asking what the position is with the Central Services Department, which supplies other north-west factories in the combine.'

The stewards say that

nothing will be released from the site.

In the Midlands 230 maintenance electricians at Lucas's 12 factories are on strike for an extra £1 a week over the management's offer of £4.25.

CAV occupiers out to win the widest support

The sign set up outside Lucas's CAV plant at Fazakerley, Liverpool, on Monday immediately the workers occupied the plant against the combine's closure plans.



lenge the right of a small group of politically-motivated men to threaten all our livelihoods.

'The next step will be to get support from workers in the combine. Then throughout the whole trade union movement,' said Dave.

The first declaration of solidarity came from the 500 workers at the Lucas Industrial Equipment plant on the same site.

The afternoon of the sit-in they voted, almost unanimously, to pay a £1 levy.

Their convenor, Ray Reynolds, told me: 'We have got no alter-

native but to back this kind of action. It is my own firm conviction that Lucas has taken a decision to write off Merseyside and move to greener pastures.

'There was no trouble getting our lads to back this action. Their own fear is real. A few years ago unemployment was a blow, but workers could recover from it. But since this government has got in power it has become an epidemic.

'Quite brutally—though one is almost scared to say it—until we get a socialist system where production is for need and

not for profit, we will never be safe.'

One of the first aims of the occupation will be to prevent the movement of machinery. John Howe told me that the combine were developing a complex at Gillingham.

'There are stocks of new machinery in this plant—all bought with fat government grants. My belief is that this is bound for Gillingham.'

Lucas CAV came to Merseyside with their bag of promises a decade ago.

They took over the Fazakerley site from the government and promised 10,000 jobs. Millions of

pounds worth of grants later they built up to 2,000 jobs. Now they want to pull out. The site is still their own and ripe for property development.

Ahead for them lies Europe where they already have plants in three countries—now four since their acquisition of Italy's main car-lighting suppliers, Fausto Corello.

For the workers of Merseyside this grandiose game of profit means the dole and poverty.

But the CAV men at Fazakerley, in common with all their brothers on Merseyside, are far from defeat and degradation.

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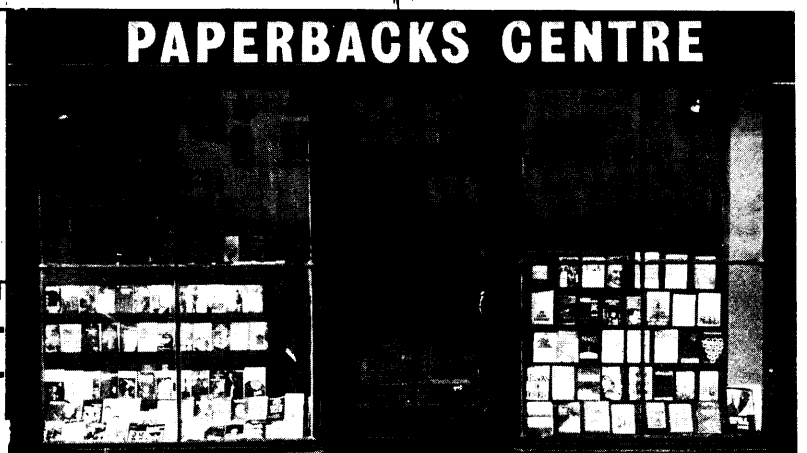
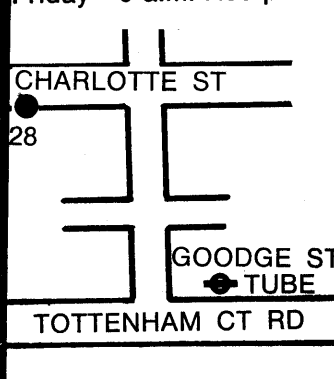
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THE JAY LOVESTONE STORY

From Stalinism . . . to the CIA. By Charles Parkins. Part Four

STALIN'S PROTEGE

Between 1926 and 1928 Jay Lovestone was the main channel through which Stalinist policies and ideology travelled into the American Communist Party.

In the United States, there was a little '1926' experience too. The strike of textile workers at Passaic, New Jersey, in that year was the first big industrial struggle to be led by the Communist Party. Some 16,000 workers were involved, many new to trade unionism, and facing the full force of police brutality and repression.

The AFL United Textile Workers' Union had never interested itself in organizing these underpaid workers. But in August 1926, following consultations with Moscow, and as part of a campaign supposedly against 'ultra-left' tendencies and dual unionism, the Party leadership instructed its members leading the strike to step down and let the UTW leaders take over and negotiate a settlement. As a result, the Passaic workers were eventually driven back with little more than a promise of no victimization.

The Party leadership under Ruthenburg, with his ally Lovestone, campaigned for complete loyalty to the Comintern. At the Seventh Plenum of the Comintern in 1926 they voiced strong support for the policy of 'socialism in one country'.

Just as the supporters of this theory in the Soviet bureaucracy always argued from the weaknesses and setbacks of the working class and communist movements, so the rising little bureaucrats of the American Party began from the same sort of premise, but emphasizing particularly the strength of American capitalism. Lovestone told the Seventh Plenum:

'Comrades, the Soviet Union plays an extraordinary role for us in America. The objective conditions are far more favourable in Germany, in France, in England; there the working class is far more developed, the revolutionary interests are far more advanced. The lack of these forces, the absence of these elements for the revolutionizing of the American working class, presents us with a situation in which precisely the example, the role and the experience of the Soviet Union are revolutionary factors.'

And he read out a declaration signed by the American delegation which stressed the special significance for the American party of 'socialism in one country':

'The Communist Party was founded in America when a mighty wave of enthusiasm was brought forth by the outbreak of the Russian Revolution. In America (with its limited number of other revolutionary factors)—where capitalism is still on the upgrade, in the country of the strongest imperialism and the most reactionary labour aristocracy, where so few independent mass actions of the working class occur, where the working class does not yet have a political mass party—the existence of the Soviet Union

and the successful building of socialism within it plays a relatively more important role as the revolutionary stimulus of the working class than in other countries . . .'

Zinoviev commented on the tendency displayed at this meeting by the American and other delegations:

'We have noticed the following attitude among individual foreign communists: the proletarian revolution is not yet coming for us . . . so at least let the Russians build socialism for themselves, even if without our assistance.'

Several other points can be made about this attitude expressed by Lovestone's delegation. First, it indicates that the tendency to bow before the seemingly invincible strength of US capitalism, which later Stalinists tried to attribute to Lovestone as a special characteristic, was in fact one which he shared with the rest of the American CP leadership at this time.

Secondly, it indicates that the theory of 'American exceptionalism', which has been the specific form of ideology for opportunists in the American labour movement, grew up not in opposition to Stalinism, but in intimate relationship with it, the counterpart of 'socialism in one country'.

Thirdly, it shows how a cloak of fake internationalism can be used to disguise its opposite. 'Let someone else make the Revolution, let someone else build socialism, or say they are doing so, and we will stand by and applaud.' We have seen the Cuban Revolution used in the same way by revisionists in more recent times.

Finally, there was in the American CP leaders' statement the acceptance of the idea of 'socialism in one country', not because it was valid, or offered the real way forward for the Russian working class or the international working class, but because it would serve as a source of 'inspiration'.

SERVANT

Behind their spurious 'internationalism' lay the most narrow opportunism, that of a bureaucracy concerned first and foremost with building and preserving its organizational base. It is this organizational opportunism which has been the consistent policy of Jay Lovestone, from the time when he was a servant of the Stalinist bureaucracy, through his period as a centrist and reformist, until he became what he is today, the open servant of US imperialism.

In the spring of 1927, Lovestone became acting secretary of the American Communist Party. He was nominated by Benjamin Gitlow, also later to become a notorious renegade. Another of his supporters was Bertram D. Wolfe, who later went with him when he was expelled from the Party.

Faced with opposition within the Party at this time from a group headed by Foster and James P. Cannon, Lovestone and his clique sought, and generally received, Moscow's backing.

In May 1927, the Eighth Plenum of the Comintern was dominated by the events in China and by the struggle between Stalin, at this time backed by Bukharin, and Trotsky.



Bertram D. Wolfe, Lovestone's chief lieutenant, and one of the fiercest Trotsky-baiters.

The American delegation, led by Lovestone and Gitlow, joined enthusiastically in the attack on Trotskyism. They obtained the privilege of being one of the five parties to present a resolution for Trotsky's expulsion from the Comintern EC. James Cannon says of this period:

'The qualification for leadership in all the parties, the criterion by which leaders were judged in Moscow was; who shouted loudest against Trotskyism and Trotsky.' ('The History of American Trotskyism', p.36.)

He also says of the way anti-Trotskyism became a campaign at this time:

'Bertram D. Wolfe, Lovestone's chief lieutenant, was one of the greatest Trotsky-baiters. At the slightest provocation he would make a speech two hours long, explaining how the Trotskyists were wrong on the agrarian question in Russia. I could not do that because I didn't understand the question. He didn't understand it either, but, in his case, that wasn't so much of an obstacle.' (ibid. p.44.)

Before coming to Moscow in 1927, Lovestone had walked out of a plenum of the American Party, showing a contemptuous attitude of not even bothering to discuss with his opponents. This arrogant and un-communist behaviour may have led Stalin to recognize in him a like-minded fellow. While in Moscow, Lovestone and Gitlow, together with five others, gained the distinction of being the first group of American CP leaders to obtain a personal interview with Stalin. They were told that he had put off a visit to the Caucasus to meet them.

The discussion was cordial.

It was with the backing of Stalin and the Comintern leadership, and the prestige derived from it, that the Lovestone group consolidated its hold on the American Party, and Lovestone became in effect general secretary, although taking a new title, 'executive secretary'.

Party positions were re-allocated, so that Wolfe became editor of the party monthly 'The Communist', and ten out of 12 district organizers were Lovestone supporters.

It was the following year, in 1928, at the Sixth World Congress of the Comintern that a young Canadian Communist, Maurice Spector, together with Cannon, managed to obtain Trotsky's document 'The Draft Programme of the Comintern, A Criticism of Fundamentals'.

EXPELLED

From their discussions and reading of Trotsky's document came the beginnings of the Left Opposition in North America, and American Trotskyism.

The old Cannon-Foster faction had broken up and Foster and Lovestone vied with each other in anti-Trotskyism. After Trotsky's exile to Alma-Ata, it was Lovestone's friend Wolfe who produced the first official anti-Trotskyist pamphlet for the American Party.

Meanwhile, the GPU had been watching Cannon, and passed on through Bukharin a report on Cannon's Trotskyist leanings to Lovestone.

On October 27, 1928, Cannon and his supporters were expelled from the Party. On

December 17, they appeared before the party's Central Committee to appeal against the expulsion. Already they had been subject to both slanders and physical attacks from the Stalinists and the violence was to be stepped up later.

But on December 17, thanks to the split which still existed between Lovestone and Foster, they were able to gain speaking rights. Cannon attributes this to an attempted manoeuvre by Lovestone to compromise the Fosterites.

Nevertheless the expulsion went ahead. Cannon says:

' . . . in those days the people who constituted the Lovestone group were the leaders of the American Communist Party. It was they who carried through our expulsion.'

About a week later, Cannon came home from a meeting to find his place ransacked. Files, correspondence, documents, letters were stolen. The burglars were working for the CP leadership. Stolen documents were passed on to the Canadian CP secretary and Maurice Spector was subsequently driven out of the Canadian Party.

The Stalinist bureaucracy in Moscow fully supported Lovestone in all this. In September 1928, following criticism of Lovestone from the American Party's opposition, the Comintern issued a decision declaring: 'The charge against the majority of the Central Committee of the Party representing a right line is unfounded.'

But a new turn in the bureaucracy's policy was coming, and one that Lovestone would not be able to stay with.

CONTINUED TOMORROW



SPLIT OVER TERRORISM

The conflict in the Pabloite Unified Secretariat between the European and American sections is now being conducted blow for blow in their press.

Last week, 'Rouge', paper of Alain Krivine's Ligue Communiste in France, published a statement 'Terrorism and the class-struggle' and the 'Militant', organ of the Socialist Workers' Party in the United States* a statement, 'Trotskyism and terrorism'.

FRIGHTENED

Both articles are in reply to an article in a recent issue of 'Newsweek' which claimed: 'The Trotskyite Fourth International . . . founded in Brussels two years ago . . . represented the most ambitious current effort to set terrorism firmly into a multi-national frame.'

That is the only point of similarity.

'Rouge' presents a picture of the world bourgeoisie frightened by the 'spectre of terrorism'. In feverish tones,

the murder of General Sanchez by the Argentinian ERP and the activities of the IRA in Ulster are exalted as revolutionary orientations to the working class which both Lenin and Trotsky would have favoured.

In contrast, the 'Militant' gives a very bland, 'orthodox' exposition of the Marxist view of terrorism. The mild generalities of the SWP allow a quotation from 'Rouge', vaguely critical of the Palestinian 'Black September' group, to create the impression that all are good friends in the Secretariat—a typical piece of Pabloite dishonesty!

However, a brief comparison soon gives the lie to this impression and reveals the deep crisis racking the organization of the revisionists.

'Terrorist actions by small groups actually hinder the process of winning over the masses of people to struggle against their oppressors because such acts tend to create confusion over who is the real source of anti-social violence and injustice in society.' ('The Militant'.)

. . . acts of minority violence, which are today given the general label of acts of

terrorism, will find their place, as one tactical recourse among others, in a strategy for the conquest of power by the masses.' ('Rouge'.)

'In Ireland, for example, many Catholics no doubt applaud when they hear of a bomb hitting a symbol of their oppression. But in general the bombings have been counter-productive. While they may be popular among the Catholics, they are not a strategy for mobilizing them in mass struggle against their oppressors.' ('The Militant'.)

'The deep crisis of imperialism favours the birth and development, at a mass-level, of new revolutionary vanguards. These vanguards, when they try to get roots in the workers' movement, which they know or feel to be the only force capable of resolving the crisis, clash with the bureaucratic shell of the social-democratic or Stalinist bureaucracies. Thus, there is every reason to believe that the strategy of the IRA would have been different if it had had immediate international support from a qualitatively more powerful revolutionary workers' movement in Great

Britain.' ('Rouge'.)

The rapid development of the economic crisis and the revolutionary movement of the international working class have provoked this sharp crisis in the Pabloites' ranks.

NATURAL

They have built themselves on the petty-bourgeois rejection of Marxism and the theory of the new vanguard—the student, guerrilla, the peasant, the 'natural' Marxist be it Cohn-Bendit or Fidel Castro.

In bitter hostility to these conceptions, the International Committee of the Fourth International fight to build cadres of Marxists in the international working class, based on the conceptions of Bolshevism.

In this fight, the struggles of Lenin and Trotsky against petty-bourgeois individualism are developed and enriched.

The situation in Argentina reveals the bankruptcy of the Pabloites, which is embodied in the present polemic. The opportunists in the SWP support the Revolutionary Workers' Party of Moreno which fights against terrorism . . . by supporting Coral's Socialist

Top: British soldiers search suspected IRA 'terrorists' on the streets of Ulster.

Party which praises the 'legality' of Lanusse, the General who heads the Argentinian military dictatorship.

The ERP, backed by Krivine and Ernest Mandel, favours the murder of bankers, generals, and other 'exemplary' acts.

It is the gun of the terrorist against the rationalist argument of the opportunist. In these conditions, co-existence in the Unified Secretariat must get more intolerable every day.

* The SWP broke from the International Committee of the Fourth International—represented in Britain by the Socialist Labour League—in 1963 to re-unite with the followers of Michael Pablo in the Unified Secretariat. British, French and American Trotskyists (SWP) had broken with Pablo with their signatures to the 'Open Letter' in 1953. Pablo maintained that the threat of a third world war would push the Soviet bureaucracy to the left and force communist parties to carry through revolutions.

TITO PURGES LEFT RIGHT AND CENTRE

BY JOHN SPENCER

President Tito's legal machine is rolling against the Croat nationalists whose activities sparked off a major crisis at the beginning of this year. Four student leaders, all of them arrested following a student strike at Zagreb University, were sentenced to from one to four years' jail last week.

Arrested with numerous Croats in December, the student leaders were charged with 'counter-revolutionary activity' and with trying to separate Croatia from Yugoslavia.

They could have got 15 years apiece, but in the event Drzen Budisa, former president of the Zagreb Student Union, was sentenced to four years' 'rigorous imprisonment'. Ivan Cicak, the former student pro-rector, and Ante Paradzic, the former president of the Croatian Students' Union, both were sentenced to three years.

They had refused to testify or answer questions on the grounds that the trial was rigged. The only defendant who did co-operate with the court, Goran Dodig, Budisa's former deputy, was given a one-year sentence.

The students were credited with all manner of counter-revolutionary connections, contacts with emigré Croat fascists, accepting money from overseas, and the like.

But their real crime was the Zagreb student strike, in support of a demand that foreign exchange earned in Croatia should be applied within the public rather than spread throughout the country.

Croatia, the richest of Yugoslavia's six republics, is the country's main tourist centre and produces most of Yugoslavia's exports.

Croatia has always been something of a problem for Tito's regime: during the war it was the base of a native fascist organization which ran a puppet state under Nazi domination.

Many of the Ustachi fascists who served under the Nazis are now in exile in Canada, West Germany, Sweden and Australia and Ustachi terrorists have waged a secret and bloody campaign against the Yugoslav government.

Tito fears that if nationalism is allowed to grow, it will tear apart the federation of Yugoslav republics which has become increasingly loose over recent years.

Hence Tito's purge of the Croat party and his police measures against the alleged centres of nationalism, notably the Croat 'cultural' society Matica Hrvatska (Mother Croatia).

The demand of the student strike was nationalistic and reactionary: it expressed

openly the tendency towards the break-up of the fragile unity forged since the war between the various nationalities in Yugoslavia.

It also encouraged the emergence of nationalist trends in the other, poorer, republics and threatened to tear apart Yugoslavia's federal structure if left unchecked.

But it won support precisely from that section which was supposed to uphold the gains of the Yugoslav revolution: the leadership of the Croat League of Communists.

The leaders of the Croat Party organization have since been purged on orders from Belgrade — but this does not remove the basic causes which underlie the rise of nationalism.

These lie in the rapidly expanding ties between the top bureaucratic layers and imperialism — ties which are not merely political and diplomatic, but increasingly commercial and economic and are more and more outside the sphere of state control.

This is a direct consequence of the erosion and abandonment of the state monopoly of foreign trade — the institution which Lenin described as the only serious form of protection for the economy of the workers' state.

In Yugoslavia, factories and businesses which were originally under state control have been progressively decentralized into what the regime calls 'self-managing' units. These enterprises are cut loose to sink or swim economically within the 'market economy'.

Theoretically, these institutions are controlled by the workers in them — but since the workers are politically disfranchised and have no organizations independent of the bureaucracy the self-managing enterprises are in practice dominated by the management bureaucracy.

New fields for self-enrichment have opened up for these bureaucrats in recent years as Tito has turned towards imperialism in an attempt to overcome the country's economic backwardness and avoid economic crises.

The impossibility of genuine economic independence for Yugoslavia as an isolated workers' state has now forced the Tito bureaucracy to open the doors to foreign capital on an unprecedented scale.

The monopoly of foreign trade has been undermined in a variety of ways: individual enterprises now have wide powers to trade individually with foreign capitalists; at the same time they can negotiate directly with foreign firms for

BLUEPRINT FOR CORRUPTION

The monopoly of foreign trade has been undermined in a variety of ways: individual enterprises now have wide powers to trade individually with foreign capitalists; at the same time they can negotiate directly with foreign firms for



Above: while Tito lives in luxury, the living standard of the workers is poor and depressed by inflation.

joint investment in Yugoslavia.

Foreign capitalists can hold up a 49 per cent share in any Yugoslav enterprise—they can even, under certain conditions, participate in the 'self-management' of their investment. Their profits are guaranteed and the dinar is being made a fully convertible currency to enable them to repatriate their takings.

It is an almost perfect blueprint for bureaucratic corruption and self-enrichment on an unprecedented scale. At the same time the living standard of the workers is further depressed by inflation and cuts in social services, leading to a situation where even top bureaucrats acknowledge that the average Yugoslav worker's family can no longer afford a holiday!

The Tito bureaucracy itself is the chief source of the danger of capitalist restoration in Yugoslavia—and Yugoslavia only exposes in the most acute form the tendencies which exist in all the deformed workers' states of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Tito's conflict with the nationalists is by no means principled. It is the reflex action of a bureaucrat who fears for the privileges of his caste.

Tito's remaining personal popularity in Yugoslavia

reflects his record as the leader of the revolutionary struggle against the Nazis and the man who stood up to Stalin.

But in carrying through these actions, Tito never broke with Stalinism and its reactionary theory of socialism in a single country.

'PURGE' ON MONEY MAKERS

His famous breach with the Kremlin in 1949 was followed by a brief leftward turn. But before long he was assiduously courting world imperialism—to the extent of supporting the UN intervention in Korea in the early 1950s.

In return he accepted considerable economic aid from the United States, setting a pattern which is being reproduced today in a far more exaggerated form.

This has exposed Yugoslav workers to the full effects of the international economic crisis and created rampant inflation which is eating into workers' living standards.

At the same time, an increasingly arrogant layer of bureaucrats and functionaries

are enriching themselves and flaunting their wealth in the faces of the workers.

Belatedly, Tito has announced a new purge—this time of those who have illegally acquired too much money, and that includes many top Communist Party functionaries.

It is not clear whether Tito plans to apply the same rules to himself: his own way of life is the most ostentatious display of privilege to be found anywhere in Eastern Europe.

His personal effects include 20 large fast cars, a town mansion in Belgrade, another villa on his private pine-fringed island of Brioni, stables, motor boats and other luxuries.

These trappings enable him to entertain lavishly his overseas guests. In recent years they have included the Shah of Iran, Princess Margaret and the Burtons.

In 'The Revolution Betrayed', written in 1936, Leon Trotsky pointed out the two opposing tendencies growing up out of the depths of the Soviet regime:

'To the extent that in contrast to a decaying capitalism, (the regime) develops the productive forces, it is preparing the economic basis for socialism.'

'To the extent that for the

benefit of an upper stratum it carries to more and more extreme expression bourgeois norms of distribution, it is preparing a capitalist restoration. This contrast between forms of property and norms of distribution cannot grow indefinitely.

'Either the bourgeois norm must in one form or another spread to the means of production, or the norms of distribution must be brought into correspondence with the socialist property system.'

In present-day Yugoslavia these contradictions have reached an intolerable point: the newspapers talk about 'billionaires' — but conveniently refrain from telling their readers who these mysterious individuals are — or which stratum of society spawns them.

The bureaucracy is undermining the basis of the workers' state economically and politically. Tito's attempts to purge the Party are legalistic moves which are powerless alongside the economic weight of world imperialism.

Tito is in no position to mobilize the Yugoslav workers in the fight against the restorationist tendency. Indeed, any threat of political revolution against bureaucratic privilege must be put down.

Several of the trials already

staged this year in Yugoslavia have had exactly that purpose. Three Belgrade students accused of having ties with foreign Trotskyists were jailed in July, two for two years and one for a year and a half.

One of the main items on the charge sheet was the accusation that they had attended the International Youth Assembly in Essen, West Germany last year. They were subjected before the 'trial' to a merciless campaign of slander in the official press.

One of the three, Pavel Imsirovic, told the court in his final speech: 'Power in Yugoslavia is not in the hands of the working people. . . . It is not a government of the working class.' This 'subversive' statement earned him further charges.

Belgrade law professor Mihailo Djuric was sentenced to two years' imprisonment at another trial. His 'crime' was writing an article in an academic magazine saying that the new constitution reform threatened to reshape the country along simple geographical lines.

By hitting out at the left—and even at those who state obvious truths, as Djuric did—Tito further undermines his own standing and that of the bureaucracy and opens the door wider for the extreme right.



Entertainment for his overseas guests. Left: Elizabeth Taylor and Tito. Below: taking tea with Mrs Tito in the summer residence. Above: entertaining Brezhnev in an enormous Mercedes Benz. Top: guests to the Shah of Iran, Mr and Mrs Tito (right) await their turn.



FATAL LAST DAYS BEFORE NAZI RULE

Part twelve of a series by Tom Kemp on the history of the German Communist Party.

In the German Communist Party's (KPD) campaign against the Social-Democratic 'social fascists', the trade unions were not spared. In 1929 and 1930 a drive was begun to split the unions and build independent 'red' unions.

Later, work was carried out inside the unions to take control from the right wing, but with little success. The call for a General Strike was made six times between 1929 and 1932 with practically no effect.

Heavy unemployment sharply reduced union membership, made it easy for strikes to be defeated and tended to demoralize workers. Those who had jobs were reluctant to put them in jeopardy. When big strikes did take place they were largely defensive movements against wage cuts.

In any case the KPD's influence in the trade unions, which had never been more than that of a minority, tended to diminish in this period.

A major reason for this was that the Party tended to become a party of unemployed workers, perhaps as many as 80 per cent. While the Party had strongholds in certain industrial towns or districts it is probable that the great majority of the organized workers, including those in the big factories, continued to follow the Social Democratic Party (SPD) until Hitler came to power.

It should be added, however, that while the excesses of the 'third period' cost some communist parties in Europe very dearly in terms of membership—the French CP was reduced from a mass party almost to a sect—the crisis in Germany was so severe that the KPD recruited more members than it lost. As pointed out, many of them were unemployed who turned to the Party in desperation and accepted its ultra-left line.

On the other hand, it is probable that the KPD could have recruited on a much wider scale and have attracted large numbers of industrial workers away from the SPD but for the constant harping on the 'social-fascist' theme and the rejection of the united front. Trade union work was especially handicapped and the basic weakness, the failure to build factory cells, continued to the end.

In a desperate effort to win away support from the Nazis, some KPD leaders launched into nationalist appeals. Heinz Neumann attended Nazi meetings and appealed for joint action to save the nation! Some recruits were made from the Nazi ranks on such a basis.

Thaelmann took up the popular cry of the Nazis against the Versailles Treaty and against reparations. He also tried to woo the peasantry and the middle class and to outbid the Nazis with promises.

In the summer of 1931 the KPD supported a referendum in Prussia, the initiative for which had been taken by the Nazis and rightists, for the unseating of the coalition government in which the SPD was represented. Even Thaelmann saw the folly of this, but he was outvoted and supported it in public.



Heinz Neumann was strongly in favour of supporting the plebiscite. This position was endorsed by Stalin and Molotov and the Comintern forced it on the KPD over Thaelmann's opposition. In this case, as with other policies, the KPD always submitted to Moscow.

Labelling the plebiscite a 'red plebiscite' could not conceal the fact that the communists were asked to vote with the Nazis and with reaction. In any case the Prussian government was endorsed by the voters with a substantial majority.

REJECTED

The KPD was now caught up in events over which it had less and less control, vainly seeking a means of asserting its leadership over the masses. On the one hand preparations were being made for an insurrection and a certain number of Party members participated in acts of individual terror.

On the other hand, in April 1932 a statement was issued which envisaged collaboration even with the leadership of other organizations of workers against wage-cuts. In July the KPD proposed to the SPD and the trade unions that a General Strike should be organized against the deposition of the Prussian government by von Papen.

The memory of the 'red plebiscite' intended to unseat the same government was still fresh; the KPD leadership was mistrusted and its appeal was rejected. Its half-hearted and ambiguous proposals for a united front came too late.

Although incapable of mobilizing the working class, the KPD continued to enjoy considerable electoral support.

In the presidential elections of March 1932 Thaelmann won almost 5 million votes against 11.3 million for Hitler and 19 million for Hindenburg, though he picked up only 3.7 million on the second ballot.

In the Reichstag elections of July 1932 the KPD mustered 5.37 million votes and in the November elections almost 6 million. The SPD had 7.25 million and the Nazis 11.75 million in November, losing over 30 seats. Thaelmann proclaimed 'a new stage in the Bolshevization of the KPD' and described it as 'the only victorious party in the elections'. The Nazi wave, he impressionistically declared, was on the ebb.

In fact, the Nazis, backed by big business, were consolidating their position, strengthening their assault squads and, with the support of the police, taking charge of the streets. Many workers were seriously beaten up or killed in street fights.

The German working class had not yet been defeated and it was still prepared to fight back. In November the KPD might still have been able to change the situation. But time was running out rapidly.

Only a fortnight before Hitler took power, Thaelmann spoke in a mood of self-congratulation about the complete unity of the Party, 'unity of a kind which has never existed before at any stage of its development'. The war of factions had, in fact, been replaced by quarrels of personalities and struggles to win the favour of Moscow—i.e. of Stalin.

Thaelmann's complacency was suicidal. Undeterred by their electoral set-back the Nazis pressed on with their offensive. On January 23 they

organized a big demonstration in front of the Karl Liebknecht House, KPD headquarters. A week later Hindenburg called on Hitler to form a government.

The Nazis moved swiftly against the KPD and other working-class organizations and no move was made to fight back. As Trotsky had repeatedly warned, the working class organizations were smashed and the German proletariat left prostrate.

At the end of February the Reichstag fire enabled Goering to proclaim that the communists had started it in order to give the signal for an insurrection. The Party was suppressed, but despite the violence of the terror 4.75 million electors voted for it in the relatively free March 5 elections.

Thousands of communists were arrested, tortured by the Gestapo and thrown into concentration camps. Thaelmann and a number of the leaders joined them. Others fled, some reaching Moscow where, until 1934, they continued to fight the old battles against Social Democracy, spoke as though there was still a mass Communist Party in Germany and speculated on the imminent demise of the Hitler regime.

Those German communist émigrés who were indiscreet enough to criticize the line of the 'third period' later found themselves in Stalin's jails and a few of them disappeared in the purges, never to be heard of again. Only the staunch Stalinists, time-servers and opportunists survived to re-emerge in 1945 as the leadership of the Socialist Unity Party, bastard heir of the KPD in East Germany.

The fruits of Stalinism were bitter indeed for the KPD and

Between the elections of 1932 and 1933 the Nazis consolidated their position—strengthening the assault squads and with the support of the police, taking charge of the streets.

the whole German working class. Misled and betrayed by its leaders it had to bear the full weight of fascist terror. The betrayal of the KPD was no less criminal than that of the SPD. Acting under Stalin's orders, it failed to live up to its historical responsibility to the German working class.

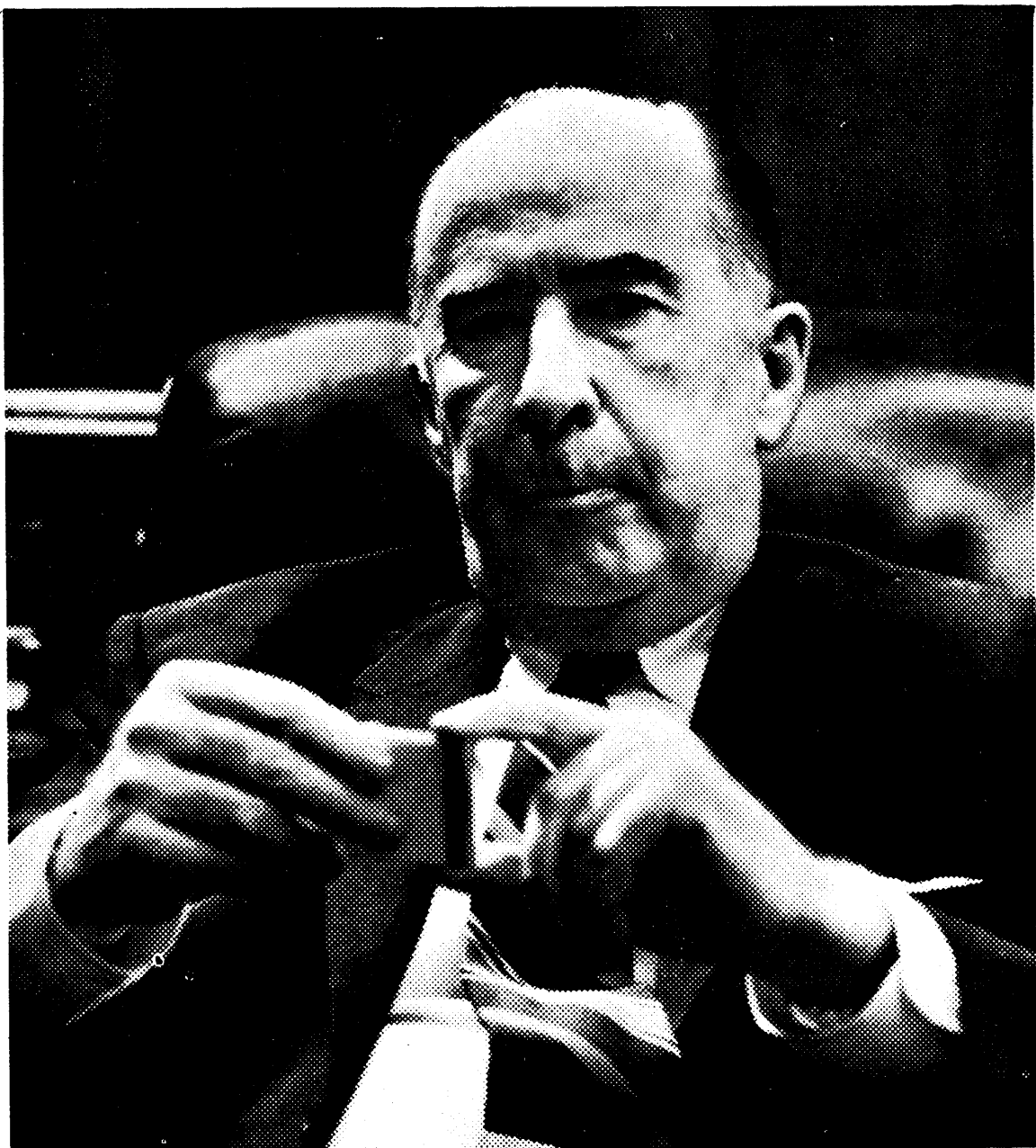
Trotsky fought a tremendous theoretical battle to try to reverse the disastrous course of the KPD in the 'third period'. Despite the influence which his pamphlets had, it was not possible to gain the necessary basis for a successful struggle against the Thaelmann leadership.

Although he had foreseen the possibility of defeat for the German working class, Trotsky did not relax his efforts. Indeed, he had carefully weighed its probable consequences and the course of action which would then be required.

From the German defeat Trotsky drew the lesson that it was no longer possible to reform the Comintern or its parties, which had passed to the side of the counter-revolution.

'It is absolutely necessary' he wrote in July 1933, 'to free the proletarian vanguard from the dictatorship of the Stalinist bureaucracy.'

The need was to work for the creation of a new—Fourth—International and new communist parties to carry through the socialist revolution in the capitalist world and a political revolution against the Stalinist bureaucracy in the Soviet Union.



Former attorney-general John Mitchell, head of the Re-Elect the President Committee involved in the bugging.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

When the Republicans and Democrats fight it out for power, the use of corruption, bribery, blackmail and so on assumes open political sponsorship. The Mafia just change their suits and instead wear Nixon or McGovern button-holes.

Millions and millions of dollars are pumped into campaigns to try and win elections. Control of the White House unlocks the door to untold riches. It is not unknown for government contracts to go to the companies who backed the right man.

Earlier this year the Committee to Re-Elect the President, headed by former attorney-general John Mitchell, tried to go one better than before and failed. The story has long been out how the Democratic Party's Washington headquarters were bugged and spied upon and also how, unfortunately, a number of Nixon men were caught red-handed stealing documents.

At his press conference last week, President Nixon denied he had ever known anything about the so-called 'Watergate Affair'.

But a couple of days earlier Alfred C. Baldwin III, one of the men hired by his committee to take part in the espionage, turned state evidence and blew the whole story to the newspapers. Without his story, the case would have been long forgotten until after the November 7 elections.

He has told the 'Los Angeles Times' in great detail who was involved, what information

they were after and how the Republican machine assumed itself to be completely above the law.

It was on May 1 that Baldwin—a former FBI agent—received a phone call at his Connecticut home. On the other end of the line was Jim McCord, security coordinator for the Nixon re-election committee. McCord was also ex-FBI. More interestingly, however, he had been 20 years in the notorious Central Intelligence Agency.

Baldwin was impressed and took the first flight to Washington and went to the campaign HQ, a few blocks down from the White House itself. He was taken aback by the array of White House aides drifting around. Baldwin was given the job of looking after the former attorney-general's wife, Martha Mitchell. Although he had no permit, he was also given a police gun. When Baldwin queried this, McCord replied:

'You're working for the former attorney-general and there's no way a policeman or any other law-enforcement officer is going to question your right to carry that weapon.'

Soon Baldwin was taken off that job and, he claims, was then groomed for the real work: spying on the Democrats. At the campaign committee McCord showed him an impressive array of sophisticated listening devices. And a few days later Baldwin was in a room opposite the Washington Watergate Hotel, the Democrats' HQ.

For a number of weeks he monitored the telephone conversations held by Democrat leaders, including, probably, George McGovern himself. The

eavesdropping logs were placed in an envelope and taken to the Nixon committee offices.

'An elderly guard was on duty in the building and he took the envelope, recognizing the name on it and said he would see to it that the official received it,' said Baldwin.

It was all going so well that McCord had told Baldwin that the next step was Miami and the Democratic Convention. Their hotels were going to be bugged.

Friday June 16 was to be the night of the big coup. McCord and a number of other men were planning, said Baldwin, to raid the Watergate Hotel, plant new bugging devices and rearrange the old. A number of documents might also disappear in the process.

Baldwin was watching from across the street when he saw a number of other men turn up while the Nixon men were doing their work. He tried to contact McCord by radio but it was too late. The other men turned out to be the police. Nixon had been caught with his trousers down.

Then men who thought they were above the law were eventually caught by their own paid hirelings. It probably signified that the Republicans had had a Democratic spy within their midst for some months.

Seven men are now awaiting trial on the charges of planting microphones and stealing documents. Four of them are known to have been involved in government-sponsored anti-Castro activities. Then there is ex-CIA man McCord. The other two are the committee's financial adviser, G. Gordon Liddy (ex-FBI) and one E. Howard Hunt jnr, ex-CIA and former White House 'consultant'.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

MINT

Remember all the promises about decimal currency? It was going to be exactly the same as the old money only better, Lord Fiske and his Decimal Currency Board used to say.

The Royal Mint doesn't think so though: its currently advertising 7s 4½d pre-decimal coins in a sonic-welded plastic case and attractive purple wallet. The price? £3. 'Not only are these coins a souvenir, they may also mean a good investment,' the advert says.

MENTAL

The number of working days lost through illness caused by physical and mental stress is now greater than those lost through strikes, go-slows and other forms of industrial action. Such illness is also responsible for more days lost than through influenza and the common cold put together and more than the whole range of accidents.

National Association for Mental Health report

ANGRY

Engineers at the heavily-barricaded British-Leyland gearbox factory in Basingstoke, Hants—fighting like mad to save their jobs threatened by a takeover—are justifiably angry with property and land speculators.

All along they have considered their 50-acre site will eventually be 'redeveloped', as the saying goes. When Leyland sold the factory for £2½m, they also sold the land to a property company for another £2½m.

At the factory last week some men brought the subject up and compared their simple insistence on the right to work with the millions being made by those who don't. They were especially angry about the big land deal the day before not many miles from the factory.

A British record price was established for the 2,362 acre Brown Candover estate near Alresford. The bidding eventually closed at £3.2m.

You had to have a little money to start with because the auctioneer opened the bidding at a mere £2m. Within ten minutes it had soared to £3m.

The price works out at £1,355 an acre. In 1942 a certain Major Ball paid between £5 and £12 an acre.

MILITARY

On the recent 162nd anniversary of Chilean independence President Salvador Allende braved the downpours of autumn to attend a commemorative Te Deum in Santiago cathedral.

After the spiritual nourishment provided by Cardinal Silva Henriquez, a solemn ceremony backed by ecumenical choir, Allende proceeded to offer the traditional presidential greeting to the armed forces over radio and television.

'The armed forces will always be our people, in their hours of concern, work, pain and joy,' proclaimed don Salvador.

Thus, with traditional sword and cross, he prepares for civil war.

ALLENDE's right-hand man in Latin America, Fidel Castro, has been getting uptight lately. He spends press-conference after press conference denying rumours that he was to establish relations with President Nixon.

'Our policy in regard to the US is clear and there's just one policy. It's private and public and it's all one,' was one of the Comandante's incantations, as if he had taken up quiz show repartee.

The pressmen in Havana have seen a delegation of Peruvian military followed by a group of Gaullist parliamentarians officially visiting Cuba. Sandwiched in between was Angela Davis hot-foot from the Soviet Union.

They can't help asking the Cuban leader where this is all leading, if not to the White House.

Below: Salvador Allende



BOOKS



LEON TROTSKY:
Germany 1931/1932
Paperback £1.25—cloth £1.87
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ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

MANCHESTER: Wednesday October 11, 7.30 p.m. Milton Hall, Deansgate. 'Fight the rent Act! Build Councils of Action!'

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, opposite New Cross Station. 'The ATUA conference'.

LEICESTER: Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. 'Queen's Hotel'. Rutland Street. 'ATUA conference'.

GLASGOW: Thursday October 12, 7.30 p.m. Trades Hall, Clydebank. 'UCS and the ATUA conference'.

WILLESDEN: Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, NW10. 'ATUA conference'.

SWANSEA: Thursday October 12, 7 p.m. Swansea Council of Social Services Building, Mount Pleasant Hill (next to fire station).

BARNSELY: Friday October 13, 7.30 p.m. Community Hall, Laithes Crescent. 'The rents struggle and the ATUA conference.' Speakers: Robbie Roberts (Dodsworth miner), Chris Stones (chairman, Athersley tenants), Ray Jaxon (South Yorks YS).

CENTRAL LONDON (Entertainments and press branch): Sunday October 15, 7 p.m. London School of Film Technique, 24 Shelton Street, WC2. Speaker: Royston Bull, industrial correspondent of 'The Scotsman' (in a personal capacity).

DAGENHAM: Tuesday October 17, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue, Barking. 'Force the Tories to resign.'

KENT: Thursday October 19, 8 p.m. 'The Legion', Burgess Road, Aylesham. 'Reinstate William Griffiths fitters. Prepare the ATUA conference.' Speakers: A Griffiths' striker and leading Kent miner (both in a personal capacity).

TV

BBC 1

9.15 Schools. 12.30 Nai zindagi naya jeevan. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Mary, Mungo and Midge. 1.45-2.00 Made in Britain. 2.05 Schools. 2.55 A chance to meet. 3.30 Don't just sit there. 4.00 The mole. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Magic roundabout. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 The aeronauts. 5.20 Search. 5.45 News and weather.

6.00 **NATIONWIDE.**
6.50 **DROOPY.** Droopy's Double Trouble.
7.00 **ANIMAL STARS.** Elephants.
7.25 **MISSION IMPOSSIBLE.** Decoy.
8.10 **SOFTLY, SOFTLY: TASK FORCE.** Bank Rate.
9.00 **NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.** Weather.
9.25 **TILL DEATH US DO PART.**
9.55 **SPORTSNIGHT.** International soccer, England v Yugoslavia.
10.45 **MIDWEEK.**
11.30 **LATE NIGHT NEWS.**
11.35 **Weather.**

ITV

9.30 Schools. 12.05 Adventures of Rupert Bear. 12.20 Conservative Party conference. 1.00 Freud on food. 1.25 Hatty town. 1.40 Woobinda. 2.05 Castle haven. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Conservative Party conference. 4.25 Lift off. 4.50 Ace of wands. 5.20 Survival. 5.50 News.

6.00 **TODAY.**
6.35 **CROSSROADS.**
7.00 **THE SMITH FAMILY.** Where There's Smcke
7.30 **CORONATION STREET.**
8.00 **PATHFINDERS.** Fog.
9.00 **VAN DER WALK.** Thicker Than Water.
10.00 **NEWS AT TEN.**
10.30 **TONY BENNETT.** At the Talk of the Town with Annie Ross.
11.00 **A CLASS BY HIMSELF.** The Servant Problem.
11.30 **FILM: 'FIVE DESPERATE WOMEN.'** Anjanette Comer, Bradford Dillman. Five women college friends meet for a reunion.
12.50 **MUSIC MATTERS.**



Richard Stilgoe writes and acts in 'A Class by Himself' on independent channels tonight, which has an oh-so-slight tilt at the upper class and aspiring upper class.

BBC 2

9.30 Conservative Party conference. 11.00 Play school. 11.25-5.30 Conservative Party conference.
6.05 **OPEN UNIVERSITY.**
7.05 **MAN AT WORK.** A Mother's Place.
7.30 **NEWSROOM, CONFERENCE REPORT.** Weather.
8.10 **MUSIC ON 2.** Nine Symphonies by Whom? Andre Previn talks about the English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams.

9.00 **THE LADY FROM THE CASTLE.** Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod.
9.25 **WAUGH ON CRIME.** In which Inspector Waugh Observes the Truth of an Old Music-Hall Song.
9.55 **MAN ALIVE.** All Right, We'll Do It Ourselves.
10.45 **WAYS OF SEEING.** John Berger examines paintings of the female nude.
11.15 **NEWS ON 2.** Weather.
11.20 **LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.**

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-11.55 London. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 F troop. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sounds great. 7.30 London. 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 11.30 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 Gus Honeybun. 12.20-1.00 London. 2.35 Open house. 3.05 London. 4.23 News. 6.00 Diary. 11.28 Newss. 11.31 Faith for life

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 1.05 News, weather. 1.10 Wildlife theatre. 1.40 Freud on food. 2.05 Conservative Party. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.25 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.30 Survival. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 11.30 What the papers say. 11.45 News. 11.55 Guideline. 12.00 Shirley's world. 12.30 Weather.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 1.00 Fiddler on the roof. 1.45 A place of her own. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 4.10 Tinkertainment. 4.25 London. 5.20 Gustavus. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Jimmy Stewart. 7.00 On the buses. 7.30 London. 10.30 Stanley Baxter show. 11.00 London. 11.30 Frighteners. 12.00 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except: 4.10-4.25 Miri mawr. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd.

HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Report West.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 2.00 Mad movies. 2.30 London. 3.55 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 8.00 Cade's county. 9.00 London. 11.30 UFO

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30-1.00 London. 2.20 Horoscope. 2.30 London. 3.00 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Please sir. 7.30 London. 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 10.30 Julia. 11.00 London. 11.30 Stories worth telling. 11.35 O'Hara. Weather.

ULSTER: 10.30 Conservative Party. 11.00-1.00 London. 1.32 Cartoon. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Conservative Party. 4.00 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 7.00 Dick Van Dyke. 7.30 London. 8.00 Cade's county. 9.00 London. 11.30 World War I.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 1.00 Ugliest girl in town. 1.30 Saint. 2.30 Conservative Party conference. 4.25 London. 5.20 Primus. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35 London. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 8.00 Jason King. 9.00 London. 10.30 Blue light. 11.00 London. 11.30 Spyforce. 12.25 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 1.00 Galloping gourmet. 1.30 Super-car. 2.00 Towards the year 2000. 2.30 Conservative Party. 4.20 News. London. 5.15 Crossroads. 5.45 Felix the cat. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. What's on. 6.30 Survival. 7.00 Smith family. 7.30 London. 8.00 Nichols. 9.00 London. 10.30 Chicago teddy bears. 11.00 London. 11.30 What the papers say. 11.45 Kreskin.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 London. 1.00 Ugliest girl in town. 1.30 Saint. 2.25 News. 2.26 Conservative Party. 4.25 London. 5.20 Primus. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 8.00 Jason King. 9.00 London. 10.30 Chicago teddy bears. 11.00 London. 11.30 News. 11.45 Mod squad. 12.40 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 1.00 Radical lawyer. 2.00 Jimmy Stewart. 2.30 Dateline Scotland. 3.00 London. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Survival. 7.00 Hogan's heroes. 7.30 London. 11.30 What the papers say. 11.45 Late call. 11.50 Sounds like McEvoy.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.00 Saint. 1.38 Schools. 2.57 News. 3.00 London. 4.00 Katie Stewart. 4.25 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Grampian week. 6.35 London. 7.00 Me and the chimp. 7.30 London. 8.00 Cade's county. 8.55 Police news. 9.00 London. 11.30 Hawaii five-o. 12.25 Meditation.

Socialist Labour League

Leeds

LECTURES

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MARXISM

Given by

Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee member)

The nature of capitalism
Monday October 16

Historical materialism today
Monday October 23

Building the revolutionary party
Monday October 30

PEEL HOTEL

Boar Lane, 8 p.m.

Breach in CBI price pledge means dearer printing ink

SUBSTANTIAL printing ink price increases will be necessary because large chemical companies who have signed the latest Confederation of British Industries price restraint undertaking have raised pigment prices to a level which makes nonsense of their pledge, the Society of British Printing Ink Manufacturers complained yesterday.

In a statement the society says it has considered the effect of the recent 11 per cent increase in pigment prices by British and European manufacturers.

Pigments and dyestuffs comprise the largest single element of cost to the printing ink industry and the society says manufacturers have held down their prices below the 5 per cent limit despite wage and manufacturing cost increases. The 11 per cent increase by the chemical industry was, therefore, 'excessive'.

The statement continues:

'Some of the larger chemical companies who are signatories to the latest CBI price-restraint undertaking, claim that across the board they are not raising prices by more than 5 per cent, but the pigments and dyestuffs divisions of such companies constitute a substantial industry on their own account and an 11 per cent increase in this area effectively makes nonsense of the CBI undertaking.'

'The printing ink manufacturers have made every effort to avoid the need for an out-of-line price increase. They have discussed with pigment manufacturers means of lightening this burden, but they have failed to persuade them to reduce or defer this price increase.'

'Since there has been no change of heart by the chemical industry, the society considers that printing ink manufacturers will have to make immediate and substantial price increases.'

Print ballot on 16 p.c. by Natsopa men

MEMBERS of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (NATSOPA) are to vote on a 16 per cent pay offer by the Newspaper Publishers' Association.

The decision to put the offer to a ballot was taken by NATSOPA's executive council, which is not making any recommendation as to acceptance or rejection.

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Computer-bank surveillance stepped up at the Yard

TWO DATA banks will be attached to the Scotland Yard Criminal Records Office as part of a growing apparatus of public surveillance.

One will record the name of 'every person known or suspected to either deal in or indulge in drugs', while the other will list the names of all overseas immigrants.

The establishment of the two computer banks has been carried out secretly; there was no formal public announcement and no parliamentary

BY ALEX MITCHELL

debate preceded their inauguration.

Both computers will be on 24-hour service to police forces throughout the country.

In a statement yesterday, Peter Burns of the National Council for Civil Liberties attacked the growth of these police intelligence units.

He attacked the idea of putting names of legal immigrants on a police computer. 'Now, it seems, you don't even have to be accused of an offence to be included in the police file,' he said.

'Where will this all end? We suspect with the inclusion on a police file of every

citizen in the country.'

Commenting on reports that the government had deliberately kept quiet about the introduction of these data banks, Burns said:

'It is an indication of the increasing arrogance of government departments towards the public.

'The apparent refusal of the government to make itself accountable to the public, together with the frightening implications of the extension of data bank information, highlights the urgent need for legislation to protect the citizen's privacy against intrusion by both government

and private information-gatherers.'

This liberal's protest utterly fails to understand what is going on. The introduction of tighter public surveillance by the police against hippies and immigrants is not as a result of a conspiracy by 'government departments'. It is the policy of the Tory government which controls and directs these departments.

In the Industrial Relations Act the proposed changes in the Criminal Justice Act and the Housing Finance Act the Tories are smashing the basic rights of the working class.

If Burns is recommending legislation to protect privacy, he is addressing himself to the present legislators, the Tories.

Does the NCCL seriously believe the Tories will implement such a measure? Of course not.

But these liberals spend their lives buried in protesting, always keeping their activities from genuine political development.

To stop the Tory onslaught on basic rights there is only one clear way—get them out of office and return a Labour government pledged to repeal all repressive Tory legislation and implement the Charter of Basic Rights.

Uruguay moves to legal secret ballot

THE URUGUAYAN government of Juan Maria Bordaberry is drawing up legislation to force unions to hold secret ballots before they begin any form of industrial action.

Government spokesmen have revealed that a draft bill will be put before Congress within a few days.

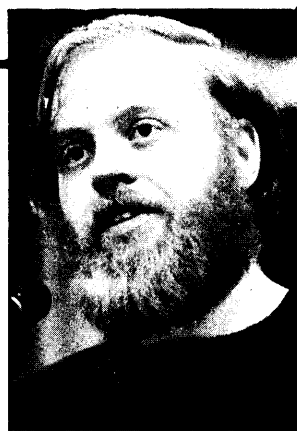
After breaking up the organization of the Tupamaros, Bordaberry is turning his attention to the more serious opposition from the trade unions.

He receives every assistance from the Stalinists in the Confederation of Labour (CGT) who have disorientated the working class with a series of one-day strikes.

Yesterday the CGT called yet another 24-hour strike. This action was in support of railway workers who have been on strike for almost a month against the loss of jobs caused by the closure of 'non-productive' services by the government.

The railway workers are also demanding a wage increase to balance the 85 per cent increase in the cost of living over the last year.

Monday Club spying on militants



Digby Jacks

MEMBERS of the right-wing Monday Club have been compiling dossiers on militants in the universities for four years.

The right-wing Tory group—whose recent London anti-immigration rally was stewarded by members of the National Front—are now moving to expand their university files.

Details of the Monday Club's new campaign to spy on left-wing students were brought to light on Monday by the students' union at Aberdeen University.

Monday Club members there and 60 other similar institutions throughout Britain have been asked to supply the London headquarters with names and details of all speakers and participants in left-wing meetings.

Specifically called for was information on the IRA and on collections taken. The letter went on to say the writer wanted:

'Any information on the part played by foreign students in any disruptive activity or in dubious organizations, even if not solely connected with the university, and in particular I should like such information on Irish and South African students.'

Also called for were leaflets and newspapers distributed by left groups. The writer, Adrian Day, who admits to being called

a 'spy' and a 'fascist' during his three years at the London School of Economics, made no attempt this week to hide the real nature of his activities. Day, now administrative secretary of the Club's universities group, told a reporter:

'We do like to be a holding centre for information so that when anybody wants a particular piece of information on, say, a sit-in or a strike at a university we are immediately able to give him the information he requires.

'A lot of people come to us and ask for information, which we sometimes pass on and sometimes do not, depending on whom it is.'

Although Day never openly admitted as much, it is absolutely clear that the information the Monday Club obtains in this way will somehow reach the Special Branch, who can make good use of the names and details supplied.

It was only a week or two ago that three Monday Club members—including a recent vice-chairman of the Conservative Students' Association—visited a youth conference held by the Italian fascist party, the MSI. All expenses for the trip to Italy were paid for by the fascists.

Complacent Jacks passes on report

COMPLACENCY was the by-word at the National Union of Students headquarters yesterday when asked for reactions on the Monday Club's spying activities.

Digby Jacks, NUS president and Communist Party member, saw the report and decided to leave it to his information officer to deal with.

A spokesman said the union was 'irritated rather than worried' by the disclosure. 'This is the usual kind of malicious rubbish we get from the Monday Club.'

He said the Monday Club were wrong if they thought 'spying on students is going to solve society's problems'.

Students in the universities will have to be doubly on guard now that their leaders do not seem too concerned about the Club's moves.

ID cards in Ulster—Bow Group call

THE EFFECTIVENESS of intelligence work in Ulster would be increased by the introduction of identity cards, says a Conservative Bow Group pamphlet, published yesterday.

The pamphlet also calls for a

complete census of every household. These measures, the Tory group says, would facilitate 'the deportation of aliens'.

Stronger military measures are called for since Bow Groupers

say that success cannot be achieved by purely political means.

The British army has not been successful, they say, 'because it has not been permitted to try'.

Irish Labour Party—Fine Gael unity talks

THE IRISH Labour Party meets in Dublin today to discuss a possible united front with the right-wing Fine Gael at the next General Election.

Earlier this year, Labour Party leader Brendan Corish suggested the idea of a possible coalition government with Fine Gael to replace Jack Lynch's Fianna Fail

administration in the Dail.

This unprincipled relationship—which threatens to deprive large sections of Irish workers of an independent voice—was sanctioned last week by Fine Gael.

Any possibility of a coalition government next year is only

being raised in an attempt to drive down the living standards of the working class.

But although left-wing elements in the Labour Party will oppose the deal, it is thought likely that both groups will bring out a joint election programme shortly.

ATUA CONFERENCE

The way forward for all trade unionists

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THE CENTRAL London branch of the National Union of Journalists yesterday passed a resolution which 'totally rejects the principle of wage freezing and wage restraint.

'It declares its specific opposition to both the £2 wage increase limit proposed by Edward Heath and the £3.38 alternative proposed by the TUC Economic Committee. We therefore call for the immediate breaking-off of the talks between the TUC, the CBI and the government . . .

'We further endorse the stand taken by Ray Buckton, leader of the locomen's union ASLEF at last week's Labour Party conference, where he called for the talks to be broken off and said the job of the TUC was not to talk with the Tory government but to campaign for its removal.'

Asking Heath to freeze increases

Scottish rent rebels make pleas to the Tories

BY PHILIP WADE

ALTHOUGH the 23 Scottish Labour-controlled councils defying rent increases have reaffirmed their position, they still feel they can persuade the Tories to 'freeze' the rises. In fact they plan to seek a meeting with Tory Prime Minister Edward Heath or the Secretary of State for Scotland, Gordon Campbell to say just that.

At the same time the 23 are seeking support from the national leadership of the Labour Party, the Scottish TUC and the TUC.

Cllr Richard Dynes, leader of the Labour-controlled Glasgow Corporation, said after a meeting on Monday that the councils were most concerned about the effect of the rent increases.

This was even more the case, he added, when the Prime Minister had said there had to be a £2 limit on wage and salary increases and that price rises should be restricted to 5 per cent.

'Yet,' said Cllr Dynes, 'at one stroke, rents in Glasgow would under the Act go up by somewhere in the region of 40 per cent. It doesn't tie up with government policy.'

But the leadership of the 23 councils who between them represent over 400,000 council tenants, left the door open for eventual capitulation by disclosing they would not offer the Tories any real resistance if things came to a head.

Said Cllr Dynes: 'There is a very strong demand that this legislation should be frozen until the outcome of talks between the government and the TUC are finished.'

Then he revealed that none of the Labour leaders contemplated an all-out fight against the Tories when he said: 'If the Secretary of State wants the Act implemented he can do it himself.'

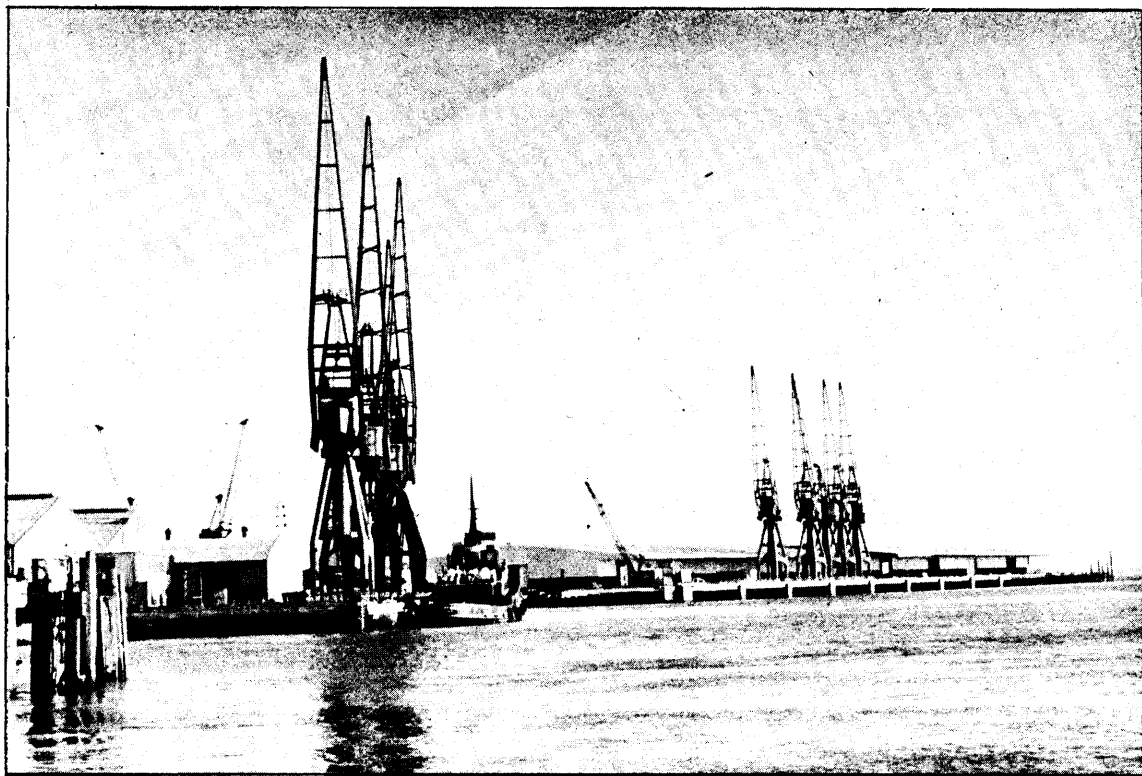
As far as he could see it, the Tories would eventually send in government officials who would force town hall staff to put up the rents. And that would be the end of that.

In that case, the opposition by the 23 councils is nothing more than a mere token gesture. The question is not to let the Tories 'do their own dirty work', but to make sure the Tories are not in a position to do any work at all.

The central question facing Scottish and all other tenants is the task of forcing the Tories to resign through the mobilization of the whole working class and electing a Labour government pledged to socialist policies and the repeal of the Act.

● **Camden council in north London meets tonight to decide whether to continue its non-implementation policy following concessions from the government on the operation of the 'fair rents' Act.**

Casual labour taken on at Sheerness meat port



Part of the Sheerness port which is to take the meat trade previously dealt with in London.

LONDON DOCKERS yesterday acted swiftly over plans to take on casual labour at the Medway port of Sheerness. Sheerness has been granted provisional authority to recruit 50 casuals — 'supplementary' dockers under the National Dock Labour Scheme — following the transfer of part of London's meat traffic to the port.

The move is also connected with fears of a shortage of labour due to the number of men taking voluntary severance under the Jones - Aldington scheme.

If definite authority for the

MERSEYSIDE dockers meet today to decide whether to lift the blacking on Heaton's Transport. The St Helens haulage firm has threatened National Industrial Relations Court action if the dockers' action continues.

It was Heaton's who first took the Transport and General Workers' Union to the NIRC over the blacking in Liverpool. The union was eventually fined £55,000 and held responsible for the actions of its shop stewards.

On Monday Heaton's attempted a test run to Liverpool docks to see if the blacking was still in force. And despite prolonged negotiations with stewards on the question, dockers turned the lorry away.

The company has several options open to them under the Industrial Relations Act and could, if they want, be in London at the NIRC as early as Thursday morning.

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

recruitment is granted by the Dock Labour Board, dockers fear not only that it will be the thin end of the wedge for a further loss of jobs from London, but that the new men's casual status could undermine their existing rights and conditions.

The first effects of this would be felt by the 320 registered dockers at Sheerness. London's solidarity would also soon be hit, however.

Men on the supplementary register are paid the same as permanent dockers, but they have no security of employment.

They can be given seven days' notice of the sack at any time by the Board.

Their individual employer can himself get rid of them on the same terms.

However long they remain in their jobs they build up no right to redundancy payments.

The threat by the New Zealand Meat Producers' Board to pull its 170,000-ton-a-year traffic out of London altogether has already been used as a direct spur to productivity on London docks.

Last week the employers were able to announce an increase from 44 to 55 tons per gang shift in the rate of throughput at the meat berths.

But Richard Gardiner - Hill, managing director of stevedores Scruttons Maltby and a member of the Jones-Aldington committee, made clear that the employers are still not satisfied. It was essential the upward trend continued, he said.

The Producers' Board threat is carefully calculated to help the employers' strategy here.

They have not said they want to shift out of London completely, which could either provoke a showdown with the

dockers or force down the rate of throughput.

No set tonnages will go to any port, the producers say. Meat will be sent where the best and most economical service is offered.

In the background lurks the threat that London may lose the lot and with it about 2,000 jobs.

Meanwhile the powerful Vestey family, which holds a powerful position in the New Zealand Meat Producers' Board, is again on the attack on another front.

It has threatened that unless dockers lift their picket of its Midland Cold Storage subsidiary by Friday it will sack 30 handlers and staff.

Jack Jones, T&GWU secretary, has said the picketing is unauthorized by the union. The existing staff at the depot are T&GWU members.

Briefly . . .

CONSTRUCTION workers on the site of the M5 motorway bridge, which will cross the River Avon at Bristol, staged a walk-out yesterday because they want a first aid attendant on the Somerset side, at Pill. The men claim it would take first aid men at Avonmouth half-an-hour to get to Pill in the event of accidents. The bridge, which will carry the Birmingham-Bristol motorway into Somerset, is not expected to be completed until 1974 because of various hold-ups and industrial disputes. It was due to be finished last month.

SCOTTISH pubs in the Tennent Calendonian group were shut yesterday following a two-day strike by managers and bar staff. Picketing at Tennent's five Scottish distribution points and the refusal of delivery drivers to cross picket lines meant at the firm's 350 pubs that no beer was being sent out. The strike is in support of a £6 a week claim for bar staff.

GLASGOW and Dundee buses were off the roads yesterday as maintenance engineers continued their pay strikes. Over 250 Glasgow buses are now out of service, leaving a daily fleet of 700. Strike leaders representing 700 men have rejected a corporation offer of a £27 basic plus £9 bonus and the strike has entered its second week. In Dundee more than one-third of the total fleet has been hit. The men are claiming a £3-a-week increase, giving a basic £25 a week.

TELEVISION and radio technicians have been told by their union to boycott the BBC's programme complaints commission. A thousand members of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians working at the BBC are being urged not to appear if called as witnesses before the commission — set up a year ago. The ACTT claims that there should be greater legal formalities attached to the commission and that its hearings should be in public.

Feather evades wages issue

BY DAVID MAUDE

TUC general secretary Victor Feather claimed yesterday that the £3.40 figure mentioned in the economic committee report endorsed by the General Council should not be taken as a norm for pay increases.

But he was at a loss to explain why if the TUC is opposed in principle to the idea of a norm the report spends two of its 11 pages, and the whole of a three-



Victor Feather, TUC secretary

page appendix arguing against the government arithmetic behind Heath's £2 figure.

'It's just to show that we can do arithmetic as well as them,' he said. 'Perhaps it was a waste of time . . . perhaps it is extraneous.'

Few of Britain's 10 million TUC members will be impressed by his evasion.

The report puts forward several proposals. It says there should be a 6 per cent growth rate in the economy, rather than the government figure of 5 per cent, calls for statutory action on prices and a cut to 7½ per cent in the planned 10 per cent rate of Value Added Tax.

Rent increases due in April and October next year under the 'fair rents' Act should be abandoned.

One further suggestion is that the proposed threshold clauses in pay agreements should be triggered when prices have risen 5 per cent, rather than 6 per cent as the government proposes.

BRITAIN'S solicitors warned the government yesterday that suggestions to change the criminal laws would make it easier to convict an innocent person.

'It is more in the public interest that an innocent person should be acquitted than that a guilty one convicted,' said the British Legal Association, representing the solicitors, in submissions to Home Secretary Carr, on proposals by the Criminal Law Revision Committee.

WEATHER

SOUTH and south-eastern districts of England will be cloudy, with rain at times. Eastern England and Scotland will be cloudy, with some drizzle and coastal fog patches. All other areas will be cloudy at first, with some bright spells developing. It will be rather cold, generally.