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INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY JUNE 15, 1973 ● No 1099 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

After Nixon's speech

DOLLAR CRISIS WORSE

BY JOHN SPENCER

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The 'blackening' should be imposed if planning permission was granted for such a hospital, the National and Local Government Officers' Association conference decided.

Trade unionists would be urged to boycott building work. The conference, at Scarborough, Yorkshire, expressed total opposition to an American medical firm seeking to take over and expand private patient facilities in NHS hospitals.

The delegates, representing 500,000 workers in town halls and the nationalized industries, heard of the suffering of NHS patients awaiting outpatient appointments.

Mrs Myfanwy Manning, an administrative assistant in a hospital at Luton, Bedfordshire, said: 'We see their suffering increase while they wait longer and longer for the treatment they need.'

'At the same time, we see part-time consultants seeing their private patients in their National Health Service consulting rooms, using the service of the National Health staff at a cost which bears no relation to the return received for those services.'

This is Nixon's second such freeze in two years and it failed to impress the international money markets. In London the dollar's position improved slightly against the pound at the beginning of trading, but it soon began to slip again.

The price of gold rose by 25 cents to \$116 an ounce at the morning fixing. According to many foreign exchange dealers the market had already largely discounted anti-inflationary moves by the Nixon administration. They anticipated further demand for the German mark and continuing decline in the dollar.

Nixon's speech clearly underscores the paralysis of his administration under the impact of the Watergate revelations and the worsening economic crisis.

Prices are rising in the US at an annual rate of over 25 per cent and in the last six months the dollar has shed between 15 and 25 per cent of its value against major European currencies.

Under pressure from powerful sections of the US ruling class for deflation and facing a working class thoroughly aroused by the rising cost of living, Nixon is forced back on the trade union bureaucracy and the Kremlin Stalinists.

The visit to Washington next week of Leonid Brezhnev, leader of the Soviet Communist Party, figured prominently in Nixon's speech.

He referred to 'the months of preparatory work that have been done for this meeting... the extensive consultation and correspondence' and predicted that it would lead to 'major new progress'.

In Washington, angry Democratic Congressmen described the package as too little and too late. Henry Reuss, of Wisconsin, went even further and proposed Nixon go on television immediately to retract his speech.

Reuss said: 'By taking the

advice of those who wanted to do the wrong thing, and splitting the difference, Mr Nixon has produced a damaging economic package.'

Nixon's speech was a show of weakness in the face of the working class.

He specifically ruled out a freeze on wages and went out of his way to extend an olive branch to the trade union leaders.

'The wage settlements reached under the rules of Phase Three have not been a significant cause of the increase in prices,' he said.

Encourage

'As long as wage settlements continue to be responsible and non-inflationary, a wage freeze will not be imposed.'

On the eve of the major round of 1973 wage negotiations, this statement can only serve to encourage and strengthen work-class militancy.

Nixon also set his face against the mounting lobby of big business interests demanding deflationary measures aimed at the working class.

He said: 'We are not going to put the American economy in a strait-jacket. We are not going to control the boom in a way that would lead to a bust.'

Chief victims of the Nixon package will be the colonial and semi-colonial countries who face steep increases in price of essential foods as a result of Nixon's export controls.

No recovery on markets

PRESIDENT Nixon's anti-inflation package had a generally unfavourable reception outside the United States and failed to bring about a recovery of the US dollar, Reuter reported yesterday.

The feeling widely expressed by European bankers was that the President's 60-day price freeze was a weak compromise which would do little to help the ailing American currency, the agency said.

JAPANESE food agency officials said the US measures could lead to higher prices in world grain markets.

A sign of general lack of confidence in the US currency was a rise in the price of gold, a traditional haven for speculators against the dollar.

On the LONDON foreign

exchange market, the dollar declined against the two strongest European currencies, the Swiss franc and the West German deutschmark.

But it was slightly stronger against the British pound sterling which has been hit by a sharp increase in Britain's trade deficit.

London banking sources said that since the Watergate scandal began undermining the dollar a month ago, the markets had been in such a bad psychological state that only the strongest measures could restore confidence.

One dealer likened Nixon's package to the 'bursting of a balloon,' criticizing the lack of wage and rent controls.

In ZURICH foreign exchange market, the package showed little effect, with the dollar opening at

last night's level of 3.1025 Swiss francs.

In FRANKFURT where the markets were also little affected, banking sources said the President's measures would do little to help the dollar and might in the long term depress it further.

They pointed out that the President's proposed curbs on US food exports, in order to keep American food prices down, could only be to the detriment of the US balance of payments.

IN PARIS, the dollar strengthened slightly against the franc, but dealers thought the package was unlikely to have much effect.

The dollar was down in BRUSSELS, where bankers expressed disappointment at the lack of any direct US support measures for the currency.

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Why is this skilled craftsman sweeping up at Chrysler's Stoke, Coventry, engine plant? Management at the US-owned firm is ordering men onto the most menial tasks to avoid costly lay-offs at Stoke, and try to undermine the increasingly bitter and solid strike at Ryton. ● SEE BACK PAGE STORY.

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YESTERDAY'S post brought in £59, which brings our total to £51,275.62. Coventry £20; Glasgow N. £8; Glasgow S. £5; M. Craig £1; Outer London Branch £25. Send all

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CHENG APPEAL FAILS AND HE IS FLOWN TO UNITED STATES



Cheng with his wife.

Deadly deportation

FORMOSAN Tzu Tsai-cheng was yesterday flown from Britain to the United States. He was taken to Heathrow airport yesterday morning after an appeal by his solicitor, Mr Benedict Birnberg, for a delay was ignored by Home Secretary Robert Carr.

The appeal asked for Cheng's return to be held up while a petition was considered by the European Commission on Human Rights.

In 1971 Cheng was convicted in New York of the attempted murder of Chiang Ching-kuo, vice-premier of the Nationalist government of Taiwan and son of dictator Chiang Kai-shek.

After his conviction, Cheng fled to Sweden, from where he was extradited at the request of the United States. Last September he was carried unconscious from a plane at Heathrow airport, London, and taken to Wormwood Scrubs prison.

Since then, his friends and supporters have been fighting for his right to political asylum or, failing that, for him to be deported to a country of his choice rather than being sent back to the United States.

They say he could be returned to Taiwan from the States, to face certain torture and death.

Cheng had been permitted to live and work in Sweden for nearly a year before the American authorities applied for his



Solicitor Benedict Birnberg

BY JACK GALE

extradition—clearly as a sop to Chiang Kai-shek, following Nixon's visit to Peking.

After his journey to the States was interrupted in Britain by his illness, his appeal not to be sent back was heard at Bow Street magistrates' court in November. The magistrates ruled that he should be sent back since the assassination attempt 'was not of a political character'.

In January, Cheng lost an

appeal to a Divisional Court. There it was decided that the assassination attempt was a political act, supported by an organization whose aims were purely political.

(This was the World United Formosans for Independence, of which Cheng was a prominent member.)

However, the second part of the magistrates' ruling was upheld. Cheng was told he would not have been extradited to Taiwan, but since his organization was not in conflict with the American government, it was in order to hand him over to them.

Cheng appealed to the House of Lords in March, but after several delays, his appeal was rejected by a two-to-one majority.

The Cheng Defence Committee then concentrated on urging Home Secretary Carr to permit Cheng to be deported to a country of his choice.

In a letter to Mr Neil Kinnock MP and to other members of a parliamentary deputation who had made representations on his behalf, Carr justified his decision by saying he was 'satisfied' that there was 'no question' of Cheng being sent back to Taiwan.

Carr's letter continues: 'The question whether the offence of which Mr Cheng was convicted in New York was one of a political character, within the meaning of the Extradition Act 1870, was fully argued before the courts, and I feel bound to accept the majority decision of the House of Lords that it was not.'

Even if he is not sent immediately to Taiwan, Cheng faces the prospect of 32 years in an American jail and deportation to Taiwan after that.

His convictions for attempted murder and illegal possession of a gun carry maximum sentences of 25 and seven years respectively under United States law.

Italian CP bids for government posts



CP Secretary Berlinguer

THE ITALIAN Communist Party is stepping up its attempts to become part of the next Italian government.

Party secretary Enrico Berlinguer, in an electoral speech in Trieste, called for a government that would 'change the political climate and approach the urgent problems of the nation in a new way'.

A Communist Party delegation is to be received at the presidential palace on Monday, where consultations concerning the

new government are taking place.

Berlinguer indicated the Party's willingness to crawl along with a centre-left government by saying the fall of Christian Democrat Andreotti proved that the 'great constructive popular force of the PCI could not be left out in the realization of democratic policies to solve the problems of the country.'

He accused the Andreotti government of 'seriously damaging the position of Italy in Europe and the world', as a sop to nationalism, which is part of the Stalinists' preparation to collaborate in a popular-front type of government.

The election results in the Val d'Aosta had shown, he said, a victory for the forces of autonomy and the left. The 'parties of the left' won

the majority of the seats in the regional council.

In fact the Communist Party vote went down slightly, which Berlinguer explained away by the numerous left parties who put up candidates.

Berlinguer neglected to mention that the vote for the fascist MSI party went up from 593 vote in 1968 to 1,456!

There can be no doubt that the defeat of the Andreotti government is a blow against Italian capitalism and a measure of the inability of the ruling class to solve anything.

But the proposal of the Italian Communist Party, that a centre-left coalition government would bring reforms and solve the problems of the Italian working class is reactionary and dangerous.

Vietnam 'peace' — second time around

AFTER FOUR and a half months and hundreds of battles and skirmishes the two sides of the Vietnam war have solemnly resolved to 'amplify and consolidate' the January 27 agreement on ceasefire.

This was done in a modest but vague communiqué issued from the ballroom of the former Hotel Majestic in Paris on Wednesday.

The statement adds little to the previous accord and does nothing to dispel the doubts about the January ceasefire, which has been violated in more places and occasions than it has been honoured.

The spirit of the new agreement—and its limitations—were aptly summarized by Dr Henry Kissinger after the signing ceremony: 'I'm not naïve enough to pretend that the mere act of having again agreed to certain words in itself will guarantee progress.'

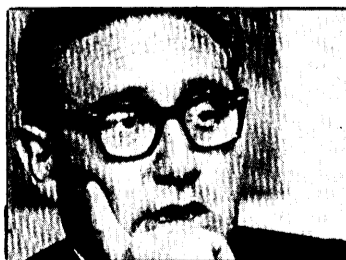
As if to emphasize the

scarcely-veiled scepticism, the Saigon authorities reported 132 alleged violations of the ceasefire for the 24 hours ending at 6 a.m. Wednesday.

Kissinger admitted that on Cambodia there was no progress and nothing obliged the US President to cease the bombing there.

Kissinger's enthusiasm for bombing Cambodia, however, is not shared on Capitol Hill.

Senate minority leader Hugh



Kissinger

Scott, a strong supporter of Nixon's Indo-China policy, stated that he is preparing to break with Nixon on Cambodia bombing once Kissinger's mission ends.

According to Reuter, the Paris agreement will not satisfy Congress opposition to Nixon's Indo-China policy.

Big sections of US capital want the Indo-China issue off the agenda as soon as possible in order that the trade war against Europe and Japan can be prosecuted more effectively.

As a result administration supporters dropped their fight to block Senate passage of a sweeping amendment blocking funds for all American combat operations throughout Indo-China.

The amendment, which the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has attached to a pending Senate Department Appropriation Bill, would not only prohibit the bombing of Cambodia, but also block all American military actions in South Vietnam—should hostilities then resume—without specific congressional approval.

Lebanese Press not so free

WHEN THINGS were going rough in the Lebanon, the government would always turn to its critics and say, 'Yes, but we have the freest Press in the world.' Such is not the case any longer . . . even if it was true in the first place!

The recently reorganized government has introduced a series of fierce Press regulations. These state:

'No reference to sectarian matters, no criticism of the authorities, no mention of calls for the boycott of imported goods, no mention of political discussion related to Israel (such as the internationalization of Jerusalem or calls for conciliation with the enemy whether they originate in Beirut or Tel Aviv), no reports detrimental to army morale, no reference to army plans or measures, criticism of censorship is banned, no criticism of the head of state, no instigation of acts endangering security, no rumours or unconfirmed reports or false reports or anything that confuses the citizens or makes them lose confidence, no reports that are connected with measures taken to protect government and public institutions, no Press campaign on a foreign king or head of state, no attack on foreigners or foreign institutions, no calls for meetings or gatherings, no ideological news or discussions, no publication of political news and opinions which would be assessed by the censors in the light of the developments. Violators of the above-mentioned rules to be referred to the military courts.'

Recent issues of the English-language 'The Daily Star' have made for intriguing reading. Whole sections of articles are missing and the paper frequently has big blank patches indicating where the censor has struck.

The paper does have space to report such items as the Beirut baseball league fixtures in which Japan defeated the Colonials 10 to 4.

Tortured in jail for smuggling letter

A LETTER received by Amnesty International from Spain reports that seven prisoners have been brutally beaten and placed in solitary confinement for up to 70 days for smuggling out an earlier letter exposing conditions in Soria Prison, near Madrid.

Twenty-one political prisoners went on hunger strike on June 10 in protest at conditions at Soria and the letter states that Yokin Gorostidi, Xavier Larena and Yosua Abrisketa have been 'terribly beaten to force them to confess to having written and produced the document'.

The prisoners' manifesto demanded an end to the practice of dispersing political prisoners over a number of jails; improvement in their prison conditions and family visiting rights; and replacement of prison governor José Manuel de la Fuente Rodriguez.

It accuses Rodriguez of inflicting 'continual punishments in solitary confinement; the arrest of our relatives when they come to visit us; interception of correspondence; brutal censorship . . . constant provocations and threats of punishments; blackmail to encourage police informers among the political prisoners'.

Extradition row expected

SERIOUS disturbances are expected to follow yesterday's extradition of an Ulster Defence Association member from Belfast to the Republic.

Robert William Taylor (18) of Clooney, County Londonderry, is wanted in the Republic on charges of murdering two people in County Donegal on January 1.

Another Labourite joins Powell

MR PETER SHORE, a member of the Labour shadow cabinet, yesterday came out in support of Enoch Powell's views on the Common Market.

Shore applauded Powell for putting his country before his party in his Common Market speech a week ago.

It was inconceivable that Mr Powell or any politician should have received such a massive rebuke for saying that in the last resort and on an important matter 'he would put the interests of his own country before that of his party, and before that of the Common Market'.

Shore becomes the third senior figure in the Labour and trade union movement who has been fraternizing with Powell's reactionary views in the past week.

Last Friday Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of En-

Shore welcomes Market 'stand'

gineering Workers, shared the same platform with Powell on a BBC radio programme.

One of their exchanges went like this:

'What a nice chap you are, Hugh.'

'Before you say that, Enoch, remember we're on record.'

On Sunday night Powell was chatting about contemporary politics with Labour's leading 'left', Michael Foot. It was another cosy occasion.

Reporting the debate, 'The Times' said on Monday:

'On this subject of parliamentary sovereignty, Mr Foot, the standard bearer of the left, and Mr Powell, the champion of the right, were in complete harmony. On a number of issues the

two men seemed of like mind.'

Powell and the reactionary wing supporting him — this extends from the Monday Club to the National Front — is the spoken enemy of the working class.

Powell is on record as saying: 'I am the virus that kills socialism.'

These friendly tête à têtes between Powell and Labour leaders can only confuse workers about who and what Powell represents.

They must cease at once and Foot, Scanlon and Shore must be called upon to denounce Powellism and all its anti-working class concepts.

Speaking to the 1972 Industry Group in London, Shore said that the Marketeers would like to believe the whole issue of

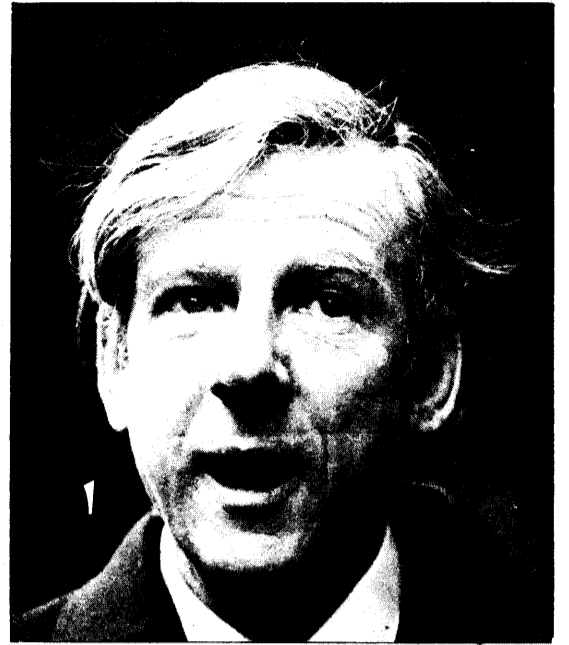
Britain and Europe was dead and buried.

They had made inaccurate and distorted assertions about Labour's policy, trying to give the impression there was no serious threat to the European commitment in Labour's policy programme.

'They are wrong,' he said. 'It will not do to pretend that the Labour Party is not determined to destroy this Treaty of Accession and to reassert the rightful democratic power of the British people.'

'Certainly, a Labour government will make a serious effort to obtain those major alterations that our continued membership of the EEC require.'

'But the strong possibility is — and everyone knows it — that renegotiation will fail.'



Peter Shore . . . 'principles before party'



Some of the determined Perkins workers, now locked out.

Perkins workers locked out

Ready for long parity fight

LIKE CHRYSLER, Perkins Engines haven't a leg to stand on according to the tenets of conciliation, compromise and 'getting round the table'.

In fact Perkins' decision to lock out its 5,700 workers for banning overtime has even astounded sections of the local, capitalist Press.

As Reg Briers, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' convenor, says: 'All we've been doing is work our standard, 40-hour week, which is all we're committed to do under our agreements with the company. Yet they're operating as if there's compulsory overtime.'

'Leaving aside for the moment the reasons we decided to ban overtime, how can they possibly justify putting us all out of work for choosing not to do something we never agreed to?'

The Perkins workers banned overtime 11 weeks ago, in support of a demand for parity of earnings with Massey-Ferguson workers in Coventry, who are now part of the same Canadian-owned group.

Work at the Peterborough factory, which makes diesel engines for export, and for Massey-Ferguson at Coventry and Kilmarnock, is no less arduous than at Coventry.

Probably it is harder, since Perkins' workers are on Measured-Day Work while at Massey's where piecework still operates, men have the opportunity to regulate their effort.

At Coventry, however, earnings range between £54 a week for craftsmen and £37.10 for labourers as against Peterborough's £32 to £25 range (a semi-skilled Massey-Ferguson worker, at £48 a week, gets £19 more than his opposite number at Perkins).

Despite this gap, which was further increased by a £2.47 pay deal at Massey's this week, the Perkins workers actually modified their original demands considerably after only a short period of the overtime ban.

In a bid to engage the company in serious negotiations they asked merely for 'a commitment in principle on a move towards parity', recognizing that immediate implementation was restricted by the Tory pay laws and that the final aim could take years to achieve.

Yet even this moderate demand, backed by the ultra-moderate tactic of an overtime ban, has met with militant hostility and total lockout.

Neither Reg Briers nor his

FROM DAVID MAUDE
IN PETERBOROUGH

deputy convenor, Jeff Cain, believes that this is directly linked to the atmosphere surrounding the Tory pay laws.

But Reg Briers points out: 'There's only been one stoppage here since the company came to Peterborough in 1946. We've discussed wages every year with a minimum of trouble. But this year things are different; the company's decided to make a fight of it.'

Jeff Cain added: 'We don't class ourselves as a militant group of workers here, but we now obviously have to be prepared for a long fight.'

'This has been deliberately built up by the company to force us to accept their £2 offer and break the campaign for parity.'

'We can prove this. The company have been saying they can't operate on a Monday because of the effects of the overtime ban by the services department, yet when services banned overtime three months ago over lack of canteen facilities at the week-ends the plant ran seven days a week.'

'We offered the same arrangements this time, but they didn't

want to know.'

Perkins' announcement just over a week ago, that the Peterborough factories would be shut down until further notice unless the men toed the line, was at first regarded by some workers as a bluff.

But as they left their jobs for what could be the last time for a long while on Wednesday, they were set for struggle.

Said Jim Ryder, a £25-a-week labourer: 'It's about time the air was cleared here. This company seem to think they can act like little dictators; it's now up to us to show them they can't.'

'We've been treated like "turnip toppers" too long—because this used to be an agricultural area doesn't mean they can go on paying agricultural wages. What we want is a clear indication that we're going to get our rights.'

'I'm not very strong on politics, but the way it looks to me this is definitely part of what's happening all over the country now.'

'But employers like this are going to get more than they bargain for. No one here believes what they say in the Press about "shoddy work" being to blame at Chrysler's, and no one's going to believe we're responsible for the shutdown here.'

Arms drilling charges dropped

THREE YOUNG Irishmen were cleared yesterday of being at an unlawful meeting for drilling or training in the use of arms.

A charge under the Unlawful Drilling Act of 1819 was withdrawn by the Director of Public Prosecutions at Manchester city magistrates court.

Mr Michael Sachs, defending Michael Joseph Brennan (17), Peter Anthony McAleer (19) and

Anthony Cummins (20), all of Manchester, said there would be no application for costs as they were on legal aid.

All three men were discharged. After leaving the court, McAleer told reporters: 'British justice has been done.'

Fine Tubes pickets won't go back to firm

ALTHOUGH the three-year picket of Fine Tubes at Plymouth will be lifted today, there is no suggestion that the remaining men will seek re-employment with the company.

'We wouldn't be found dead inside there,' one of the strike members said yesterday. Of the 180 men and women who walked out over a wage dispute in June 1970, 31 are left.

During their bitter struggle, the Fine Tubes men were victims of police brutality, a number of court actions and betrayals by the trade union leadership.

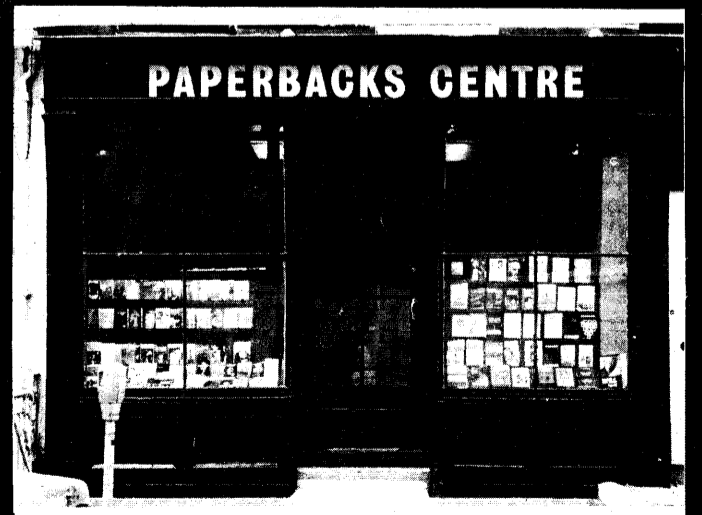
Ron King, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' district secretary, said the men had received official union backing from the first day, but he agreed that there had been bitterness over poor support from other workers.

Herman Welch, strike committee chairman, said that lack of support from other trade unionists was the main reason why the strike was ending.

● A full examination of the lessons of Fine Tubes will be appearing shortly in Workers Press.

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TRANSFORMING THE SOC INTO A REVOLUTIONARY

THE DISCUSSION GOES ON

'The League looks out for the interests of the working class'

Mrs Nelesia Chambers is a new member of the Socialist Labour League in Croydon.

The Labour Party is supposed to represent people like myself, but it doesn't. It doesn't have the policies for the working class.

The League hasn't been put to the test yet. But it is the only alternative for the working class, since its policies are right.

The most important thing about the League is that it looks out for the interests of the working class.

As it is now, the working class hasn't got a party that represents it.

On television yesterday an Asian said he'd been here for so long he couldn't be deported, but the man told him it could be backdated.

Now you can't say: 'I can do this and I am within the law.' They can change it at any time. The Heath government has made it so there isn't a law for the working class.

If you strike, you can go to prison.

If you picket, you can go to prison.

Even if you just complain, they could fix it so you went to prison for that.

Such a government shouldn't be able to stay in, but the Labour Party does nothing. People are looking for something, but they're sick and tired of just getting promises, promises.

The Labour Party isn't a real opposition. If we could build the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party, I know things would be better. There would be a real opposition to capitalism.

I've been in this country 14 years and I've been sitting on the fence, watching and listening. Sometimes I blame myself, for not questioning things enough. It's like going to church and just believing everything the parson says because he's the parson.

But there are people who definitely mislead you. Working-class people have to go out to work every day, only to be worse off.

If you have four or five children, you can go out to work and bring in £20 or £25. Every week you need more money than you earn. You're thinking so hard about tomorrow, you don't think about politics.

You have this burden—how to pay £7 or £8 rent. Every time you go to the shops it's more expensive. Everything is going up except your wages.

Leading Tories can get big salaries, tax free. But there's tax off workers' wages and tax on everything they buy.



Mrs Nelesia Chambers. 'Look at Ireland (above). There's no law there for the working class. A soldier or policeman can haul you up in the street and accuse you of anything.'

If we can really build the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party, things will be much better. The workers will have a party that will really fight the Tories.

Everybody is looking for a change. They're cautious because they've been fooled so many times. But if this revolutionary party is got off the ground and people see we are determined, we will do it. I haven't the slightest doubt about that.

There has been a slow response to things before, but now people are getting desperate. All kinds of organizations are trying to fool them.

Last Sunday I found a National Front leaflet on my gate saying 'Stop Immigration! Start Repatriation!'

Where in Africa am I supposed to go back to? They say go back to Africa, but the poor people here are getting treated the same way as the poor people in Africa.

Look at Ireland. There's no law there for the working

class. A soldier or a policeman can haul you up in the street and accuse you of anything.

You can't defend yourself in the courts. A police or army officer's word is all that's needed and you're guilty. No ordinary citizen is free, no one is safe from prison or even from being shot to death.

The same things will be happening here. We have to find an alternative.

When I came to Britain there was a Tory government in, then Labour won. That Tory government was disgusting, but it wasn't half so bad as this one. You had a right to negotiate, to strike, to demonstrate. All that is taken away now.

You could complain if you were cheated in the shops. But what is the point of complaining now? The Prices Commission justifies every increase.

All the working class, black and white, must join together to build our party. This is no time to be thinking about the colour of our skins.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE RY PARTY

'The working class is the most powerful force in society'

London building labourer Chris Smith left the Socialist Labour League two years ago and rejoined in March. He says:

When I left I thought the League was a minority movement, but when I went to the Pageant of Labour History at Empire Pool I could see things were really moving and I decided to rejoin.

I was impressed with the numbers of people coming towards the League and there had been tremendous developments in the Workers Press.

When I left the League there was nowhere else to go politically. All the time I felt I was moving closer to the League. When I had time to think things out and read books, I felt capable of fighting.

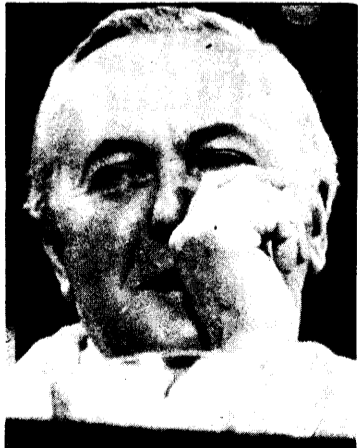
At the core of the party you've got to have a central leadership, as Lenin said, made up of professional revolutionaries, but I think a lot of people are frightened of committing themselves.

How does the crisis affect me personally? I am a labourer. I can just about eat, just about survive. I take home about £16 a week.

Two years ago a lot of people dismissed the League as a fringe group, but now they want to find out who you are and what you stand for. People are a lot more committed now. They are actively looking for leadership.

They can see the whole economic system collapsing around them and the whole basis of government being undermined. There have been too many scandals for people to respect the Tories.

Workers are losing confidence in their own leadership,



Harold Wilson—who is 'trying to back away from nationalization.'

too. They feel the Labour Party and the TUC are not going to be able to protect them.

They want rising prices to stop and full employment to be guaranteed. What they want most of all is a clear leadership.

They recognize all this Tory legislation such as the state pay laws and the Industrial Relations Act as anti-working class. I think it is the first step on the road to the corporate state.

The Labour Party and the



TUC accept the system. They've never questioned the parliamentary system. They have to support it because it's all they've got.

But I think the League is right to call for the return of a Labour government. I think the Labour leaders are scared stiff of it. I don't know what they will do because if they come to power there will be terrific upheavals in the working class.

Wilson is trying to back away from nationalization. He says the Parliamentary Labour Party is not bound by party decisions. The working class just won't put up with that kind of talk.

If they put Labour in office they are going to want nationalization. The working class are moving now and I don't think it will take much to push them all the way.

The trade union movement is in crisis too. The leadership is getting more and more involved with the whole government structure.

If the monetary system

goes, it could mean mass unemployment and factory closures. The Tories can see that coming and they want to smash the working class before it happens.

But if that situation came, I think the working class would rise up as one and clear the Tories out.

The Party must make basic demands: the League's programme is absolutely right to concentrate on things like democratic rights, jobs and housing.

I see Marxism as a force to make people fully aware of the kind of society they are in—a class society. We've got to make workers aware of the urgency of understanding Marxism.

Building the Party and getting rid of the Tories are connected. If we got the Tories out, this would immediately bring about a situation where there would be a massive revolt against the Labour Party.

I think we've got to be there as the alternative party, a real mass democratic party

which will represent the working class and show it is capable of taking state power.

Two years ago I don't think there would have been the forces to stage the Pageant. That really shows the way class forces are moving.

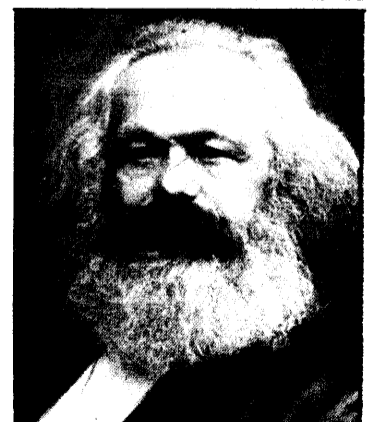
Foot and Scanlon having discussions with Powell was a disgusting spectacle. At the end of it, Foot said he had more agreements than disagreements with Powell. That was fantastic.

Scanlon appeared on a programme with Powell and was calling him 'Enoch'. What do workers think when they see these great left talkers appearing on the same platform as Powell?

And the Communist Party boosts these people.

When I read the League's fund had reached over £50,000 that showed what the working class really thinks. It gave me a boost.

Reading that, I remembered what Marx said about letting the ruling class tremble before the communist revolution.



Marx—'let the ruling class tremble before the communist revolution.' Above: The Pageant of Working Class History—a decisive event in the lives of many thousands of workers who attended.

I thought, let the ruling class tremble at the founding of the revolutionary party. I think they will tremble. The working class is not a docile force. It's the most powerful force in society.



ISRAEL'S SOUTH AFRICA PROBLEM

ISRAEL/PALESTINE. AN OCCASIONAL SERIES BY CHARLES PARKINS

The establishment of the state of Israel involved the clearing out of Bedouin clans from traditional grazing lands in the north and restriction on their movements.

The Minister of Agriculture had suggested in 1960 that they should give up their flocks and their semi-nomadic existence and become hired labourers in the 'mixed towns'—that is, places like Lydda and Ramleh, with a mixed Arab and Jewish population. The Minister at that time was Moshe Dayan.

The employment of Bedouin labourers on 50 per cent pay—the Israeli government

holds back half—was one step in this proletarianization of these people. This process does not mean their gradual integration with the Israeli working class (note that Dayan referred to their employment in specific areas), but their forcibly being turned into a special, particularly oppressed low-paid section of the working class. Over recent years, this process has been carried further, not only because the development of Israel has interfered with the former mode of living of the Bedouin in the ordinary economic way, but deliberate appropriation of clan grazing lands in the Negev and military confiscation and enclosure of land and the deportation of people.

Alongside the 'ordinary'

working class—mainly Jewish, organized in trade unions, and enjoying a standard of living and welfare benefits for the most part well above that generally prevailing in the Middle East—another section has been created.

The Bedouin labourers are part of this cheap Arab labour section, subject to both national and class oppression, employed mostly in low-paid, menial and 'dirty' jobs, and with much lower living conditions.

This process has developed particularly since the 1967 war, with the Israeli occupation of Gaza, Sinai, the West Bank, east Jerusalem and the Golan region.

Arab workers, many of them from the poverty of the

refugee camps, are encouraged to cross the so-called 'Green Line'—the pre-1967 Israeli frontier—into Israel, to take jobs with Israeli farmers, or on construction sites, providing them with employment and the chance to earn some wages for their families, and the employers with a source of cheap casual labour.

OVERNIGHT STAY

These Arabs are under Israeli rule, but they are not Israeli citizens. In fact, they are supposed to carry passes, and are not allowed to stay

overnight in Israel. On August 3, last year, the Israeli newspaper 'Ha'aretz' reported:

'The government is going to instruct the police and the military authorities to take firm action in preventing Arab workers from the territories from remaining inside Israel's "Green Line" after working hours, government sources have reported. The sources said that according to evaluation of security agencies, workers from the territories sleep overnight near their places of work, in cellars of buildings under construction, in the kitchens of restaurants, in the yards of farms, in orchards, and other agricultural areas. There is no official estimate of the numbers of workers re-

Left: arrested Arab workers escorted by Israeli soldiers (set top left). Dayan's 'mixed towns' (top right) were to be the centres of Jewish settlement in the West Bank.

the poorer Hebrews and idealism of the youth.

It brings the danger that Israelis could succeed in driving a wedge between the masses and the resistance, and that the best elements of the Palestinian youth could be exhausted in a series of heroic but unsuccessful actions, a war of attrition against militarily superior occupation forces which would be a last-ditch stand doomed to eventually fall.

Instead of trying to escape the objective situation of the Palestinian masses under Israeli occupation by means of desperate acts of terror, the revolutionary elements in the guerrilla movement must develop a strategy and tactics that will turn the Arab labourers from being just a labour-force for the Israelis to what they are potentially—a social and political force to undermine the Zionist structure and help bring about its downfall.

On the Israeli side, the trend towards using the Arab workers as cheap labour has thrown the Zionists into a fresh set of contradictions. Traditionally, Zionist ideology laid great stress on the idea of Jewish 'self-reliance'—in labour as in other fields—and the early Zionist pioneers regarded it as a matter of pride that Jews should become farm labourers, building workers, etc. and that the Yishuv—the Jewish community in Palestine—should not rely on the labour of others.

For the idealist followers of A. D. Gordon, it was the ideal of regeneration of the Jewish people through a 'return to the soil' and 'the dignity of labour'.

For the followers of Ber Borochov, the 'Marxian Zionist', it was the 'normalization' of the Jewish social structure and the creation of a 'territorial base' which must precede any class struggle by Jewish workers.

Objectively, these idealist and Utopian projects, and the nationalist policy adopted by the Histadrut, the Zionist labour organization, of demanding 'Hebrew Labour' and fighting to exclude the Arab workers from employment, served the overall Zionist aim of creating the economic and social base for a Jewish nation-state in Palestine and for its military strength.

In 1936, the value of this labour-base to Zionist settlement—and to imperialism—was demonstrated, when the Palestinian Arab peasant rebellion, combined with a General Strike, aimed both against the Zionists and the British Mandate, was defeated, largely because there was an alternative, Jewish economy not reliant on Arab labour, which was able to keep the country running.

In fact, Jewish-owned enterprises were able to take advantage of the strike to expand at the expense of their Arab competitors.

While we must admire the courage and determination of the resistance fighters in defying Israeli rule, their tactics in this case are questionable. Under the pressure of economic circumstances, the Palestinian working class is driven to seek the chance of a wage, however meagre and unfair, from the Israelis.

Resistance to Israeli domination must base itself on the masses, with a programme of native labour, the pass-laws and the restricted areas.

Some of the Palestinian guerrilla movements see the employment of their people by the Israelis as a form of collaboration. They blow up the Israeli-run Labour Exchanges in the occupied territories and bomb the buses used for taking Palestinian labourers to work.

Terrorist tactics, derived from nationalism, mean relegating the masses to a passive role and attempting to do without them, by relying on

the effect of employing Arab workers. The Zionist leadership, however, has a different view. It sees the Arab workers as a reserve force, to be used when the Jewish labour force is exhausted. It is this reserve force that the Zionists have built up in the West Bank and Gaza.

'Until a week ago, the workers lived in various packing houses in the area. Now with more workers brought in to cope with the harvesting of hot-house crops, the packing-houses that accommodated the workers have become full. My husband therefore built his workers a hut in the back of our homestead. When I expressed disapproval of this step, he sent me on a walk around the village. Well, it turned out that every decent fellow in the village has become some kind of a contractor. And the hot-houses being built exclusively by Arab labour is on the increase. The Arabs live in "the thickets" a few metres away from our renovated villas, and our lifestyles have become similar to those of effendis.'

The Zionists are worried also about the prospect of a settler society dependent on Arab labour becoming vulnerable to revolt from that labour—like any other colonial structure. Prior to 1967, the Israeli government and its supporters always rejected suggestions that, as a step to peace, they should allow the Arab refugees to return; asserting that they could not be expected to take in an Arab fifth column'.

Now, as a result of their military victory, they have brought a vast Arab 'fifth column' into the area they have to administer!

Moshe Dayan observed, concerning the occupied West Bank, in August 1967: 'There are about a million Arabs whom we don't want, I should say, as citizens of Israel, in the Jordanian part.'

As Dayan stated, on the CBS programme 'Face the Nation', televised from New York, when asked if he thought Israel could absorb the big Arab population that it has taken over with the occupied territories: 'Economically, we can; but I think that it is not in accord with our aims in the future. It would turn Israel into either a bi-national or poly-Arab-Jewish state instead of the Jewish state, and we want to have a Jewish state . . . We want a Jewish state like the French want a French state.'

How can this sort of statement be reconciled, then, with Dayan's other statements, and those of other Israeli leaders, that Israel must hold on to the occupied territories, and 'create facts' in them?

How can you have the territories and not the population?

Some Israelis have argued, logically, that to preserve the character of the Zionist state, the occupied territories will have to be abandoned. Others—and Rabbi Meir Kahane of the 'Jewish Defence League' would appear to be one of them—want to have the land but not the people who live on it; that is, obviously, to drive them out.

The Zionist leadership does not regard either of these alternatives as practicable, at least at present. So they must be driven to a third alternative. This is that the occupied territories and the people who live in them will remain under Israeli domination, but will not be integrated into

the effect of employing Arab workers. The Zionist leadership, however, has a different view. It sees the Arab workers as a reserve force, to be used when the Jewish labour force is exhausted. It is this reserve force that the Zionists have built up in the West Bank and Gaza.

Some Palestinians have nicknamed the project, 'Palestinostan'—like the Bantustans of South Africa, supposedly native 'autonomous territories' but in fact, reservoirs for cheap labour.

Despite what has been said about the Histadrut's 'Jewish Labour' policy, Arab workers were not altogether excluded by it even in the past. Besides certain big Jewish enterprises, such as the cement works, which were able to resist Histadrut pressure and continue employing Arab labour—at less than half the Jewish workers' wage rate in the 1930s—there were numerous employers who took on Arab workers during boom conditions in building and agriculture, when Jewish labour was short.

The Histadrut only succeeded in seeing to it that they were first to be laid off when the boom ended. So Histadrut policy did not exclude Arab labour altogether, but only saw to it that it was a reserve force, not depended upon—an underprivileged section of the working class.

In Israel before 1967, Arab labour remained a 'second-class' section—like the Bedouin labourers described before, or the Arab workers in the building industry around Tel Aviv, some of whom lived in disused cowsheds at a nearby Jewish village.

Now, the 100,000 Arab workers in Israel are being joined by an estimated 54,000 from the occupied territories. The poverty of the refugee camps, and denial of political rights to which this new reserve force are subject, makes an opportunity for exploitation which Israeli businessmen and foreign investors have not been slow to take up.

The Histadrut newspaper 'Davar' on October 20 reported that 'open markets' for Arab labourers had sprung up in Haifa, Nazareth and elsewhere.

One, in Haifa's Cartmel quarter, specialized in boys. 'Davar' noted: 'The employers like these markets because no procedure is involved. They come in the morning with their trucks and tenders, and choose them for work like: construction, cleaning of house-yards, gardening and other jobs.'

On October 22, 'Davar' reported that Israeli 'control teams' checking on Arab workers from the occupied territories working without permits, had 'caught' children, ten to 12-year-olds, working in an olive grove near Dimona. In citrus groves at Shuva and Zimra, tens of children between eight and ten years old had been 'caught'.

While the prospect of exploiting Arab workers as cheap labour is bound to attract capitalists who have long resented the organization and wage demands of Israeli workers, there are certain obstacles in the path of the trend we have described.

One, in the way of the 'Bantustan' plans, is that the Israeli government has not yet succeeded in crushing Palestinian resistance, nor in finding suitable stooges to help administer the West Bank, Gaza or Golan.

The other is that Israel is not South Africa. The gap between Jewish and Arab workers is not so clear or wide, as that between white and black there, and the social and political set-up is different. This does not necessarily mean that the 'South African' kind of development is ruled out altogether. It just means that there is a conflict.

'WE DON'T WANT THEM'

1926

THE FIRE LAST TIME

BOOK REVIEW, PART FOUR
BY MICHAEL NOLAN'The General Strike, May 1926.'
By Christopher Farman. Rupert
Hart-Davis. £3.50.

A number of points of general interest emerge from a reading of Farman's book. Some of these relate to the natural history of the development of such mass struggles and some to specific characteristics of the 1926 General Strike.

The systematic lies and distortions of the capitalist mass media become particularly well illuminated at a time like that. Farman gives a good list of the 'persistent falsifications' of the true position of the strike in the government's 'British Gazette', which was edited by Winston Churchill.

For example, it was claimed that the emergency department of the London hospital was closed down because of a power failure, when the real reason was that most of the doctors had gone off to break the strike.

Churchill expressed considerable indignation when it was revealed (though not by him) that the strikers had made arrangements for the emergency services at the hospital to be resumed.

Farman also makes it clear that the reputation for objectivity which is always imputed to the BBC is a hypocritical myth.

He says a 'large number of totally inaccurate reports of returns to work were broadcast. Although, in most instances, the union concerned sent immediate corrections... these were never broadcast'.

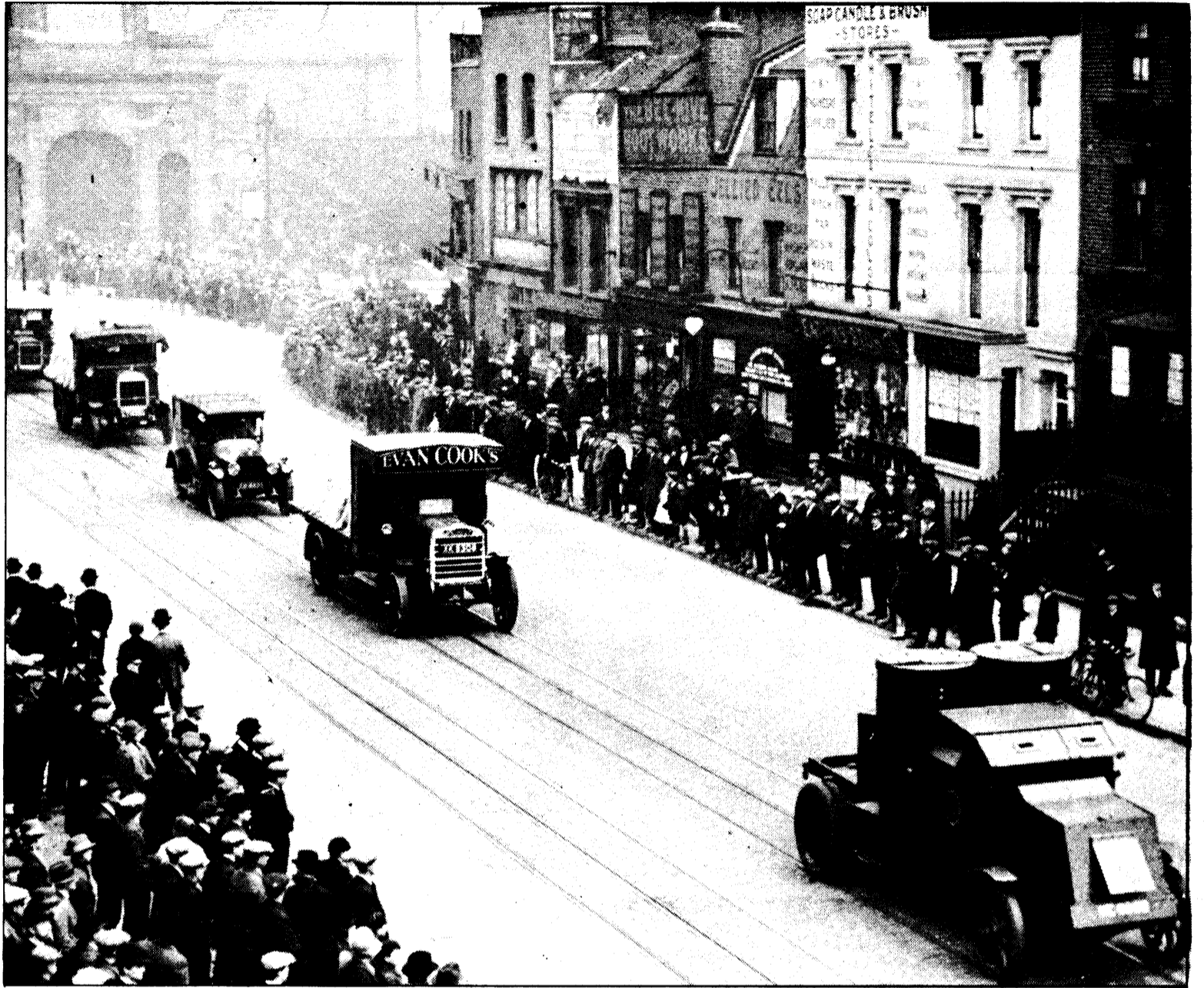
A false view of the effectiveness of the strike was thus perpetrated and this proved 'particularly disturbing to strikers deprived of other sources'. Farman does not mention that the supposed 'independence' of the BBC was another lie. In fact, the Director-General Reith worked very closely with the government during the strike, constantly meeting Davidson and actually helping to prepare the broadcast of Baldwin on May 8.

No general statements by strikers were broadcast, nor even calls for compromise, like the one issued by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Far from playing any kind of 'middle role', the BBC thus provided an essential plank in the government's strategy for defeating the miners.

The leaders of the TUC were not beyond lies and distortions also. They claimed in their paper the 'British Worker', in the issue published on the evening on which they started their discussions with Samuel, that no attempts had been made to reopen negotiations.

The leaders of the NUR, in their fervid rush to arrive at an agreement with the Tories, claimed that there was 'a mass drift back to work on the railways', a statement which, as Farman puts it, 'had no basis in fact'. Even after they had capitulated altogether, the General Council leaders claimed to have received 'assurances' that 'negotiations would be resumed', though they knew that this was utterly untrue.

Another interesting aspect of the struggle is the role of the middle class. It is important



Crowds of workers gather as a food convoy passes through Poplar, the scene of many clashes between striking dockers and police.

to realize that despite the long queues of strike-breaking volunteers in central London, there were many parts of the country, like Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester, where there were virtually no volunteers at all before the strike began.

Those travelling around the country when the struggle was on found that many local Conservatives had crossed the class lines. In Glasgow, Orangemen were 'active pickets and taking part generally in the struggle'.

In Weymouth, Dorset, and Shrewsbury, Shropshire, former Tories were also found to be active. Even some sections of the Liberal leadership around Lloyd George were forced to take a more sympathetic line to the strike than some Labour leaders.

This was thus a classic situation, where, despite the picture which is usually painted of middle-class blacklegging, the strength of the working-class movement showed the ability to attract other sections of society.

There is one other important myth about the General Strike which Farman's account goes a long way to dispel. The publishers try to continue the view of how 'peaceful' and 'English' it all was by quoting on the back cover the statement of George V that 'not a shot has been fired and no one killed'.

His Majesty concluded that this 'shows what a wonderful people we are'.

Such statements as these are used to perpetrate a view of the benevolence of the ruling class and the unrevolutionary nature of the workers. However, the lack of violence of the early days of the strike is an indication not of the weakness of the working class

but of its strength.

Although the government's emergency services worked well enough, the parasitic titled ladies and the backward proto-fascist students had no skills that made it possible for them to run any sort of reasonable public transport system, and they would certainly never have been able to restart the mines, or the engineering factories or print shops.

The very effectiveness of the strike left no reason for any violence. However, as the days



Winston Churchill, Editor of 'British Gazette' which spread employers' lies about the strike.

went past, there was an increasing number of violent incidents. In Brighton pickets at the tram depot were attacked by police 'hitting them with sticks two feet long with hooks on the end'.

In the north-east, there were provocations against the leaders of the most effective local strike organizations, and they were then arrested. At Bristol and Airdrie, the issue of permits by the councils of action for the transport of goods was

stopped by the police, and on May 12 the entire Birmingham Joint Strike Committee was arrested.

There was also the use of *agents provocateur*. In Westminster a bag of bullets was handed to a worker selling a local strike sheet an hour before the strike headquarters was raided by the police. Fortunately, the police failed to find what they came for!

So all the usual paraphernalia of police repression was clearly visible and Farman traces to a Cabinet meeting of May 6 the 'much tougher police tactics' adopted in the latter part of the strike.

Although every book reports the football match between police and strikers in Plymouth, few have reported as graphically as Farman an incident in Poplar on May 12, which showed the way things were going as the struggle intensified.

Local Labour leaders were addressing a meeting of 500 dockers outside Poplar Town Hall at 9 p.m. when a police tender suddenly swerved into the road and raced into the crowd, injuring a number of people. When the tender stopped at the end of the road 30 police jumped out, doubled back and baton-charged the crowd. While the injured were still trying to drag themselves away a second baton charge was made.

'A total of 25 casualties were treated at hospitals in the borough, including a local clergyman who approached police with an upheld crucifix. Shortly after this incident, police with drawn truncheons stormed into the district headquarters of the NUR in Poplar High Street, batoning anyone unfortunate enough to be within striking distance. The Mayor

of Poplar, who was in the building playing billiards at the time, was admitted to hospital with serious head injuries. Drunken specials were also accused of numerous assaults in Poplar on Wednesday evening and of wrecking three public houses in the area.'

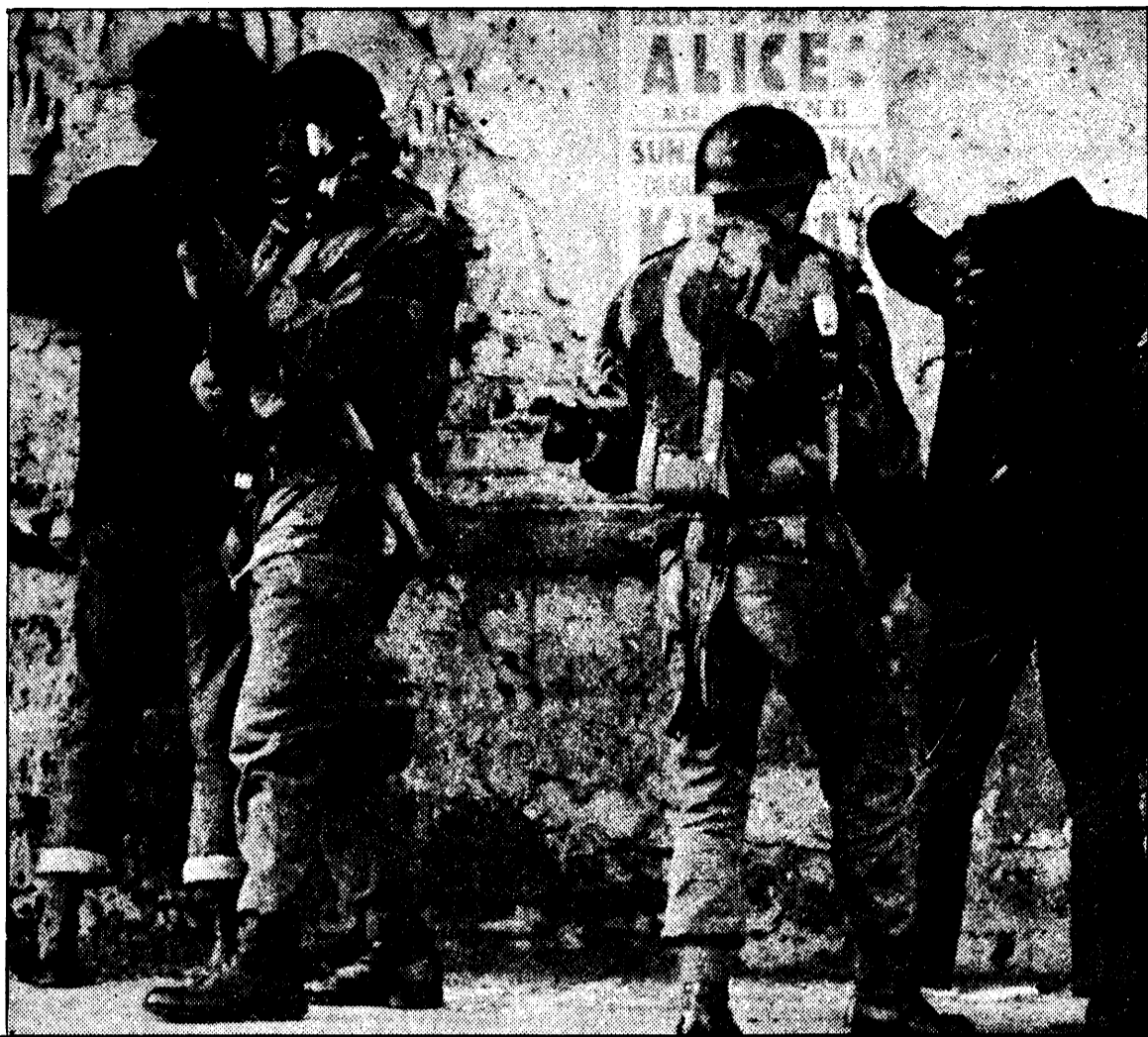
It was these incidents which represented the real face of Tory 'law and order' in the final desperate days when the effectiveness of the strike was spreading and the capitulation of the union bureaucracy had not yet been finally secured.

So the men and women involved in the General Strike were not all peace-loving, unrevolutionary, and 'English'. They were workers and capitalists faced with the sharpest social problems that raised questions about the whole government and organization of the social system.

There can be no doubt that had the struggle continued, it would have intensified sharply and control would have moved increasingly from trade union bureaucrats and government and more and more into the hands of the workers engaged in the struggle itself.

The question of who should run society would then have been posed. Had there been a revolutionary leadership steered in the preparation for such a situation, it would have been possible to take steps towards the overthrow of capitalism.

It is certainly both necessary and possible now, when the ruling class and working class are again in a position to concede very little, that a revolutionary leadership should be prepared capable of bringing us towards the victory of the working class and the creation of a new social order.
CONCLUDED



THE ROAD TO LONG KESH

A 17-year-old youth from the Falls Road area, Belfast, has been arrested by the British army more than 200 times, since October 1971.

The arrests have involved six British regiments—the Scots Guards, Gloucesters, Kingsmen, Green Jackets, Coldstream Guards, and the Second Light Infantry Regiment.

When one particular regiment finishes its tour of duty it picks up this youth—whose name is Thomas—and 'introduces' him to the incoming regiment.

Frequently, after being arrested on the street, he has been transported through Loyalist districts and told that 'one of these times' he will be dropped off there so that the UDA can 'get him'.

A particularly twisted form of persecution practised against this boy by the British army is to follow him into a pub and there to arrest not him,

but all those who are drinking with him.

This is done to give the impression that he is an informer. Another practice is to arrest his friends and ask why Thomas 'is not liked' by the IRA, or to say that he is 'on the IRA's death list'.

On one occasion when Thomas had been arrested by the Green Jackets at Welsh's Pub on the Falls Road they held him for three hours after saying that he had been released. His family were panic-stricken wondering what had happened to him.

At Easter time Thomas was picked out from a group of youths going to his work at Mackies Foundry and beaten up by British soldiers.

On another occasion soldiers called at Thomas' home and arrested both him and his sister. The girl reports what happened at Springfield Road barracks:

'Thomas was shoved up

against a wall. He was made to stand, legs apart, fingertips against the wall until he was called for interrogation. About an hour later I saw Thomas being brought through to the interrogation room. He was visibly unsteady on his feet, holding his hands outstretched in front of him as if in pain.'

On this occasion an army sergeant attempted to push a pencil up his nose and another soldier indicated that every time Thomas answered a question with 'no', he—the soldier—was going to write 'yes'.

The sister says that during the interrogation filthy and insulting remarks were made about Thomas' mother.

The boy's family have asked for his case to be publicized because they fear that either he will be interned, or assassinated—to be blamed on a Republican organization—or just left with a hood over his head.

SHOCKED AT THE BRUISES

At the end of April Sean Moore was arrested by the British army at a friend's house in Belfast.

His mother was informed that he had been taken to Springfield police station. Mrs Ellen Moore said in a sworn statement to the Association for Legal Justice:

'I went there but was not allowed to see him. I was told I could not see him as they were not finished with him.'

'The next morning I phoned Springfield Road barracks to inquire about my son and I was told he was taken to Castlereagh.' After further inquiries she found he was at Townhall police office. The police refused to allow Mrs Moore to see her son. They also refused to let either a doctor or solicitor visit him.

'Then I went to the SDLP [Social Democratic and Labour Party] where I found that they had already received complaints that my son had been beaten up at Springfield Road police station. They rang Gerry Fitt and he had also heard that my son had been beaten.'

It was another 24 hours before the army allowed Mrs Moore and her daughter to see Sean. 'I was shocked to see the bruises that were on his face, neck, throat, chest and sides and he seemed to be rather confused. He told me they had put him in the boot of a car and threatened to shoot him.'

Mrs Moore tried to get a family doctor into the police station to treat her son. 'They allowed Dr Donnelly in to see him,' she said. 'Afterwards Dr Donnelly called at my house and told me he had examined my son. He said my son had no bones broken, but was badly bruised on the face and body and had difficulty in swallowing.'

Mrs Moore saw her son at Castlereagh once more. He had been placed in identification parades and he was not recognized as being involved in any trouble. Early in May the Association of Legal Justice contacted Mrs Moore to tell her that Sean had been taken to Long Kesh.

THE BEATING ROOM

At 6.30 p.m. on Monday April 30, the army broke into the house of Brendan Burns in Belfast. They took him to Springfield Road police station where he was interrogated by two Special Branch detectives.

They asked him if he knew the room where he was. 'It is the beating room,' they said. Brendan (18), said in his sworn statement: 'I was made to stand with my fingers against the wall and they kept throwing questions at me about the boys in Beechmount.'

'They then pointed to the floor where there was blood and told me that the blood was Sean Moore's and that my blood would be there too if I didn't talk. They also told me that Moore was a mess when they were finished with him.'

Brendan was punched and thrown about between interrogations. At 11.30 a.m. on May 2 he was released.

FLIMSIEST PRETEXT

The route to Long Kesh internment camp is cruel. A man can be picked up on the flimsiest pretext and find himself behind the wire without the slightest warning to him or his family.

Take Gerard Kelly. He is 33, a married man with three children. He lives in Belfast and used to work as an engineer with the Rolls-Royce company.

In January this year he was asked to call at Fort Monagh in the Monagh Road to see the British army's commanding officer of the district. But when he arrived, he found only two officers of the Ulster Special Branch. They interrogated him for half an hour.

They said he was a member of the IRA. He denied this. As he rose to leave he was told to 'watch himself' or they would 'put one in the back of his head'.

In a statement to the Association for Legal Justice, Gerard's father, Peter Kelly, said: 'My son gave this story to the "Irish News" and they ran the story the following day.'

'The RUC [Royal Ulster Constabulary] put a letter contradicting my son's statement in which they stated that he had asked for the meeting with the CO himself. The following day my son wrote to the paper stating that what he had said was true.'

On Monday, January 15, Gerard was picked up at the Turf Lodge Working Men's Club. He was held for four days. When he was visited by his wife, she took his shaving gear.

'What did you bring that for?' he asked. 'I'll be out of here shortly.'

A few days later Mrs Kelly went to the labour exchange to draw her regular money. It was then she was told that her husband was in Long Kesh.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

... in the right place

Picture this gathering. It's the extravagant and luxurious Plaisterers' Hall in the City of London. A grand dinner is in progress. The host is Sir Denys Lawson (his full name is Denys Colquhoun Flowerdew Lawson). A Tory to his bootstraps.

The top table includes Lord Boyd-Carpenter, the right-wing Tory MP who has recently become chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority; Sir Burke Trend, secretary to the Heath Cabinet; Sir Dennis Greenhill, permanent head of the Foreign Office; Dr Carel de Wet, the ambassador repre-

senting the racist republic of South Africa.

Now who would be tossing his jowls alongside this lot? Yes, you guessed it, Victor Feather, general secretary of the TUC.

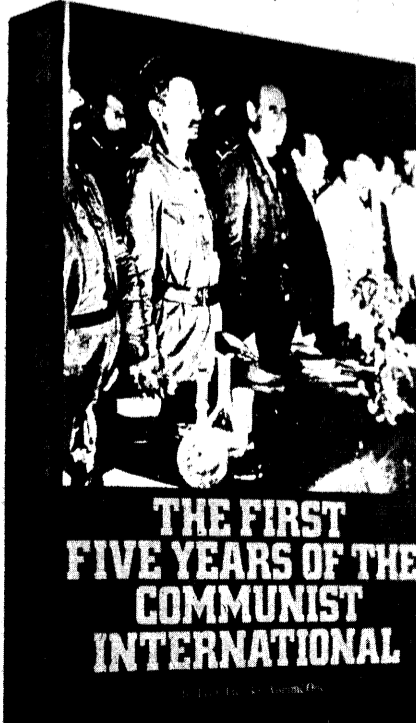
In his speech Lawson had a kindly few words for the head of the 10-million strong trade union movement: 'He's got his heart in the right place.'

shovelling compost!

Charles Simeons, Tory MP for Luton, has assured his electorate of his conscientiousness. In the wake of the Lambton-Jellicoe affair, Simeons got himself photographed by the 'Luton News' shovelling compost.

'Other people mature wine,' he said. 'I mature compost. The smell makes me feel I'm in the country.' He won't go off the rails like some of his parliamentary colleagues, said the 'News'. 'By the time I've shovelled this I won't have the energy to do anything wrong.'

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TODAY'S TV

BBC 1

9.38-11.20 Schools. 12.55 Penigamp. 1.25 News. Weather. 1.30-1.45 Chigley. 4.00 Slip and slap. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Dak-tari. 5.40 Hector's house. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.45 DISNEY CARNIVAL. Test Pilot Donald.

6.55 TOP OF THE POPS.

7.30 STAR TREK. Spectre of the Gun.

8.15 IT'S A KNOCKOUT. Ashington v Blyth.

9.00 NEWS. Weather.

9.25 SPY TRAP. Check Point.

10.25 TALK-IN TO DAY. Robin Day.

11.10 NEWS. Weather.

11.15 FILM: 'Cobra Woman'. Maria Montez, John Hall. South Seas hokum full of 40s. nostalgia.

12.25 Weather.

ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.30 This week (London only). 11.00 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. 2.50 Racing and tennis. Sandown meeting from Kempton Park and John Player tournament semi-finals day. 4.25 Lassie. 4.50 Lift off. 5.20 I dream of Jeannie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY. **6.35 CROSSROADS.**

7.00 SKY'S THE LIMIT.

7.30 ROMANY JONES. A Rough Night.

8.00 THE FBI. Moment of Truth.

9.00 BETWEEN THE WARS: 'The Silver Mask'. Joyce Redman, Scott Antony.

10.00 NEWS. **10.30 TENNIS.**

11.00 POLICE FIVE.

11.10 DEPARTMENT S. The Mysterious Man in the Flying Machine.

12.05 DISCO CHAMPIONS 73.

12.35 GOD SPELL.

12.40 SHIRLEY'S WORLD.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open University.

7.05 MISTRESS OF HARDWICK. When Hardwick Towers Shall Bow Their Heads.

7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.

7.35 GARDENERS' WORLD.

8.00 MONEY AT WORK. The Gold Rush. Why is gold still so important?

9.00 FILM: 'The Little World of Don Camillo'. Fernandel. In a small Italian village the parish priest and the Communist mayor are always feuding.

10.40 FILM NIGHT.

11.10 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 4.25 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 5.20 Me and the chimp. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Report. 6.35 London. 7.30 Streets of San Francisco. 8.30 Romany Jones. 9.00 London. 11.03 Film: 'Breakaway'. 12.20 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 Sports. 11.00 News. 12.20 Epilogue.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 2.50 London. 4.25 Elephant boy. 4.50 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.35 Out of town. 7.05 Sky's the limit. 7.35 Columbo. 9.00 London. 10.30 Weekend. 10.35 Film: 'Return of the Fly'. 12.00 Tennis. 12.30 News. 12.40 Weather. Guide-line.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Women. 2.50 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: 'Sitting Bull'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Comedians. 11.00 Profile. 11.30 Romany Jones. 12.00 Tennis. 12.30 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.25 Stesion cantamil. 6.01-6.10 Y dydd. 11.00-11.30 Outlook.

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

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 2.50 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 Romany Jones. 9.00 London. 10.30 Essex show. 11.00 Theatre. 12.00 Tennis. 12.30 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. 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Revenge of Frankenstein'. 12.00 Tennis. Weather.



Ross Hagen as Bart Jason being taken for a walk by Serang, a 486-lb tiger which appears in 'Daktari' on BBC 1.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.33 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 2.55 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 Rainbow country. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Viewfinder. 6.35 London. 7.30 Longstreet. 8.30 Romany Jones. 9.00 London. 10.30 What's it all about? 10.50 Film: 'Dillinger'. 12.00 Tennis.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 4.25 Lone Ranger. 4.50 London. 5.20 Funny face. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 London. 8.00 It takes a thief. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Pot Carriers'. 12.00 Tennis. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 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: 'A Ticket to Tomahawk'. 8.30 Romany Jones. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Where Danger Lives'. 12.00 Tennis. 12.15 Spyforce.

TYNE TEES: 9.25 Forgetting and remembering. 9.30 London. 12.05 Lon-

don. 2.30 News. 2.31 Yoga. 2.50 London. 4.25 Woobinda. 4.50 London. 5.20 Flintstones. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 8.00 Cade's county. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'No Room at the Inn'. 12.00 Tennis. 12.30 News. 12.35 Lectern.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Date-line. 2.50 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. 7.30 FBI. 8.30 Romany Jones. 9.00 London. 10.30 Friday night. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Baron. 12.00 Tennis.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.40 Cartoon. 2.52 News. 3.00 London. 4.25 Elephant boy. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Grampian week. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Thief'. 8.30 Romany Jones. 9.00 London. 10.30 Job look. 10.35 Film: 'The Gorgon'. 12.00 Tennis. Road report. 12.30 Meditation.

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- By Stephen Johns
- LENIN AND TROTSKY WRITING ON EUROPE
- and six International Committee statements

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

CENTRAL LONDON: Sunday June 17, 7.15 p.m. Holborn Council Chambers, Holborn Town Hall, 197 High Holborn. 'The case for one big entertainment union.' Chairman Roy Battersby and a panel of speakers from the relevant unions.

ACTON: Monday June 18, 8 p.m. 'Six Bells', High Street, W.3. 'Build the revolutionary party. Defend democratic rights'.

LEWISHAM: Monday June 18, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road. 'TUC must break off Phase Three talks'.

CRAWLEY: Monday June 18, 8 p.m. Council for Social Services Hall, 19 Station Road. 'Force the Tories to resign. A Labour government must nationalize major industries'.

BATTERSEA: Tuesday June 19, 8 p.m. 'Nag's Head', Wandsworth Road. 'Force the Tories to resign. Return a Labour government pledged to socialist policies'.

BRIXTON: Tuesday June 19, 8 p.m. Training Centre, Control Room. 'Force the Tories to resign. Return a Labour government pledged to socialist policies'.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday June 19, 8 p.m. Barking Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue. 'Force the Tories to resign. A Labour government must nationalize major industries'.

CLYDEBANK: Tuesday June 19, 7.30 p.m. Co-op Hall, Hume Street, Clydebank. 'Fight the rent Act. Throw the Tories out'.

DEWSBURY: Wednesday June 20, 7.30 p.m. Textile Hall. 'Forward to the All Trades Unions Alliance conference'.

HACKNEY: Wednesday June 20, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, Mare Street. 'Labour must nationalize major industries'.

LIVERPOOL: Wednesday, June 20, 7.30 p.m. 'The Westminster Inn', Westminster Road, Walton. 'Defend democratic rights! Forward to the ATUA conference!'

SOUTHAMPTON: Wednesday June 20, 7.30 p.m. Temperance Institute, Carlton Crescent, nr T&GWU headquarters.

SWINDON: Wednesday June 20, 7.30 p.m. Co-op Hall, East Street. 'Down with the pay laws. TUC must break off Phase Three talks.'

LANCASTER: Thursday June 21, 7.30 p.m. The Trades Hall, Fenton Street, near the Post Office.

CORBY: Thursday, June 21, 8 p.m. 'The Corby Candle'. 'Force the Tories to Resign.'

FULHAM: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Fulham Broadway. 'Trade unions and the Tory government'.

GOOLE: Thursday, June 21, 8 p.m. The Station Hotel. 'The Revolutionary Party and the Fight against the Tories'.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'Inflation and the crisis of capitalism'.

KINGSTON: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Norbiton Hotel, Clifton Road. 'Force the Tories to resign. Labour must nationalize the major industries'.

LEEDS: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Peel Hotel, Boar Lane. 'Defence of Trade Unions and democratic rights. Forward to the ATUA conference.' Speaker: Cliff Slaughter.

LANCASTER: Thursday June 28, 7.30 p.m. The Trades Hall, Fenton Street, near the Post Office.

I would like information about THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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

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Address.....

TUC hides behind Heath

THE TUC leaders surrendered abjectly to Tory demands within hours of the announcement of the record trade deficit and the closer approach of deflation.

Instead of a fight to bring down the Tory government, which is what the working class is more and more demanding, the trade union bureaucrats, led by Victor Feather, Jack Jones, and Hugh Scanlon, agreed instead to help the Tories out of their crisis.

Their decision to continue collaboration with a government which has imposed

state controls on wages—while prices and rents rocket sky high—and which is coordinating the onslaught on trade union rights through speed-up, provocations and the Industrial Relations Act, will sharpen the crisis of leadership within the trade union movement.

The conflict will come right into the unions' summer conferences, particularly the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers next week and the Transport and General Workers' Union in July.

The demands must now be stepped up

BY ROYSTON BULL

to break off the Downing Street talks and mobilize the united strength of the labour and trade union movements to force the Tories to resign and Labour to bring in socialist policies to solve the economic crisis.

The TUC must not be allowed to hide behind Tory bogus explanations of why the capitalist economy is falling apart from uncontrollable inflation and chaos in trade and money markets. The £209m trade deficit is a reflection of the inherent instability of the capitalist system itself,

which must be ended if the disastrous consequences of deflation and massive unemployment are to be avoided.

The TUC's acceptance of the Tory Chancellor's explanation of inflation ('There is a distinction between internal causes and external causes') is a betrayal of the working class to further wage controls and unending price rises.

Inflation is a deliberate capitalist weapon to help the Tory employers defeat the working class internationally. The burdens of inflation are then borne by the working class. The only way to end inflation is to end capitalism.

Mayor of Pontefract's admission in bribes case

'Backhanders' the order of the day in contracting industry

A FORMER mayor said yesterday that, as public relations officer for a contracting firm, he gave 'backhanders' to officials and councillors.

In one case, £1,000 was paid out, Maurice Byrne, former Mayor of Pontefract, told Leeds Crown Court.

The 'backhanders' were on behalf of Carlton Contractors Ltd, a London-based firm whose head office was at Epsom, Surrey.

Byrne (48), a shopkeeper, of Flaxton Place, Leeds, has pleaded guilty to ten charges of corruption. Sentence has been

postponed until after the trial of three other men who deny charges of corruption.

Anthony Joseph Flannery (39), director, of Westbrook Close, Horsforth, near Leeds, has denied 11 charges of corruption.

Brian Norman Woodcock (47), director of Hobbs Lane, Kirk Ireton, Derbyshire, has denied two charges of corruption and William Starling (44), director, of The Baulk, Staincross, near Barnsley, has denied nine charges.

The offences are alleged to have been committed between 1968 and 1970.

Mr Peter Taylor, QC, prosecuting, has said that Byrne, the three other men and a man named Allen, who had since left the country, formed the management team of the Northern division of Carlton Contractors.

He alleged they had accepted bribes from subcontractors or architects and put work their way in connection with local authority housing contracts in the north of England.

Byrne, cross-examined yesterday by Mr Gilbert Gray, QC for Flannery, agreed that he believed 'backhanders' to be the order of the day in the contracting industry.

The ones he had given varied 'from repairs to a motorcar, to up to £1,000'.

'Was that quite often?' asked Mr Gray.

'On a number of occasions, but not on my own behalf,' said Byrne.

'This was always agreed to by the management of Carlton Northern and confirmed by the board at Epsom, which included the whole of the directors, including the managing director of Trafalgar House.

'No money was paid out unless the chief financial officer for Trafalgar House, Mr Parker, authorized it.'

The green light for this was given at Epsom, and Flannery

would pass the information to Epsom.

Local councillors or officials were involved.

Earlier, Byrne agreed that he knew Mr John Poulson and met him several times. He also knew that the Open System Building company was the brain-child of Mr Poulson.

A firm called Haslam Milan was the licensed contractor for Open System Building in Yorkshire and Haslam's public rela-

tions work was done by Dan Smith. 'I had a PRO arrangement with Dan Smith, not Haslam Milan,' said Byrne.

He denied that by doing that work there was a conflict of interests with his work for Carlton Contractors.

The Judge said: 'What is being put is that in accepting money from Dan Smith there was a conflict?' Byrne said: 'I don't think there was.'

THE CASE CONTINUES

Picket planned for 'Shrewsbury 24' case

A LOBBY of trade unionists from London and the north-west will gather at Shrewsbury, Shropshire, today when 19 building workers face conspiracy charges.

A total of 24 building workers from North Wales and Merseyside have been charged under the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act of 1875.

Police initiated the prosecutions after a six-month investigation of last year's building workers' strike.

On March 15 about 1,000

pickets — building workers, Liverpool dockers, steelmen from Shotton — converged on the Shropshire town to protest against the show trial of the building workers.

At today's lobby there will be delegations from London trade union branches. The Lambeth Trades Council has voted unanimously to set up a defence fund for the charged men.

A statement by the trades council said: 'The trial is a savage new attack on basic democratic rights fought by generations of trade unionists.'

Fares claim puts Labour on the spot

MINIMUM fares on many London Underground journeys will go up from 5p to 10p under plans just submitted to the Labour-controlled Greater London Council.

London Transport is asking for bus and underground fares increases which will boost revenue by £15m. It amounts to an all-round increase of 10 per cent on present revenue.

The proposed increases would start in January and another application may be needed later in 1974 to cover the cost of 'special measures'.

Under the scheme, 37 per cent of the minimum fares on the Underground will go up from 5p to 10p and 29 per cent of 10p fares will go up to 15p. There will also be an average 15-per-cent increase in season tickets—greater in cases where the discount has become 'completely unrealistic'.

The bus minimum fare will go up from 3p to 4p, then rise in 2p stages for adults. Flat fares on Red Arrow buses will stay at 5p.

Tube commuters from outer

BY OUR OWN
CORRESPONDENT

London face a shock—their season tickets would in future be charged at 'inner zone' rates.

On the buses, in north, north-east and south London, some 3p and 5p fares which are now 'below scale' would go up to 6p and 8p to bring them into line, say London Transport. There would also be a corresponding rise in some other 'sub-standard' fares at higher levels. But the fares affected are only 1 per cent of all London bus fares.

Suburban flat-rate bus fares would go up from 4p to 5p (from 2p to 3p for a child), monthly bus seasons from £6 to £7, and annual ones from £60 to £70. The child's off-peak fare for journeys up to a mile would be withdrawn.

But the 3p 'any distance' off-peak bus fare continues for children and concessionary permit holders.

Go-as-you-please tickets, for unlimited travel on most buses and Underground, are going up—for example: a four-day adult ticket from £2.90 to £3.20, a

seven-day ticket from £3.80 to £4.20.

Examples of the proposed cuts in fare-stage distances: the 5p minimum underground fare would cover a mile's journey instead of 1.3 in the inner zone; a 25p fare would cover 10.5 miles instead of 12 in the inner zone.

On buses, however, a 12p off-peak maximum fare would apply for suburban journeys of seven to 11 miles, which would normally cost 14p to 18p.

London Transport's shock fare demands come only nine months after fares were last increased in September 1972.

It puts the new Labour council completely on the spot. In the election campaign Sir Reginald Goodwin, the Labour leader, promised to 'stabilize' the soaring price of fares.

One method being discussed by the Labourites is to increase the rates!

Goodwin said yesterday: 'London Transport's application to increase fares will be scrutinized closely in the light of our election pledge.'

'The new GLC is firmly committed to encouraging people back on to public transport by adopting a low fares policy.'

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Liverpool

given by Peter Jeffries

Sunday June 17

Marxism and the study of history

Sunday June 24

Trade Unions and political struggle in Britain

Sunday July 8

Chartism, yesterday and today

Sunday July 15

The Revolutionary Party and the British working class

at

Stanley Halls
Upper Parliament Street
3 p.m.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Manchester

given by Peter Jeffries

Sunday June 17

Marxism and the study of history

Sunday June 24

Trade Unions and political struggle in Britain

Sunday July 8

Chartism, yesterday and today

Sunday July 15

The Revolutionary Party and the British working class

at

Black Lion
Blackfriars St/Chapel St
near Salford Bus Station
7.30 p.m.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Barnsley

Given by Gerry Healy

National Secretary

of the

Socialist Labour League

Sunday June 17

The materialist conception of History

Sunday June 24

Dialectical Materialism—a Marxist theory of knowledge

Sunday July 8

Theory and Practise of Marxism

Sunday July 15

Role of the Revolutionary Party

at

The Red Lion
Worsborough
Near Barnsley
7.30 p.m.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Leicester

lectures given by Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee)

The Socialist Revolution in Britain:

1. Political tasks facing the British working class. Marxism and the revolutionary role of the working class. Lessons of the history of the working class in Britain.

2. The roots of capitalist crisis: Marxism and the contradictions of capitalism. Britain and the world crisis.

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.

Sunday June 17, 24, July 8
Stockingfarm Community Centre, Stockingfarm
7.30 p.m.

Ryton strike has effect on other UK plants

Chrysler slows down

FROM IAN YEATS IN COVENTRY

SHOP STEWARDS in charge of Ryton pickets at Chrysler's Stoke (Coventry) factory, yesterday accused car industry employers of launching a 'do as we say' campaign against workers on the shop floor.

Deputy Transport and General Workers Union paint shop convenor Mr Pat Fox claimed: 'Chrysler have definitely been provoking us to a very great extent recently. I think they are trying to bring in the American concept of Measured-Day Work.'

'We have turned our backs to a lot of things that have gone on, but this time we have had enough.'

Yesterday Chrysler's management were taking all possible steps to avoid lay offs at other plants in their £66m UK operation, as 4,500 workers at their Ryton, Coventry, plant continued their strike.

Large groups of men were seen at the Stoke plant carrying brand new brooms. Shop stewards said they were being employed sweeping and factory cleaning.

All gates at the Stoke plant were heavily picketed yesterday at each entrance clamping an impenetrable blockade on supplies entering or leaving the works.

T&GWU automotive convenor Mr Roger Roberts said that the Stoke plant could be totally stopped by today.

He said: 'Our analysis was that car production at Stoke would be stopped by Wednesday night and we believe it can't hold out much longer. Linwood will be affected by the weekend.'

Chrysler management officials are refusing to comment on the dispute which has already cost them £7m.

Pickets accused them of launching a ruthless efficiency drive on the shop floor. Said Mr Fox: 'It seems to us it is not

Pickets from Chrysler's Ryton plant at the Gosford Green rail head yesterday. They are stopping the supply of engines going to the firm's Linwood factory in Scotland and the supply of panels for Ryton from Scotland.



Chrysler convenors Pat Fox (top) and Roger Roberts (above) on picket lines yesterday.

Officials move on Cowley

NATIONAL union officials are attempting to split up the strike of 80 plant attendants at the British-Leyland factory in Cowley, Oxford.

Moss Evans (T&GWU) and Reg Birch (AUEW) have gone over the heads of senior stewards and shop stewards and asked the management to send out letters to the strikers summoning them to a meeting this morning.

The strikers, who are fighting for a promise that they will be upgraded as craftsmen, on Wednesday rejected a company offer to pay 2p an hour above their present semi-skilled rate from the date of the next annual pay review, plus a join investigation of whether to pay another 2p.

Evans and Birch, who stepped into the dispute on Tuesday, are now strongly pressurizing the men to accept this offer.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETING
Issues facing Chrysler workers
Monday June 18
7.30 p.m.
THE ELASTIC INN
COX STREET
COVENTRY

just Chrysler who are taking a tough line, but firms like Massey-Ferguson, Jaguar and Perkins.

Mr Fox said that discipline had been tightened up.

'There were new rules for late-comers. All disputes had to be settled in 15 minutes or men would be taken off the clock. And production tracks had been speeded up from 42 to 48 in the last year and management were pressing for a further increase to 52 cars an hour.'

'We can't accept taking people off the clock as a principle and everything this management are doing they are doing without consultation with the union,' Mr Fox claimed.

Pickets responded angrily to Tory Press reports that only a handful were active in the strike.

'It's just Tory propaganda' said one man who claimed he was afraid to give his name for fear of victimization by the company whose officials have already photographed workers taking part in pickets.

There are no plans to call Chryslers 20,000 UK workers out on strike. But yesterday the Ryton men were confident the company would get no help from workers at other plants in their fight to beat them.

Locked-out workers picket Perkins

EVERY GATE of Perkins' Peterborough diesel engine factories were picketed yesterday morning, on the first full day of the company's lock-out of its 5,700 workers.

The workers, who want a firm promise of progress towards parity of earnings with other workers in the Canadian-owned Massey-Ferguson group, were preparing for a bitter struggle.

After being locked out for the extremely moderate action of banning overtime, 1,000 of them who signed on the dole were told they could not be given un-

employment pay because they were engaged in an industrial dispute.

Reg Briers, engineers' union convenor, said that the co-operation already shown by other trade unionists was very good. Dockers, transport workers and many others were being contacted for their support, he said.

Norman Beckett, chairman of the 140-man shop stewards' committee, said: 'The men are digging their heels in. They will not resume normal working until the company give them a commitment in principle on this

question of pay parity.'

Meanwhile there was no move from the company, which insists that it will not talk until the overtime ban is dropped.

More than 170 workers have already been laid off at Massey-Ferguson's Coventry tractor factory, which is supplied with engines from Peterborough. The group's Kilmarnock operations as well as British-Leyland and Chrysler commercial vehicle plants, are also likely to be affected soon.

● See page 3 story.

Labour seat-shuffling on houses

LABOUR spokesmen on housing shifted uncomfortably yesterday when asked:

'Labour inherited economic chaos from the Tories in 1964 and pursued deflationary policies for six years with house building dropping off in 1969-1970. The balance-of-payments crisis now is even greater than that of 1963. What will Labour do to avoid having to repeat deflationary policies when they come to office after the present chaos?'

Frank Allaun, the man who went back on last year's conference decision to support rebel councils against the Tory rent Act, said:

'That's a snorter.'

Anthony Crosland, who returned a silver coffee pot to the trustees administering John Poulson's bankrupt gravy train, said:

'The rest of Labour's programme will deal with the economic difficulties. We made an error before by using house



Anthony Crosland

building as an economic regulator.'

John Silkin, chief whip to Wilson in many anti-working class moves, said:

'The price of land affects up to 45 per cent of the price of a house and we plan to control building land. The previous Labour government's Land Commission did cause a 4-per-cent drop in the price of building land.'

The spokesmen shuffled again when asked:

'What real difference in the overall housing situation will be achieved by repeating Labour's policies when four previous Labour administrations since the war have not abolished extortionate rents, millions of sub-standard houses, and homelessness?'

Allaun didn't really answer the question.

Crosland said: 'The housing situation in Grimsby is not as bad as it was 20 years ago. There are still problems of unfit houses and a bad variety to meet actual needs. We must now concentrate on the stress areas like North Kensington.'

Silkin said nothing. None of the Labour spokesmen made the slightest reference to a socialist policy of nationalizing without compensation all land, except owner-occupied houses and small farms, and all finance capital as the only solution to the age-old housing question.

JUNE FUND £362.51-STILL NOT ENOUGH

IT IS beginning to move, but not yet fast enough. We are now half-way through June, but we still have £1,487.49 to raise by the end of this month. It must be all stops out to pull our position around.

It is vital to keep Workers Press out in front in this political situation. Only our paper has fought to explain the real nature of this economic crisis.

Nixon's latest measures are clearly inadequate for tackling the huge inflationary crisis facing the dollar. Our paper must be used to prepare workers for the next round of deflationary attacks.

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