

# DOCKERS CRACK 'NEW DEAL' HOPES

## Blue and White unity weakens employers

### EDITORIAL

#### Wilson's pilgrimage to White House

ANYBODY watching Harold Wilson's movements or listening to his statements must be forgiven for concluding that he represents not the Labour Party but a faction in the State Department.

His visits to the White House conducted with monotonous regularity and a sense of religious dedication will not win Labour a single extra vote.

On the contrary his statement on the necessity for Polaris bases in Britain violate the stated policy of the Labour Party and will disgust many a young Labour voter.

His attitude to NATO, which has already cost the British taxpayer more than £20,000 million in 'defence' expenditure, is an outrage to working class sentiment.

#### BURDEN

It is clear that Wilson plans to continue the foreign policy of Ernest Bevin and will saddle the working class with the same predictable burden of colossal defence expenditure, conscription, inflation and wage freeze.

His foreign policy is only a continuation of domestic policy. Externally he proposes to rely on an alliance with the most reactionary capitalist powers and at home he intends to rely on the same faceless men who helped the Tories survive the Profumo crisis.

Not only will he rely on them but (according to Nora Beloff in 'The Observer') he will strengthen their powers immensely.

According to well-informed sources he intends to establish a system of government not far removed from the Presidential system of Mr. Kennedy or at least comparable to that established by Mr. Churchill during the last war.

So now we know why Mr. Wilson was not at all keen in making political capital out of the Profumo crisis.

#### REACTIONARY

His proposal that a Cabinet Officer should be regarded as an integral part of No. 10 will mean that reactionary, anti-labour bureaucrats whose only allegiance is to the ruling class will determine the policies of the next Labour government.

Labour, in other words, will neither govern nor rule!

Mr. Wilson will be well advised to study the precedent of 'socialist' Guy Mollet and the dismal end of the Fourth Republic.

Mollet, too, tried to administer and reform French capitalism in its hour of crisis.

In order to do this he had to rely increasingly on the state bureaucracy—and less on his Cabinet colleagues.

Parliamentary democracy, which was a farce anyway, was reduced to a cynical fraud.

Government by decree became commonplace and soon the virtual dictatorship of Mollet and his successors led inexorably to the real dictatorship of de Gaulle.

Labour's task, therefore, is not to reform capitalism or the Cabinet system of government but to overthrow it.

**T**HE rejection by Merseyside dockers, both 'Blue' and 'White', of the 'new deal' is causing the employers great anxiety.

For many years they have relied upon close collaboration with the local officials of the 'White' union, the Transport and General Workers' Union.

In 1955, when 'Blue' and 'White' dockers took strike action for the recognition of the 'Blue' union (the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers) in the out of London ports, the port employers were prepared to spend millions of pounds to break the strike and maintain the rule of the TGWU on the docks.

They considered this as money well spent, especially when the Trades Union Congress persuaded the leaders of the 'Blue' union to expel the thousands of members they had gained during their provincial recruiting drive.

These members were ultimately reinstated by a High Court action and on a number of occasions since then members of the TGWU have worked in unity with their colleagues in the 'Blue' union.

#### Action

On some of these occasions they have actually threatened to take strike action to prevent 'Blue' union members being pushed off the docks.

**This united stand by dock workers has now created a serious crisis for the employers. Liverpool as a port is losing trade and profits are beginning to slump.**

Although the employers had no difficulty in persuading Mr. John O'Hare, the leading official of the TGWU, to sign their 'new deal', they now realise that it will be impossible to implement it.

The plain truth of the matter is that the TGWU leadership has no support whatsoever amongst its members on the docks.

A representative of the employers writing recently in the 'Liverpool Echo' said that the decision to ignore the 'Blue' union during the two years' negotiations on the 'new deal' was 'a grave error'.

If the "White" and "Blue" can work together in London, why cannot we have the same co-operation at Liverpool?" he asked.

#### Dilemma

He then went on to reveal the employers' dilemma:

"Today we still stow ships on Merseyside better than anywhere else. Where we fail is that we do not turn the ships around as speedily as London, Southampton, Manchester or South Wales ports. Continental and American ports are twice as fast as Liverpool.

"This, of course, is due to the "Well" on the one hand and the lack of modern crane-served berths on Merseyside. I acknowledge that the Mersey Dock Labour Board are tackling this problem but there are still too many outdated and obsolete berths being used.

"However, if we can all work together, employers, "White" and "Blue" men, the National Dock Labour Board and the M.D.L.B., we can soon regain our pre-war status as Britain's most efficient port. The T.U.C. should exert every effort to bring these men together for the

Cont. on back page, col. 2—>

## Merseyside pledges support for The Newsletter

**M**ANY dockers and readers pledged their support for The Newsletter at a meeting held last Sunday in Liverpool.

Area organiser of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers, Bill Johnson, expressed, on behalf of his members, his appreciation of the truthful way the paper had presented the dockers' case on Merseyside.

He outlined the struggles of dockers through the years and explained why they had rejected the 'new deal', which would mean cutting the labour force from 70,000 to 30,000.

#### BACK DOCKERS

If the employers were successful in implementing these plans on the docks, they would do the same in other industries.

"The British working class will be with the dockers 100 per cent in their fight against the 'new deal' because this is not just a dockers' issue," he commented.

Gerry Healy, general secretary of the Socialist Labour League, said that if the next Labour government used the state machine to break dockers, they would lose the support of the whole labour movement.

The future Labour government would take over all the Tory problems, without any policy to combat them.

It faced a situation where

## Sales increasing steadily

**THE BATTLE for circulation continues. Liverpool Central branch of the Socialist Labour League has pushed its sales up from 300 to 900 copies each week during the month of February.**

The sales of the Oxford branch have gone up from 80 to 120 copies.

Sheffield members have increased their circulation from 200 to 300 copies each week.

Wombwell (Yorks) branch has increased its sales from 48 to 70.

Glasgow West branch is fighting to increase its circulation to 150 copies a week by July 1. Ayr branch is also planning to increase its circulation by 30 copies a week by July.

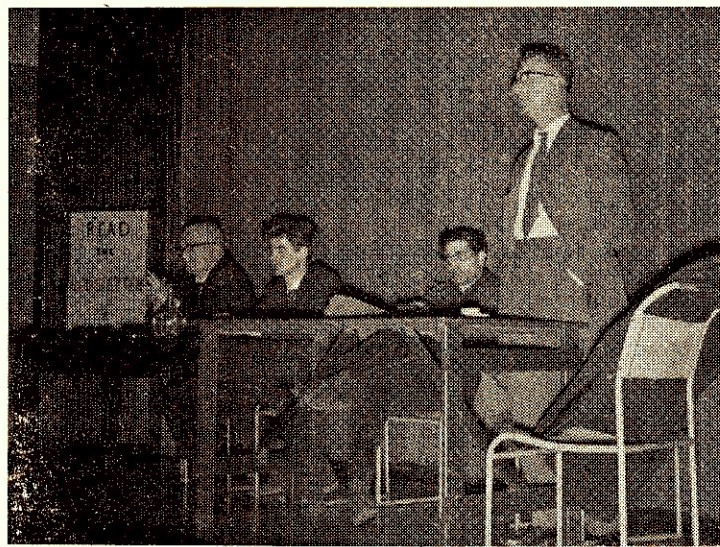
Birkenhead branch has set a target of 150 copies a week by the end of March. Since the large-sized Newsletter has started appearing the branch has increased its circulation by 25 copies a week.

Our overall circulation has now crept up to 10,300 copies. There is no reason why we cannot reach a figure of anywhere between 12,000 and 15,000 by the middle of summer.

Bankers orders for our fighting fund have increased over the past week by £7 10s. making a total of £105 10s. guaranteed each month.

We must have a fight to make that £200 and we are confident that our readers will not let us down. Our aim now is to bring the total of bankers orders up to £200 by April 1.

Please give us all the help you can.



Bill Johnson (standing), speaking at the meeting. Seated are from left to right: Gerry Healy, Reg Perry and Mike Banda.

productivity has increased while wages have remained the same. It knew struggles would arise and it would probably call out the troops and bring in legislation against the working class, he commented.

"We warn that a dock strike is coming and that the Labour government will use the state machine," he added.

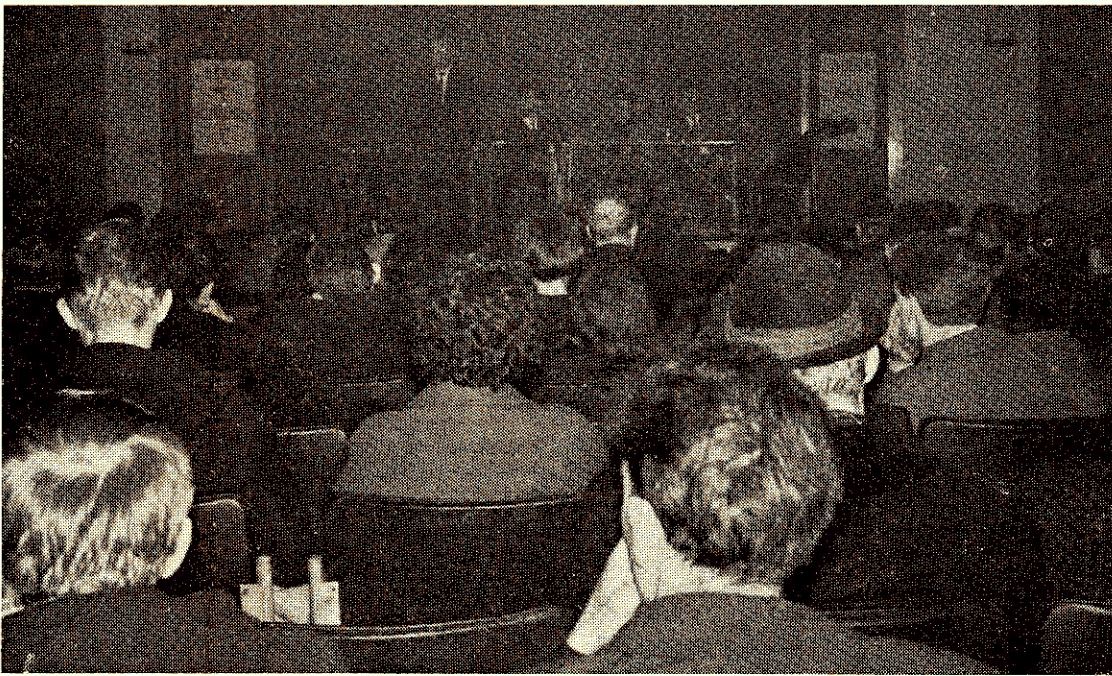
Referring to the 'Blue' union he said: "So many dockers joined the NASD to fight the employers, it has not been possible to push this union from

the docks. 'It is a disgrace that this union hasn't proper representation on the Merseyside Trades and Labour Councils and negotiating rights on the docks.'

Editor of The Newsletter, Mike Banda stressed the role the paper played in supporting workers in struggle in Britain and abroad.

"Unlike the 'Daily Worker' and 'Tribune', The Newsletter is not afraid to tell the truth—even if it means 'rocking the boat'."

Part of the audience and the speakers.



## Nottingham Tories split over R.P.M.

A GROUP of Nottingham businessmen will put an independent Conservative candidate in opposition to Mr. Martin Redmayne, the government chief whip, at the next general election.

Redmayne's majority at the last general election was only 4,040 votes.

The leader of the group is a local spare parts dealer and an alleged member of the Martell Freedom Group.

Their differences with the Tory Party arise from the fact that they are 'disgusted with the government's proposed abolition of retail price maintenance'.

Such a proposal, they say, could threaten the livelihood of many small Tory businessmen, who do not have the capital to deal with large combines.

## Spanish strike leaders freed

FIVE TRADE unionists, arrested for organising last year's Asturian miners' strike, have been acquitted by a court at Oviedo.

All five, members of the outlawed Spanish General Workers' Union (UGT), have been in prison for six months awaiting the trial, which went on for four days.

The principal charge was that they reorganised the union. The accused also admitted distributing money to families of deported workers and strikers.

It is feared that these men will now be deported from the Asturias, leaving their families in a similar predicament.

Others who took part in last year's strike are still in jail awaiting trial.

Meanwhile rumours in Madrid say that General Franco will soon be succeeded by a 'military directorate'.

In the past few months there

## U.N. force for Cyprus

WHILST THE United Nations Security Council examined plans of a so-called 'peace force' in Cyprus, Greek warships headed for manoeuvres near the island.

After endless discussions, four countries have decided on a 'peace plan' that a United Nations force should be sent into Cyprus for three months.

Both Greek and Turkish government representatives have agreed in principle to the proposal.

#### Conflict

Meanwhile the islanders themselves will have no say in solving the problems of inter-racial conflict whipped up by British imperialism.

Instead a 'neutral mediator', most probably backed by both Britain and America, will 'seek' a solution to the Cyprus problems'.

In New York the Security Council agreed to the 'peace' force by eight votes to none. Three countries, including the Soviet Union, abstained. This is just another page in Russia's well thumbed book of 'peaceful co-existence'.

But things will not be so peaceful for the many militant communists in Cyprus when the 6,500-strong 'mission' arrives and joins the 3,000 British troops left on the island.

## Council boycotts S.A. goods

A STORM of protest from the press and the employers has greeted Aberdeen Town Council's decision to boycott South African goods.

This move was taken after Councillor Robert Hughes put forward a resolution condemning the apartheid policies of the South African government.

In an attempt to discredit this action the Aberdeen employers have issued threats to close the shipyards and put 1,300 workers on the dole if the ban continues.

It is not surprising that the shipyard employers should get so angry over the ban.

Recently a firm obtained a contract worth £1 million from South Africa. Obviously, the bosses are afraid that this very profitable order may be affected.

## Significant work published in USSR

THE publication in the Soviet Union of a collection of articles by Alexandr Konstantinovich Voronsky, a Left Oppositionist, is an extremely important event.

Only 8,500 copies of this selection were printed. But this is many more than the fundamental historical works like 'The Spanish Proletariat in the National Revolutionary War', by Maidanik, and 'The November Revolution in Germany', a collective work of the Academy of Sciences. Only 2,000 copies of each were printed.

This proves the manner in which the Soviet bureaucrats want to stifle even the controlled study of history of the socialist revolution. None of the copies of Voronsky's books were sent to the provinces—but they sold out in Moscow in a matter of days!

#### ☆

Born in 1884, Voronsky joined the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party (Bolshevik) in 1904. He participated in the Prague conference (January 15-February 5, 1912) which took the decision to change the Bolshevik faction into a Bolshevik Party.

In 1921, with Krupskaya, he founded one of the most important Soviet literary reviews, 'Krasnaya Nov'.

In 1923, he joined the Trotskyist Opposition, was one of the signatories of the letter of the 46 (October 15, 1923), and a member of the unified opposition.

He was expelled from the Communist Party in 1927 or 1928 and arrested in January 1929 along with nearly 150 other Oppositionists. He ended up by capitulating to Stalin under conditions about which we know nothing.

#### ☆

He was arrested again in 1937 and deported, and died in 1943. The circumstances of his death have never been made known.

Voronsky's work has an introduction by a certain Dementiev. This is a long, but fairly honest assessment of Voronsky's literary ideas.

Some extremely interesting biographical details and evaluations, which in a small way lift the veil of mystery shrouding

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# True facts behind 'brain drain'

By Our Science Correspondent

THE announcement that Professor Ian Bush and five members of his research team at Birmingham University are going to the United States has sparked off a lot of comment on the so-called 'brain drain'.

There have been newspaper articles devoted to the facilities, and lack of them, for scientific research in Britain.

Lists of British scientists who are going overseas, particularly to the United States, have been published.

Quintin Hogg has been given the credit for this move. The idea that British scientists are good and that a few should be exported—like so many prize cattle—has been created.

Leaders of the Labour Party have been criticising the Tory government without suggesting anything more constructive than a vague promise to spend £30,000,000 more on science.

### Analysis

In fact, the real brain drain is not across frontiers, but lies within the capitalist system.

For example, firms that make detergents employ highly-trained scientists to analyse other manufacturers' products in order to try to discover their trade secrets, an exercise in wasted resources that is justified in the name of free competition.

Different firms making plastics or drugs maintain teams of research scientists 'racing' each other to some new discovery, regardless of the fact that a pooling of talent might well lead to the same discovery more quickly and release some of the scientists for other work.

On the rare occasions when information is pooled, the first and only consideration is increased profits for the firms involved.

An example of the misuse of scientific and technological resources has been obscured by superficial argument as in the case of nuclear power stations.

### Gas-cooled

The Atomic Energy Authority, under Sir William Penney, wants the government to develop gas-cooled nuclear reactors, on the grounds that they are British designed.

The Central Electricity Generating Board, under Sir Christopher Hinton, wants to go ahead with water-cooled reactors from the United States because they would be cheaper to build.

In fact, both types are almost equally inefficient and barely compare with conventional power stations.

Harold Wilson, of course, is very concerned at this inefficiency in the use of science and technology under the Tory government.

This is why last year, he proposed the establishment of a national research and development corporation which would employ scientists to undertake research work in a more efficient manner and then give the results to British industrialists so they can compete more efficiently in the world market.

### Speed-up

For the working class, however, this will mean increased speed-up in the factories and higher unemployment, thanks to the increased mechanisation that is bound to arise from Wilson's streamlining of technology.

The labour movement must make it quite clear to Wilson that it will not accept this or any other attempt to help out big business at the expense of the working class.

If science and technology are to be used for the benefit of the mass of working people and not merely for the profits of the few, then the working class must take over the industries.

This is the last part of Paul Simon's assessment of 'rehabilitations' made by the Soviet bureaucracy since the death of Stalin.

THE principal chiefs of the Red Army, liquidated by Stalin in 1937 and 1938, have all been 'rehabilitated'—Tukhachevsky, Yakir, Uborevich, Blücher, Eideman, Yegorov and Gamarnik.

These 'rehabilitations' were carried through tardily. They had to await the 22nd Congress before emerging from the framework of discreet and allusive quotations in magazines.



The generals were 'rehabilitated' by Khrushchev himself at the Congress. 'They were all victims of the repression,' he stated. 'But nevertheless they were highly worthy of our army especially Tukhachevsky, Yakir and Uborevich.'

Tukhachevsky's biography shares a place among the 12 life stories of great communists, published in 'Almanac' in 1963, alongside those of P. Togliatti, W. Ulbricht and Mao Tse-tung!

Those of Gamarnik, Blücher and Kossior (mentioned last week) feature among eight biographies published in the 1964 edition of 'Almanac', with those of Khrushchev, Ernst Thaelman, Antonin Novotny and the former head of the Soviet Secret Police (GPU), Menzhinsky.

Notes on Gamarnik specify that 'he committed suicide in May 1937 because he could no longer tolerate the massive repressions engendered by Stalin's personality cult'.

The short history of these military 'rehabilitations' is devoid of interest but for two aspects.

Firstly, they are used as an explanation for the initial rout of the Red Army by the Nazis in 1941 (placing Stalin's responsibility for this in question). Secondly, the machinery of repression of the military chiefs is carefully concealed.

At the 22nd Congress, instead of referring to the archives, Khrushchev borrowed heavily from the foreign press.

The same attitude was adopted by the author, L. Nikulin, of a long account about Tukhachevsky, which appeared in the February, March, April and May 1963 editions of the ultra-Stalinist literary review 'Oktyabr'. He quotes from Churchill and writers such as Gunter Peis.

'On the personal order of Stalin, Marshal Tukhachevsky's wife, his sister Sofia Nikolaevna and his brothers, Alexander and Nicholas were physically annihilated.

Three of his sisters were dispatched to a concentration camp as well as his young daughter, who was imprisoned as soon as she came of age. His mother also died.'

While one regrets the fact that Nikulin does not quote the various sources to which he had access, it is strikingly evident that the only point in Tukhachevsky's trial to which he made direct reference was the accusation about collusion with Trotsky and not that of collusion with Hitler and the Wehrmacht.

Thus the 'rehabilitation' serves to combat Trotsky, since Tukhachevsky considered as astounding the notion that he



Antonov Ovseenko could have had relations with the creator of the Red Army.

The political use of the 'rehabilitations' is indirect here, but is often far more clearly defined. The 'rehabilitated' communist is shown as being at once opposed to 'capitulationist Trotskyism' and to the Stalinist repressions of 1936-39.

E. B. Kvirning, first secretary of the Ukrainian CP from 1923 to 1925, who 'died prematurely'

# The political uses of 'rehabilitations'

## (ii) The Red Army and the Left Opposition



Left to right: Top—Gamarnik (Political Commissar), Tukhachevsky, Yegorov, Khalepsky, Orlov (Navy), Yakir. Bottom—Kamenev, Ordzhonikidze, Alksnis (Air), Muklevich, Eidemann, Uborevich

(sic) in 1937, 'vigorously defended the unity and cohesion of the party organisation against the Trotskyists, the nationalist deviationists and other anti-party groups'.

Chataievitch fought 'to put an end to despotism and to the undesired slandering of honest Bolsheviks for the tiniest criticism, to finish with the atmosphere of showiness, of gaudy demonstrations and habitual boasting'.

Postychev is perhaps the best example of this use, insofar as he was without doubt one of the members of the Stalinist faction who, after having fought the Left Opposition, tried to stem the wave of Stalinist terror.

This is also probably the case with Ruzdutak and Vlas Chubar.

If we leave aside the case of Skrypnik, an old Bolshevik, hostile to the Russification of the Ukraine, who committed suicide in 1933, and of Antonov Ovseenko, an oppositionist up to 1928, who rallied so effectively to Stalin that he took part in the liquidation of POUMists and Trotskyists in Spain, the 'rehabilitation' of two oppositionists is of some magnitude.

The first is N. I. Bukharin,

who was legally rehabilitated in the course of summer 1962 during the secret session of an unidentified tribunal.

Its decision took the form of granting pensions (on occasion refused) to surviving members of his family, and the rumoured publication of part of Bukharin's works.

The second is more important. It concerns N. Krestinsky, sentenced at the same Moscow Trial (the third) as Bukharin.

Krestinsky doubtless broke his ties with the opposition in 1928, like Antonov Ovseenko.

But while the latter was shot without the slightest legal proceedings on his return to the USSR, Krestinsky was one of the pillars of the Third Moscow Trial. He was one of the more important components of the judicial machinery engineered by Stalin against the Left Opposition.

The 'Izvestia' article of October 27, 1963, 'rehabilitating' this 'diplomat of the Leninist school', quite implicitly questioned this machinery.

It should be noted that it

was none other than that old Stalinist diplomat N. Maisky (a Menshevik who had rallied to Stalin after the Menshevik Party had expelled him for participation in a White Guard government!) who was entrusted with this 'rehabilitation'. This task falls usually to unknown historians.

One could add to that the sympathetic portrait of Zinoviev, painted by the novelist Kazakievich in his novel 'The Blue Notebook', published in 1961. We can see that this chapter is poorly documented considering the huge number of rehabilitations carried through since 1953.

To go any further would presume that the present leaders are obliged to renounce their system of oversimplified explanation of the Stalinist terror.

Obviously it is difficult to rehabilitate the thousands of victims massacred by the regime and at the same time to explain that this regime was truly socialist and carried out a correct policy. The explanation they provide is at the same time schematic and facile.

A quotation from 'Questions of History' 1962, No. 5, had this to say:

'It must be emphasised that

despite all the harm it did, Stalin's personality cult was not able to change the socialist nature of Soviet society, nor arrest its progress towards communism.

'It has in no way paralysed the activity of the Party and the government. It must be borne in mind that the Party as a whole and the Soviet people knew nothing of Stalin's scandalous abuses of power, or the gross violations of the Leninist principles of leadership in the activity of the central organisations.'

Sometimes, however, an inept 'rehabilitation', or a very able one, would go a little further than the others. It was in this way that in the article on Kossior in the 1964 'Almanac' (circulation 750,000 copies) the author Melchin wrote:

'S. V. Kossior vigorously defended the general Leninist line of the Party, and waged a resolute struggle against Trotskyism and the right deviationists.'

'In this respect Kossior frequently emphasised in his contributions that the Party's duty was "to wage essentially and especially an ideological struggle against rightist deviation and against the ideology of rightist deviation and against its slogans—we must insist on ideological struggle and not on organisational methods".'

This sentence is no doubt ambiguous. Is he trying to make Kossior say that the right opposition was the principal enemy or that on the contrary it alone deserves to be fought ideologically, while Trotskyism must be fought at all costs?

We cannot tell. But this ambiguity and uncertainty indicates that despite all the lies, the truth is slowly coming to light.

It is not really known why Kossior or Ruzdutak were



N. Krestinsky

killed. But if it were true, as is probable, that it was for being opposed to the Stalinist wave of terror of 1936-37, this tardy opposition has no great political significance.

On the other hand the condemnation of Kamenev, Zinoviev, Rykov, Bukharin and the sentence in default on Trotsky, were directly linked with the policy carried out by Stalin and his collaborators, at least from 1929 onwards.

This policy has changed without a doubt. But, without Stalin and his policy, Khrushchev would not today be secretary of the CPSU.

The official explanation could no longer be maintained from that moment when not only loyal Stalinists but also oppositionists sentenced by the former or at the same time as them were considered just as undeserving victims.

From another point of view it would seem fairly difficult to check the machinery which was unleashed and which could, despite the most meddling controls, provoke some surprises for the very people who set it in motion.

In this field, as elsewhere, the ruling bureaucracy wavers in an unstable equilibrium between its subjective needs (to harmonise the administration of Soviet society) and its political heritage bound up with its objective parasitic social nature.

# Ten years of bureaucratic bungling squander resources

by Tom Kemp

FREQUENT reorganisation of the planning system and continuous discussion about planning methods reflect the existence of problems which Soviet policy-makers are unable to overcome.

For over a decade they have been trying to adapt Stalinist methods to the needs of a technologically more advanced economy, and the demands of consumers for more and better goods, without success.

In the Soviet Union, of course, the main means of production are owned by the state and the collectives. Legally they are 'the property of the whole people', though they are administered by members of the privileged bureaucracy very conscious of their own interests.

There are no landlords and capitalists, so that production is not carried on for private profit. Instead it is based on plans drawn up in advance by the planning authorities.

### AUTHORITY

The main planning authority is now the Supreme Council of the National Economy.

Directly under this body come the Gosplan (State Planning Committee), the Sovnarkhoz (National Economic Council) and the Gosstro (State Committee for Construction). In addition there are Regional Economic Boards (Sovnarkhoz) and various national ministries

concerned with particular parts of the economy.

Gosplan deals with long-term planning, the Sovnarkhoz with current plan execution.

Actual production, construction and distribution are in the hands of separate boards and enterprises: factories, power stations, collective and state farms, co-operative societies and so on.

However, decisions about most matters regarding equipment, supply of raw materials and output are taken, not by the enterprises, but by the central planning boards.

### TARGETS

The enterprises are given output targets in advance which they are supposed to fulfil.

Soviet theory assumes that what is good for society must be good for the individual enterprise, but to put this into practice is not easy.

Plans for each enterprise are usually based on past performance: next year's target will be set a bit higher, usually in terms of gross output, which often has a detrimental effect on quality.

Equipment is allocated centrally and there is no cost item corresponding to interest.

Defects in this system arise from excessive centralisation, the receipt of conflicting instructions from different bodies, the pressure to meet targets (which can mean that goods are produced for which there is no need) and poor use

of equipment and lack of balance between different enterprises.

Various changes have been introduced and many others discussed, intended to overcome these problems.

Lack of real control from below on the planners is the real core of all these problems.

Without full participation by the workers themselves in the drawing up and carrying out of plans, decisions are taken administratively with a large amount of bungling.

Incomes are paid out in money and goods are sold for money. The peasants may sell on the market the produce from their private plots. The USSR is still an economy of scarcity.

### INCENTIVES

Incomes remain very unequal and money incentives are applied at every stage. These conditions influence the planners in deciding what shall be produced and at what prices. They have three main problems:

- To provide adequate supplies of equipment and raw materials to meet the requirements of planned total output of finished goods;
- To avoid overproduction of goods which will otherwise be wasted or unsold;

- To fix prices and incomes to equate supply and demand.

In Stalin's day a large measure of arbitrary central action entered into the plans.

Even now part of the planning is done in a crude way: e.g., by setting the enterprise gross output targets. As a result enterprises may resort to 'contact men' to buy, sell and exchange outside the plan.

Most of all, consumers have to put up with whatever is available and late-comers go empty away.

### PLANNED 'PROFIT'

Each enterprise has to obtain money from sales as much or more than it pays out in cost, including a planned 'profit'.

Output sold in excess of the planned target will bring in additional 'profits'. These profits are really an accounting item, not a return to capital.

Where prices are fixed it is difficult to say, however, that high profits equal efficiency.

Some Soviet economists have been concerned about this problem. At present the State budget receives 70-75 per cent of planned profit, but only 25 per cent of excess profits; the rest of the profits go to the regional sovarkhoz or to the 'director's fund' to be used for the benefit of the enterprise. Overshooting means bad planning or price fixing.

Some Soviet economists have been arguing that there

should be greater freedom for the enterprise and greater flexibility in the formation of prices.

Emphasis has also been laid on the need for more refined mathematical techniques in the preparation and controlling of plans.

Public discussions on those questions have been permitted and even encouraged in the past three years.

It is thus admitted that the planning system is far from perfect, but it is also clear that the bureaucracy is not agreed about what should be done to improve it.

One tendency leans towards maintaining central control while at the other extreme some wish to increase the power of the enterprise director, and thus the role of 'profits' as an indicator of efficiency.

### CLASH

Behind these discussions can be seen a clash of interests within the bureaucracy when faced with the task of controlling an increasingly complex economy under pressure from the world market and from within.

So far the working class is left out of the question: though some have argued that the factory director should be able to fix wages. In fact, the full potentialities of planning cannot be realised until it is brought under its control.

Naturally, no one in the controversy has so far proposed this!

# Cassius Clay joins Black Muslims

## World News Round-up



# SAVAGE SENTENCES PASSED BY S.A. COURT

ONE OF THE many 'treason trials' being conducted by the Verwoerd regime ended last week with savage sentences being passed on 18 coloured South Africans.

No one had been hurt, he pointed out.

After a 35 minute adjournment to consider the sentences, the Judge-President told the accused: 'All men are lovers of justice by nature.'

Some people believe that the non-white population had not reached a stage of evolution to justify them having a vote in Parliament, he added.

He sentenced two of the men to 20 years' imprisonment, one to 16 years, one to 15 years, two to 14 years, one to 12 years, five to 10 years, five to eight years and one to five years.

## Nazism and the Catholic Church

ROMAN CATHOLIC views on racism, Nazism and apartheid have been brought to a head by the controversial play 'The Deputy' which opened in New York last week, and the statement by Archbishop Whelan of Bloemfontein (South Africa) reported in The Newsletter last week.

The Archbishop said the Roman Catholic church was in favour of apartheid.

Although this was hurriedly denied, the basis of his statement can be found in the attitude of Pope Pius XI to the Hitler regime.

'The Deputy' deals with the efforts of a young Jesuit priest to carry the cause of the Jews during the last war, to the feet of the Pope.

The opening of the play brought protests from uniformed American Nazis and, the 'New York Herald Tribune' reported, a rosary flourishing religious group.

### HISTORY

In the same newspaper Hannah Arendt, an authority on the Nazi era, delves into the true history behind the play.

Although several national Roman Catholic hierarchies opposed Hitler and Nazism, 'the Holy See had its own policy with regard to the Third Reich and up to the outbreak of war this policy was even a shade friendlier than that of the German episcopate', she says.

Earlier, in 1930, when German bishops had condemned the Nazi Party, the official Vatican newspaper said that this condemnation did not necessarily imply a refusal to 'co-operate politically'.

Even though bishops had protested over deportation of Jews and euthanasia the protest was never backed by Rome.

In fact Pope Pius XI has even praised Hitler 'as the first statesman to join him in open disavowal of Bolshevism'. (!)

With this evidence it is not surprising that Whelan confidently made his statement recently. Also it shows that over the years the Roman Catholic church has not changed its views.

## Discovers new Utopia

IF Cassius Marcellus Clay wants to play the black gladiator to amuse a bunch of millionaire white patricians, that is his business. But when he joins the Black Muslims in America and exhorts his fellow Negroes who, unlike him, have neither 10,000 dollar bonuses, cadillacs or tuxedo suits, to shun the integration struggle and the fight for civil rights and equality, then he is doing the Negro people a great disservice.

'Be proud of your culture, be what you are,' he is reported to have told the Negroes of the United States.

Coming from Cassius this is indeed remarkable. Not so long ago, when pressed by a Russian reporter in Rome about the plight of the American Negroes he had this say:

'Man, the United States of America is the best country in the world, counting yours. I ain't fighting off alligators and living in a mud hut.'

Maybe the Negroes are not fighting off alligators and living in mud huts, but 18 million of them are leading ghetto-like existences in broken-down, rat-infested hovels in the slums of all America's major cities.

Perhaps Cassius, who comes from a middle class Kentucky family has never tasted the distasteful stew of violence, prostitution, delinquency, crime, impotent rage and soul-destroying frustration of the Negro ghetto.

### Opportunist

As for the Black Muslims, this is an opportunist organisation with a bureaucratic leadership.

It is useless trying to alleviate the suffering of coloured people by projecting the vision of a Utopian black paradise across a mythical Jordan.

Segregation in housing, employment and education is not just a moral evil as the priests and lawyers argue. It is a formidable weapon in the hands of the American ruling class which enables it to rule the white and Negro workers more effectively.

Those who like Cassius preach territorial segregation and the intrinsic superiority of the Negro over the white are deliberately or otherwise helping the white segregationists and their big business backers.

The solution to Negro problems can only be found in a socialist America where the immense wealth of the country will belong to the workers and farmers—both black and white.

## Some questions to Kadar

STATEMENT BY THE LEAGUE OF HUNGARIAN REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISTS (GROUP IN EXILE) Basle, Switzerland, February 1964

SHORTLY after an interview between Fontaine, a correspondent of 'Le Monde' and Janos Kadar, head of the Hungarian government, appeared in the paper on February 19, the 'League of Hungarian Revolutionary Socialists—Group in Exile' issued a statement from their headquarters in Basle, Switzerland.

The interview revealed the true nature of peaceful co-existence and unmasked the interested parties, the statement says.

It adds that an important part of the interview dealt with the 1956 revolution in Hungary. Certain questions were deliberately ignored by Kadar and 'Le Monde', but, says the statement, it is important that they be asked as they are an integral part of the interview.

The statement then lists these questions:

'1. Kadar vaguely states that in 1956 "Hungarians, loyal to the regime of People's Democracy, undertook and won a struggle against a counter revolutionary uprising".'

'He should have replied concretely to these questions: Who were these Hungarians? Where and when did they undertake a struggle? What struggle was this, with whom and against whom, and on the basis of what programme?'

'Is there a connection between this statement and the explanation given by Kadar that "the formula which I have used concerning aid by socialist countries applied to aid given by the U.S.S.R. in the diplomatic, economic and military fields"?''

'2. Kadar also states that "we crushed the counter revolution". Who were "we"? When and how did they crush the so-called counter revolution?'

'3. He states that the Hungarian government made three calls for intervention by the Soviet Army, thereby implying that the same governments were involved. Were there any differences between these governments? Were there any differences in the circumstances of these calls and, if so, what were they?'

'4. If, as he affirms, he could "produce all kinds of documents to prove the legality of his government", why has he never produced them? We are convinced that, even if this is of only limited importance, he should still present the proof.'

'5. Kadar admits that the "basic aim" of his government was "the re-establishment of legal order... the re-establishment and strengthening of lawfulness". But what order and what lawfulness is

involved? Those of the workers' councils, or those of the bureaucracy?'

'6. If, as Kadar says, in the summer of 1956 the party had resolved "to correct the errors in the system", and if "the great step forward had been taken" at that time, how did it happen that in Autumn—this is still in Kadar's words—"the vast majority of those who revolted wanted only to correct the errors of the past"? How is it possible that "the great step forward had been taken in July 1956, and that despite this, in October the masses rose up?'

'Should we attribute this "historical" explanation to the fact that, in July, Kadar personally had become a member of the Political Bureau and that in October the same Kadar was to be found alongside Imre Nagy greeting the revolutionary people?'

'Would that be a scientific explanation? Or, perhaps it is rather a question of Kadar trying to justify his zig-zagging, which is determined by a fear of the masses?'



Budapest 1956: soldiers and workers ride together to battle

'7. Kadar unashamedly states that "we debated in detail the events of 1956, including the trial (that of Imre Nagy and his friends) ... publicly with the broad mass of the people".'

'Where and when did these debates—public into the bargain—take place and in what circumstances? Who represented the opposition? What were the respective arguments: What, in fact, was the fate of those who defended the revolution?'

'8. Kadar was right in saying that the trial of Imre Nagy was organised and carried through by Hungarians and not by Russians. A pitiful boast. But to state that the trial was "public and open" and "legal in every respect" is too much.'

'What we want to know about the trials is:

- (a) Were close relatives present?
(b) On what date were the Hungarian people informed about it?
(c) Were all the accused present in person at their own trials, including the principle defendants in the Nagy trial?

(d) How many of the accused, who were too young, had to wait till they "came of age" to be hanged?'

(e) How many communists were hanged without any trial and how many died praising communism?'

(f) Where and when did the trials of the members of the workers' councils take place, and how many of them were hanged?'

'We Hungarian workers and Kadar know the answer.'

'9. How should we interpret Kadar's statement: "We have always sought to make the system as humane as possible." Humane for whom?'

'And finally, the most important question:

'10. Why did Kadar not say a single word about the workers' councils? Did they never exist? What happened to these councils and their members? What was their programme?'

'Kadar and the bureaucracy deny the revolution. M. Fontaine, the representative of "Le Monde" only contradicts him to the well-balanced degree of bourgeois good tastes.'

'He does not put any questions likely to unmask the counter revolutionary bureaucracy.'

'Slandering the revolution and ignoring its working-class character is the basis of their complicity. The French bourgeoisie and the Hungarian bureaucracy are now looking for agreement.'

'International and French capital has a particular need for outlet in the People's democracies.'

'Capitalism's most pressing need is to check and crush the rising revolution by making a temporary compromise with the bureaucracies, while the bureaucracies hope to obtain the assistance of the international bourgeoisie through peaceful co-existence and prevent the working class sweeping them all aside.'

'It is on this basis of common efforts to canalise and stifle the revolution that agreements can be reached. This was revealed in the interview.'

'For instance, Kadar criticised the Common Market, only because of its German policy. This comment is well received by the French.'

'He is particularly well received when he speaks of the 1956 revolution as an uprising against which it was necessary to "restore order". This is the language the bourgeois understand and give their agreement to.'

'Therefore Fontaine limits himself while listening to these lies by saying "many other aspects would merit being broached", but claims time is pressing.'

'So the affair is now settled. The treatment of the 1956 revolution—and subsequent revolutions—is "justified".'

'In the meantime, "Le Monde" can carry on its little business selling the paper in the news kiosks of Budapest.'

## Rumanian delegation to visit Peking

THE RIFT between the Soviet and Rumanian bureaucracies came even more out into the open last week with the announcement that a Rumanian delegation is to visit China next month.

Prime minister Ion Maurer

the talks will be headed by President Liu Shao-chi.

The fact that both delegations are to be led by such high-ranking officials shows that some importance is attached to the talks.

The rift between the Soviet

the Rumanian government criticised the Soviet Union for its economic policies in Eastern Europe.

It claimed that the Soviet policies of 'socialist division of labour' merely reduced the Eastern European countries to

## Anti-semitic book published in Ukraine

A BOOK published by the Ukrainian Academy of Science has been described by the American Jewish committee as 'viciously anti-semitic'.

Even allowing for this committee's opposition towards the Soviet Union, the book 'Judaism Unmasked' by M. K. Kycho, appears to be more openly anti-Jewish than anything brought out officially in Russian since 1917.

In particular, it contains a series of grossly offensive cartoons, whose racialism is hidden in the guise of an attack on Zionism.

This is not the first time such methods have been used. The trial of the Czech leader, Slansky, in 1952 was followed by a whole series of Jewish arrests in Russia.

### Campaign

The campaign was cut short only by the death of Stalin.

Official anti-semitism had a long tradition in pre-revolutionary times. In the Ukraine it was deeply rooted amongst the peasants. Priests and landowners used it to divert the attention of the oppressed classes from the economic difficulties.

After the revolution in 1917 the Bolshevik leaders campaigned to eliminate these trends.

But as Trotsky pointed out in an article in 1937, the rise of the Stalinist bureaucracy engendered a revival of anti-semitism.

### Prejudice

Stalin was not averse to playing on prejudices of this kind, which were in any case strengthened by general poverty in the '30s.

In the frame-up trials of 1936 to 1938, the Jewish origin of many of the defendants was underlined.

One of the results of the continuation of anti-semitism in Russia is the revival of Jewish nationalist tendencies.

This is highlighted by last week's announcement that Jews in Moreov are to be allowed to bake Maizot (bread) for the

## Voronsky from page one

the lives of old Bolsheviks, are given in the introduction.

'In 1904, while still pursuing his studies at college, he [Voronsky] joined the RSDLP (Bolshevik) and after that date he did political work in Tambov, St. Petersburg, Finland, Vladimir, Saratov, Nicolayev and Yekaterinoslav. He took part in the Prague conference. He was imprisoned and deported on several occasions.' (p. 3)

'The review "Krasnaya Novzh" was published on the initiative of Krupskaya and Voronsky.' (p. 4)

'In 1928 he was expelled from the Party as a Trotskyist, but broke from the Opposition and was reintegrated into the Party.' (p. 14)

'In 1937 he was unjustly repressed and, following the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, was posthumously "rehabilitated" into the party.' (p. 44)

Subject to error, this very hasty conclusion is the first official news of Voronsky's 'rehabilitation' and of his 're-integration' (his second, since he had already been granted this between 1929 and 1937) into the Party.

The political circumstances of Voronsky's life tapers off somewhat when the author examines his ideas.

'Voronsky denied even the possibility of a new proletarian, socialist culture in Russia in the period of transition from capitalism to socialism. Like Trotsky, he stated that "no really proletarian and communist culture existed in the USSR".' (p. 10)

'On more than one occasion the Central Committee drew Voronsky's attention to his mistakes. So it was that at the Central Committee meeting of May 1924, which was devoted to literary problems, Lunacharsky and others subjected the Trotskyist denial of a proletarian culture to criticism.' (p. 12)

'The basic reason why Voronsky differed from the positions of the Party on literature manifestly lies in the fact that he had joined the Trotskyist opposition. Evidently this was not expressed in the most negative manner in his literary activity. Talent and intelligence, no matter how much of these a writer might have, are insufficient if he has lost contact with the revolutionary epoch,\* with what happened in Russia in October 1917, and with the Party... This was often stated by Voronsky in his articles. His personal experience bears out the truth of these words.' (p. 13)

These statements are solely concerned with literary questions. But when Dementiev points out that 'Voronsky denied in principle the very possibility of the existence of the positive hero in our literature' (p. 18) and that Voronsky was a Trotskyist it is of great critical value: it wrecks one of the corner-stones of socialist realism. What is socialist realism? It is a system which transforms artistic activity into a means of propaganda and constraint used against the masses to indoctrinate and stupefy them.

To destroy socialist realism is to destroy the Stalinist and bureaucratic system of intellectual oppression.

\*We should note that the history of Soviet art under Stalin and Khrushchev amply confirms this

## Strikes, marches and boycotts in America

CAMBRIDGE: Fifteen Negroes were arrested by National Guard troops as they paraded with posters appealing for jobs and Federal surplus food.

Pickets formed in two groups in front of the welfare office and the employment security office early in the afternoon.

They had only been parading for a few minutes when the National Guard arrived.

The Negroes will be held until the Attorney-General orders their release.

NEW YORK: Hundreds of angry Puerto Rican and Negro tenants marched through the lower East Side of the city shouting 'No rents without repairs' in a demonstration against their profiteering landlords.

Tenants of dozens of buildings in the area have joined the rent strike—started in four tenements.

New York leaders of the Communications Workers of America (CWA) who are organising a campaign to get their members to join the International Brotherhood of Teamsters were charged with 'intimidation in connection with union organising activities'.

kind of manoeuvre possible to prevent the phone workers from joining the Teamsters organisation.

The State Supreme Court ordered 12 local leaders to be jailed for contempt of court.

The pretext used by the court was that union leaders refused to leave their headquarters, temporarily set up in a hotel.

These arrests and charges came after 10,000 members of the Communications Workers of America had voted to disaffiliate from the company-dominated CWA and join the Teamsters.

CHICAGO: Over 172,350 pupils refused to go to school last week in support of a boycott called by Negro leaders to protest against segregation.

Chairman of the boycott movement in Chicago, Lawrence Landry said that more action would be carried out school by school.

MONROE: Three American Negroes and a white man are being tried on a charge of 'kidnapping' a man and his wife during a Negro demonstration two years ago.

BOSTON: Thousands of students stayed out in a boycott of 106 schools organised by the

# Dockers injured by chemical cargo

## Bosses discuss automation

**D**OCKERS and seamen who are giving some thought to their future would be well advised to read a report in the Journal of Commerce Annual Review, 1964.

It gives details of a meeting between two ship bosses who discussed the prospects of British shipping with a professor of economics.

The bosses were shipbuilder, Mr. E. J. Hunter, chairman of Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson, president of the Employers' Confederation and a member of the National Economic Development Council, and shipowner, Sir Errington Keville, chairman of Furness, Withy and Co., the International Chamber of Shipping and Committee of European Shipowners and a member of the National Maritime Board.

They discussed with Dr. S. G. Sturmye of Lancaster University, author of 'British Shipping and World Competition'.

All three looked forward to a new era based on a big development of automated ships. But, they felt, in order to make profits even greater, they needed automation ashore.

### Facilities

The professor commented that if cargo handling times and better port facilities could be obtained then the advantages of more economical ships would be felt.

Dockers should take note of these remarks. So far as the employers are concerned, their drive for speed-up has only just begun.

Automation has not affected loading and unloading yet, but the employers have a vision of a 'new era' in which dockers will join the workless of the automated society, while their brothers in work, sweat their guts out.

And what is the prospect for seamen?

Mr. Hunter said: 'I think automation is coming along progressively in the operation of ships. It isn't very difficult to design a ship which can be operated up on the bridge by one man pressing buttons, but there are many problems that shipowners themselves have got to get over. First of all they have got to get the agreement of the shipping unions to reductions in crews to make the thing an economic proposition.'

'It's no good incurring an additional expense of £100,000 to £150,000 unless you get savings on the crews' wages, which tie up the capital expenditure.'

### Squeeze

Sir Errington declared that there are too many deckhands already, particularly on large vessels.

The professor commented: 'Yes, I was just wondering whether there was something you could squeeze out anyway that would help you to secure the economies with automation.'

'Something you could squeeze out anyway! The professor was talking about seamen.'

He went further. 'If I thought that shipowners were really conscious that their first job was to make profit, I would be a lot happier about the industry.'

And that's it!

The 'new era' on the ships and in the ports is a period when the technical development serves the interests of profit alone.

For seamen and dockers, if big bosses have their way, it means sack and speed-up.

## TGWU dockers stop work

**L**IVERPOOL dockers staged a stoppage at the Canada dock after many of them had suffered severe hand burns whilst unloading a cargo of chemical fertiliser.

The dockers, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, visited their union official the day before the stoppage and asked him to press for protective clothing. They also demanded he negotiate extra pay because of abnormal conditions which prevented them from receiving piece work rates.

However, the official did not arrive at the docks to inspect the work until after the stoppage.

Demands were put forward for an hourly award for the job, applicable to all engaged on it. Later they learned that 'lump awards' had been made.

Excluding differential payment these 'awards' ranged from 13s. to just over £2 for men who had worked the cargo for over 40 hours.

### INSPECTION

Transport union dockers again contacted their official and asked him to conduct a further inspection. He is alleged to have said he would 'see them in hell first'.

In a fight to get some kind of inspection, the men refused to work overtime at night.

They were concerned about the possibility of a skin disease as a result of their punctured fingers being impregnated with chemical. Some have sought legal advice on the matter.

Victims of this incident say they shudder to think what kind of conditions they will be forced to work under if the 'new deal' comes into operation.

### BREACH

In the future any stoppage like the one over the provision of protective clothing may be regarded as a breach of contract.

This pattern of stoppages takes place almost daily when dockers, who have carried on with the job whilst waiting for arbitration, have had to strike and lose wages in order to galvanise the union leaders and bosses into action.

It is only these demonstrations of solidarity for better conditions, that prevent the employers running riot on manning, mobility and a lowering of rates.

## Dockers crack 'new deal' from page one

benefit of the dock workers.'

The employers know very well that if they want to impose the 'new deal', they will have to prepare for one of the most expensive strike actions in their history.

This will lose them more trade so they have started quarrelling amongst themselves.

Commenting on the letter in the 'Liverpool Echo', Mr. Bill Johnson, area secretary of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers said:

'Some people are at last beginning to awaken to the fact that the N.A.S. & D. is an important union in the Merseyside.'

'I would agree with the writer of the letter when he says "that the Blue" union has been ignored during the two years' negotiations is a grave error'. But I would ask the writer, why is it that we have been ignored?

'For 10 years the employers thought they could destroy us. When they introduced the "new deal" proposals they referred to our 150 members. But we have shown we are stronger than ever here.'

'On the point about the "Blue" union and the "White" union working together in London I would say this:

'The dockers in Merseyside, "Blue" and "White" have always stood together and this unity has been the stumbling block before the employer and his schemes.'

Referring to the appeal to the TUC to exert every effort to 'bring these men together', he said:

## Welders want skilled status

**F**ORTY-EIGHT welders seeking skilled status went on strike on Monday at the Bradford firm of International Harvesters.

The whole works will be brought to a standstill because of the key positions the men hold.

Nearly 90 per cent of the men's work—the majority of them are welders—goes on to the production line, and processes before and after welding will be affected.

International Harvesters is an American Company which rates the job and not the men. The welders, who are normally classed as skilled men, are receiving wages of semi-skilled workers.

The strike follows 18 months negotiations during which all procedures were exhausted.

There is a danger that the bosses will follow in the footsteps of the Steel Company of Wales' management and be able to turn the other 1,500 workers in the factory against the strikers.

But, according to pickets, there has not been any hostility so far and the prospects of a firm stand against the management is bright.

The welders also need financial support.

All donations and messages of support should be sent to J. Thomas, 86 Rowantree Drive, Thorpe Edge, Bradford 2.

'I agree. The N.A.S. & D. has urged the T.U.C. for 10 years along these lines and we were expelled for our pains. It seems to me that there is more to this letter than meets the eye.'

Commenting on the suggestion that his signature should have been on the 'new deal' with O'Hare, TGWU regional secretary and Wise of the port employers, Mr. Johnson said:

'If it had been, my members would have sacked me. I would not go behind their backs, nor could I.'

## Polishers determined to fight for recognition

**T**HE 55 POLISHERS at the Newtown Polishing Company, Birmingham, who were sacked for joining a union are determined to fight the issue to the end.

An offer has been made by the management to take back 26 of the men but this was rejected.

Mr. R. Burge, one of the pickets, told The Newsletter: 'The owners are trying to split us up but we are demanding that all of us should be taken back with the right to join the union.'

'We joined because we were fed up with the way the bosses treated us. There are no proper overtime rates and yet they try to make all overtime compulsory.'

Without the polishers the



## ENGINEERS STAGE FUNERAL MARCH Closures in Home Counties

**T**WO 'FUNERAL' marches have been held in the last two weeks by workers facing redundancy.

Last week more than 500 workers at S. G. Brown Ltd., Watford (Herts.) marched through the town behind a coffin labelled 'murdered'.

In spite of assurances made three years ago by T. G. D. Galbraith (then Civil Lord of the Admiralty) that there would not be any redundancies, 120 workers will be sacked.

The firm claims that excessive overheads have resulted in a 70 per cent rise in production costs.

### Backing

The Amalgamated Engineering Union has given full backing to the workers' attempts to halt redundancy and 700 are on strike. Proposals have already been put forward for work-sharing through a four-day week.

**Fear is growing that the 12 per cent redundancy rate may grow to 20 per cent and that the firm may close down altogether.**

Workers are calling for the re-nationalization of S. G. Brown which was given back to Anglo-American private enterprise by the Tories in 1960.

The 'Aims of Industry'—get rich quick while the going's good—are seen only too well by the workers.

## TGWU may back power workers

**P**OWER WORKERS may get support from another union in their fight for better wages and conditions.

The executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union is expected to come out in favour of the proposed work-to-rule planned by the workers in the electricity supply industry.

Already the Electrical Trades Union has given its full support to the fight for a 40-hour week and fringe benefits in the industry.

The three-year agreement—reached after last year's power dispute—is obviously not going to relieve the position of the poorly-paid workers of this industry.

At present, in order to make up their earnings, most power men have to work long hours of overtime before they can get anything like a decent living wage.

On Tuesday this week many of the 1,000 Projectile workers to be thrown on to the dole queues when the Battersea firm moves to a North-east 'development area' in two years' time marched behind a hearse.

### Costs

Workers believe that managing director Tuff, an ex-convenor, is moving the firm to cut production costs by paying lower wages to non-union men.

Both marches were militant with men and women carrying straight-speaking posters. White-collared workers joined in the Tuesday demonstration.

Projectile and S. G. Brown are part of a pattern of closures in London and the Home Counties, especially affecting engineering workers.

### Suffer

As The Newsletter has stressed in the past two weeks, these closures and moves to the north will only benefit the bosses. Workers in the north and the south will suffer from lower wages, redundancies and union-breaking.

Unions and workers fighting all these disputes and threats should call on the whole of the labour movement to unite with them in action.

## Speed-up affects SCOW electricians

**T**HE MANAGEMENT of the Steel Company of Wales have soon taken advantage of the victory granted them by the leadership of the AEU.

Last week, they announced another phase of the large-scale modernisation to take place at the Abbey works. Two and a half million pounds are to be spent in modernising the Hot Strip Mill.

In 1966, when the work is finished, the entire mill is to be run by computer control.

### Experiment

At the same time experimentation continues with the Continuous Casting process, installed in the Bessemer shed. If the unit now installed proves satisfactory, two or three more will be installed to take over full production.

The speed-up has already affected electricians in the works.

The shift system in the Power Plant department is to be altered and the 1.5 megawatt alternator is to be supervised only during the day, from 8 to 4.30, by one electrician.

The management is taking 'a calculated risk on nothing happening to the plant during the night', in order to save the wages of the men who used to supervise it.

### Terms

The plant was shut down on Monday, to be reopened in a month's time on the new terms. The men affected will return to normal maintenance and will lose up to £3 a week in wages.

Action is needed to ensure that these men do not lose wages because the management decide to reorganise.

A full-time official of the ETU in the area has said that he is not prepared to have 'trouble' on this issue.

But the management are giving trouble to the men who are expected to accept a drop in wages.

## Nottingham strikers picket A.E.U. headquarters

**T**WO bus loads of strikers from the Raleigh cycle firm, Nottingham, picketed the national London headquarters of the Amalgamated Engineering Union on Tuesday.

They were demonstrating their dissatisfaction with the union executive's failure to instruct district committees to 'black' supplies to Raleigh.

There has been a strike in the toolroom at the firm for seven weeks over 25 redundancies.

At a meeting on Sunday members voted to continue their strike by a majority of 14, in spite of pressure from the management and the local press.

No attempt has been made by the area union officials to extend the strike into other parts of the factory. They have allowed resentment towards the strikers to build up amongst 2,000 other men laid off during the dispute.

Members of other unions in the factory have not forgotten that the Amalgamated Engineering Union did not give any support to the Confederation of Unions when 850 men were declared redundant last year.

### ILL-FEELING

This has been the cause of much ill-feeling towards the strikers so far.

The local press has given wide publicity to Mrs. Marion Hendley who has started an anti-strike campaign.

It is claimed that Mrs. Hendley has the support of 60 other housewives whose husbands are affected by the strike. The employers announced

that men laid off during the strike will now be taken on again. This move has made many strikers wonder where the tools have come from to enable production to continue.

'Has the firm employed apprentices to make the tools?' they ask. 'If this is so why has the union not done anything about it?'

Mr. R. Hooley, chairman of the strike committee said that members of his union were prepared to carry on the strike and the struggle for work-sharing. 'The men will work five hours a week less and stagger the hours,' he said.

As far as support for the strike was concerned Mr. Hooley said: 'The strikers know that The Newsletter is the paper we know we can get encouragement from.'

### EMBARRASSED

Asked why he thought Raleigh should take back the 2,000 men it had previously laid off, he commented: 'The management is extremely embarrassed about having to start these men back.'

'Where they are going to get the tools from I don't know. To keep the factory going they are probably having to resort to work-sharing.'

On behalf of the strike committee Mr. Hooley made an appeal for funds. 'This is extremely important if we are to win this fight against redundancies,' he added.

Your donations should be sent to A. J. Holmes, 80 Forster Street, Radford, Nottingham.

## Northern Ireland transport to be denationalized

**T**HE NORTHERN IRELAND government is planning to hand over freight and passenger services to private enterprise.

The state-owned Ulster Transport Authority, which has a monopoly in road and rail freight services, is being disbanded and private enterprise is stepping in.

Mass closures of the railways, including the line between Belfast and Dublin, are threatened. Two whole counties—Tyronne and Fermanagh—will have no railways by next year.

### MOTORWAYS

In place of the rail service a system of motorways costing over £200 million is to be constructed.

Ten thousand workers are faced with redundancy and 1,000 will go in the initial pay-off.

Workers who filled the public gallery of parliament during an all-night debate heard Nationalist MP, C. Healy, state that trade unionists were the only people who could halt the government's action.

### MARCHES

'Demonstrations and marching are no good,' he said. 'Action alone will stop this move. Whether the trade unions are prepared to fight this out depends on what they do now.'

He is right to stress that this is an open fight between the government and the rail workers, who must take action. By raising this question Healy has exposed the trade union leaders who have constantly refused calls for strike action.

Whilst public transport is

controlled by the representatives of private industry it will always be maintained in the interests of big business.

A fight in the labour movement for nationalization of the basic industries is the only way that the rail workers will win their struggle for jobs.

## Miners and mechanisation

**WHAT HAS the miner got out of mechanisation?**

This question is being asked more and more, not only in the Scottish coalfields, where redundancies, sackings and unemployment have followed the introduction of modernisation, but also in areas such as the Midlands and Yorkshire.

It is only since 1957 that such methods of mining have got seriously underway.

☆ Next week The Newsletter will publish an article showing just how little the miner has gained from the profits made in the coal mining industry.

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## MEETING GREET THE NEWSLETTER

### Leeds

Sunday, March 22, 7.30 p.m.

Leeds Art Gallery

Speakers:

M. Banda—Newsletter Editor

C. Slaughter

P. Kerrigan (NASD)