

As home car sales slump

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SHORT TIME AHEAD

Standard-Triumph strikers stand firm

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But the management had remained adamant in their refusal to meet the workers' claim against arbitrary lay-offs, which reduced them to casual labour, and the constant eroding of their wages.

He reported that they had received messages of support from dockers and Ford workers.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers' district committee is supporting the action. The strikers feel confident, strengthened by the fact that Vauxhall workers are also outside the gate.

Financial and moral support are not enough to hit the Leyland combine where it hurts.

United action is needed by all car workers and the building of a new fighting leadership through the All Trades Unions Alliance.

By Rex Henry

A SHOWDOWN over the threat of unemployment and short-time working is now on the agenda in the motor car industry.

Due to credit restrictions, car sales have slumped on the home market and the employers are seeking opportunities to weaken workshop organization preparatory to introducing speed-up and, in the case of British-Leyland, Measured-Day Work.

They believe that the time has come to split the working class like they did in the 1930s through sackings and short-time.

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Now this has been cut back to 1,300 a week and the management want to put the sections concerned on a four-day week and three night shifts.

This is a threat to the entire plant and recognized as such by a united shop stewards' committee.

Four-point plan

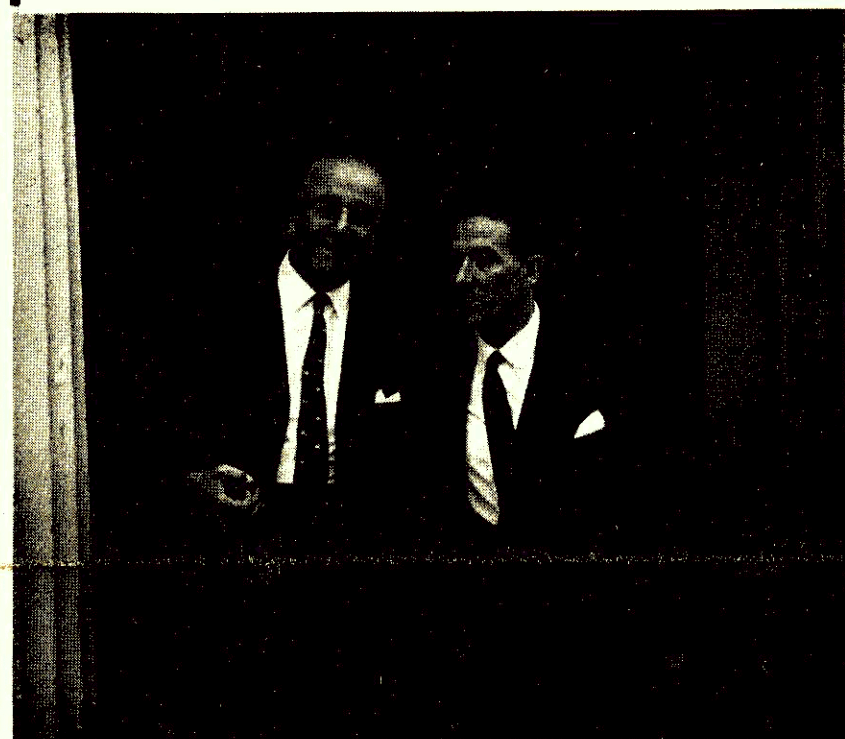
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VAUXHALL MEN MUST BEWARE



By our industrial reporter

Large U.S. holdings in chemicals

MONSANTO, the US-based chemical giant, has the largest stake of any foreign company in the British chemical industry.

ATROCITIES BY SAIGON REGIME

A MOVEMENT for Colonial Freedom press conference on Thursday detailed the Saigon regime's atrocities against freedom fighters held in South Vietnamese jails.

Vo Anh Minh, adviser to the provisional revolutionary government of South Vietnam's delegation at the Paris peace talks, disclosed the names of seven women who had been killed.

He also stated that 100,000 South Vietnamese were being held in prison camps.

They underline the fact that we have now entered a period of growing conflict between the monopolists on a world scale.

Bomb tests proceed despite earthquake fears

DESPITE widespread fears of resulting earthquakes and tidal waves, President Nixon personally authorized the underground nuclear tests in the Aleutian Islands, which started on Friday.

The first test was reported to be a 'Spartan' missile warhead triggered off at the bottom of a 4,000 feet deep hole drilled in the rock.

Earlier in the week the Canadian government said that it could not agree to the holding of the tests on Amchitka Island and it would hold the US government responsible for any injury or damage caused through the tests.

Fear

In the Canadian view 'an element of risk... cannot be entirely eliminated'.

British Columbia University seismologists fear that the 1.2 megaton explosion could

By a science correspondent

cause earthquakes in British Columbia and nearby.

Mr. George McKnight, the mayor of a small British Columbian town, Port Alberni, his panel felt there should be full public discussion before the tests went ahead.

Senator Fulbright, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, was unable to find out why the panel's report, written a year ago, had only been published this week.

Another Senator, Alan Cranston, felt that the Atomic Energy Commission was 'playing nuclear roulette', with the lives of people in the test area as stakes.

Disregarding all this however the President felt that the Atomic Energy Commission, which is conducting the tests, has a 'sound safety record', and the tests are to continue.

Powell looks to 1930s

IN HIS demagogic attacks on the world monetary system, Mr. Enoch Powell continues to advocate a return to the 1930s.

Opening the National Coin Exhibition in London on Thursday, he said 'the high priests' of the international monetary system dare not look a gold coin in the face because it would 'explode the lies about what our paper money is worth'.

He looks forward to a time when we are 'once more allowed to buy and sell our gold coins and gold itself'.

All this talk means that in economics as well as politics Powell wants a return to the 1920s and 1930s.

REFERRED TO YORK

The Brighton meeting, in which NUVB and ETU representatives also took part, decided to refer this question to a meeting in York on Wednesday.

Vauxhall workers must be on their guard.

If the union leaders accept the present deal—even in a modified form—the whole campaign for parity with Midlands car workers will be gravely weakened.

The shop stewards must take decisive action to explain the issues at stake to their members and to call for national strike action to defeat the penal deal.

• See page four story

Dustmen's strike: Jones steps in

URGENT talks on the London dustmen's strike were in progress on Friday after Mr Peter Evans, the transport union senior negotiator for the dustmen, rushed to Brighton at the request of Mr Jack Jones.

Unless the question was solved rapidly, Mr Jones said the union could become officially involved.

• See story page four

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As in West Germany, a long period of Tory rule has produced a swing towards the left.

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Though the Labour Party traditionally draws the bulk of its support from the trade unions, the present leadership has set out to impress the middle-class and certain sections of the employers.

Under its previous leaders, Dr Ewart and Mr Calwell, the Party won a reputation for militancy. Even if this was largely undeserved, their successor Mr Gough Whitlam has made a very sharp right turn.

Labour policy had been to oppose US intervention in Vietnam.

The Labour Party's position may have upset the so-called 'floating voter', but Ewart's own opposition to the war did rally youthful forces around the Party.

Broke tradition

At the Sydney rally, Whitlam broke from that tradition. All his statements indicated that Labour's new policy on Vietnam will draw much closer to those of Gorton's ruling Liberal-Country Party.

Whitlam stated that the task of a future Labour government would be to help the US 'extricate herself honourably from the disastrous and deluded war'.

It seems that Whitlam wants the war to continue, but feels unable to help in any material way.

What Whitlam is aiming at is a withdrawal from positions which he thinks are too advanced.

In his Sydney speech he called for the creation of mutual defence arrangements between Australia, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia, all of which should standardize their military equipment.

Embraces butchers

Whitlam withdraws from Saigon only to embrace the butchers of Djakarta—the Indonesian regime has over the last four years killed at least half a million communist workers and peasants.

Labour's home and economic policy promises to be equally reactionary and anti-working class.

Whitlam's speech committed his Party to development projects in conjunction with overseas and home-based companies.

It would amend taxation laws and give encouragement to insurance companies seeking to invest in basic industries and development projects.

And finally, again very much in the style of Harold Wilson, Whitlam proposed the establishment of an industrial development corporation.

Little or nothing was said

Open letter to the Communist Party

By the SLL Political Committee

THE 'Morning Star' has made no comment on this week's decisions of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. The British Communist Party leaders have not spoken a word on the matter to their members or to the working class.

Alexander Dubcek, former Party first secretary and Prime Minister, has been removed from the presidium of the Party.

Josef Smrkovsky, his leading collaborator, has been expelled from the Central Committee. Many others have been sacked. Most important of all, and the major reason why the 'Morning Star' reports without any comment, is the

Czech leaders' decision to annul their resolution of August 1968, which condemned the Warsaw Pact invasion.

This decision brings home more forcibly than any previous event the crisis of Stalinism.

On August 21 last year the British Communist Party's Political Committee said:

'Whatever differences of view there might be among socialist countries about developments in Czechoslovakia, in our view military intervention is completely unjustified.'

The statement added:

'... we consider that the way to defend socialism and resist imperialism is to establish voluntary and mutual co-operation between the socialist states and Communist Parties, based on the national sovereignty and autonomy of each Party and government.'

The executive committee meeting of August 24, 1968 endorsed this statement and recorded support for the policies of the Dubcek leadership.

The Czech resolution of this week is unequivocal and reflects exactly the dictates of Brezhnev and the Kremlin clique. It says of the invasion:

'Under no circumstances was it an act of aggression against the people. It was not a matter of occupation of Czechoslovak territory and of suppression of freedom and of the socialist order in our state.'

A large group in the Communist Party has in any case always supported the Soviet intervention.

Now they will feel their position has been confirmed. HOW can Gollan answer? If he sticks to the position that the Czech party 'knows best', will the British Party's condemnation of the invasion be reversed?

WILL Gollan then add to the 'absolute principle of national sovereignty' the second principle that opinions are best freely arrived at the point of 600,000 bayonets?

Undoubtedly, the British Communist Party, like the Italian and French Communist Parties, condemned the invasion not out of principle, but because they are closer and closer to middle-class democratic and reformist political circles in their own countries.

'Left unity', as the CP calls its unprincipled alliance with assorted trade union bureaucrats and parliamentarians, would have been endangered by support for the invasion in the old style.

The issue is not one of Stalinism versus bourgeois democracy in any way.

There is a direct connection between, on the one hand, the struggle of the workers against bureaucracy in Czechoslovakia, which was partly reflected through Dubcek and his group, and on the other hand the revolutionary needs of the work-

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Schools' T.V. in danger

By Frank Cartwright

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The question, he said, is should it continue to do so? VHF radio sets for schools and colleges are needed on a vast scale if pupils are to have access to BBC curricular programmes.

These sets are needed because by 1971 educational programmes will be hived off from the national network and put out on the present Radio Four VHF band.

Someone else This implies big capital expenditure on equipment as well as programmes.

But someone other than the BBC already heavily in debt, will have to find the money.

'We hope that the government will see the logic of this situation and agree to defray a major part of the cost of curricular educational programmes,' said Lord Hill.

This service is also used by professional people keeping their qualifications up to date. The government is on the spot.

Another increase in licence charges is out of the question in election year.

But to find more money for education in the present deepening crisis is impossible too.

'Unless we get some financial assistance... broadcasting will not be able to play the leading part in those developments that our Schools Broadcasting Council and Further Educational Advisory Council, not to say ourselves, are anxious for it to do.'

The crisis hits deeply everywhere. The BBC is in no way immune.

Short of teachers the state educational system is forced to rely more and more on broadcasting.

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Large U.S. holdings in chemicals

MONSANTO, the US-based chemical giant, has the largest stake in any foreign company in the British chemical industry.

Figures published in the current edition of 'Chemical Age' show that Monsanto's total stake in the United Kingdom for 1968—including home sales and exports of products made in Britain—amount to £60 millions.

Behind Monsanto stand Esso Chemical (£30 millions), CIBA (£28 millions), Du Pont (£28 millions) and May and Baker (£25 millions).

Together these American firms thus account for around £170 millions in sales in the UK or in exports from this country.

This compares with a comparable ICI figure of around £850 millions.

Other foreign-owned firms saw an even sharper increase in their share of the British market.

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More I.R.C. aid for big business

THE Industrial Reorganization Corporation (IRC)—the state body set up by Wilson's government to speed up rationalization in industry—has piloted an important deal in the electronics industry.

Under the terms of an arrangement announced on Wednesday, Plessey will acquire the numerical control activities of Racal Electronics for £1.4 million plus the value of the assets involved.

This will give Plessey nearly 60 per cent of a market worth £5 million and growing at 25 or 30 per cent a year.

Numerical control equipment replaces the human operation of a machine tool with a computer which is given its instructions on punched or magnetic tapes.

Workers' Press reporter

its numerical control activities.

Once more the IRC and the Labour government show their real role.

While Jenkins talks of continued restraint and sacrifice at the Brighton Labour Party conference, large sums of money are to be given to capitalist concerns to assist them in their drive for profits and markets.

The mergers and concentrations that will result from this and similar IRC interventions must lead to growing unemployment and redundancies.

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By a science correspondent

cause earthquakes in British Columbia and nearby.

Mr. George McKnight, the mayor of a small British Columbian town, Fort Albert, which was severely damaged in 1964 by huge waves caused by an earthquake, has appealed to President Nixon to halt the tests.

A US Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing was told this week by an Atomic Energy Commission representative that the possibility of an earthquake could not be entirely dismissed.

Another witness at the hearing, Dr. Kenneth Pitzer, who last year directed a presidential panel on underground nuclear testing, said that his panel were very worried about the danger of earthquakes being caused by big nuclear tests.

Dr. Pitzer said that new evidence showed clearly that

small earthquake occurred in the week following an underground test explosion.

He went on to say that in view of the new evidence and the fact that Amchitka Island is part of an area where many earthquakes occur naturally, his panel felt there should be full public discussion before the tests went ahead.

Senator Fulbright, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, was unable to find out why the panel's report, written a year ago, had only been published this week.

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Disregarding all this however the President felt that the Atomic Energy Commission, which is conducting the tests, has a 'sound safety record', and the tests are to continue.

THE trial of Ginsburg, author of the 'White Book' on the Sinyavsky-Daniel trial, and Galanskov, editor of the unauthorized 'Phoenix 61' and 'Phoenix 66', elicited a series of responses.

Many petitions and letters were signed protesting against this iniquitous trial which attempted to establish an unnatural relationship between the opposition communists and the NTS (a White emigré organization) fascists.

Professor Guerline, wife of the praised literary critic, Aikhenwald, who has written in particular in 'Novy Mir', was among 170 people who signed a petition which said, among other things, that: 'We affirm our complete agreement with the authors of the letter'.

It denounced the illegalities of the trial: 'This tendentious Tribunal has handed down an equally tendentious verdict'.

It finished with the following demand: 'We appeal for a re-trial of Galanskov, Ginsburg, Dobrovolsky and Lachkova in a public court corresponding to our legal norms and in the presence of representatives of public opinion chosen from among the signatories of this letter. We demand that sanctions be brought against those responsible for the organization of this trial that has so discredited Soviet justice'.

But a teacher, under Stalinism, is not primarily a source of culture and education, he must also be the vigilant instrument of a network of propaganda as constricting as it is crudely mythological and whose fragile equilibrium he must protect.

Thus the official organ 'Outchitskaia Gazeta' on December 16, 1953 defined the task of a teacher in the following terms:

'All school teaching must be impregnated with the spirit of the Party and conform rigorously to its principles.'

It is this position of 'principles' that prompted a correspondent of 'Outchitskaia Gazeta' on February 18, 1953 to reproach a teacher for confining himself to abstractions when he took up the theme, 'Soviet Tribunals and Their Tasks' because he had not 'considered bringing up the physician-assassins who sold themselves to the imperialists for dollars and pounds'.

Luckily for this teacher as soon as Stalin died, some weeks later, these same physicians were rehabilitated.

So the Party cell at the school where Guerline teaches decided—on an order coming from above no doubt—to relieve the Soviet educational system of this perverse teacher, who fought for the implementation of guarantees that are given to Soviet citizens by the constitution and the laws.

The cell that decided to dismiss her then called together the union section of the school, that is all the teachers (the 'collective'), since trade unionism is obligatory. The union meeting decided by a vast majority to dismiss Guerline.

One of the assistants at the meeting made a transcript of the proceedings and this account was circulated by 'Samizdat I', 'The voice of the communist opposition in the USSR'.

It should be added that Guerline appealed against the decision to a Tribunal. Among the numerous teachers dismissed for having protested against this arbitrary and illegal action, she was one of the few to be reinstated.

The publicity given to her case by the circulation of this document and the desire to break the united front of the rebels no doubt had an effect on the Tribunal's decision.

In this brief introduction all the allusions in the text cannot be clarified.

The most insidious is that of the 'keys'. It probably signifies that Guerline's husband, Aikhenwald, was visited by people who signed one of the protests and he eventually gave them the keys to his flat. This is denounced vigorously as suspicious by some of those present at the 'union' meeting.

Espionage and Stalinist 'vigilance', which were given full scope in the Moscow Trials, are always cultivated by the state machine as one of the means of resisting the slow but deep upward movement of the masses.

The President: This union meeting must decide on the dismissal of V. M. Guerline, literature professor in the upper classes, who, by her political and ideological position, no longer deserves our confidence.

A. V. Novojilova: In January there was a trial of four young people. Their activity was genuinely anti-Soviet. They were guilty in varying degrees, but irrefutable proof attested to their guilt.

A duplicating machine, dollars, Russian money and anti-Soviet literature were found at their homes. The accused, Ginsburg, aside from his anti-Soviet activity, was publishing foreign articles. All were in-veterate anti-Soviets and received a well-deserved punishment.

The trial was not completely public but what does that matter when it was dealing with such obvious misdeeds? Why couldn't be allowed to make anti-Soviet statements in the presence of the Soviets. Our people must not be subjected to such lies.

Perhaps there were other reasons why the trial was not public. It is not for us to know everything. We must place our confidence in our security services and not doubt them.

After the trial, Litvinov and Bogoraz (Daniel's wife) gave a slanderous letter to the foreign press full of anti-Soviet demands—liberation of prisoners with the help of the West and a condemnation of Soviet justice.

A series of unstable intellectuals who gave in to this provocation associated themselves with the repugnant letter. Their signatures are joined to the bottom of the Litvinov-Bogoraz letter.

This group of ideologically unstable people took up the defence of criminals. This letter was signed by our colleague Guerline. She has defended anti-Soviet activists at the same time as teaching literature.

Such duplicity is inadmiss-

sible. Whoever hesitates or doubts cannot be an ideological guide, cannot be an educator, cannot work in our school. Guerline: I have already lived through this. I was judged without a hearing in 1949, if it can be called a judgement, for the sole reason that I was the daughter of a man executed in 1947.

Today I am also being judged, or rather I have been judged and again without a hearing, since the Party meeting and the local committee have already made their decision without even taking the trouble to listen to me.

The decision that will be made here is already known: the collective must confirm a verdict already reached and you have only met for that.

The conduct of the communists of this school is cowardly and unworthy. They have acted like a special session of the NKVD (Soviet secret police) where judgements are made in the absence of the accused.

But I must speak of what I've done, of the reasons and of myself.

I was orphaned at the age of seven. My father, a communist, was executed, and my mother condemned to eight years in prison for her connections with an 'enemy of the people'. She only survived her rehabilitation for a short while.

When I was arrested I was 19. My whole school stigmatized me along with other enemies, teachers of Marxism, today rehabilitated.

When I returned to Moscow after my rehabilitation, many people were ashamed to look me in the face. These people had quite simply believed that I was guilty; they had all satisfied the needs of the organizations that were above them in the hierarchy.

Before making wild accusations against people again, those who witnessed and survived the years 1937-1947 should remember the mass meetings demanding the execution of Tukhachevsky and Yakir; they should remember the unconscious way in which

thousands who had done nothing were 'unmasked'; they should remember the creative zealotry which led us to discover anti-Soviet organizations in kindergartens.

I know what a violation of the law is. I know how important it is for the honour of our state that the law be observed because it is just that spirit of the law that is expressed here.

For us history is not written in our manuals or in the pages of our lifeless books but in our flesh; we must all feel ourselves responsible before history and for history.

We cannot be indifferent to violations of the law; we must sound the alarm each time we are not sure that the law of the Soviet state is being scrupulously observed because on the state level legality and legality alone is the measure of justice.

I don't understand those who lack civic fibre, those not interested in justice inasmuch as the honour of our country is tied to it.

Just and noble ideas require just methods in order to be realized. Civic concern, which is not only my right but my duty, is what pushed me to act as I have, that is, to sign a letter whose central theme was the legality of the trial.

Now let's come to this letter. I did not sign the appeal of Litvinov and Bogoraz and I would have refused. I addressed myself only to the state organs and Soviet judiciary. I don't believe I would be able to go over their heads to world opinion.

In accusing me of anti-Soviet activity, you have, why I don't know, only cited the Litvinov-Bogoraz letter when I signed another letter. This letter was sent, and I emphasize this again, to the Supreme Court, to comrades Brezhnev, Kosygin and Podgorny and to the lawyers of the accused. There was no question of appealing to the foreign press.

The demands in this letter clearly differ from those of Litvinov and Bogoraz. I am not speaking of the liberation of the accused but only a second trial 'keeping the proceedings entirely public and observing all the juridical norms, and of the punishment of those who are guilty of violating the law (this is the concern of the Moscow Tribunal).

The letter did not raise the question of the guilt of the accused and I am deliberately staying away from that question. I am not capable of considering it because I cannot do a judge's job.

But, again, honest and strict respect for the law must concern all men of good faith. A criminal, a murderer, a rapist, under a just government and strong Soviet reason, must be judged according to the law in all its severity and without the least infringement.

A voice in the room: And according to you should anti-Soviets be judged by law?

Guerline: Anti-Soviets too and even war criminals.

The same voice: But they are enemies. How can enemies be defended? They harm us and you are going to observe the law! That's unacceptable! Do they deal nicely with us?

Guerline: Aren't you ashamed? Your words are unworthy not only for a teacher but for anyone with any sense. Not to pardon our enemies is precisely to judge them by law, and only by law.

Our laws are strong and severe enough to punish whoever breaks them, without recourse to injustice. And if we don't observe the law in our country, how will we distinguish ourselves from our enemies?

In effect you are calling for lynch law and the summary executions of 1937!

What guarantee have we got that a tribunal that illegally condemns a guilty man today will not condemn an innocent man tomorrow?

A voice (always the same mathematics professor, N. N. Nojinka): Criminals cannot be judged according to justice. By that reasoning it would be necessary to acquit them all.

Guerline: Condemn the guilty and acquit the innocent. Whoever doesn't understand that should take an elementary course in political philosophy.

Nojinka: But what does the fate of these criminals matter to you? How does it concern you?

Guerline: I am not preoccupied by what happens to them. I am speaking only of respect for the laws and justice of the state.

But I'll go on.

The people to whom the order to dismiss me was given and who have already made

their decision, do not want to hear anything, do not want to understand anything. With a determination worthy of better use they repeat the same phrase: 'We completely associate ourselves with the authors of this letter'. (This sentence has been most effectively extracted from the letter I signed.)

But what does 'associate completely' mean to Litvinov and Bogoraz? Reading this letter I understood it, and continue to understand it in a very specific way: we associate ourselves with the public well-being, with the civic disquiet revealed in the Litvinov-Bogoraz letter.

The addresses of my letter and the demands expressed in it are in opposition to those of the Litvinov-Bogoraz letter. If the contents of these two letters had been the same, a second text with other de-

GUERLINE: I have already lived through this. I was judged without a hearing in 1949, if it can be called a judgement, for the sole reason that I was the daughter of a man executed in 1947.



Daniel (left) and Sinyavsky the two Soviet intellectuals whose trial brought world-wide protest. Those prominent intellectuals who protested in the Soviet Union were similarly treated—sent to prison camps thousands of miles from their homes. This also had repercussions through all spheres of Soviet life, with many people losing their jobs for unexplained reasons.

only of myself, I'm thinking of you. Through your mistake I don't want to return to 1949.

This meeting, called after my dismissal had been decided, justifies the uneasiness that drove me to sign this letter. Think about it: is the main point a careless, or even false phrase, which is contradicted by the content of the letter, or is it the purity and sacred character of the law without which we would have no state?

Now some words about the school. There is a question to be considered in this investigation which precedes the decision reached today. That's why I bring it up, having foreseen the questions.

I have never been a hypocrite with the children. I have never lied to them. I have taught them, to the best

Guerline: She is Daniel's wife.

Nojinka: How did you know what happened at the trial?

Guerline: From people who happened to be near the court where the trial was being held.

The trial had been declared public but only a very select public was allowed to enter. Also from Ginsburg's mother and from the defence lawyer's speeches.

Nojinka: Why did you believe them and not us?

Guerline: Because I don't want to believe, but to know. Everything that I've been told has strengthened this desire and increased my anxiety.

Novojilova: Why don't you want to recognise that the

are the accused guilty of anti-Sovietism?

Guerline: I've already said that I don't ask myself that not being a judge. Haven't you yet understood that that is not the question?

Someone: Why did you speak to the 'Voice of America'? And to the BBC?

Guerline: I spoke to our government and to our courts, I don't have to answer for the BBC.

A voice: But the BBC transmitted it.

Guerline: The BBC, not me. I'm not the BBC.

Andreyev (manual labour professor): Why do you always say 'we', 'we'? Who is this 'we'? In the name of what organization are you speaking?

Guerline: I say 'we' in the following sense. We citizens, and I include you, must be sensitive to what's happening in our country. I signed the letter in my own name, I will answer for it personally.

Andreyev: Who gave you this letter to sign?

Guerline: I think that is an immoral question. I will explain why. If I am dismissed from my job for having signed it when I didn't ask anyone else to sign, whoever gave it to me would be exposed to even harsher repressions. I don't want to make their lot any worse.

Someone: Do you know everyone who signed the letter?

Guerline: No. I hardly know 10, more or less well.

The same: Can you answer for the morality of the signatories?

Guerline: I can only answer for myself.

A voice: Which signatories do you know?

Guerline: Is that a question or curiosity?

The same voice: I don't believe you only know 10.

Guerline: You're right. I probably know more among those who signed other letters concerning this trial—Veniamine Kaverine for example or Paoustovsky. [Two well-known and revered Soviet writers. Paoustovsky died in 1968.]

Nojinka: But why are you interested in these delinquents and their fate?

Guerline: Try to understand, it's justice that interests me.

Nojinka (in a loud voice): Criminals and justice!

Guerline: At this level I can't explain anything. Think a little about what you're saying. Your words would be a bonus for the enemy.

The President: Who wants to speak?

Saveley (professor of industrial design, assistant pedagogical director): Guerline has just spoken of humanism, of res-

pect for man. I understand how she feels. I know Yourovski's family. She was also arrested but would she sign? She's been in camps too and for more than five years. Guerline only had five years of exile. But I understand how she feels.

But what I don't understand is the relationship between all this and the students. What is really happening?

Previously no one at the school read Andrei Biely, Sacha, Tchorny, Akhmatova or Goumilev, no one talked about them. And now? Students in classes other than hers are asking who these poets are.

From whom have they heard about them? From the members of the literary club. No one talked about these poets before, no one knew their poetry, and now they are read and reproduced on the typewriter. And on the school typewriter too!

Why doesn't anyone read what's in the library? Where does this pernicious infatuation come from?

An incident in the middle of a discussion attracted my attention to this. A 10th year student asked why don't we consider Goumilev's death heroic? The other students reprimanded the young fool and I joined in.

But there was another member of the club who was not admitted to the Komsomol because of self-conceit. This again is because of the club.

The editorial staff has worried me too. Three members of the club are on the committee. The newspaper had articles on school life before, and now there is only the literature question.

The newspaper for the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution only had an editorial; the rest was poetry. Mayakovski is all right, but then Blok, Essenine!

The editorial committee pretended that no one could do any better. Then the 10th year students set to and did better. Instead of splitting poetic hairs they showed the life of the school.

Lena Efremova put out a good paper in the eighth year and then in the ninth, because of the club, started to do bad work. Nothing was put in about the plenum of the party committee in Moscow. She asked why anything should be written about it since everyone read the newspapers.

There is nothing about Gorky in the paper. In the ninth year they say, we haven't studied him yet, let the 10th deal with him.

And 7B? For three years it has been called Zoia Kodmodianskaia and there is still no work on her subject. [She was a young member of the Komsomol who volunteered in October, 1941, was taken prisoner in November and handed by the Nazis.]

Another thing. A student in the eighth year, which Guerline doesn't teach, said: 'What a good teacher Guerline is and she's going to be dismissed!'.

The feelings you arouse, Guerline, are very suspicious.

Ossipov (mathematics profes-

MOSCOW



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mands would have made no sense and it would have been enough to limit ourselves to the phrase, 'We associate ourselves completely'.

I agree that this phrase could have two interpretations. If I had drafted this letter or had a chance to correct it, I would not have allowed such ambiguity in its formulation.

This phrase should not have been written or should have been: 'we share Litvinov and Bogoraz's concern over the violations of Soviet law perpetrated in the last political trial'.

I am emphasising this so that the comrades who return to this question will keep my clarification in mind and consider the 'criminal' phrase in the sense and with the interpretation I have given it.

Comrades, I'm not afraid of what's going to happen to me; I've known worse. At this moment I'm not thinking

of my ability, what I consider to be the truth. I have never talked to them about the letter or about the problems raised here; they are still too young to understand.

I have taught them literature, this literature always based on strong moral principles, on honour, on humanism.

I have striven to teach the children to think, since that is what learning means, to think honestly and to be rational. Who can seriously say that my teaching has had a bad influence on the children?

Questions put to Guerline

Eidline (history professor): What is the real relationship between Bogoraz and Sinyavsky?

Soviet government can have reasons it's best not to give for not letting everyone into the courtroom? Would it have been better to hold it at Loujniki? [A stadium with 15,000 seats in the suburbs of Moscow].

Guerline: But the law says in advance what kind of trial should be held behind closed doors. And since 1956, all of us should understand the terrible danger of saying that is beyond me. Has history nothing to teach you, historian?

As for Loujniki, that wasn't necessary, it's cold there in the winter. The Penkovsky trial was shown on television: no one doubted the legality of that trial. [Colonel Penkovsky was an American spy. His trial was public and televised as was the trial of the alleged English agent of the NTS, Gerald Brooke, recently released by the Soviet authorities.]

Eidline: According to you,

"I am ashamed for you comrades"

The dismissal of professor Guerline

Translated from a pamphlet published by French Trotskyists

was wrong not to attach the requisite importance to the first sentence of the letter. But should we impose sanctions for one mistake?

I'd like to make an analogy. Lenin, in an intervention against chauvinism and great power and nationalism in general, said that we must pardon the nationalism of oppressed nations but not that of ruling nations.

If Guerline was wrong we can understand her. We must understand her, not penalize her. Guerline didn't sign Litvinov and Bogoraz's letter, she signed a letter addressed to the institutions of the Soviet State. We mustn't lose sight of that. We must think hard before deciding.

L. P. Semerova (retired vice principal attached to party work): The actual situation is very complex. The hand of the enemy is at work in Poland, in Czechoslovakia. The ideological struggle has very much intensified.

Guerline says she is concerned with the defence of the laws and humanity. She is not concerned about knowing when and in what conditions the trial took place.

How can a Soviet citizen speak like that? This could not happen without the hand of the enemy.

We want people to speak up when things aren't working correctly but why sign letters? Why collect signatures? Why let the entire world know? These letters cover our state, our laws with filth.

In her statements Guerline clearly shows that she thinks she alone understands; don't the others understand anything?

You often said false things when I still worked here. And in the fifth year in your class, for a whole semester there was no new work done. . . . You did not start any. This is disgraceful.

Man can only satisfy his needs when he gives all his strength to society.

If a teacher isn't convinced that his state is right, he cannot be an educator. No one had the right to spread the filth in these letters.

And what is there to say about the past? It's already been judged, there's no reason to return to it.

Ogorodnikov (physical education teacher): Anna Leonidovna has just spoken about chauvinism. Isn't she ashamed? Where does nationalism come in? (Ossipova: You misunderstood me!) Perhaps, but it doesn't matter. Anna Leonidovna is wrong.

Guerline is trying here to dissociate herself from Litvinov's letter. That won't do!

You can't object to one and sign the other. And in addition she wants to justify herself.

There are only two kinds of propaganda and what is useful for them is harmful for us.

Her political weakness does not permit Guerline to be a teacher. I mistrust her politically.

N. E. Smirnova (literature professor): I've heard too many things here which it is impossible not to answer.

Firstly, why have almost all the comrades who've spoken talked of the Litvinov-Bogoraz letter?

Guerline has eloquently proved here that she takes a different position from Litvinov and Bogoraz, that the letter she signed was addressed to representatives of the Soviet power, that her action was dictated by truly civic motives.

She committed a responsible act not for glory, nor for personal advantage, but because it arose out of her civic convictions.

If she was wrong in not attaching enough importance to that first sentence which everyone has made so much of, she has explained herself in a sufficiently convincing way.

Another thing, the club has been talked about here. Guerline is a good teacher whose courses are well liked. This

year the club is very interesting. She didn't start with Goumylev but with the literature of the 1880s.

She has dealt with a complex literary process.

I. S. Bougrova helped at all the club meetings and only had good things to say about them. I'm sorry I wasn't at those meetings but I had accounts of them from I. S. Bougrova.

I know Guerline's students personally and have read many of their lessons—as Guerline has read those of my students—and I am sure that she has not nor could she have taught them anything bad, neither in her class (her teaching was inspected and always approved) nor in her club.

The club was conceived of as an enlargement of our programme, not as a copy of it.

There was therefore no question of Gorky but of let us say Blok and Brioussov without whom the literary process cannot be understood.

Gorky and Mayakovski are studied at the beginning of the 10th year and Guerline was trying to widen the children's horizon.

She has worked very hard, meanwhile directing the journal radio for a year, has helped in organizing all the evening get togethers, and prepared two of them herself.

A voice: But now do you see what she's done?

Smirnova: I've already said that. Based on one single sentence, and knowing moreover the meaning Guerline gives it, one could not mistrust her politically, neither as a teacher nor as an individual.

Vassileva (teacher of the primary classes): Comrades, speaking as a communist I must tell you frankly that Guerline has signed a document whose anti-Soviet meaning is indisputable.

The comrades here who've

Eidline (history professor): I understand Guerline. Her life hasn't been easy. But is she the only one to have gone through all that?

More precisely, just yesterday, overwhelmed by this hideous story, I told it to my father. And I learned unexpectedly that my father had suffered from the cult of the individual in 1952.

I never knew about it. I wasn't living with him, we didn't see each other.

He was a victim of it, but he speaks indignantly of those who say such things about our country in dirty letters sent to our enemies. My father gave me a solid ideological education.

In spite of all that I will speak up when it concerns a political error, whatever it costs me. Already at the Party meeting on March 25 I spoke up.

It's become difficult for me to work in the ninth year classes. The students are just waiting for me to make a mistake.

I say to them, 'The decadent movement is a reactionary trend'. Then they ask, 'Then the decadent poets are reactionaries?'. I answer, 'Yes, except for Brioussov and Blok who recognized their errors'.

And then again: 'And Tsvetaeva, was she a reactionary poet?'. 'Yes, of course.' 'But Guerline didn't tell us that. It's very difficult to learn.'

And the discussions! One student stands up and says, 'If someone sacrifices himself for an idea that he considers right, no matter what it is, it is heroic'. That was on the subject of Goumylev.

Who talked about Goumylev to them? Since when have we included Annenkov [probably confused with Annensky], Goumylev and Biely in our Russian poetry course?

A parallel can be made with 'The Ancestors'. ['The Ancestors' is a piece by Mickiewicz, a 19th century Polish

I swear that but for this letter, if anyone had sat in judgement on you, I would have been against it. But you cannot teach. Don't be angry with me, I have no confidence in you.

V. I. Nagornaia (physical education teacher): We have made a mistake. In the local committee we made a decision without giving Guerline a hearing.

She is right, it should not have been done. We're not judging an act, but an individual. When an individual addresses us, we mustn't only look at the dossier, we must listen to her.

I knew nothing about this letter. I have no opinion. I've just heard Guerline and I cannot doubt her or not believe her.

Think, why exactly has this trial raised such indignation, why have violations of the law been spoken of? No one has answered that question for me. Why couldn't this have been public? It all would have been clear then . . . but now . . .

The club has been discussed. It's been going for less than a year. That's too short a time to transform children.

The club couldn't have deformed the children. There are things other than literature.

There's physical education. As a physical education teacher I say we've also participated in their education and I should be dismissed too, we should all be dismissed.

Epchtein (geography professor): I've worked 30 years and this is the first time I've heard such talk. The school is an ideological establishment of the state and such discussion takes place!

If you'd declared war, Guerline, you would respect Soviet power.

Why has the cult of the individual come into this? You claim that the cult of the individual existed here but the

The main point Guerline, is the personal offence you've committed. People don't interest Guerline, but they must interest you. Your signature is in defence of people you don't know.

How can criminals be defended? And how is that justice?

Justice judges criminals and you defend them. Why haven't you consulted your friends, Guerline? If they are your friends, why haven't you consulted them?

Either you're protecting them or else they're not your friends. Is what I'm saying true?

There's something strange here. Otherwise what are these friends defending?

And if Guerline is defending justice, why didn't she bring this question up for discussion in the union meeting? Why is she afraid to tell us the real names of the people who gave her the letter? How can anyone defend her?

And our administration was wrong too. 'She's only looked after her lectures, it doesn't matter who gives these lectures'.

Her erudition has even been praised. Why is erudition necessary? In a lecture the teacher has the role of ideological guide; don't bother us with your logic, it's not a question of that.

In Guerline's class, 7B, things aren't going well. It's slack, undisciplined. Everything's been going well in my classes.

When they were in the fifth year, when they'd just come out of primary school, they laughed when they saw a girl who wasn't as well dressed as they. Their mood didn't please me at all. Now that's over but it's an undisciplined class.

We can see Guerline clearly now; she's a good teacher but there's a lot to reproach her for. I'm entirely of the opinion that her conduct is incompatible with being a teacher. Whoever vacillates to the right can't teach on the left.

Mazo (a young biologist): I must go, but I'm going to say something. Two years ago war criminals were tried. My personal opinion, I'm establishing a parallel.

A voice: What does that mean? It's incomprehensible.

Mazo: I said, I'm establishing a parallel. (He goes out.)

Bougrova (doctor): I spoke to Guerline about the local committee decision. It's not a secret. And I gave some poetry to the pedagogic council, to the professors. And the children took them.

They were my favourite poems. And I was involved with the club.

Mantsour (literature professor and friend of Guerline's): Guerline said that those who condemned her in 1949 were too ashamed to look her in the face afterwards. So that I will not be ashamed, I will speak.

I'm not supporting Guerline, I didn't divulge the secret of the Party meeting.

I have said what I think and I will not be ashamed to look Guerline in the face.

Pakhomov (doctor, president of the local committee): Bougrova had no right to disclose the secret decision of the local committee.

Ingerov (director of the school): Comrades, none of you here have any doubt who's defending Guerline. That deserves some thought.

Their intervention is not a chance thing, and it is not by chance that we foresaw this. These comrades would have done better to look after themselves. Where does such a position lead them?

The collective will not want to work with those who have defended her.

Guerline's action is unspeakable. The first and second letters are the same! You will not get out of it and you will not deceive anyone.

Without seeming to, Guerline has insulted us all. Why does she say it was all decided in advance? What Guerline and her defenders have said is derisory and vain. Their radios

[BBC and 'Voice of America'] will harm no one. They only defile themselves.

It's not by chance that her class and her club are undisciplined. No, it's not by chance. Man is not made by a succession of chances.

No one who thinks correctly defended Guerline. What Nagornaia said is unworthy, as has been her conduct throughout the meeting (several times she's interrupted the speakers indignantly). What a lack of principles!

As for Guerline's sincerity, that's not even worth mentioning! What a hypocrite.

She is in the same bunch as Gabai.

Who is going to believe that Guerline didn't know that her lies would be taken up by 'Voice of America'? Why did she broadcast the letter (Guerline: You're lying—I didn't broadcast it) and not come to the party organization?

Now let's pose the essential question: what are you going to do now, comrade defenders, and with whom? We won't allow you to have it both ways. You have no right to introduce doubt into 16-year-old heads. An unprincipled group has formed which is trying to influence our serious comrades.

Can we be sure that with Guerline's departure a Soviet atmosphere will be re-established? With no equivocation we have got the measure of these comrades. They had better think before voting.

We are giving a political meaning to this business. It's necessary to get rid of Guerline right away; she should never have been admitted to the school.

The education of children can't be entrusted to a politically doubtful individual!

Batygina (vice-principal): It's been said here that Guerline only made one error. One error can characterize the political level of a teacher.

Yes she gave good lectures, she was learned, but we must go farther. What traces of new work are there in 7B?

It's all formal, nothing comes from the heart. And this is only the lectures!

The class is called Zoia Kosmodemianskaia and it's done no work on her subject. At the end of 45 minutes of the class what is there? The letter.

And she's insolent too. She refuses to be available or else 'someone made an unjustified remark' about something she said or she refuses on principle to speak at the meetings. She refused to make copies of the reports, she says there are enough of them; that is her true face.

My son was in her class. As a mother, as a teacher, as an administrator. . . . I don't think she can be a teacher. Her teaching won't produce men the country needs.

President of the meeting (teacher in primary school): You don't yet have this civic spirit and honesty you speak about. On many points you are apolitical. The comparisons with the cult of the individual are absolutely apolitical.

People with clear consciences and real civic concern feel perfectly secure. Why don't I feel in danger? I have a clear conscience.

Let's vote on the following proposal: to demand that the Ministry of Culture dismiss V. M. Guerline according to article 48 of the work code (by demand of the union organization).

Results of the vote — of 42 present, 5 against and 2 abstentions. [The Ministry of Culture was given different figures—2 or 3 against and 1 abstention.]

Guerline: I am ashamed. I am so ashamed that I can't raise my eyes. I am ashamed, ashamed for you, comrades. Because you don't know how to listen or understand, because you don't know how to think, because many among you have revealed yourselves to be even more dishonest than I thought you were.

April 16, 1968.



Grandson of a former Soviet foreign minister, Pavel Litvinov, with Larissa Daniel, wife of the imprisoned writer, who is herself now exiled in a camp. Guerline was accused by the teachers' court of having signed their protest over the Daniel-Sinyavsky trial.

spoken of Litvinov and Bogoraz's letter are right. There is no essential difference between the letters. She cannot refuse responsibility for the amalgam.

It isn't surprising that a letter with such a bedfellow received no answers. Without the bedfellow there would have been an answer. No one would answer such anti-Soviet letters.

We should not talk about careless formulations but, if we are responsible people, about its anti-Soviet content.

Why was this letter signed by 220 people? Is that the expression of a personal offence? And you've tried to explain that you bear no ill will towards us!

You're not considering anything; the international situation is so difficult now that we must always think about it. For us the main point is the ideological firmness of the teacher. Comrades, I would not entrust the education of children to Guerline.

writer and dramatist. He is considered to be the greatest Polish writer and the pro-scribing of his work in Warsaw at the beginning of 1968 sparked off resistance among intellectuals and students.]

No one has the right to include these decadents. What have these minor poets given to the ideological tempering of our generation?

Guerline's position is false and corrupt. She has just explained it. But Guerline, we haven't only got the year 1937! There is also Soviet power. That answers for 1937.

She's already been judged. In the collective there is a group that put themselves above the others. We have our organization and this group of professors is always opposed to the others, making a show of their erudition.

No Guerline. You lack character; moral laxity, lack of discipline. These are two faces of the same coin. The role of educator cannot be entrusted to you.

sor): What adult manages the newspaper? What connection does Guerline have with it?

Savelev: No one manages the paper. We have confidence in the children.

Guerline has nothing to do with the paper, but three members of the editorial committee belong to the literary club and the others obey them.

Bougrova (physics professor): The little girl in the eighth year said that about Guerline a long time ago. When she said that there wasn't any question of dismissal. She often speaks in a strange and incomprehensible way.

New questions put to Guerline

A voice: Who signed first, you or your husband?

Guerline: Me.

A voice: Doesn't it seem to you that Bogoraz is biased?

Guerline: How does that concern me?

Nojinka: And if this trial had been according to all the rules what would you have said?

Guerline: I would have said justice triumphed.

Nojinka: What is lacking then?

Eidline: Guerline, if you are moved by humanitarian feelings, why haven't you signed anything for Spock? [An American doctor arrested after a demonstration against the war in Vietnam in 1968.]

Guerline: I would have if I wasn't more interested in the problems of our country.

A voice: Why were you aroused for a political cause? You didn't intervene for common, human rights.

Guerline: Yes, but neither was I dismissed from my work for that.

Ingerov (the director): None of the people we know, no one at the school signed! No one!

Andreyev: What are Kristi and Klentiskaia to you?

Guerline: Friends.

Andreyev: Do you know Orlovski?

Guerline: Like you. I've only heard him speak many times. I met him once but not in the period you're interested in.

Andreyev: When you leave your house do you leave your keys with strangers? How many keys have you got?

Guerline: We have many. We live like that. We leave them with friends when it's necessary, never with strangers.

Andreyev: She signed Litvinov and Bogoraz's letter. Their

letter complements this one. (He reads the end of Litvinov's letter.)

Aren't there any honest people in the Soviet Union? To listen to you, one would think that you're more honest than anyone else. Haven't we got our newspapers, our institutions? You haven't addressed yourself to them. Therefore the Soviet laws you speak of are trampled underfoot by you.

You haven't said who sent you this letter. You only say what it is advantageous for you to say. (A voice: You speak of an advantage!)

You are lying when you say you didn't sign first. Your signature is one of the first. (Guerline: They're in alphabetical order.)

And you're making a mistake about Soviet law. If you received an appeal it should have been sent to those who deal with the law.

(Guerline: I sent it to the Soviet government.)

And yet you have forwarded democracy, you have signed Litvinov's letters!

You say that you haven't lent your keys and your husband says that he has. I keep my keys in my pocket. What do you do with yours?

You are lying, you are looking after your own interests. You have raised yourself against the Soviet authorities. We have chosen judges in whom we have confidence and you clamour for their punishment.

The letter, from beginning to end, was written by an anti-Soviet hand.

And even among Party members, there are people who aren't completely honest. Who spoke to you about the decision of the party meeting?

Guerline: I figured out that state secret myself. It was first a Party meeting, and then the local teacher's committee, who decided upon my dismissal. It's clear that the local committee didn't make this decision alone.

Andreyev: Once again, you don't want to name your confederates. Who spoke to you about this meeting?

Guerline: I've already explained.

Andreyev: Someone who signed this letter can't teach in our school.

Ossipova: We know and understand all the duties and responsibilities of a teacher. We know Guerline. She's a good teacher. We must all think carefully and not take these accusations lightly. I cannot believe Guerline's explanation, but I cannot not take them into consideration.

We must also consider the trend that has inspired her action. In effect, she is experiencing the problem of legality and she has the right to that.

Let's even admit that she

Cadeby miners firm

By Jack Gale

THE STRIKE of 1,600 miners at the Cadeby Main colliery, South Yorkshire, remains solid at the end of its third week. The Cadeby strikers have been joined by miners at Maltby, Barnborough, Thryburgh Hall (Kilnhurst) and Cortonwood.

At issue is the question of market men's wages.

The Cadeby men are striking against the system under which skilled men without regular jobs are sent to lower-paid jobs when facework (which pays an 8s. 2d. a shift plus a 20 per cent bonus) is available for them.

Attempts to spread the strike have found a response in other pits as well. New Stubbin, Wath - Main and Manvers Main will join the strike very soon.

DECISIVE

Monday and Tuesday will be decisive for the outcome of the strike.

On Monday, the strikers are to lobby the Yorkshire area council of the National Union of Mineworkers at the Barnsley miners' offices.

They will demand the application of the National Power-Loading Agreement scale (85s. 3d. per shift) for all trained face workers.

Some of the strikers expect that the National Coal Board will attempt to stop the strike from spreading by offering the week's bonus to some men and get them to return to work.

This attempt to split the unity of the strike must be decisively rejected.

A strike committee statement issued earlier this week pointed out that the issues involved apply to all Yorkshire miners.

BIG DROP

'At some pits men on a high rate of pay when away from the face (for example development men) may think they are safe. But when this third-day wage structure comes into operation, these men will have a substantial drop in wages.'

'It is likely also that craftsmen working under the National Power - Loading Agreement will suffer a substantial reduction in wages following the introduction of the three-day wages structure.'

Operation of this structure has been postponed for four months, but the NCB is determined to impose it.

Cadeby miners must be backed up by other pits in the coalfield if these plans are to be defeated.

HOME CAR SALES DROP

REGISTRATION of new cars in the first six months of the year show a 17 per cent drop compared with the same period last year.

This was revealed in figures released on Wednesday by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, who also showed that over the same period registration of foreign cars was 6 per cent up compared with last year.

Workers' Press reporter

Figures published the same day also indicate that buying of cars on hire purchase during September was at its third lowest point this year and used cars at its second lowest level.

Increasing pressure

The car bosses are increasing their pressure on the government for an easing of the credit restrictions on car buying.

A depressed home market—production will fall below the million mark for the first time since 1963—has sent costs rising and hit exports.

But Chancellor Roy Jenkins, returning from the International Monetary Fund annual meeting, made it clear at the Labour Party conference that even with the £450 million payments surplus he now hopes for, there can be no relaxation of the squeeze.

BOAC stewardesses, who are also T&GWU members, have already threatened to strike at the end of the month against overworking.

More school cuts

By Mark Jenkins

BRENT Education Committee (London) has issued instructions to its schools that supply teachers will no longer be available to cover absences for teachers away for less than three days.

In winter months with the inevitable epidemics, this could lead to serious staffing shortages in many schools. Marking and preparation time could disappear.

It is one more example of the kind of economies being made behind the backs of teachers and at the expense of children's education.

Recently National Union of Teachers (NUT) leaders made a deal with Coventry Education Committee to partially improve the situation caused by the sacking of the borough's part-time teachers.

The NUT leaders conceded unspecified 'economies in other fields' of education as part of the agreement.

Has Brent Council provided the first clue as to what these economies might be?

'HUMANITY is ruthless in dealing with social and political forms and institutions which have outlived their usefulness', says a report presented to the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, now meeting in Washington.

TOO SMALL

The 400-page document, 'Partners in Development' was prepared by the International Commission of Independent Development and introduced by Commission chairman, Lester Pearson, former Canadian Prime Minister.

Arguing that 'the world is now too small to confine... within national boundaries', Pearson asserts: 'If the nation-state cannot meet this test, if it cannot co-operate with other states to ensure certain basic social and economic conditions as the minimum entitlement of all men, it may disappear—and it will deserve to do so.'

World Bank report—a fraud

By Peter Jeffries

taism—now the most reactionary and outdated institution—can lead to the successful planning of the world's resources and provide a solution to the backwardness and poverty which now grips two-thirds of the world's population.

'REFORMS'

Their report consists of a series of 'reforms' which they hope will stave off the socialist revolution. They thus attempt cynically to deceive millions of people about the true nature and causes of the crisis facing humanity.

They want to see expanding trade between developing countries, a 6 per cent annual growth target; fulfilment by 1975 of the 10 per cent of national income

pledged as aid by the countries of Europe and America and a doubling of official aid from these countries by the same year.

None of these reforms can be achieved.

DISASTER

Even in the capitalist boom of the 1950s living standards for millions in the colonial and ex-colonial

countries continued to decline, both absolutely and relatively.

Now, with economic crisis starting Europe and America in the face, these so-called 'backward' areas are faced with disaster.

In other words, Pearson's report is a fraud. Its only value lies in the fact that it shows that even when the capitalists and their well-paid spokesmen realize that their system is at the end of the road, they will hang on to their power to the end peddling their so-called solutions and remedies.

Only the socialist revolution, led by the revolutionary party of working class, can deal with any of the problems which 'Partners in Development' is forced to draw attention to.

VIETNAM

War is such a nasty business

By a foreign correspondent

It was President Nixon himself.

Mr. Ron Ziegler, presidential spokesman, said Nixon had agreed with the CIA that to make its agents available at the trial might endanger 'national security'.

The bluntest comment on the affair was made at a press conference given by the Green Berets at Travis air base in California.

Denial

Colonel Robert Rheault, former commander of the Green Berets in Vietnam, denied there had ever been any killing.

'The term homicide is misused in the context of war. War is a nasty business in which you find a number of high sounding adjectives such as freedom and defence against evil to justify killing people.'

Confirmation

Now comes official confirmation that it was neither the US army nor even the CIA that decided to release the charged Green Berets.

U.S. tries to break N.L.F. from Hanoi

FRESH ATTEMPTS were made at the Paris peace talks to break the National Liberation Front away from their compatriots in North Vietnam.

Rejecting the National Liberation Front demand for a coalition government to prepare elections in the south, the chief negotiator for the US-backed Saigon regime called on the NLF 'to break away from the communist world and accept free elec-

tions under international supervision'.

Like its imperialist paymasters, the Saigon regime hopes to take advantage of the international conflicts within and between the workers' states.

They are not only speculating on anti-Chinese feeling in the NLF, but on the deepening of the rift between China and the Soviet Union, a split that will have a big impact on the present neutral policy of the North Vietnamese government.

WEST GERMANY

COALITION BASED ON RIGHT-WING POLICIES

By a foreign correspondent

GOVERNMENT coalition talks have reached an advanced stage, it was reported in Bonn on Thursday.

Negotiations have moved on from policy questions, where broad agreement seems to have been reached, to the allocation of cabinet posts.

While the bulk will go to the Social Democrats (SPD), who have 224 seats in the new House compared to the Free Democrats' (FDP) 30, the precise distribution is not yet known.

If the SPD-FDP coalition is formed, then Willy Brandt will be Chancellor, with Walter Scheel, leader of the Free Democrats, as his Foreign Minister.

Karl Schiller, the leading advocate of reevaluation, will almost certainly continue as Economics Minister.

Dissension

While the talks head towards final agreement, the first signs of dissension can be detected in the Christian Democrats camp.

Franz Strauss, leader of the Bavarian wing of the CDU, claims that his Christian Social Union fought the election with more conviction than did its CDU partner.

In what was thought to be a dig at Chancellor Kiesinger, Strauss referred to those in the CDU leadership who could not grasp that the political generation of post-war times finally belongs to the past.

However, Kiesinger is still fighting an up-hill battle to break off the most right-wing section of the FDP, promising them 'real partnership' in an all-embracing programme for the 1970s.

Against reforms

The extreme right-wing nature of West German social democracy is underlined by its agreement on home policy with Walter Scheel, whose party has always taken a very firm line against the mildest of social and economic reforms.

On foreign policy, the FDP is, if anything, more 'left' than its projected coalition partners.

Its present leaders ousted Dr. Menckes several years ago because of his 'cold war' line towards the Soviet and East European governments.

There are signs of a change in the attitude of sections of the West German ruling class towards the Soviet bureaucracy.

All three Bundestag parties sent top-level delegations to Moscow in the weeks before the election campaign, while in West Germany the Kremlin was made earlier in the year with the legal revival of the banned German Com-

munist Party under a new name.

In its foreign policy, a SPD-FDP government would lean closer to the Kremlin bureaucracy, also easing its restrictions on relations with those countries that have diplomatic dealings with East Germany.

This would mean the end of the so-called 'Hallstein Doctrine' proclaimed at the height of the 'cold war' and defended by the ruling Christian Democrats until now.

At home, the coalition will rally the big monopolies against the rising wages offensive in the working class.

We must not forget that Brandt's party voted for the Emergency Laws which gave dictatorial powers to the state in the event of strikes or other 'civil disorders'. This was the path trodden by Brandt's forerunners in the pre-Hitler Social Democratic Party.

West German workers, together with their brothers in the East, must ensure that this time it is they, and not the monopolies who break the back of social democracy.

Brazil junta attacks left rivals

BRAZIL'S military junta stepped up its repressive policies in Rio de Janeiro on Wednesday.

Police seized and burned thousands of books by Marxist and left-wing writers when they raided book shops and the private homes of jailed opponents.

The Brazilian dictatorship is already in serious difficulties, and this latest outrage, in the best traditions of the Nazis, proves how desperate its rulers are.

All Trades Unions Alliance conference

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

SCOTLAND

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

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

'Unemployment and the lessons of GEC-English Electric'

LIVERPOOL Sunday, October 19 7.30 p.m.

Museum Lecture Hall William Brown Street Speaker: C. Slaughter Central Committee Socialist Labour League

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DUSTMEN'S STRIKE SPREADS

THE TWELVE-DAY-OLD London dustmen's strike spread to another two boroughs on Thursday as more council workers took up the fight for a £20 weekly wage.

By Peter Read

More than 3,000 dustmen in 17 of the 32 London boroughs are now on strike after the City of Westminster and Croydon council depots decided to join.

The dispute is estimated to affect almost four million people.

Despite the clearance of one large heap of rubbish, refuse is piling up all over the rest of London—though councils are busily issuing plastic sacks for the overflow from the dustbins.

For all

The dustmen's determination to win their claim shows no sign of slackening. As one dustman, chairman of a local Transport and General Workers' Union branch, said: 'Our fight is not just for us. It's for all low-paid workers.'

This meant, he said, fighting against Wilson's prices and incomes policy.

Here is the crux of the fight. For Mrs. Barbara Castle's Department of Employment and Productivity has already been asked to intervene in the dispute. Dustmen should remember

the experience of the Lambeth strike in which, though wages rises were won, the council's productivity terms were also accepted with consequent speed-up and the threat of loss of jobs.

Excuse

The DEP's intervention may well be used as an excuse to get similar terms in the other London boroughs—terms which would give the predominantly Tory councils the go-ahead to rationalize collections at the dustmen's expense.

The dramatic spread of the strike is another indication of the growing militancy of low-paid workers, who are faced with rapid cost-of-living rises.

Many dustmen take the job because it offers security, though the wages are low. But as one dustman pointed out: 'I take home £14 a week including bonuses. In the new Hackney flats the rents are £5 to £6 a week and we just cannot afford them on our wages. I don't intend to get by on £14 any more.'

No deals

The dustmen's strike must be fought through on a political basis of opposition to Wilson's wages policy if it is to be won.

There must be no phoney productivity deals accepted by the leadership in return for wage rises.

One-day strike called for London airport

THE 200 Transport and General Workers' Union shop stewards from London's Heathrow airport have decided to call out the 10,000 T&GWU members at the airport on a one-day strike next Wednesday.

The men are disputing the granting by the British Airports Authority of a contract for ground handling services to a Canadian company, General Aviation Services.

They fear that the introduction of the new company will lead to redundancies.

BOAC stewardesses, who are also T&GWU members, have already threatened to strike at the end of the month against overworking.

Vauxhall workers reject deal

Workers' Press reporter

THE Executive of the Merseyside Vauxhall shop stewards committee at its meeting on Wednesday decided to call a mass meeting within the next few days.

The meeting is to be held after the Brighton talks with management and union leaders and after the situation with regard to dole has been clarified.

Only a handful of workers were left in the Liverpool factory on Thursday after heavy lay-offs.

At a recent meeting of Liverpool National Union of Vehicle Builders (NUVB) members—3,000 of which have been laid off—one member moved that they accept the present wage deal and fight next year.

Overwhelming

This was overwhelmingly defeated.

Only a handful voted for it. NUVB stewards allege that the company asked their members to man presses—doing the work of men from the press shop who are in dispute.

The firm now denies this.

The stewards declare that there is complete solidarity between the NUVB and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundry workers, with feelings growing against the management as they have been 'exposed for what they are', in the way they have laid off workers.

Defeats

'The press try to make out we were defeated', said Alan Baker the convenor.

'But remember this was the first all-out strike proposition in six years. We weren't defeated when 50 per cent were ready for a go, and knew it was going to be long.

'The work-to-rule was operated to the full.'

Birmingham Socialist Society excludes S.L.L. students

By an education reporter

In other words it is possible to collaborate with the class enemy, but not with those who are fighting on policies in the interests of the working class.

CAR UNEMPLOYMENT

FROM PAGE ONE surplus labour should be placed in a pool where they would be paid the flat rate of 10s. 1½d. an hour.

This is being opposed by the management who have produced counter-proposals in which piece-workers would lose between £4 and £6 a week.

British-Leyland have recently announced an expenditure of £70 million on the Cowley Oxford plant. This, it

is claimed, would make it one of the most modern car factories in Europe.

'Why should the workers suffer?' say the stewards. Should not a portion of this investment be used to alleviate hardship now being inflicted on the workpeople as a result of circumstances entirely connected with the capitalist system?

If British-Leyland persists in its challenge, a very bitter struggle lies ahead.

Concern over dock safety

GLASGOW dockers refused on Wednesday to handle supplies of bone meal unless safety measures were agreed by the management.

This action followed the death from anthrax of a Dundee docker who had handled the meal.

On Monday Dundee dockers also refused to unload a further cargo. They are awaiting the outcome of a medical report on their dead workmate.

Unloading

Meanwhile, they have imposed a ban on the unloading of bone meal.

Glasgow dockers were demanding that protective clothing be provided; that cargo should be examined by doctors; and that the employer accept liability if any men contract a disease from the cargo.

The men were issued with protective clothing on Thursday and will be supplied with showers.

Thousands march to back B.S.R. women

From Bob Shaw

SPEAKING to 4,000 workers who had demonstrated their solidarity with the strikers at the Better Sound Reproduction factory at East Kilbride, Judith Hart, member of the government and now also of the Labour Party Executive Committee, said that she would rely on the good sense of the management to come to a satisfactory conclusion to the dispute.

Ten thousand workers had responded to the call for a two-hour stoppage throughout West Scotland in support of the BSR workers, who have been on strike for nine weeks for union recognition.

They came from as far as Kilmarnock, Falkirk and Fifeshire as well as Paisley and Glasgow only to be told by Judith Hart of the damage which was being done to the economy by the 24,000 working days lost so far in the dispute.

Organize

Trade union officials, including a number of prominent Stalinists, told the workers that they must 'organize' and stand firm.

Not one word was said about the role of the government.

There was not one word of Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundry workers' policy of nationalization of major industries under workers' control and naturally no criticism was made of Labour minister Judith Hart.

The militancy of the rank-and-file trade unionists was in stark contrast to the statements of Judith Hart and the platitudes given out by the trade union officials.

Whilst the officials spoke about the iniquities of the firm and called for 'organize, organize, organize', the strikers were looking for militant action.

One woman worker said when asked what her attitude was to the policy of nationalization: 'They should nationalize the lot.'

Young girls from the firm

Open letter

FROM PAGE ONE

ing class in the capitalist countries which the Communist Parties work against, as in France and Britain.

Communist Party members who think they can correct Gollan's course by supporting the actions of the Stalinists in the Kremlin are making a drastic mistake.

Their intervention in Czechoslovakia, and the opportunist betrayals by the British and French Communist Parties, have the same root: the parasitic interests of the bureaucracy in the USSR, which wants a deal with imperialism and collaboration before the revolutionary interests of the working class.

The prosecution of the interests of the socialized property in the USSR. For this reason the so-called 'British Road to Socialism' is a danger not only to the British but to the international and the Soviet working classes.

But it was the product of the same Stalinist bureaucracy which initiated the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

The way forward is to fight this bureaucracy and all its agents in the leadership of the Communist Parties of the world and to return to the path of Lenin and Trotsky.

The Political Committee of the S.L.L. October 3, 1969

They joined and loyally