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# DANGER OF ENGINEERS'

# PAY CLIMB-DOWN

From Stephen Johns in Torquay

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But the Birmingham division of the union is leading a revolt against what it considers 'unreasonable' pay claims.

They would like to see a £5-a-week increase and other areas merely call for a 'substantial rise'.

A total of eight divisions are in favour of these more 'moderate' demands, a further six are uncommitted.

The revolt follows the warning from engineers' president Hugh Scanlon on Monday when he attacked over-ambitious pay claims because of the government's state pay laws.

The whole issue is, however, somewhat academic.

In August workers in the engineering industry will receive up to £3 on their basic rate which is the final stage of the pay agreement signed last year.

Under the government's pay laws no further increases will be allowed.

The main issue, therefore, is whether the union—whatever claim it decides on—will be committed to do battle with the Tory government.

But on this, even the 'hardline' £15 resolution leaves a loophole for the leadership.

It merely calls for 'a public campaign in pursuit of the claim to mobilize the membership for national industrial action if necessary'.

Demands for national strike action if employers do not meet the claim in full by September have been lost in the compositing by the conference Standing Orders Committee shared between the Communist Party and left-wing faction and the right wing.

The 'hardline' resolution makes no mention of last year's plant-by-plant wages struggle which led to a collapse of the claim for higher pay and a shorter working week.

It outlaws all productivity strings and demands that a special national committee be called to discuss pay before any offer is accepted.

If this claim is adopted, the union would be demanding £40 a week for a skilled engineer and pro rata increases for lower-paid grades.

Key political questions which such a pay offensive would raise, have been left off the agenda for the AUEW national conference later this year.

These include a resolution from the south-east which calls for a campaign within the TUC to force the resignation of the Tory government and its replacement by a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

Two other key issues have still to be decided.

One is the union's policy on the government's pay laws.

Motions on this were being composed by the Standing Orders Committee last night.

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**TURN TO BACK PAGE**

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The claim has come under the hammer of the Tories' state pay laws which outlaws any increase above the £1 plus 4 per cent.

The lobbyists spoke bitterly about the union leadership on the na-

tional electricity committee.

They said that at a meeting of the committee on February 7 no decision had been taken to lead a fight for better wages for NALGO men in the industry.

They simply decided to 'play it by ear', one said.

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The resolution states:

This branch calls upon our president, Brother Hugh Scanlon, to retract the statements he made to the Tory Press last week.

These statements are nothing less than a blatant betrayal of our union's policy, which hundreds of thousands of our members have loyally supported.

To offer talks on amendments to the Industrial Relations Act after all the actions our members have been engaged in before and after these anti-trade union measures became law, is an insult.

While food prices are rocketing our president talks glibly about 'going into Europe'.

Our union has suffered heavy financial loss due to our fight against the Tory union laws and our members have understood and accepted this as the price of principled opposition.

Now our president has surrendered to the Tory government.

This retreat must be halted or the entire trade union movement will be destroyed and replaced by the corporate state wherein the government will determine all workers' conditions and pay.

The Chiswick branch represents engineers from the giant CAV plant at Acton, Surrey Engineering and London Transport.

# workers press

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● WEDNESDAY APRIL 11, 1973 ● No 1045 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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# What we think

## WHITHER SCANLON?

HUGH SCANLON, engineers' president, is talking a lot, but underneath all the verbage, Scanlon is deliberately avoiding dealing with two most vital questions.

The first question is: Who handed the Tories their 'temporary victory' which this 'left' has conceded to Heath?

Secondly, just in what way has Scanlon been 'distorted' about the proposals he is making for a deal with the Tory government?

Scanlon is a great conceiver of victories. About 20 months ago, during the fight against the Industrial Relations Bill, he pronounced: 'It's too late now. We've crossed the Rubicon. The Bill will become an Act.'

At the heart of this tactic, there is just one basic content. Defeatism. Scanlon will put up a show of fighting for just so long. After a decent interval, he then thinks it opportune to throw in the towel.

This is never put forward in the form of a direct challenge to union policy. Always, Scanlon is careful to repeat what the official line is and to say that it will remain so until the members decide otherwise.

But then comes the thinly-veiled suggestion that the position is 'a hopeless one and that the union would be best advised to seek a compromise solution.'

It is a deception by Scanlon to talk of the Tory 'victory' and then say no more about it. He does not want the important questions that this 'victory' raises to be analysed because he has no interest whatsoever in changing the situation.

Scanlon does not want to fight the government. He said 'It's too late now', even before the Bill became the Industrial Relations Act. Later, his 'complete non-co-operation with the Act' line bent sufficiently to allow the National Industrial Relations Court to exact £60,000 out of the AUEW coffers without a murmur.

Now his proposal is that, given a couple of trivial amendments, he will support a deal with the Tory government even though the Act remains. The same goes for the Common Market and the state control of wages.

Scanlon's unwillingness to fight showed clearly through his remarks to the national committee on pay. 'Our own agreement expires in August, and this body will have the responsibility of determining not only the type of application which is to be made, but to recognize that we will inevitably be involved in a fight with the government if you insist on a settlement irrespective of the limits of the present legislation.'

Scanlon concedes the victory to the Tories, and then proceeds to spell out its significance to his members. But not a word on how the fight against the state control of wages has been conducted; what the mistakes have been that have caused this fight to be severely handicapped; what needs to be done to reorganize the struggle to win.

Scanlon does not want to know. Not least, of course, because his has been the key role in organizing the defeat of the strike movement. He, Jack Jones, and Victor Feather first of all tried to settle a voluntary wage control deal with the Tories. Then they delayed recalling Congress when this failed and laws were introduced. Next they sabotaged that Congress by first of all not allowing resolutions or amendments and then, when they were repudiated, introducing a soft-line, one-day protest motion to head off the General Strike call.

Scanlon's role can now be seen for what it is—consciously to head off any revolutionary developments before they happen.

That was his role during last year's engineering pay dispute when, instead of coming out on strike at the same time as the miners, which would have brought the government to its knees very rapidly, Scanlon spun out the negotiations all spring and summer on the fraudulent 'local-bargaining' tactic before conceding yet another 'victory' to the employers and accepting 8 per cent.

Scanlon's latest capitulation is to the Tory pay laws in respect of the hospital workers' dispute. He supports the sell-out of the March 5 Congress decision to 'co-ordinate action' in support of unions in struggle against £1 plus 4 per cent. (See hospitals story p. 12.) Another 'victory' easily conceded.

As for the 'distortion', let Scanlon categorically repudiate the proposals to accept the Common Market, tolerate the Act if it is amended, and live with the principle of state control of wages. He cannot. His 'distortion' speech at Torquay once again carefully left his own position out of the discussion.

All he said was: 'We must reiterate our intention, indeed our duty, to maintain the rights of the rank and file to determine the policy our union will pursue, and the right, under free collective bargaining, to establish by voluntary means with the employers the fruits of that policy.'

That merely states the rank and file's rights under union rule. But what Scanlon wants to do is limit the next wage claim, accept the Common Market, amend the Act, and make the hospital workers the last exception to the £1 plus 4 per cent pay laws. Scanlon's is a policy of complete capitulation all along the line. All the time he remains an influential trade union leader, the Tories will get any number of easy 'victories'.

## Palestinians unprepared for imperialist attack

# Israeli 'hippy' terror raid

ELEVEN people, among them three leaders of the Palestinian guerilla movement, were killed by Israeli commandos who drove into central Beirut early yesterday morning.

The Israeli troops dressed as hippies, made a night landing and drove to the homes of their victims. They also struck at the Beirut headquarters of the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and blew it up.

The dead Palestinian leaders were Kamal Adwan and Mohammed Youssef Najjar (Abu Youssef), both senior members of Fatah.

Kamal Nasser, official spokesman of the Palestine resistance movement, was also killed.

Abu Youssef's wife was shot and gravely injured and the Israelis are believed to have abducted his 15-year-old son.

The terror raid is the latest of a series of attacks against refugee camps and Palestinian organizations in the Lebanon.

It came hard on the heels of the unsuccessful guerrilla attempt on the life of the Israeli ambassador in Cyprus, in which two guerrillas were killed and three captured.

The Israelis regarded the

BY  
JOHN  
SPENCER

Nicosia attack as the pretext for another arrogant demonstration of their military capability aimed at destroying the leadership of the Palestinian movement and breaking its will.

Their imperialist aim of complete domination in the Middle East is evident in every action of the Israeli government.

Every day it demonstrates its role as the mailed fist of imperialism in the area.

But it has to be said that the Palestinian guerrilla leadership is proving totally

inadequate to meet the requirements of the struggle against Zionism and imperialism.

Guerrilla leaders like Yasser Arafat, whose second in command was among the Israeli victims, are paralysed by the fact that they still hope for some assistance from the Arab bourgeoisie.

They have no policy to mobilize the broad masses of Arab and Jewish oppressed people in the Middle East against their oppressors along revolutionary lines.

It is clear that the Israeli terrorists' attack was made easy by entirely inadequate security precautions on the part of their victims.

This over-confidence is a symptom of disorientation of leadership for which the guerrilla movement is paying a bitter price.

## Thieu here to thank the Tories

SOUTH Vietnamese president Nguyen Van Thieu, in Britain yesterday to thank the Tory government for supporting his dictatorial regime, is a creature of American imperialism.

Since he took office in 1967 Thieu has unfailingly carried out the requirements of Washington, bombing, burning, torturing and massacring his compatriots to maintain the rule of the almighty dollar.

He is on his way back to Saigon from a visit to the United States, where he fought hard to ensure that American aid will continue to flood into South Vietnam's coffers.

Thieu has no popular base in the country and rules by



Thieu in the US with Nixon.

manipulating the strings of cash and intrigue which supply the various military chieftains in the provinces. His visit to Britain as

guest of Edward Heath and the Tory government is testimony to the latter's complicity in the counter-revolutionary war, which is

still being waged against the workers and peasants of Indo-China by Thieu and the other paid agents of the Americans.

## Puny protest against Iranian PM's visit

THE VISIT to London of Abbas Hoveida, prime minister of Iran, has aroused protests from Iranian students and from a group of Labour MPs.

The MPs cited the death sentence passed on student Mostapha Khosdill, the massacre of 16 students on university campuses a short time ago, the closing of Iranian universities and the detention of 100 students.

The protest, supported by 18 MPs, including Coventry South MP William Wilson and two frontbench spokesmen, Mrs Judith Hart and Mr Peter Shore, invited Edward Heath to tell Hoveida 'of the abhorrence with which such acts are received in this country'.

Heath is not going to say anything of the sort. And neither, for that matter, is Labour Party leader Harold Wilson.

The Press Association diplomatic correspondent reported yesterday:

Government spokesmen stress the great importance that Mr Heath attaches to Mr. Hoveida's visit.

Iran is not just a major trading partner—British exports last year totalled £117m—but she is a major supplier of oil which is expected to become increasingly scarce over the next 15 years.

Iran has also placed an order for the supply of several hundred Chieftain tanks—one report is that the total order is for 800 tanks worth more than £100m. She has also provisionally ordered three Concordes valued at £60m.

Mr Hoveida who leaves Britain on Thursday was lunching with the Queen today and was afterwards due to call on the Opposition leader Mr. Wilson.

Iranian students are planning to picket Downing Street this afternoon against Hoveida's visit.

## US goods are more competitive

THE UNITED STATES has gained a substantial trading advantage from the devaluation of the dollar and its goods are now more competitive than at any time since the late 1950s.

Figures published by the Morgan Guaranty Corporation demonstrate that the Nixon administration has overcome the trade disadvantage which contributed to the large US payments deficit.

By the end of the 1960s American goods were 10 per cent less competitive on world markets than they were at the beginning of the decade. Since then the position has been more than reversed.

The Smithsonian realignment of December 1971, together with the savage wage controls imposed on the US workers had entirely abolished the American trade handicap by the end of last year.

Since the beginning of

this year the dollar has undergone a second devaluation and the major currencies are now floating against it.

This has given the US an additional 7-per-cent advantage.

This has been achieved primarily at the expense of France and West Germany, which are now considerably less competitive on world markets than they were five years ago.

The Japanese have also been hit, but have contrived to keep down their export prices.

British goods—thanks to the substantial downward float of sterling—are probably as competitive now as they were in the early 1960s, though at a colossal cost in terms of increases in the cost of living.

President Nixon's message to Congress on the Trade Bill, published yesterday, clearly indicates that Washington intends to maintain and enhance its advantage in trade.



## The day the Duke and Feather visited Industrial Society

# There's a hell of a draught in here

LAST WEEK, the corporatist Industrial Society went into a panic over the visit of the Queen Mother to open their new subsidized headquarters off The Mall.

Journalists and guests were locked in rooms for up to two and a half hours so that no one should stumble into the Royal Presence unbidden as HM did her walkabout.

This week, the Society had yet another royal personage on the premises, the Duke of Edinburgh. This time there was slightly less panic, but there was still a fair amount.

The red carpet was gone from the pavement outside, and director-general John Garnett did a solo bowing and scraping instead of being accompanied by his grandchildren and sundry assistants, as last time.

But the general nervousness in the face of the Royal Presence was soon at work inside.

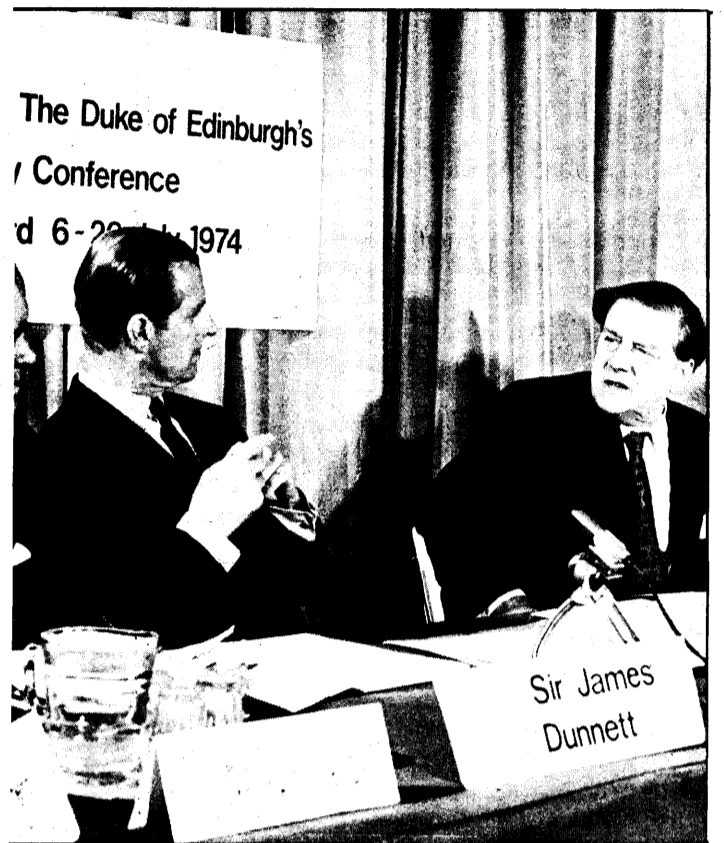
The journalists were hustled out of the drinks room to be in their places in good time for the Press conference.

Everyone leaped to their feet the moment the Duke appeared on stage.

And after Prince Philip had read aloud the seven-paragraph Press handout, the first questioner jumped to attention on cue and began: 'Your Royal Highness . . .'

The only trouble was that following just one more journalist leaping to attention and beginning 'Your Royal Highness . . .' there were no more questions.

So far, the Duke had only been going about four and a half minutes and had done



All smiles and gloom at Monday's four-minute Press conference at which the Duke of Edinburgh and TUC general secretary Victor Feather shared the platform.

nothing but read from prepared hand-out material which was of the usual uninspiring kind.

'Come, come,' said the Duke. 'You'll have to be quick with your questions or the cameramen will be running out of film.'

Victor Feather, that pillar of the establishment, had already tried to come to the Royal Dynasty's rescue and breathe some life into a rapidly dying situation by recalling that Jack (Lord) Cooper, of the General and Municipal Workers, had once

attended one of the conferences the Duke was there to promote.

But it raised not a flicker of interest on the journalists' faces.

One of the problems with the audience may have been the fantastic draught that was blowing up everyone's trouser legs from several wide-open windows immediately behind the platform speakers.

It was a bitterly cold wind. The Duke must have been freezing.

It was a wonder he did

not ask why some silly bugger did not pull his finger out and get up and close the window, but he didn't.

He was probably too cold to quip.

Anyway, the audience didn't warm up either and so the farce only went on for a few moments longer.

'Thanks for coming,' said the Duke, and went on his way, not stopping for a drink. As he was leaving, some of the journalists were still arriving for the Press conference.

## White-collar federation backs state pay laws

THE PRESIDENT of the National Federation of Professional Workers, Mr Terry Lacey, leapt to the defence of the government's pay laws in his speech to the union's annual conference in London yesterday.

Mr Lacey said that before the pay plan, public sector workers were subjected to an 'undeclared incomes policy'.

Meanwhile, said Lacey, workers in key industries with high bargaining power pushed their wages up and up because it was cheaper for employers to give in than to suffer a long strike.

He told the conference: 'When public servants go on strike their managements actually save money.'

He added that the nature of a worker's employment determined whether a strike would be a powerful lever or a pitiful protest.

Clearly defending the Tory pay laws, he said:

'Is it better to allow free

rein to those who have power to use free collective bargaining even though many other important sections of workers cannot do this?

'We must reflect that this free-for-all has produced the £100-a-week bricklayer and the £18-a-week hospital porter.'

Mr Lacey went on to say that many trade unionists would doubt that a rational approach to incomes, prices and profits was possible in an economy motivated by the merits of free enterprise.

There was an inherent contradiction, but despite this some kind of middle way must be sought to suit a mixed economy.

Plainly Mr Lacey believes that Edward Heath has found it.

## RTZ gets apology

RIO TINTO-ZINC, the British-based international mining corporation, received a High Court apology yesterday over comments in journalist Kenneth Allsop's column in 'The Sunday Times'.

Mr Brian Neill, QC, for the company, said that Times Newspapers, publishers of the newspaper, accepted RTZ's assurance that its profits since UDI had not included any profits

from Rhodesia.

'It had not been intended to suggest that RTZ had been guilty of any infringement or other impropriety in relation to sanctions or similar legislation,' counsel told Mr Justice Bean.

The article appeared in the newspaper under the heading 'Keeping an Eye on RTZ' on December 17, 1972. Three days later the company issued a writ claiming libel damages.

## Friends all round

THE LABOUR PARTY'S organization committee has decided that three organizations on the prescribed list are now respectable and acceptable. They are the British-Soviet Friendship Society, the British-Hungarian Friendship Society and the British-Rumanian Friendship Society, which have been on the list for nearly 30 years. Further consideration is being given to the British-China Friendship Association and the British-Czechoslovakia Friendship League.

# Censored Poulson film to be shown

A REVISED version of the 'World in Action' film on Yorkshire architect, John L. Poulson, will be shown on Monday, April 30.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority headed by Labour peer, Lord Aylestone, arbitrarily banned the film in January.

In protest against this act of blatant political censorship, members of the film technicians' union, ACTT, blacked the ITV screens in many areas of the country for the duration of the 'World in Action' slot. This was the first time workers in the industry had taken industrial action to interrupt transmission because of political censorship.

During the past five weeks there have been constant comings and goings between Granada Television and the IBA censors.

There have been two main changes in the film:

- The title has been changed from 'The Friends and Influence of John L. Poulson' to 'The Rise and Fall of John Poulson'.

- In the original, the courtroom interrogation of Poulson at Wakefield

was recreated by two actors, one playing Poulson, the other playing Mr Muir Hunter, QC, for the creditors.

This has been dropped.

In its place, two narrators, whose faces aren't seen, recite the same passages from the court transcript.

The authorities have cut the courtroom scene because of its explosive effect had it been shown to millions of viewers.

It was a precise re-enactment of what has gone on at the Wakefield court for the past nine months—but to show it to people would, presumably, be 'subversive'.

The film is being given permission for transmission only because the government and the IBA fear further industrial arrest in the television union.

They also feel that the Poulson case has 'run out of steam'.

Anonymous businessmen and industrialists have paid back money to the creditors to make sure that the hearings are discontinued.

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BY STEPHEN JOHNS

# WHERE IS EQUITY GOING?

The right wing in the actors' union Equity has launched a campaign to strengthen the bureaucratic arm of the national executive.

The showdown will come on Sunday when the union holds two of the most important meetings in its history.

At meeting number one Equity members will vote on a resolution demanding the resignation of the existing council for twice ignoring democratic decisions of the membership.

At meeting number two, immediately afterwards, the executive will make a last ditch attempt to ban once and for all the Special General Meeting where the rank and file can decide policy on key issues like the Industrial Relations Act and opposition to the Tory pay laws.

Sunday will be the culmination of a long and bitter struggle between the strong militant wing in the union who want Equity to take its place in the trade union movement and fight the Tory plan to impoverish wage earners, and the right-wing, dominated by the Tory Party, who want peace at any price.

The immediate cause of the special meetings is a demand by over 240 Equity members for the resignation of the leadership. They say that the executive, steered by general secretary Gerald Croasdell, have capitulated to the Tory pay laws and have blatantly ignored the members' wishes.

The charges arise out of an Equity Open Meeting of January 28 when over 350 members considered the Tory decision to outlaw a West End pay increase.

## SUCCESSFUL MOTION

Under Phase One of its plans for state wage control the Tories robbed actors of a £7 pay increase agreed before last November and cancelled a further £5 rise due in January.

The meeting, held in the Adelphi Theatre, decisively defeated an executive plea to restrict action over the £12 wage cut, to verbal protest.

Instead they passed an amendment by 145 votes to 136 which called for strike action, a wage claim for every section of the membership, de-registration under the In-



Gerald Croasdell, Equity general secretary, with other members of the executive at the Press conference which followed the January 28 meeting.

dustrial Relations Act, and a campaign with the rest of the trade union movement to force the Tory government out in favour of a Labour government pledged to repeal all anti-trade union legislation.

The success of this motion, carried in the teeth of right-wing opposition and a bid

(orchestrated by the Tory Press) to launch a witch-hunt, was a blow for the council.

Undaunted Mr Croasdell held an immediate Press conference where he announced that the Equity Council—a 45-strong elected body—would almost certainly ignore the decision.

This proved to be the case. Two days later the right-wing heard the good news that the Council had turned down the resolution. There was no commitment to fight for the claim, no promise on deregistration.

The legality of this move under Equity rules is now under some doubt. As usual the rule book hedges both ways on the powers of the executive. On the one hand an open meeting can decide policy, but on the other the leadership is given the right to act in the 'best interests' of the union if it publishes its reasons for doing so.

## REVERSED DECISION

In the case of the Industrial Relations Act however this is the second time the leadership has ignored the call to de-register. At the Equity annual general meeting last June members reversed a decision to register after they had witnessed the anti-union laws in action against the railway workers and the dockers.

The executive has consistently refused to recognize this decision and has been thrown out of the TUC because of its intransigence.

Clearly Croasdell and the right-wing consider themselves far wiser than the majority at the meetings. The upshot of this blatant arrogance has been a bid to remove the old leadership. The first Special General Meeting on Sunday has been called for this purpose.

The executive has countered with their own SGM—to be held immediately after the first.

Here they will ask for a mandate to change rule and castrate the membership's ability to decide policy.

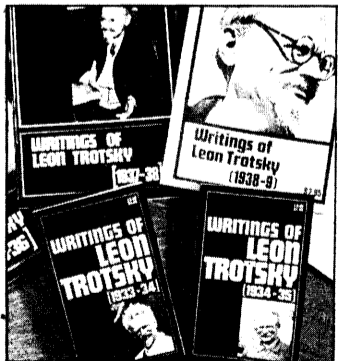
Their rule change aims, so they say, 'at preventing the future organized exploitation of outdated rule without diminishing the genuine democratic rights of members'. Organization, the basis of trade unionism, is here equated with subversion.

Rules which permit the rank and file to challenge decisions of the leadership are 'outdated'; in place of such bogus democratic rights are to be substituted the council's version of 'genuine' democratic rights, i.e. an appeals board which will decide—always 'in the best interests of the membership'—whether to permit the calling of SGMs.

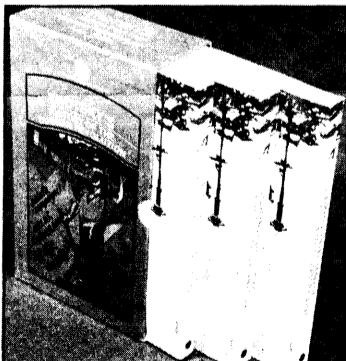
The picture is further complicated by dark hints from the council that constitutionally they cannot be removed by an 'unrepresentative minority' anyway. Unfortunately that 'unrepresentative minority' appears to win the allegiance of the bulk of members at Equity meetings. This is Croasdell's big problem.

The scene is now set for a major struggle. On Sunday actors will attend a meeting that will change the course of their union. They can decide to accept the policy of capitulation, and lapse back into the vicious pattern of mass unemployment, low wages and Tory attack, or they can commit their union to a fight with the rest of the working class and professions for basic democratic rights.

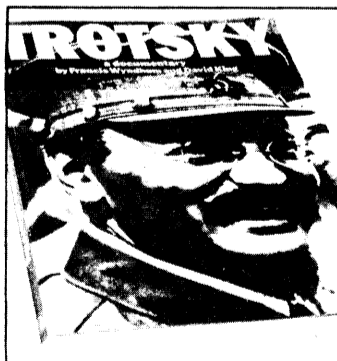
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## WHITE POWER IN ANGOLA

BY TOM KEMP

A vast scheme to harness the waters of the Cunene river which runs through the Portuguese colony of Angola and the South African-held territory of Namibia is being undertaken by the governments of the two countries.

It is intended to generate hydro-electric power and to provide water from the river for irrigation purposes at a cost of over £250m. The scheme will require the construction of a total of 27 dams and power stations, together with canals, pipelines, powerlines, roads and towns.

It will complement the better-known Cabora Bassa project on the eastern side of southern Africa in Mozambique.

The aim of these schemes is to consolidate imperialist control and exploitation over the whole region. They will enable agricultural and mineral resources to be plundered more effectively and attract international capital with the

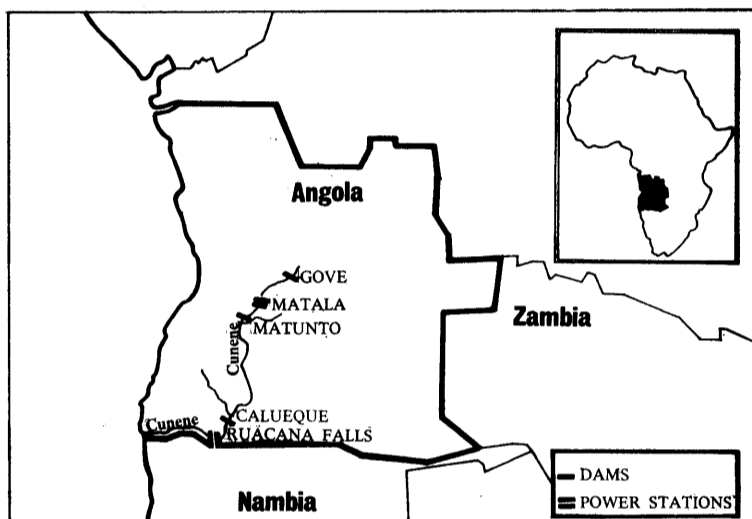
prospects of cheap labour and high profits.

The Cunene River Scheme is planned exclusively for the benefit of white farming and industrial interests and is part of the strategy to bolster up Portuguese colonialism and the apartheid regime of South Africa.

Thanks to the power and irrigation made available by the Cunene River Scheme the Portuguese hope to open up new land for settlement by white farmers. The Africans will be forced to end their traditional way of life and work on the farms or in the mines and industries of the area.

South Africa intends to extend the apartheid policy of so-called African Homelands to the territory of Namibia, or South West Africa, which it controls illegally. Africans will be confined to certain areas. They will only be permitted to leave to work under contract in the mines.

The People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) has opposed the scheme from the start and says: 'It is in no way aimed at the economic promotion of the people of Angola, but at the



Top: Members of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

buttressing of white power and, consequently, of imperialism in Africa.

The project must be fought with every means. All participants will be held as enemies of the Angolan people, and MPLA will know how to fight them with arms.'

As planned at present the scheme will take many years to complete. The first phase of construction will not be completed until 1978 and involves investment estimated at £40m. Half of this sum is being provided by South Africa, the rest is being lent to Portugal by the South African Industrial Development Corporation.

In Angola the local African population is already being regrouped in order to provide land for white farmers and cut them off from the guerrilla movement. When electric

power becomes available, the exploitation of Angola's mineral resources will begin in earnest.

The ambitious schemes of Portugal and South Africa, of which the Cunene River Scheme is a part, will require a big injection of international capital, notably for the exploitation of the mineral resources of Angola and Namibia.

Firms from Britain, the United States and western Europe, as well as from South Africa, will be concerned with this development. In return for access to mineral wealth and the use of cheap contract labour they will be expected to support the policy of white hegemony in southern Africa. This means assistance in combating the national liberation movement.

## SIBERIA: US CAPITAL'S NEW EL DORADO

The interest which American business is showing in Siberia, with the possibility that the Soviet bureaucracy will throw open part of this vast region to capitalist investment, is revealed in the April 9 issue of 'Time'.

A lavishly illustrated feature dwells on the area's resources in oil and gas: 'It will soon light Western Europe and may one day heat New York.'

The article reaches heights of verbal gush equalled only by advertising copy-writers—'the new Siberia, an eastern El Dorado whose riches promise to make the Soviet Union of the 21st century the wealthiest nation on earth'... 'Almost every day brings new discoveries'... 'Geological maps are outdated as soon as they are printed.'

The language of the share prospectus is sustained for several pages. Siberia has great mineral wealth, but needs vast outlays before it can be exploited.

'Soviet authorities used to bar foreigners from the area for security reasons,' it goes on, 'but the cost of development are so staggering (a narrow road can cost \$500,000 a mile) that Moscow is now actively courting foreign investment and technological know-how.'

The recent Soviet-US trade pact opens up prospects for participation by capitalist firms in the development of Siberian oil and gas. The article tells us that three US firms, Tenneco, Texas Eastern Transmission and Brown & Root are thinking of building a 2,000 mile pipeline across the Soviet Union to Murmansk to ship liquefied gas to the east coast of the US.

The policy of the bureaucracy in calling on foreign capitalists to help with capital, machinery and know-how in the development of Siberia's natural wealth is apparently not going unchallenged. The article quotes a 'senior economist' as saying: 'We should not be just any oil well or a quarry for foreign capitalists.'

But it is, of course, just that which Siberia is in danger of becoming. The economic mismanagement of the bureaucracy, and its policy of 'socialism in one country', means that Soviet industry is not capable of producing the equipment and materials necessary for the rapid and large-scale development of the area.

The bureaucracy is now bartering the riches of Siberia in deals with the capitalist countries which expose the nationalized and planned economy to the gravest dangers.

## JAPANESE BUSINESS IN 'DISREPUTE'

The aggressive Japanese sales drive is creating an unfavourable image for her businessmen overseas and has brought the country into disrepute bewails a report issued by the Japan Economic Research Institute.

It says that 'the rate of increase in Japanese trade, twice that of the world average, had brought a flood of Japanese goods to external markets, which in many cases have been seriously disrupted'.

Businessmen have marched in droves into one market after another aiming at conquest and they have had a good deal of success. The report noted that there was a growing wave of anti-Japanese criticism around the world but particularly in South East Asia which has already known the

Japanese as military conquerors.

It admitted that 'our economic policies and the behaviour of many individuals, corporations and other private groups leave much to be desired and should be thoroughly re-examined and modified'. The report recommended improved public relations and called on businessmen abroad to pay more attention to the reactions of people in the host country.

Japan is now poised for an even more intensive trade drive, especially in European markets, but Japanese trade activities are world-wide. Wool buyers have forced up Australian wool prices to unheard of levels. A fierce bid is now being made for the Latin American market.

Past successes in trade have endowed the big corporations with large liquid reserves.

These are now being used to set up branch plants abroad and undertake other forms of investment. As has happened with wool, Japanese business can buy up stocks of vital raw materials.

Whatever may be said about the Japanese behind their backs there are many businessmen in foreign countries who welcome them for their money. Agencies for Japanese products are much sought after.

It is the firms—British, German and American—concerned with the export trade which are feeling the relentless pressure of Japanese sales methods as the trade war heats up. Whatever their image may be, Japanese businessmen are determined to dominate the world market and open up new investment fields for Japanese finance capital. It is a life and death question.

## POLITICAL PROFILES

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# CORPORATE STATE DISCUSSIONS BEHIND THE SCENES

BY ROYSTON BULL

On Wednesday morning last week, the top half dozen TUC leaders, Victor Feather, Jack Jones (transport), Hugh Scanlon (engineers), Sidney Greene (railwaymen), Alf Allen (shopworkers) and David Basnett (G&MWU) had a pleasant discussion in a plush suite of the Millbank Tower office block by the River Thames.

Their pleasant discussion was with Edward Heath, Anthony Barber, Maurice Macmillan and Geoffrey Howe, plus Campbell Adamson and Michael Clapham of the CBI. Also present were sundry bankers, industrialists, and top-line civil servants.

According to the acting director-general of the corporatist National Economic Development Council, Tom Fraser, all these expensively-suited gentlemen had an 'amiable and rational discussion in a spirit of constructive co-operation'.

At precisely the same moment as the TUC bureaucrats were sitting round laughing and joking with the top representatives of the ruling class, a document was being sent out from TUC headquarters on 'Prices and Incomes: The Case for the Unions'.

In it, the TUC states that the government's 'plain intention is to make working people relatively worse off than they are now in comparison with their landlords, the people who own shops and property, the company they work for or those who live off income from stocks and shares.'

'In this day and age that is downright scandalous. It is working people who produce the wealth that is being shared out. But scandalous or not, it is an unchallengeable fact of this government's policy.'

Scandalous or not, it did not prevent the very leaders of the TUC enjoying their chat and coffee and then a sumptuous lunch with these property owners, stocks and shares sharks, and government ministers.

The reason for all the bonhomie is that these pillars of the capitalist state, of which the most important is the trade union bureaucracy, believe that they have succeeded in overcoming the resistance of the working class to the harsh economic measures necessary for the survival of Britain's capitalist economy.

These six TUC leaders have spared no effort to undermine the trade union movement's fight against Phase Two and the state control of wages.

Victor Feather and Jack Jones canvassed Harold Wilson and Ron Hayward respectively to try to prevent the Labour Party NEC from supporting the TUC's May 1 'day of protest and stoppage'.

This was a desperate last-minute bid by Feather in a long campaign to stop the May Day protest from becoming 'too political'.

The TUC leaders decided some time ago that they must at all costs prevent the strike movement against the pay laws from turning into a political confrontation to challenge the government's rule.

Jones and Feather have been speaking openly in top labour movement circles about the need to 'head off the revolution'.

The attempt to stop the Labour NEC's solidarity with the May Day strike failed.

But Alf Allen, leader of the shopworkers' union, immediately registered his protest to leading Labourites, declaring the NEC's support 'a wrong move' and declaring that he was totally against the May Day protest.

Sidney Greene has made no secret of his opposition to the special Congress one-day strike decisions and his intention to get his railwaymen's union to turn it down if he can.

Jones and David Basnett (General and Municipal Workers) have opted out of their obligations in the matter by telling their members they can strike if they want to.

And these are supposed to be the six most responsible leaders in the whole TUC!

## PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE CORPORATE STATE

Scanlon's contribution to this sell-out of TUC policy has been even more important.

His speech to the Parliamentary Press Gallery lunch last week offering to accept in principle the Industrial Relations Act, the Common Market and the state control of wages, in return for some concessions, opened the way to the Tories on every important issue.

It prepared the way for the corporate state. The deal Scanlon offered was still being discussed at Wednesday's National Economic Development Corporation (NEDC) meeting.

That day, the 'Financial Times', discussing 'the reluctance by unions to engage in a prolonged confrontation with the government', said that the May Day strike 'should prove to be the final fling in opposition to the government which has built up since last autumn's tripartite talks gave way to the pay freeze.'

'We offered the government something that no trade union movement has ever offered before in peace time: to limit wages at a fixed level in return



Hospital workers march in support of their claim. The TUC has postponed coming to their aid. Below: Victor Feather, Jack Jones, Hugh Scanlon, Sidney Greene, Alf Allen, David Basnett, Edward Heath, Anthony Barber, Maurice Macmillan, Geoffrey Howe, Campbell Adamson, Michael Clapham, Mick Costello.



Scanlon blurted out the truth about that 'opposition' when he spoke at the March 5 special Congress. They wanted to do a deal with the government at Chequers last year, but felt they could not get away with selling the terms of the deal to the trade unions.

The 'Financial Times' went on: 'The way should then be open for wide-ranging talks between the government and the TUC—together with the CBI—embracing the Industrial Relations Act as well as pay and prices.'

Both sides of industry, as well as the government, would prefer Phase Three of the policy starting in the autumn

to be voluntary rather than statutory.'

Employment Minister Maurice Macmillan followed up that night with a speech to the Newspaper Society saying that a general desire for some form of industrial relations legislation was shown by Feather's call for the government to jettison the 'worst features' of the Act and Scanlon's talk of amendments to it.

The Communist Party daily, the 'Morning Star', of course, came to Feather's defence following this speech. Stalinist Mick Costello wrote:

'Feather yesterday strongly rebutted suggestions made by Macmillan that unions using parts of the Industrial Relations Act did this because they saw advantages in the Act.'

Macmillan went on to say that the TUC must leave behind the system of collective-bargaining to which it apparently wished to return.

'We do not need to destroy, and must not destroy the concept of collective bargaining. But we must—employers, government, and unions—devise a system which reconciles the widespread desire in industry for freedom of action with steadier prices and greater fairness both between and within different groups of workers.'

In other words, corporatism and the permanent state control of wages.

But, boosted by the friendly relations with Scanlon and company, Macmillan went on confidently to invite the TUC and the CBI to 'join with us this summer and autumn in working out how, in the third stage of our attack on inflation, we can achieve our common objectives on a voluntary basis.'

'The Times' commented: 'Mr Macmillan was taking note of non-committal waving of olive branches by Mr Feather and Mr Scanlon. So far, so good; but what comes next?'

'Financial Times' reported that Basnett had called for the TUC 'to draw up its own formal incomes policy. Such a move would help prepare the TUC for talks with the government.'

And a little later on: 'Unions are not seeking to take over the economy. They know that British industry and the British economy can only be run successfully on the basis of co-operation.'

The TUC's prices and incomes pamphlet, once the invoice is out of the way in the first pages, gets down to this.

'Unions know that there can be no real lasting answer to

inflation until there is national agreement on the proper way to tackle it.

'All this wild talk about "law and order" and "confrontation" does not help anybody.'

They abandoned the gasworkers' fight, ignored the

civil servants and have postponed again and again coming to the aid of the hospital workers, despite the clear instruction from the special Congress that this was the wish of the trade union movement.

The TUC leaders want to wear down the resistance to corporatism.

What stands in their way is the insoluble nature of the capitalist crisis, the combativity of the working class, which has not yet suffered any major defeats, and the determination of the Socialist Labour League to win the struggle to provide an alternative leadership in the fight against the Tory government.



## 'STRENGTHEN CHURCHILL' SAID COMMUNIST PARTY

PART TWO BY JACK GALE

On June 21, 1941, the British Communist Party weekly, 'World News and Views' carried an item which John Gollan and Bert Ramelson would dearly love to have expunged from the records.

It declared: 'The British and in general the foreign Press began an intense dissemination of rumours on "the proximity of war between the USSR and Germany" . . .

'Despite the obvious nonsensical character of these rumours, responsible Moscow quarters have still found it necessary in view of these rumours, to authorize Tass to state that these rumours constitute clumsily-concocted propaganda by forces hostile to the USSR and Germany and interested in the further extension and unleashing of war.'

**The very next day, Hitler invaded the Soviet Union!**

Overnight, the Stalinists reversed their position. The imperialist war became a war for democracy. Churchill, from being the enemy of the working class, became its noble leader.

In 'Britain's Chance Has Come' (July 1941), Harry Pollitt, then the CP's general secretary, wrote: 'The fact that the Churchill government has changed its policy or the question whether the Communist Party has changed also are small matters.

'These are interesting "only

to narrow minds that are unable to comprehend the new, gigantic developments that living history is making the common experience of our everyday lives.'

In the same article, Pollitt spelled out the new attitude to yesterday's 'leader of reaction':

'There can be only one consideration, whether people mean to defeat Hitler or openly or covertly endeavour to sabotage the common victory of the British and Soviet people. This is why a fight for a united national front means support for Churchill's government and all measures for a common victory.'

Palme Dutt, in the December issue of 'Labour Monthly' was also explaining the changed line. In 1940 Dutt had denounced Churchill as the main support for Hitler. Now he was bitterly opposing those who wanted to bring down the Churchill government and replace it with a socialist one.

This demand, said Dutt, 'enters into very dangerous territory. Such a change could in fact only mean a change from the principal representative of anti-Nazism to far more dubious representatives'.

In less than a year Dutt had transformed Churchill from the main support of Hitler into the principal representative of anti-fascism!

The Communist Party's policy statement for its national conference of May 1942 was just as explicit: 'The Churchill government is the representative of national unity for the

fulfilment of the aims of the British-Soviet Pact.

'The weakening of the Churchill government would mean the weakening of national unity . . . Our political aim must therefore be directed to the strengthening of the Churchill government.' ('Way to Win' p. 9.)

Two months later, Pollitt wrote in 'Speed the Second Front':

'The people must be roused to support and strengthen the government. Sustain Churchill in carrying out the Anglo-Soviet Treaty and in opening the Second Front.'

This was a marked contrast with Dutt's line of November 1940, when he had said, in 'Labour Monthly':

'The heaviest obstacle in the path of the revolutionary anti-fascist struggle against Hitler in Germany is the British Labour support of Churchill.'

In October, 1939, the Communist Party's 'Manifesto on the War' had called on workers to 'organize resistance to this combined attack of the employers and the government'.

The role of Labour Ministers in the coalition government, the Stalinists had correctly said, was to be a 'real Fifth Column against the working class and democratic rights and standards'. In 'Labour Monthly' of December, 1940, Pollitt had said:

'It has been the deliberate policy of dominant sections of the Labour leaders ever since the war started to damp down working-class activity.'

But, from June 22, 1941, this class collaboration was proclaimed by the Stalinists in tones far more fervent than anything even Attlee, Morrison or Bevin could muster.

'Britain in the World Front' declared: 'The speediest victory of Britain and Britain's allies is not the special in-

terest of one class or section of the nation, but the common interest of all classes . . . in industry it finds expression in the co-operation of employers, management and workers for maximum production.

'In the political field it finds expression in the co-operation of parties in parliament and in elections, and in the support for a coalition government of National Unity, based at present on the Conservative, Liberal and Labour Parties.'

In practice, this meant strike-breaking and working for the Tory Party in by-elections.

Speaking at the 1942 CP conference, Harry Pollitt declared: 'This wave of strikes in the coalfield cannot be condoned by the miners themselves. The trade union official who said "Let the strike continue, it will help negotiations" was doing a disservice to his own union and to his country.

**'I salute our comrade, a docker from Hull . . . when the rest of the dockers struck work, he fought against it.'**



Harry Pollitt who at the 1942 CP conference said that striking miners were doing a disservice to the country.

**The German Invasion of the USSR which prompted the British Communist Party to reverse its position overnight.**

**What courage, what a sacred spirit of real class consciousness, to walk on the ship's gangway and resume his job.'**

To the same conference, Pollitt reported:

'The stand taken by our Party in regard to by-elections has been firm and clear: to support the government candidates whatever their personal short-comings . . . We want to deal with some of the difficulties that are said to stand in the way of our Party members when they take part in by-elections and recommend the people to vote for a government candidate who happens to be a Tory.' (Emphasis added.)

So, both in the Soviet Union and in Europe, the counter-revolutionary policies of Stalinism undermined the struggle of the international working class against imperialism and for socialism.

Patriotism and class-collaboration were the principal weapons of the Stalinists who feared revolution just as much as the leaders of imperialism.

It was this fear which drove Stalin, first into the arms of Hitler, and then into the arms of Churchill and Roosevelt. The British Communist Party, faithfully reflecting the interests of its Kremlin masters, sought to tie in the working class behind Churchill and Attlee.

Today, the Stalinist bureaucracy is as counter-revolutionary as it always was. Its servants in King Street are willing, as ever, to perform any contortion to carry out its interests. Hence its support for Scanlon.

**CONCLUDED**



**TORY PRESS**



BY STEPHEN JOHNS

The servile and malleable leader writers of Fleet Street suffered a serious attack of indignation last week. The spasm seized them late on Friday. It came from Rhodesia, where Peter Niesewand, a journalist, had been jailed by the racist Ian Smith regime.

This affair was especially upsetting. Under orders of their Tory editors the leader writers had been delicately rehabilitating 'traitor' Smith ready for a possible deal between his government and their own. Now there was a nasty blot on the entente.

But diplomacy was cast aside. There were important principles involved.

JUSTICE, for example. The charges against Niesewand were secret. His trial was secret. The judgement was secret.

There was FAIR PLAY. Niesewand was a liberal yet he got hard labour and his wife was suffering.

The pens raged into action. **'The Guardian':**

... unbelievably savage. On reflection we can find no better words. His trial was held in secret so that neither we nor anyone without access to him can have any knowledge of the detailed charge or of the evidence.

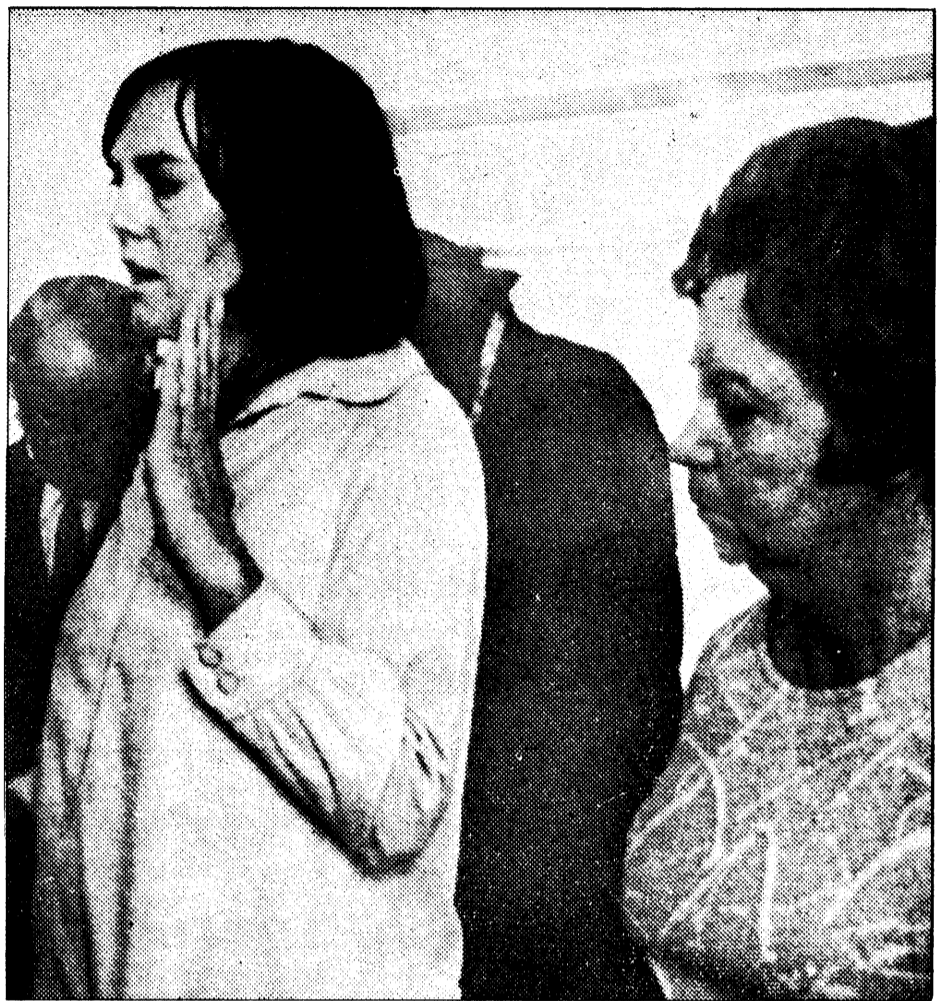
... In its political persecution of Niesewand the Rhodesian government has once again shown its peculiar combination of ruthlessness and ineptitude.

**'The Times':**  
But even the charges brought against Mr Niesewand remain a Rhodesian official secret and the whole of the trial, ending in a two-year prison sentence, was held in camera, which completely abrogates the requirements of natural justice.

... The development of the judiciary under the Rhodesian Front is not such as to allow any claim that the confidence should be placed in a continuing British tradition. This has been a secret trial from first to last in quite another tradition.

**'Daily Telegraph':**  
The Rhodesian magistrate's judgement, deplorable as it might be, was delivered in

# A CASE OF HYPOCRISY



Left: Peter Niesewand, the journalist jailed in Rhodesia. Right: Peter Niesewand's wife and mother after the sentence was passed.

secret, and the charge itself under the Official Secrets Act was never published. This evidence of the furtive courses into which Rhodesian justice has descended must cause grave concern to all who have the good name and constitutional health of Rhodesia at heart.

... it is also difficult to imagine the national security required the degree of secrecy which blanketed these proceedings, any more than the ridiculous regulation that prevented mention of Mr Niesewand's name when he was detained.

**'Sun':**  
'His trial was secret... no evidence has been published to tell the world anything at all about his alleged offences.

'Rhodesia is making new approaches for a settlement with Britain. We must not even talk...'

**'Daily Express':**  
'And the manner of his arrest, his detention in solitary confinement without charge, and his secret trial for undisclosed offences falls far short of accepted standards of British justice.'

... falls far short of acceptable standards of British justice'—this glib passage from the 'Express' fairly summed up the orgy of protest. The phrase also indicates another affliction

of leader writers—amnesia.

An imaginary exchange will illustrate the point.

Question: What country besides Rhodesia has laws for trials in secret?

Answer: Britain.

Question: What country can jail people indefinitely without trial or charge?

Answer: Britain.

Question: What country has set aside special concentration camps to hold people without trial or charge?

Answer: Britain.

Question: What country admitted men were systematically beaten, subjected to 'noise machines', stood hooded for long periods of time in uncomfortable positions, subject to mental and physical cruelty and generally humiliated?

Answer: Britain.

Question: What country held an inquiry into these methods, established they were being used, but passed them off as ill-treatment and not torture?

Answer: Britain.

Question: What country still holds people without charge or trial, holds trials in complete secret and tortures prisoners?

Answer: Britain.

Question: What ruling class passed on the methods of secret trial, torture and police brutality to Africa?

Answer: British.

Question: In what country does the Press unanimously support these methods in the 'national interest'?

Answer: Britain.

Under the Northern Ireland Special Powers Act (recently revamped) the British army, police and judiciary have a brief to terrorize a whole section of the population.

Hundreds of men and women have been interned in camps, without trial or charge. They are tortured (or 'ill-treated' as the Compton report would have it) and when they are 'tried', it is in complete secret. Charges and evidence never reach ears outside the tin shack that serves for a court.

On August 9, 1971, the British army launched a pogrom against the Roman Catholic population of Northern Ireland. Hundreds of men were dragged from their beds and their families in the small hours. They were interned, without charge, without reason and, of course, without trial.

And what did the British Press think about this massive 'abrogation of natural justice'?

On internment **'The Guardian'** (Niesewand—'unbelievably savage') wrote: '... Inevitable... it may not work quickly and it may not work at all... it represents the only hope of preventing a total catastrophe in Ireland.' In later editorials

**'The Guardian'** defended torture saying troops—who were doing a fine job—needed to use 'unorthodox' methods against 'terrorists'.

**'The Times'** (secret trials against 'natural justice') on internment wrote: 'In our view it is absolutely necessary to combat terrorism in Northern Ireland by imprisonment without trial.'

The **'Daily Telegraph'** ('the furtive courses into which Rhodesian justice has descended') on internment wrote: 'Long overdue to the outraged citizens of Ulster and the hard-pressed army... internment is the last real weapon...'

The **'Daily Mail'** on internment wrote: 'The introduction of imprisonment without trial could no longer be delayed.'

Not once has the national Press, outside the papers of the labour movement, thundered forth JUSTICE in the name of the tortured, imprisoned, oppressed people of Northern Ireland.

So the Niesewand scandal showed the British Press at its most corrupt and hypocritical.

To bourgeois journalists a principle is no more than a phrase, a neat line, a debased verbal morality at the service of the capitalist ruling class they serve so devotedly.

They excelled themselves on Friday.

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**WORKERS NOTEBOOK**

**'OFFENSIVE'**  
A subtle plea for censorship from Major John Snook, divisional chancellor of the Salvation Army in Manchester.  
In a recent 'War Cry' Snook says that newspapers are printing too much 'gloomy' news.  
He says: 'I suppose, in our society, the basis of any undertaking is profitability and the newspaper industry cannot be an exception, but how far must it stoop to achieve this?'  
'A good news service must carry the news of the day and the freedom of the Press is a cherished ideal in Britain, but surely it ought to seek a balance between good and bad news?'  
It has been said that the news reflects the society which produces it, but surely our nation is not as bad as the picture painted by certain newspapers.  
What is the 'imbalance' which the censorious Snook is complaining about? He explains:  
'I do not believe that it is and feel that it is time the news media stopped pressing the views of an offensive minority.'  
Such language! Who is this 'offensive minority'? Does he mean the secret group of mystics who run around in black clothing with beads and icons around their necks and hold witchdoctoring seminars very early on Sunday mornings in empty buildings?

**'ASHAMED'**  
Hospital workers in west London are furious that a top National Union of Public Em-

ployees official attended a sherry party given by hospital management. Mrs Esther Brookstone, West London branch secretary, accepted a hospital invitation to 'celebrate' the minimum amount of disruption during the one-day stoppages.  
The party took place at Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham, and was hosted by Mr Frank Hart, secretary to the Board of Governors.  
Mrs Mary Stewart, chairman of the Board of Governors, attended the party, as did union shop stewards at the hospital and Mrs Ruth Woolleton, branch chairman.  
Following an outcry from the rank and file in West London, NUPE has written to Mrs Brookstone demanding an explanation.  
'We are getting repercussions,' a spokesman said. 'Some branches have said "she ought to be ashamed of herself".'

**ITV**

9.30 Yoga. 9.55 Film: 'Tarzan's Peril'.  
11.15 Galloping gourmet. 11.40 Car-  
toon. 12.05 Hickory house. 12.25  
Cuddles and Co. 12.40 First report.  
1.00 Scotch corner. 1.30 Crown court.  
2.00 Harriet's back in town. 2.30  
Good afternoon. 2.50 Racing from  
Newmarket. 4.15 Cartoon. 4.20 Sooty  
show. 4.50 Jensen code. 5.20 Univer-  
sity challenge. 5.50 News.

6.00 **TODAY.** 6.35 **CROSSROADS.**  
7.00 **THIS IS YOUR LIFE.**  
7.30 **CORONATION STREET.**  
8.00 **SHUT THAT DOOR!** Guest  
Dudley Moore.  
8.30 **THE BEST OF FATHER, DEAR  
FATHER.** An Affair to Forget.  
9.00 **SPECIAL BRANCH.**  
10.00 **CONSERVATIVE P A R T Y  
POLITICAL BROADCAST.**  
10.10 **NEWS.**  
10.40 **A PLACE IN THE COUNTRY.**  
Waddesdon.  
11.10 **ARMCHAIR 30.** Miss Fan-  
shaw's Story. With Doreen  
Mantle.  
11.40 **FILM: 'Dilemma.'** Peter Halli-  
day, Ingrid Hafner.  
12.40 **ONE POINT OF VIEW.**



Dudley Moore guests on 'Shut That Door' on Independent channels tonight.

**REGIONAL TV**

**CHANNEL:** 1.15 News. 1.30 London.  
2.30 Serenade. 2.50 London. 6.00 News.  
6.10 Hogan's heroes. 6.35 London.  
7.00 Treasure hunt. 7.30 London. 8.30  
This is your life. 9.00 London. 10.00  
Life in France. 10.10 London. 11.43  
Angling. 12.10 Epilogue. News,  
weather.  
**WESTWARD.** As Channel except:  
10.20 Eskimo artist—Kenojuak. 10.40  
Danger man. 11.35 Dr Simon Locke.  
12.05 London. 12.25 Hammy Hamster.  
12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London.  
12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary.  
10.00 London. 11.40 News. 12.08 Faith  
for life.  
**SOUTHERN:** 10.05 Paulus. 10.20 Yoga.  
10.40 Royal province. 11.10 Gilbert and  
Sullivan. 12.00 News. 12.05 London.  
2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20  
Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 Lon-  
don. 6.00 Day by day. 7.00 London.  
8.30 Anna and the king. 9.00 London.  
11.40 News. 11.50 Odd couple. 12.20  
Weather. Guideline.  
**HARLECH:** 9.55 Sesame street. 10.55  
Sara and Hoppity. 11.05 Press call.  
11.30 Report. 12.05 London. 2.30  
Houseparty. 2.50 London. 5.20  
Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50  
London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15  
Report Wales. 6.30 Cuckoo in the  
nest. 7.00 London. 11.40 European  
journey. 12.10 Weather.  
**HTV Cymru/Wales as above except:**  
4.20 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50 Cantamil.  
6.01-6.15 Y dydd.  
**HTV West as above except:** 6.15-6.30  
Report West. 8.55-9.00 Folk five.  
**ANGLIA:** 9.25 VC 10—flight 2464. 10.00  
Paulus. 10.10 Gilbert and Sullivan.  
11.05 Galloping gourmet. 11.35 Report  
Gipsy. 12.04 News. 12.05 London.  
2.30 Houseparty. 2.50 London. 6.00

About Anglia. 6.35 London. 8.30 Pro-  
tectors. 9.00 London. 11.40 Spyforce.  
12.35 Reflection.  
**ATV MIDLANDS:** 11.20 Call out. 11.30  
Survival. 12.00 Programme guide. 12.05  
London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London.  
8.30 Upper crusts. 9.00 London. 10.40  
Citizens' rights. 11.10 London. 11.40  
Baron. Weather.  
**ULSTER:** 11.35 Report. 12.05 London.  
2.00 Romper room. 2.50 London. 6.00  
UTV reports. 6.35 London. 8.30 Anna  
and the king. 9.00 London. 11.40 You  
and your golf.  
**YORKSHIRE:** 9.50 Ed Allen time.  
10.15 About Britain. 10.40 Last stand.  
11.05 Whicker. 11.30 Rovers. 12.05  
London. 2.30 Jobs around the house.  
3.00 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather.  
6.35 London. 8.30 Anna and the king.  
9.00 London. 10.40 Protectors. 11.10  
London. 11.40 You and your golf.  
12.10 Adam 12. 12.40 Weather.  
**GRANADA:** 9.30 Enchanted house.  
9.45 Time to remember. 10.10 Jackson  
five. 10.30 Galloping gourmet. 10.55  
Cartoon. 11.00 Scotland Yard case-  
book. 11.30 Primus. 11.50 Hammy  
Hamster. 12.05 London. 5.15 Nature's  
window. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 Lon-  
don. 6.00 News. What's on. 6.30  
University challenge. 7.00 London.  
8.30 Anna and the king. 9.00 London.  
11.45 Evil touch.  
**SCOTTISH:** 10.00 No easy answer.  
10.45 Flipper. 11.10 Press call. 11.35  
Report. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline.  
3.00 London. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50  
London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 University  
challenge. 7.00 London. 8.00 It's all  
in life. 8.30 London. 10.40 Odd couple.  
11.10 London. 11.45 Late call. 11.50  
Blue light.  
**GRAMPIAN:** 11.40 Julia. 12.04 News.  
12.05 London. 5.15 Wildlife theatre.  
5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Thomp-  
son at teatime. 6.35 London. 11.40  
Frighteners. 12.10 Meditation.

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**BBC 1**

12.30 Nai zindagi naya jeevan. 12.55  
News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30  
Barnaby. 1.45 Made in Britain. 2.00  
I like it here. 2.30 Great zoos. 3.00  
Where is your god? 3.35 Television  
top of the form. 4.00 Peter. 4.10 Play  
school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Boss cat.  
5.15 Event. 5.40 Sir Prancelot. 5.45  
News. Weather.  
6.00 **NATIONWIDE.**  
6.45 **ASK THE FAMILY.**  
7.05 **TOMORROW'S WORLD.**  
7.30 **ARE YOU BEING SERVED?**  
His and Hers.  
8.00 **BARLOW AT LARGE.** Confi-  
dence.  
8.50 **WEEK BY WEEK.**  
9.00 **NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.**  
Weather.  
9.25 **SPORTSNIGHT.** Amateur box-  
ing association championships.  
10.00 **CONSERVATIVE P A R T Y  
POLITICAL BROADCAST.**  
10.10 **SPORTSNIGHT.** Soccer.  
11.00 **MIDWEEK.** 11.35 **NEWS.**  
11.40 **MAN AT WORK.** New Start  
New Skill.  
12.05 **Weather.**



Jeanne Crain is 'Pinky'—BBC 2.

**BBC 2**

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open  
University.  
7.05 **HOMES AND THE HOMELESS.**  
The House and the City.  
7.30 **NEWS SUMMARY.** Weather.  
7.35 **LOOK, STRANGER.** Design for  
a Wilderness.  
8.00 **MAN ALIVE.** Herne Bay is  
Alive with the Sound of Music.  
8.50 **ONE IN TEN.** Andy Roberts  
sings.  
9.00 **FILM: 'Pinky.'** Jeanne Crain,  
Ethel Barrymore, Ethel Waters,  
William Lundigan. A Negro  
nurse returns to her home in  
the deep South.  
10.00 **CONSERVATIVE P A R T Y  
POLITICAL BROADCAST.**  
10.10 **FILM continued.**  
10.50 **EDITION.**  
11.15 **NEWS EXTRA.** Weather.

**Two disputes at BSC Scunthorpe**

THE BRITISH STEEL Corporation may lay off 10,000 men at its Anchor Works, Scunthorpe, Lincs, because of disputes.

Some 300 blastfurnacemen struck after the Corporation refused to pay them higher rates for handling the new 250-ton torpedo ladles which transport molten iron to the steel plant.

In a second dispute, members of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation are refusing to accept molten metal into the new plant because of an inter-union clash over whether the confederation or the rival Steel Industry Management Association should represent middle management grades.

**TV maintenance men strike**

BBC television maintenance engineers will begin a two-day strike today in protest against a deadlock in their pay claim.

The men say they are entitled to increased pay because of the higher tonnages produced by the new plant.

Over 3,500 workers have been laid off so far because of the blastfurnacemen's strike.

The 200 workers—members of the Association of Broadcasting Staff—will refuse to handle any BBC plant which breaks down.

BSC says it cannot meet the claim without breaking the Tory pay laws.

**Car delivery pay talks**

STRIKERS from the Coventry car delivery firm, Silcock and Collings, agreed to resume work yesterday pending an immediate top-level inquiry into their dispute over the refusal by management to pay shop stewards during in-company negotiations.

Senior Transport and General Workers' Union steward, Ron Hollins told Workers Press:

The return to work was undertaken on the basis that the stewards will be paid while attending this inquiry.

'If at the inquiry the firm refuses to pay stewards for time lost in previous negotiations and refuses to agree to payment in the future, I have no doubt we will all be out again.' The strikers deliver cars from the Chrysler combine.

**ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS**

**JARROW:** Wednesday April 11, 7.30 p.m. Jarrow Labour Rooms, Park Road.

**HOLLOWAY:** Thursday April 12, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'Forward to the Revolutionary Party'.

**PADDINGTON:** Tuesday April 17, 8 p.m. 'Prince of Wales', corner of Harrow Road and Western Road. 'Make Scanlon withdraw his proposals. No collaboration with the Tories'.

**HACKNEY:** Wednesday April 11, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, opp. Town Hall, Mare Street. 'The TUC must call a General Strike to make the Tories resign'.

**CROYDON:** Thursday April 12, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road. 'The fight against Stalinism'.

**WOOLWICH:** Wednesday April 18, 8 p.m. 'Castle', Powis Street, E.18. 'No collaboration with the Pay Board'.

**KINGSTON:** Thursday April 12, 8 p.m. The Norbiton Hotel, Clifton Road (off Kingston Hill). 'Make Scanlon retract! No collaboration with the Tory government!'

**EAST LONDON:** Monday April 16, 8 p.m. Bromley Public Hall, Bow Road, E.3. 'Fight rising rents and prices. Build Councils of Action'.

**WALTHAMSTOW:** Wednesday April 18, 8 p.m. 'The Bell', Hoe Street. 'TUC must call a General Strike'.

**CROYDON:** Thursday April 12, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road, Croydon. 'The fight against Stalinism'.

**WATFORD:** Monday April 16, 8 p.m. Watford Trade Union Hall, Woodford Road. 'Build the revolutionary party'.

**FULHAM:** Thursday April 19, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Fulham Broadway, S.W.6. 'No collaboration with the Pay Board'.

**BERMONDSEY:** Thursday April 12, 8 p.m. 'Havelock Arms', Balclava Street, off Southwark Park Road. 'Build Councils of Action. Make the Tories Resign'.

**TOTTENHAM:** Tuesday April 17, 8 p.m. 'Bricklayers Arms', High Road, near White Hart Lane. 'Make Scanlon retract'.

**BRIXTON:** Tuesday April 24, 8 p.m. Training Centre, Control Room, Matthew's Road. 'Make Scanlon withdraw his proposals. Force the Tories to resign'.

**WILLESDEN:** Thursday April 12, 8 p.m. Labour and Trades Hall, High Road, NW10. 'Tory "Law and Order" — Preparation for dictatorship'.

**CRAWLEY:** Tuesday April 17, 8 p.m. AEU Hall, Robinson Road. 'Make Scanlon Retract'.

**HEMEL HEMPSTEAD:** Monday April 30, 8 p.m. 'Room 2', Adayfield Hall, Queen's Square. 'Defend basic democratic rights. Make the Tory government resign'.

**I would like information about THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE**

Fill in the form below and send to **NATIONAL SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE, 186a CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON SW4 7UG.**

Name.....

Address.....

# £12m claim against Maudling and Hoffman settled out of court

BY ALEX MITCHELL

SETTLEMENT will be reached shortly in a £12m civil fraud action involving the former Tory Home Secretary and deputy prime minister, Reginald Maudling.

Maudling was one of nine defendants in the case which was brought in New York two years ago.

The multi-million pound claim was made by shareholders in the now-defunct Real Estate Fund of America of which Maudling was the first president.

All the defendants, including Maudling, denied allegations of diverting funds from REFA which crashed in spectacular fashion in November 1971.

They alleged that the company sold shares in the property fund through a prospectus which contained 'false, untrue and misleading claims'.

The suit also charged the management of the fund with deception, specifically in not revealing that the fund's founder, Jerome D. Hoffman, had been barred in 1968 from dealing in securities in the US.

## GRAVY

Hoffman was sent to prison in 1971 for mortgage fraud in connection with a previous firm which he launched.

Under the proposed out-of-court settlement, the fund will turn over its assets to its shareholders together with \$78,000 from Mr Robert Wagner, the former Democratic Mayor of New York, and two other defendants.

This payment would not include Maudling.

Asked about money received by the defendants, Judge Edmund Palmieri, who is in charge of the case, said:

'I can assure you nobody worked for nothing. They all had their feet in the gravy.'

The federal judge said that the fund's management had 'over-extended and over-invested' and that 'their policies were not strictly according to the rules'.

REFA was a Liberia-registered company which made its headquarters in Thorn House, Upper

## 'They all had their feet in it'—judge

St Martin's Lane in London's West End.

Its original board of directors contained Maudling, Viscount Brentford, the head of the Automobile Association and an ex-Tory Minister, his son, Crispin Joynson-Hicks, and a number of top aides in the White House and the Pentagon.

Maudling launched the fund at an international Press conference held at the Waldorf in the Strand early in 1969.

## BOUNCE

A few months later, however, details of Hoffman's past problems with the Securities and Exchange Commission were published by the 'Sunday Times' following an investigation by journalist Charles Raw.

Raw uncovered the fact that Hoffman had been engaged in a tricky mortgage operation and that he had subsequently been banned for trading in, handling

# REFA gravy train



Above: Hoffman (R) with Maudling. Left: Maudling's letter written after his resignation from REFA saying it was a 'good and sound investment'.

or selling securities within New York state for life.

The irrepressible Hoffman bounced back—and formed REFA with the assistance of Maudling, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Maudling left the presidency after hearing about Hoffman's unsavoury past, but this did not prevent him sending a letter to Hoffman in which he stated that he still thought that the fund was 'a good and sound investment'.

## BANKRUPT

Hoffman printed thousands of copies of the letter and used it to solicit business.

A year later the company collapsed.

When he fled from London, Hoffman left behind a bankrupt management company and a deluge of creditors' letters.

He returned to New York where he was immediately charged with offences dating from his first mortgage business.

He received a two-year sentence in the state penitentiary.

When contacted this week about the possible settlement which the angry shareholders had agreed to, Maudling said: 'I hope it's the end of the matter.'

27 Chester Square,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

To: J.D. Hoffman  
From: Reginald Maudling September 26, 1969

*Dear Jerry,*

You have shown me a copy of a leaflet in Spanish that is being circulated in Latin America which contains some extracts from one British newspaper about my resignation from the Real Estate Fund of America.

The purpose of the leaflet must clearly be to do damage to your business. It is anonymous and there is no way on the face of it of telling who has circulated it, but it appears likely that this has been done by a competitor of yours.

I would like to put on record once again that the reasons for my resignation were precisely those set out in my statement and no more. I began the statement by saying that I considered the Real Estate Fund of America was a good and sound investment and I set out quite clearly my own personal position.

I am delighted that you have obtained the services of such a distinguished American as Mr. Holmes Brown, Chairman of the New York Board of Trade to take my place together with other important figures in the United States.

*Reginald Maudling*  
REGINALD MAUDLING

TO WHO IT MAY CONCERN

Should anyone query the authenticity of the above, they are free to write to Mr. Reginald Maudling at the above address.

# Pay occupation at Welsh cable plant

PRODUCTION workers at the Aberdare Cables Company factory, Glamorgan, have entered the third day of their sit-in over bonus rate payments.

Overnight the protest was staged by groups of 50 workers in relay.

Last Friday 180 workers who had been working to rule were warned that unless there was a return to normal working there would be no production at the plant.

The sit-in began on Monday when the workers were told to go home. Management told the workers they were required to work normally before the dispute could be referred to the Tories' Pay Board or a procedure committee within the industry.

John Jenkins, chairman of the

shop stewards, told Workers Press that the dispute arose from the review of the annual pay agreement. This was originally deferred from last October because of the introduction of the government's Phase One of the pay laws.

He said workers now wanted the same money they received for doing the same work last year.

Workers in the dispute are members of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, though it will affect other unions if the sit-in continues.

Arthur Probert, the Labour MP for Aberdare, was due to travel from London to speak to shop stewards yesterday afternoon.

Aberdare Cables is part of the international firm, Pirelli General Cable Company, which owns other cable-making companies in Eastleigh, Bishopstoke and Southampton.

# Police called to council

POLICE were called last night to Gosport Borough Council meeting after an angry exchange of words between the Mayor, Ald Ron Kirkin and Ald Wilfred Chidlow.

After allegations by Ald Chidlow about the council buying houses at less than market value the mayor said his comments had

no relevance to the matters under discussion.

Ald Chidlow persisted and said to the mayor: 'Don't you tell me to be quiet.'

The mayor then sent for the police.

While a police sergeant and a PC waited at the open door of the council chambers Ald Chidlow withdrew his remark.

# Rebuff to rail chief

SIR SIDNEY GREENE and his right-wing cronies on the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen have received a decisive rebuff in their attempts to ignore the TUC's May Day stoppage.

Greene has been hinting privately ever since the March 5 Congress that his union would not take part in the one-day stoppage in protest against the Tories' state pay laws.

But at an executive meeting on Monday night it was decided by a one-vote majority to support the stoppage.

The union will not take national strike action on May 1 because this requires a one-third majority. But it does mean that NUR members can now stop work on May Day and participate in local demonstrations throughout the country.

During the bitterly-contested executive meeting the right wing moved a resolution that the TUC's invitation to stop work should be ignored.

ASLEF, the locomen's union, still has to decide what action to take.

<p><b>SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MEETING</b></p> <p>Transform the SLL into the Revolutionary Party</p> <p><b>Manchester</b></p> <p>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11</p> <p>8 p.m.</p> <p>Angel pub, Chapel Street.</p>	<p><b>SLL LECTURE SERIES</b></p> <p>The revolutionary party and the history of the British working class</p> <p><b>Merthyr Tydfil</b></p> <p>Caedraw School Merthyr Tydfil</p> <p>7 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday April 22</p> <p>Lectures given by Peter Jeffries</p>	<p><b>SLL LECTURE SERIES</b></p> <p>The Socialist Revolution in Britain</p> <p><b>Middleton (nr Manchester)</b></p> <p>Hollins Social Centre Tintern Road, Hollins Estate</p> <p>7.30 p.m.</p> <p>Monday April 16</p> <p>Lectures given by Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee)</p>
<p><b>NEWS DESK</b></p> <p>01-720 2000</p> <p><b>CIRCULATION</b></p> <p>01-622 7029</p>	<p>The Unions and the working class in Britain.</p> <p>The Revolutionary Past of the British working class—and its future.</p> <p>The Transformation of the SLL into a Revolutionary Party.</p>	<p>The Socialist Revolution in Britain:</p> <p>3. The state and revolution. Reformism and revolution in Britain. The fight for democratic rights today means preparing for working-class power.</p> <p>Basic reading: Perspectives for transforming the SLL into a revolutionary party.</p>
<p>Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Newsdesk: 01-720 2000. Circulation: 01-622 7029.</p>	<p>Perspectives for Transforming the SLL into a Revolutionary Party.</p> <p>Marxist Analysis of the Crisis.</p>	<p>Marxist Analysis of the Crisis. Problems of the British Revolution (Trotsky).</p> <p>Death Agony of Capitalism and the Tasks of the Fourth International, Communist Manifesto.</p>

## APRIL FUND £195.36 STILL TOO SLOW

WE MUST make a special effort to give our April Fund a boost. So far the response has been slow and we need a much greater effort to achieve our £1,750 target.

Yesterday's post raised £46.25 bringing our total up to £195.36. We have now reached the 11th day of the month and time is slipping by. More than ever this month, Workers Press must be kept right out in front. It is the only daily paper to expose the retreats and manoeuvres of the TUC leaders as they try to run from the struggle against the Industrial Relations Act.

Our paper will continue to expose this treachery and build instead an alternative revolutionary leadership to lead thousands of workers who are determined to defeat this Tory government.

Don't waste a moment therefore in raising our April Fund. Collect extra amounts wherever possible. Post all these immediately to:

Workers Press  
April Appeal Fund  
186a Clapham High Street  
London, SW4 7UG.

## Thieu avoids picket

ABOUT 100 demonstrators picketed No 10 Downing Street yesterday protesting against the official state visit of President Thieu, head of the Saigon military regime.

But to avoid a clash with demonstrators Thieu's plans were changed. He was taken by RAF helicopter from Heathrow to meet premier Heath at Chequers. During the talks Heath offered Thieu aid to assist his brutal regime.

The demonstration at Downing Street was called by the Indo-China Solidarity Conference and the British Campaign for Peace in Vietnam.

● See page 2.

# Judge sets new picket precedent

STRIKERS who physically obstruct vehicles or persons attempting to cross a picket line are breaking the law, Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled yesterday.

The 1971 Industrial Relations Act, he said, permitted peaceful picketing.

But the only methods of persuading anyone not to break a picket were oral or visual—that is to say the use of the voice or the exhibition of placards.

Said Widgery: 'The Act does

not authorize pickets to do acts, such as the physical obstruction of vehicles of persons, which would be illegal apart from the Industrial Relations Act'.

Mr. Justice Ashworth and Mr Justice Bridge agreed that John Broome, of Stockport, Cheshire, an official of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, was guilty of obstruction under the 1959 Highways Act when he stood in front of a lorry attempting to enter a building site during last year's national building strike.

The court allowed, with costs, a police appeal against the dismissal by Stockport magistrates on October 3 of a summons alleging that Broome obstructed the free passage of Short Street, Stockport, in September 1972.

The case was sent back to the magistrates with a direction to convict Broome.

But the court certified that the case raised a point of law of general public importance and granted Broome leave to appeal to the House of Lords.



Lord Widgery.

# An insult to hospital workers

AFTER NARROWLY avoiding a barracking from hospital strikers in the north-west, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, yesterday returned to his desk to find . . . a begging letter from the TUC.

BY DAVID MAUDE OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

This is the only possible description of the statement on the hospital workers' pay fight issued by the TUC Finance and General Purposes Committee last Friday.

For what the statement says, in the most humiliating terms possible, is that the union chiefs will hold down their members' claims in return for no more than a promise of special treatment for the hospital workers.

In a covering letter to Joseph, delivered by hand on Monday evening, Alan Fisher, the leader of the main hospital union, says the TUC statement 'points the way for further discussions between us on ways in which an acceptable solution to the current dispute could be concluded'.

It was this same Fisher, general secretary of the National

Union of Public Employees, who was booed by some of his own members at Tower Hill last Thursday for suggesting their claim might be taken to the Tories' Pay Board.

And again it was Fisher who actually put the idea of a begging letter to the TUC the following morning.

'It is reasonable for us because we are the only ones left fighting', he said afterwards. 'It is for the TUC to decide if it is fair or not on other workers.'

Leadership of this kind is an insult to the desperately low-paid hospital workers.

First their union chiefs ignored the overwhelming demand of national ballot votes for all-out strike action, adopting in-

stead the totally inadequate policy of selective strikes, overtime bans and working to rule.

Then when their members have been determinedly pursuing this policy for more than five weeks they propose to wind it up and accept the pay laws.

But in condemning Fisher and his associates, hospital workers should not allow the great 'left' talkers of the TUC Finance and General Purposes Committee to slip by unnoticed.

It was Hugh Scanlon and Jack Jones, after all, who four days after the hospital workers began their industrial action won endorsement for the following formula from a special Congress of the TUC:

'Congress calls upon the

General Council to organize and lead co-ordinated action in support of affiliated unions in dispute and who require such support.'

Scanlon told the Congress that the rest of the trade union movement should say to the hospital workers, gas workers, teachers and civil servants who were in conflict with the government: 'Your struggle is our struggle'.

He specifically condemned the idea of 'special cases' under the pay laws.

'Our pledge is given in the sense that the whole conception of this government is absolutely false and must be blown sky-high, not by exceptions but by the uniting in action of the whole trade union movement.'

Yet Scanlon has issued no statement repudiating the statement from last Friday's Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting, which says quite the opposite of this. And according to Fisher there was no discussion in the meeting — although Scanlon and Jones were both present.

Here is the TUC statement in full:

'The Finance and General Purposes Committee expressed the willingness of the TUC to assist directly in the negotiations and to give an assurance to the government that, if the hospital ancillary workers' claim could be considered on its merits as an exceptional case, the TUC would call upon all its affiliated organizations not to quote any settlement on behalf of these workers in justification of a claim of their own.'

This is the language of betrayal, not of the hospital workers alone, but of all 10 million trade unionists in the TUC and their families.

It exposes the March 5 special Congress as what Workers Press has insisted all along it was: a fraud on the working class. The May 1 'day of protest and stoppage', therefore, was always a cynical cover for this fraud.

May 1, however, can and must be made a powerful demonstration that workers decisively reject these policies.

● All out on May Day!

● Mobilize the working class to force the Tories out and replace them with a Labour government pledged to socialist policies!



## PAY CLIMB- DOWN DANGER

FROM PAGE 1  
and their 'temporary victory'.

The other big issue is the Industrial Relations Act. Scanlon may come under fire from two sides on this question.

The right wing will demand a change in policy to allow the union to appear before the National Industrial Relations Court.

On the other hand there are the tens of thousands of engineering workers who view with bitter hostility Scanlon's offer to Heath of amending the Act.

From what has emerged during these first two days at the conference, it is quite clear that the policy of the Communist Party and the 'left' is to protect the president, who is considered an ally, from all criticism.

There was a move to defer the question of the Act to the national conference, but this is now not being pursued.

The Act will be debated either tomorrow or Friday.

# 13th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF YOUNG SOCIALISTS BLACKPOOL APRIL 14/15 1973

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, APRIL 14 & 15, WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL

FOR DETAILS  
TELEPHONE  
01-622 7029

SHOP STEWARDS at Barratt's, north London, sweet factory meet management this morning to discuss last Friday's shock announcement of closure within two years. Closure of the factory, which is part of the £7m George Bassett confectionary group, would kill 750 jobs.