

TORY STEEL CONSPIRACY

To saddle Labour with a gigantic compensation bill

EDITORIAL

One man's meat ... another's profit

THE recent crisis in the meat market has brought the callousness of the Tories—putting profit before people's needs—sharply into focus. While politicians and economists continue to talk about the need for wage restraint—renamed 'planning incomes' by Mr. Cousins of the TUC—the amount that the working class can buy with their money continues to shrink. The sky-high level of meat prices is only one side of the story. Prices of milk and other basic foods have risen recently. Added to this the constant increase in rents is now being accelerated by the jump in rate demands from local authorities.

If the effect of the budget on cigarettes and drink is also taken into consideration it is hardly surprising that the cost of living index jumped a whole point between mid-March and mid-April.

The April-May increase will be even greater. It must not be forgotten that the Index notoriously underestimates the cost of the working class pattern of spending.

Wilson's statement last Saturday about the need for more long-term bulk buying agreements with the Commonwealth countries is ludicrously inadequate. It is not just a matter of the export of a few hundredweight of beef to the continent.

The shopping problems of the housewife are due to the control of food production and distribution by giant monopolies. Wholesale and retail trade in food is big business indeed today.

These food profiteers use their monopoly stranglehold to squeeze the last halfpenny out of the shopper's purse. The slightest fall in supply or rise in demand for any product is made the pretext for a rapid jump in the price.

When competition does break out between rival firms it is expressed not in price reductions, but in expensive publicity wars, the cost of which are added to the retail price.

Planning of production and distribution, based on the nationalization of the monopolies, is the only way to control the cost of living.

Meanwhile, trade unionists must beware of all moves by the employers and the Labour leaders to come to any wage freeze agreements behind their backs.

Change of tune?

LAST year the Boilermakers' amalgamation led the fight against any form of wage restraint at the Trades Union Congress.

But at the union's annual conference on Wednesday the general secretary of the boilermakers' section outlined the conditions on which the union might support Wilson's wage freeze policy.

AS the general election approaches and with it the vesting date for the nationalization of various industries, Tory big business puts into motion plans to counter Labour's measures.

The steel industry is no exception. Very shrewdly its bosses have watched and judged the barometer of Labour's electoral popularity. In the autumn of last year, when the Tories had barely survived the Profumo scandal and things looked very black indeed for them, there was talk of stripping the steel industry clean.

This meant separating all the assets of the steel corporations that could not strictly be considered part of steel making. This would include businesses purchased as going concerns, land, scrap dumps, etc. The idea was also to transfer ready cash into these separate businesses which would then be set up as 'new' corporations with the previous shareholders. The old parent companies' share prices would be maintained, so that when nationalized, the compensation rate would be high.

Flagrant fiddling

However, the fear of a large Labour majority forced the steel barons to change their minds.

The chances were that such flagrant fiddling would put the backs up of the Labour government which might take retaliatory measures against property and even individuals, e.g. blacklisting as far as posts on the nationalized boards were concerned.

What appeared to be a stalemate ensued. In reality it is proving otherwise. True, the Tory owners miscalculated the rate of decline of Labour's probable majority and lost the initiative temporarily, but they have gained confidence from the recovery of their electoral fortunes and the chances of a narrow Labour majority.

This confidence has been reinforced by the utterances of people like Bessie Braddock who spoke last May Day, in Manchester, of paying compensation to the Steel magnates. This was something most Labour supporters considered would never happen in the case of re-nationalization.

Agreement?

To cap it all, there is now talk of 59 per cent nationalization—a decisive retreat!

'The final decision [whether more or even less nationalization] would be heavily dependent on the size of the majority achieved by Mr. Wilson,' stated the 'Sunday Telegraph.'

To date there has been not a word in reply or refutation from Transport House. Does it mean Labour leaders agree?

But this is not all. The steel magnates themselves remain discreetly silent. But not for want of activity. They are busy at that particularly silent occupation of soaping the rope.

In the 'Financial Times' of May 22 we read:

'Britain's steel manufacturers last night announced that they

had again substantially revised their estimate of production for this year.

... It means that Britain's steel mills will pass the previous annual output record set up four years ago, by 1.2 million tons, and overtake last year's total by 3.5 million tons.

Production in April reached the highest weekly average in the industry's history, despite the Easter break. ... involved the use of 92 per cent of available capacity.

... The Federation considers that the present record level of activity in almost all steel-using sectors of the economy can now be expected to continue at least until the end of the year.'

An enormous record-breaking output, the accumulation of huge stocks of excess steel, will, according to Mrs. Braddock, be com-

pensated for by a Labour government and what is worse—a period of slack will follow. This will take place when a Labour government comes into power.

It will mean cutting back production and laying off 'redundant' labour.

These are the calculations of the Tories. They hope to whittle down the Labour electoral support by the time of the election and then saddle the new government with back-breaking problems which it will be totally unprepared to meet.

Labour must meet this challenge by stating clearly and unequivocally: We will re-nationalize steel and pay not a farthing compensation. We will brook no subterfuges or opposition and will nationalize this industry in its entirety.

New Pabloite Crisis

More splits on the way

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ALMOST a year ago the Canadian and Austrian sections of the Fourth International split away from the International Committee of the Fourth International to which the Socialist Labour League is affiliated, and united with the Pabloite international group in Paris.

They were supported by the Socialist Workers Party of the United States, although it cannot, for legal reasons, be affiliated to the Fourth International.

This unification was carried out without any political preparation. It was preceded by a split of almost the entire Latin American organisations under the leadership of J. Posadas, a former close friend of Pablo, who proceeded to set up his own rival international organisation.

The International Committee of the Fourth International for over three years had constantly fought for a unification of all Trotskyist forces on a principled basis.

PROPOSALS

In an effort to convince all serious militants of the need for such a unification it submitted the following proposals for discussion.

1. That a world congress of the forces of the IC and the IS should be convened during the autumn of 1964;
2. That a joint committee of representatives of the two organisations should regularly meet to prepare this conference and to work out practical ways and means for co-operation in the different countries;
3. This Committee should set out to prepare a joint resolution on world perspectives for the conference. This resolution would outline the points of agreement as well as disagreement. During the preparation of the resolution, all the sections would be constantly informed of the work of the committee. In this way a genuine and positive discussion involving the differences could be organised;
4. Congress insisted that this discussion must take place in all sections, not only in the leader-

ships, but in the ranks. Unless this decision was carried out it would be impossible for the international movement to develop new cadres which would be able to provide adequate political leadership in the next period. A proper circulation of all documents must take place;

5. Joint discussion between the members of the sections, particularly in Western Europe, should be organised. Whilst these discussions would deal with the differences, Congress believed that they should be extended to include a discussion on the practical work of the various sections in a way that would bring the members of these sections closer together. Such a discussion would also have an all-round effect on the education of the cadres.

REJECTED

These proposals were rejected and an unprincipled unification took place without a single political question being clarified.

The result of this experiment in centrist politics is a new series of crises which threaten to completely disrupt the Pabloite international organisation.

In a recent number of the international magazine, published by the so-called Unified Secretariat, Pablo is publicly taken to task for having flouted the decisions of the 'unified' congress. This has been preceded by a struggle lasting over ten months within their French section in which, for most of the time, Pablo had a majority.

According to their monthly paper the leadership of this section was 'paralysed' during that period. Now they claim to have succeeded in pushing Pablo's group into a minority, but it is perfectly clear that an international split with Pablo is in the making. He is, in

Pathet Lao buries 'neutralism' myth

China rejects U.S. ultimatum

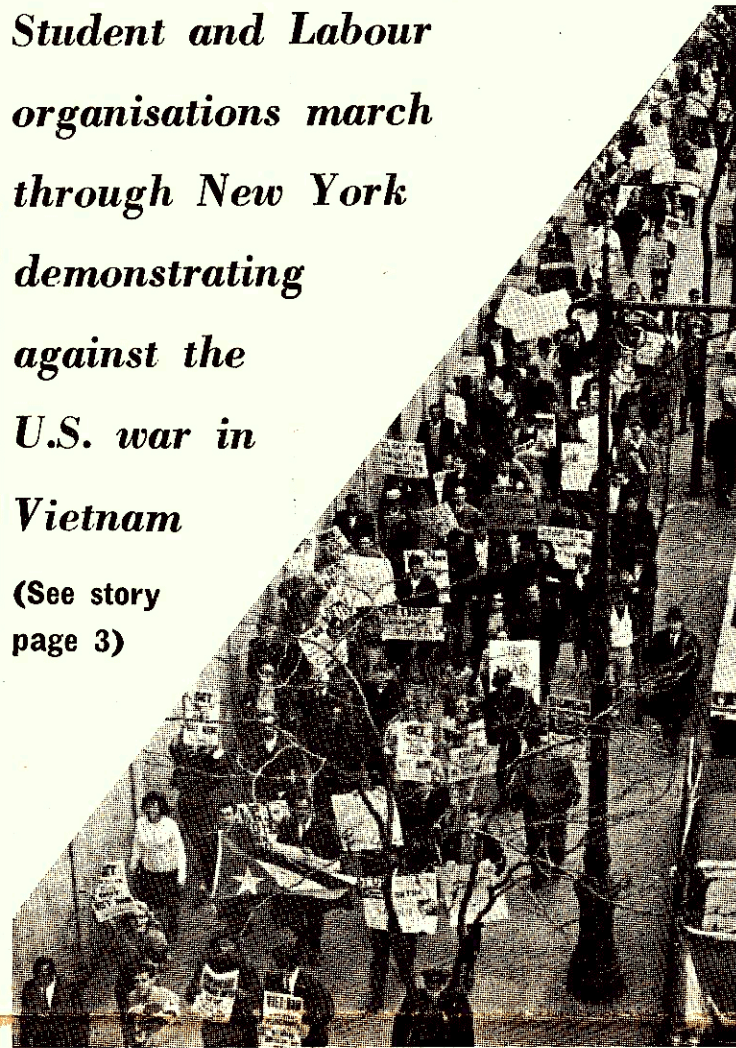
THE decisive victory of the Pathet Lao over Kong Le and the 'neutralist' armies in the Plain of Jars has buried forever the myth of neutralism and dealt a powerful blow to US imperialism in South-east Asia.

The State Department immediately sent a veiled ultimatum through Mr. Butler asking the Peking government to persuade the Pathet Lao to lift its military campaign against Prince Souvanna Phouma's government. As proof of its intention to preserve this crumbling Humpty Dumpty of Laos, the US government has despatched reconnaissance planes and fighter bombers to strengthen the 'neutralist' air force. It has also sent the 7th Fleet into Vietnamese waters.

This display of force has left Peking unmoved. The Chinese have rejected the US warning and called for a 14-nation conference to discuss Laos and Cambodia and South Vietnam—a demand that is supported by France but is totally unacceptable to Washington.

Student and Labour organisations march through New York demonstrating against the U.S. war in Vietnam

(See story page 3)



The British government, worried about Malaysia, has tried to play the role of 'honest' broker by advocating a consultation between the Geneva Powers' ambassadors in Vientiane as a pre-condition for cease fire and reconstitution of a coalition government.

Since 1962, when the Geneva conference restored the shaky coalition government in Laos consisting of Communist, Royalist and Right-wing Ministers, an on-off civil war has been going on.

The war in Laos is a by-product of the civil war which is raging in South Vietnam. By forcing a neutralist government on Laos, American imperialism hoped it could carry on its aggression in Vietnam unimpeded. The Pathet Lao thought otherwise.

In a successful drive it has broken the back of the 'neutralist' army and threatens to take the whole of Laos and dominate the upper reaches of the River Mekong.

This has upset Johnson and McNamara's plans for South Vietnam just when the war was turning against them.

Extend war

Anxiety over the probable loss of South Vietnam is so great that the House Foreign Affairs Committee in Washington unanimously approved another 125 million dollars to sustain Gen. Khanh's fighting drive against the Vietcong.

At the same time, it is announced that the Pentagon is considering moving the 7th Fleet into the Gulf of Tonkin and is even thinking of carrying the war into North Vietnam.

More bellicose sections of American capitalism such as Senator Goldwater are demanding the use of tactical atomic weapons.

Britain, France and the US are bringing pressure to bear on the Soviet Union to break the diplomatic deadlock and help restore the bankrupt neutralist regime, by supporting the British proposal for talks in Vientiane, capital of Laos. If the Soviet government does this, it will deservedly earn the eternal hatred of the colonial people.

The war in Laos and Vietnam is universally unpopular. In the US hundreds and thousands are demonstrating against it (see page 3).

Everywhere else it is despised and hated. Only Wall Street, the Pentagon brasshats and representatives in Congress want this reactionary war—and it will go on until every American sailor, soldier and airman has been withdrawn from Vietnam.

Let Labour demand: Hands Off Laos and Vietnam!

Strong case against Abarca's extradition

DEFENCE lawyers of Francisco Abarca, the young Spanish libertarian, who has been held by the Belgium government since last October at the request of the Swiss government, put a strong case against the extradition order demanded by the Swiss at an appeal court last week.

If extradited Abarca may face charges of sabotage—burning a suitcase at Geneva airport near a Spanish plane on the same day as similar incidents at London and Frankfurt airports.

His lawyers have established that his detention is illegal. There is no existing Belgian law to justify his continued imprisonment.

There is also doubt about the identity of the man who planted the suitcase. Abarca was in Switzerland at the time, but it is said, he was visiting his brother following the death of his grandmother.

There was no arson attempt on the plane, it is claimed. No explosives were used and the suitcase burst into flames as it passed through the customs.

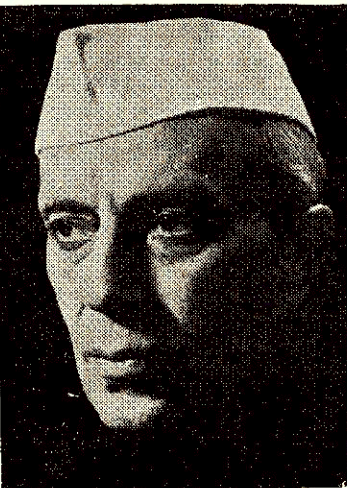
This was a sham carried out in order to frighten tourists who were travelling to Spain in 1963, the year in which Franco had Grimau, Delgado and Granados executed.

Leaflets were distributed explaining the action.

As Abarca has said himself: 'I have nothing to reproach myself for. I went to Switzerland with an open face and with my real identification papers.'

The Newsletter calls on all members of the labour movement to demand the release of Abarca by writing to the Belgian Minister of Justice, M. Pierre Verneylen, 4 Place Poelart, Brussels, Belgium, who now has to make a decision on Abarca's appeal.

FRIEND OF IMPERIALISM



Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru—Asia's most astute capitalist politician—died of a heart attack in New Delhi on May 27, 1964.

(See next week's Newsletter for a Marxist's analysis of his life and time.)

(Cont. back page, col. 6)

UNDER the guise of a campaign against lawlessness and violence, the employing class are subjecting youth to an all-out offensive from police, judges, the press and politicians.

Intimidated by large forces of police and dogs and threatened with fire hoses, this youth is then heavily fined or sentenced to terms of detention out of all proportion to the charges against them.

Quite apart from this, the Margate events were dealt with without any pretence of the much-vaunted British justice.

With the experience of Clacton behind them, every capitalist newspaper and every magistrate making public statements advocates the maximum penalty, without any consideration of the course taken by justice. Did someone say 'every man is innocent until proved guilty'?

Cover

Beneath the cover of the great campaign against youth, the consolidation of the arbitrary and uncontrolled power of the state machine goes ahead.

There are pay increases for police, the power under the Police Act is centralised and various additions are made to the Emergency powers of the Cabinet. These powers have been sneaked through Parliament in the last few months without a single division by the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Agitation against the so-called vandalism and violence of the youth must be seen as part of the campaign by British capitalism to divide the working class, obscure the real issues before the General Election and destroy the labour movement.

Atmosphere

An atmosphere is being whipped up in which the electors will be convinced that all other problems are less important than that of 'wild' and 'lawless' youth.

Violence and 'anarchy' is part of capitalist society and is reflected in the constant struggle by the working class for a normal life. The violence and anarchy of landlordism and racialism are products of capitalism, private ownership and profit system.

Rachmanism and the inability of millions of young people to get a house, helplessness before the rise in meat prices—is this not violence and anarchy against humanity?

The Tories must distract the

Gangster tactics by pro-Chinese CPers in Peru

IN a long report from Peru, 'Pravda' claims that pro-Peking communists are using 'gangster' methods against the pro-Soviet section of the party.

Author of the article, Sr. Raul Acosta Salas, who is general secretary of the CP in Peru, hints broadly that the pro-Peking section had a hand in the death of a leading member of the party's Central Committee, who died after a road accident, and further claims that the same section is collaborating with the police.

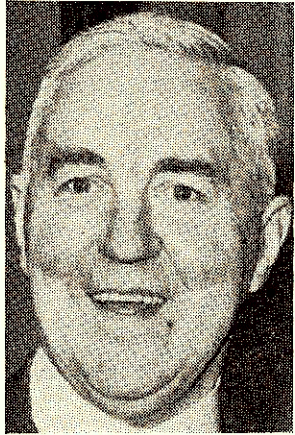
ACCIDENT

The victim in the road accident was Sr. Emiliano Uamanica who was killed on his way from Cuzco to Lima after drawing up a document condemning the 'splitters' (pro-Peking section).

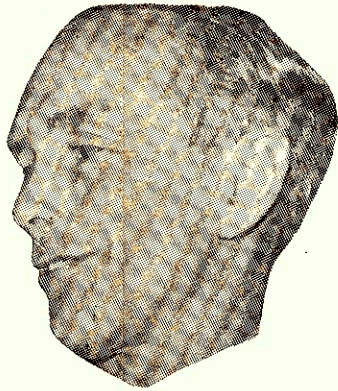
Sr. Salas says in his article: 'The police are doing nothing to investigate the road accident.'

He adds that the pro-Peking section also raided the office of 'Unidad', the Peruvian Communist Party paper. People were chased away.

To end this calculated assault on youth Mods and Rockers must unite to clear out the Tories



Brooke: more power for police



Home: 'I sent bombers to Yemen'

By **Gliff Slaughter**

attention of the working class from the problems of teenage unemployment and dead-end jobs, from the threat to all jobs by automation and from the threatened wage freeze.

The campaign begun at Easter over the Clacton events, will continue right through the summer.

The middle class and respectably inclined working class will emerge at the election, it is hoped, in support of the Tories,

who have shown themselves able to deal firmly with these young 'vandals' who disturb holidays and Sunday afternoon drives.

The loss of confidence caused by the revelations of the Pro-fumo-Keeler affair, which Macmillan and everyone else was anxious to forget, will be restored.

The working class movement must immediately reply to this attack.

Many individual men and

women will naturally hesitate to defend the youth at first, because Wilson and the Labour leadership offer no alternative to the second-class sensationalism of the press. The only alternative is a political alternative of struggle against Toryism. It is an old working class saying that 'if the bosses take sides on a question we know we must line up on the other side'.

Now the employers have taken sides by finding another strong reason for attacking the youth. This is the first part of their campaign.

If they are to modernise British capitalism at the expense of the working class they must, above all, prevent that class from being united behind a Marxist leadership. Their attack on the youth is an attempt to split the working class—the young workers from the old.

Real enemy

In last week's Newsletter, we called on all 'Mods' and 'Rockers' to join with the Socialist Labour League and fight against the real enemy of the youth—British imperialism.

We mean every word of that. From the youth will come the most active fighters for British socialism.

Trade unionists and older workers must welcome the youth as comrades in the fight.

We in the Socialist Labour League have always insisted, particularly in the campaign on youth unemployment, that the primary necessity is a relationship between youth and the labour movement.

Failed

The official Labour Party and the trade unions have failed to adopt a fighting responsibility on this question. On the contrary, they have shown a great fear of youth, devoting their full-time officers to inquiries, interrogations and witch-hunts instead of campaigning among the youth.

All over the country, local Labour bureaucrats have followed the official line and opposed the recruitment and

organisation of working class youth from factories, employment exchanges and estates, preferring, instead, small debating cliques of prospective councillors and Members of Parliament (and JPs!).

The role of Wilson and his clique is, therefore, to seal off the working class youth from the labour movement.

This means that a new working class leadership must be fought for against Wilson and the right wing. This leadership will be built from the youth.

Alternative

The alternative is clear: the Tories will take advantage of the isolation of the youth and drive them deeper into frustration and bitterness.

In these conditions youth will become the prey of bands of fascist thugs who will have to carry out the next phase of capitalist strategy.

Margate, Brighton, Clacton—and the incidents yet to come—are therefore very important political issues.

Lenin once said: 'There is among us a sort of idiotic philistine, spineless fear of young people.'

'I implore you combat this fear with all your might.'

Spineless

On this question the Tories take the initiative against the spineless Wilson just as they have done on every other question. When Home proudly announces—as if he had just shot another pheasant—that he personally ordered the bombings in the Yemen, Wilson can only respond with a pledge of support for the government.

On May Day, Wilson insulted the working class internationally by saying it is time to 'get tough' in Cyprus. In the evenings he spends his time making pledges—to ICI, to the Building Societies, indeed, to the very people who are exploiting the working class and the middle class.

Tailing behind the Tories, on the pretext of capturing

some 'moderate' floating vote, Wilson presents a grave danger to the labour movement.

In the recent by-elections the Tories began to win back those voters who had left them for the Liberals in the last few years.

Unless a firm working class leadership is given to these middle class elements they will revert to the pole of ruling class strength at the General Election.

The Tories are using working class youth to frighten the middle class back to the fold. Wilson's weakness and refusal to mobilise the working class youth for socialism is the greatest possible help to the Tories.

It has long been accepted that in Britain we face the oldest, most cunning and experienced ruling class in the world. Its greatest skill is infiltrating the leadership of the working class in order to divide it. But it is also the most brutal ruling class in the world, whenever the need arises.

Hypocrites

When the hypocrites of press, parliament and pulpit compare modern youth with those of yesterday they conveniently ignore the fact that millions of this youth were sent by the ruling class to the most horrible and violent death in two world wars.

There is only one answer. The ruling class would like to divide the youth from the rest of the working class and also divide the youth themselves between 'Mods' and 'Rockers'. We fight for the unity of all young workers with the whole labour movement against the state, police and the capitalist system.

Arm

Above all young workers should join the Socialist Labour League.

Only by building the League to lead the working class can we abolish capitalism. It is the capitalist system which creates the frustration and protest of youth and prepares them for disillusionment and destruction.

Youth must arm itself with socialist theory and organisation to destroy the capitalist system.

Opportunism and the 'peaceful road' in Latin America

The last of the articles on Latin America by **TOM KEMP**

THROUGHOUT Latin America millions of workers and peasants are seeking a way out of their poverty and hopelessness. The possibilities for political action have never been greater.

In some areas peasant, have seized land, organised mass demonstrations and fought pitched battles with police and troops. Strikes are fought out with great bitterness and violence.

Imprisonment, torture and murder of those who oppose the corrupt ruling oligarchies and their US backers are everyday events in many parts of Latin America. Seldom have the privileged resorted to such odious practices to protect their wealth.

Guerrilla wars

In a number of countries, small guerrilla wars have been going on for some years.

Little of all this gets into the British papers. For Fleet Street, organised oppression, injustice and violence a long way off do not make news.

To find out what is going on it is necessary to consult specialist publications; even then the news is disjointed and late.

It is evident that there are great opportunities for the building of a revolutionary movement. Not surprisingly

there is a great profusion of parties and groups which claim to be revolutionary. Besides the straightforward Khrushchevite Communist parties there are a number of pro-Chinese breakaways and movements more or less directly of Castroite inspiration.

It is, however, too much to speak of a Castroite movement in Latin America.

Declarations

Despite grandiloquent declarations and gestures, Castro has done nothing to build a revolutionary movement on the Latin American continent, to endow it with tactics, a programme and a course of action against the ruling class and American imperialism.

He has been imitated and emulated. His movement commands much popular sympathy. No doubt that is all he wanted. His movement has always been a petty-bourgeois nationalist one.

It has been first and foremost a Cuban movement driven to extreme measures against American imperialism and seeking to win outside aid and sympathy to hold out in Cuba itself, notwithstanding Castro's self-baptism as a 'Marxist'.

By sending many devoted and idealistic young people from the students and intellec-

tual middle class into the jungles and backlands to begin an armed struggle, Castroism has had a negative effect.

Such guerrillas have been taken away from the centres of population into remote areas with no political significance—and this at a time when millions have been moving into the towns from the countryside.

In the conditions of Latin America it is not difficult to form a guerrilla movement; the question is whether it is worthwhile from a tactical standpoint. In almost every case the answer seems to be no.

Effect

The effect of Castroism has thus been less than might have been expected. Castro's Cuba is now isolated diplomatically because governments which, for opportunist reasons, displayed any sympathy for it have been overthrown with American support.

The chronic apologists for Castro carefully 'forget' that he has really done nothing to advance the revolution in Latin America—and that this now jeopardises the revolution in Cuba itself.

There is a Communist Party, legal or illegal, in every Latin American country. In



more there are now two, or more. In some countries the CP has a good deal of influence in student and intellectual circles and among the organised workers. There has never been much room for parties of the Social-Democratic type. The main rivals for influence over the working class have been the movements sponsored by men like Vargas and Peron.

Basis

The real basis of Communist strength lies in the attractive power of the Russian revolution—now rivalled by that of China—and more precisely in the existence of an old and seasoned apparatus broken to all the stratagems made necessary by holding to the Moscow line.

It is men from this apparatus who could work with Batista or Vargas and quickly adjust themselves to Castro. In some countries they are able to entertain relations with bourgeois politicians of various hues, when it is mutually advantageous.

The Communist Parties set out to organise and discipline the working class, peasants and intellectuals. The theoretical line of the party is pre-determined. It represents in each country an application of the principles embodied in the

Congresses of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union since 1956 and the Declaration of the 81 Communist Parties.

This imposes on the parties the need to emphasise the possibility of a 'peaceful road' to socialism in Latin America. This in turn is subordinated to another principle: that the coming revolution will be of a 'national democratic' character, i.e., not be a working class, socialist revolution.

This means that an alliance has to be sought with 'definite sections of the national bourgeoisie' in order to establish a 'state of national democracy'.

Alliances

It is never clear who members of the anti-imperialist 'national bourgeoisie' are. In practice they seem to be whoever the CP leaders choose to work with at the given moment, or who are prepared to accept CP support. This inevitably leads to some curious alliances.

Even before the Sino-Soviet dispute, the contradictions in the CP line, as applied to the explosive situation in many Latin American countries, caused dissatisfaction or even open splits.

'The government which this revolution will place in power,' states a Chilean Communist, 'will be a people's

government of the anti-imperialist coalition representing all the parties which have assisted in its formation, and in resolving the major questions of the day it will be guided by the unanimity principle'.

In other words, a popular front government whose policy will be determined by the most moderate wing: the national bourgeois.

As for the question of the old state apparatus, bureaucracy, police and army, that is usually given no consideration

Patriotism

Such a policy, moreover, sees each Latin American country as a separate entity instead of stressing the common interests of the workers and peasants of the entire continent. Thus Communists talk about 'the national interest of Argentina' or 'Panamanian patriotism'.

The experiences of the Castro-type movements and of Latin American Stalinism are rich in lessons which will be studied by those striving to give Marxist leadership in the struggles which lie ahead.

Only parties based on the Transitional Programme of the Fourth International can and will ultimately free the Latin American peoples and sweep imperialism and native capitalism into the limbo of a tragic and barbarous past.

Militant marches against Vietnam war

STUDENT and labour organisations held large protest rallies throughout the United States early this month against the American war in Vietnam.

The largest was in New York. It drew demonstrators from New Orleans and Detroit and from the Negro and Puerto Rican communities of the city and was organised by the May 2nd Committee.

After a rally a 500-strong march wound its way through the crowded city centre shouting many slogans repeated on hundreds of banners and placards. 'Stop the War in Vietnam, Bring the Troops Home', 'Fight Unemployment, Not Vietnamese', and 'McNamara's Dirty War Isn't Worth Fighting For' were some of the messages of the march which didn't reach the American public through the press or radio.

Despite their many brutal and vicious attacks on demonstrators in the US recently, the cops did not interfere with this militant parade.

At a conference following the demonstration delegates decided to continue the work of the committee

Responsible

Chairman of the Freedom Now Party and a civil rights lawyer, Conrad Lynn told the conference that the policy-makers responsible for the war in Vietnam were the same people responsible for violence against demonstrators for civil rights.

'It is the same power structure, the same US ruling class which is behind both, and the only solution ultimately, is an end to the present system and the establishment of a new system—socialism,' he said.

Many more militant—and some idealistic—speeches were made at this conference which was supported by the Progressive Labor Movement, the Puerto Rican Pro-Independence Movement, local student peace groups, the Young Socialist Alliance and other youth and 'left' organisations.

Ceylon to compensate oil companies

MINISTER of Finance in the Bandaranaike government of Ceylon is to compensate Shell, Esso and Caltex, three of the world's largest oil combines for being taken over by the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation last year.

In a press statement the Minister, Mr. Hanganurata said he hoped certain governments would appreciate the Ceylon government's 'good faith' in this move.

He is obviously talking to the United States government who suspended aid to Ceylon after the oil companies were seized.

Vicious police attacks in segregation fight

THROUGHOUT the United States Negroes have been waging a fierce struggle against segregation during the last month.

Many of them have been arrested and others have been the subjects of vicious police brutality.

SAN FRANCISCO—Students and workers demonstrated against segregation enforced by the city's car dealers. Over 2,000 marched in front of the huge Cadillac agency and six other showrooms were picketed. Some 500 demonstrators were arrested.

The employers were forced, by the city administration, to start negotiations. They finally agreed to a settlement which fell a long way short of the demands of the demonstrators.

Although the dealers made pledges to recruit some 'minority group employees' no guarantees on this question were given. They did not agree to drop

World News Round-up



My philosophy — by Malcolm X

Big publicity from SWP

A LARGE amount of publicity has been given in recent months to Malcolm X, a Muslim black nationalist who puts forward the idea of the American Negroes finding Utopia in Africa, their 'homeland'.

Most prominent in giving him support has been the ex-Trotskyist paper 'The Militant'—organ of the American Socialist Workers' Party. This periodical has opened its front pages and a large section of its middle pages to the reactionary ideas of Malcolm X.

Instead of fighting for a unified struggle, with both Negro and white workers taking part, 'The Militant' has thrown its weight behind Malcolm X and his black nationalist party—an organisation which is bound by its policies to lead the coloured workers into defeat at the hands of American imperialism.

This man, who professes great respect for Ben Bella of Algeria and Nasser of Egypt—both Muslims who have ordered the imprisonment of Communists—believes that the task of the Negro movement is to "gain control of the economy of the coloured community so that jobs can be provided for American Negroes".

NATIONALISM

'My philosophy is black nationalism, my social philosophy is black nationalism . . . to me this means that the political philosophy of black nationalism is that which is designed to encourage our people . . . to gain complete control over the politics and politicians of our community,' stated Malcolm X recently.

Although he does not say it in so many words he is really claiming that the Negroes' problems will be solved in a society where, instead of being exploited by white capitalists, they will be exploited by black ones.

In a series of articles on the meaning of black nationalism 'The Militant' stated: 'Revolutionary socialists welcome the growth of nationalism.'

A headline in 'The Militant' referring to Malcolm X, claimed that 'His Stand Can Unite and

charges made against 266 demonstrators arrested previously at a sit-in.

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE—A group of white and Negro students, who were listening to poetry at a professor's home were arrested by the police for 'disturbing the peace'.

A previous arrest which took place at the same house was dismissed by the court.

CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA—Over 20 people have been injured and 600 arrested since the demonstrations against school segregation started in March.

Demonstrations began after the school board refused to stop segregation of either teachers or students. One thousand marched outside the home of the Delaware County Republican Party leader.

Police beat up a number of demonstrators during April. One local leader of the civil

Build a Movement'

'The Militant's attitude in supporting Malcolm X is, in fact, hardly surprising. The Socialist Workers' Party also supports the Unified Secretariat (US)—which is a breakaway from the Trotskyist Fourth International—and Pablo, who plays a prominent part in the Unified Secretariat, holds an exalted position in the government of Algerian nationalist Ben Bella.

No true Marxist can possibly support the kind of nationalism put forward by Malcolm X. To do so is to take part in the selling out of millions of Negro and white workers who are at the moment crying out for a leadership that will take them forward in struggles against American imperialism.

LESSON

Nationalism of the type in Africa should serve as a lesson to the leadership of the Socialist Workers' Party. There, militants have been imprisoned and the Utopian promises made to the workers before the nationalists came to power have never been realised.

The Negroes are becoming more and more frustrated by their conditions. A recent split in the Congress of Racial Equality shows the ferment that is going on within the coloured movement over the methods to be used in a fight against the state.

The increasing brutality by the police against the Negroes and the division within the anti-segregationist movements show the crying need for an alternative leadership, which the Socialist Workers' Party have not been able to build.

Because they are in retreat from Trotskyist policies they unite with the reactionary ideas of a nationalist party which will leave the American Negro workers leaderless.

rights movement was dragged out of a car and clubbed. He went to hospital with multiple fractures and internal injuries.

At another demonstration police received an unexpected retaliation when bystanders hurled bricks and bottles as the cops chased demonstrators down a street.

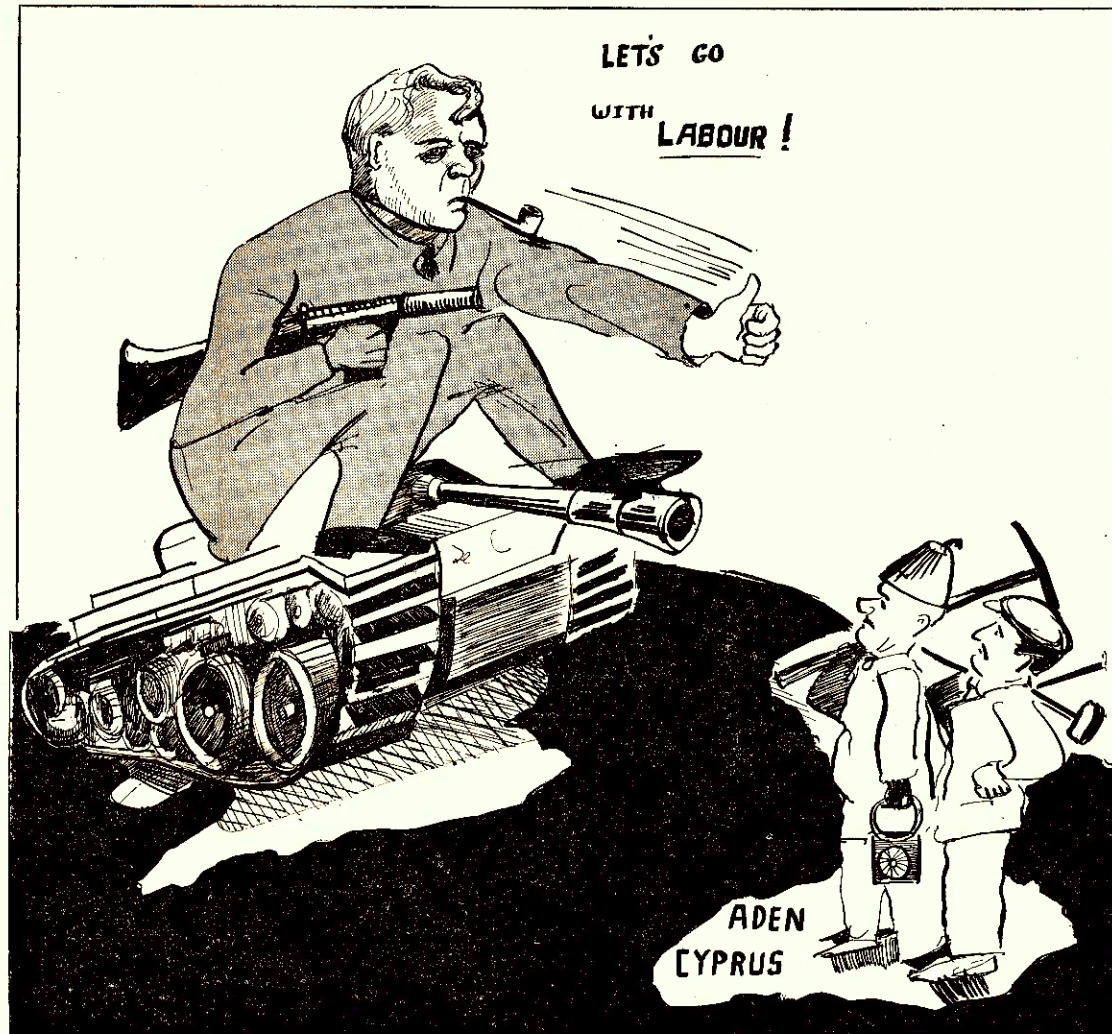
DENVER—Negroes and Spanish-Americans joined together in a statement against police brutality.

A young lad who was shot in the stomach by police is now chained to a hospital bed in the criminal ward of the Denver Central Hospital. No charges have been filed against him.

Amos Duran, a 17-year-old youth has been scarred for life after a beating given by the police. He had to have 17 stitches inserted in his face.

Whilst he was handcuffed and held at gunpoint George Romero was attacked by a police dog and bitten.

Racial riots indict Jagan's policy in British Guiana



Let's go to Cyprus with 'the heaviest tanks we've got' (Wilson, May Day 1964). Now Aden. Now Br. Guiana

K recognises 'rights' of imperialists

DURING Nikita Khrushchev's tour of Egypt, the world witnessed his peaceful co-existence policy working overtime. Speech after speech attempted to cover up sell-outs—past, present and future—by the Soviet bureaucracy.

Recalling the Suez campaign of 1956, Khrushchev claimed that the British and French called off the advance down the canal because of Russian threats.

But the British press has given the lie to these boasts. 'The Economist' has pointed out that the Soviet government only made these threats after it knew the British had agreed not to advance. This agreement was the result of American and not Soviet pressure.

Eden, the prime minister at the time, gives this account in his memoirs:

'I told the Russians that the uninterrupted supply of oil was literally vital to our economy. They showed an understanding of our interests and appeared to be willing to meet it.'

'Mr. Khrushchev replied that I would hardly find sympathy with the Soviet Government if I said that I was prepared to start a war.'

Eden said Britain had no intention of being 'strangled to death' but that she was not threatening anyone.

WARNING

'Later events showed that the Russians heeded this warning and understood our position pretty well. When the troubles came, their opening moves were prudent,' the memoirs continue.

Last week, Khrushchev recalled his meeting with Eden. 'We answered Eden by saying: "We understand that you need oil and we admit your rights but there is one point. If you need oil you must buy oil from the countries which own this wealth. If you want to fight, then I declare in the name of the Soviet government that we shall not remain with folded hands".'

So, from Khrushchev's own mouth, we hear that imperialists have 'rights' in certain parts of the world.

He does not object to imperialist trading policies or to the economic domination of the

area by the advanced economies of Britain and the United States. In fact he advises the British to 'buy oil.'

All that he disagrees with is the military policies adopted to support this economic policy.

He sees the imperialists simply as soldiers and not as exploiters of the workers. It is this attitude which enables him to cherish the illusion that if the imperialists lay down their arms, their policies will no longer be aggressive.

His world is not a socialist one, but one in which the imperialists can exploit 'peacefully'.

The same policy of peaceful co-existence came out in his antics later last week.

HERO

On May 14 he made president Nasser—ex-officer of the King Farouk army, present ruler of capitalist Egypt where the Communist Party is outlawed and many of its members are in jail—a Hero of the Soviet Union.

Later he claimed: 'The Arab worker and the Arab farmer is much closer to my heart than the Arab feudalist and the capitalist.' Soviet aid, he said, was meant for the workers and farmers.

But this Soviet aid will be administered by the ruling class. Perhaps Khrushchev thinks that by awarding orders of Hero of the Soviet Union he is making Nasser into a worker.

After a private dinner between Khrushchev and president Aref of Iraq, well-known for his massacre of the Iraqi Communist Party, Foreign Minister of Iraq, Hamid triumphantly announced that differences between his country and the Soviet Union were ended.

All aid—held in abeyance last year after the massacre—will now be continued and Iraq will be supplied with Russian arms.

'Freedom' for Soviet Intellectuals

INTELLECTUALS in the Soviet Union have been promised more 'freedom of expression' in the arts and literature on condition that they support the Soviet Communist Party line in the ideological conflict with China.

A meeting of the Party's ideological commission of the Central Committee, which decides the cultural line of the Soviet Union, was held at the request of the writers, artists and composers.

The new line is hailed as a break from the 'conformist' pattern laid down last year. Films held back then have been released and acclaimed, writings have been reprinted and there has been a relaxation in the attitude towards jazz—a West German band is at the moment touring the Soviet Union.

Even Shostakovich, the composer, was said to have pressed the commission to encourage the development of Soviet jazz on the grounds that young people cannot dance to symphony music.

This 'flexible' approach of the authorities is just another move to tie the intellectuals even more rigidly to the party post where they can easily be made to reflect the Party line in the Sino-Soviet dispute.

Goldwater: Use A-bombs in Vietnam

WHILST President Lyndon Johnson hypocritically tries to catch votes by waging a war on poverty, his opposite number from the Republican party tries less subtle methods.

Recognising that the American war in South Vietnam is going to be a burning election issue Senator Barry Goldwater, leading contender for the party's presidential nomination, suggested that lower powered atomic bombs should be dropped on the jungle.

Goldwater's idea is to destroy the foliage which gives the Communist guerrilla fighters in South Vietnam cover to fight the American army so expertly.

Another Cyprus?

THE arrival of another 400 British troops in Guiana will do nothing to stop the violence and bloodshed caused by a rampant racialism.

In a month of unprecedented savagery, 24 people have been killed, 343 people injured and 737 people charged. Hundreds of houses and buildings have either been damaged or razed to the ground. Daily and hourly the toll mounts.

The responsibility for this situation rests with the Tories and their big business friends in British Guiana.

Mr. Cheddi Jagan and Burnham—and their respective parties—are mere tools in the hands of British imperialism.

Their mutual hatreds and recriminations do not concern the real interests of the people. They struggle for the position of sole commission agents for British imperialism.

Suspended

In 1953, when Dr. Jagan's party, the People's Progressive Party, secured a majority by winning 18 out of 24 seats in the House of Assembly on a programme of radical reforms supported by all communities in British Guiana, the British Tory government struck back by suspending the Constitution, proroguing parliament, dismissing the People's Progressive Party members of parliament and occupying British Guiana militarily.

Retrospectively, the Governor discovered that there had been a plot to burn down Georgetown—to this day the tale remains unproved.

The suppression of the national movement by the British, combined with the passive opposition of Dr. Jagan, quickly led to the splitting of the national movement along racial lines.

First in 1955, then in 1962 and now once more the country is engulfed by a wave of communalism which seems to have split the trade union movement irrevocably.

Who stands to gain from the shooting, looting and arson?

Neither the Indians, nor the Negroes, who are poor enough as it is.

Only the owners of the sugar plantations and the bauxite mines—the very same people who bellowed and screamed for the suppression of the People's Progressive Party and the trade unions in 1953—will benefit.

Critical

It is not at all surprising that the communal disorders began just when the three-month-old strike of sugar plantation workers was reaching a critical stage.

Since 1950 the sugar workers have fought for the principle of compulsory recognition by the employers of the unions freely chosen by employees.

It is a measure of Dr. Jagan's failure that this legitimate demand—first mooted by Dr. Jagan himself—has not been implemented yet.

Thus the sugar barons are able to create confusion by forming their own unions.

Mr. Burnham's demand for proportional representation, far from solving the economic and social problems in British Guiana, will only succeed in worsening an already tense and explosive situation.

Only the withdrawal of British troops, the recall of the Governor and the granting of immediate independence to British Guiana can help alleviate this situation.

This must be the first priority of the next Labour Government—it must also be the main plank of Labour's campaign against the Tories NOW.

Mass opposition to miserly NCB pay offer

Special conference must vote to reject it

AS opposition mounted to the Coal Board's miserly offer of an extra sixpence for day-wage men, National Union of Mineworkers officials avoided a decision at the Yorkshire Council meeting last Monday.

The national executive committee of the NUM has accepted the offer of increases ranging from 7s. 6d. to 12s.—only sixpence more than that previously rejected—and right-wing officials are now working feverishly to bludgeon this policy through the union.

Last week the North-western area of the NUM, representing 33,000 men, voted at its annual conference by 253 votes to 234 to reject the offer.

This was despite a plea from area secretary, Joe Gormley to accept 'the economic facts of industry'.

Argument

Mr. Gormley is a member of the National Executive of the Labour Party and his argument that miners should give up their claim and accept the position of the Coal Board is an indication of what

Loscoe tenants crash Labour Party meeting

TWENTY tenants from Loscoe village, Yorkshire, went to a meeting of the Featherstone Labour Party last Monday and demanded that the Party do something about their atrocious housing conditions (see last week's Newsletter).

Labour Party officials were compelled to admit them into the meeting and listen to their complaints, but they refused to allow the tenants to vote and would not allow them to reply to the excuses that were given, on the grounds that they were not individual members of the Labour Party.

I understand that some Labour Party officials excused their inactivity by saying that they had a site for new houses but were having difficulty with land subsidence.

They promised that the Loscoe people would be re-housed in two years or more. They also stated that Loscoe would be the main item at the next meeting of the Housing Committee and promised to send a copy of the minutes to every tenant in Loscoe.

Avoided

They avoided demands that landlords be ordered to carry out repairs by saying that if they did this the landlords could keep the houses going for another 15 years.

This dodging by Labour officials is completely unsatisfactory. It is outrageous that working-class people should be told that they have to go on living in disgraceful conditions in return for a vague promise of rehousing in approximately two years.

Some Loscoe tenants say they saw Labour Party leaflets three years ago that promised to re-house them in 18 months.

The next step for the people of Loscoe must be to become individual members of the Labour Party and to fight inside the party for immediate action on repairs, a speed-up of re-housing and socialist policies by a Labour government to end all slums and bring down the rents of Council houses. Loscoe workers—many of whom are miners—should also raise these demands in their trade union branch.

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Industrial Newsletter

BUSMEN MAY BAN OVERTIME

'Strings' tied to wage offer

LONDON busmen are to consider starting an official ban on overtime at a conference on Thursday after nine-hour negotiations between the union and London Transport on pay and working conditions broke down earlier this week.

Bromley busmen are already operating an unofficial overtime ban involving 450 workers. Bus routes to Stoke Newington, Eltham, Lewisham, Thornton Heath, Plumstead Common, Coney Hill and Chislehurst have been affected.

Romford bus crews held a meeting earlier this week to discuss an overtime ban.

OFFER

The London Transport Board are offering the busmen a 13s. a week rise plus an average of another £1 a week to be gained from bonuses for accepting 'efficiency measures'.

The Board are also offering a 40-hour week in 1965 and extra holidays for staff with five years' service or more.

This week's meeting was the sixth since the Phelps Brown report on busmen's pay and conditions and ways of improving efficiency and service.

INSIST

The report was made after the busmen staged an overtime ban earlier this year.

Busmen insist that instead of a 13s. a week rise they should get a £1 4s. 6d. increase.

But this battle is not just over a wage increase. Eric Ottaway,

who led the Board's negotiators, has stated that there is a plan to introduce larger buses and extend one-man-operated buses to the central area.

In other words the Board is only willing to give an increase in exchange for streamlining of the transport system.

So the Transport bosses are only going to allow certain wage increases at a price. An operation of one-man bus services will inevitably lead to redundancy for a number of workers.

Ottaway tried to make the pay offer look attractive by stating that if a busman accepts efficiency measures, the increase of 33s. would bring his wages up to more than £17 for a standard working week.

But drivers and conductors in London already work awkward shifts through hectic periods during the rush hours and the strings attached to this recent pay offer would only make their working lives even more tough.

Dismissals at Hoover and Rolls

MOVING in line with the rest of big business in Britain today, Hoover and Rolls Razor—top washing machine manufacturers—have started to streamline their sales service and cut down on the pay-out of wages.

Not long after Rolls Razor announced the sacking of 50 of their staff at the end of last week, Hoover stated that 1,000 employees would become redundant. The cut in jobs will take effect next week.

The Rolls Razor sackings came after the company's stock market value fell by an estimated £3½ million in two weeks.

Although spokesmen for Hoover are careful to make it clear to the national press that there has been no drop in the demand for washing machines they cannot hide the fact that the sackings have come at a time when many other businesses, faced with foreign competition, are cutting down on costs.

The sackings will affect the after-sales and maintenance services which will now be looked after by the retailers.

Although some shops are expected to take on a certain number of redundant workers, there are still going to be a large number of men out of work.

Transfer of labour strike at Rover

WORKERS at the new highly automated Rover Company car plant at Solihull stopped work last Wednesday to attend a meeting to discuss internal transfer of labour.

The management want to place 100 workers, who used to work on the now run-down P4 track, onto the Land Rover and Rover 2000 tracks. But the men fear that this transfer system may undermine the already low pay rates which exist at the plant.

The meeting was held in spite of a recent ruling by the National Union of Vehicle Builders that meetings should not be held during working hours.

Discontent at the Rover factory is rising in proportion to the employers' attempts to speed-up production and it will probably be the scene of big struggles in the future.

The transfers were agreed to by the men providing the bosses give a guarantee on minimum work earnings.

Four year-old boy killed by falling bricks in Gorbals

WHILST tenants in the Oatlands area of the Gorbals in Glasgow continue their determined fight against rat-infested slums, tragedy has overtaken a family in the Springburn district of the city—another black spot.

As four-year-old John Macdonald played with his friends in the back yard of his home in Keppochil Road last Friday afternoon a brick building came crashing down.

Hearing the screams of the children and the noise of falling masonry the neighbours rushed out of their homes to find John half-buried beneath rubble. They tore away the bricks and called for an ambulance but John was dead on arrival at hospital.

This is not an unusual story or an isolated incident. The back yards of poorly-housed Glasgow workers are notorious for their rickety and crumbling buildings, which are a constant source of danger to the children who have nowhere else to play. Early in the New Year a six-year-old boy died when the roof of a washhouse caved in.

INJURIES

In February two boys aged six and eight were taken to hospital with serious injuries after an air-raid shelter had collapsed. Another six-year-old was taken to hospital with severe head injuries when a washhouse fell in on him.

When the roof of a refuse bin shelter crashed down, a four-year-old girl and her brother aged two were trapped. They had to be treated for leg injuries.

Parents, who can find nowhere else to live, are faced with the constant fear that their child might be the next casualty.

After the tragic events at Keppochil Road an inspector of works visited the yard and the dangerous parts of the building were knocked down.

But as in all such cases action comes too late. A child's life has been needlessly lost. This is not an accident but a crime.

A crime committed by capitalism which permits the landlords to rake in big profits by renting and selling sub-standard houses to workers who can find no other place to live.

The only way in which the families living under such conditions can hope to prevent tragedies of this kind is to unite with tenants in Oatlands and strengthen the fight for better housing conditions.

Regionalise industry says AEU man

AFUTURE Labour government would 'regionalise' industry, executive member of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, John Boyd, said in Linwood, Scotland, last week.

He was speaking to workers at Rootes car factory during a special meeting called 'to iron out' difficulties over wages.

The workers in the factory have been engaged in a three-month fight to force the management to fulfil its pledge that wages would rise when the peak output was reached.

They claim that although production has been speeded up to turn out a car every three minutes, wages are still low.

But in the opinion of Boyd the workers are not badly paid. All disputes, he said, should be referred to the official negotiating machinery and the workers should co-operate to further improve Rootes production figures.

Regionalising of industry, as imagined by Boyd, would mean grouping large factories which would employ thousands of workers and wield immense power.

Outcome

The logical outcome of Boyd's statement to the Rootes men is that the bosses could then organise their output and subject workers to a killing production pace, with, they hope, a consequent drop in costs, enabling them to compete effectively with American and European products.

Boyd had, in fact, gone straight to the meeting at Rootes from the annual meeting of the AEU National Committee where a resolution was passed supporting proposals for nationalization under a Labour government.

Either Boyd does not understand what nationalization means or he proposes to flaunt the decision laid down by his union. He should be told to stop collaborating with the employers.

Mersey dock strike aids campaign for wage rise

THE determination of the National Port employers to prolong negotiations on the dockers' wage claim suffered a setback this week when over 3,000 Liverpool dockers struck for two days.

The dispute began on Monday morning at Alfred Holts, warehouse in the Gladstone control's No. 1 dock, when a gang allocated to put ex-ship cargoes on haulage struck to demand immediate revision of delivery rates.

They know from bitter experience that this job means a week's work without overtime or appreciable bonus and that they take home little more than £8 10s.

By Tuesday more than 2,000 dockers, the total labour force in that area, had joined the dispute in solidarity with those involved.

DETERMINED

Later, thousands from the entire seafront stood outside the dock gates awaiting a decision of dockers in the Gladstone area. They were determined to support whatever stand was decided at that meeting.

At three consecutive meetings on Monday and Tuesday, called by committee members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, dockers rejected calls for a return to work to allow negotiations on the revision of piece-work rates to begin.

Despite attempts by the committee and an official of the

Transport and General Workers' Union to confine the dispute to the issue of low bonus rates on this particular job, the strikers adamantly insisted that it be extended to a fight for an increase in the basic wage for all dockers.

At a meeting organised by the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers' Union only minutes later the dockers agreed unanimously to return to work on Wednesday.

RETURN

Mr. Bill Johnson, area secretary of the NASD proposed the return to allow negotiations to proceed. A mass meeting will be held on Sunday for all 11,000 Merseyside dockworkers for a report back of the negotiations.

This meeting will also decide on the next steps in the campaign for a wage increase.

As Bill Johnson told the meeting: 'Even if some small concessions are squeezed from the port employers on rates, these questions are insignificant in comparison with the major issue of securing in the immediate future an adequate living wage. The present basic wage of £9 9s. is a national scandal.'

The employers, he said, would be delighted to see dockers waste their energy over smaller issues, which would only serve to increase divisions among the men, while they prepared a showdown on the basic wage.

Many dockers felt this strike was carefully prepared by the

TGWU in order to win back support they have been losing over the years.

Undoubtedly, the TGWU thought that by a false show of militancy it would be able to direct bitter feelings over wages into procedural channels.

According to the 'Financial Times' of April 30, Mr. Tim O'Leary, national docks secretary of the TGWU stated the employers were 'a little put out' by the arrival of a new wage demand at this stage. He also said 'it would be a little time' before the employers replied.

DELAY

Does this mean that dockers, who have suffered a wage freeze since May 1962, are now expected to await the employers' pleasure?

The 'Financial Times' says the employers may try to delay their answer until September 'with the object of avoiding a wage settlement in 1964'.

Dockers feel a strong ultimatum must be given to the employers at the next meeting of the National Joint Council for the Port Transport Industry in June.

The strike this week and the mass meeting on Sunday could be an important step in the preparation for the fight against wages.

Such a fight can only be won by the unity of all dockers and linking all ports behind a leadership which is prepared to go all out to defeat the delaying tactics of the employers.

New Pabloite Crisis

From page 1

neither the Pablo international centre in Paris nor the Socialist Workers Party wanted such a discussion.

One of the claims made on behalf of a hasty unification was that it would influence dissidents within the Communist Parties who were affected by the Sino-Soviet dispute.

This, of course, has not taken place since the Ceylon section—perhaps the only section which could have influenced the pro-Chinese movement in Asia—openly flouted the decisions of the unified congress and a section of the leadership gave its support to Khrushchev.

In Ceylon itself the Communist Party suffered a serious split with

a substantial number of its trade union groups breaking away and being expelled for supporting the Chinese. This group may well develop into a serious threat from the left to the opportunist leaders of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party.

Similarly in the United States, the Socialist Workers Party, to all intents and purposes a liberal, petty-bourgeois, centrist organisation, is threatened with increasing political competition from the organisation called Progressive Labour which broke away from the Communist Party.

Thus we can see the disastrous policies of Pabloism and the heavy price the international movement has to pay for not supporting our struggle for a principled unification

Glasgow

PUBLIC MEETING

Greet The Newsletter

Sunday, June 14, 7.30 p.m.

**Partick Burgh Hall (Lesser Hall),
Burgh Hall Street**
(Underground to Merland St. Station)

Speaker:
G. HEALY
(National Secretary, Socialist Labour League)