

# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● THURSDAY DECEMBER 14, 1972 ● No. 946 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

## RECALL CONFED CONFERENCE

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BY DAVID MAUDE

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Jones told that conference: 'We believe it is the duty of unions, acting through the TUC, to resist these kind of reactionary and dictatorship methods.'

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### How the court will grab engineers' funds

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All that will be needed to start the process is a brief message from the National Industrial Relations Court saying that the union, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, has failed to pay the fine the court imposed on it for contempt.

The message is expected to go out from the NIRC headquarters in Chancery Lane, London, soon after today's deadline expires. Once it reaches the offices of Price, Waterhouse and Co a mile away in Fredericks Place events move like clockwork.

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partners Maurice Eckman, Martin Harris, Alfred Chapman and George Cherry are the commissioners appointed to collect the fine—are a leading firm of City accountants.

Both they and the court were yesterday quietly confident that they would have no difficulty in extracting the money. One commissioner hinted that the details would not be worked out until tomorrow.

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The remainder of these balances have now gone to

liquidate the union's overdraft at the Midland Bank in Rye Lane, Peckham, while securities held by the Midland against the overdraft are at union headquarters at 110 Peckham Road.

It would appear, therefore, that only two courses of action are open to the commissioners: ● Either they can try to write themselves a cheque for £50,000, plus costs, on the strength of the AUEW's arrangements for credit at the Midland.

● Or they can try to seize the money from the union itself in the form of securities.

Were union members to take it into their heads to picket the bank or the headquarters, embarrassing scenes for the commissioners could result.



Some of the London marchers set off from St Thomas's hospital

## Hospital workers in first strike on Tory pay law

BY PHILIP WADE AND SARAH HANNIGAN

OVER 200,000 hospital ancillary workers yesterday went on 24-hour and half-day strikes against the Tory government's state pay laws. It was the first official nationwide action against the Tory laws by any union since they came into operation.

And the feeling expressed by marchers throughout the country was for all-out strike action as soon as possible against the Tory government.

Some of the lowest-paid workers in Britain, the hospital workers put in a £4 a week pay claim late in July.

But although local government workers settled for £2.40 hours before the Tory pay laws were introduced, the hospital workers' claim was frozen.

The four unions involved, the National Union of Public Employees, the Transport and General Workers' Union, the General and Municipal and the Confederation of Health Service Employees—called yesterday's action following talks with Tory Social Services Secretary Sir Keith Joseph.

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GLOUCESTER staff held a demonstration and march to the local DHSS office.

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In BIRMINGHAM a mile-long column of hospital workers, many of them in uniform,

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Solidarity with those under attack from the anti-union Act, through strike action if necessary, is official CSEU policy.

Its conference must, there-

fore, be recalled to implement this policy now that its leading member is under threat.

All 3 million CSEU members are deeply affected by the fate of the engineers.

Already the white-collar ASTMS another CSEU member has been faced with a 'no pay rise' notice under the Counter-Inflation (Temporary Provisions) Act\*; the legal attack on the unions is proceeding on all fronts.

Whether the union leaders like it or not, this fight is political. Without a united struggle to force the Tory government out of office it cannot be won.

This is the issue facing every trade unionist as the fine deadline runs out today.

\* ASTMS has 11 members on strike at Wickman Wimet, Wolverhampton. A notice tells the firm it cannot increase the workers' remuneration.

# workers press

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**MONEY WORD**

# Prices row in Spanish markets

BY JUAN GARCIA

THE FRANCO government yesterday issued a decree freezing restaurant and cafe prices in a further attempt to look as if it is fighting inflation.

On November 3, the Council of Ministers imposed a general price freeze on all main food products and set up special regional commissions, centred around the provincial Civil Governors.

Spanish housewives are not very impressed by the results achieved so far.

In Alicante, near Valencia, there have been many angry exchanges in the central market this week. There has been no fresh chicken or fish on sale, because of the price levels fixed by the Provincial Executive Commission for Prices.

Stallholders have just closed their stalls because they pay the wholesaler 53 pesetas a kilo and the price fixed for them is 52 pesetas a kilo. The same is happening with fish prices.

Housewives are particularly bitter about the inbuilt 'black market' in the government's price-fixing schemes.

Prices are set at a provincial level, which means that they vary widely throughout the country and some areas are being deprived of items like fish and chicken which are being sold in the provinces that offer the best prices.

Another point of conflict is the arbitrary decision not to fix the price of certain foodstuffs which are very popular because of their cheapness—tomatoes and tuna fish, for example.

The latest fraud is the 'Special Inspection-Christmas Campaign' by the Food Supplies Headquarters.

In each capital, a team of two inspectors will examine prices in selected shops and look into complaints from the 'consuming public'.

Food Supplies Headquarters has also bought an extra 6,000 tons of meat, mainly from Uruguay, to 'counter-balance' the tendency to 'increase' during the Christmas period.

This may be of help to those middle-class households which can still afford the luxury of meat.

# Sri Lanka Press Bill runs into trouble

THE SRI LANKA (Ceylon) coalition government has run into problems in parliament in its efforts to introduce the Press Council Bill giving the government extraordinary powers over the media. The Bill is one of a number of pieces of legislation aimed at making permanent the state of emergency declared by the United Front coalition in April 1971.

It has been challenged in the constitutional court.

But Minister for Constitutional Affairs, Dr Colvin R. de Silva, a leader of the renegade revisionist organization the Lanka Sama Samaja Party, told parliament:

'There is no constitutional court functioning now in regard to the question of a Press Council.'

The Bill establishes a government-appointed Press Council empowered to prohibit the publication of news relating to cabinet papers, the police, army or security without permission being sought.

It can demand that journalists reveal the sources of their information and it can take control of newspaper offices and any movable property.

The Council is to be given powers to fine and censure newspapers and to levy penalties over and above those imposed by the courts.

Since the Bill was introduced in August the government has also moved to prohibit publication of any statements relating to monetary, fiscal, exchange control or import control measures which is likely to affect 'adversely' the Sri Lanka economy.

BY JOHN SPENCER

THE NOVEMBER economic review published by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research takes issue with the Tory government's inflated forecast of a 5-per-cent growth rate and foresees a large balance of payments deficit next year.

The Treasury has claimed that the economy is 'growing' at the rate of 5 per cent per annum—an estimate based largely on the continuation of price inflation which artificially boosts the figure for the gross domestic product.

This was sharply pointed out by Confederation of British Industry president Michael Clapham in a speech to Tory backbenchers last week.

The Institute reports that even on the present inflationary basis, production is lagging behind the Tories' estimates. It says that at present rates, the economy is growing at only 4 per cent, and the figure is likely to fall to 3½ per cent by next summer.

Its solution is to call for 'further stimulus'—that is, the

# Tories' growth rate hit on the head

inflationary injection of more money into the economy. Yet the government has just raised the minimum Bank of England lending rate by ½ per cent and the clearing banks have raised their lending rates to keep pace.

The low level of stocks of materials in industry could give a temporary fillip to the economy, but it will also mean a big increase in imports over the coming year. The Institute forecasts a £300m balance-of-payments deficit for 1973.

It also says that if the government does 'stimulate' the economy to reach its planned 'growth' target, the trade deficit will be nearer £500m. The devaluation of the pound since July has increased import prices at a time when imports are increasing.

Nevertheless the Institute

recommends that the pound continues floating until the expected upturn in exports gets under way. This will, of course, mean a further increase in import costs and put an added burden on the balance of payments.

The Institute stresses the extreme difficulty of forecasting economic trends in the present situation. The basic problem, however, is that the classic methods of government regulation of the economy are no longer effective in a period when the international monetary system has broken down and a world trade war is being waged.

This is the background to the National Institute review, which sets out before the Tory government the equally painful alternatives of further inflation or immediate recession.

# Troops sent in to break dustmen's strike



The CGT (Communist Party) leaders of striking Paris dustmen began negotiations yesterday with Jean Verdier, the Paris Prefect, who has sent in troops to clear up the streets of Paris (see above).

The reopening of negotiations was the main demand put forward by the CGT on a very militant demonstration of dustmen on Tuesday afternoon. The

demonstration ended with a mass-meeting in front of the town hall.

The strikers, who are mainly immigrant workers, are demanding an end to the 55-hour week they are working and better conditions.

The Communist Party, whose 20th Congress began yesterday, and their CGT leadership has at no stage opposed the use of strike breaking troops.

# Clash on Valpreda march

RIOT police clashed with thousands of demonstrators in a bloody three-hour battle in Rome on Tuesday night—the outcome of a political protest which brought demonstrations in cities throughout Italy.

In Naples, three people were injured by a bomb-blast and in Milan three policemen were hurt in clashes with student marchers. The demonstrations marked the third anniversary of the bomb outrage at the Milan Agricultural Bank in which 16 people were killed.

The demonstrators were demanding the release of Pietro Valpreda (40), jailed for three years without trial on charges of causing a massacre. Valpreda, an anarchist, was arrested at the height of the witch-hunt that followed the Milan blast.

Giuseppe Pinnelli, a fellow-anarchist was arrested at the same time and later 'fell' from a high window at the Milan police headquarters.

The police have no evidence against Valpreda and the trial is being deliberately delayed in the hope that the defendant—a sick man—will not survive the prison conditions.

There is considerable evidence to show that the Milan bombing was the work of fascist provocateurs who planned to use the resulting uproar to overthrow the Republic and crush the left.

Socialist Labour League

## CELEBRATE

3RD ANNIVERSARY OF WORKERS PRESS

BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

**NEW FILM**

THREE YEARS OF WORKERS PRESS

Showing the developments and gains since the first issue of Workers Press, September 26, 1969

**GLASGOW**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 2 p.m. Woodside Halls St George's Cross

Speakers: MIKE BANDA (SLL Central committee)

JOHN BARRIE (YS national committee)

WILLIE DOCHERTY (chairman Paisley Tenants' Action Committee. In personal capacity.)

**BIRMINGHAM**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 7 p.m. Assembly Hall Digbeth Civic Hall

Speakers: G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)

WILLIE AITKIN (YS national committee)

PETER SMITH (Rover shop steward. In personal capacity.)

CORIN REDGRAVE (Equity. In a personal capacity.)

# Chile and Cuba getting closer to Nixon

FRIENDSHIP with Richard Nixon has been very much at the centre of discussion this week between Salvador Allende, the 'socialist' President of Chile, and Fidel Castro, the bearded Cuban leader.

At an impromptu Press conference on Monday at a cattle ranch in the Valle de Picadura in Cuba, these heroes of the Stalinists and revisionists expressed warm feelings towards the butcher of the Vietnamese working class and peasantry.

Allende denied a report from Jack Anderson, 'Washington Post' columnist, claiming that he had sought a meeting with Nixon during his recent visit to New York to address the United Nations.

He conceded that he had sent a telegram of 'greetings to the people and the government of the

United States, but nothing else'.

Castro, supposedly the more 'radical' of the two, was more forthright and revealed that he was moving towards an agreement with the Nixon government on international piracy.

The signing of such a pact would bring to a satisfactory conclusion three weeks of talks in the Swiss Embassy in Havana. These followed the emergency landing of the hijacked US DC9 at Havana airport.

The Castro government in a note to the Swiss Embassy at the end of October called most vehemently for US co-operation.

The note begins: 'The Ministry of Foreign Relations cordially greets the Honourable

Embassy of Switzerland representative of the interests of the United States in Cuba and asks that . . . it transmits to the Department of State of that country the following . . .'

The US State Department is further told that it is not in the interests of Cuba to be used as 'a refuge for persons who are responsible for common criminal deeds that take place anywhere in the territory of the United States.'

'Nor has the Cuban government interest in promoting . . . illegal exits and entries into the territory of that country . . .'

The so-called champion of the masses pleads for a 'reciprocal and absolute commitment in this respect on the part of the United States'.





P. J. ARKELL

# WEALTH AND POVERTY

## Tom Kemp looks at some government statistics

**More crime, more violence and more unemployment are recorded in a ten-year review of social change in Britain published by the Government Statistical Service.**

This is the first attempt of its kind by government statisticians to provide a detailed statistical account of social conditions in Britain. It appears in the latest issue of 'Social Trends', published by HMSO at £2.90.

The total working population in Britain has hardly risen since 1961, but the proportion of employed women has increased from 40.6 per cent to 41.8 per cent in 1971. The 'most significant change affecting the make-up of the working population', the statisticians find 'has been the continued and marked increase in the activity rate for married women . . .'

The proportion of married women going out to work is over 41 per cent and they numbered, in 1971, 5.63 million people. Of course, the proportion of married women at work was highest in the pre-

dominantly working-class areas.

An important part of the much-vaunted improvement in living standards over the past decade has been the result of the contribution which married women have made to the family income. No doubt the jump in the number of divorces and abortions is also connected with the increase in the number of women, especially married women, in the labour force.

Over the same period there has also been a sharp increase in unemployment. Back in the days of so-called 'full employment' 20 years ago, only about 250,000 men and women were numbered among the unemployed. In 1971 the average number without jobs was over 806,000, a rise of from 1.2 to 3.6 per cent.

There has, therefore, been a three-fold increase in the officially-registered unemployed and a still bigger increase in the number of unemployed men. But it is known that the official figures understate the numbers actually looking for work. This is especially the case with married women.

The detailed breakdown of unemployment by regions

shows that the areas which have suffered most are those connected with the basic industries such as the north of England and Scotland.

In January 1972, registered male unemployment was 9.3 per cent in the north, 7 per cent in the north-west, 6.8 per cent in the west Midlands and 6.7 per cent in Yorkshire and Humberside while it was 9.5 per cent in Scotland.

On the basis of age, unemployment was highest in the 20-30 age group. Men of these ages made up 26 per cent of the total for Great Britain as a whole. It should be added that most men in the armed forces come from this age group and that some will still be studying or completing training.

One characteristic of the period was the growth of long-term unemployment. In the north 22.8 per cent of the male unemployed had been looking for work for over a year while the average for Great Britain was 5.9 per cent.

Over the period since 1961 the working class has made certain gains by trade union struggle. The basic working week was brought down to a

little over 40 hours on the average, but actual hours worked has been about 45, so the gain has not been spectacular.

There has been some increase in holidays, with about 75 per cent of workers now entitled to three weeks. This has accounted for a growth in the holiday traffic.

On the distribution of wealth, the survey is not very informative. The wealth covered is that which appears in estate duty statistics, said to cover about 90 per cent of the wealth holdings. By these figures the richest 1 per cent held 30 per cent of the wealth in 1970 against 38 per cent in 1961. The richest 5 per cent held 55 per cent against 64 per cent and the richest 10 per cent 72 per cent against 78 per cent.

Such figures fail to show the actual extent of the concentration of ownership as far as land and industrial assets are concerned.

In housing the figures show a short-fall of some 200,000 in the number of dwellings. Not only is this certainly an underestimation, but the statisticians point out that there is

**Above: Pensioners, many of whom suffer from malnutrition and cold, are often forced to live in housing unfit for habitation.**

a general shortage of housing in the London area and serious shortages in other regions.

Despite some improvement in housing standards, in 1971, 12 per cent of dwellings still lacked an inside WC and 7 per cent were regarded as unfit for habitation.

While it is claimed that about 70,000 houses a year have been demolished as unfit in recent years, there are still 1.2 million unfit dwellings in England and Wales and another 200,000 in Scotland.

Actual improvement in housing has had to be paid for in higher rents, and, because more houses are now being bought, in higher mortgage repayments. Both have been going up faster than the average level of prices.

House prices increased by 80 per cent in 1963-1971, which was faster than the rate of increase in family earnings. Over the same period the price of land increased by 150 per cent.

**CONTINUED TOMORROW**

# LAND-GRABBERS ARE LOOSE

British property developers have cornered the booming Brussels office building market and fears are growing there that their methods will lead to higher rents.

Some 40 new office blocks will jut their way out of the fast-changing skyline of the Common Market capital by the end of 1976. At least half of them—two-thirds by some estimates—are being built for British companies.

The stepped-up British investment in this highly-speculative field is part of the heavy export of capital encouraged by the Tory government's budget earlier this year.

Few weeks go by without news of yet another British property deal in Brussels. But Belgian commentators really sat up when the Abbey Property Bond Fund, an offshoot of the Abbey Life Assurance Group, announced with great fanfare that it had bought the Tour Madou, a 33-storey skyscraper in the city's business centre.

Some newspapers took the British buyers to task for what they considered to be too high a price for the block, built with Belgian government assistance and now largely occupied by government offices.

The word was that British buyers would soon be seeking higher rents to cover their Tour Madou investment, with the result that the Belgian taxpayer would have to pay for the increase.

According to some property experts, British firms now control about 80 per cent of all modern office space in Brussels—and they are not even members of the Common Market yet.

As the entry date draws near, the pace has been hotting up in the property field. But the British have been interested in Brussels for some time and are already solidly entrenched.

The case of Jones Lang Wootton provides a good example of British penetration. An old-established firm of London estate agents and chartered surveyors, they set up an office in Brussels with three people seven years ago.

Now they have a staff of 33, including six chartered surveyors, on their Brussels payroll and have become one of the most influential forces in Belgian property consultancy.

Their main rival in Belgium is another British company, Richard Ellis and Son. To-

gether they have cornered a large proportion of the best office development sites in central Brussels.

Jones Lang have 14 office blocks under construction now, representing an investment of tens of millions of pounds. They have four more at the planning stage, while Richard Ellis are reported to have at least half a dozen more.

Property experts say that at least 20 British and Irish companies are deeply involved in the office building boom.

Brussels has many attractions for property speculators. First there is next January's enlargement of the Common Market, which is resulting in a scramble for office space, frequently by foreign companies.

Then there is the question of costs. Land prices are still relatively cheap in Brussels by London and Paris standards, although few people in the property business are anxious to give comparative figures.

But a look at the rents being charged gives a clear indication of the situation. The going rate in Brussels works out at around £2.75 a square foot.

With the London rate averaging around £8 a square foot—and Paris rents often going even higher—the speculators see plenty of scope for inflating property values.

Add to this the ready availability of the prime sites in the city centre and the comparative ease in obtaining building permission, and it is hardly surprising that British firms have turned in a big way towards the Belgian capital.

Another key attraction for the British property investor is the return on capital in Brussels. And this is another sore point with the Belgians.

The British companies are delighted to settle for a return of around 7 per cent on their investment in Belgium, considering that the best they can expect at home is a bare 4 per cent. The Belgians have been used to between 8 and 9 per cent and are none too keen to come down to the British level.

The standard complaint from Belgian property speculators is that the British are so keen to build that they will buy anything that is going at prices way above the odds.

The British speculators, on the other hand, say their land valuation scheme—based on the maximum inflation of values—is more up to date and therefore gives a truer price for a site.



Suslov (centre) heads the Soviet delegation to the 20th Congress of the French Communist Party

# CP PATRONIZES THE 'UNEDUCATED'

The discussion on the present 20th Congress of the French Communist Party, which is proceeding in the pages of 'L'Humanité', the party daily, is a tribute to the careful attention paid by the Marchais leadership to the cultivation of petty-bourgeois cynicism and hostility to the working class.

Contributions are predominantly concerned with the importance of the role of the peasantry, small trader and related social layers and their problems in a world dominated by the monopolies.

Roger Gaudon writes that 'democratic France', that is, after the electoral victory of the Communist Party and Socialist Party, will respect 'private property, which is the fruit of labour and saving, as well as the right for it to be handed down from father to son'.

The very phrasing of that defence of private property might have been culled from the many staid apologies of

French capitalism penned by representatives of the French bourgeoisie.

No different is the cry of rebellion from Marcel Krop, of the Ernst Thaelmann party cell in Paris. Krop is afraid that the full-blooded acceptance of the Common Market inscribed in the electoral programme, compromises 'France, that country rich from the labour of its inhabitants . . . threatened in its living resources, its culture and its language'.

After the observation, worthy of the late and much lamented de Gaulle, that France's national independence is threatened by a Common Market including the United Kingdom, well-known Trojan horse of the United States, Krop reaches the climax of his attack on the EEC . . .

National democracy can be saved only by 'a thoroughgoing revision of the Treaty of Rome and subsequent agreements' (emphasis in original).

Francis Jacob, in the Pitard cell, was quick to point out last week how the system of justice, 'one of the traditional forms of bourgeois democracy', was being starved of funds.

He notes how the CP-SP programme is for strengthening the independence of judges

through a democratization of the election processes to the ruling council of the courts.

Complete contempt for the problems of the working class in the inner-party discussion that 'L'Humanité' chooses to reveal is sanctioned by a longer contribution from Jacques Dion, in the cell in the Centre for Human Sciences.

Dion discusses the problems raised by selling the Party Press to the learned intellectuals who are studying Human Sciences.

'One word, now, on the content of the Sunday magazine of "L'Humanité". Many comrades think and say that it cannot be sold in an intellectual milieu, given the "poverty" of its content. I think that is the wrong way to pose the problem: we must remember that 80 per cent of French people do not go beyond elementary studies . . .'

The virtues of bourgeois democracy and the French nation are, of course, the verbal cover for the attacks the Pompidou-Messmer government is making on the French trade union movement. The French Stalinists are already making it plain that, if elected, they will continue the defence of 'order' against the 'unruly' and 'uneducated' masses.

# PUBLIC DEATH



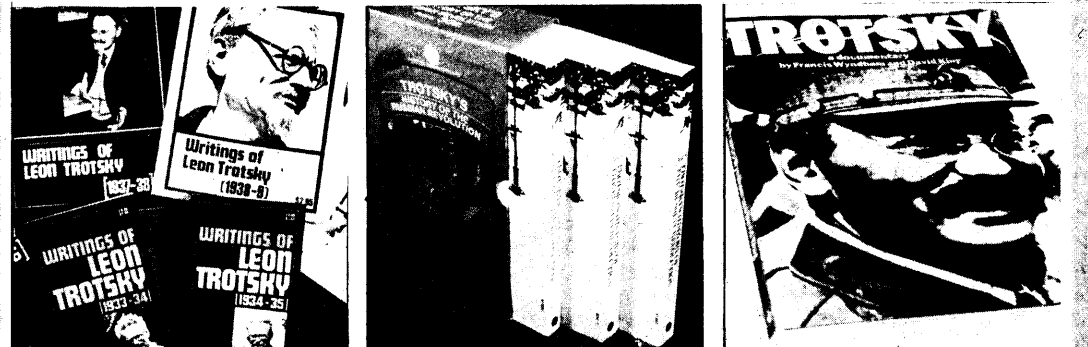
Guinea's attempt to stabilize its new currency continues in Draconian style. The country's new money-smuggling laws have claimed their first victim, a man has been sentenced to death for smuggling counterfeit Malayan banknotes into the country.

President Sekou Touré, who recently introduced the new unit, aptly named the sily, has announced the victim will be executed in public.

He says he will fight a 'holy war' against the grave-diggers of the economy.

He has also forbidden holding of markets within 25 miles of the border to discourage illicit transactions.

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# THE BIRTHDAY NOBODY CELEBRATED

BY TOM KEMP  
One date in the calendar went by with little notice this year, both in the Soviet Union and in the communist parties.

That date is December 9, the birthday of one Joseph Vissarionovich Djughashvili, better known to history as Stalin. Until his death in 1953, it had been for a quarter of a century the occasion for effusive praise of a type seldom accorded in history to any other individual.

Not, of course, that adulation of Stalin was reserved for the anniversary of his birth. Indeed, it was obligatory on every occasion. Both in the Soviet Union and in the leadership of the communist parties, writers and orators vied with each other in their effort to attribute miracle-working powers to the genial leader of the whole of humanity.

Leading figures in the British, as in every other Communist Party, extolled Stalin's unexampled qualities as a Marxist dialectician, an economist, an historian and even as a scientist.

Thus R. Palme Dutt, in his 'Labour Monthly' editorial for December, 1949, on the occasion of Stalin's 70th birthday, excelled himself:

'This month the tribute of honour, affection and gratitude, on the occasion of his 70th birthday, will be paid to Stalin, the leader of mankind in the change from capitalism to socialism, by hundreds of millions of men and women in every country of the world. In all the records of human society there is no precedent for such a universal tribute to high service in the cause of humanity, recognized and acclaimed already, it may be said without exaggeration, by the majority of the human race within the lifetime of its subject. This is something new in human experience and consciousness; it is a sign of the new world which we are entering.'

At the same time that Palme Dutt was paying this obeisance to the Stalin cult the Congress of the Communist Party of Great Britain passed a special address of greetings to the old dictator which expressed 'our heartfelt greetings, our warmest love and deep respect'.

'It was you,' the British Stalinists went on 'who initiated the Stalin Five-Year Plans, guided the Soviet peasants on the road to Soviet agriculture, and smashed the agents of imperialism, the Trotskyites and wreckers.'

'It is the Soviet Union,' the address continued, 'grown strong under your guidance, that has made possible the great victories of the working people in the People's Democracies of eastern Europe, and the glorious triumph of the Chinese Revolution.'

This year 'the towering genius of the whole of humanity' will go uncommemorated by King Street or by the 'Labour Monthly'. The 'revelations' of Nikita Khrushchev at the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1956 put paid to what became known as 'the cult of the personality'.

In one passage Khrushchev said:

'The cult of the individual acquired such monstrous size chiefly because Stalin himself, using all conceivable methods, supported the glorification of his own person. This is supported by numerous facts. One of the most characteristic examples of Stalin's self-glorification and his lack of even elementary modesty is the edition of his "Short Biography", which was published in 1948.'

'This book is the expression of the most dissolute flattery, an example of making a man into a godhead, of transforming him into an infallible sage, "the greatest leader, sublime strategist of all times and nations". Finally no other words could be found with which to lift Stalin up to the heavens.'

'We need not give here examples of the loathsome adulation filling this book. All we need to add is that they all were approved by Stalin personally and some of them added in his own handwriting to the draft text of the book.'

Khrushchev was able to carry his explanation no further because he had merely replaced Stalin as the boss of the same parasitic caste which still continued to rule and enjoy its privileges at the expense of the Soviet working class.

The distortions of history which had done service in Stalin's time were simply continued—without Stalin.

The communist parties, including that which operates from King Street, have abandoned Stalin, but they cling all the more fanatically to Stalinism. Stalinism was not only mass crimes: the destruction of the Bolshevik Party and of all traces of opposition, the deportation and death of millions of people.

On this score, of course, Stalin has a place in history as one of the bloodiest mass murderers of all time. When Palme Dutt wrote the words quoted above, and when the British Stalinists churned out their quota of nauseous adulation, Stalin's crimes were well known to them.

They knew that under the guise of the fight against Trotskyism, in which Khrushchev took a leading part in the Ukraine, not only were the supporters of the Left Opposition exterminated, but most of the leadership of the Bolshevik Party in Lenin's day and hundreds of thousands of loyal party members.

To this day the Stalinists of King Street have never made a reckoning with this past. They have not retracted their support for the 1930s Moscow Trials and the purge of the Red Army. They are still branded with Stalin's crimes.

They hope that people have short memories and that they can absolve themselves by simply not referring to the tyrant they once lauded to the skies. In this they follow, as always, the path of the Soviet leadership. Brezhnev and Kosygin, as representatives of the Soviet bureaucracy, try to conceal their own origins by erasing Stalin's name from the historical record.

The fact that the bureau-



cracy today dare not embark upon the wholesale repression which was characteristic of the Stalin era does not mean that it has changed its nature or abandoned Stalinism.

The essence of Stalinism consists in its fundamental revision and abandonment of Marxism through the adoption of 'socialism in one country'. It marked, when it was put forward in 1924, the beginnings of a degeneration which was to grow rapidly in the next few years.

As the representative of the bureaucracy, Stalin placed the defence of its own privileges and power before the extension of the revolution to other countries. The working class and the communist parties were seen as no more than useful adjuncts in realizing this aim.

After imposing on the German Communist Party after 1929 a policy which could only lead to defeat and disaster, Stalin passed to the side of the defence of the bourgeois social order. He was ready to enter into alliance with and support those bourgeois governments concerned with maintaining the *status quo*.

Only the unwillingness of the governments of Britain and France to enter such an alliance before 1939 led Stalin back to the rapprochement with Hitler which he had sought when the Nazi dictator had first come to power on the defence of the vanguard of the German working class in 1933.

It is this heritage which the Stalinists continue today. The pact between Brezhnev and Nixon, the conspiracy against the Vietnam revolution, the policy of a European Security

It was at one time obligatory for Communist Party leaders to give adulation to Stalin on every possible occasion. Above: A Chinese rally in the tradition of the 'Stalin Cult'. Below left to right: Poster for First Five Year Plan depicts Stalin at the head of Soviet workers. Stalin and Ribbentrop after the signing of the pact with Nazi Germany. Molotov, Khrushchev and Stalin at a May Day parade.



# RENEGADES IN ACTION— THE IMG

## PART FIVE

Following the articles 'Renegades from Trotskyism' dealing with the situation in Ceylon, JACK GALE now examines the British section of the revisionist Unified Secretariat of the Fourth International, The International Marxist Group (IMG).

By February, 1971, the American Socialist Workers' Party's Political Committee was writing off the International Marxist Group in Britain, as a body within which genuine discussion could not be conducted.

What further evidence of total political war within the ranks of the Unified Secretariat and its co-thinkers is required than this assessment of the IMG by the SWP?

### SWP POLITICAL COMMITTEE MOTION

Adopted February 5, 1971

The Political Committee of the Socialist Workers Party voices the following opinion in relation to the facts made available in the correspondence between Comrade Pat Jordan, the National Secretary of the IMG; Comrade Jack Barnes, the Organization Secretary of the SWP; a copy of the November 28, 1970, statement by Comrade Alan Harris to the Political Committee and National Committee of the IMG; and the memorandum by Comrade Joseph Hansen:

1. The majority of the National Committee of the IMG abused its authority in censuring Comrade Alan Harris.

- (a) It failed to notify Comrade Harris in advance that he was to be placed on trial.
- (b) It failed to grant him a hearing when his case came up for consideration.
- (c) It notified the IMG of its disciplinary action against Comrade Harris in a way calculated to prejudice the membership against him.

2. The majority of the National Committee of the IMG further abused its authority by singling out Comrade Harris for disciplinary action in a field in which it does not at present subject the membership as a whole to disciplinary action; that is, the way in which they make their livelihood.

3. The majority of the National Committee of the IMG further abused the objective norms of democratic centralism by taking these organizational reprisals against a leader of a minority that has expressed political criticisms of the majority and argued for a different line from the one followed by the majority.

4. After the promising beginning earlier in the year, which appeared to represent a decided break with the anti-democratic methods that have plagued the British Trotskyist movement in the past, the majority of the National Committee of the IMG, by resorting to organizational reprisals against a leading member of the minority, has raised a serious question as to the possibility of conducting a genuinely free discussion in the IMG.

Between the July, 1970, letter from the IMG to the SWP and the latter's 'Political Motion' of February, 1971, a prolonged and tangled correspondence took place, for which the word 'acrimonious' is hardly adequate.

Joseph Hansen is particularly adept at this sort of thing.

Boasting that 'in the anti-war rallies in the US the most extreme slogan used by cadres associated with an SWP headquarters bookstore has been 'Get Your Trotskyist Literature Here', he evades Jordan's complaint about hidden subsidies by blandly asserting that 'Pathfinder Books has no connection with the SWP as far as its business affairs are concerned'.

## HANSEN TRIES TO BULLY

Hansen, in fact, tries to bully the IMG leaders into silence. On the allegation of Jordan and company that the SWP had 'tried to get round the "democratic procedures" [sic] of the IMG', Hansen replies:

In view of the implications, Comrade Jack Barnes in a letter dated September 14, 1970, asked Comrade Jordan for clarification:

1. You maintain that the private wholesale export-import book agency set up by Alan Harris constitutes a 'political centre', that this centre was opened up by a minority tendency in your group, and that this was in 'gross violation' of the norms of democratic centralism. You imply, moreover, that the Socialist Workers Party played a key role in inspiring the formation of this minority tendency in the IMG 'politically and with resources', and that the establishment of Leader Books by Alan Harris is in reality an attempt by the SWP 'to get round the democratic procedures and processes' of the IMG.

In face of such allegations, am I correct in drawing the conclusion that in your opinion the Socialist Workers Party has departed from the traditions of Trotskyism; that it has, so to speak, 'degenerated' and can no longer be regarded as a fraternal organization so far as the majority leadership of the IMG is concerned?

## JORDAN EVADES IT

Jordan, of course, does not answer this honestly. He evades it. In a letter dated December 10, 1970, he declares:

1. If we considered that it was necessary to raise the question of the 'degeneration' of the Socialist Workers Party we would do so in another manner: through the appropriate international committees.



The documents nowhere raise the real political issues and differences, for example on the question of Vietnam. Above: Vietnam solidarity demonstration organized by the IMG in 1968 where the main slogan was 'Victory to the NLF'. Top: An SWP sponsored demonstration in 1968. Their slogan was 'Withdraw the troops'.

## HANSEN IS CONTEMPTUOUS

Hansen treats this with bullying contempt.

This reply can only be characterized as an equivocation. Asked if he believes that the SWP has departed from the traditions of Trotskyism, Comrade Jordan says nothing. Asked if he believes that the SWP can no longer be regarded as a fraternal organization, Comrade Jordan again says nothing. He is even equivocal on the term 'degeneration'. His reply can be interpreted as meaning that the IMG majority leaders do not consider it necessary to

raise this question at the present time; if they did consider it necessary at the present time, then they would do so in another manner.

The significance of this whole tangled skein of accusations, counter-accusations, evasions and abuse is that nowhere are the real political issues mentioned. Apart from a gentle dig from Jordan—a mythical minority in the SWP 'might' raise the slogan 'Victory to the NLF'—there is not a single word on the programme, policies and theoretical positions of either of the parties to the dispute.

However, one fact of importance does emerge from all this.

Hansen admits categorically that the International Marxist Group was an artificial organization constructed from outside by the Unified Secretariat and the Socialist Workers Party following their 1963 reunification. He also makes it clear that people were brought together from completely different positions for the sole purpose of fighting the Socialist Labour League.

At the Reunification Congress in 1963, the development of the British Trotskyist movement was considered to be of special importance. At the same time, the difficulties and obstacles were recognized as considerable in face of the sectarian course of the Socialist Labour League, the refusal of its leaders to participate in the reunification of the world Trotskyist movement, and the divisions among those who favoured reunification—the Fourth Internationalists being divided into two warring groups, one centered in Nottingham, the other in London.

Outside aid was badly needed. The Unified Secretariat therefore did what it could to provide this aid. An appeal was made to the English-speaking comrades in North America. The Canadian Trotskyists responded as true internationalists and sent various top-level cadres at some cost to their own work in an immediate sense. In collaboration with the Unified Secretariat, they worked in model fashion, not without personal sacrifice.

CONTINUED TOMORROW



# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## CHIEF OF POLICE SCANDAL

The French police force, like all capitalist police outfits, is not the most angel-pure of institutions. The escapades of the Lyons police are the latest scandal . . . in the form of the brothel-protection racket run by Chief of Police, Monsieur Tonnot.



M. Tonnot ex-police chief and defender of morality in Lyons.

Tonnot took part in the Evian negotiations with the FLN and in July 1962, he was responsible for the destruction of the archives of the Algerian police. He was up for promotion to divisional head of police in November 1972. A clear favourite with the local and national administration.

On November 18, M. Tonnot attempted to defend himself against the charge of running at least 15 brothels in Lyons . . .

'No, it is not true. I agree, I had a mistress, Miss Maitre. Our friendship began in 1964, she was 22, and a barmaid. Then, she became a saleswoman and then bought in 1967 a small café, rue Blanc. This café always had a good

reputation and there were never any prostitutes there.

'In 1970, she bought a "furnished flat" with Mme Leurat. A lot of people used to go there and I was soon informed—my position in the administration allowed me to have good sources of information—that prostitutes went there . . .

'At my injunction, she sold the flat . . . but then she entered into relations with a certain Mme Marin . . . but I was then district chief at Roubaix and only had indirect knowledge of what was now going on.'

M. Tonnot is a respectably married bourgeois, and his brother, a bank manager, has made sure that he has the best Lyons 'lawyer'.

Tonnot is not in prison in the local jail, but in the prison of la Talaudière in Saint Etienne. The judge, M. Hano-teau, commented: 'If I had put him in the Lyons prison, he would have met too many people whom he had arrested and the atmosphere would perhaps have not been very pleasant for him.'

## MORE THAN EXPECTED

Tube travellers have provided a bumper £2.4m profit forecast for London Transport by the end of the year. The figure was revealed in London Transport's budget for 1973 which will be presented at the meeting of the Greater London Council today.

Earlier this year the GLC allowed fare increases of £4.7m a year to avoid a London Transport deficit—they had suggested increases of £10m. Fare increases over the past year have in some cases been as high as 100 per cent on shorter tube journeys. The report shows that more people than anticipated are travelling on the Underground, accounting for an extra £2.5m. Tourists also contributed £1m more than expected.

# KOSYGIN DEMANDS AUSTERITY FOR SOVIET INDUSTRY

Stalinist crisis

A recent key speech by Soviet premier Alexei Kosygin to the officials responsible for economic planning passed almost unnoticed in the British Press.

The speech was so important that several weeks were allowed to pass between its delivery and public announcement of its contents.

It dealt with the need for deep austerity measures to combat the economic crisis facing Soviet industry and agriculture.

The premier demanded an end to the initiation of all but the most essential new construction projects, measures to minimize the expenditure of foreign exchange and primary emphasis on obtaining higher productivity from existing capital investment.

The speech was a confession of failure by the USSR's leading bureaucrat, whose current long-term plan promised more consumer goods and a better life for the Soviet masses.

Like Khrushchev before them, Kosygin, Brezhnev and Podgorny have proved unable to carry out these promises. Consumer-goods production is lagging badly, the expected increase in productivity of labour has not materialized and the problems of agriculture have grown worse.

This year's grain harvest was so far below its target that the USSR has been forced to import \$1,000m worth of grain—mainly from the United States.

A publicity campaign is being carried on throughout the Soviet Union urging housewives, Red Army cooks and catering enterprises to conserve bread.

In public, the bureaucracy lays the blame on bad weather. But sharp exchanges between regional officials and the Moscow centre indicate that more fundamental questions are involved.

Mismanagement and the poor quality of local cadres have undoubtedly played a part in the harvest catastrophe. In the autumn the Soviet Press was full of stories of transport which was in the wrong place at the wrong time and of lack of drive to get the harvest in.

## BACKWARD

More basic is the chronic shortage of capital equipment—trucks, tractors, railheads, harvesters, grain driers, storage facilities—which underlies the low productivity of labour on the land.

Soviet agriculture is so backward that even in a good year each farmworker produces only about one-ninth the amount produced by his US counterpart.

This does not testify to the superiority of private enterprise, but rather to the Kremlin's Utopian and reactionary idea of 'building socialism in one country'.

Within the framework of this nationalistic slogan, Stalin enforced the collectivization of the land over the dead bodies of hundreds of thousands of peasants. Later he loosed the crank geneticist Lysenko onto Soviet science in the hope that



Soviet premier Alexei Kosygin: a confession of failure

he could perform miracles with 'winter wheat'.

Khrushchev, in his turn, organized grandiose schemes to plough the virgin lands of Soviet Asia. Yet agriculture remains the Achilles heel of the Soviet economy.

Kosygin's call for economy measures is an index of the depth of the problems created as a result of the harvest's failure. It means effectively that the current plan must be jettisoned and the promised benefits to the working class put into cold storage.

To overcome the obvious dangers of this situation, the Stalinists in the USSR have turned for assistance to imperialism. Unable to produce increased quantities of consumer goods at home, the Kremlin intends to import them from the US and open the USSR to large-scale foreign capital investment.

Following the \$3,000m trade deal signed following Nixon's visit to Moscow in May, US banks are moving in to organize the raising of credits for joint exploitation of oil and natural gas fields, auto construction and even Pepsi production in the USSR.

The chairman of the New York Stock Exchange, after a recent visit to Moscow, returned to Wall Street to announce investment prospects worth a staggering \$100,000m in the Soviet Union.

Naturally, the political price for this development is heavy. The 'New York Times', commenting on Kosygin's speech, referred to the cost of this new economic alignment for the revolution in Indo-China:

'The vital importance [for the USSR] of gaining help from the United States through transfer of trade and technology doubtless played a significant role in curbing the Soviet response to the American bombing of Hanoi and the mining of Haiphong harbour last spring.'

In other words, Moscow connived at US barbarities in Vietnam in the hope of reaching an economic deal with imperialism. As the Stalinists are now trying to make comparisons between this policy and Lenin's New Economic Policy of 1921, this must be emphasized.

In 1921 the Bolsheviks were forced to make concessions—on a limited scale—to foreign and domestic capital. They did not attempt to describe this as a step forward for the working class, but clearly stated before the entire world that they were making a forced retreat.

By contrast, the Stalinists attempt to present their *rap-prochement* with US imperialism as a gain for the workers' movement and a step towards 'peace' and 'security'. More important still, Lenin and the Bolsheviks at no time subordinated the requirements of the international revolutionary movement to the 'national' requirements of the USSR.

Unlike the Stalinists, they entered into no secret political deals with imperialism to stab the workers' movement of other countries in the back. Far from pursuing a Leninist policy, Kosygin and his fellow bureaucrats are carrying out the exact opposite.

Their policy is counter-revolutionary to the core. It springs from the narrow, caste interests of the bureaucracy which has usurped political power from the working class. Not only does it represent a mortal danger for the revolution in Indo-China and the struggles of the workers of Europe and America, but it places the very foundations of the Soviet economy in jeopardy.

The introduction of vast quantities of foreign capital must give the investors a hold over the people who have invited them in. The Kremlin will be constrained to pay its debts, even if this means making the working class produce more at lower real wages.

## UPHEAVALS

At the same time, the natural resources of the Soviet Union are opened up for the first time on a vast scale to imperialism. In this way the Soviet leaders undermine the foundations of nationalized property and the other gains of the revolution.

This is a clear sign that Stalinist rule in the Soviet Union is heading for great crisis and social upheavals.

The bureaucrats' turn towards imperialism refutes all those who claim that the ruling caste is necessary for the efficient functioning of the Soviet economy.

This includes not only the Stalinists with their theory of 'socialism in one country', but also the International Socialism group in Britain which describes the bureaucracy as a new ruling class in a 'state capitalist' system.

The Stalinists have yet to explain how it is that 35 years after Stalin's proclamation that 'socialism' had been achieved in the USSR, the bureaucracy must turn towards imperialism and endanger the very foundations of the nationalized economy.

How are the interests of the Soviet working class served by the opening up of their country to vast influxes of foreign capital, the interest on which will have to be paid for by their labour? As for the 'state capitalists', their 'theory' that a new form of class society has emerged in the USSR with a new state capitalist ruling class can provide no explanation of the latest bureaucratic turn.

Both these tendencies are united in worshipping the strength and power of the bureaucracy and ignoring the revolutionary force of the Soviet working class. But in reality it is precisely the bureaucracy's mortal fear of the Soviet workers that drives it into alliance with imperialism.

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# SLL LECTURES

## BARNESLEY

Sunday December 17  
Revolutionary theory and the  
Marxist Party

RED LION HOTEL  
(Worsborough) 8 p.m.

Lectures given  
by Cliff Slaughter  
(SLL Central Committee)

## SHEFFIELD

Monday January 8  
Marxism and the  
revolutionary party

FORRESTERS HALL  
Trippett Lane, 7.30 p.m.

## TODMORDEN

Monday January 8  
'The economic crisis'

Monday January 22  
'Stalinism'

Monday February 5  
'Trotskyism'

THE WEAVERS' INSTI-  
TUTE, Burnley Road,  
7.30 p.m.

## HULL

Wednesday January 10  
Stalinism and Trotskyism

Wednesday January 24  
Marxist theory and the revolu-  
tionary party

WHITE HART HOTEL  
Alfred Gelder Street  
(near Drypool Bridge)  
8 p.m.

## BBC 1

10.30-10.55 Steam horse. 11.25  
Schools. 11.45 Boomph with  
Becker. 12.00 The Last Apollo.  
12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at  
one. 1.30 Pogles' wood. 1.45  
Dressmaking. 2.05 Cradle of  
England. 2.35 Tom and Jerry.  
2.50 Nurses in training. 3.15  
Jimmy Young asks. 3.40 MacLeod  
at large. 4.10 Play school. 4.35  
Crystal Tipps. 4.40 Jackanory.  
4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 John  
Craven's newsround. 5.30 Yogi  
bear. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.  
6.50 TOM AND JERRY. Royal  
Cat Nap.  
7.00 TOMORROW'S WORLD.  
7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.  
8.00 SYKES. Journey. Eric  
Sykes.  
8.30 HOLIDAY 73. A Penthouse  
Package. Yugoslavia.  
9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.  
Weather.  
9.25 COLDITZ. Bribery and  
Corruption.  
10.15 MONTY PYTHON'S FLY-  
ING CIRCUS.  
10.45 MIDWEEK.  
11.30 LATE NIGHT NEWS.  
Weather.  
11.35 ANIMAL DESIGN. The Pro-  
blems and Advantages of  
Flying.  
12.00 THE LAST APOLLO.  
1.00 NEWS. Weather.

## ITV

9.30 Schools. 9.45 Children of  
Morocco. 9.55 Skippy. 10.20  
Bellbird. 10.35 Galloping gour-  
met. 11.00 Farewell to the moon.  
12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow.  
12.25 Diane's panda party. 12.40  
First report. 1.00 Jokers wild.  
1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General  
hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon.  
3.00 Out of town. 3.25 Rivals  
of Sherlock Holmes. 4.25 Voyage  
to the bottom of the sea. 5.20  
Pebbles and Bamm Bamm. 5.50  
News.

6.00 TODAY.  
6.35 CROSSROADS.  
6.55 DES. Des O'Connor.  
7.25 FILM: 'FROM HERE TO  
ETERNITY'. Burt Lancas-  
ter, Montgomery Clift,  
Frank Sinatra, Deborah  
Kerr. Story about five  
people in Hawaii just be-  
fore Pearl Harbour.  
9.30 THIS WEEK.  
10.00 NEWS AT TEN.  
10.30 CINEMA.  
11.00 SOMETHING TO SAY.  
Bunny Therapies for Brain  
Damage. Debate on  
last Monday's film about  
a brain damaged child.  
12.00 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.  
12.10 SIX CENTURIES OF  
SONG.

## BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.  
7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.  
8.00 EUROPA. Prize-winning  
film from the Soviet Union  
recording the history of  
the last 50 years as pain-  
ted and drawn by children.  
8.30 WAR AND PEACE. For-  
tunes of War.  
9.15 THE FANATICS. Old Pan-  
handlers Never Die.  
9.25 HORIZON. Whales, Dol-  
phins and Men.  
10.15 FACE THE MUSIC.  
10.45 NEWS ON 2. Weather.  
10.50 KRIS KRISTOFFERSON.  
In concert.  
11.30 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

# TV REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-9.45 London.  
11.00-12.00 London. 1.15 News.  
1.30 London. 2.30 Women to-  
day. 3.00 London. 4.25 Folly-  
foot. 4.50 Elephant boy. 5.20  
Doctor at large. 5.50 London.  
6.00 News. 6.15 Hogan's heroes.  
6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The  
Karate Killers'. 8.30 This is your  
life. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London.  
10.30 Smith family. 10.38 Cinema.  
11.25 Frighteners. 11.55 News,  
weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except:  
9.45 Big game fishing in Aus-  
tralia. 9.55 Chance to work.  
10.35 Better driving. 12.05 Lon-  
don. 12.57 News. 6.00 Diary.  
10.30 Report. 10.55 News. 11.55  
Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 10.05  
Torchy. 10.15 Tricks of the good  
cook's trade. 10.35 Coal gather-  
ers. 11.00 London. 12.00 News.  
12.05 London. 2.30 Women only.  
3.00 London. 4.25 Land of the  
giants. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Cross-  
roads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by  
day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film:  
'Elery Queen: Don't Look Be-  
hind You'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 Lon-  
don. 11.00 News. 11.10 Guide-  
line. 11.15 Film: 'The Hound of  
the Baskervilles'. 12.35 Weather.

HARLECH: 9.30-9.45 London.  
10.30 Time to remember. 11.00  
London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00  
London. 4.25 Voyage to the  
bottom of the sea. 5.20 Chuckle-  
heads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50  
London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15  
Report Wales. 6.30 Sky's the  
limit. 7.00 Des. 7.30 Film:  
'Twenty Plus Two'. 9.30 London  
10.30 Gallery. 11.00 Spyforce.  
12.00 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as  
above except: 2.30-3.00 Hamd-  
den. 4.25 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50  
Cantamil. 4.50-5.20 Rovers. 6.01-  
6.15 Y dydd. 10.30-11.00 Studio  
one.

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

ANGLIA: 11.00 London. 12.04  
News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Wo-  
men only. 3.00 London. 4.25  
News. 4.30 Land of the giants.  
5.20 Flintstones. 5.50 London.  
6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena.  
6.35 London. 7.00 Protectors.  
7.30 Film: 'Timetable'. 9.00 Des.  
9.30 London. 11.00 Baron.

ATV MIDLANDS: 10.20 Too  
close for comfort. 10.35 Better  
driving. 11.00 London. 12.00 To-  
day. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women  
today. 3.00 London. 4.25 Land  
of giants. 5.20 Dick Van Dyke.  
5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35  
London. 7.00 Film: 'Donovan's  
Reef'. 8.45 Cartoon. 9.00 Des.  
9.30 London. 11.00 Gardening  
today. 11.30 Film: 'Mary Had A  
Little'. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 12.00  
News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Wo-  
men today. 2.30 Cartoon. 2.40  
Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23



Angela Down plays Maria Bolkonskya in tonight's episode—the 12th—of BBC2's 'War and Peace'.

News. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 Phoenix  
five. 5.00 General hospital. 5.50  
London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Lon-  
don. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 Film:  
'Good Day For A Hanging'. 9.00  
Des. 9.20 London. 11.00 What's  
it all about? 11.20 Champions.

GRANADA: 11.00 London. 12.00  
Paint book. 12.05 London. 2.30  
Yoga. 2.55 London. 4.20 Lone  
Ranger. 4.50 Rainbow country.  
5.15 Dave Cash. 5.50 London.  
6.00 News. Police file. 6.30  
Crown court. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.10  
Film: 'The Judge and Jake  
Wyler'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London.  
11.00 On the line. 11.35 Dick  
Van Dyke.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 Let them live.  
9.55 A chance to work. 10.35  
Bush boy. 11.00 London. 12.05  
London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Let's  
face it. 3.00 London. 4.25 Bush  
boy. 4.50 Funky phantom. 5.20  
Partridge family. 5.50 London.  
6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00

Cartoon. 7.05 Film: 'You Must  
Be Joking'. 9.00 Des. 9.30  
London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police  
call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 News.  
11.50 Scales of justice. 12.20  
Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 10.00 Studio. 11.00  
London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 Lon-  
don. 4.25 Lost in space. 5.20  
Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00  
Today. 6.30 Beverly hillbillies.  
7.00 Film: 'Kisses For My Presi-  
dent'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London.  
11.00 Late call. 11.05 Journey to  
the unknown.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00 London. 12.02  
News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Wo-  
men today. 3.00 London. 4.25  
Bush boy. 4.55 Merrie melodies.  
5.20 General hospital. 5.50 Lon-  
don. 6.00 News. 6.05 Try for  
ten. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film:  
'Viva Las Vegas'. 8.30 McCue's  
music. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London.  
11.00 Spyforce. 12.00 Medi-  
tation.

## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Fight Rising Prices  
Force the Tories to Resign

Willesden: Thursday December  
14, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour  
Hall, Willesden High Road,  
NW10. 'No fines on the unions!  
No state control of wages!'

CROYDON: Thursday December  
14 (Please note date change)  
8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe  
Road. 'Free Sean MacStiofain'.

WINSFORD: Friday December 15,  
8 p.m. 'Red Lion'.

BRADFORD: Sunday December  
17, 7.30 p.m. 'Talbot Hotel', Kirk-  
gate. 'No fines on the unions'.  
AUEW speakers.

LONDON TEACHERS: Monday  
December 18, 8 p.m. Caxton Hall  
(near St James's Park tube).

SKELMERSDALE: Monday De-  
cember 18, 7.30 p.m. Quarry  
Bank Community Centre.

MEDWAY: Tuesday December 19,  
8 p.m. 'The Greyhound', Roches-  
ter Avenue, Rochester.

ROCHDALE: Tuesday December  
19, 8 p.m. Rochdale Town Hall.

CLAPHAM: Tuesday December  
19, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths,  
Clapham Manor Street, SW4.  
'Force the Tories to resign'.

KINGSTON: Tuesday December  
19, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Mill  
Street. 'Way forward for trade  
unionists'.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thurs-  
day December 21, 8 p.m. Dept-  
ford Engineers' Club, New Cross  
Road (near station). 'Build Coun-  
cils of Action'.

SLL PUBLIC MEETING

## BRACKNELL (Berks)

Thursday December 14 7.45 p.m.

MEADOW VALE SCHOOL, MOREDALE AVENUE,  
PRIESTWOOD ESTATE

WAGES, DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AND THE TORY  
GOVERNMENT

Speaker: G. Healy, National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League

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Address .....

## Leyland parts move may cost 170 jobs

BRITISH-LEYLAND plans to move its spare parts administration department from Cardiff to Coventry. The rationalization move, in line with Common Market entry, could cost up to 170 jobs.

The staff at the Rover works at Pengram, of whom about 100 are women, say they will fight the plan.

Those affected make up 75 per cent of the white-collar work force at the plant, which employs 1,300 in all.

BLMC's plant is to create a specialized car parts division based in Coventry, integrating existing parts departments of Rover, Jaguar and Triumph.

This is being done in the interests of competitiveness and efficiency and with Common Market entry in mind, says BLMC.

Cardiff management says that many of the 170 jobs there would be replaced 'at some stage in the future' when new investment took place.

Graham Saunders, area secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (APEX), said that the BLMC plan to spend more money did not necessarily mean more jobs.

If BLMC's argument for transferring the spare parts administrative department to Coventry was taken to its logical conclusion, he said, the future for the whole of the Pengram plant would be threatened. 'This is a serious blow to the plant as a whole,' he added.

# Workers CAN bring down the system—Sir Fred warns

SIR FREDERICK CATHERWOOD, the former head of 'Neddy', has said that attacks by workers and students on the industrial system might be enough to bring it down.

'Don't let us kid ourselves that the workers cannot bring the system down,' he said. 'We know now that they can.' He was speaking in London to a luncheon organized by the Industrial Participation Association.

Catherwood, a Quaker, who has now taken a directorship with the Laing construction group, said that students held businessmen 'beneath contempt'.

He was a contestant for the rectorship at Edinburgh University earlier this year. 'I found that the general view at Edinburgh was that business and businessmen were beneath contempt,' he said. 'It was rather like the old Tory view of tradesmen. The fact that I was an Establishment figure, a knight and a company director all went against me—but it was my being a company director that went against me most.'

It was not only workers and students who were hostile to industry, he went on. Busi-

ness was under attack from the middle class on the environment issue. He said the authority of big business needed a firm moral base. Business was 'a social organism' and a code of behaviour was desperately needed.

Big business could not deal with the millions of pounds it handled daily or the thousands of people it used without a code of ethics.

The former director general of the National Development Council has a 'solution' which is pious nonsense. Capitalism has no 'ethics'. It is a system based on violence and exploitation.



Heffer to see Chataway over occupation at CAV



LABOUR MPs from Liverpool constituencies meet Tory Minister Christopher Chataway today to try and halt the proposed closure of the CAV plant at Fazakerley.

The plant has been occupied since October 9 against the

plans to close the factory in April.

Today's delegation to the House of Commons will be led by Eric Heffer who said yesterday the government should pump some money into the plant to save the jobs of the 1,000 workers.

## Shoddy shows should end radio franchise

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

SHODDY shows on Glasgow's new commercial radio should lead to withdrawal of the station contractor's franchise, the Scottish Council of the Labour Party proposed yesterday.

Glasgow is one of the five cities which will get Britain's first commercial radio stations in 1974.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority should be much more willing than its predecessor, the ITA, to withdraw a local fran-

chise if the quality of a station's broadcasting output fell below acceptable standards, according to a submission from the Council.

Council secretary Peter Allison said: 'If Glasgow local radio turns out to be a shoddy affair after three years, which is the proposed duration of the first contract, then the IBA should make a sharp example by re-allocating the station rights to new operators possessing a better contract of their duty to the community.'

Mr Allison said the Council had urged on the IBA to award the Glasgow contract to the company most concerned to provide programmes whose quality would raise educational and cultural standards within the community.

The submission also called for the provision of air time in fields such as consumer protection and the interests of immigrant groups.

Mr Allison said that Labour was opposed to 'cheap chat shows' and backed the Musicians' Union in its campaign to combat excessive 'needle time' under which disc jockeys could sustain almost endless programmes of recorded or pop music.

## Trade unions should fight giant job-killers

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH workers had painful experiences of the way multi-national companies operated, said Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers yesterday.

He attacked the General Electric combine for massive sackings when he spoke at the London conference of the International Metal Workers' Federation, of which he is vice-president.

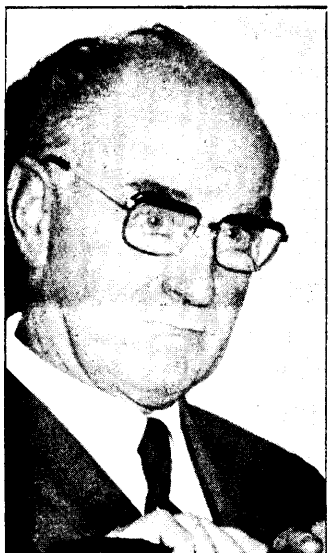
General Electric was the biggest electrical company in Britain and the largest employer of labour. The combine was formed from the merger of three companies, he said.

Since the merger there had been a 'so-called rationalization process' which meant that thousands of jobs had been lost.

The company once had a total UK labour force of 181,000. Yet over the last three years 64,000 workers had lost their jobs in this one company alone.

'That means an average of 20 redundancies per day,' calculated Scanlon. Yet profits had gone up £49m to £177m, he added.

He also explained that while the average wage paid by the company in Britain was £27 a week, African GEC workers in South Africa were paid £4.81 to £9.49 for a 48-hour week.



Hugh Scanlon

The time had come to speak out firmly against the operations of multi-national companies. Trade unions, added Scanlon, had to use their international solidarity against them.

CHAIRMAN of the IMF multi-national committee, Paul Jennings, an American trade unionist, said that during the three days of the conference delegates would discuss the fines imposed on Scanlon's union by the National Industrial Relations Court and decide what they could do about them.

## Massey clerks walk out

THREE HUNDRED staff workers have walked out at the Coventry tractor factory, Massey Ferguson, in support of five suspended clerks.

The disciplined workers were instructed to do work normally done by striking punchcard operators, who are claiming regrading on the basis of increased skills and speed-up.

The strike, which is official, began on Monday when the girls whose work is associated with computers withdrew their labour.

They claimed that since last April they have lost six of the 18 girls previously employed and that new machines installed call for a greater degree of skill.

After they left the plant the company instructed five office

girls to process punchcards.

They refused and were sent home.

A mass meeting of clerical staff on Tuesday decided that if the clerks were not reinstated by 4 p.m. they would all walk out.

Yesterday the joint shop stewards met but a move to call out the whole factory was turned down. The stewards will wait until a staff workers' representative has been in touch.

Staff are picketing the gates and some lorries are being turned away.

Machine-shop workers are refusing to accept programmes and material normally associated with the strikers. Lay-offs are expected to start within the next 24 hours.

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These extremely vital writings by Leon Trotsky between the years 1929 and 1940—his third and final exile from the Soviet Union—are now available in Britain from the Paperbacks Centre

# What we think VIOLENCE

SO ROBERT CARR has set up a Home Office committee to investigate 'violence in society'. We would like to suggest some areas of research.

- They could go to Leeds where the local police have an unprecedented history of misbehaviour. Last year two senior officers received jail sentences for assaulting a Nigerian vagrant. His body was found in a river.
  - They could interview miners, dockers, building workers and men from Briant Colour in south London who were man-handled by the police during this year.
  - They could talk to the four members of the Stoke Newington Eight who were acquitted last week. They have excellent information on the treatment of suspects and interrogation techniques used by the Special Branch.
  - They could visit the headquarters of the National Council of Civil Liberties in north London and ask for copies of the report prepared a couple of months ago on police treatment of immigrant youth in Lewisham.
- We don't expect that these suggestions will be accepted by the team headed by Mr Neil Cairncross, a deputy under-secretary at the Home Office.



Whenever these questions have been drawn to Carr's attention—or his predecessor, Reginald Maudling—they were ignored. Indeed, in all the incidents without exception, the Home Office is for toughening the laws and thereby increasing the violence of the state.

So what is the purpose of this committee which will have 'wide powers'? We believe it is like the committee which investigated torture in Northern Ireland. The inquiry resulted in the establishment of the fact that hideous torture techniques were being used against untried and uncharged men.

Then it went on to refine the laws regarding the use of torture. In essence, the Tories used the committee as a means of streamlining the use of torture by British troops. It did nothing to outlaw it.

So it will be with Carr's committee on 'violence'. The Tories recognize that they face massive resistance from the working class as they seek to destroy its unions and its standard of living.

This will mean the use of all the resources of the Home Office—the police, the Special Branch and the special constabulary—to combat the inevitable unrest.

In this connection Cairncross is an excellent choice by Carr, a former director of Securicor, the largest private police force in Britain. Before joining the Home Office, Cairncross was with the Northern Ireland Department. And we know how the ruling class dealt with the unrest there!

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

## Sudbury CAV men meet today on next move

# Workers demand AUEW calls a strike

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

WORKERS at the CAV engineering plant in Sudbury will meet this morning to decide whether to continue their strike against the £55,000 fine imposed on their union by the National Industrial Relations Court.

The decision to hold a meeting—originally planned for tomorrow—came after three-and-a-half hours of discussion in which shop stewards from Sudbury met stewards from the three other factories in the Lucas combine in the south east.

A leading steward said after the meeting that no specific recommendation would be put to the men, but there would be a reappraisal of the situation in the light of events throughout the engineering industry since Sudbury came out on strike on Monday.

I understand that the Sudbury workers got no specific pledge from other Lucas stewards in the south east that they would be backed by indefinite strike action.

Representatives of 12,000 workers from the Lucas complex at Acton, west London, the group's Rochester factory and Simms Motors of Finchley, north London, were present at the meeting.

Bill Duckling, convenor of the Sudbury works said there would be no specific recommendation put before the men.

'We want to call a meeting to put to the members the latest developments. We will make no recommendations—it is up to the men to decide.'

Some workers waiting for the result of the meeting expressed their anger that the leadership of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has not called openly for national strike action.

One told me: 'I don't think a one-day strike

'WHAT'S needed is a clear-cut call', AUEW assistant secretary E. Roberts said yesterday. 'This isn't just a fight against Goad or the £55,000. What's involved is the Industrial Relations Act and the



Engineers at Sudbury wait to hear their stewards' decision yesterday.

is adequate. We had the one day strikes before the Bill was law and they did not stop it. The union should call out everyone in the country.'

The Sudbury plant was the first to give a lead against the fine. It is there that James

whole of the trade union movement.

'The alternative to actively defending our policy of non-co-operation, our finances and our union itself is a defeat which will hit the whole movement.'

Goad, the Colchester evangelist, works. He took the union to the NIRC over the refusal of the local Sudbury branch to admit him to meetings.

A move to commit the south eastern group of Lucas to strike action at yesterday's meeting was defeated by the right wing.

Instead verbal solidarity was offered to the Sudbury workers. This did not help to strengthen the resistance of the Sudbury men who have been on strike since Monday.

## Peace is 'illusion' Hanoi charges

NORTH VIETNAM yesterday accused the United States of trying to create 'the illusion of an imminent peace,' in Vietnam.

An editorial in the official Hanoi newspaper 'Nhan Dan' charged that in fact Washington was trying to prolong the war and to bargain from a position of greater strength.

'While the Paris negotiations are prolonged, the American side does not cease to propagate rumours aimed at creating the illusion of an imminent peace,' it said.

According to a French-language transmission of the North Vietnam News Agency monitored in Hong Kong the official newspaper accused South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu of conducting a 'bloody campaign of fascist terror' against the South Vietnamese.

The United States was backing his attempts to 'eliminate political, religious and social forces who favour peace and national concord, to annihilate the revolutionary armed forces and to abolish the Provisional Revolutionary Government,' it alleged.

Sources close to the Paris 'peace' talks say the two sides have worked out another draft agreement on a cease fire, along the lines of the previous document which the Americans refused to honour in October.

But there was no indication what had been decided on the two issues which have been the main sources of dispute since October: the continued presence of North Vietnamese troops in the south and the 200,000 political prisoners held by the Saigon puppet regime.

While the talks have dragged on in Paris, the Americans have been building up the Saigon government's army and air force.

Hanoi's denunciation indicates that the Paris talks are a façade behind which Nixon and the US military chiefs are preparing the next stage of the war.

## Hospital workers pay law strike

FROM PAGE ONE

marched through the city in a massive show of protest chanting 'Heath out'.

In LIVERPOOL more than 2,000 workers marched through the city centre chanting 'Wages up. Tories out'.

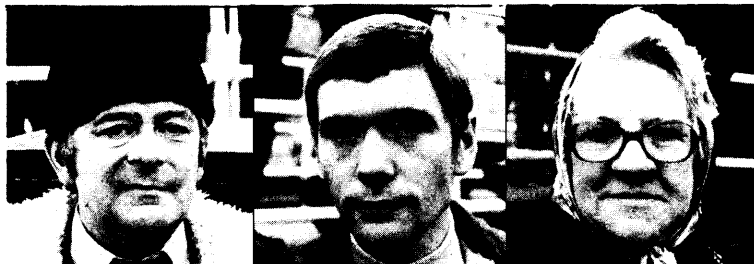
G. Will, NUPE area officer, told Workers Press that virtually all hospitals on Merseyside had joined the protest.

Over 1,500 staff from towns and villages all over the north east coast marched through NEWCASTLE. Organizers estimated that altogether 10,000 workers took part in the one-day strike in South Shields, Teesside, Sunderland, and Newcastle.

In ABERDEEN one of the demonstrators carried a large poster saying: 'Who took the "L" out of Health.' They were cheered by shoppers as they marched to the offices of the management board.

In YORKSHIRE and LINCOLNSHIRE 15,000 workers stayed away. A demonstration 1,200-strong marched through SHEFFIELD. Over 6,500 GLASGOW staff marched through the city centre to a meeting in Glasgow Green.

The Confederation of Health Service Employees said later that there were 24-hour stoppages in 20 towns and 12-hour stoppages in 45 towns. In London over 20 hospitals were under 24-hour stoppage.



On the march in London (l to r) Leslie Ayles, Chris Potter, Margaret Seath.

IN LONDON thousands converged on the DHSS's Elephant and Castle headquarters shouting 'Heath Out!' and carrying banners declaring 'Hospital Pay Makes Me Sick!' and 'Heath Freezes Pay At A Stroke!'

'This is just the start. What Heath's doing to us amounts to a wage cut,' said Leslie Ayles, who works at the Tooting blood bank.

'I'm one of the better paid and I only get £19 a week. Out of that I've got to find £6.10 rent which has just gone up £1.

'We obviously don't want to strike, and the Tories think we would never do it. But now we've been pushed too far by the government.'

Chris Potter, a porter at Tooting, told me he took home £17 a week. 'I have to clean out the bins, do the laundry, sweep

the roads, wash the dishes and keep the blood banks in order.

'We've a great deal on our hands looking after people. If we don't get what we want there will be utter chaos. We should have an all-out strike.'

Mrs Margaret Seath (65) a domestic ward from Queen Mary Hospital, Roehampton, said she took home a pitiful £14 a week. 'I live on my own and my rent is £5 a week,' she told me.

'This bloody government is ruining us. Look at the rents, prices all going up. It's time hospital workers got on their feet and time this government got out.'

Worker after worker showed me wage slips giving their take-home pay.

'Look at this,' said Mrs Colchita Rowland, '£14.35 for 40 hours. And I have to do the work of four at my hospital.'

ONLY 13 days to complete our £1,750 target. This month we aim to raise our total before Christmas. So let's step up the fight today. We still have £1,136.20 left to raise.

Engineers now find themselves at the centre of the fight against the Tories and their Industrial Relations Act. Trade unionists all over the country must come to their support and back them up all the way. Our basic rights are under attack, but action by the working class will force this government to resign.

Workers Press is vital in giving a lead in this fight. Our paper must be kept out in front to prepare for the great struggles ahead. We are confident that all your support is behind us. Help us, therefore, with a very special effort for December's Fund. Extra amounts are needed. Post these immediately to:

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