

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY MAY 18, 1973 ● No 1075 ● 4p

THE DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

TUC Phase Three talks

ANOTHER

DAY OF

SHAME FOR

TRADE UNIONISM

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The two main grounds on which price increases are supposed to be granted are financial difficulties and rising costs of raw materials.

But the firm permitted to hoist its prices in margarine and cooking fats is a part of the Unilever Group. And Unilever this week announced a 25-per-cent in-

crease in earnings in the first three months of 1973—£63.9m, compared with £51.1m in 1972.

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say that they were 'celebrating a happy day in the stock market'.

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● Nabisco can now put up the price of Shredded Wheat, Shreddies and Golden Nugget breakfast cereals.

● Steel producers given the green light on price hikes are British Steel Corporation, Guest Keen and Nettlefold, Tube Investments and Firth-Vickers.



By Jack Gale

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Wages are to be held down while prices and profits soar. Only the day before union leaders went bowing and scraping before Prime Minister Edward Heath, Chancellor of the Exchequer Anthony Barber, Employment Secretary Maurice Macmillan, and Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Geoffrey Howe, more permission for price increases poured forth from the government's so-called Prices Commission (see above).

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And while this is going on, the Labour Party leaders announce that their policy document will contain no calls whatever for nationalization.

The 'left-wing fight' blown up in the Press, fizzled out into nothing. Property and profits are sacrosanct to the Social Democrats of both right and left variety.

But the more craven the Labour and trade union leaders become, the more aggressive do the Tories get.

Yesterday's 'Daily Telegraph' demanded an all-out onslaught on the working class, including intensified legal control of wages, smaller pay increases, higher rents, expanded profits, freedom for prices and a 'confrontation' if the union leaders didn't toe the line.

The government must continue its statutory control of wages, said the 'Telegraph':

'What the government should be seeking is not so much a voluntary system as tacit TUC acquiescence in—if not explicit consent to—a Stage Three policy in which the element of compulsion will still be dominant.'

The Tory paper stressed that there must be 'good profits' while 'on wages, the government has little to give'. Not only should pay rises be smaller in Phase Three than in Phase Two but:

'Mr Heath and his colleagues... will, we hope, resist demands for a more rigorous and comprehensive control of prices, with profits restricted still further, food subsidies, the abandonment of council rent increases, further drastic squeezing of pay differentials, emasculation of the already fairly impotent Industrial Relations Act and so on.'

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The hard-line Tories are strengthened in their determination to solve their economic crisis at the expense of the working class by the complete failure of Feather, Wilson and company to lead any fight against them.

Behind the TUC and the Labour Party Shadow Cabinet stands the Communist Party. The 'Morning Star' declared on Tuesday:



'There is much in the new draft policy document which the Labour Party leaders are discussing which could provide the basis for an advance in democracy and living standards in this country.'

It was the Stalinists, advised by their industrial organizer Bert Ramelson, who voted both at last September's Trades Union Congress and at this year's National Committee of the AUEW for formulas which permitted talks with the Tories to continue.

The 'Morning Star' has consistently and deliberately misled its readers about the purpose of these talks.

The labour and trade union leaders, with the assistance of the Stalinists, are leading the working class into a Phase Three Tory trap, in which living standards and democratic rights will be dangerously undermined.

The entire labour and trade union movement must be mobi-

lized to demand that the TUC break off the talks with the Tories.

The union leaders must be forced to defend the right of free negotiations between the unions and employers, if necessary by an indefinite General Strike which would create the political and industrial conditions for making the Tory government resign.

TUC chiefs who went into 10 Downing Street yesterday to continue the talks they have been having behind the backs of the trade union movement. Above: The engineers' president Hugh Scanlon (l) and transport union secretary Jack Jones. Top: TUC secretary Victor Feather and railmen's union secretary Sir Sidney Greene.

**TROTSKYISM AND
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France will go ahead with nuclear tests in Pacific

THE FRENCH government will go ahead with its nuclear tests in the Pacific despite a growing volume of protest, especially in Australia and New Zealand.

Yesterday it rejected the competence of the International Court of Justice in the Hague to rule on what it describes as a question of national defence following complaints from the governments of these countries.



Drawing by Heather Holden

Swedish government spying on left-wing groups

A LEFT-WING newspaper, 'FIB Kulturfront', has accused the Swedish government of spying on left-wing groups and raiding homes to steal documents and take photographs.

The paper, edited by Jan Myrdahl, published an article which contained the photographs and names of 40 secret agents, the money they had received, and the names of the offices which employed them.

Following an interview with the state prosecutor, General Stig Sjinnergren, Supreme Commander of the Swedish Armed Forces, told the Press: 'It must be understood, gentlemen, that espionage is not a Sunday school.

'It is a putrid quagmire where dozens of political and military organizations try to tear precious information from each other. We accept information from every source. It is true that we have

received information from Israel, and that we have supplied it to the Israeli government.'

One of the chief agents involved revealed his identity yesterday in Stockholm. Gunnar Ekberg, pretending to be a left sympathizer, had joined Jan Guilou in the Middle East and told him of his role as a paid agent of the Swedish Ministry of Defence.

There is no doubt that the Israeli government received important information from him, possibly including information about the Black September movement.

Stockholm has been one of the most important bases of the Arab liberation movement in Europe. These revelations show that Sweden, a so-called haven of democracy, is not exempt from the wave of attacks on the democratic rights of working-class organizations sweeping the capitalist countries.

WHAT WE THINK

SHAM CP OPPOSITION TO DEAL WITH TORIES

THE Communist Party's newspaper 'Morning Star' is engaging in a most wilful deception of the working class on the question of the secret talks on the Industrial Relations Act between Sir John Donaldson and the Engineering Employers' Federation.

The main issue now, as the 'Star' well knows, is not just the Act, but a new danger arising from the inclusion of the Act's penal powers within the state pay laws, and the discussions the TUC formally began yesterday about their implementation under Phase Three.

The state control of wages now makes the most fundamental of all trade union rights, the right to negotiate wages freely, a criminal offence.

The main demand of the trade union movement must be for the TUC to break off all talks with the Tories and to prepare a class offensive to force the government to resign.

Congratulations to the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers for their boycott of NIRC ('Morning Star' May 15), are uncalled for. What is needed is an outright exposure of the AUEW president Hugh Scanlon for his part in the secret talks with the Tories.

These secret talks are the ones that matter. The 'Star' has still not admitted that they have taken place. The explanation is simple. The Stalinists are completely behind the decision of the trade union leaders to do a deal with the Tory government.

The Communist Party not only prefers the reformist, compromise approach of the 'peaceful road to socialism', but is bitterly hostile to any stepping up of the class struggle in the direction of a revolutionary confrontation.

The role of the 'lefts' like Scanlon and transport union chief Jack Jones is crucial for covering up what the TUC is preparing in its talks with Heath—an acceptance of permanent controls on wages and the subservience of the working class to the demands of Britain's capitalist economy.

In the ever-deteriorating conditions of the crisis, this requires corporatist institutions like the Pay Board to keep the working class in line.

Thus the vociferous attacks at this time on the Industrial Relations Act are nothing but an Aunt Sally. The Stalinists are making a big show of opposition of this partially superseded Act so as to take workers' attention away from their own and the 'lefts' capitulation to the TUC right-wing's deal with the Tories.

'Now there should be no talk on the union side of amending the Act,' the 'Star' says boldly. But this is also a complete sham. When Scanlon was proposing precisely this as part of a deal with the Tories, the Stalinists completely ignored his remarks.

There is a clear need either to get Scanlon to repudiate his Parliamentary Press Gallery and his Torquay conference speeches, or to have the trade union movement disown him.

The 'Morning Star' will do neither. It will just keep quiet about the real manoeuvres which are going on to sell out the working class to a corporatist deal with the Tories, and thunder away about a boycott of the court instead.

But even this 'boycott' is a sham. When the NIRC came to fine first the T&GWU and then the AUEW—and got away with it each time—the Communist Party uttered not a single word calling on workers to break from the capitulatory policies of Jones and Scanlon. There was no criticism of the role of Jones and Scanlon.

There can be no serious talk of a fight against the Tory government's drive towards the corporate state in Britain without making a reckoning with the collaborators of the reformist leadership the central issue.

The Communist Party is incapable of doing this because it is thoroughly reformist itself. It is in support of a deal with the Tories but will try to conceal this fact with a stream of 'left' words.

It is a monstrous deception on the working class to prattle about the Engineering Employers' Federation being dissatisfied with the workings of the Act, and presenting this as a victory for the working class, when the whole of the employing class and its Tory government have already launched a far more dangerous onslaught through the pay laws and the treacherous deal with the TUC.

Peru and Germany: Stalinists aid state repression

THE COMMUNIST PARTY of Peru has openly collaborated with the military dictatorship of Lt-General Juan Velasco to imprison and torture the leaders of the Liga Comunista, Peruvian section of the International Committee of the Fourth International.

We have learned that comrade Sergio Barrio and another member of the Liga Comunista Central Committee were arrested almost two weeks ago by the military at the height of a savage witch-hunt against the Trotskyists in the Communist Party Press.

Sergio Barrio has been moved from prison to prison by his military jailers who have subjected him to systematic torture in order to force him to sign a fake confession. His future, like that of other leading Peruvian Trotskyists, is uncertain.

The Liga Comunista has been completely outlawed and the military are hunting other leaders of the organization. The Liga Comunista printing press has been seized and every right of individual freedom is being violated.

The Peruvian Communist Party unreservedly supports the military dictatorship, in line with Moscow's policy in Latin America. For months it has campaigned against the Liga Comunista, slandering its members as 'agents of the CIA' and preparing the ground for the Velasco police to arrest them.

The Stalinist pamphlet 'The war of slander' by Pompeyo Mares published at the end of last year, openly urged Communist Party members to search for the members and printing press of the Liga Comunista who they described as the 'Trotsko-CIA'.

The Stalinists in Peru have openly adopted the despicable role of policemen of the labour movement and are doing the

work of police informers for the military dictatorship.

NOR IS this activity confined to Latin America. In Germany, the pro-Moscow Communist Party (DKP) provided the information which the police needed to arrest leaders of the pro-Chinese KDP/AO, the League against imperialism and the Communist Student League.

A wholesale police clamp-down on the left is under way in Germany: at least four leading Maoists are in prison and others are on the run. Their 'crime' in the eyes both of the DKP and the Brandt government is that they called for demonstrations against the visit of the Soviet CP chief Leonid Brezhnev.

The DKP's role in the German repression was spelled out in the Italian paper 'Corriere della Sera'. Their correspondent reported that, following the Maoist's decision to demonstrate, the DKP had 'called on the Federal government to act with decision against the Maoists, announcing that for their part they would hold pro-Brezhnev demonstrations.

'It is strongly rumoured that the Maoists have gone onto the offensive throughout western Europe against pro-Soviet Communist Parties or those thought to be pro-Soviet, beginning with the Italian Communist Party and

Hunger strike against harsh prison conditions

POLITICAL prisoners in West Germany have been on hunger strike as a protest against the strict regime to which they are being subjected. They include members of the Bader-Meinhoff group—the so-called Red Army Faction.

Political prisoners are completely isolated from other prisoners and are forbidden to take part in any joint activities.

They are kept in isolation not only in their cells, but when taking exercise.

Psychiatric methods are used to enforce discipline. Their total isolation from any human contact is reinforced by the refusal to allow them mail or visits—even

from relatives—and by political censorship of all books and newspapers.

In April a decision of the Federal Court of Justice laid down that political prisoners should have a warder allotted to them during exercise periods.

The authorities appear to hope that because of their isolation, prisoners will feel the need to talk and thus provide the authorities with information.

The isolation of political prisoners is not a temporary policy. The West German government under the Social Democrat Willy Brandt intends to treat all political prisoners as a special category with minimal rights.



The Liga Comunista's Press is now seized.



Brezhnev and Brandt when they met in 1971 in the Crimea.

the French Communist Party. Under this pressure the DKP ended by giving valuable information to the Federal authorities.' (Emphasis added.)

The real meaning of Stalinist peaceful co-existence with capitalism can be clearly seen in Peru and Germany. These actions are contrary to the most basic principles of the working-class movement and stink in the nostrils of every class-conscious worker.

The British Stalinists maintain

a cowardly silence about these events. They have rejected a call for unity of working-class organizations to defend democratic rights in Britain. They refused to sign a common declaration pledging support to any working-class organization subjected to repressive action by the Tory government and its state machine.

The declaration, signed by the Socialist Labour League, International Socialist and the International Marxist Group, read in

part: 'In the event of an attack involving democratic rights by the Tory government, on its agencies, we will together organize such public campaigns as are considered mutually necessary to protect these organizations and their membership from such attacks.'

The defence of democratic rights in Britain cannot be separated from the defence of these rights in Peru and Germany.

Do the British Communist Party leaders support the banning of the Liga Comunista, the jailing and torture of its leaders and the suppression of its Press? Do they favour the banning of the West German Maoists and the arrest of their leaders? Do they support the Communist Parties of Peru and Germany which have acted as police informers against other workers' organizations?

For its own protection, the working-class movement in Britain has a right to know where the Communist Party stands on all these questions.

Alex Mitchell reports from
Tokyo's Oxford Street

The Ginza gold-rush

THE GINZA is Tokyo's Oxford Street. But, of course, like everything in Japan, it is Oxford Street on a monumental scale.

It is a long avenue aglitter with neon signs. The rich and the fashionable go there to buy clothing which is adapted from western fashion houses.

There is a new and very lucrative industry developing in the Ginza. It's the gold shop.

When I visited this curious enterprise there was a small queue, perhaps a dozen people. They spoke little, like people facing the dentist's chair.

As we edged towards the counter the object of their quiet concern became clear. Inside the glass-topped counter was an array of gold objects: tiny bars, medallions, coins and other small figurines.

The shop assistant removes the tiny felt trays at the customer's request. There is a bit of hoo-haa about its quality and sometimes the object is weighed on delicate scales.

The transaction is received by the payment of vast sums of yen—tens of thousands of the stuff.

Before this week's rise in the gold price to more than \$100 an ounce. Ginza customers were paying up to \$110 an ounce.

Today, with the official price racing as high as \$115, the Ginza trade must be reaching absurd proportions.

Some buyers take the golden booty to their nearest safety deposit box but most people hide it at home.

This lust for gold began a year ago when international currency speculation began in earnest. This was due to Nixon's decision of August 15, 1971, to end dollar convertibility.

The Ginza shop is not unique. There is a mushrooming of such enterprises in all major industrial centres to cater for the currency panic which has hit the well-to-do who fear for the future worth of their paper currency.

There are other manifestations of the same panic.

Take stamps. In January this year the Post Office issued a set of new stamps. Millions and millions of them were printed for use in the mail service.

But now there is a stamp boom. People are packing into stamp shops to buy stamps, any stamps.

In large department stores, whole counters have been thrown over to the sale of stamps. And not just old and precious ones.

Some of the stamps issued in January are now going for twice or treble

Crazy buying of gold, stamps... anything

their face value!

Puzzled by the manic purchase of such goods. I attempted to interview a customer.

'You have just bought some very new stamps at twice their face value. Why? Are they worth that much?'

'I don't know.'
'How much do you think they're worth?'

'I don't know.'
'Why did you buy them?'

'It is an investment.'
'But there are literally millions of these stamps printed. Do you really think they are worth twice their value in just a few weeks?'

'I don't know.'
'Wouldn't it be better to put your money in the bank instead of buying stamps?'

'Yes.'
'Well, why didn't you put your money in the bank?'

'It is the fashion.'
'But do you think it is a fashion that will make you wealthy?'

'Yes, I hope so.'
'Are you happy with your purchase of these stamps at this price?'

'Yes,' he replied grinning enthusiastically from ear to ear.

Walted Bagehot, the 19th century English historian and constitutionalist, once noted:

'All people are most credulous when they are most happy.'

To this particular cus-

tomer and the thousands like him, the purchase and hoarding of miniature gold bars, stamps, antique scrolls, etc.—form part of a commercial gamble in the expectation of making them richer without exertion.

They want something of 'lasting value' which has the prospects of increasing rapidly in value because of its precious or antique character.

They are getting out of their country's own currency because they distrust its future stability. They are probably right to do so.

The yen, revalued twice because of its so-called 'strength', is in fact a hugely inflationary currency.

Because Japanese goods are being shut out of Europe and the United States, because the cost of its imported raw materials—food, minerals, and oil—is soaring, Japan is rushing towards an enormous economic crisis.

The well-to-do who are buying gold hope that they can escape the repercussions of what's in front.

They are possessed by the illusion so eloquently put by Columbus, and quoted by Marx, 'Gold is a wonderful thing! Whoever possesses it is lord of all he wants. By means of gold one can even get souls into Paradise.'

Marx writes about the

hoarding of gold in Volume One of 'Capital':

'In order that gold may be held as money and made to form a hoard, it must be prevented from circulating, or from transforming itself into means of enjoyment.

The hoarder, therefore, makes a sacrifice of the lusts of the flesh to his gold fetish. He acts in earnest up to the Gospel of abstinence.

'On the other hand, he can withdraw from circulation no more than what he has thrown into it in the shape of commodities. The more he produces, the more he is able to sell.

'Hard work, saving and avarice are, therefore, his three cardinal virtues, and to sell much and buy little the sum of his political economy.'

The phenomenon of gold-buying in Japan, and elsewhere, is a remarkably clear sign of the times.

The middle class is haunted by the fear of being plunged into poverty by impending inflation.

It conjures up images of itself wheeling around barrows full of worthless money.

In its panic it reverts to the feudal instincts of the hoarder who used to bury his private treasure behind the fireplace or in the garden.



National Front candidate claims Powell boost

ENOCH POWELL has been praised by the National Front for assisting the electoral chances of their candidate in the West Bromwich by-election.

The candidate is Mr Martin Webster, the Front's national organizer.

He claims that his status in the by-election has been boosted by Powell's refusal to speak on behalf of the official Tory candidate, David Bell.

Webster said the fact that the most important MP in the West Midlands had refused to speak for Bell was 'tremendously significant'.

'I feel his refusal has established me as the bona fide anti-immigration, anti-Common Market, anti-wages and prices policy candidate in this election,' Webster added.

He said that as a result of Powell's action he hoped to attract Powellite votes.

'I expected the Tory to try to out-nigger us. But since Powell has refused to back him, he has back-tracked.'

He said that both major parties wanted him to 'cool it' on immigration. 'Far from cooling it, I am going to stoke it up,' he said.

Voting takes place next Thursday.

Pakistanis— keep vote

PAKISTANIS will have a vote in next Thursday's West Bromwich by-election—despite a Bill before parliament this week that will affect their status. This ruling, by Mr Geoffrey Key, the acting returning officer, has upset National Front candidate Martin Webster, who said that he intended to submit it to his party's legal advisers.

Webster had asked for Pakistanis to be removed from the electoral register, claiming they were aliens.

Mr Key replied yesterday that according to Home Office guidance when Pakistan withdrew from the Commonwealth, their status as British subjects was unaffected and could not be lost without further legislation.

The Bill before parliament this week had not yet received Royal Assent and could not affect the by-election.

Miss Betty Boothroyd who is defending Labour's 4,436 majority and has based her campaign largely on the issue of rising prices, suggested yesterday that the town's 'appalling' shortage of doctors and dentists could be remedied by the offer of special financial incentives.

The Conservative, David Bell, was pursuing his central theme of 'booming' Britain. He regretted that the campaign could not last a week longer to give the country's 'growing prosperity' more time to dawn on the voters.

The fourth candidate in the by-election—caused by the resignation of Maurice Foley to take a Common Market post—is Joshua Churchman, a former Labour mayor of West Bromwich.

He is standing as an independent objecting to the town's amalgamation with Warley in the new West Midlands metropolitan county.

General election figures:
M. Foley (Lab) 23,412; G. Hawkins (C) 18,976. Lab. majority 4,436.

Rents jump

OFFICE rents for new tenants in London's West End have risen by up to 25 per cent since the so-called prices 'standstill' came into operation last November.

A West End estate agency, Richard Lionel and Partners, announced yesterday that sites valued at £6 a square foot before the 'freeze' were now being disposed of at £8 a square foot and that cases of £10 a square foot and over were also being negotiated.

PUBLIC MEETINGS Transforming the Socialist Labour League into the Revolutionary Party

Central London
Sunday May 20, 7 p.m.
The London Film
School,
24 Shelton Street
(corner Langley Street)
London WC2
Speaker: Roger Smith
Showing the Pageant Film:
'The Road to Workers' Power'

Hull
Wednesday May 23,
8 p.m.
'Windmill Hotel'
Witham
Goole
Thursday May 24, 8 p.m.
'Cape of Good Hope'

MONTY JOHNSTONE

A STATEMENT BY THE LONDON AREA COMMITTEE
OF THE SLL

THE London Area Committee of the Socialist Labour League considers that the letter from Monty Johnstone (Workers Press, May 17) is unacceptable from the standpoint of the struggle for Marxist principles.

Johnstone's letter, however, opens the door for serious political discussion on vital matters concerning the political implications of the history of Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism.

Mr Johnstone is therefore free to attend any public meetings and lectures organized by the Socialist Labour League, provided he obtains permission of the meeting if he so desires to use a tape recorder.

The London Area Committee proposes to the Executive Committee of the Communist Party a public debate: 'That the policies of the British Communist Party are derived from the politics of Stalinism'.

May 17, 1973

TRANSFORMING THE SOC INTO A REVOLUTIONARY

Extract from the policy resolution adopted unanimously by 2,200 delegates and visitors at the All Trades Unions Alliance conference, Birmingham, on October 22, 1972.

Fellow trade unionists, comrades and friends we address you with this urgent call to action:

In its place must be elected a Labour government which is pledged by the mass action of the working class to implement socialist policies.

We say 'pledged' to socialist policies knowing that the present leaders of the Labour movement have no intention of introducing such policies. Indeed, in the last analysis some of them will be prepared to join a coalition government with the Tories to head off the working class.

But if the working class is strong enough to force the Tories out, it is strong enough to deal with the traitors in its own midst. This can only be achieved by exposing them in the fight for an alternative socialist policy.

The Central Committee of the Socialist Labour League calls upon the working class to support the following policies to unite the working class against the Tories and the present Wilson-Feather leadership of the Labour movement:

Here is the policy which the next Labour government must be forced to carry out.

1) A Labour government must immediately repeal the Industrial Relations Act, Housing Finance Act, Immigration Acts, Fair Trading Act and all wage control. After the repeal of all Tory anti-working class measures, there must be legislation to implement the Charter of Basic Rights, along the following lines.

2) The right to work! Capitalism demands mass unemployment. The right to a job must be guaranteed. This can only be done by breaking the grip of capitalist ownership on the economy. Employed and unemployed must unite to insist on a Labour government nationalizing the main industries and banks, under workers' control and without compensation.

THE TORY government is relentlessly pursuing its plan for a confrontation with the working class. Each day new sections of workers are forced to become criminals — under Tory law — to defend their standard of living against government-inspired soaring cost of living.

Large sections of these workers openly acknowledge that the only answer to their fight to maintain a decent standard of living is a General Strike. That is, the creation of the industrial and political conditions which will force the government to resign.

3) The democratic right to strike and to organize in trade unions. Only the organized working class can lead mankind out of the historical crisis. Every right and every gain won by the working class, every democratic right in Britain, has been won because of the organized strength of the unions and the strike weapon.

A Labour government must immediately repeal the Industrial Relations Act. This fight must begin now by forcing the TUC to break off all relations with the government and mobilize the working class to destroy state control of wages.

4) The right to defend rights won in the past and change the system. All the changes in legal procedures made by the Tory government must be repealed. All secret police and MI5 organizations must be disbanded and fully exposed. The secrets of the Tory administration in this sphere must be published. All rights to assembly, free speech and the Press must be guaranteed.

The struggle must begin now. No closures, no sackings, must be the policy of the trade unions. Occupation of factories threatened with closure,

as part of the fight to bring down the Tories.

5) The right to a higher standard of living. It is not the living standards of trade unionists, but the profit system, which causes the crisis. The first step must be to expropriate all the great fortunes of the rich, close down the Stock Exchange, place a state control over all movements of capital in and out of the country.

Nationalization of the basic industries and of all large companies, banks, building and insurance societies will provide the resources for a unified plan to improve the living standards of the whole people. Workers' control of these, as well as the present nationalized industries, will run them in the interests of the workers and consumers.

Again, the fight must begin now. State control of wages must be answered by the most widespread fight for wage increases to meet price rises and improve standards. This means a fight to remove the Tory government and change the union leadership.

6) The right to health and welfare benefits. Every Tory gov-

ernment cut in welfare benefits, in the health service and in all public spending must be revoked. On the basis of nationalization, a crash programme of expansion of services to the unemployed, the low-paid, the sick and the aged must be undertaken as an absolute priority. The working class and the Labour government must take immediate and absolute responsibility for these victims of the capitalist system.

7) The right to decent housing. Decent housing is not a luxury; it is a necessity. People have the basic right to decent accommodation at rents they can afford. Nationalization of the handful of building monopolies and building societies will provide the basis for a massive programme of new house building. The disgraceful problem of the homeless in the cities must be immediately solved by census and taking-over of all unoccupied property.

8) The international responsibilities of the working class. The working class is international. We fight for the unrestricted right of any worker of any nationality to move freely through the world.

Withdraw the troops from Ireland. Unite the Irish and British working class to throw out the Lynch and Heath governments.

Unite in the struggle for the Socialist United States of Europe, the only alternative to the Common Market plans for dictatorship.

Withdraw all British troops from abroad and disband the present standing army.

Sign treaties with all colonial countries for programmes of equal trade and mutual assistance.

Break from NATO and all imperialist alliances.

For the carrying out of such policies the SLL fights for the setting up of Councils of Action to lead the struggle against the Tory government in every area. These Councils unite trade unionists, tenants, unemployed, all political parties and tendencies of the working class (Labour Party, Communist Party, SLL, IS, IMG, etc.) to fight against the main enemy, the Tory government.

The SLL calls upon every socialist and class-conscious worker to consider this programme and manifesto very carefully, and to decide now to take up their inescapable responsibilities. The building of the revolutionary party is the burning question now, not in some remote future. The SLL is determined to carry through its transformation into a revolutionary party.

JOIN the Socialist Labour League and help transform it into a revolutionary party.
Central Committee
Socialist Labour League

THE DISCUSSION GOES ON

'We saw what the Stalinists were like'

Steve Heading (18), a panel beater, came into politics through the struggle for pay and union recognition at Lankesters Ltd, a garage in Kingston upon Thames.

What was impressed on me was the way the trade union leaders in this area completely sold us out.

The Stalinists wanted us to go back to work from the start and have discussions with management. We saw what the Stalinists were like.

If it wasn't for my parents I'd be starving. Before I was 18 I was on 18p an hour. Now it's gone up to 33p an hour so I get about £13 a week.

Heath said when he got in that everybody would have to work for their money. He's carrying that out to the full.

Take social life. After you've paid out for your housekeeping

and your tools you haven't got any money left.

Say you take a girl out to the pictures; that's 30 bob. You might get one night out on the town and that's your lot. Then you've got to sit in.

They told me when I was at school I'd be all right, but I've got 'O' levels and 'A' levels and I couldn't get an apprenticeship. I'm a trainee at the moment.

It's obvious from the Industrial Relations Act and the state pay laws that the Tories are going to try to crush the working class. They've got the police behind them.

Our leaders were put there to defend the rights of the working class, but they are completely selling out the people who put them there.

I think we've got to have an alternative leadership now which will carry out socialist policies for the working class and which won't collaborate with the Tories and the employers.

It was very hard for me to come to the League because my family think they are middle class.



Picketing during the dispute at Lankesters Ltd, in Kingston. 'What was impressed on me was the way the trade union leaders in this area completely sold us out.'

Once you've been brought up for 18 years as dormant Labour it's very hard to come over, but the real thing was the crisis I went through at Lankesters.

In the near future you'll see how the Tories will try to crush the working class. I don't think they will. The working class is too powerful.

The present leadership of

the working class is going to try to sell them out as much as possible. There's got to be a powerful leadership to lead the working class and I think the League will do this.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE PARTY

'Leadership of the working class has got to be changed'

Mrs Jane Robertson (30) is a London hospital theatre sister: **The main thing in the document that kept jumping out at me was that the leadership of the working class has got to be changed.**

The leadership of the trade unions is not a leadership at all. When unions were formed the aim of leadership was to help the workers get better pay and conditions. Now the Tories are taking it all away, and the trade union leaders are helping them.

When you've got Mr Feather hobnobbing with Heath and his gang, how can you have confidence in him?

I can't see that the Labour Party do anything the Tories don't do. They started the same legislation when they were in office.

I've always been interested in politics because my family were. We've always discussed things. Then when I married, my husband got involved with the League.

I went to a central London All Trades Unions Alliance meeting and discovered what the League is all about. I've read quite a lot about the trade unions and how they were built up. Suddenly I began to understand what was happening to the trade unions. You suddenly realize you can't negotiate for pay. You're just at the government's mercy.

Then when you go to education classes you start understanding that where it all comes from is the international crisis. The capitalists have got to go on and crush the working class throughout the world. When you realize that they have no choice, you get quite frightened.

I became involved in the hospital ancillary workers' fight for more pay and started to go to union meetings. When I discovered what they were really earning, I was horrified.

When I discovered my senior technician, who had been at University College for 20 years, was earning £17, I wondered how he managed.

Then I heard all the consultants, most of them Tories, going on about 'those damned fellows'.

Nurses are notoriously unpolitical. They don't come up against political groups very often.

I went to a nurses' action group meeting and some revisionists wanted me to be on the staff of a paper with wishy-washy politics. They would co-operate with anybody. I didn't get anywhere at all.

I thought if that's the 'ultra-left', how dangerous it was—with a lot of young nurses there aged 17 or 18 and not having any idea of what it was all about.

I think the League is the only alternative leadership. They're pretty truthful about what's going on. They don't



Above: Mrs Jane Robertson: 'It's a question of what's right and what's wrong. You can't just sit back and watch what the Tories are doing to the majority of people in this country and do nothing about it.' Right: Railways — 'They were nationalized in 1948, they paid a substantial amount and then left the same people in charge.'

compromise and they give a clear sort of lead.

I thought about joining the League for a long time. Then I realized I'd either got to get involved or get out. Since there wasn't anywhere else to go, I thought I'd better get involved.

You can't hide away anywhere because you've got to pay the same prices in the shops as anyone else.

I can't find anything to disagree with in the document. I think building the party is very urgent. What is there to wait for except worse and stronger measures from a right-wing government.

The Tories are fighting for the smallest section of our community. I hate them, I really do. I absolutely loathe them.

The Industrial Relations Act, the pay laws, are the most obvious demonstration of what the ruling class are intending for people.

For me at the moment it's more a matter of principle than, for instance, paying out money.

It's a question of what's right and what's wrong. You can't just sit back and watch what the Tories are doing to the majority of people in this country and do nothing about it.



'Nationalized railways left the same people in charge'

Mr M. Welsh is a shunter at the British Rail Carriage and Wagon works, Derby, and a member of the National Union of Railwaymen:

The reason for the economic crisis is that shareholders are not making enough profit. They want more

money. The people in charge know one way of making more money—make the working-class work longer for less pay.

This is happening now when prices are going up but wages cannot. America should be under an obligation to make good every one of their paper dollars in gold or in goods.

Why are the Common Market countries and the US at loggerheads? Why can't they get together? Surely it is bad for both to have a trade war?

But even if they did solve this crisis, it would come again. The shareholders always want to draw more out than they put in.

Our so-called socialists are certainly not strong enough. They are trying to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. They should take the banks over. When they nationalized the railways in 1948 they paid a substantial amount and then left the same people in charge.

When they developed the all-steel mineral wagons British Rail paid for all the development costs and then let the job out to private industry.

If you have the same people running nationalized industries they are working for their friends in private industry.

THE WOLFF AT WHITELAW'S DOOR

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

'Giving the toast "The King", the chairman said he did so with the mass feeling of loyalty and patriotism as was in the heart of every man worthy of the name of a Britisher. They could not but deplore the lamentable state of certain parts of this country where loyalty to the throne was a crime, but, thank God, in Ulster, the one bright gem of loyalty [applause], they loved and honoured their King [hear, hear].'

The extract is from the 'Belfast Telegraph' of January 1920. The speaker was Charles Payne a director of the Harland and Wolff shipyard and the rumbles of approval came from the yard's employees at their annual dinner.

Such rampant jingoism is not entirely characteristic of the 10,000 workers at Harland and Wolff today, but the yard is still the bedrock of Protestant working-class privilege in Belfast. The firm is the biggest employer in Northern Ireland and the jobs are filled almost exclusively with Protestants.

Illusions, however, are being rudely disrupted. The workers at Harland and Wolff are beginning to find out after over three months of industrial action that when it comes to class war they are the same as any other worker in Great Britain. The Tories and the employers want to depress their living standards and destroy their basic rights. In Belfast they seem ready to close the yard and bankrupt the city economy in the process.

The men shouldering the brunt of the attack are the yard's 2,300 boilermakers who were sacked for insisting that productivity payments agreed in September 1971 are honoured. They have been kicked onto the streets without due payment and if they do not give in, management, represented by the Danish efficiency fanatic Iver Hoppe, say they will boot out the finishing trade workers and shut the yard gates on Belfast.

The dispute goes back to the first rescue operation at the yard. In 1971 the Tories brought in Hoppe to put H&W back in the black. Hoppe negotiated a deal with the yard labour force and promised a bonus of £2.50 in July 1972—rising to £3.50 in July 1973.

Boilermakers have seen nothing of this money and in February they added an overtime ban to their campaign of non-co-operation with management plans.

Workers say they were led to believe that the two sums were a minimum that could be expected in bonus payments. They admit output has not gone up as expected, but this is primarily because of a vast rebuilding and training scheme introduced by Hoppe. To take account of this, unions negotiated a system of contingency payments last year.

'Our contention is,' boiler-makers' shop steward Bobby Johnson told me, 'that the money put at the disposal of the company was for all contingencies. One of these has been to introduce consultants at £600 a week. We maintain it should also be used to hon-

our the agreements between management and the workforce.

'As it is, in the scramble for productivity, all the agreements have been tossed aside.'

Workers further point out that they already earn £6 to £12 less than their English and Scottish counterparts. They would like to see a move towards parity.

Hoppe defends himself with two arguments. He says productivity targets have not been met and adds that the government would not allow extra bonuses because of the Phase Two pay law. 'This dispute concerns the government's pay laws and nothing else,' he says.

On the parity issue, Hoppe also uses the Tory state control of wages to excuse his responsibility for any increase and indeed the Tory Chancellor Anthony Barber has already outlawed any move towards parity. The government has also done nothing to settle the bonus issue.

But beneath this verbal sparring a much more serious attempt totally to undermine trade union strength in the yards is underway.

Harland's is a shipyard in trouble. Last year losses on work-in progress amounted to £6.78m and Hoppe says loss-making contracts will not be cleared until 1975.

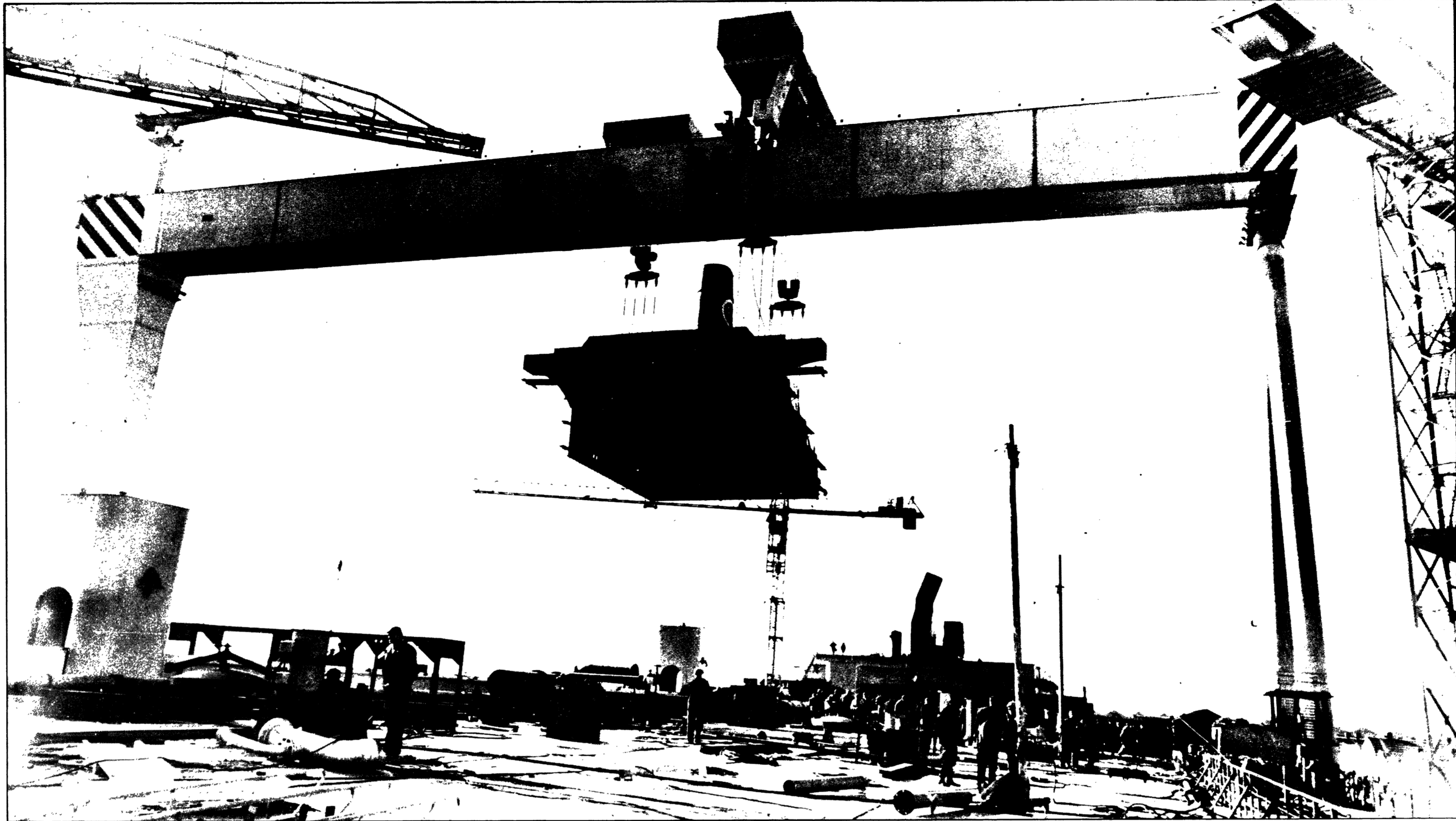
SUPER-TANKERS

The immediate future depends on six super-tankers for the Island Fruit Reefer and General Maritime Group. Even the ultra-optimistic 'Belfast Telegraph' is forced to admit that this firm—which also has huge orders with Swan Hunter on the Tyne—is 'rather enigmatic'. In fact the ships are being built 'on-spec' with the hope that the vessels can be chartered. That depends entirely on the future of world trade and with the chaos on the monetary markets prospects are not bright.

Nevertheless Hoppe ploughs on with crisis snapping at his heels. His stated aim is to increase productivity by 100 per cent in two years. The government owns almost half the yard and is paying for an expansion and rebuilding programme with £35m in grants. Both the Tories and Hoppe have identified the boilermakers as the enemy.

The boilermakers are insisting on bonuses and will not accept a new scheme of works practice based on Measured Time Methods (MTM) without negotiation.

The Dane recently pilloried the steel trade workers in a letter to employees. He talked of 'notorious' stewards indulg-



ing in '19th century practices'. 'What we are seeing here is the last of the Mohicans in the Phase Two battle,' he said. 'They are refusing to face the realities of the situation.'

These sentiments sum up Tory-employer attitudes. Mohicans like Bobby Johnson and his 2,300 fellow trade unionists must be destroyed in Tory Britain to save Harland's from further massive losses.

Hoppe and the government know that they must win this battle with the boilermakers. Other employers are fighting the same war on the Clyde and at Swan Hunter's on the Tyne. The ultimate aim is to break down all pay and craft differentials and harness the entire labour force in sweeping productivity and speed-up schemes. But the boilermakers must be broken first.

The implications of the confrontation are enormous. In Ulster it has always been necessary because of the extreme political and economic instability of the Six Counties to stifle the independence of the working class with a virulent imperialist ideology.

Whereas in Britain the reformists and compromisers of the Labour Party were sufficient to hold back the political development of the working class, in Ulster the Tories need men like Carson.

Carson, the Orange Order and their political descendants like Craig and Paisley have always attempted to instil the Protestant working class with



Sandy Scott, the convenor of the Harland boilermakers' 'pay for a good job that was well done'. Top: the Harland and Wolff shipyard showing Belfast's status symbol, the biggest crane in Europe. The firm is the largest employer in Northern Ireland.

a belief that union with the British ruling class, through the Ulster Unionist Party, brought benefits and privileges.

This was partly based on myth (the miserable conditions and wages of Protestant workers are obvious to all visitors to Belfast) and partly based on fact (jobs and almost all the best jobs go to Protestant-born workers).

The class consciousness of the Protestant in Ulster is therefore cut across by a 'loyalist' ideology. But it is not all King Billy and the Battle

of the Boyne. There is the genuine feeling that the union brings better wages and relative security.

One political result of this complex development is that Protestant workers tend to separate off the Tories in Westminster from the Tory government in Ulster. Tories in Westminster are bad because they are against the working class. But Tories in Ulster may, or may not, be bad depending on whether they are defending Protestant privilege, fighting Republicanism etc.

Issues like the Harland and Wolff dispute, with its obvious political overtones, are an affront to these ingrained beliefs.

Here we have a Tory government and a major employer both on Irish soil clearly threatening living standards which are already well below British averages.

Who, the Protestant worker may ask, are his allies and who are his enemies. After all, without trade union rights, without the ability to campaign freely for decent living standards, he is as exploited and disenfranchised as the Catholic worker.

The political implications of the dispute were crystallized by Sandy Scott, the convenor of the Harland boilermakers. He said his members believed along with the government,

that the White Paper proposed by the Tories as a settlement of the Ulster problem has been well received, but that a critical

factor was the degree of ambiguity in it.

This could be dispelled, he added, and one way to do it was 'pay for a good job that was well done'.

But such fair play for workers, Protestant or otherwise, has no part in Tory policy. Their plan in Northern Ireland as in the rest of Britain, is to deprive workers of basic rights and break up the unions as free bargaining organizations. This is what Phase Two and Phase Three mean.

SILENT COMPETITORS

The threat of a closure of Harland and Wolff, of course, presents an acute crisis for the Tories. At present their traditional domination of the Protestant working class through the traditional Ulster Unionist Party has evaporated and a variety of pro-union groups are competing for the Protestants' vote in the forthcoming local government elections.

But all the factions remain ominously silent on the dispute—notably the normally vociferous Loyalist Association of Workers (LAW) which has a large nominal following in the yards. LAW has made no statement on the merits of the boilermakers' case—though its class position was indicated on May 1 when it came out against the one-day protest strike against the Tory pay laws.

The CP's role is to cover up for men like McGarvey. The

Tory attempt to reconstruct a viable organization to capture the allegiance of the Protestant block in fact is disrupted continually by the economic crisis which lies directly behind the turmoil at Harland and Wolff.

Ultimately Hoppe and the government rest for their salvation on the trade union bureaucracy. The hope is that boilermakers' president Dan McGarvey will snatch them from their uncomfortable and dangerous dilemma and get the men back before the yard closes.

He has refused to back the dispute and his vilified the yard stewards for ignoring his instruction to return to work. McGarvey says a return will pave the way for 'sensible and quick talks around the table'. The exact subject matter of such a summit, especially under Phase Two where wages and conditions are dictated by the government and not negotiated, remains a complete mystery.

The crisis has also exposed the so-called 'left' in the Northern Ireland trade union movement. The Communist Party, represented primarily by Andy Barr, president of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, has called for Tory intervention and has welcomed a joint union-management working party to prevent further layoffs at the yards.

The CP's role is to cover up for men like McGarvey. The

April 21 edition of the CP paper 'Unity' referred to 'one unfortunate aspect' of the dispute. This was the public confrontation between McGarvey and a boilermakers' steward.

'Surely,' said 'Unity', 'it is not asking too much of trade unionists that they should not permit news media to arrange such a spectacle. Any rows or disputes in one union or between unions should surely be sorted out and not paraded before the public.'

The incident 'Unity' referred to was a TV battle between Scott and McGarvey when the latter dominated the programme with remarks hostile to the boilermakers. Scott was allowed about 30 seconds to explain the men's position.

'Unity' has refrained totally from criticising McGarvey. It describes the dispute as a 'complicated problem', says Hoppe is 'hiding behind the government' and argues that the main battle is to keep the yards open.

This kind of Communist Party behaviour is routine in Britain. But in the Northern Ireland situation, it is more diabolical than usual.

CP stalwarts in the north always plead that their main objective is to unite the Catholic and Protestant working class. But at Harland's they have played the opposite role. Here is a unique opportunity to undermine the loyalist-Tory influence among Protestant workers.

By backing the dispute, urging other finishing trade workers to join with the boilermakers, organizations like LAW, the Ulster Defence Association and Craig's new break-away Unionist Party could be placed in an impossible position. But instead of adopting this policy, the Communist Party Stalinists follow their time-honoured role as handmaidens to the trade union bureaucracy at the expense of the working class.

POLITICAL BANKRUPTCY

For their part the Republican movement's Official and Provisional wings are totally blind to opportunities afforded by the dispute. Most simply ignore it and others fear closure of the yard will provoke a Protestant backlash against Catholics.

One member of Peoples Democracy, who had strong leanings towards the Provisional IRA said an issue of Protestant wages could hardly hold the concern of Catholic workers who faced murder in the streets.

Such a statement reveals the political bankruptcy of this movement.

First an issue of basic rights is involved in the Harland's dispute, and any person interested in the emancipation of the working class must on principle back the boilermakers struggle.

Secondly by taking a purely sectarian stand on the dispute, Protestant fears that Catholic workers are hostile to their interests are confirmed, and loyalist influence is strengthened.

Whatever the outcome of the dispute, the Harland and Wolff crisis is only a mild taste of the disruption ahead. The crisis in the capitalist economy guarantees that shipyard workers will face future and more severe attacks.

But this crisis offers the opportunity to break them from the cancerous loyalist ideology of allegiance to the British ruling class. This must be done if they are to withstand the pogrom on basic rights.

It would be foolish and glib in the extreme to expect that under the impact of such attacks Protestant workers will swing towards unity with Catholic workers and socialism automatically.

It is also easy to propose an ideal solution dreamt up in the mind from the relatively safe enclave of the labour movement in Britain.

But there can be absolutely no prospect of challenging British imperialism in Northern Ireland unless Catholic and Protestant workers can unite on a programme to rid the north of Tory rule.

The Harland and Wolff dispute affords an enormous opportunity to advance such a campaign.

THE STORY OF JACK TANNER



THE ROAD TO ANTI-COMMUNISM. PART 4

BY JACK GALE

As Jack Tanner continued his move to the right as president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union during World War II, he was backed to the hilt by the Stalinists of the British Communist Party.

The Stalinists did this, for instance, when he told the National Committee of the Amalgamated Engineering Union in 1943: 'In the past, trade unionists have mainly been protective and defensive organizations and, in regard to many matters, quite negative. We must become more positive and constructive in our outlook and approach to the issues now confronting us.'

This was the line put in 'The Story of the Engineers', an official history commissioned by the union's executive and written by James B. Jefferys, who was a Communist Party member, wrote of the war period:

'Many of the old signposts of policy in the workshop and in the political and industrial life of the country had disappeared almost overnight . . . Instruction and training of women, discussions with employers on the quickest and

most efficient way of doing a job, and support for a Conservative Prime Minister, were only three of the uncharted and unexplored paths to which the new signposts pointed.' (page 249.)

Meanwhile, Tanner again to the AEU National Committee: 'We need to think deeply and clearly, free from narrowness and prejudice . . . our minds have to be adjusted and adapted to the situation.'

But the Communist Party, after supporting Tanner and shielding him from all criticism, were to discover that he had developed a momentum of his own and no longer needed them.

After the war, Tanner continued on his own path—for a time still with Communist Party support. In the early years after the war, the Party still opposed strikes and called for increased productivity. This was in line with the continued co-operation of Britain, Russia and America in the immediate period after the war.

At the 1947 Trades Union Congress, Tanner moved a resolution calling for statutory joint production committees. This, he claimed, 'was the test of the movement's determination to face the future'.

Even though profiteers were living off their backs, the working class still had to in-

crease productivity, according to Tanner.

'The fact that people are living without doing any useful work is having a bad psychological effect on the workers generally . . . but it is the organized workers who have to share this burden.'

By 1950 Tanner was the TUC's official spokesman on productivity. At the 1950 Congress he declared that it was 'the responsibility of the unions to concern themselves with efficiency and increased productivity. The only way of obtaining a better life' he said, 'is to obtain the utmost efficiency in production methods.' (Emphasis added.)

It was Tanner more than any other trade union leader who pledged support for the British Institute of Management (he said it was 'independent') and called on shop stewards to attend trade union and BIM courses on productivity and management techniques.

A far cry this from the independent shop stewards' committees which, Tanner had told Zinoviev, would take the place of the Bolshevik Party and the Soviets in Britain!

At the 1951 TUC, Tanner told delegates that 'without increased productivity the country is likely to be in a very serious position.'

'Our living standards depend on our productivity', he said, 'and the more there is produced, the more there is to be shared.'

'How it is to be shared', he continued, 'is another matter and we are not discussing that at the present moment.'

The TUC, Tanner said, was aware of the danger of a drop in workers' living standards, but 'all demands have got to be met from current production'.

He called for training courses for shop stewards in order to familiarize them with new production techniques,



time-and-motion studies and new processes.

In 1952 he told Congress: 'We are not sticking on the formalities that may be necessary to get joint consultation

Above: A delegation of trade union officials and businessmen, members of the Anglo-American Council on Productivity view techniques in steel production. Tanner (below left) was the TUC's spokesman on productivity in 1950.

on this important question of production.

'We should be prepared to do everything possible to bring about consultation for this particular purpose, because without it, new methods, new systems, new processes, cannot be introduced in industry without very considerable disturbances and delay.'

At the following year's TUC he said: 'Productivity is largely synonymous with jobs' and called specifically for increased productivity by the miners. 'In the interests of the whole population of this country, plant and equipment must be used in the most efficient and economical manner.'

By this time Tanner was a pillar of the right not only in the unions but in the Labour Party. In 1952 he became a TUC representative on the Economic Planning Board, which bore a considerable responsibility for the rearmament programme which had split the Labour Party when Hugh Gaitskell was Chancellor of the Exchequer and had axed the Health Service to pay for it.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

RELUCTANT GENERALS HAND OVER TO CAMPORA

BY TOM KEMP

The Argentine military who have held power for seven years are due to hand over to President-elect Hector Campora a week today (May 25).

In the March 11 presidential elections Campora, the candidate of the followers of ex-President Juan Peron, won over 50 per cent of the votes. This was a big victory for the Peronists and a defeat for the generals.

In the period since his election, Campora has warned the chiefs of the armed forces not to attempt to cling to power, but it is not yet certain that he will be able to take over peacefully.

Plans are going forward to release the many political prisoners in Argentine jails despite the opposition of the army which put them there.

Campora has suggested that the use of violence against the military junta was justified, but most of his statements have been deliberately vague. When asked about the choice of ministers and the commander-in-chief after May 25 he said: 'If the Constitution gives me that right, why shouldn't I use it?'

The military have dominated Argentine politics and administration for the past seven years. They hold the levers of power throughout the country. More than 5,000 retired officers hold top jobs in Argentinian and foreign-owned firms.

Real power is wielded by an inner group of extreme right-wing generals, admirals and top air force officers. If there is to be a coup d'etat they will give the orders. They and their friends are already recruiting special armed squads, nominally for protection against guerrilla attacks.

On May 4 Campora had discussions with the commanders-in-chief of the three armed forces at his home. He told them: 'The armed forces have to be subordinate to the national authorities, in accordance with the fundamental norms of the Republic.'

The communiqué issued after the meeting showed that the military had taken a tough line. They expressed concern because of recent acts of violence 'by extremist elements with subversive aims'. It appeared that Campora had made concessions to them.

At the funeral three days before of Rear-Admiral Her-

mes Quijada, executed by the guerrillas, the head of the Fleet Air Arm, Rear-Admiral Mayorga said it was difficult to resist the temptation 'to put the country in order before handing it over free of guerrillas'.

On the same day, the military commander of Buenos Aires re-imposed the death penalty. Those who publish guerrilla edicts were made liable to imprisonment for an indefinite time.

A jail sentence of up to four years awaits those who fail to obey an order from military or security forces and up to ten years for those who 'provoke, threaten or offend' the military.

The generals have not yet decided upon a military coup, although some are known to favour it, including the military boss of the capital, General Tomas Sanchez De Bustamante; who issued these orders.

Evidently feeling his position threatened, Campora issued another statement on May 11 in which he called for a military and political truce to guarantee national unity. He promised co-operation with the armed forces if they would observe it and called for respect for the constitution and the principles of Peronism.



They have carried out a number of spectacular attacks, executions and kidnappings.

While the Peronist youth movement and left wing wants to amnesty its own guerrillas, they do not favour the release of prisoners belonging to the ERP which is led by Pabloite revisionists who have abandoned proletarian politics for terrorist adventures.

The guerrillas have carried out a number of kidnappings this year, including businessmen, politicians, bank officials, lawyers, doctors and military men. Big sums in ransom were paid out to secure the release of some of these men.

As part of the deal for the release of Swift Meat-packing boss Stanley Silvester, who was also the British Consul in Rosario, the firm distributed free food and clothing to its poorly-paid employees.

The army has established a special section to combat the guerrillas. Some of its personnel have close connections with the US Central Intelligence Agency.



Above: Hector Campora. Left: Hooded guerrillas, members of the ERP, one of the three main groups.

In August last year guerrillas released 25 of their comrades held in the Rawson prison. In revenge, naval officers shot 16 guerrillas being held in the Trelaw naval base.

Guerrilla activity has been unable to overthrow or weaken the military regime. Nor can it prevent a military coup if the generals should decide to block Campora's accession to power. By substituting themselves for the mass movement the guerrillas, despite their self-sacrifice and bravery, leave the way open for the Peronists.

What is required in the Argentine is the building of a revolutionary party with its roots in the working class.

Brazil's role as a junior partner in the imperialist exploitation of Latin America has become increasingly evident in recent years.

While the military regime maintains itself by oppression, persecution and police torture at home, it has built up a panopoly of armaments which makes it the gendarme of the area. It has recently acquired submarines, destroyers, supersonic planes and other modern weapons.

Foreign capital has been flooding into the country to establish branch plants in the rapidly growing industrial centres. The existence of raw materials, cheap labour and a government which denies the workers and peasants the most elementary rights makes Brazil a magnet for the multinational corporations.

Much of the new modern industry which has grown mushroom-like over the past few years produces for export because of the low purchasing power of the mass of the Brazilian people. Just 10 per cent of the population receives 80 per cent of the national income.

Poverty-stricken and hungry peasants flock into the towns in search of food and work and live in over-crowded shanty-towns and slums.

The cost of living has so far outstripped wages that the minimum wage would have to increase by over 263 per cent to enable workers to recover their 1958 purchasing power. There is massive unemployment despite industrial development. Infant mortality rates rank among the world's highest.

The Brazilian military lead-

WHO RUNS BRAZIL?

ers are bent on further increasing their striking power. The Press is talking of nuclear weapons for the near future, together with Polaris missiles and nuclear submarines.

There is no doubt that this armoury is intended for use against revolution and to keep the area safe for finance capital to exploit.

Brazil is firmly in the grip of military dictatorship, headed by the President, Emilio Garrastazu Medici, whose term expires in March 1974. Its main supports are the National Information Service, the Higher War School and the Armed Forces General Staff. They alone will have the say in choosing a successor, unless Medici stands for reelection.

The rules established by the military dictatorship require that the President should be a four-star general and that his name can only be released after it has been agreed by these top military bodies.

Rumour has it that the US State Department is satisfied with Medici's record and would like him to stay on for another term. The tame opposition in the Congress is unlikely to be permitted to put forward a nominee.

For the working class and peasant mass one military president is much like another. Their problems can only be tackled through the building of revolutionary party which will sweep away the regime together with its bourgeois and foreign backers.

Below: Brazil's president, Medici.

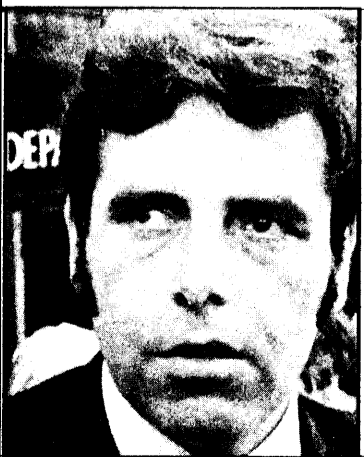


WORKERS NOTEBOOK

TARTAN TORIES

The Scottish National Party claims to be classless—the voice of Scotland.

No class-conscious workers are confused about this fatu-



James Reid, to the fore in Scottish TUC conventions.

ous claim of the tartan Tories, but the Communist Party is known to be in a muddle about it.

It was the Stalinist-dominated UCS Co-ordinating Committee which invited party chairman, businessman William Wolfe, on to the platform at the giant UCS demonstration on Glasgow Green in August 1971.

James Airlie had the task of desperately appealing for a 'fair hearing' for Wolfe on that occasion.)

James Reid has more recently been to the fore in supporting the STUC-organized Scottish Conventions, which are nothing more than a capitulation to the petty-bourgeois backwardness of Scottish nationalism—and of which the SNP eagerly took advantage.

Perhaps the Stalinists will say where they stand on the most recent action of Wolfe's colleague, Nationalist MP Donald Stewart.

He was one of those who voted for right-wing Tory MP Teddy 'law and order' Taylor's Bill to restore capital punishment.

A new English edition of the 'First Five Years of the Communist International' incorporating hitherto unpublished material from Volume XIII of Trotsky's 'Works'.



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28 Charlotte Street, London, W1
(Enclose 10p for postage)



BBC 1

10.00-11.20 Schools. 12.25 Fel mae 'n dod. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Chigley. 1.45 Look, stranger. 2.05 Portrait of a musician. 2.45 Reporters' choice. 3.10 Buriton to Beachy. 3.35 Tomorrow's world. 4.00 Slip and slap. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Coal hole club. 5.15 You are there. 5.40 Hector's house. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.50 TOP OF THE POPS.
7.25 STAR TREK. The Way to Eden.
8.15 IT'S A KNOCKOUT.
9.00 NEWS. Weather.
9.25 SCOTCH ON THE ROCKS. Phase 2 of the new thriller series about Scottish nationalism.

10.05 TALK-IN TO DAY. Robin Day with Franz-Josef Strauss, the powerful West German politician.
10.50 NEWS. Weather.
10.55 FILM: 'Desire'. Gary Cooper, Marlene Dietrich. A Detroit engineer meets a jewel thief in Spain.
12.25 Weather.

ITV

9.30 Schools. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Happy house. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Cuckoo in the nest. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Junkin. 3.25 The loving lesson. 4.20 Lassie. 4.50 Lift off with Ayshea. 5.20 I dream of Jeannie. 5.50 News. 6.00 TODAY. 6.35 CROSSROADS. 7.00 SKY'S THE LIMIT. 7.30 THE FBI. The Maze. 8.30 WHO DO YOU DO? 9.00 BETWEEN THE WARS. 'Yes Aunt'. With Richard Briers. NEWS. 10.30 POLICE FIVE. FILM: 'Witchfinder-General'. Vincent Price. A Puritan charges three guineas to find and execute witches. A THANKLESS TASK. 12.10 JASON KING. Chapter One: The Company I Keep.



Top left: Orson Welles in World Cinema's 'Macbeth'. on BBC 2. Above: Elizabeth Sinclair plays a Scottish Liberation Army member in 'Scotch on the Rocks', BBC 1's five-part thriller about an attempt at armed UDI by nationalists. Phase 2 is screened tonight.

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REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Yoga. 2.55 lake's scene. 3.25 London. 4.25 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 5.20 Junkin. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Report. 6.35 London. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.35 Film: 'The Mystery of the Wax Museum'. 11.55 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.58 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sport. 10.32 News. 11.55 Epilogue.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 Dick Van Dyke. 3.25 London. 4.05 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 4.50 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.35 Who do you do. 7.05 Sky's the limit. 7.35 McMillan and wife. 9.00 London. 10.30 Weekend. 10.05 Film: 'Son of Dracula'. 12.05 News. Weather.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 4.25 Rainbow country. 4.50 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Doctor in charge. 7.05 Film: 'Relentless'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Comedians. 11.00 Profile. 11.30 Our kid. 12.00 Dr. Simon Locke. 12.30 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.25-4.50 Stesion cantamil. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 11.00-12.00 Outlook. 12.00-12.30 Our kid. 12.30 Weather.

HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Report West.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 About women. 3.00 London. 4.25 Romper room. 4.50 London. 5.20 Partridge family. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London. 7.30 Hawaii five-o. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Probe. 11.00 Film: 'Strait-Jacket'. 12.35 Epilogue.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 12.00 Guide. 12.05 London. 4.25 Forest rangers. 4.50 London. 5.20 Flintstones. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.30 Comedians. 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 10.30 Police surgeon. 11.00 Film: 'Eye of the Devil'. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.33 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 Rainbow country. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 7.30 Longstreet. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Name of the game. 11.50 Look up.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 4.25 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 5.20 Me and the chimp. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 London. 7.00 Who do you do? 8.00 Cade's county. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Parrish'. 12.35 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 12.00 Handful of songs. 12.05 London. 4.25 Joe 90. 4.50 London. 5.15 Dick Van Dyke. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.20 Sky's the limit. 6.50 Film: 'The Plainsman'. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Kick off. 11.05 Film: 'Flesh and Fantasy'. 12.45 Spyforce.

TYNE TEES: 9.25 Christian aid week. 9.30 London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Yoga. 3.00 London. 4.25 Woobinda. 4.50 London. 5.20 Flintstones. 5.50

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open University.

7.05 MISTRESS OF HARDWICK. An Insatiable Dream.
7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.
7.35 GARDENERS' WORLD.
8.00 MONEY AT WORK. The Banking Revolution.
9.00 FILM: 'Macbeth'. Orson Welles, Jeanette Nolan, Dan O'Herlihy.
10.45 FILM NIGHT.
11.15 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.

London 600 Today. 6.35 London. 7.30 Who do you do? 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Interns' 12.35 News. 12.40 Lectern.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Date-line. 3.00 London. 4.25 Nanny and the professor. 4.50 London. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Who do you do? 7.00 London. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Friday night. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Film: 'Don't Talk to Strange Men'.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.40 Cartoon. 2.52 News. 3.00 London. 4.20 Merrie melodies. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Gramplan week. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The Ballad of Andy Crocker'. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Jock look. 10.35 Film: 'The Loved On'. 12.35 Meditation.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

ACTON: Monday May 21, 8 p.m. 'Six Bells', High Street, W3. 'Force the TUC to break off talks with the Tories'.

LEWISHAM: Monday May 21, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

ABINGDON: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. Above New Top Taxis, Ock Street. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

BATTERSEA: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. 'Nags Head', cnr Wandsworth Road/North Street. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

BRIXTON: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. Brixton Training Centre, Control Room. 'The Economic Crisis and what it means for the working class'.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. Barking Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue. 'The inflationary crisis and the rising cost of living'.

TOTTENHAM: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. 'Bricklayers Arms', High Road, nr White Hart Lane.

READING: Tuesday, May 22, 8 p.m. The T&GWU offices, King's Road. 'The TUC and Phase Three'.

WYTHENSHAW (Manchester): Wednesday May 23, 8 p.m. 'Cock o' t' North', Portway. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

HACKNEY: Wednesday May 23, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, Mare Street. 'Build the Revolutionary Party'.

FULHAM: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Fulham Broadway. 'Force the TUC to break off talks with the Tories'.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'Marxism and the trade unions'.

LEEDS: Thursday, May 24, 8 p.m. 'Peel Hotel', Boar Lane. 'The role of Stalinism in the trade unions'.

LUTON: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Road. 'Force the TUC to break off talks with the Tories'.

TONBRIDGE: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. 'The Foresters', Quarry Hill, Tonbridge.

WILLESDEN: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. Brent Labour and Trades Hall, Willesden High Road, N.W.10. 'Forward to the ATUA Conference'.

BERMONDSEY: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. 'Havelock Arms', Balaclava Street, off Southwark Park Road. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

CAMDEN: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross. 'Betrayal at UCS—the struggle against Stalinism'.

PADDINGTON: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. 'Prince of Wales', Harrow Road, cnr Gt Western Road. 'The economic crisis and the trade unions'.

TOOTING: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. Tooting Baths, Tooting Broadway, SW17. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

SLOUGH: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Farnham Road. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

SOUTHALL: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. Southall Library, Osterley Park Road. 'Marxism and the trade unions'.

WALTHAMSTOW: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. 'Crooked Billet', North Circular Road, Walthamstow. 'Labour to power pledged to socialist policies'.

WEMBLEY: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. Copland School, High Road. 'Forward to the ATUA conference'.

FELTHAM: Thursday May 31, 8 p.m. 'Three Horseshoes', High Street. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

WATFORD: Monday June 4, 8 p.m. Trade Union Hall, Woodford Road, nr Watford Junction Station. 'The crisis of leadership'.

THE PRESS and media in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union are doing a major cover-up job for President Nixon. The Watergate affair is given scant coverage and the official line is that Nixon is a victim of a conspiracy of 'reactionary forces' in the United States opposed to him seeking a deal with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet bureaucracy has given Nixon a vote of confidence by its announcement of the date for Brezhnev's visit to Washington in June.

A Polish editor said: 'From our standpoint, Richard Nixon is

the best possible American President in the current circumstances, and we don't want to see him embarrassed.'

The first Soviet Press comment on Watergate appeared in the 'Literary Gazette', a weekly circulating mainly among intellectuals. It relates some of the facts but treats Nixon in a friendly way and says nothing about the political implications.

The British 'Morning Star' reported this as follows: 'The Soviet Press made what was apparently its first reference to the Watergate scandal, with a factual chronological resumé of

the events since last June . . .'

The Stalinist paper offers its readers not one word of explanation for this silence of the Soviet Press. Yet the Watergate scandal has blown the lid off American politics and has begun to reveal as yet unfathomed depths of corruption and skulduggery involving the President himself.

Why does the Soviet Press keep silent if not because the bureaucracy needs Nixon and gives him 100 per cent support?

The British Stalinists cannot be unaware of the thinking of their colleagues in eastern Europe

about Nixon's role, but they say nothing to condemn this capitulation to the representative of American imperialism.

The bureaucracy is having increasing difficulty in explaining to the working class why it is running off to see Nixon, Brandt and other capitalist statesmen and is making deals with them. It keeps silent because it fears criticism and opposition at home.

The 'Morning Star' connives in this conspiracy of silence which the bureaucracy needs to maintain its parasitic grip on the workers' states.

'Startling revelations' due at Watergate inquiry

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

THE EMBARRASSED silence of the Stalinists becomes increasingly untenable as the Watergate scandal moved into a new stage with the opening yesterday of the public hearings of the US Senate committee which is probing the affair. They are taking place before the full panoply of Press and TV and will be transmitted in prime viewing time each evening.

The inquiry into the biggest political scandal in American history is being made by a seven-man select committee in the Senate caucus room where Senator Joe McCarthy made his sensational anti-communist allegations in 1954.

The Senate hearing will start with questioning of some of the smaller fry from Nixon's presidential campaign staff. Tension is expected to rise when the fourth witness, James McCord testifies.

McCord, formerly of the CIA, was one of the five men arrested inside the Watergate headquarters of the Democratic Party on June 17 last year.

He is expected to be questioned in detail about the plot, who organized it and who knew about it. The committee chairman, Senator Sam Ervin promised that it would produce 'some startling revelations' which had not yet appeared in the Press.

The Senate committee is in addition to a Federal Grand Jury which is also investigating the affair and it does not have



Vice-president Nixon in 1954 swearing in as a senator . . . guess who? Why, Sam Ervin, the man now heading the Senate inquiry into the scandal surrounding Nixon.

power to indict. Its main function will be to bring the scandals into the open and sift out which of the charges and allegations are true.

The key issue will be whether Nixon knew about the bugging of Watergate and the cover-up operation afterwards. Testimony on oath incriminating him could shake his position if the witness is a credible one.

One of the conspirators, Gordon Liddy, has already been given immunity from criminal charges for anything he may say before the committee.

Similar immunity has been accorded to the former White House counsel, John Dean, who is a key witness.

The latest to go as a result of Watergate is the recently-appointed head of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Bradford Cook. He was said to have deleted the fact that financier Robert Vesco, whose affairs were under investigation, had contributed \$200,000 to Nixon's campaign fund from a complaint.

This was probably done on the suggestion of the campaign manager, Maurice Stans, and the gift was intended to block the SEC's investigation of fraud charges against Vesco.

It is now admitted that President Nixon authorized wire-tapping of more than a dozen of his subordinates following re-

TANGLE

As each day brings new revelations it is clear that the Watergate break-in was part of a wholesale campaign of undercover bugging carried on by the Nixon administration ever since 1969. Unravelling the tangle and establishing some approximation of the truth is likely to take the Senate committee many months.

According to the 'Washington Post', always the paper hottest on the scent, this undercover campaign was organized under the supervision of former White House aides Robert Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and John Dean and was aimed at radical leaders, student demonstrators, journalists and Democratic Party candidates.

Besides bugging and burglary, infiltration, spying and provocation were employed. The Administration had the services of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as well as of so-called 'suicide squads' whose missions, if discovered, could be disavowed.

SPIES

Squads of professional wire-tappers and ex-Central Intelligence Agency spies also worked under White House direction.

It is now claimed that Dr Henry Kissinger, Nixon's special adviser on foreign affairs, who has so far not been mentioned in connection with the scandal, ordered bugging of three of his aides suspected of leaking secret information.



James McCord . . . has 'some startling revelations', says Ervin.

ports of B52 bomber raids in Cambodia which appeared in the Press in May 1969. Approval was granted by FBI chief, J. Edgar Hoover and John Mitchell, then Attorney-General.

In another twist to the affair a former Justice Department employee, Jack Landau, claims that he was asked by Mitchell to make secret contact with two judges in a wire-tapping case. He took them classified information intended to influence them to call for a re-trial.

Former head of the CIA, Richard Helms, is said to have admitted that he accepted a White House request to draw up a psychiatric profile of Dr Daniel Ellsberg, defendant in the Pentagon Papers case which has now been stopped by the judge.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Merthyr Tydfil

Given by Gerry Healy, National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League

Wednesday May 23

Theory and Practice of Marxism

Wednesday May 30

Role of the revolutionary party at

St David's Church Hall, Church Street, Merthyr 7.30 p.m.

Jarrow

Given by Cliff Slaughter SLL Central Committee member

Civic Hall, Jarrow 7.30 p.m.

Monday May 21

The Socialist Revolution in Britain:

3. The state and revolution. Reformism and revolution in Britain. The fight for democratic rights today means preparing for working-class power.

Basic reading:

Perspectives for transforming the SLL into a revolutionary party. Marxist Analysis of the Crisis. Problems of the British Revolution (Trotsky).

Death Agony of Capitalism and the Tasks of the Fourth International, Communist Manifesto.

Council of Action North London

TUC must break off talks with Tories

No negotiations on Phase Three No capitulation to corporatism Make the Tory government resign

TUESDAY MAY 22, 8 p.m.

Lord Morrison Hall, Chestnut Grove, Tottenham, N.17

All Trades Unions

Alliance meetings

TEACHERS' MEETING

The way forward after the NUT conference Thursday, May 24, 7.30 p.m.

Conway Small Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn (admission 10p)

HOSPITAL WORKERS' MEETING

Hospital workers and the fight against the Tory government Tuesday May 29, 7.30 p.m.

Norfolk Room Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, London SW1 (admission 10p)

BUILDING WORKERS' MEETING

TUC must break off talks with Tories! Build revolutionary party!

Wednesday, May 30, 7.30 p.m.

Tudor Room Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, London SW1 (admission 10p)

POSTAL WORKERS' MEETING

Break off secret talks with the Tories! Force the Tories to resign!

Sunday, June 3, 10.30 a.m.

Conway Small Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn (admission 10p)

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Newsdesk: 01-720 2000. Circulation: 01-622 7029.

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Widespread builders' campaign against 'lump'

BY DAVID MAUDE OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

BUILDING union leaders have entered into private talks with the employers aimed at heading off the growing movement among their members against the spread of labour-only subcontracting—'the lump'.

In its worst form 'the lump' means mobile gangs of workers who pay no income tax, buy no insurance stamps and hawk themselves round from site to site without a union card.

They are used by employers to break down established conditions, smash hard-won working practices and undermine all site organization. And use of the system is on the increase.

Today thousands of building workers, in most major cities, will strike and demonstrate as MPs give a second reading to Eric Heffer's anti-'lump' Bill.

Short shrift for the Bill can be expected from the Tory government. The building employers, who contribute heavily to Tory Party funds, have already made clear that as far as they are concerned 'the lump' is essential.

But the issues raised by the workers' campaign are potentially highly explosive; if the union chiefs can patch up a temporary deal with the employers which will let them off the hook they will be more than happy.

Faced not only with the threat to their jobs from 'the lump', but with a fierce legal onslaught against their rights to strike and picket, building workers are in a militant mood.

Hard evidence of the legal attack will come today, when seven men face committal proceedings at Shrewsbury accused of causing an affray, damaging property and intimidation.

Workers from London, the Midlands and Merseyside will be there to demonstrate their solidarity with the seven, despite

the anti-'lump' marches elsewhere. And they plan to be there again on June 15 when 17 others face committal on charges, including intimidation.

The most serious legal weapon being pointed in the Shrewsbury cases is the 1875 Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act.

But other ancient decrees are also being dredged up. In London this week, a striking electrician from the St Thomas's Hospital site was bound over under an Act which dates from 1361.

In this atmosphere—and with 'lump' labour now providing an estimated 25 per cent of the building labour force nationally—more and more building workers are being driven to the conclusion: the Tory government is orchestrating a ruthless strategy against all their rights.

Yet their union leaders, like the leadership of the TUC generally, are, to put it most charitably, dragging their feet.

The purpose of the proposals they have put to the employers, for informal discussion over the next few weeks, is to 'control' labour-only subcontracting, not abolish it.

They want a joint approach to the Tories, with the employers, for a registration scheme under which only registered firms would be awarded public-sector contracts.

The TUC construction industry committee has suggested that



Demonstrations during the Shrewsbury Court Case involving builders.

a qualification for registration should be the employment of not less than a certain percentage of permanent workers, starting at 60 per cent.

Nowhere in the union leaders' proposals, of course, is there any demand for the nationalization of the building industry under workers' control. Yet 'the lump' is merely the most concentrated expression of the employers' attack, and nationalization is the only real answer to it.

Nationalization is also omitted from the policy statement agreed by the national conference organized earlier this year by the 'Building Workers' Charter', the Communist Party-led organization which has pushed itself to prominence in the campaign against 'the lump'.

The Stalinists were forced, by the militant and increasingly political mood of the rank and file, to agree to 'campaign for an

end to this Tory administration and a return to a Labour government pledged to socialist policies'.

But how this was to be achieved was left as vague as how 'the lump' is to be got rid of.

The way forward for building workers lies not in reformist illusions that the employers are going to help cut off their own right hands, or that the Tory government is going to do workers any favours.

The union leaders must be told to drop their diversionary tactics, fight in the TUC for the mobilization of the whole working-class movement in action which will force the Tories to resign or make way for those in the unions who will fight.

The alternative, revolutionary leadership must be built in the building unions capable of meeting the challenge now facing the members.

SHIPYARD stewards will be meeting for a third day today with Boiler-makers' Society officials in Newcastle to discuss the dismissal of 2,300 boiler-makers over a bonus dispute at Harland and Wolff, Belfast.

REYROLLES, Hebburn, pieceworkers voted yesterday to continue their dispute over rates. Some 500 others have been laid off.

NOW AVAILABLE

Fourth International

A journal of international Marxism published by the International Committee of the Fourth International Spring 1973

Contents include:

- Ceylon: The Centrism of Bala Tampoe
- By a Ceylon correspondent
- April Dictatorship: The Tasks of the Greek Trotskyists
- Resolution of the 5th Congress of the Workers International League

Several translations of articles from the German Trotskyist newspaper Der Funke

Italy's New Fascists

By Stephen Johns

LENIN AND TROTSKY WRITING ON EUROPE

and six International Committee statements

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

Public Meeting

GLASGOW

Reformism on the Clyde — The Story of UCS.

WEDNESDAY MAY 30

7.30 p.m.

McLellan Galleries
Sauchiehall Street
Glasgow.

Speaker: Stephen Johns
(Workers Press)

All Trades Unions
Alliance Meeting

After Jones-Aldington
What next for dockers?

SOUTHAMPTON

Wednesday May 30, 7.30 p.m.

Conference Room
Civic Centre

Speaker: M. Banda
(SLL Central Committee)

MAY FUND NOW STANDS AT £694.96

WE MUST reach at least our halfway mark by tomorrow. So far our total stands at £694.96 which is a long way from our overall target of £1,750. Raise as much as you can and rush it to us immediately.

If we make a big effort now we know we will complete our target in time. More than ever this month, we need to complete our Fund.

As thousands of workers face a new round of huge price increases, the trade union leaders begin their talks on Phase Three and completely turn their backs on the fight to defend the basic rights of their members.

Workers Press alone provides a political lead. Help us therefore to raise our Fund so that our paper can be expanded throughout every district. Give us an extra amount wherever you can. Post every donation immediately to:

Workers Press May Appeal Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG

BSA workers face 10 p.c. wage-cut

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS

Workers at the crisis ridden BSA - Triumph - Norton - Villiers group are facing a dramatic cut in wages and big redundancies.

Shop stewards representing 2,000 workers at the Meriden plant heard of the shock report from management yesterday.

I understand the plans include:

- An all-round 10-per-cent cut in wages.
- Redundancies amounting to possibly one in five of the labour force.
- Loss of ten minutes free time allowance in every hour for piece work and the introduction of time studies.
- Abolition of the average earnings rule for untimed piece-work jobs.
- The closure of No. 2 plant at Meriden and the transfer of the

spares department to the firm's Birmingham factory.

Management says these swinging cuts are necessary to get BSA-Triumph out of its financial crisis by cutting costs by 10 per cent.

The company chairman and ex-Labour Attorney-General, Lord Shawcross, will visit Meriden today to discuss the proposals with convenors.

In the meantime workers will be meeting to decide whether to fight the plan which threatens to destroy wage levels and the hard-won basic trade union rights build up in the factory.

The firm is making the BSA labour force the scapegoats for the financial crisis which has hit the company.

But already some workers are bitterly angry over the proposals.

They point out that the firm has already persuaded them to do five days' work in four days to boost the company's performance.

Top management is hoping that the threat of closure will drive the workers to abandon their basic rights.

A similar strategy was employed at BSA Birmingham where men agreed to step up production to save jobs last year.

But despite the sacrifice management closed down the plant throwing 3,000 men out of work after a plan for a work-in had failed.

BSA-Triumph workers now have no choice but to fight the proposals and demand the nationalization of the firm. Otherwise they will face the loss of all democratic rights.

£100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

A GOOD push has pushed the fund up to £22,713.99. Socialist Labour League branches sent in: Central London £10; Battersea £9; Southwark £12; Acton £11; Bristol £6; Holloway £1; Croydon £18; Crawley £25; Castleford £4.27; Reading £5; Aberdeen £7; Brixton £12.50; Exeter £2; Lewis-ham £13; Leeds £6.20; Artists £5; Post Office Workers £5; British-Leyland

workers, Oxford £110.

Keep it rolling in—we're way behind target but determined to fight every inch of the way. Post all donations to:

Party Building Fund
186a, Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG.

Gold fever not over

THE PRICE of gold dropped in London yesterday, but dealers said the gold fever was far from over. The market, one said, was 'still very much alive and could even start kicking again later today'.

The morning fixing set the price at \$103.50 an ounce—down \$1.50 overnight, but still well above the \$100 mark. At one point earlier this week the London price reached \$115 an ounce.

The weakness of the dollar was again in evidence yesterday: at

one point it lost 1.04½ cents to the pound.

Inter-bank deals done yesterday are settled on Monday and many financiers were reluctant to hold dollars over the weekend fearing they could be worth much less when the bill has to be paid.

STRIKE THREAT at the key Sterling Metals plant, Nuneaton, averted yesterday when 25 fettlers were reinstated, after dispute over a demand for relief workers.