

Vauxhall dispute TEST FOR PARITY CLAIM

By John Spencer

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Lord Devlin, well-known to dockers for his infamous report, heartily agreed and threw his legal weight behind the press barons.

What is it all about? Can it be that our Fleet Street mandarins are in principle opposed to sensationalism and scandal?

Nothing of the sort. When it came to the Pergamon Press story the 'Sunday Times' did its very best to make it the sensation of the year.

Sunday after Sunday Hugh Cudlipp's 'People' publishes the tit-bits of scandal and gossip concerning the goings on amongst all types of hitherto unknown people.

Then why not Rupert Murdoch?

The answer is simple. Murdoch is new to Fleet Street and he has to be indoctrinated in the acceptance of certain customs and procedures.

The most important of these is that you do not throw mud at the Tories, especially close to a General Election year.

The Christine Keeler story is, above all, a Tory story and Murdoch must be put in his place.

He must be made to understand that Fleet Street is Tory territory and that when election time draws near 'all good men must come to the aid of the party'—the Tory Party.

Everyone knows that the Establishment with the help of the right-wing Labour leaders hushed up the Keeler revelations in 1963 too many of the stately high and mighty were involved.

Of course it is all very well for the Tory clubmen to snigger in private about the Keelers of this world, but it is not cricket if she answers back.

All of which goes to show the rapid degeneration of capitalism which is becoming more and more clear to millions of workers.

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Big test

Here is a big test for the trade union leaders. The Vauxhall 'penal clause' proposal must be rejected.

The wage rises proposed are nowhere near parity with the Midlands, even were the Draconian penal clauses acceptable—which they certainly are not.

Any weakening in the unions' opposition to the deal threatens the solid stand of the entire campaign for parity.

No repeat

There must be no repetition of last January's Ford experience at Vauxhalls.

Vauxhall workers are clearly determined not to have the deal at any price. The union leaders must be held to their stated opposition to the deal and no phoney compromises accepted.

Collusion charge by Chou

IN a speech celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Chinese People's Republic, Chou En-lai accused the United States and Soviet governments of stepping up collusion in a bid to 'launch aggressive wars against our country'.

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'We develop nuclear weapons for self-defence and the final aim is to abolish nuclear weapons. . . . We will not attack unless we are attacked.'

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Fight still ahead for GEC-AEI workers

THE next steps in the fight against GEC-English Electric's plans for 3,000 redundancies on Merseyside rest squarely in the hands of workers in the area, whatever union leaders may decide after next Monday's meeting of the national joint consultative committee.

Little reliance can be placed on last week's talk from trade union members of the committee of 'unwavering resistance' to Weinstock's plans.

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The Paisleyites' close links with the Unionist party right-wing, illustrated by this incident, cannot be ignored.

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It shows that Paisley and a section of Unionists are agreed on the type of measures necessary to take on the Irish workers.

Much bigger struggles are clearly on the way.

There are signs that the brief interruption in the development of the Northern Ireland struggles, caused by the arrival of the British troops, is coming to an end.

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This agreement between Barclays Bank and the Smith regime indicates the ease with which Salisbury is able to maintain its links with leading financial circles in Britain—despite nearly four years of 'sanctions' by the Wilson government.

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Workers are not expected to read the 'Financial Times' austere pink pages, so that the article's author, one James Ensor, can't afford to be frank. But every car worker must take a warning from what Mr Ensor says.

Having detailed the strikes at Leyland, Ford, Vauxhall and Rootes, he goes on to compare them with the situation overseas.

STRIKES

'In all other countries,' he says, 'it is the shipyard, coal, steel and port workers who strike. . . . In Britain, too, coal and steel used to head the list. But not any more. . . . No group compares with the enormous 1.15 million chalked up in motors.'

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'The immense changes in production brought in by the American and ex-Ford experts at Rootes would scarcely have been possible if every step had involved an argument over pay.'

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Tuesday's announcement from Bonn still left an avenue of retreat for the FDP, which holds the balance in the new House with 30 seats.

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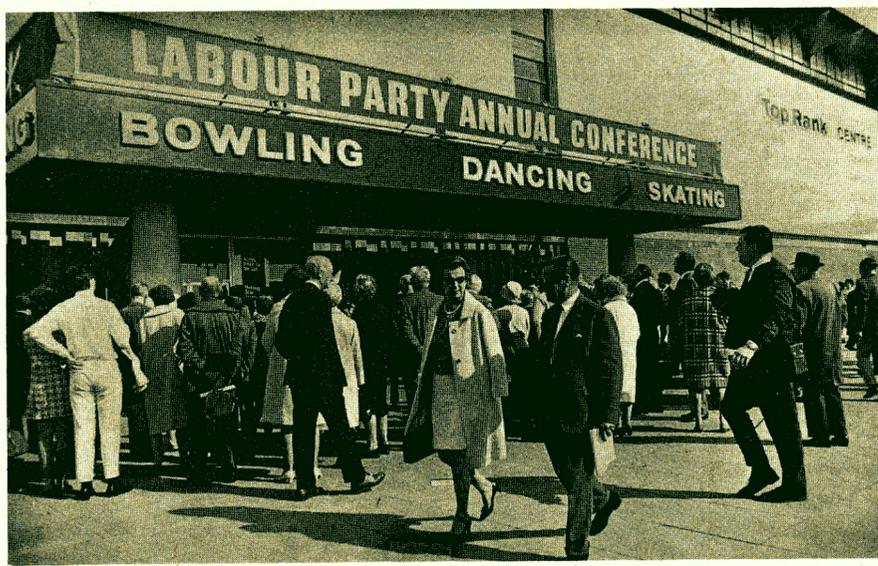
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The political situation in West Germany is very delicately balanced.

This tension is reflected not only in the coalition talks, but in uncertainty over the mark's future value.

For the first time since 1930, the conditions are being created where the German working class can begin the break from its reformist leaders in the trade unions and the Social-Democratic Party.

This will be the main importance of the formation of a government under Brandt.



Part of the crowd seen continually outside this week's conference on the Brighton sea front waiting for delegates to emerge.

Dustmen's strike grows

THE London dustmen's strike spread during Tuesday to nine London boroughs and one in Essex.

The 1,500 men involved want pay rises of up to £5 a week.

The strike started a week ago when 350 Hackney dustmen struck for the claim. They are joined by Lambeth, Tower Hamlets, Haringey, Camden, Barnet, Newham, Haringey and Aveling (Essex) dustmen.

Why Wilson played it down

Political Correspondent

WILSON, with a deviousness worthy of a Houdini, once again extricated himself from the tight corner which Mrs. Castle's statement on the activation of Part Two of the Prices and Incomes Act placed him in.

When Mrs Castle announced on Monday that the four-month halt on pay claims would be retained there was immediate and angry reaction from the trade union delegations.

It seemed as if the 68th Labour Party Conference was going to erupt. Then on Tuesday Wilson's 50-minute speech completely evaded the question of Part Two.

Leaving the delegates mystified as to his position on the most important issue facing conference, he then trotted off to see Hugh Scanlon and Jack Jones, who are opposed to Mrs. Castle's statement.

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This was the second time he had seen them in two days.

What was discussed has not been disclosed, but delegates did not have long to wait before the tension was broken and the so-called unity of the conference was once more restored.

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Five years ago our movement was expelled from the Labour Party because we advocated and fought for socialist policies against Wilson and right-wing leadership—policies which have made the Workers' Press possible today.

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To this end our campaigns and demonstrations have been called to mobilize the maximum support in the labour and trade union movement for a fight against the Labour government's betrayals and against its apologists in the British Communist Party and amongst the revisionists.

Our aim has been to mobilize the greatest possible movement amongst the youth and indeed the response has been tremendous.

Especially in the past year young workers and students have been out night after night collecting for the £25,000 fund for the Workers' Press.

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Therefore we recognize the great advantage of a daily paper which answers the lies perpetrated by the falsifiers of history and which acts as educator in the lessons of the history of the workers' movement in Marxist theory.

As the inheritors of the revolutionary tradition of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky the Young Socialists will carry forward the fight for the Workers' Press to prepare the working class for smashing of capitalist society and the establishment of socialism.

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As we reported yesterday, she asked for large-scale US financial and military aid to

continue the war against the Arab people.

As Trotsky pointed out over 40 years ago, American imperialism on occasions pursues its own interests under the guise of offering a 'fair deal' for those oppressed by rival imperialist powers.

Strategy

This was the strategy of Eisenhower and Dulles at the time of the Anglo-French invasion of the Suez canal zone

in 1956, and it may well be the basis of its latest round of talks with Gromyko.

Even as Gromyko and Rogers discussed, Al Fatah commandos launched what they claimed was their 'biggest attack' against Israeli positions in the Jordan Valley.

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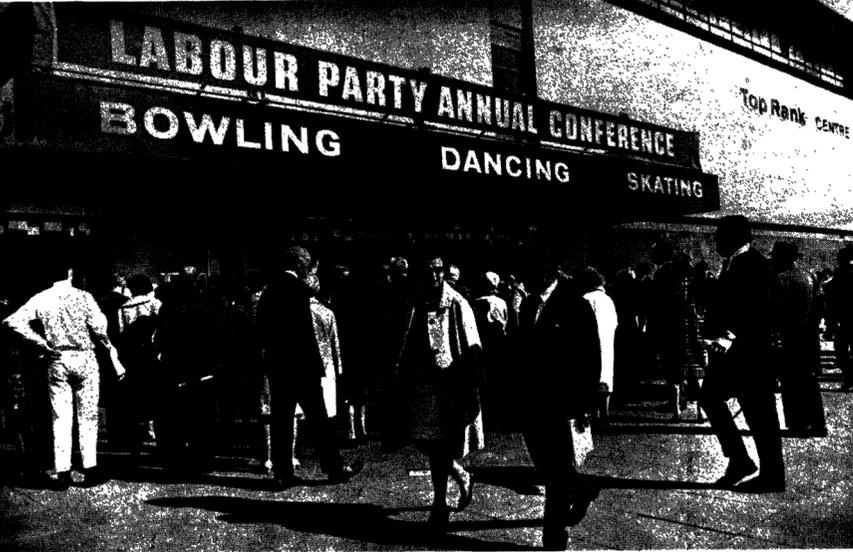
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On Vietnam, Rhodesia, Biafra, Aden and the Middle East



LIKE its home policy, the Wilson government's foreign policy consists of subservient support for the interests of the bankers and big businessmen in the City of London.

It nowhere differs essentially from the policy of its Tory predecessor, despite the brave words in Labour's election statements about 'aiding the underdeveloped countries'.

In fact, Labour government policy has never been better illustrated than in its attacks on the workers and peasants of the colonial and ex-colonial countries.

Wilson's government took office in a period of rapidly deepening crisis for British imperialism. The weakness of British capitalism had forced it for a number of years to make a 'strategic withdrawal' from one colonial country after another—almost invariably after installing reliable regimes to maintain the substance, if not the form, of imperialist rule.



Wilson's policy in Aden is nothing more than a continuation of that of his Tory predecessors Duncan Sandys (seen above) and Harold Macmillan.

Despite the decline of British holdings even in traditionally 'British' areas such as Africa, and the rapid growth of American capital investment in these territories, the Labour government found common ground with US big business in making the world safe for imperialism.

BROKEN PLEDGE

This common concern of the imperialist powers to preserve their sources of colonial profits, combined with Wilson's virulent anti-communism (in the tradition of Ernest Bevin), explains the Labour government's continued support for US policies in south-east Asia and other areas where American capitalism has taken over the role of international gendarme.

One of the most explicit pledges in Labour's nebulous foreign policy statements before the 1964 General Election was that the Labour government would cease to sell arms to South Africa.

This pledge, which might at the time have seemed the easiest to keep, proved the first to be broken. Almost immediately after

assuming office, Wilson not only sold a number of Buccaneer military aircraft to the South African government, but set up a special department to handle sales of arms overseas.

This capitulation to the South African racials fore-shadowed the far more serious betrayal carried out at the end of 1965—the sell-out to the white Rhodesian leader Ian Smith.

In the weeks leading up to Smith's unilateral declaration of independence (UDI), Wilson made it abundantly clear that he would place no real obstacles in the way of the Rhodesian racials. While talking vaguely about 'one man, one vote' in Rhodesia, and lauding the 1961 constitution, Wilson and his special envoy Bottomley continued to treat Smith at his own valuation.

The 1961 constitution, of course, was nothing more than a slave-drivers' charter which provided for the suppression of the national liberation movement and the jailing and exile of hundreds of African workers.

Commonwealth minister Arthur Bottomley was sent to Salisbury to talk with Smith, but his conciliatory position only persuaded the Rhodesian leader that UDI was possible without serious British government opposition. Wilson's conciliatory stance was maintained, however, not only before, but after the declaration.

Having smoothed the way for UDI, Wilson then went through the motions of a 'show of force'—a show which fooled nobody. One thing was made absolutely clear: the African majority in Rhodesia figured neither in Smith's plans nor in Wilson's except as raw material for exploitation.

PROLONGED FARCE

As Wilson pointed out in the parliamentary debate that followed UDI: 'The Labour government has consistently followed the principles laid down by the previous [Tory] government and sought to give effect to them'.

The African nationalists, Wilson maintained, should 'work the constitution' (i.e., the 1961 constitution) and should not resort to force to overthrow the 'illegal' regime.

Then followed the elaborate and prolonged farce of the negotiations between Wilson and Smith, first on the battleship 'Tiger' and then on the 'Fearless'.

Not only did these give Smith all the time he required to consolidate his racist regime, but they made abundantly clear that Wilson was ready at any time to throw overboard even the meagre Tory 'principles' by which he had professed to be guided.

The government's indulgent attitude to the Smith regime continues to this day, despite the farce of United Nations sanctions—sanctions which have in no way prevented Smith from tightening his hold on the Rhodesian working class and peasantry.

The smokescreen for the Labour government's Rhodesian policies in the 'thieves' kitchen' of the United Nations came from the Soviet Union. International Stalinism raised a hue and cry against Smith, but left out of account the continual retreat of Wilson.

Like the Communist Party in Britain, which substituted the liberal slogan 'one man, one vote' for the revolutionary policy of calling for the arming of the African workers, the Soviet diplomats at the United Nations gave an international cover to Wilson's sell-out over Rhodesia.

Not only did Wilson provide Smith with the opportunity to suppress the African masses in Rhodesia, he proved throughout the life of the present government the most consistent supporter of the United States' war in Vietnam. Despite all manner of phoney 'peace' proposals, Wilson remains to the last the best backer for US imperialism in its attacks on the Vietnamese working class and peasantry.

Backed by the Labour Party's executive, which in 1965 voted its full support for the US policy in Vietnam, Wilson bent his energies to justifying the war. As the US situation in Vietnam began to deteriorate in 1965, British aid for the US troops was stepped up as much as possible short of sending British troops.



While publicly wringing its hands over the Biafran war the Labour government nevertheless undertook to keep it going supplying arms to the Nigerian armed forces under the command of Lt-Col. Gowon (above).

Training camps for US special forces were established in Malaysia, while British 'advisors' went to Vietnam to assist the establishment of fortified villages (concentration camps) along the lines used in Malaya during the emergency there.

The British Labour leaders emerged as roving international ambassadors on behalf of the US president. Wilson's various 'peace initiatives' and the continued unquestioning support of the Labour leaders played an essential part in bolstering the American war strategy.

In all this, a vital role was played by the 'Tribune' left in the parliamentary Labour Party. Not only did these

people provide the left cover for attacks on the workers and peasants of Vietnam, but they became 'ambassadors' for Wilson's various 'missions'.

One example was the Hanoi trip undertaken by Harold Davies, MP for Leek.

He went as an unofficial envoy for Wilson to the North Vietnamese capital as part of the Labour strategy of seeking concessions from the Vietnamese.

He got short shrift from the North Vietnamese, who rightly treated him as nothing more than an errand-boy for Lyndon Johnson.

The 'left' confined itself to platonic protests against the bombing of the North, protests which suited the US strategy very well: they gave the United States a bargaining counter in the shape of bombing pauses and threats to step up attacks.

All these people refused to fight on the only principled basis: that the struggle of the Vietnamese workers and peasants was completely bound up with the struggle in Britain against Wilson's Tory policies.

COLONIAL ADVENTURES

Only the Socialist Labour League and its supporters campaigned along these class lines.

While British capitalism, under Wilson's government, proved unable to intervene militarily in Vietnam, it was nevertheless able to console itself with colonial adventures on a smaller scale.

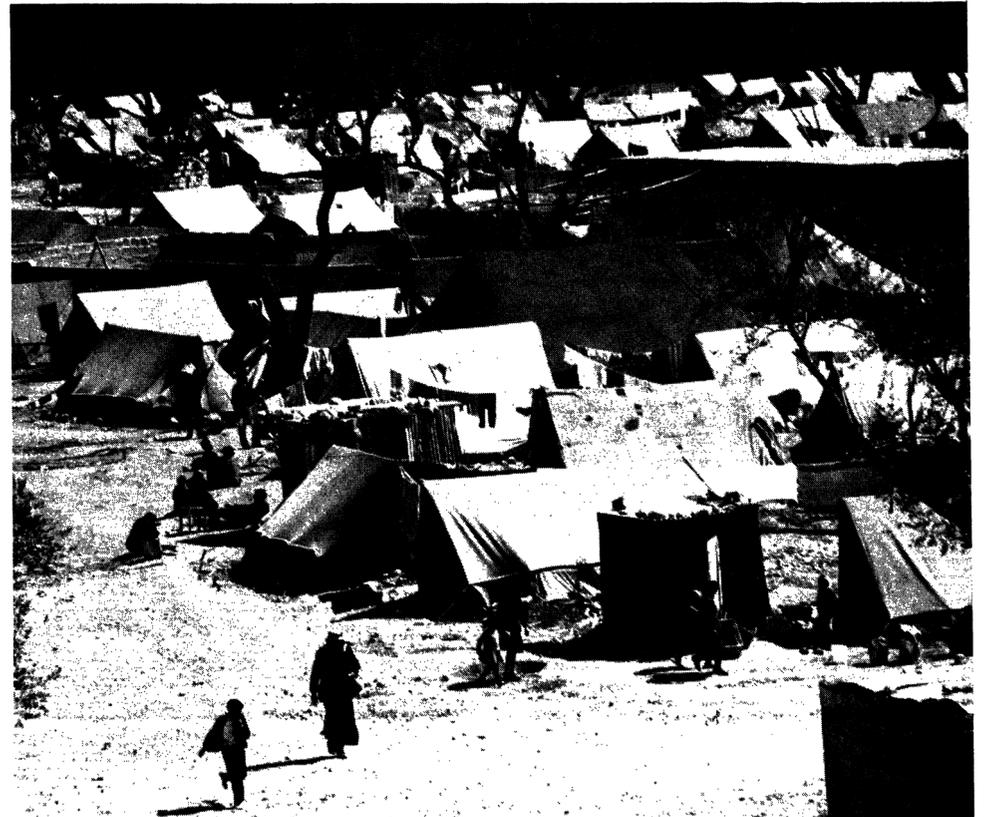
The most important of these, of course, was the war against the Adeni patriots, a campaign which, though small in scale, was conducted with the utmost brutality and disregard for the rights of the Adeni workers.

At stake in Aden was the domination of the strategic Persian Gulf area, with its rich British oil holdings.

As always, Wilson and his cabinet were ready to jump to the defence of allegedly vital British interests in the area. The policy they carried out was nothing more than a con-



In 1965 the Labour Party's executive voted to give full support to US policy in Vietnam. British advisers went to Vietnam to assist the establishment of fortified villages (concentration camps), like the one shown above.



Careful not to offend the influential Arab sheiks whose territory included British oil pipelines, George Brown publicly supported Israel and made clear the government's delight at Arab defeat. Shown above is an Arab refugee camp outside Damascus.

tinuation of the policy of Duncan Sandys and Harold Macmillan, whose brain-child, the South Arabian Federation, was an attempt to subordinate the advanced Adeni workers to the backward feudal sheikhdoms of the Gulf.

The Federation having broken in pieces under the impact of the Arab national movement, British troops were used in an attempt to impose a settlement on Aden, based on United Nations intervention and the divisions in the Arab movement.

The Labour government gave its full support to the troops of 'Mad Mitch'—the colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who later played a leading part in the 'Save the Argylls' campaign and stood as a Tory candidate.

Thus, the Labour government's policies in Aden, like those of the French Fourth Republic in Algeria, prepared a rod for the back of the working class at home, encouraging the right wing to organize and giving a key role to conservative army officers.

By its backing for the reactionary feudalists in the Middle East, Labour's cabinet gave training opportunities to the right wing at home.

CHEER ON ISRAELIS

But the Aden events were to be completely overshadowed by the Arab-Israel war which broke out in June 1967. Wilson was careful not to offend the influential Arab sheiks whose territory included British oil pipelines, but the Labour cabinet made it clear that it would cheer on the Israelis even though, unlike the Tories in 1956, it was not prepared to intervene actively.

Government spokesmen like George Brown publicly supported Israel and made clear their delight at the Arab defeat.

The June war aptly illustrated the real character of the Labour leadership and the malignant and decrepit capitalism they administer. Too weak to intervene openly, they nevertheless favoured the imperialist client state of Israel

in its attacks on the Arab revolution.

The same unprincipled subservience to imperialism distinguished the government's policy in relation to the war between Nigeria and Biafra.

After pogroms against the Ibo people of Eastern Nigeria, which were immediately seized on by rival imperialist oil interests, the Ibos were encouraged to secede from the Nigerian Federation by creating the state of Biafra.

While publicly wringing its hands over the war, the Labour government nevertheless undertook to keep it going, supplying large quantities of arms to the Nigerian side, no doubt after guarantees that British oil interests would be protected in the event of a Nigerian victory.

The Biafran government was quick to label the war as 'Wilson's war' and to point out the calculated hypocrisy of the Labour government's position. There can be no doubt that a large share of the responsibility for the continuation of this bloody conflict rests in Whitehall.

BLOODSTAINED TRADITION

The Wilson government's foreign policy is entirely in the bloodstained tradition of previous Labour governments. Like those of Attlee and MacDonald, Wilson's government remains a loyal servant of its imperialist masters.

Labour's foreign policy is Tory policy tailored to the requirements of imperialism in decline.

The best assistance which British workers can render to workers and peasants overseas is an implacable struggle against the Tories, and against Wilson and his 'left' and Stalinist friends.

Only such a principled struggle, based on internationalism, can prepare the way for the liberation of colonial peoples and for the socialist revolution in Britain. It is on this basis that the Socialist Labour League and its supporters have fought and will continue to fight.

The fight against imperialism in Britain and internationally is the fight to build the International Committee of the Fourth International and its British section, the Socialist Labour League, to overthrow capitalism and establish a socialist society.



Wilson placed no real obstacles in the way of Smith's declaration of UDI. The much-praised 1961 constitution was in fact a slave charter through which hundreds of African workers were jailed and exiled. Above police attack Africans protesting over UDI.

International Committee of the Fourth International greet the Workers' Press

To the Political Committee of the Socialist Labour League
To the Editorial Board of the Workers' Press

Comrades,
The International Committee and all its sections have followed with enormous interest your struggle to bring out the daily Workers' Press. It has been a political battle concerning the whole of the movement founded by Leon Trotsky.

After more than 40 years of struggle, first of all by Trotsky and the Left Opposition against the degeneration of the Third International and the Communist parties, against the development of the Stalinist bureaucracy and the degeneration of the workers' state created by the October Revolution, and then—still under the leadership of Trotsky—for the founding of the Fourth International and the construction of its sections, and finally against the Pabloite liquidationist revisionism in the Fourth International, the English section of the Fourth International is today in a position to publish the first Trotskyist daily paper to appear in the world. This is undeniably a moment of the greatest im-

portance in the course of the terrible but exhilarating battle, begun more than 40 years ago, to assure the continuity of Bolshevism and to construct that revolutionary leadership which the founding programme of the Fourth International states as the condition for the victory of the proletarian revolution and of socialism over imperialism and Stalinist reaction.

The appearance of the daily Workers' Press takes place at a moment when a new phase is opening in the world class struggle and in the relations between the working class and its traditional social-democratic and Stalinist organizations, as well as in their relations with the bureaucratic apparatus of the trade unions.

Everywhere, in England, in Germany, in Italy, in France in all the economically developed capitalist countries, in those under the imperialist yoke, the working class is unleashing new assaults against bourgeois society, against imperialist domination, and is making gains, shaking the control of the old organizations and their leaderships integrated into bourgeois society, while since the 1956 Hungarian Soviet revolution, the proletariat of Eastern Europe and of the Soviet Union has entered into open conflict with the

Kremlin bureaucracy and satellite bureaucracies, the working class of Czechoslovakia leading the way.

The hour has struck for the reconstruction of the Fourth International and for the construction of its sections.

Once again the question of power, of the overthrow of the bourgeoisie, of the overthrow of the counter-revolutionary bureaucracies, and of handing back to the working class the conquests of the October Revolution and its extensions in Eastern Europe, depends on the construction of the revolutionary leadership. This time the International Committee and its sections are in a position to accomplish the task of reconstructing this revolutionary leadership.

Up to the present we have taken responsibility for the continuity of the programme, of the Communist tradition, of Marxism, in spite of the difficulties. It has been a long but indispensable stage. In going forward to reconstruct the Fourth International and to construct its sections, we must apply the programme of the proletarian revolution, the programme of the Fourth International.

In bringing out the first daily Trotskyist paper in

the world, after a long political battle to assemble the necessary means, the Socialist Labour League affirms its determination to drive forward in a decisive way the building of the revolutionary party in England, and the reconstruction of the Fourth International throughout the world. In this way it arms itself to defeat reformism, Stalinism, centrism, and the renegades from the Fourth International of the United Secretariat in all spheres.

The appearance of the daily Workers' Press will be an important gain for the whole International Committee and each of its sections at a time when the conditions and possibilities are becoming clearer for the 'final victory of the Fourth International' of which Trotsky spoke with assurance on his death bed.

We assure you of the fraternal support of the International Committee and of its sections in view of the success of the first daily Trotskyist paper, Workers' Press.

For the International Committee of the Fourth International,
S. JUST

Ceylon youth welcome the daily

Dear Comrades,

THE publication of the Workers' Press is not only an occasion for rejoicing for the members of the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists, but also for Trotskyists all over the world.

It is a memorable occasion in the name of Trotsky and the Trotskyists who suffered under the treacherous betrayals of the Stalinists and the revisionists. It is an historic occasion in the building of the alternative working class leadership in keeping with Trotsky's expectations.

The publication of the daily paper is clear evidence that Trotskyism is a living force, a fighting force and a growing force.

Trotsky's saying that 'We work with the most correct and powerful ideas in the world with inadequate numerical forces and material means, but correct ideas in the long run always conquer and make available for themselves the necessary material means', has been proved by the struggle carried on by the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists for the publication of the daily paper.

There is no doubt that the achievement of the daily

paper is due to a firm political foundation based on Marxist principles.

There is no doubt that the achievement is due to the relentless struggle carried on for socialist principles within the working class against the Stalinists and the Pabloite revisionists.

Today the crisis of capitalism has pushed the Stalinists and the revisionists into their own crisis. With the treacherous attack on the working class by capitalist governments and the continuous betrayal by Stalinist, revisionist and trade union bureaucrats the alternative leadership is even more necessary. The daily paper is a great step towards this end.

The twice-weekly Newsletter encouraged and opened the eyes of the Revolutionary Communist Youth organization, but the publication of Workers' Press as a daily paper will pave the way for building the organization basing itself firmly on Marxist principles.

Congratulations on behalf of Revolutionary Communist Youth.

Thank you.

Yours fraternally,
Central Committee of the
Revolutionary Communist Youth. (Ceylon)

THIS SCIENTIFIC AGE

BY
MARTIN
ZARROP

Thermonuclear fusion dogged by limited research programme

A CONFERENCE was recently held in Britain at the Culham laboratory—the world's first conference of its kind—to discuss the possibility of building in the not too distant future reactors producing energy by thermonuclear fusion.

This is the process underlying the production of energy in the sun.

Since the Second World War immense wealth has been poured into perfecting weapons of mass destruction based on the release of uncontrolled thermonuclear energy.

Research into the problem of how to control the fusion process, to tap the immense energy normally released in the explosion of hydrogen weapons, has received relatively meagre funds, although the field is one of the most challenging for both theoretical and experimental scientists.

A fusion reactor could provide an immense energy source from deuterium (a form of hydrogen) in the oceans; two cubic kilometres of water could yield the total energy used by man to date, while the energy needed to separate the deuterium from the water would be a negligible fraction.

Yet the sum total spent on fusion research throughout the world is at present running at only 100 million dollars per year, with two thirds of this spent by the United States and USSR.

As yet the profitability of the research programme, as far as the giant US corporations are concerned, fades into insignificance compared

with the lucrative pickings obtainable from the space programme.

In the early stages of research the magnitude of the task was underestimated. The basic problems underlying the possibility of constructing a fusion reactor are the same as they were 15 years ago and remain unresolved—how to contain a gas heated to a temperature of 30 to 100 million degrees centigrade for a long enough period so that useful amounts of energy can be produced and drawn off.

The fusion process is fundamentally different from the fission process. The latter was achieved in a runaway form in 1945 with the explosion of the first atomic bomb and later controlled for use in the propulsion units of nuclear submarines and ice breakers and in the generation of electricity by atomic power stations.

In order to achieve the fusion reaction for a H-bomb explosion the high temperature required is produced by the explosion of an A-bomb. Under these conditions the deuterium fuses into helium producing large amounts of energy.

Obviously this cannot be carried out under laboratory conditions so that for a controlled reaction both the 'ignition' problem and how to contain the resulting high temperature

gas are major questions.

At the end of the 1950's, much publicity was given to a British prototype, Zeta, which was thought to have resolved the main problems by confining the gas in a doughnut-shaped container by means of magnetic forces.

However, hopes rapidly faded when it was discovered that the gas became unstable in a time which was too short for useful amounts of energy to be generated.

Many other container shapes and combinations of magnetic fields have been tried out, particularly in the United States and the USSR, but little progress was made. At the Culham conference, however, the Russians were optimistic about the results obtained from their Tokamak machines.

Using the doughnut shape and a combination of three magnetic fields they have succeeded in obtaining a high degree of stability, resulting in a period of containment for the gas which is 100 times greater than the value expected from theoretical considerations.

The significance of these results is emphasized by the decision of the Americans to change course in their own programme and to reproduce the Tokamak in the USA (Shades of Sputnik!).

More massive machines will

now be necessary and will escalate the cost of these programmes many times. Already the Labour government has taken the decision to halve Britain's fusion research so that from 1971 only £2 million a year will be spent.

However, it would be incorrect to see future developments towards a fusion reactor as a carbon copy of the 'space race'. The present breakthrough comes at a time of profound economic crisis for the system that has produced these immense technical possibilities.

Nuclear power, like the conquest of space, can only develop fully under conditions where, with the social ownership of wealth, the use and direction of resources can be consciously controlled and planned.

The 'New Scientist' comments (September 25): 'It [the financial problem of constructing large machines] could be solved, however, by an international collaboration in which each participant undertook to scale up one thermonuclear experiment for collaborative use. . . .'

Quite so—but such conditions can themselves only be created by the achievement of political power by the working class. Otherwise the fusion reactor will remain a dream while the fusion bomb remains the reality.

HENRY SCHULTZ, pioneer American Trotskyist and founding member of both the Socialist Workers' Party and the Workers' League, died at the age of 67 in Madison, Wisconsin, on Wednesday, September 24, of complications following surgery.

A memorial meeting was held for him by his family and intimate friends. The tribute was paid by a long-time Minnesota comrade from the old SWP and co-founder with him of the Workers' League.

Henry, a skilled electrician by trade, came to the embattled truck drivers of Minneapolis in the early 1930s to offer his services. He was won to socialism in the course of that struggle, and called Carl Skoglund, the man who brought Trotskyism to Minnesota, his revolutionary teacher.

From that moment up to his last few months, his life was devoted to the struggle to build a party capable of leading a socialist revolution in America.

Dispatcher

He filled the key role of dispatcher in the big 1934 truck drivers' strike, and helped guide the strike to victory.

Like much of the work Henry was to do in the future, the essential nature of his role was known to only a few outside the leadership of the SWP.

He was a founding member of the party and a member of its national committee, a position he held continuously until the early 1960s.

For years Henry served as organizer for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), in the days when the major task of the American labour movement was to organize the unorganized.

He was instrumental in helping to found several SWP branches, especially in important auto, rubber and railroad centres.

Mexico

In the spring and summer of 1940 Henry and his family were sent to Mexico to be with the exiled Leon Trotsky. They were there at the time of the May machine-gun attack by the Stalinists on Trotsky's home.

Henry stayed to plan and supervise the reconstruction of the defences as a result of the attack.

Because another armed attack by the Stalinists was anticipated during the period of the Mexican elections, Henry remained in Mexico until they were over. The defences this time were so impregnable that no further mass attack on the home took place. Instead, only a few weeks after the Schultz family had left, a Stalinist spy gained entry to the home and assassinated Trotsky.

Railroad

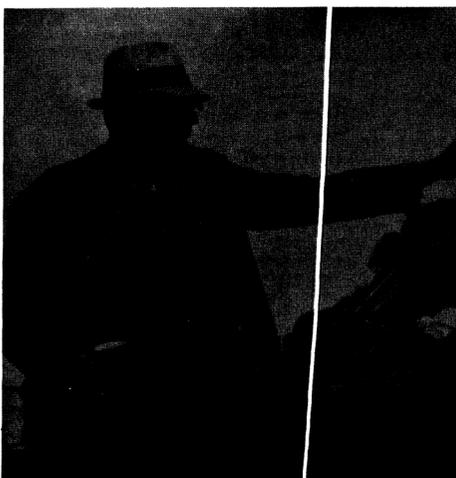
Shortly after this period Henry left his well-paid job with the IBEW (AFL) to help in the local 544 leadership attempt to take the teamsters into the CIO. Later, with the beginning of the war drive and the increasing pressure on union officials to sell bonds and become part of the war machine, Henry left his union job and went to work as a railroad brakeman.

He would spend hours patiently explaining the history of Marxism, the need for socialism and how to struggle for it, to young workers and students, who responded warmly to him and his teaching.

Contempt

At the same time he had a doer's contempt for small talk,

Henry Schultz



Pioneer American Trotskyist

A tribute by two Minnesota comrades

and was completely unable to engage in what he considered pointless conversation.

Thus he often appeared sour and taciturn to the numerous petty-bourgeois dilettantes who hovered around in periods of mass activity.

He lost both patience and gentleness in dealing with those he respected most, his closest collaborators and his family, if they fell short of the party task.

He had a skilled worker's impatience for a sloppy job and demanded that all technical work of the party be well done.

Unlike many of the older Marxists, he had a real appreciation of the double exploitation of women and of minorities. At the same time he neither idealized them nor patronized them.

Centre

The Schultz home was a centre of party life, scene of classes, parties, meetings, a place for coffee and comradeship after a petition drive, a stopping place for travelling party members.

He worked closely with the party fractions during many union struggles. Out of a close collaboration between the party packing house fraction, this experienced Marxist developed the intervention that prevented the Packinghouse Workers of America (CIO) from being completely smashed in the defeated 1948 ten-week strike.

The union nationally was saved by the vigorous struggle conducted in South St Paul. During the late 1940s he was victimized by the railroad bosses for his party activities and for several years he was unemployed. Hence he was free during the 1948 election campaign to travel and to get the party on the ballot in several western and mid-western states.

No doubt

Throughout these years there was never any doubt about where Henry stood on the political struggles within the SWP.

Like the whole Minnesota leadership he was a solid member of the proletarian (Cannon) section of the party.

ing, they were completely taken by surprise.

When the SWP declared in 1960 that Cuba was a workers' state, Henry and his comrades immediately recognized this as a revisionist threat to the Fourth International and to the very foundations of Marxism.

Again he tried to argue with all the SWP members he could reach, but he soon found himself even more isolated from the party ranks.

Yet even then he could not bring himself to write down his position and try to turn the party around. He was not, he said, a writer.

'Nor,' as he put it, 'am I a knight on a white horse who can ride out to save the party.'

In the aftermath of the fight that found him, for the first time in his conscious political life, outside of the active ranks of the SWP, Henry Schultz and his family moved to Madison, Wisconsin.

Concerned

Still in touch with the party, he followed it and was deeply concerned with developments within it. He read closely the work of the Wohlforth group, developing within the party. More and more he found he agreed with their position, and with the position of the SWP, especially on the class analysis of Cuba.

The first mimeographed draft of the 'Struggle for Marxism in the United States' made a deep impression on him. It provided an answer to his questions as to what was wrong with the United States.

He tried to overcome his isolation and at every opportunity would see his Minnesota co-thinkers and together they would struggle through the latest documents he had received.

Accident

His struggle to find a way to resume revolutionary activity was interrupted five years ago by a nearly fatal industrial accident.

He remained only semi-conscious for months and never fully recovered his physical strength. Forced into an early retirement, he now found himself isolated not only from his comrades, but from all contact with the working class he was so much a part of.

Henry recognized the Workers' League as the legitimate heirs of the Fourth International in the US.

In spite of his illness, he attended its founding convention and became a member of the first National Committee, from which he later resigned because he felt he could not contribute enough.

In the summer of 1968 he went to England at the encouragement of his Workers' League comrades and his family because they felt that in a large active movement he might again find a role to play.

He was eagerly welcomed, especially by the young workers of the Young Socialists and Socialist Labour League and he spoke warmly of them on his return. But as an active worker, he could not get used to being a guest.

Reality

Ideas were important to Henry, but disembodied ideas had no reality for him.

Their reality lay in the organization which struggled to put them into practice.

Isolated from a revolutionary organization, living in an essentially middle-class college town, in failing health and now deprived of any day-to-day contact with the working class, he fought valiantly side by side with him, it has been an increasingly bitter five years, as we watched him try to fight both ill health and total isolation from the working-class movement.

The heritage of Henry Schultz, working-class revolutionist, belongs to the Workers' League and the Fourth International.

The vindication of his life is the struggle for the building of that party that will lead the world revolution.

Italy gripped by mass strikes

By Robert Black

THE STRIKE wave now sweeping Italy is reaching massive proportions. The whole country continues to be convulsed by the mass action of workers fighting for higher wages.

N.U.P.E. PRESSES WAGE CLAIM

Newsletter Industrial Reporter

DISCUSSIONS took place early this week in Brighton between union leaders and local authority representatives in an attempt to prevent negotiations breaking down over the pay claim for 680,000 local authority manual workers.

The claim is for an 18s.-a-week increase, more pay for women and for shift working.

An offer of 10s.-a-week has already been rejected by the unions.

A National Union of Public Employees spokesman said that the unions were determined on the claim because productivity schemes over the last year had not made sufficient progress towards increased pay.

The Prices and Incomes Board two years ago was behind the suggestion that these schemes could be the way to change the low pay rates.

The determined resistance of local authority manual workers, such as the Lambeth dustmen, has made it difficult for the employers to implement these schemes.

Many local authority workers have realised that they only mean speed-up and redundancy and should continue to reject them completely.

Brewery strike ends

THE unofficial strike of 500 deliveries at London depots of Charrington's brewery ended on Tuesday.

The men, from five depots—Mile End Road, Tower Hamlets, Tottenham, Acton and Thornton Heath were demanding a wage increase when a new delivery sheet was introduced by the brewery.

Two All Trades Unions Alliance conferences

Motor workers' conference

All car, car components and delivery workers are invited to a motor workers' conference

Digbeth Civic Hall, Digbeth Birmingham

Saturday November 8 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Write for credentials to:

R. Parsons, 21 Strawberry Path, Blackbird Leys, Oxford.

Conference fee: 5s. a person

All Trades Unions Alliance SCOTLAND

All motor workers are invited to attend a meeting in Kingston Hall, Glasgow, C.S. Sunday October 5, 2.30 p.m. to discuss

'The economic crisis and the motor industry. Which way the unions?'

Registered with the GPO as a newspaper. Published by Workers' Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.

Many big engineering companies remain paralysed by a continuing series of staggered strikes by metalworkers all over the country.

The political and economic crisis, however, is affecting all layers of the population. On Monday state education officials announced a two-day stoppage from Friday against unfulfilled administrative promises of reform.

A statement by the officials' union said that the strike was a warning to the government to fulfil its commitments; and avoid a repetition of last year's stoppage.

ADEQUATE FACILITIES

At the same time the science faculty at Rome university announced that it will not reopen until it sees signs of getting adequate lecture halls and laboratories to cope with serious overcrowding.

This followed reported threats by the university rector to postpone the university's November reopening until the government took urgent measures to deal with overcrowding.

The university, built for 15,000 to 20,000 students is expected to have 90,000 in the coming years!

The upsurge of the class struggle throughout the whole of western Europe is sharply revealed in Italy.

The crisis of revolutionary leadership can and must be resolved.

Text of Kosygin-Chou talks revealed

THE Chinese government is willing to talk with the Soviet Union to try to reach a settlement of the border dispute, Radio Peking reported on Tuesday.

The radio quoted Peking's papers 'People's Daily', 'Red Flag' and 'Liberation Army Daily' as saying:

'We will not attack unless we are attacked. If we are attacked, we will certainly counter-attack. We propose to settle the crisis through talks.'

The statement follows the stop attacks on each other in the press and on the radio.

The two sides should agree to work towards the restoration of trade and other economic ties.

Since Kosygin returned from Peking after the funeral of Ho Chi Minh, the Soviet press and radio has muted its attacks on Mao and the Chinese government.

The role of intermediary between Mao and the Kremlin is no new one for Chou.

He has always been among the most moderate of those Chinese party leaders who sided with the Cultural Revolution, at one stage coming under sharp attack from a section of the Red Guard movement.

The Moscow report states that Chou promised to forward Kosygin's plan to Mao.

Though the ageing leader's health may well be in question, Mao retains all his justified suspicions of the intentions of the Soviet bureaucracy.

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Coal prices up

FROM Wednesday London housewives have to pay 7s. 6d. a ton more for coal, the National Coal Board announced.

The purge continues

THE CONVULSIONS within the Czech Communist Party continue unabated.

Following the resignation of the Federal government on Saturday and the removal of Dubeck from the Presidium it was announced on Monday that this had been followed by the resignation of the Czech state government.

The former premier, Stanislav Razl, and six ministers have been removed and a new government under the premiership of the pro-Moscow Stalinist, Josef Kempny has been formed.

Kempny now holds a key position in the Czech party, in addition to his new post he is head of its ideological commission, deputy premier of the new Federal government and has succeeded Dubeck in the Presidium.

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C.P. leaders justify troops in Ireland

From Bob Shaw

THE ROLE of British troops in Northern Ireland was much preferable to that of the 'B' specials said James Reid answering a question on Communist Party policy at a Glasgow meeting recently on the 'left and the ultra left'.

Text of Kosygin-Chou talks revealed

THE Chinese government is willing to talk with the Soviet Union to try to reach a settlement of the border dispute, Radio Peking reported on Tuesday.

The radio quoted Peking's papers 'People's Daily', 'Red Flag' and 'Liberation Army Daily' as saying:

'We will not attack unless we are attacked. If we are attacked, we will certainly counter-attack. We propose to settle the crisis through talks.'

The statement follows the stop attacks on each other in the press and on the radio.

The two sides should agree to work towards the restoration of trade and other economic ties.

Since Kosygin returned from Peking after the funeral of Ho Chi Minh, the Soviet press and radio has muted its attacks on Mao and the Chinese government.

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If Reid's class position was not clear enough then Arthur Milligan, 'Morning Star' reporter, recently returned from Northern Ireland, was even clearer.

The policy of support for the presence of British troops, he said, was the only one which we can follow, since the people of Northern Ireland wanted them there.

Why did the Communist Party not support the call made on August 16 by the Irish Workers' Party for the setting up of workers' defence guards and why was this policy statement subsequently withdrawn after a meeting held in London with the leadership of the British CP?

Reid refused to answer this question.

'Categories' One had to start with categories, he said.

These turned out to be the usual phrases used by Stalinists to cover up their counter-revolutionary role.

We must work for the 'victory of the left', which, said Reid, brings 'inevitable victory of the working class'; we must 'modify our policies to the needs of the working class'.

But when the needs of the working class in struggle against capitalism leads to mass action, as in Ireland, then Reid goes into action, against the working class.

'Raving' It was Trotskyist raving to talk about civil war in Northern Ireland, he said.

It was irresponsible to call for a general strike against the anti-union laws at the mass demonstration in Croydon on June 5.

The Communist Party had called a conference of trade unionists to unite the left against the anti-union laws, he said.

This received the support of Scanlon and Jones, who between them mobilise three million votes?

One waits for the analysis of the events which followed the CP-sponsored conference of the 'left', but Reid neatly switches his argument to rant against ultra leftism.

In fact three days after the CP conference Scanlon announced that he would vote for the TUC 'plan' which was to act in place of Wilson's anti-union law. The role of Stalinism was to cover up for this.

'Steer' Reid thinks it is best to steer oneself between the extremes of Trotskyism and 'left unity'.

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Businessmen offer aid to Powell



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MR ENOCH POWELL has been offered £10,000 by a group of 15 Midlands businessmen so that he can make a 'determined challenge' to become leader of the Tory Party.

The offer certainly reflects the Tories' turn to the right. But more than rich backers are needed by right-wing politicians such as Powell to solve the present problems of capitalism.

The crushing defeat inflicted by workers and students on the well-financed Von Thadden, leader of the extreme right-wing German Nationalist Party, should be a warning to those would-be backers of Powell.

D.E.P. will vet school leavers

By Mark Jenkins

THE Youth Development Service, at present under the control of local education authorities, may soon become part of the Ministry of Employment and Productivity.

This proposal emerged from Mrs Castle's speech to Youth Employment officers at Reading university on September 20. Mrs Castle is preparing legislation along these lines.

'The Times Educational Supplement' (September 26) sees this as a move to make youth employment 'industry based' rather than 'education based'.

In other words the needs of automated industry are to be paramount in the new system and the pretence of 'vocational guidance' is to be dropped.

Ominous In an ominous pointer to the future 'Supplement' says:

'It is obvious that careers advice could be separated possibly with advantage from the mechanics of placement and the chores of unemployment benefit.' (Our emphasis.)

Birmingham Youth Employment Service may be the 'pilot' of the new scheme.

It will be discussed on October 7 at the next meeting of the City General Purposes Committee, despite strong opposition from the teachers' organizations.

Advocates of the change over say it would save the City Council £35,000; the jobs of Youth Employment Officers would appear to be in the balance.

Even Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, who welcomed the statement, was forced to comment that he still regretted Mrs Castle's remarks because they pre-empted the TUC-government negotiations.

No intention Wilson has no intention of giving up the wage freeze—only of playing it down while dramatizing and exaggerating the prospects of a mark re-valuation entry into Europe and a trade surplus in 1969-1970.

To some stary-eyed delegates in the skating-rink at Brighton this might seem exciting.

Let them remember that the last time Wilson made this sort of statement was in 1966-1967—just before devaluation!

The basic question remains the fight for a leadership amongst GEC-English Electric workers which can carry their struggle through to victory.

Takeover It was the IRC which stood behind the GEC takeover of English Electric which is now leading to thousands of redundancies.

The total value of the Steel Group takeover is a mere £2.2 million.

Priestman's workers be warned.

The betrayal of the AEF leadership over the question of productivity strings in the last national agreement has in fact paved the way for managements such as Priestman's to give no increases without strings.

The one-day strike will only be a success if it is prepared for by a massive campaign to bring in all those menaced by productivity deals and mergers.

Nationalize In this period of increasing takeovers and resulting redundancies, the nationalization of the engineering industry under workers' control is the challenge to the employers.

This is the policy which has consistently been fought for by the All Trades Unions Alliance and it is with this perspective that the Priestman's engineering workers must prepare the extension of their struggle.

Immune Teachers may have considered they were immune from the problems of automation and productivity in the factories.

But today the pressure of the world monetary crisis and the high interest rates are forcing local authorities to apply the same principles in education—reducing the amount of labour required to produce educated workers.

The process of automation in industry more and more requires a small educated layer of skilled technical workers while unemployment faces the rest.

This is the meaning of the Tory 'Black Papers' 'super educated elite'!

Viewed in this light the ILEA's scheme could mean the very opposite of an advance in education—larger classes controlled by supervisors to occupy the minds of those destined for the dole queues of the 1970s.

ONE-DAY STRIKE CALL TO BACK ENGINEERS

HULL Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers district committee has called a city-wide one-day strike for October 14 in support of the 400 strikers at Priestman Brothers, crane and excavator manufacturers.

The AEF has 3,500 members in firms belonging to the local Engineering Employers' Association and 2,000 engineering workers in other unions may also strike on October 14.

The Priestman's strike began seven weeks ago when the management refused to improve a 25s. pay offer.

One shop steward pointed out that the men were already entitled to more than 25s. through productivity increases under a two-year-old agreement.

Workers are determined that the increase due under the last national engineering agreement should be added to any wage rise gained through increased productivity. The strike is very much a test case—similar productivity struggles are in almost every factory in the area.

Pressure This is what is behind the pressure for action from rank-and-file AEF members in the area.

Some are asking why the one-day strike was not called earlier than October 14 when the strike will be ten weeks old.

Strikers have already begun picketing the factories and docks for support for October 14.

Since the strike began the management has not met the unions.

Sharp fight All along it has been a sharp fight. The splitting tactic of the management ensured that some of the 300 manual workers, mainly General and Municipal Workers' Union members remained working.

The AEF threatened to call out apprentices reportedly being used as blacklegs.

As a result 60 apprentices were sent home on full pay.

In the sixth week of the strike production was stopped. All but a skeleton staff were sent home.

The 'Hull Daily Mail' pointed out that 'the company appears prepared for a long shutdown...'

Backing The Engineering Employers' Federation is strongly backing the management's fight.

The Department of Employment and Productivity has also become involved.

A meeting between the Department, the Employers' Federation and the AEF is being arranged.

Meanwhile the Industrial Re-organization Corporation announced its offer of one million pounds to the Sunderland Steel Group to carry through the takeover and re-organization of Priestman's.

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Dockers support deck hands' claim

LIVERPOOL dockers struck on Tuesday in sympathy with the claim of 100 deck hands, employed by Ocean Port Services, for 50 per cent of all awards given to holdsmen. The strike, involving 1,650 men, which has halted work on seven ships, began in Liverpool and later spread to Birkenhead.

In London on the same day pay talks were resumed on the basic rate for London riverside workers.

The men have been offered a basic rate of £24 5s. 4d. with a bonus for pieceworkers.

But many want enclosed dockers' top rate of £36-a-week without bonus.

Behind this rising tide of militancy are the employers' attempts to introduce Phase Two of the Devlin 'modernization' scheme.

The employers are prepared to make concessions in wages if Phase Two is accepted. This means the removal of the dockers' protective practices and prepares for large-scale unemployment.

The main question in front of dockers however, is not only the fight for wages, but the fight for a united struggle to throw out the whole Devlin scheme.

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