

workers press

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

TUC AND CP WILLING COLLABORATORS PHASE TWO DEALS MEAN WAGE CUTS

BY ROYSTON BULL

TUC LEADERS are ready to respond favourably to a government invitation to discuss the next stage of the Tory plan to hold down workers' wages. The trade union 'lefts' and the Communist Party are prepared to back a so-called voluntary Phase Three of state wage controls, due in the autumn.

By accepting Phase Two deals and the dictates of the Tory pay laws, the trade union leaders and the Stalinists are in practice, accepting wage cutting. The Pay Board, in effect, has become the wage-cutting board.

Even official government statistics released in the House of Commons show that while the cost of the most basic food items going into the housewife's shopping basket has increased by about 40 per cent on average since the Tories came into office 30 months ago, earnings have gone up by only 30 per cent.

On top of this, rents and rates have been arbitrarily increased all over the country, in some cases by as much as 100 per cent.

The real rise in the cost of living, however, is even greater than the officially-controlled figures admit.

The inescapable conclusion is that the standard of living of the working class is being steadily driven down.

The state control of wages is the main instrument for this Tory policy of passing onto the working class the burdens of inflation caused by the capitalist system itself.

One of the effects of inflation is the floating pound, termed by right-wing Labourite James Callaghan the 'sinking' pound, which causes the prices of imported food and raw materials to rise uncontrollably.

The chief support for this cynical programme to make workers pay for capitalism's difficulties is the trade union bureaucracy, backed by the Communist Party. That is what the 'class compromise' implications of the 'peaceful road to socialism' mean in practice.

Following on the Stalinists' acceptance at the teachers' conference of the Phase Two deal, Edward Britton, NUT secretary, was able to declare yesterday that wage control was here to stay. (See page 12.)

The next stage in this attempt to sell out the working class to the principle of the corporate state is to abolish the basic democratic right to free collective bargaining for ever. This will

come in the summer.

Then the TUC leaders will go back to Downing Street or Chequers to discuss Phase Three of the pay laws to be introduced in the autumn with Heath.

At last year's talks, the trade union leaders, including Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon, wanted to accept voluntarily the state control of wages. But they could not get a deal which they could put across the working class.

But they plan to conclude such a deal at the next round of talks, possibly by means of a phoney cost-of-living 'threshold' agreement.

This would be based on the imposition of a most blatant confidence trick on the working class.

Already the price of food and the cost-of-living generally has rocketed way beyond the means of the average working-class budget. Between now and the autumn, the increases in prices will get even worse, leaving far behind the 8-per-cent rise in wages allowed by Phase Two.

Then, at a point when the Tories might hope to have got over the worst of the inflationary crisis, they plan to eliminate the £1 plus 4 per cent altogether and replace it with no wage increases at all, a 'nil norm', coupled with a threshold clause allowing pay to rise only if the cost of living rises.

But by that time, the price of basic essentials could have risen by up to 25 per cent in 1973, meaning a real wage cut of 17

TURN TO BACK PAGE

How UCS scared the Tories

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Based on information gathered in top Tory circles, McGill reveals that the Tories were truly afraid of a class challenge from the Scottish workers. In the early days of the crisis they considered that they did not have the manpower or the political strength to meet such a challenge.

This was the belief of the Workers Press and the Socialist Labour League during those days on the Clyde. We were vehemently opposed by the Communist Party leadership of the struggle. Party members said that calls for mass political and industrial action aimed at bringing down the government were premature and even destined to failure.

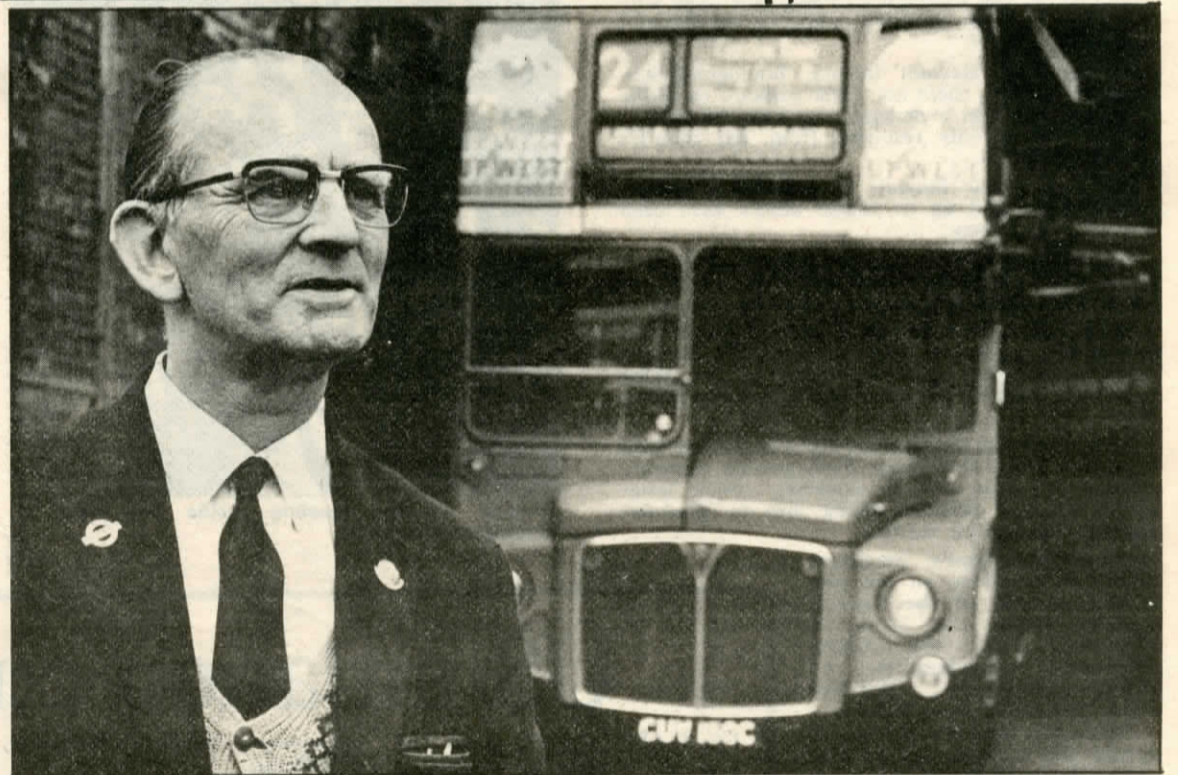
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Turn to page 9 and read how civil war nearly came to the Clyde.

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£100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

THE FUND is moving, but only just. Socialist Labour League branches Watford £10; Basildon £6; Swindon £1.29; Liza F. £50, have pushed it up to £9,221.07.

We really need a major effort during the next few days if we are to reach the first half £50,000 by May 31. Post all donations to: Party Building Fund 186a Clapham High Street London SW4 7UG.

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Moscow covers up the Nixon scandal

LEADERS of the Soviet Communist Party are coming to the assistance of President Nixon, whose administration is being shaken from top to bottom by the Watergate bugging scandal.

Nixon is fighting for his political survival against a barrage of charges involving eavesdropping, theft, bribery and official lies. To fight his way out of the revelations of corruption he needs every friend he can get.

At a time when some members even of his own Republican Party are questioning Nixon's fitness to be in the White House, the Soviet Stalinist chiefs have no doubts at all.

In the 'Sunday Times' (April 22) Ed Stevens reported from Moscow: 'Russia's Press has undergone a radical transformation in its attitude towards the United States. Newspapers and weekly magazines are filled with glowing accounts of the positive results achieved since President Nixon's visit to Moscow last May, and optimistic forecasts of further improvements in relations between the two countries.'

'There are kind words for the President, and for Mr Rogers, Secretary of State. And the most laudatory articles are reserved for Occidental Petroleum's President, Dr Armand Hammer, and his

What we think

recently-signed chemical fertilizer barter deal.

'Even criticism of American aid to Israel and the Cambodian government has been muted, while the burgeoning Watergate scandal—which in times gone by would have provided a wealth of material for exposing and denouncing capitalist political corruption—has been totally ignored by the Soviet Press in order not to embarrass or discredit president Nixon.'

The Stalinist leaders, both in Moscow and Peking, are determined to save the American President's political future. Not only do they fear any changes which might jeopardize their economic ties with the US, they also know Nixon to be a reliable bastion against the working class in the US and Europe.

Last week the Soviet leaders suspended their exit tax on Jews who want to leave the USSR as a means of coming to final agreement with the Americans on giving most favoured-nation treat-

ment to Soviet products exported to the United States.

But over and above the immediate trading advantages they desperately need to deal with the most pressing problems created by their economic crisis, the Soviet bureaucrats want a grand alliance with the United States against the threat from the world working class.

Last November, following Nixon's election victory Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev welcomed the result as showing support for 'a peace-loving, realistic foreign policy'. Before the election, President Podgorny has practically endorsed Nixon for President by telling the 'Los Angeles Times' that he looked forward to working with Nixon for several more years.

The corruption of Nixon's regime is no deterrent to Stalinist support. People who live in glass houses are in no position to throw stones. After all, by Moscow's standards the Watergate conspirators are mere bungling amateurs.

Such operations are done far more frequently—and with far more efficiency—in Moscow!

The Soviet bureaucracy have no rivals at this kind of activity. They usurped power from the working class by force and maintain it by the most rigorous police-state methods. While their Press is silent about Watergate, the KGB secret police are hounding the courageous oppositionists who produce the 'Chronicle of Current Events'.

The 'Morning Star' on Saturday denounced Nixon as a 'man who has set new world records for cynical opportunism and the turning of political somersaults'. Coming from CP secretary John Gollan and his cronies this is indeed an accolade.

They describe the US President as 'the leader of a gangster regime' who 'behaves like a gangster everywhere'. True enough, as far as it goes. But they don't say anything about Moscow's enthusiasm for the President and the Kremlin's silence about his corruption.

The Stalinists are propping up the Nixon regime at its time of greatest crisis. Never before has there been such an opportunity to force the President's resignation. It is at this crucial time that Stalinism stands revealed as an open agency of counter-revolution and the staunchest defender of the gangster in the White House.

CP makes pleas to Messmer

Renault: Govt seeks clash

BY JOHN SPENCER

MANAGEMENT at Renault, the state-owned French motor giant, is still refusing to negotiate with unions representing 40,000 locked-out workers.

After over a month of strikes and labour conflicts at the company's factories the government seems set on breaking the back of the present upsurge of struggle in the French motor industry.

It is relying, as always, on the treachery and cowardice of the Communist Party chieftains who dominate the most powerful union in the Renault combine, the CGT.

At the main Renault factory, Boulogne-Billancourt, near Paris, there are 7,000 workers on strike or locked out over a demand that they be paid in full for the lay-offs resulting from last month's press-shop strike.

At Flins, a new Renault factory, 2,000 workers are on strike and up to 18,000 others have been laid off without pay.

At Sandouville, site of another important Renault plant, 9,500 men were locked out when a group of workers occupied part of the works last week.

Work has still to resume in full at the factory, though the occupation was ended by the Stalinist union representatives within hours of its taking place. The strikers were threatened by management thugs.

Everywhere the Communist Party is striving hard to restore order. On Friday, Party general secretary Georges Marchais sent an extremely servile letter to the Gaullist premier asking him to intervene and get negotiations started.

'The government's persistent refusal to intervene on the side of the workers of the Renault combine shows that it is in solidarity with the CNPF (National Confederation of French Employers)', Marchais wrote, somewhat unnecessarily.

There has been no attempt to spread the struggle to the rest of the factories in the group, let alone to link it with that of other workers in the industry.

Yet at St Etienne, near Lyons, the management used two groups of armed ex-Legionnaires to clear sit-in strikers out of the Peugeot plant.

They had been recruited into the factory as shop-floor workers to spy on their workmates and act as an internal police force.

At Renault, the management sponsors a company union to organize the extreme right and the fascist-backed CFT is active in certain plants.

The Stalinists make cringing declarations about driving these thugs from the factory and take no further action.



Renault workers meeting inside the plant at Boulogne-Billancourt.

Watergate: Finger points to Nixon

PRESIDENT NIXON is facing another week of crisis with more allegations of lies and corruption at the White House over the Watergate scandal.

The accusing finger is now pointing directly at the President himself. Three questions are being asked.

● Did he organize the espionage raid on the Democratic Party headquarters during the last election?

● Did he know of or authorize plans to buy-off the men caught spying with 'hush money'?

● Did he change a report into the investigation to cover-up the guilt of his administration?

The answers, on which Nixon's survival may depend, could come this week when the Grand Jury starts its cross-examination of three key characters in the Watergate affair.

One is John Dean, Nixon's smart lawyer, who was told by the President to investigate the scandal. 'Time' magazine says that Dean is expected to tell the Grand Jury that the report he drew up for Nixon was changed.

'Time' says: 'It thus seems likely that Dean would tell the Grand Jury that somebody in the White House had overruled or altered his findings before they reached Nixon. Whether Nixon himself was aware of such an alteration in Dean's report is a question with grave implication.'

Other witnesses will include former deputy presidential campaign manager Jeb Stuart Magruder and another White House aide, Charles Colson.

Top Nixon officials have already accused each other of planning the espionage. The former Attorney-General John Mitchell has changed his story twice.

First he claimed he knew nothing of spying, then he said he was present when spying plans were discussed.

He also claimed he had nothing to do with payments to seven men who were tried for spying. Now he says he 'helped them' with legal fees.

Most people think that Nixon must have known about these activities. This belief is extremely damaging to his future since the President had tried to live down his 'Tricky-Dick' reputation by posing as the nation's number one upholder of honesty and morality.

If this is exposed as a shallow façade, Nixon could be finished for ever.

Party bosses are now worried about the President. If he brazen out this scandal, his programme—which involves attacks on the working class and large welfare cuts—will lose all credibility and trade union leaders who backed Nixon will find it increasingly difficult to restrain the demands of their members.

● See US inflation story below.

US inflation cuts wage packets

US CAPITALISM is in the grip of a runaway inflation which has carried consumer prices upwards at a faster rate than for over 22 years, according to the March figures.

Food prices jumped by 2.5 per cent compared with 2.2 per cent in January and 1.9 per cent in February. On a seasonally-adjusted basis this would mean an annual rise of close on 30 per cent.

Other items have not risen so fast, but the overall official index of consumer prices rose by 0.8 per cent in March, still the biggest leap since the Korean war. This would give an increase for the year of 8.8 per cent, assuming

no increase in the present rate of inflation.

This compares with President Nixon's aim of limiting price increases to 2½ per cent per annum by the end of the year. This aim has now been pushed into the realm of the impossible.

The price rises are being fuelled by what 'Time' magazine calls the 'Scary Spending Avalanche'. Consumers are spending their dollars as soon as they get them in the belief that prices will rise still further and their money will lose value in their pockets or bank accounts.

This reluctance to hold depreciating money has caused a consumer boom which has pushed retail sales and corporate profits to new heights and produced an



MEANY... Skidding down

illusory prosperity. Sales of cars in March reached a record 1.1 million with a big increase in spending and consumer credit.

Richer people are buying luxury items like jewellery which they hope will be a store of value

for the future.

The only measures likely to have an early effect on the soaring inflation would precipitate a slump ahead of time.

Union boss George Meany, commenting on the latest cost-of-living rise, said: 'Once more we have positive proof, if any further proof was necessary, of the complete failure of the economic policies of the Nixon Administration.'

'These latest record-breaking figures mean that the American consumer, housewife and worker are going to pay, pay and keep on paying for these failures.'

Meany added that for four months out of the past five the buying power of workers' wages had been skidding down.



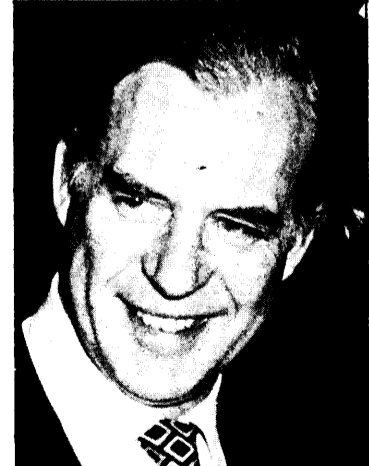
TUC CONDEMNS WORKERS TO PHASE TWO PENURY

PART TWO BY ROYSTON BULL
 Hugh Scanlon, the engineering union president, wants to do a deal with the Tories to get a voluntary Phase Three.

He and his TUC colleagues believe that a voluntary corporatism would be better than the imposition of legal restraints that Phase Two entails, with all the consequent hotting up of the class struggle.

But what will Phase Three be like? Maurice Macmillan, Employment Minister, has already let the cat out of the bag in saying it will be much more severe than Phase Two. Scanlon and company are making use of premier Edward Heath's denial of this in the House of Commons to spread false ideas of what Phase Three will be like and to talk blather about the Pay Board.

W. O. Campbell Adamson, director general of the monopolist-dominated Confederation of British Industry, revealed more of the truth about the Tories' plans to steadily reduce even the nominal level of government-approved pay increases (which are disguised cuts because of the enormous inflation of prices) down to zero and then impose official wage reductions for all workers sometime in 1974.



W.O. Campbell Adamson, director general of the CBI.

'First we had better be clear that it will not be easy for a whole number of reasons, not least because there can be no let up in the policy,' he told a sumptuous employers luncheon at Cambridge, talking about the next stage of incomes policy.

'The freeze went well [meaning the pay standstill], and the signs are that Phase Two will be generally accepted. But the special circumstances of the first half of this year, due to the movement of world prices and the introduction of VAT,

means that while the rate of inflation will be held in Phase Two, we are unlikely to enter the next stage with any substantial reduction in the rate [of inflation].

'We shall therefore have to be talking about a policy which can start to lower the rate of price increases to a more acceptable level. And that means restraint for all of us. So that is the debit side.'

Joining Hugh Scanlon by declaring that the CBI would also prefer Phase Three to be voluntary, Adamson explained:

'We mean legal back-up powers to continue in existence, and not to be abandoned in the euphoria of voluntary agreement.'

Not content with making sure that wages are firmly screwed down under Phase Three, Adamson went on to express the most blatant class bias in his advice to the government on the Phase Three package.

'Management will need to be satisfied that the right environment for investment will exist and that profit margin control will go. Profit control is a quite unnecessary adjunct to price restraint.'

These are the men that Scanlon wants to do deals with out of an alleged common interest in solving the problems of inflation.

The employers Scanlon normally negotiates with, the Engineering Employers' Federation, have a very keen sense of self-interest as far as using government legislation to hold down workers' wages is concerned.

The president of the EEF, Tom Carlile, told Coventry employers at a dinner last month:

'I suspect that for many years to come, collective bargaining as we have known it will not return.'

So much for those who doubt that the Tories intend introducing a permanent corporate state into Britain.

Carlile continued: 'This may not be a bad thing.' Mr Carlile is a master of understatement.

'There was nothing free about our recent collective-bargaining other than that the unions were virtually free to do as they pleased.'

This good news will be passed on to all engineering workers.

'Earnings between October 1971 and 1972 increased by 15 per cent largely as a result of pressure at plant level.'

Mr Carlile went on: 'The government's policy is already

being challenged, notably by trade unions with members in the public sector. They say it isn't fair to their members. To be, quite honest, I don't suppose it is wholly fair to anyone.'

The magnanimous liberalism of this remark was not all that it seemed, however, as Carlile explained in his next sentence:

'It certainly places an

onerous burden on managers in industry. It is they, primarily, who will be expected to see that the policy works.'

It is not the lower paid who are condemned to penury as wages are held down while prices soar that concern Mr Carlile. It is the extra work that £5,000-a-year (and above) managers will have to put in to police this government

At the time of wage negotiations in 1971, Hugh Scanlon walks through a Press conference being given by representatives of the employers. Mr Carlile is third from right.

penny-pinching that dismays him.

And these are the Tories that Scanlon wishes to do a deal with.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS AND SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

MAY DAY

DEMONSTRATE TUES. MAY 1ST

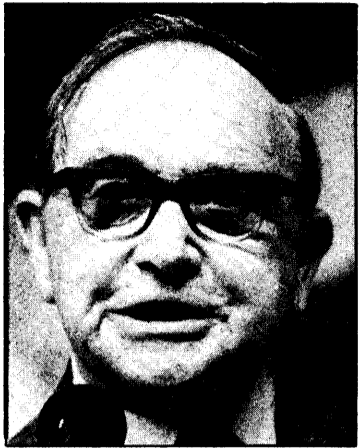


DEFEND BASIC DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS
 BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

LONDON: Assemble 6 p.m. Speakers Corner, Hyde Park. Meeting 8 p.m. St Pancras Assembly Rooms. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
 MIDLANDS: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Assembly Hall, Digbeth, Birmingham.
 NORTH-WEST: Assemble 10 a.m. Islington, Liverpool. Meeting 7.30 p.m. Central Hall, Liverpool. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
 NORTH-EAST: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Civic Centre, Jarrow. Premiere showing of Pageant film.

SCOTLAND: Assemble 10 a.m. Blythswood Square, Glasgow. Meeting 7.30 p.m. Woodside Halls, St George's Cross, Glasgow. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
 WALES: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Caedraw School, Merthyr Tydfil. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
 YORKSHIRE: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Guildford Hotel, Headrow, Leeds.

JACK JONES: 'BUILDING A BETTER (CORPORATIST) BRITAIN'



Jack Jones, head of the giant transport workers' union, declared a united front with the employers last week. His 1.6 million members, he said, stood 'four square' with management in building a 'better Britain'.

This outburst of industrial patriotism may well have surprised many T&GWU members who are used to reading—particularly in the Communist Party daily 'Morning Star'—that Jones is on the left wing of the trade union movement.

The British employers are 100 per cent supporters of Tory laws banning free bargaining.

They are eager supporters of the drive to reduce living standards by increasing prices.

They are, after all, paymasters of a Tory government determined to deprive the working class of all its basic rights.

Jones, however, believes this is the time to forget differences and soldier on together for a 'better [capitalist] Britain'.

He turned to this theme in a letter to a former West Midlands Industrialist William Kirk who is 'selling Britain' in Canada.

Jones wrote: 'Contrary to the black image that some of our newspapers have given, over 95 per cent of British workers never take part in a strike and are now playing their full part in increasing Britain's growth rate. We are standing four-square with management in building a better Britain.'

The statement is an interesting indication of mood. After two years in which his own union has taken an unprecedented battering from employers and the government, Jones is still sweetness and light—a dedicated advocate of 'working together'. One might also add that the next round of talks with the Tories on a 'Better Britain' can now only be weeks away.

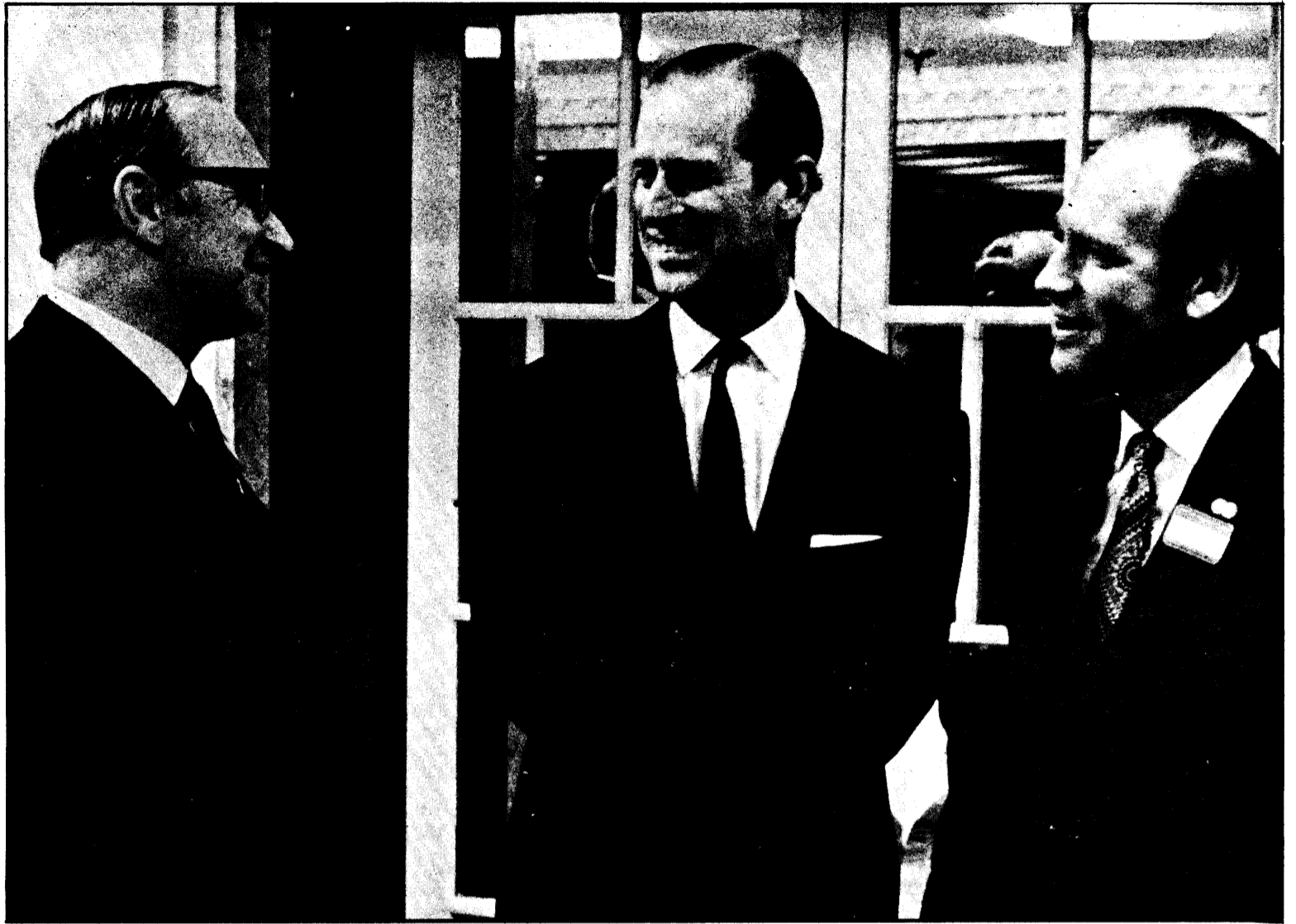
CORPORATIST

Tories will be encouraged, workers will be outraged, but careful observers of the progress of Jack Jones will not be surprised.

The outburst is very much in the Jones pattern. During his public career the ex-Liverpool docker has always expounded a devotion to resolving conflict within industry and reaching some joint pact with employers for some mythical common good.

In essence Jones is a corporatist, a subscriber to that body of thought that maintains 'structural' changes in the 'system' can lead to a harmonious method of absorbing 'conflict'.

In the boom days, people like Jones could sound awfully radical. For example, corporatists often pose as advocates of workers' control and,



Jack Jones, leader of the T&GWU with the Duke of Edinburgh at a dinner of the corporatist-style 'Industrial Society'.

like Jones, they are members of the Institute for Workers' Control.

But the true reactionary essence of this theory is that it ignores the irreconcilable difference in interests between the capitalist, who owns the means of production, and the worker who sells his labour power.

But the reaction only becomes glaringly apparent in periods of crisis and major class struggle. Then the corporatist clings desperately to his fear of conflict and drifts with the rest of the trade union leadership to the actual corporate state.

This has exactly been Jones' course during 1973.

But the seeds were sown early.

When he was chairman-elect of the Transport and General Workers' Union, Jones emerged with a philosophy which he has pursued ever since. He unveiled this at a top Labour Party meeting in parliament.

Jones said he wanted to see four things in industry. The first was

- The restoration of order 1376. This was the infamous regulation which set up bodies of arbitration whose awards were binding. Many workers in the shipyards, mines and engineering industries grew to hate this piece of anti-working-class legislation.

- Maximum expansion of 'conciliation procedures', which would not be based on prior agreement on both sides.

- TUC powers to intervene in disputes to take the initiative from local groups of workers fighting a battle with employers.
- Local arbitration panels geared to swoop on disputes and get the men back fast.

This was a fully-fledged corporatist plan developed over five years ago by Jones.

Alongside this was his dedication to productivity deals. Jones encouraged many during the key years between 1968-1971. Men were lured into pay pacts involving Measured-Day Work and other

sophisticated means of speeding up the rate of exploitation. In exchange they got marginally more money and the great shake-out. Thousands and thousands of workers were axed from the industry for good.

VAGUE

There is a backlash against productivity within the unions now, but few leaders care to recall that it was their own passionate canvassing for local deals that brought in the jobs holocaust. Jones more than most was the high priest of the local productivity deal.

Jones would generally dress up this nasty dish with vague appeals for more 'workers' control'. Control is perhaps the wrong word. He always made it quite clear that employers should never be ousted from the commanding heights, but that they should listen to workers and shop stewards.

In a revealing exchange in one national newspaper, Jones revealed that stewards should be elected to factory joint management committees. Not necessarily in numbers equal to the employers, but equal in influence. They would share the power over things like the appointment of supervisors and increasing productivity.

Again workers' control, Jones-style, is an essentially corporate set-up, part of the general machinery for avoiding conflict within monopoly capitalism.

In periods of boom, such ideology does severe damage to the working class. Jobs are lost during productivity deals and the fighting capacity of workers continually blunted. In the period of crisis these theories become the spearhead of the corporate state itself.

This plan has now become 'officially' recognized by industry and the Tories, who have welcomed a TUC plan (drawn up by leaders including Jones) for 'worker participation'.

This plan, of course, is a

mockery of workers' control and worse. In practice industrialists welcome this kind of worker-representation. It is used skilfully in the propaganda war against militant trade union organization. Within the big private combines the stewards on joint boards inevitably become the management's men—as they have in the steel industry.

Their true menace became apparent when Jones began to reflect on the impact of the National Industrial Relations Court. Jones' main complaint was that this piece of class legislation not so much deprived workers of key basic rights, but encouraged the mass conflict he desperately strove to avoid.

It would, said Jones, break up the machinery of compromise that had been carefully constructed by union leaders like himself. He wrote in the 'Sunday Times', for example:

'Many forward-looking managements who have benefited from decentralized local negotiations will wonder at the wisdom of a Court laying down that a union centrally is responsible for every act that its members undertake.'

'For the very real danger that arises from the present spate of legal decisions is that British industrial relations could be set back a generation.'

Jones was most afraid of major national class confrontation breaking out—which indeed they did over the very decision to make the T&GWU responsible for its members.

The T&GWU leader has recovered somewhat from his shock of last August when five of his docker members were clapped in jail. But he has learnt no lessons—the corporatists plough on for the corporate state.

The innocuous phrases about 'workers' control' now assume a new importance. Jones is talking about joint effort to build Britain when the jaws of political crisis are about to shut tight on all his mem-

bers and their rights.

There were certain German trade union leaders who spoke a similar language in the early 1930s. They paid dearly for their faith in the capitalist system—some with their lives.

LESSONS OF UCS

REFORMISM ON THE CLYDE

REFORMISM ON THE CLYDE

REFORMISM ON THE CLYDE
The Story of UCS



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COPPER PRICES: A US CONSPIRACY

Three Latin American countries face losing tens of millions of dollars in foreign exchange as a result of President Nixon's decision to sell off most of the United States stockpile of strategic materials.

Bolivia, Chile and Peru, for whom metals are a major export, have already protested unofficially about Nixon's decision and are now planning to present a joint official protest, according to diplomatic sources in Buenos Aires.

The inevitable fall in world metal prices will harm these and other producer countries.

Bolivian mines minister Raul Lema Patino said last week: 'A fall of 10 cents in the price of tin means \$6m (about £2,450,000) a year less for us.'

Chilean President Salvador Allende has frequently said that a drop of just 1 cent in copper prices means \$18m

(£7,347,000) a year less for his country's state-controlled copper industry.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Miguel De La Flor also criticized the US decision, saying the move was bound to have an adverse effect on developing countries, 'among them Peru'.

Peru also produces copper, in many places at mines owned by the US Cerro company, and other metals in sizeable quantities.

First reaction from a US diplomat was that the three Latin American countries were 'squealing before they've been hurt'.

There has been no official statement from Washington on whether the White House has considered how the stockpile 'auction' will affect other countries.

Nixon said the sale would 'fight inflation by increasing supplies and so hold down prices'. But he was referring only to the impact on consumers. He apparently said nothing about producers.



Chile's Salvador Allende. Above: Surface copper mine. A fall in copper prices would harm the economies of Chile, Bolivia and Peru.

Bolivia's Lema Patino said his government was preparing an 'energetic' official protest.

He added that since the sales would also harm Chile and Peru 'we believe it essential that the three countries protest in unison'.

Discussions on phrasing such a protest are already under way, diplomatic sources said. They commented that only an action such as this could unite Latin American leaders as diverse as the right-wing Bolivian president Hugo Banzer and Chile's Salvador Allende.

Jorge Arrate, vice-president of Chile's state Codelco Copper Corporation, said the effect on Chile would depend on whether US copper reserves were sold off in bulk or in small packages over a long period.

But he added that 'a fall in prices is exactly what the US is seeking'.

Señor Arrate pointed out that lower copper prices during the 1971-1972 financial year cost Chile—which receives 83 per cent of its export earnings from copper—approximately \$500m.

The government of Dr Allende has said this was a major factor contributing towards Chile's present economic difficulties.

Diplomatic sources in Buenos Aires said the United States had no consultations with countries likely to be adversely affected before taking its decision.

Many Latin American politicians believe the lack of advance warning was intended precisely to inhibit co-ordinated opposition to the sell-off.

TELEPHONE TAPPING ITALIAN STYLE

A telephone-tapping scandal involving the fascist Italian Social Movement, the Central Intelligence Agency, top private detectives and the government's own spy services is currently racking the upper reaches of Italian society.

The preliminary judicial investigation is due to reach a conclusion shortly in the case, which has already led to a number of arrests, the flight of a prominent lawyer and at least one 'suicide'.

Thirty telephone technicians are charged with tapping offences and most of them are now behind bars awaiting trial.

Two other leading figures are in prison: Tom Ponzi, a private eye with a James Bond reputation who is closely linked with the MSI; and Beneforti, a former commissioner of police.

One of Beneforti's former colleagues, the chief commissioner Margano, was the victim of a murder attempt which left him with five bullet wounds. The assassination attempt is thought to be connected with the tapping scandal.

In Rome, where the scandal first erupted, these few facts are seen as only the tip of the iceberg: rumours are rife about the involvement of top government and even Vatican figures.

After three months of secret investigation into allegations of phone-tapping the secret was blown by the fascist Press, no doubt in the hope of warning people whose names had not yet been uncovered.

Vast network

Two years ago, the fascist newspapers mounted a vicious campaign against Mancini, who was then the general secretary of the Socialist Party. They made use of information which could only have been obtained by tapping telephones.

Beneforti, the principal accused, and Ponzi both claim that the tapping was a private affair in which they were solely concerned with catching out adulterers.

In fact, however, a vast net-

work of telephone-tapping has come to light, giving rise to the suspicion that much more is involved than just a manoeuvre against an individual or a particular party.

In the words of one newspaper, half Rome suspects that its phone calls are being intercepted by the other half. Nor were Ponzi and Beneforti the only ones involved.

The border police—a paramilitary formation in Italy—have their own tapping service and according to those in the know it is certainly not concerned only with catching cigarette smugglers.

The Interior Ministry has also been dragged in: it bought 200 micro-transmitters from Beneforti for 'training and exhibition purposes'.

Margano, the chief commissioner who was shot at, was a member 12 years ago of a sort of political super-police set up by the CIA.

Officials

This body was used for a time to combat the Mafia, but later was used for secret purposes by the Interior Ministry: it probably has very wide phone-tapping powers.

The principal officials of the telephone service are deeply implicated in the scandal.

For years they have known about the existence of tapping devices on certain lines, yet they have regularly allowed the tapping services to have access to the phone system without any formal legal authorization.

All this hardly explains the extent of the scandal. Why, for example, should Ponzi be able to live like a millionaire on the basis of tapping telephones?

Seven years ago the military intelligence agency SIFAR was the centre of a similar scandal. It was found to possess dossiers on the activities of 150,000 militants.

The speculation now is that Ponzi's outfit somehow took over where SIFAR was forced to leave off. Which leaves the question: on whose orders? And who gets the benefit?

Everything points to the preparations for a coup d'etat of the extreme right in Italy, in which the state apparatus is seen to be deeply implicated.

VAST REDUNDANCIES IF VOLKSWAGEN MOVE TO US

Volkswagen may open production lines in the United States in a bid to protect its American export market.

The West German news magazine 'Der Spiegel' said the move could lead to vast redundancies in West Germany's six Volkswagen factories.

A spokesman for Volkswagen said the inflation at home and the 6 per cent effective revaluation of the mark against the dollar after last

month's monetary crisis were now threatening to push Volkswagen prices out of the US market.

About one-third of Volkswagen's export production is shipped to the United States—where the one-time best-selling 'beetles' are already beginning to feel the threat of competitors in the small car market.

The spokesman said company experts were probing the costs of wages, transport and siting in the US, but he declined to say which cities were being considered for the possible production lines. The component parts would be shipped to the US for assembly.

'The feasibility studies now under way could take a long, long time to complete,' the spokesman said.

Volkswagen, once regarded as one of the world's most profitable car concerns, has recently gone through hard times, with its models losing ground in home markets, and the market absorbing fewer foreign cars.

POLITICAL PROFILES

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TORY MINISTERS PREPARE TRAP FOR DOCKERS

The Tory government is operating a two-pronged strategy for forcing 'casual' labour into the ports and undermining dockers' hard-won job security under the 1947 Dock Labour Scheme.

In a speech to the National Association of Port Employers on March 28, John Peyton, the Tories' Minister for Transport Industries, unveiled the first prong of this strategy.

He told the employers that the government was determined not to allow recruitment of any more permanent dockers even though some ports were suffering a shortage of labour following the 24-per-cent cut in the workforce under the Jones-Aldington severance scheme.

And he welcomed as an encouraging development the initiative of some ports in recruiting 'casuals'—men on a supplementary register provided by the 1947 scheme who can be sacked at a week's notice.

This is the second prong of the strategy.

For, as a letter now in the hands of London dockers' shop stewards reveals, the Tories have been secretly encouraging the growth of the supplementary register for at least the last three months.

The letter, written by Employment Secretary Maurice Macmillan to the chairman of the National Dock Labour Board, insists that the problem of surplus labour which fuelled last year's docks strike must never arise again.

It says that a 'sensible' solution to any real problems of labour shortage is recruitment to the supplementary register.

And it asks the National Dock Labour Board to 'guide' local boards into solving their problems on these lines. Any difficulties in applying such a policy, Macmillan says, should be reported to him personally.

Workers Press first drew attention to the dangers of a growth in the supplementary register last October, within a month of the special sever-

ance terms coming into operation.

"'Casuals' could be the thin end of the wedge for undermining the traditional solidarity which the [Dock Labour] Scheme has reinforced," we warned in an article on October 4.

At that time almost 5,000 dockers nationally had applied for severance under the special terms.

By the time the final applications for severance were due in, on February 5 this year, the figure had risen to over 8,500.

23 PER CENT

Last week, according to figures from the National Dock Labour Board, the total reduction in the labour force since the time of last year's national docks strike had topped the 9,700 mark.

This represents a cut of rather more than 23 per cent—the bulk of which was achieved by the employers in six months.

Figures like these amply confirm the warning issued by Workers Press the day after the Jones-Aldington committee's first report was published, that it was nothing more than a Trojan Horse for the employers' plans to attack dock jobs.

Meanwhile, despite the bitter opposition of dockers in most major ports, the supplementary register has grown rapidly.

There are now 2,260 supplementary registered dockers nationally. In other words almost 7 per cent of the present labour force of 34,000 are 'casuals'—and the percentage is rising.

Dockers on the permanent register under the Dock Labour Scheme cannot be sacked except for serious misconduct, and then only when their unions, who have equal representation with the employers on the Dock Labour Boards, agree.

The permanent men's chief fear about supplementaries is this: since they can be sacked at a week's notice, either by their immediate employer or the Dock Labour Board, the whip of unemployment can easily be held over their heads and used to enforce speed-up

on the entire labour force.

This would entirely undermine the protection given by the Dock Labour Scheme and pave the way for its complete abolition.

At the same time once a large supplementary labour force is built up in one port, it can be used as a means of snatching trade from other ports, and thus hitting at jobs, wages and conditions even where dockers have held out against this back-door re-casualization.

Norman Wright, Transport and General Workers' Union senior steward on Preston docks, put it this way:

"In the long term the aim of the employers is to get rid of the Scheme altogether. The main immediate problem with these men, who can be got rid of on the spot, is the amount of hours they're prepared to put in and the employers will use them against other ports."

This is bad for both the RDWs [registered dock workers] and the supplementary men.

With the threat that the port would lose its traditional trade because of the labour shortage caused by Jones-Aldington,

the employers at Preston were able to force the stewards to agree to recruitment of 30 supplementaries.

But last week they came back for 30 more. And the stewards gave them a firm and unequivocal 'No'.

The word is also 'No' at Manchester, Hull and Liverpool.

At Southampton, however, the 823 supplementaries in fact outnumber the permanent registered men. The three other ports where the Tory campaign has proved most successful are Middlesbrough and Hartlepool, where there are 352 'casuals', Bristol (194) and the east of Scotland ports (Dundee, Leith, etc.—167).

The port employers have always hated the Dock Labour Scheme.

Within weeks of the Tory election victory in June 1970, Sir John Nicholson, the then chairman of Ocean Steamship, one of the most powerful shipping, stevedoring and container groups in Britain, was lobbying Transport Minister Peyton for steps leading to its abolition.

By the end of the year a strategy for doing exactly that was taking shape, and the employers had taken the trouble of holding secret talks with Jack Jones and Tim O'Leary of the T&GWU to sound out what their reactions would be.

Neither indicated any fierce opposition to the employers' proposals at this stage although both later claimed, when it became obvious that the dockers themselves just would not wear the idea, that they had no intention of allowing the destruction of the Scheme.

HOSTILITY

At this stage the employers had to modify their strategy.

But it was only modified, not changed. Even on the eve of publication of the Jones-Aldington report itself, employers such as Sir Humphrey Browne, of the British Transport Dock Board, were expressing their deep hostility to the Scheme.

Browne, a member of the Jones-Aldington committee, attacked 'irresponsible' actions by registered dockers.

"The Board suffers from the problems of the industry as a whole, in particular the gap between the Docks Board staff and the registered dock workers. Like so many other problems within the docks, this has its roots in history."

Browne then called for the BTDB to be given the powers of sole employer at all its ports—a move which would have led to the rapid smashing-up of the Scheme.

But Jones-Aldington itself represented a much more insidious, and more dangerous attack on the Scheme, in ways which are now clear to every single worker in the industry.

Once the supplementary register is firmly established, the employers and the Tories reason, they can strangle the conditions built up on the basis of the Scheme from behind.

Hence Macmillan's January 12 letter and Peyton's March 28 speech.

Writing to P. G. H. Lewison, cricketing chairman of the National Dock Labour Board, Macmillan said:

"Since we met shortly before Christmas I have seen representatives of the National Association of Port Employers, and the Transport and General Workers' Union, and discussed with them the current labour position in the docks."

While I appreciate that the Board will be reporting to the Department next month on the results achieved by the special severance scheme as well as on matters arising under the

government's loan agreement, it is already clear that the response to special severance has greatly exceeded all our expectations. I understand that as a result of this some ports are finding they are short of labour. Also the government for its part finds that the cost of the Scheme is likely to be a great deal more than we expected.

I expect you would agree with me that it was primarily the labour surplus situation in the docks and the consequential feeling of insecurity among dock workers which led to last year's national dispute. I therefore welcome the fact that this government-financed scheme has greatly eased what was the industry's major problem last year. I am most concerned that we should not create a similar problem again in the future.

I understand that you held a meeting on January 9 to discuss the future labour requirements of the industry and that in the course of discussion it emerged that in addition to your own six month forward look, the National Ports Council is preparing labour forecasts for the Jones-Aldington committee which it will take them some time to complete. I can well understand that to be of practical use these forecasts must relate to individual ports and that such forecasting is, to say the least, surrounded with a good deal of uncertainty and difficulty.

Against this background and what I am sure must be the prudent assumption that the process of technological change in cargo handling has not come to an end, it would seem to me sensible that the National Dock Labour Board should guide local Boards towards dealing with any proved labour shortages by recruitment to supplementary registers. I hope this suggestion will commend itself to the Board. Should you run into any difficulty in applying a policy on these lines I would be grateful if you and your colleagues would come and see me.

And in his March 28 speech, Peyton said:

"The past year has had its share of trouble. An uneasy summer finally disintegrated into a singularly purposeless dock strike which surely everyone save the bully boys must have regretted."

The dialogue started just before the Jones-Aldington committee was somehow kept alive. The bold decision, which was reached with the full support of the government, to get rid of the temporarily unattached register resulted in some 8,000 older and unfit men leaving the industry.

While this has led to problems in some ports, a readiness to resort to permanent recruitment could simply recreate the same situation all over again with all the anxiety and insecurity which we have been concerned to get rid of. The fact that some ports have been ready enough to recruit to a supplementary register is, I think, greatly to be welcomed.

I do not believe that the problems of the port industry would be solved by bringing all port activity within the confines of the Dock Labour Scheme which, whatever its merits, by its very structure is prone to inertia and resistance to change.

This is a direct challenge to the official policy of the T&GWU, whose national docks committee is scheduled to meet within the next week or ten days.

On the agenda for that meeting will be calls from a number of ports, particularly Liverpool and Hull, for the recall of the docks delegate conference which last year ended the national strike on the basis of Jones-Aldington.

The question is: will the committee allow this new attack on its members to go unanswered?

John McLean's failure to appreciate the full theoretical importance of Bolshevism and the need for a revolutionary party led him into several blind alleys, including a form of nationalism. In the final part of the John McLean story we examine his last political battles.

MCLEAN AFTER THE WAR: STRUGGLES OF THE UNEMPLOYED

McLean, despite his principled hatred of the labour traitors, never broke decisively from the method of the Second International. This was reflected in 1919 when he backed left-talking Scottish miners' leader Robert Smillie as the man who might yet lead the British revolution.

This, ironically, was at the very time when, as Smillie later told Aneurin Bevan, he was summoned before Prime Minister Lloyd George and told he must either be prepared to take power at the head of the powerful Triple Alliance of miners, railmen and transport workers, or else submit to the requirements of the capitalist state.

For the bureaucrat Smillie there was no choice involved—he performed the vital function of heading off the militancy of the miners behind the charade of the Sankey Commission.

McLean's support for Smillie led to a dispute with his normally uncritical colleague, J. D. McDougall. McDougall, who was working in the rank-and-file miners' reform movement in Lanarkshire, reflected more closely the feeling of the miners, who were becoming increasingly disillusioned with Smillie.

EDUCATION OF WORKERS

Until his death in 1923, McLean continued his struggle for a Marxist analysis of the crisis of capitalist economy. Writing to his friend James Clunie during spells in prison in the early 1920s he was perpetually requesting books and magazines which would assist in his task.

And this, for McLean, remained inseparable from the question of the education of the working class. One of his central concerns at this period was working for and fighting for the development of the Scottish Labour College, which had been established largely as a result of his efforts during the war.

In pamphlets such as 'The Coming War With America' (1920) McLean was able to analyse certain aspects of the developing contradictions of world capitalism. In a polemic in the columns of the BSP paper, 'Call', in 1919, he correctly criticized those who wrote of the crisis of capitalism in terms of an inevitable collapse leading inexorably to socialism.

But he was not able to base this analysis on the most decisive requirement of the working class and to develop

it in the living conflict against bourgeois ideology in the working class, represented, above all, by the bureaucracy—including Robert Smillie.

This would have required a decisive break from the past and a struggle for the development of Marxist philosophy which was inseparable from the construction of a revolutionary party.

The forces in Britain which turned to the Third International, for all their enormous theoretical limitations and ignorance of Marxism, were feeling their way towards this development. McLean became increasingly isolated from it.

At times he appeared to be close to the conception of 'transitional demands' which, like 'Bread, Peace and Land' in 1917, would express the demands of the working class in such a way as to pose the question of taking power.

But because his slogans were divorced from the central historical question of forging the only instrument which could lead the struggle for power, they were turned into their opposite and became little different from the reformist conception of immediate minimum demands separated from the 'maximum' demand of workers' power.

This is the essential background to understanding McLean's capitulation to nationalism in the period after his refusal to join the Comintern. The last two years of his political life were spent trying to build the Scottish Workers' Republican Party based on the impressionistic conception that militant Clydeside could be the 'head and centre' of the world revolution.

It was an idea on which—by implication at least—he himself had poured scorn at the 1918 trial.

But by 1921 the world situation had changed. The post-war revolutionary offensive of the working class had ebbed, the Russian Revolution had been isolated, at least temporarily, by the betrayals of social democracy, the New Economic Policy had to be introduced in Russia, and the leadership of the Comintern had to conduct a re-orientation of political tactics against those who argued for a 'permanent offensive'. In Britain the leadership of the powerful Triple Alliance sold out on 'Black Friday' and mass unemployment began.

The labour bureaucracy in Britain also assisted in the imposition of a treacherous and decisive 'settlement' on the Irish working class.

In the face of this situation McLean's proletarian instincts and subjective determination to fight capitalism were undiminished. But theoretically he was at sea, and no amount of fighting determination could overcome this.

He fought for the unity of Irish and British—or as he



McLean (centre) at Parliament Square before his trial. Above: Robert Smillie, Scottish miners' leader.

now tended to say Irish and Scottish—workers. He led the campaign against unemployment, earning two further jail sentences, and created a disturbance at the Cardiff TUC in 1921 (where he appeared as a representative elected not only by Scottish, but also by Sheffield unemployed workers) with the demand for a General Strike in the interests of both employed and unemployed.

But politically he now based himself on a false and superficial analogy between Scottish and Irish history. Rightly admiring James Connolly, who had been shot down by an imperialist firing squad for his part in the Easter Rising of 1916, he could not grasp the need for the Irish working class to go beyond Connolly to the building of a Communist Party.

And he tried to adapt the realities of Scottish history to an idealist comparison with Ireland's past as a British colony. Whereas in Ireland the workers and peasants had to fight a colonial oppressor as well as their own bourgeoisie, the Scottish working class has come into being in the early stages of the Industrial Revolution in struggle against a united Scottish and English bourgeoisie.

If Scotland was the weaker partner in the alliance its position was in no sense that of a colony.

The demand for Scottish separatism never had the slightest basis in the movement of the Scottish working class. It was the product of bourgeois ideology in the period of the late 19th cen-

tury when the world hegemony of British capitalism was no longer unchallenged, and the bourgeoisie began to seek new political solutions to the revolutionary crisis.

McLean's turn to nationalism—even in the form of Scottish republicanism—meant a complete abandonment of the struggle for revolutionary leadership in the working class and a capitulation to bourgeois ideology.

However understandable this may have been in view of McLean's deteriorating health and personal problems (he was estranged from his wife and isolated from his young daughters to whom he wrote often and with great affection), and in view of the great objective obstacles which faced the revolutionary movement in Britain at this time, to blur this question in any way is to turn one's back on history.

MCLEAN'S CONTRIBUTION

Those who seek to prevent the working class from becoming conscious of its real history, and of the true history of the Marxist movement—reformists, Stalinists, Maoists, and all varieties of revisionists—do precisely this.

This is the role of the John McLean Society—an unholy amalgamation of such people, including open renegades with whom John McLean would never have associated on terms other than hostility.

Like Karl Liebknecht, McLean's contribution to the revolutionary movement of the working class lay not in any development of Marxist theory, but in his heroic stand for principles in the face of the capitulation of social democracy in 1914.

The fight which flowed from that stand was indispensable to the struggle for the continuity of Marxism in Britain, from Marx's own battles in the First International to the present.

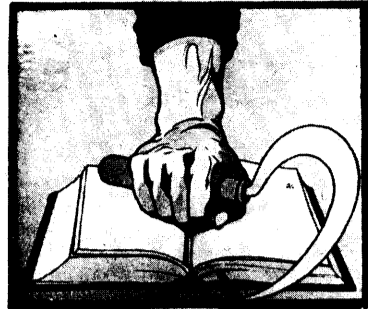
McLean's stands as a vital link in the chain which stretches from Marx himself to the transformation of the Socialist Labour League into the revolutionary party of the British working class today.

This is why we celebrate his memory and salute his stand against bourgeois justice in May 1918. This is also why we try to explain his mistakes, from the standpoint of transcending them today.

When John McLean was buried on December 3, 1923, about 3,000 workers mounted a demonstration to mark their respect for a courageous and principled fighter for the working class.

Today it is no longer a question of simply paying respect. It is a question of joining the Socialist Labour League, of helping to build the revolutionary party, to carry forward—under conditions which offer far greater opportunities, and far greater dangers if those opportunities are not seized—the struggle for which McLean gave his life: the struggle for the proletarian revolution in Britain. **CONCLUDED**

BOOK REVIEW



'Crisis on the Clyde' by Jack McGill (Davis-Poynter £1.50).

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

The Tory government had a plan to send troops to Clydeside at the height of the crisis at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders in July 1971. This is revealed in a book published today by Jack McGill, who covered the UCS story for the 'Scottish Daily Express'.

McGill's revelation is based on information from top government circles.

In a key chapter called 'Work-in' he says:

'The Cabinet had considered the possibility of violence breaking out on Clydeside since the announcement that the group was going into liquidation and had delayed the publication of the Four Wise Men's report for 15 days, because on July 14 all available army units were in Northern Ireland.

'Aware that the police forces in the area would be unable to handle the situation involving thousands of workers Heath, Scottish Secretary Gordon Campbell, and Davies [then Minister for Industry in charge of the UCS situation] decided that the best course was to delay the report until troops were stationed back in Britain.'

He also claims that Glasgow police chiefs had a strong guard on the UCS liquidator Robert C. Smith, but that they had told him: 'We can get you into the yard. But don't expect us to try and get any of the workers out. If we try that thousands of others will arrive.'

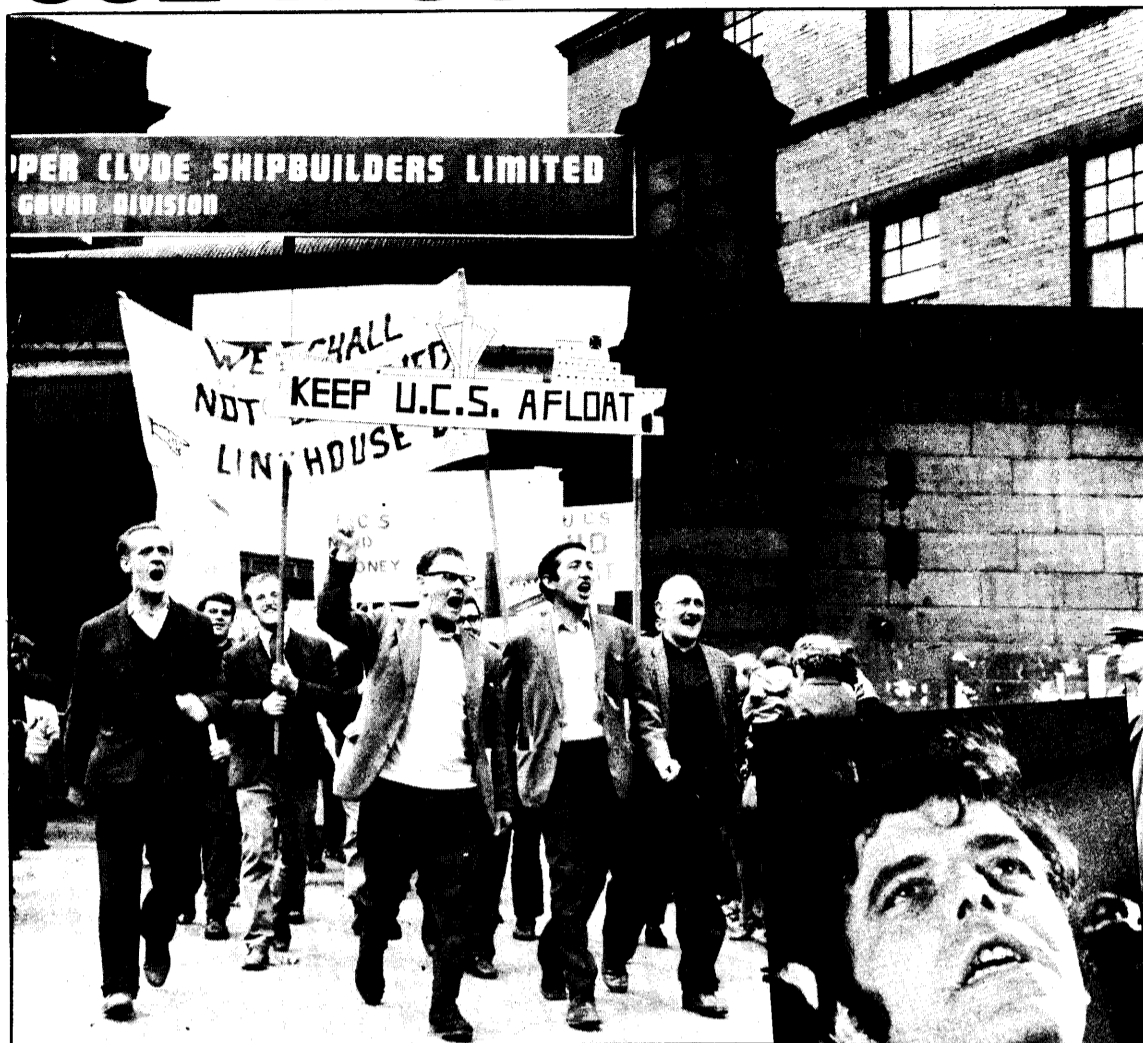
Says McGill: 'They took the view that they were not willing to take any action which would lead to a situation which they could not handle.'

The book is a dramatic confirmation of warnings in Workers Press that the Tories were and are prepared for civil war if workers should defend their basic rights by united class action. It also shows that the government fears this strength.

Another section of the chapter talks about an emergency plan drawn up by the authorities in case of real crisis on the Clyde.

Glasgow chief constable

TORIES PLANNED TO USE TROOPS AT UCS



David McNee, the liquidator and an unnamed top civil servant all had to give permission before physical force was used against shop stewards or workers.

The author also shows it was the Communist Party leadership of the shop stewards which prevented a clash between the working class and the government. After the liquidator was allowed into the yards (despite threats from Stalinist leaders James Reid and James Airlie to bar him) the Tories began to relax.

'The extremists of the left,' says McGill, 'regarded the Clyde situation as an ideal opportunity for disruption, but they were never allowed to move in with their plans for militant action. Oddly it was the Communists who kept them out.'

'The shop stewards seemed just as anxious to avoid confrontation as did the liquidator and the government. There were no barricades.'

'The stewards stopped the lorries and cars at the gates to ask their occupants their business but few, if any, were turned away.'

'No group of "revolutionaries" could have co-operated more with the forces of law and order.'

McGill says that after a few weeks of work-in Davies dismissed the protest as 'a figment of the imagination' which had 'very little effect' on what was being done.

The author's approach is that of the typical capitalist journalist. He paints a lurid picture of the 'ultra-left', who it is implied wanted 'blood and barricades'.

Despite this it is clear from the information gathered that the Tories were afraid not of these phantoms but the working class itself.

Their first worry was that the struggle at UCS might spread to other sections of workers first on Clydeside and then elsewhere. This would have meant a major political and industrial confrontation which they could not have survived.

The book's merit is that McGill realizes in a lop-sided way that the work-in and those who led it, got the government off the hook. It is the first commentary outside Workers Press to recognize that the work-in was not an episode of unique defiance, as the Stalinists claimed, but an essential part of a deal that defused an explosive political situation.

McGill is to be congratulated for this insight, and also for his research, which has clearly involved several interviews with the Tory ministers concerned.

James Reid, CP member. McGill writes 'Oddly it was the Communists who kept them (the extremists of the left) out.' Above: UCS workers marching from the yards. Above right: Wedgwood Benn—his role is exposed.



Never once did Benn opt for the blatantly obvious socialist answer—nationalization.

Finally he shows — again almost incidentally — that for the working class UCS has been one long saga of redundancy, more productivity and fewer trade union rights.

The biggest blow of all was the final settlement, when the boilermakers, despite strong resistance, were forced to abandon their independence and sign the deals which brought two new capitalist employers to the Clyde.

McGill is a journalist who simply tells the tale with very little comment and analysis.

But he is well-informed, sharp-eyed and, I suspect, a little cynical.

At least he spares us the awful misplaced sentiment about the 'genius' of shipyard work propagated by Reid and imitated by most bourgeois commentators.

One correction, Sammy Barr, is not as McGill suggests a member of the International Socialists but a member of the Communist Party.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

MAFIA

Kenneth Griffith, the Welsh actor who made the banned film on the Irish patriot Michael Collins, is now on another project.

Griffith hit the headlines when his film was banned by ATV chief Sir Lew Grade as part of the censorship of material on Irish republicanism. Now Grade has commissioned a new film from Griffith—on the Mafia!

NO LIARS

Everyone knows, of course, that MPs never tell lies. That is no doubt why the Speaker of the House of Commons,

former Tory minister Mr Selwyn Lloyd, has ruled that the expression 'pack of lies' must not be used in the House.

The authority on parliamentary procedure, Erskine May, lays it down that other words and phrases which must be withdrawn if used are 'lie', 'that is a lie', 'he is lying', 'liar', 'deceiving', 'deliberately misleading' and 'damned lie'.

Mr Lloyd has now told the House that in future he will rule out of order all 'allegations of deliberate untruthfulness'.

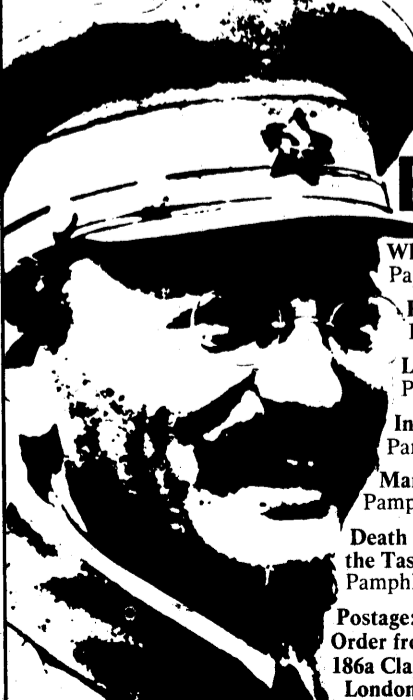
He reminded MPs of the sentence in Erskine May: 'Good temper and moderation are the characteristics of parliamentary language.'

The belief that control over language gives you control over the things the language refers to is a well-known aspect of child thought, which disappears with maturity. But it hasn't got to the House of Commons yet.

HENRY'S WAGE



One could say that the American pay laws are slightly biased towards the rich. Top Ford executives, Henry Ford II, the president, and Lee Iacocca, the chairman, got rises of £74,000 last year, but kept within the government's wage guidelines by being paid bonuses. Ford himself ended up with £350,000 and Iacocca with £344,000.



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PRIEST SPENDING £14,000 AROUSES HIS PARISHIONERS

new house, along with a curate and a housekeeper. When the 20-strong deputation arrived, Father O'Brien sent them packing.

When the parish's finance committee met ten days later, they were somewhat annoyed that they had not even been consulted and decided that Father O'Brien should pull out of the deal.

Whereupon the priest told them he couldn't because a £1,400 deposit had already been paid.

After signatures had been collected, Father O'Brien agreed to meet his parishioners. When they got there he told them he considered the meeting was illegal since he hadn't called it.

Father O'Brien has maintained all along that it would cost up to £25,000 to build a new house that would meet his requirements and that the five-bedroomed bungalow (for three people) is worth every penny.

The latest state of play is that his parishioners are trying to get to see the local bishop.

Ireland, as is well known, is not a rich country. Few people can afford to buy a house. And even fewer can afford to buy a house for £14,000. Especially in an area where the highest price previously paid was £6,000.

So the local people of Ballymahon, Co Longford, are somewhat annoyed that that is the price paid for a new priests' residence. And when a local auctioneer put the value of the proposed new presbytery at no more than £7,000, they sent a deputation to see the local Administrator, Father O'Brien.

He intends to live in the

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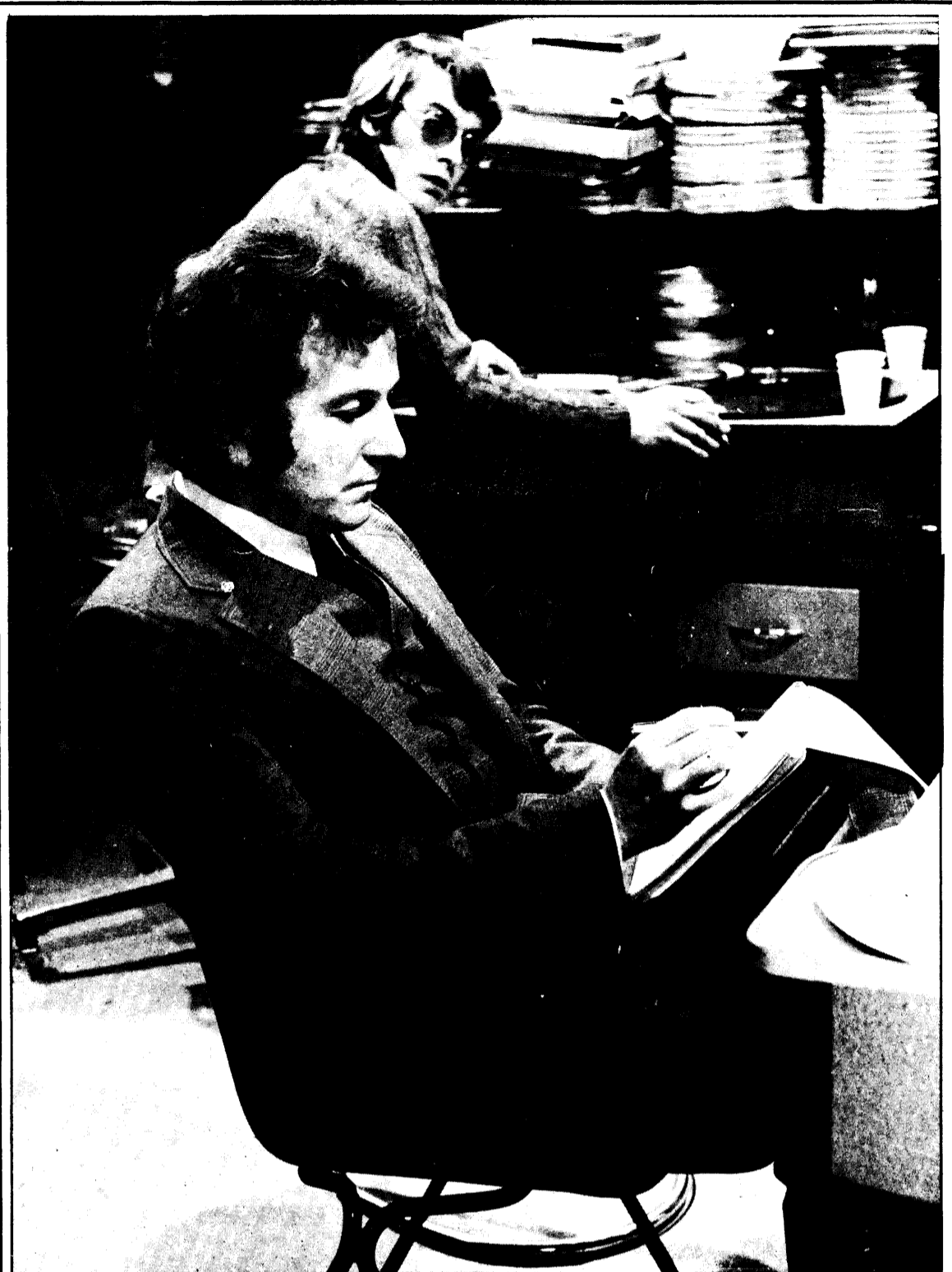
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TODAY'S TV

BBC 1

10.00 Magic roundabout. 10.05 Banana splits. 10.35 Steam horse: iron road. 11.00 Film: 'That Funny Feeling'. Sandra Dee, Bobby Darin, Donald O'Connor. 12.30 Dechrau canu. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Fingerbobs. 1.45 Ask the family. 2.05 Openline. 3.05 Gardeners' world. 3.35 The governor and J.J. 4.00 Huckleberry hound. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Animal magic. 5.15 Time-switch. 5.40 Sir Prancelot. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE. 6.50 FILM: 'The Barbarian and the Geisha'. John Wayne. The date is 1856 and the first American diplomat arrives in Japan.

8.30 NEWS. Weather. 9.25 DOCUMENTARY: 'Someone from the Welfare... Social workers. 10.25 FILM 73. 10.55 MIDWEEK. 11.40 LATE NEWS. Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 1.15-1.40 Medicine today. 6.40 INTERACTION. 7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather. 7.35 WHEELBASE. 8.10 PICASSO. Portrait of the great artist with Sir Roland Penrose, Daniel-Henri Kahnweiler, Françoise Gilot, Michael Ayrton, Manitas de Plata, Claude Picasso. 9.00 POT BLACK. BBC 2 snooker competition. 9.25 A THINKING MAN AS HERO. Coming to an End. 10.40 THE OLD GREY WHISTLE TEST. 11.15 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.

ITV

9.30 This week. 10.00 Wild life theatre. 10.25 Riptide. 11.15 Galloping gourmet. 11.40 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Hatty town. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Luncheon with Wogan. 1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 Harriet's back in town. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Epsom spring meeting. 4.25 Junior showtime. 4.50 How. 5.20 I dream of Jeannie. 5.50 News. 6.00 KIDS IN THE COUNTRY. 6.30 CROSSROADS. 6.55 IT'S TARBUCK. Jimmy Tarbuck with guest Tom Jones. 7.25 FILM: 'Fireball Forward'. Ben Gazzara, Ricardo Montalban. 9.00 PLAYHOUSE. 'Vinegar Trip'. By Kenneth Cope. With John Barrie. 10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.30 DOCUMENTARY: 'The Linehams of Fosdyke'. A family scratch out a living on the mud flats of the Wash. 11.30 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING. 12.15 Epilogue.



Picasso (centre) on BBC 2 8.10 p.m. Above: 'A Thinking Man As Hero', BBC 2 9.25 p.m. Keith Barron as David Duncan.

REGIONAL

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 4.50 Young eyes. 5.20 Partridge family. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. weather. 6.10 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Curtain raiser. 7.35 Banacek. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. weather. WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.50 Danger man. 10.45 Tommy Tompkins. bushman. 11.35 Dr Simon Locke. 12.05 London. 12.20 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 11.55 News. weather. 12.00 Faith for life. SOUTHERN: 10.00 Paulus. 10.15 Yoga. 10.40 Southern scene. 11.05 Gilbert and Sullivan. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Tarbuck. 7.15 Columbo. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. 12.25 Weather. Guideline. HARLECH: 10.05 HMS Defiant. 11.40 North country. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Try for ten. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Bugs Bunny. 7.35 McMillan and wife. 9.00 London. 12.15 Craftsman. 12.45 Weather. HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.25-4.35 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50 Cantamil. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd. 10.30-11.15 Bro. 11.15-11.30 O'r wasg. 12.15-12.45 Minutes that changed history. 12.45 Weather. HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Report West. ANGLIA: 9.45 Arts are for everyone. 10.10 Paulus. 10.20 Animated classics. 11.05 Galloping gourmet. 11.35 Joe 90. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 About women. 3.00 London. 5.20 Smith family. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Hec Ramsey. 9.00 London. ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00 Film: 'The Bank Raiders'. 12.00 Guide. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 5.20 Osmonds. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Madigan. 8.50 Cartoon. 9.00 London. ULSTER: 10.00 One dark morning. 12.05 London. 1.30 News. 1.32 Yoga. 2.00 London. 2.30 Cartoon. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 UTV news. 6.05 Shirley's world. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Madigan. 8.50 Cartoon. 9.00 London. YORKSHIRE: 10.00 Ed Allen. 10.20 Chess. 10.30 North country. 10.45 Broken hill. 11.40 Rainbow country. 12.05 London. 12.25 Hammy Hamster. 12.40 London. 2.30 Farmhouse kitchen. 3.00 London. 5.20 Here's Lucy. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 Madigan. 9.00 London. 12.15 Weather. GRANADA: 9.30 Enchanted house. 9.45 Towards the year 2000. 10.05 Film: 'Spanish Affair'. 11.40 Chess. 11.50 Hammy Hamster. 12.05 London. 2.30 Collecting on a shoestring. 3.00 London. 5.15 Nature's window. 7.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Police file. 6.40 Film: 'The Big Drag-net'. 8.30 Tarbuck. 9.00 London. TYNE TEES: 9.20 Jesus is alive. 9.30 Grasshopper island. 9.45 Arthur. 10.10 Dick Van Dyke. 10.35 Beethoven. 11.20 One dark morning. 12.05 London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Farmhouse kitchen. 3.00 London. 5.20 Jackson five. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Madigan. 7.35 Madigan. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. 12.30 Lectern. SCOTTISH: 10.00 Seven seas. 10.50 Skyhawks. 11.20 One dark morning. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Protectors. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Madigan. 9.00 London. 12.15 Late call. GRAMPIAN: 11.40 Jackson five. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 1.30 Dr Simon Locke. 2.00 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Country focus. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 Madigan. 9.00 London. 12.10 Meditation.

Revelations in two reports

Housing conditions slump under Tories



TWO REPORTS, one from Edinburgh and the other from London, have highlighted the rapid deterioration in housing conditions of the working class since the election of the Tory government.

The London Council of Social Services say that chances of homes for people in the older and more working-class areas of the city are steadily worsening.

Slum clearance last year fell to 5,982 houses—over 2,000 down on 1971 and lower than the 6,109 cleared in 1970. The report says that 7,000 houses a year needed to be pulled down to keep up with the creation of 'new' slums.

The worst-hit areas are those of great need—Islington, Hackney, Lambeth, Brent, Hammersmith and Southwark. These inner London boroughs have the most evictions, the highest

SLUM CLEARANCE SLOWS DOWN—RENTS TOO DEAR

figures of homeless men and the greatest numbers of children in care.

Tory policy and the action of landlords who clear their property for speculative purposes are to blame for the growing crisis and the report says that the authorities have no coherent plan to meet the problem.

In the outer, more residential boroughs, the situation is serious, but not as severe. The housing waiting lists in the six inner areas averages 48,000 compared with 28,000 in the more fortunate boroughs.

The report also shows a steep fall in council house-building—which is related to the Tory Housing Finance Act and the vast increase in the price of land.

Last year only 19,000 council houses were built—

the lowest total since 1965—compared with 26,000 in 1970. Private housing also fell.

The report warns: 'If the overall standard of housing is to be maintained, the present performance is not a good omen.'

Even if council houses are built, many working-class families cannot afford them.

This is the finding of the Edinburgh survey. Over 1,000 council homes are empty because people cannot afford the rent after the Tory increases.

Mary Hutchison, Labour candidate in the May 1 Edinburgh municipal elections, said:

'People in absolute desperation are taking houses for rent and then running up huge arrears.'

Tokyo stock dealing at new low

THE TOKYO stock market yesterday plunged to a record low of the year with little buying interest in sight. The closing average dropped by 159.67, the sixth largest in history, to 4,495.18, the lowest of the year, with trading volume of 85 million shares, the smallest of the year.

Two Belfast attitudes to paras

MEMBERS of the Loyalist Ulster Vanguard movement have made it clear over the weekend that they want the British army's infamous parachute regiment to stay in Belfast.

A 'spontaneous' rally about 300 strong was organized at the edge of the Catholic Ardoyne area in their support.

Said an organizer: 'We want the paras in because for us they mean safety. This is the first time in about four years that we have been able to go to our

beds without fear. We were very pleased at the turn-out at what was really a very spontaneous meeting.'

Over the past few weeks continuous criticisms and complaints have been made against the paras, particularly in the Ardoyne.

But the Whitelaw administration has condemned the complaints as 'an unscrupulous propaganda campaign.'

A statement on Sunday night from the Vanguard movement declared:

'If the parachute regiment is

withdrawn, it will be seen by the Loyalist people as yet another act of appeasement by the British government and a concession by Westminster that the IRA has won yet another round in the present struggle.'

The paras are still remembered for their murder of 13 people on 'Bloody Sunday' last year during a mass civil rights march in Derry.

Since then they have further earned a reputation among Ulster workers as the most brutal section of the British armed forces.

Sparks critical of union re-organization

DISSATISFACTION with the leadership of the electricians' and plumbers' union is growing judging by the resolutions for the biennial delegate conference at Douglas, Isle of Man, next week.

Several branches are highly critical of the union reorganization, which closed many branches, the lack of consultation about the changeover, and the breakdown in communication with head office that it has led to.

A number of motions condemn the signing of long-term pay agreements because of the

bad effect on electricians' standard of living.

Other motions reject the Tory pay laws, demand that the TUC end all talks with the government on wage control, and call for unions to use 'all the resources possible' to remove the Tory government.

Other motions call for the end of productivity deals which lead

to redundancies, and for more 'rigour' in the fight for higher wages.

An overwhelming majority of motions on the Industrial Relations Act call for continued de-registration and for firmer support by the EPTU for the policy of total opposition to the Act, including industrial support for unions fighting it.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

SLOUGH: Wednesday April 25, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Farnham Road. 'TUC must call a General Strike to make the Tories resign'.

TONBRIDGE: Wednesday April 25, 8 p.m. 'The Foresters', Quarry Hill Road. 'Make Scanlon retract. No collaboration with the Pay Board.'

HACKNEY: Wednesday April 25, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, Mare Street. 'Economic Crisis and the Rising Cost of Living'.

CROYDON: Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road. 'Marxism and the trade unions'.

DERBY: Thursday April 26, 7.30 p.m. Branch Room, National Society of Metal Mechanics, 15 Charnwood Street.

WILLESDEN: Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. Brent Labour and Trades Hall, Willesden High Road, N.W.10. 'Build Councils of Action'.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

MIDDLETON (Manchester): Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. New Inn, Long Street, Market Place, Middleton. 'May Day must begin the General Strike'.

WYTHENSHAW (Manchester): Thursday, April 26, 8 p.m. 'The Happy Man', Portway. 'The May Day Strike'.

GLASGOW (Engineers' and Shipyard Workers' meeting): Saturday April 28, 10 a.m. Room 1, Partick Burgh Hall. 'Make Scanlon retract'.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD: Monday April 30, 8 p.m. Room 2, Adeyfield Hall, Queens Square. 'Defend Basic Democratic Rights'.

EAST LONDON: Monday April 30, 8 p.m. Bromley Public Hall, Bow Road, E.3. All out May 1! Force the TUC to call a General Strike!

WANDSWORTH: Monday April 30, 8 p.m. 'Kings Arms', High Street, S.W.18. 'Trotskyism and Stalinism'.

SOUTHALL: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. Southall Library, Osterley Park Road. 'Report back from May Day'.

WALTHAMSTOW: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. 'The Bell', Hoe Street. 'Report back from May Day'.

WEMBLEY: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. Copland School, High Road. 'Report Back from May Day'.

WOOLWICH: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. 'The Castle', Powis Street, S.E.18. 'Report back from May Day'.

BRIXTON: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Control Room, Brixton Training Centre. 'Report back from May Day'.

LEWISHAM: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, opp. New Cross Station. 'The role of the TUC in the fight against the Tories'.

BATTERSEA: Tuesday May 8, 8 p.m. 'Nags Head', cnr. Wandsworth Road and North Street. 'Report back from May Day'.

Flares and noise from Baglan Bay plant

WORKING-CLASS families in the Port Talbot area will be affected by heavy flaring, noise caused by steam release and large plumes of smoke from the chemical plant to be opened at Baglan Bay next week.

The £35m plant, owned by BP Chemicals International, will produce ethylene. When the plant, part of a £125m complex, was first started in February, a failure in the equipment caused a fire which soared 100 feet. A number of men were treated for shock.

Police are also informing drivers on the nearby motorway of possible 'disturbances' from the works.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MEETINGS

Make Scanlon retract!
No collaboration with the Industrial Relations Act!

No acceptance of Phase Two!

Force the Tories to resign!

Build the revolutionary party!

South London

TUESDAY APRIL 24, 8 p.m.

Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor Street, SW4

North London

WEDNESDAY APRIL 25 8 p.m.

Woodlands Hall, Crown Street, Acton, W.3.

East London

SUNDAY APRIL 29 7.30 p.m.

Abbey Hall, Axe Street (Behind Barking town hall)

Luton

FRIDAY APRIL 27 8 p.m.

Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Road

Sheffield

WEDNESDAY MAY 2 7.30 p.m.

'Grapes Inn' Trippett Lane

Speaker: Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee)

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IT IS getting very close now to the end of April. Our total to date stands at £652.73 leaving us £1,097.27 to raise over the next seven days. There is no time to waste.

We must step up the fight now for April's Fund. More than ever Workers Press must be kept out in front. As all sections of workers are forced to try and defend their wages, the reformist and Stalinist trade union leaders prepare to co-operate with the pay boards and accept virtual wage cutting.

Workers Press must provide an alternative leadership to this treachery. Only our paper can show the way forward. So let's not sit back for a moment. Our Fund this month is more vital than ever. Help us raise extra amounts wherever possible. Rush all your donations immediately to:

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April Appeal Fund
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**IAN YEATS
REPORTS FROM
NUT CONFERENCE**

**CP and
right
wing
thwart May 1 move**

A BID to swing the National Union of Teachers into line behind the TUC's day of protest on May 1 was thwarted yesterday by the union's right wing—with passive Communist Party backing.

Moving suspension of standing orders so that May Day could be discussed, International Socialist member Richard North claimed the Stalinist and right-wing dominated executive had decided not to strike without consulting the membership and even before they received formal notification from the TUC.

Executive member John Gray told conference all the signs were that teachers did not want to join the TUC strike.

He warned: 'Unless you want to reverse the decision already taken by our executive, don't vote for the suspension of standing orders.'

It is known that no formal decision for or against May Day was taken by members of the powerful Communist Party faction at Scarborough, which includes the NUT president Max Morris.

SILENT

Mr North told me afterwards: 'I have no doubt some of them voted against our resolution. At the CP meeting on education on Sunday morning their speakers condemned "ultra-left adventurism".'

Party speakers in the debate were silent and the motion was overwhelmingly rejected.

IN THE past few weeks the Stalinists have repeated through their Press the lie that the so-called ultra-left don't want a May Day strike.

On Friday, April 13, Mick Costello the 'Morning Star's' industrial correspondent wrote:

'One irony in the present situation is that, as is so often in recent times, the Tories and the left wing of the trade union movement both understand the full

mobilizing significance of a 24-hour General Strike.

'Those who denigrate this action are the right wing and the Trotskyist fringe.'

Now we see the Stalinist faction in the teachers' union voting against May Day mobilization. We are waiting for Mr Costello's comments on this.

We urge the teachers to fight against this Stalinist and right-wing policy of ignoring May Day and to mobilize the fullest possible strike action on May 1.



The 'Star's' Costello



BRITTON... 'Just' incomes policy

The collusion between the Stalinists and the right-wing, both openly and tacitly, has now been stripped bare by their vote FOR the Tory pay deal and their FAILURE to support the one-day strike on May Day.

NORMAL

In an hour-long address yesterday morning, general secretary Edward Britton said:

'There is a general belief that one day in the not distant future we will get back to normal and have free negotiation between employer and employee to settle wages and rates of pay.'

'Nothing could be further from the truth in this respect we will never get back to so called normal.'

'We have all of us become so economically dependent one upon another in our modern scientific, technological commercial society, that the old free-for-all no longer holds.'

'If there is to be a wages policy, as there surely will be, it must be a just one.'

He warned that the country's 400,000 teachers were in for a 'rough time' because even a 5p a week per head rise would cost £1m in public money.

But calling for conditions of service to be negotiated simultaneously with wages, he said there was a possibility teachers could win improvements 'on the side'.

Britton said the Burnham committee must be made to work as a real forum for negotiating all these issues.

DOCUMENT

He announced the circulation of the discussion document outlining the executive's proposals for a new policy on salary negotiations.

He gave a broad and unmistakable hint that if the Tories stopped trying to beat the trade unions, for example, with the Industrial Relations Act, the unions would be ready to play their full part in 'social reform'.

This year's teachers' conference has been one of the most crucial in its history.

The Stalinists have in some cases openly collaborated and in others allowed the right wing its head to try to purge the union of militants and lead it into the deadly embrace of the Tory corporate state.

Scarborough

All Trades Unions Alliance Meeting

THE TEACHERS' PAY FIGHT AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE TORY GOVERNMENT

WEDNESDAY APRIL 25 8 p.m.

**Hotel Elizabeth
Albion Road
South Cliff, Scarborough**

ABC of reducing overtime

FOUR strategies for negotiating away excessive overtime are set out by the TUC in a booklet published today.

The booklet, which sets out the union leaders' response to a 1970 report on overtime from the now-defunct Prices and Incomes Board, says the aim should be 'to ensure that a reduction in regular overtime levels takes place without loss of income for the vast majority of workers'.

Negotiators, it suggests, should attempt to 'penalize' employers who use excessive overtime by setting high premium rates; substitute 'time off in lieu for overtime pay; increase basic rates; link phased increases in basic rates with phased reductions in overtime hours'.

Why trade unionists should pay 10p to read this sort of ABC, an accompanying Press notice from the TUC does not explain.

Nor does it explain how the 35-page booklet can discuss reductions in hours worked and increases in pay without once mentioning the Tories' state pay laws.

Mr Hattersley sees a boom

EDUCATION spending will be down by £100m on present figures by 1976, Labour's chief spokesman Mr Roy Hattersley said at a Party meeting in Scarborough at the weekend.

But, said Hattersley: 'For the next year and possibly two I believe the economy will expand; there is certainly a boom this year.'

'Under the Conservative plan for education "A Framework for Expansion" a progressively

smaller share of national resources will go to education.

'The next Labour government will be a high public-spending government and spending on education will rise with the overall expansion of the economy.'

Hattersley said teachers' pay would be reviewed to attract more staff of the right calibre into the profession. Student grants would be raised and there would be a return to Robbins standards of education with ex-

pansion at all levels, from nursery schools to universities.

Asked how all this would be possible in view of the worsening balance of trade position, the world-wide flight from paper currencies and galloping inflation, Hattersley swept the doubts aside and repeated his belief that boom conditions were here to stay.

He added: 'If we have to spend on education at a faster rate than the economy is growing as a whole, then we will.'

PHASE TWO DEALS MEAN WAGE-CUTS

FROM PAGE 1

to 18 per cent during Phase Two. Trade union opportunists and the Communist Party are leading workers into the corporate state to suit their own political pur-

poses. The dangers to the working class arising out of this are colossal.

The trade union leaders, backed by the Communist Party, are now working with the Tory government to inflict upon the working

class a defeat with incalculable consequences.

The only road forward now for all trade unionists is to take up the fight to expose the class-collaborators and drive them from the movement.

No May Day 'revolt' busmen

LONDON BUSMEN yesterday slammed attempts by the Tory Press to whip up a 'revolt' against the May 1 strike call.

The fight against the Tory state pay control was far more important than losing a day's pay, said men and women working through the national holiday.

And even if more than a day's pay were lost, the principle in-

volved meant the strike should go ahead.

Fred Hobbs, Transport and General Workers' Union delegate at Chalk Farm depot, London, said his members' decision to strike stood despite the fact some of them would lose up to £14.50 as a result.

'The Tories are trying to take away the trade unionists right to

negotiate better wages,' he said.

At Dalston garage in London's East End, busmen will be meeting tomorrow to decide their policy on May 1. But George Rayne, a conductor, said yesterday that the union should be supported in its strike call. He estimated his standard of living had dropped by one-third since the Tories had come to power.

'It's a matter of principle. If you are against the "freeze" you must support this strike.'

All Trades Unions Alliance Public Meetings

**What next after the miners' ballot?
The fight against the Tory government**

SOUTH ELMSALL: Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. The Railway Hotel.
Speaker: Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee).

DONCASTER Monday April 30, 8 p.m. White Bear Hotel, Hallgate.
Speaker: Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee).

KNOTTINGLEY: Thursday May 3, 7.30 p.m. Railway Hotel, Hilltop.
Speaker: G. Healy (National

Secretary SLL).

OLLERTON: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Blue Tit.
Speaker: Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee).

BARNSELEY: Thursday May 10, 8 p.m. Masons Arms.
Speaker: Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee).

CASTLEFORD: Thursday May 17, 8 p.m. Sagar St Rooms.
Speaker: G. Healy (National Secretary SLL).