

What
we
think

Police support Tory policy

THE POLICE are on the side of the Tory Party.

That was the message which came over loud and clear from the Police Federation's Llandudno conference this week.

The 'law-and-order' programme enthusiastically welcomed by the conference—with its appeals for the restoration of the gallows, more powers to deal with demonstrators and an end to reform of police complaints procedure—is not a whit different from the election agitation of Heath and Powell.

Speakers at the conference displayed real enthusiasm for the prospect of breaking demonstrators' heads and taking firm action against the 'way-out catering minority'.

The 'way-out minority' presumably includes such people as the St Helens workers whose strike pickets suffered the full police treatment outside the Pilkington glass factories on Monday.

Yesterday the conference voted unanimously for more firearms training and called for intensive research to develop new weapons for police use.

As a reward for their endorsement of the Tory election campaign, the police demanded a pay rise.

However, like the scab union it is, the Police Federation began its conference by ruling out any industrial action to achieve their pay rise.

Instead, they rely on their masters to 'see them all right' when they come to put their anti-working-class programme into action.

There has long been a widespread myth in Britain that the police stand above politics, that they are somehow 'impartial', devoted only to keeping the peace and helping old ladies over the road.

The Llandudno conference has brought down the truncheon on this particular fairy story.

These 'impartial public servants' are more and more shaping up as a Tory private army.

Llandudno is a mirror of the future Toryism offers the working class: the rapid development of a police state directed against all the rights of workers.

It takes place against a background of mounting witch-hunts against militant trade unionists as the most vicious election since the war gets under way.

In this Tory campaign the police have been allotted a very definite role. They are playing it to the full.

G.L.C. staff lobby talks

MEMBERS of the Greater London Council Staff Association demonstrated outside the GLC's County Hall headquarters yesterday afternoon during talks between union officials and their employers.

Pressure from rank-and-file members has forced re-negotiations of last year's 34-per cent pay settlement with a view to achieving 15 per cent increases.

Be on guard for A Tory plot to catch votes

BY THE EDITOR

IN THE manufacturing of 'Red Plots', forged documents, perjured evidence, distorted news and provocation there is no body so consummate as the British capitalist class and its press.

For over a century it has used these techniques to mould 'public opinion', to manipulate the middle class, to expedite colonial wars, whip up imperialist war hysteria and facilitate election victories for the ruling class.

In this sense the British press, reflecting the traditions of the Tory ruling class, has earned itself the unique distinction of being a pioneer in fraud and the protagonist of journalistic venality.

Admittedly without all this colossal fraud the ruling class—even with the aid of the church—could not survive.

In the last century the press—to be precise 'The Times'—tried to discredit the Irish Parliamentary Movement and slander its leader, Parnell, with its infamous 'serialization' of 'Parnellism and Crime' and the publication of a monumental forgery intended to incriminate Parnell in the murder of Lord Cavendish and Mr Burke.

The author of the forgery, Pigott, shot himself after confessing guilt. 'The Times', however, did not.

In the 20th century, as the interests of the ruling class came more and more into violent conflict with the working class and the colonial peoples, the capitalist press has excelled itself in the art of slander and provocation, particularly in relation to the left-wing movements.

Notorious

The most notorious example of this kind of rascality was of course the 'Zinoviev letter'—a fabrication of the capitalist class which played an important role in securing a massive majority in parliament for the Tories in the General Election of 1924.

Without this victory the preparations for 1926 by Churchill could not have been carried out.

Now once again the carrion crows of Fleet Street are on the wing scanning the political horizons desperately for a new victim and filling the air with their raucous lies.

Having persuaded the Labour leaders to go to the polls on the basis of contrived statistics, these scavengers are now moving in to ensure a Tory victory by creating the kind of mood and atmosphere in which provocations flourish and witch-hunts multiply.

(As for the forgeries, they will come later.)

The beginning of this campaign was the monstrous attack by the press on Rosemary Whipple and the Socialist Labour League.

The Workers Press correctly warned at the time that this was a crudely conceived political stunt to stampede the floating voter class.

That those, like International Socialism and the Communist Party, who

US officers now lead Cambodian troops

REPORTS from Phnom Penh confirm that Cambodian troops are now fighting under the orders and leadership of US army officers.

A US-led and trained battalion of Cambodian conscripts was yesterday thrown into a river-borne attack on Tonle Bet, the strategic East bank ferry town on the Mekong River.

A Cambodian army officer stated that the force was acting under US orders, and the whole operation had nothing to do with the Cambodian army.

As Nixon's June 30 deadline for withdrawal from Cambodia approaches, US forces become ever more deeply committed to his Cambodian adventure.

Contradiction

It is this flagrant contradiction between the official statements of the Nixon administration and the reality of the war that is accelerating the demoralization and unrest in the US armed forces.

Every extra day in Cambodia brings new problems of discipline and morale for US officers.

Whole companies proclaim their open hostility to the war, and treat their superiors with thinly-disguised contempt.

Reporters and observers in Cambodia and Vietnam are stating that Nixon's invasion force has all the hallmarks of a defeated, not victorious army.

This latest development of US-supervised Cambodian units will deepen the crisis in the ranks of Nixon's army.

G.I. DEATHS INCREASE

US BATTLE deaths in Indo-China last week reached 217—the highest figure for nine months. The total was 49 up on the previous week. 77 of the fatalities were amongst troops fighting in Cambodia.

Job evaluation threat to building workers

BY BERNARD FRANKS

FURTHER details released on the secret meeting held recently at Eastbourne between building employers and union leaders make it quite clear that major emphasis is being put by these people on the spreading of job evaluation methods throughout the construction industry.

They evidently see this as a means of 'rationalizing' the wages system in line with the government's policy of eliminating so-called 'wage drift'.

The current issue of the building trade paper 'Construction News' gives details from a special document on job evaluation in building drawn up for the employers by Professor Phelps Brown, the man who recently chaired the government-sponsored report on labour-only in construction.

The proposed scheme would work as follows: FIRSTLY a panel is set up

Still no ban on Springbok cricket tour

HOME SECRETARY James Callaghan's formal request to the chairman of the Cricket Council to 'withdraw their invitation' to the S African touring team is almost certain to be discussed by today's Council meeting.

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In his letter, Callaghan gave five reasons for his request.

'I have taken into account too the position of the police; there is no doubt as to their ability to cope with any situation which might arise, but a tour of this nature would mean diverting police resources on a large scale from their essential ordinary duties.'

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It is not proposed that every job is looked at in this way.



Pilkington workers who voted twice on Wednesday to stay on strike were meeting again yesterday.

Garaudy's expulsion confirmed

BY A WORKERS PRESS FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

THE FRENCH Communist Party's Central Committee has expelled Roger Garaudy, the 'heretic' who was until recently one of the Party's leading ideologues.

In doing so they ratified the decision of his Party cell to expel him—a decision itself taken on the basis of a document from the Political Bureau recommending expulsion.

The unanimous decision to oust him—for 'leading an anti-communist crusade'—comes at the height of a furor sparked by Garaudy's statement that the Party leadership had provided the Czech Stalinists with documents for use against Alexander Dubcek, 'Party secretary' and 'under investigation' by a special commission.

Garaudy at the PCF's February Congress



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Garaudy has said that despite his expulsion he will continue to be a 'communist militant'.

The paradox in the affair is that on most questions, his political position is, if anything, to the right of the French Party.

He claims the working class no longer has the main revolutionary role in developed capitalist society.

Yet what has really led to his expulsion is his raising of certain questions about the policy of the Party leadership that are potentially explosive among communist militants and in the working class.

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Glass men under T.U.C. pressure to end strike

St Helens, Thursday

FEARS ABOUT Trades Union Congress intervention in the seven-week-old stoppage of Pilkington glassworkers grew here this afternoon as the rank-and-file strike committee called for an evening mass meeting.

Members of the committee, which has led the strike since the desertion of General and Municipal Workers' Union officials, said that the outcome of the meeting would determine whether or not they would travel to London for discussions with TUC general secretary Victor Feather.

Feather made clear earlier today that the Congress's General Council offer of support for the strikers' main demands was conditional on a return to work.

When even clergymen's assistance with the General and Municipal Workers' secret ballot failed to deliver the goods, glass workers were trained on St Helens.

Of course, no one really thought that the strikers would take much notice of court of inquiry chairman Professor John Wood's Tuesday appeal for a return to work.

But no one should be fooled by the conciliatory surface appearance of the inquiry.

Strike committee treasurer John Potter looked dangerously close to falling into this trap when he told yesterday morning's mass meeting that, during the first day's hearing, 'the two "naughty boys" at the inquiry were not us, but

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Even the company's estimate of the number who went into its six factories this morning—a figure which was again described by the strikers as highly inflated—dropped by over 100.

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Like Devon's five-month-old Centrax strike, which ended in victory for the strikers in March, it has already shown a determination which has scared the pants off the Tories.

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May £1,000 Appeal Fund today stands at £401 5s 5d

ANOTHER good post. Yesterday we received £70 10s, almost the same as the day before.

This is a real indication that our comrades are fighting hard for our paper and they won't be disappointed. We shall be publishing some very good news tomorrow which we think will make every one of our readers extremely happy.

With nine days to go we need to raise £598 14s 7d. Keep up the pace and send us in the largest possible donation you can over the weekend.

Post it to:
Workers Press
Appeal Fund,
186A Clapham High Street,
London, SW4.

May jobless: Most since 1940

THE LATEST figures on unemployment issued yesterday show the highest May level since 1940.

On May 11, the number of wholly unemployed was 579,235 which is 2.5 per cent of the total number of employees, compared to 2.3 per cent in May last year.

The response of the Labour government to these figures will undoubtedly be to emphasize the fact that this is the first time unemployment has fallen below 600,000 this year and 37,420 less than last month.

However, the June edition of 'Management Today' makes clear that the response of the employers to the wages offensive will mean higher unemployment—disguised in coming months because of the normal seasonal demand for labour.

It warns that bankruptcies and business failures are on the increase as companies are hit by rising labour costs and tight credit facilities.

In larger companies the government's retreat from anti-union legislation has accelerated the drive for productivity and 'the trend to shed labour to offset wage increases will accelerate'.

DOMINATES

While the worsening economic crisis dominates every party's election campaign, none will speak out on the developments which must take place later this year.

As the 'Financial Times' comments: 'Once the pre-election boom has run its course, the road to rising unemployment will become plain'.

Pay claim justified says N.U.T.

THE NATIONAL Union of Teachers said yesterday that the 2.1-point increase in the cost of living index in April completely justified the union's claim for a £135 interim increase from April 1 this year.

The union was commenting on the DEP's cost-of-living figures which shows the biggest month-to-month increase since the retail prices index began in its present form five years ago.

The NUT said that the April index represented an increase since July 1967 of 16.7 per cent, while their own projection had been 16.6 per cent—errors disputed by the management side.

What the NUT omitted to explain was why the teachers finally won only £120. The leadership's refusal to mobilize for an all-out strike, despite the willingness of the members to fight, means that teachers have suffered a wage cut.

New P.O. pay claim

NOTICE that the Union of Post Office Workers would be pressing later this year for a substantial pay increase for its 200,000 members was given at the union's Isle of Man conference yesterday.

The size of the demand, said the UPW executive, had not yet been decided.

Socialist Labour League
PUBLIC MEETING
For working-class action to defeat
American imperialism in
Vietnam and Cambodia
Sunday, May 24, 7.30 p.m.
Beaver Hall (near Mansion House tube)
Speaker:
MIKE BANDA, Editor of Workers Press
admission 2s

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The proposed scheme would work as follows: FIRSTLY a panel is set up

which draws up a description of each job on a site—the operations it covers and the tasks involved.

These are: physical skills (including degree of exertion), mental skills and acquired knowledge, responsibility and job environment (exposure and discomfort involved in the job and risk of accidents).

It is not proposed that every job is looked at in this way.

Certain tasks will be examined in detail and then used as standards or 'benchmarks' and other similar jobs will be compared with these.

THIRDLY, points are awarded for certain qualities associated with these requirements.

For example under physical skills, using a five-point scale, a heavy job might be awarded five points, a job which requires continuous effort but is not excessively heavy might be given three points, while a light job might be given one point.

Regarding the rating system—the method by which each member of the panel expresses

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The request, sent to Mr Maurice Alton, the Council's chairman, followed a three-hour meeting at the Home Office where Callaghan discussed the tour with Council members.

In his letter, Callaghan gave five reasons for his request.

'We have had particularly in mind the possible impact

on relations with other Commonwealth countries, race relations in this country and the divisive effect on the community. Another matter for concern is the effect on the Commonwealth Games.

I have taken into account too the position of the police; there is no doubt as to their ability to cope with any situation which might arise, but a tour of this nature would mean diverting police resources on a large scale from their essential ordinary duties.'

But of course, Callaghan has still made no move to ban the tour.

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However most strikers remained solidly out today in the face of continued attempts to create a split which would force them back to work on Pilkington's terms.

Even the company's estimate of the number who went into its six factories this morning—a figure which was again described by the strikers as highly inflated—dropped by over 100.

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New P.O. pay claim

NOTICE that the Union of Post Office Workers would be pressing later this year for a substantial pay increase for its 200,000 members was given at the union's Isle of Man conference yesterday.

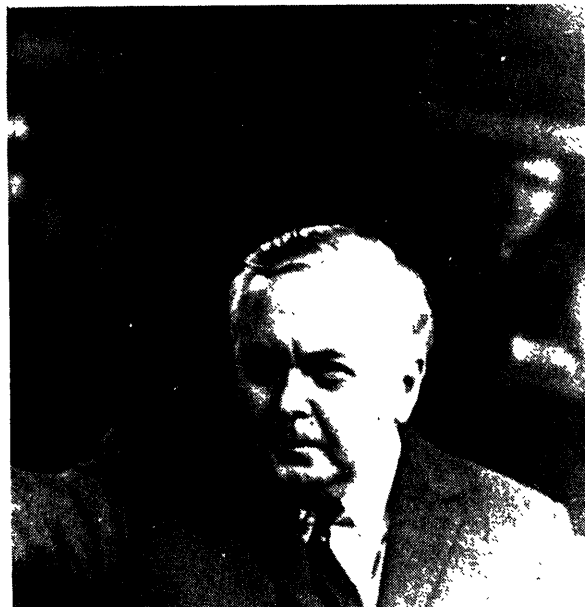
The size of the demand, said the UPW executive, had not yet been decided.

Socialist Labour League
PUBLIC MEETING
For working-class action to defeat
American imperialism in
Vietnam and Cambodia
Sunday, May 24, 7.30 p.m.
Beaver Hall (near Mansion House tube)
Speaker:
MIKE BANDA, Editor of Workers Press
admission 2s

As June 18 approaches Workers Press will be talking to members of the labour movement from all over Britain about the general election. Below, three trade unionists from Merseyside—all of whom have first-hand experience of the problems of unemployment, closures and productivity deals which plague the area—give their views about the issues in the election and of the past five-and-a-half years of Labour government.

HARRY SHULT is a member of the Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers' Liverpool district committee and sits on the executive of the Huyton, Prescot and Kirkby Trades Council.

A life-long Labour Party member and now delegate from Kirkby AEF No. 2 branch to the Constituency Labour Party which sent Harold Wilson to Westminster in 1964, he told the Workers Press:



HAROLD WILSON: 'Turned a somersault...'

'If the Labour Party is returned to power in the election that's coming up, it won't be on account of its policies, but because of a threat of a Tory government if they get back...'

WHEN WE returned a Labour government under what was thought was Wilson's left-wing leadership, for the first time there was a feeling in the constituencies that we could expect socialist policies.

I would now say that he has turned a somersault on the constitution and principles of the Party on every issue; from Vietnam to the incomes policy. His filtration with capitalism will be the downfall of the Labour government—as MacDonald's and Attlee's were—and has already been responsible for the overturn of Labour councils all over the country.

If the Labour Party is returned to power in the election that's coming up it won't be on account of its policies, but because of the threat from a Tory government if they get back.

The Common Market's certainly going to be a big issue and our MP, Wilson, is as determined to push us into it as the Tories. But everyone can see from the wave of strikes there's been in Italy, France and Germany that it's not all roses by any means after 12 years of it.

On Merseyside we've always had a particular problem with a

high rate of unemployment.

Even during the boom we had 13,000 or so out and since the advent of productivity deals and the rationalization of companies—used to dismiss workers from their jobs—we've had one of the highest rates in the country.

Workers must realize that instead of selling hard-won conditions they must press the employers for wage claims out of their profits with no strings.

Cammell-Laird's had productivity deals and now the labour force is practically half what it was. The same thing happened in Fisher-Ludlow's and about 300 went out in six months. After the rationalization at

English-Electric you've even got factories being shut down.

Mechanization on the docks is cutting down the labour force and giving the employers 50-100 per cent more output from half the men.

This won't be solved by the government's regional policy and their regional boards; we have to deal with the immediate problem. Anyway, the whole regional policy could fall down if the government changes.

When they build new factories stocked with new equipment they're only employing half the jobs that are needed and the young boys leaving school in particular can't be accommodated.

In the case of some factories built under the development policy in recent years—again, Fisher-Ludlow's, where they make the dearest washing-machines, is a good example—there are now more redundancies because people can't afford these goods now.

How do we stop the rot?

We have proved that workers can run industry; the trade union movement itself is a bigger organization than any industry in the country. Trade unionists must demand total nationalization of all the industries—in line with Clause 4 of the Labour Party's constitution—with full workers' control, not 'participation'.

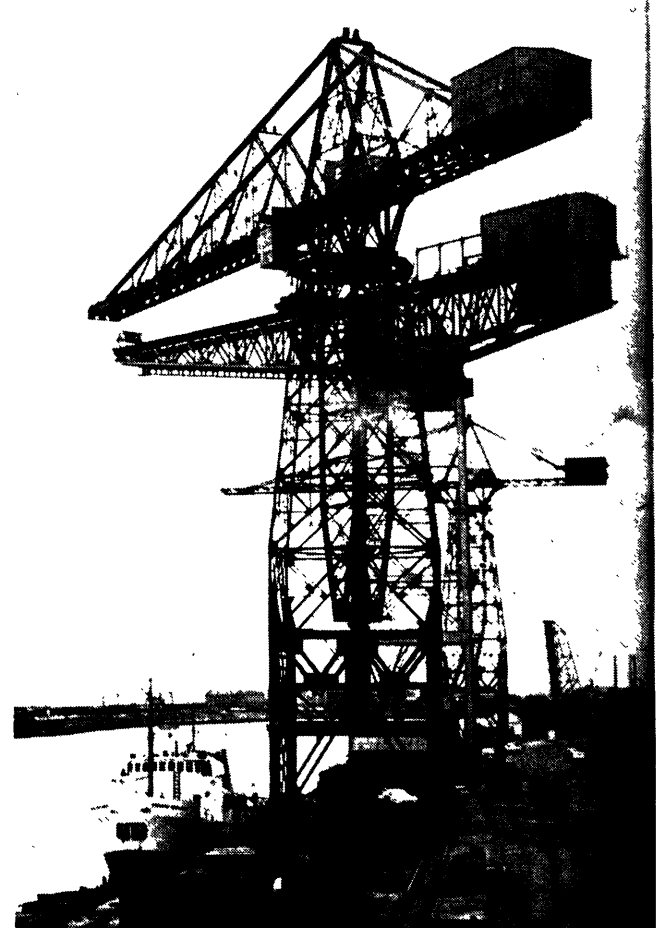
It's only through this that we can achieve a socialist system and the socialist state that members of the Labour Party expected from Wilson's first election.



Unions and labour

'The decline in support for Labour at local level—they lost control here in the council election just recently—is due to a lack of policy on any of these issues. No worker is ever inspired to say he stands by the policies of the Labour Party...'

FRANK GALE, secretary of the Birkenhead branch of the Constructional Engineering Union and delegate to the Birkenhead Trades Council, said:



'If these shipyards are to be bolstered up they must first produce things that people need...'

MY ATTITUDE to the election is that there will be a pro-Labour vote because workers are opposed to the idea of the Tories getting back.

While we're going to have to return Wilson and company, I think we've got to stress our strong political differences with them and continue building up strong rank-and-file activity for socialist policies.

This is a different position because we know parliament can't be an instrument of socialist advance. In fact the ruling class itself might drop the whole idea of parliamentary democracy; the more we put the pressure on the more they're going to have to resist by other means.

What this indicates is the need for a revolutionary party. The situation at Cammell-Laird's here shows the sort of problem facing those on the left who know that the shipbuilding crisis is simply a reflection of the crisis facing capitalism internationally.

It's difficult to talk about resolving this in a principled way since all the sort of government we've got at the moment can do is give hand-outs—they've done this wherever workers have shown their strength.

Of course we must keep up the pressure for these hand-outs, but they must soon come to an end and workers will see that a much more far-reaching solution is required.

If these shipyards are to be bolstered up they must first produce things that people need. I think many of those in this area who make the error of supporting the Polaris programme are now seeing that this was a flash in the pan.

The decline in support for Labour at a local level—they lost control here in the council election just recently—is due to a lack of policy on any of these issues. No worker is ever inspired to say he stands by the policies of the Labour Party.

And far from correcting this, the Party leadership in this area is moving further and further to the right—they even wanted to congratulate Edward Dell on his performance over Cammell-Laird's!

But on the whole the idea that our problems can be solved at local level has fallen completely flat.

We must support the call for nationalization of the industries as a step in the direction of what we require, but without workers' organizations taking action there's a danger we'll just be inheriting all the backlog.

Our branch has in fact supported the Young Socialists' call to go all out for a return of a Labour government against the Tory policies while pointing out all the time our differences with the Labour leaders.

We congratulated them on their recent Scarborough conference.

JOHN HARRIS, an Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers' shop steward from Liverpool's Otis Elevator factory, told the Workers Press:

'What impresses me is that young people are seeing the need for a socialist government...'

I WOULD say that it's the duty of every worker to return a Labour government in the general election.

If we don't do this the trade union movement will be crucified by Tory laws. We'll be back to 1906; they'll make us serfs.

What impresses me is that young people are seeing the need for a socialist government.

We've got to stop mergers, pay more attention to the pro-

blem of poverty—many workers are still on very low rates of pay. At the same time we must halt the arms build-up and end the government's support for wars in other countries.

The problems of companies like Cammell-Laird's are the creation of the people who own them—they should be nationalized.

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The Transitional Programme adopted by the Fourth International at the Fourth International Conference of the Fourth International

A SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE PAMPHLET

FRIDAY TV

BBC 1	ITV	REGIONAL ITV
9.40-11.45 a.m. Schools. 12.25 p.m. Cymru'n galw. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Banana splits. 5.35 Junior points of view. 5.44 Adventures of Parsley. 5.50 News and weather. 6.00 Entertainment with Kerr. 6.25 Television top of the form. 6.45 The Virginian. 7.55 Culture ventures: Leslie Phillips in 'Spring Fever'. 8.25 Dick Emery show: With guest Sandie Shaw. 8.50 News and weather. 9.10 The Forsyte Saga: 'A Silent Wooing'. 10.00 Tony Blackburn's cinema. 10.30 24 hours. 11.05 Something to hide: 'The Studio'—the second play in Arden Winch's trilogy. 11.30 Weather.	11.00 a.m.-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.20 Anatomy of first aid. 4.40 Zingalong. 4.55 Atom Ant. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 News. 6.03 Today. 6.30 Peyton Place. 7.00 Wheel of fortune. 7.30 Gunsmoke: 'Cattle Barons'. 8.30 Doctor in the house: 'The Royal Visit'. 9.00 Manhunt: 'Degrade and Rule'. 10.00 News. 10.30 Two shot golf introduced by Sean Connery: Tony Jacklin v Doug Sanders. 11.00 Aquarius introduced by Humphrey Burton: A look at the Cannes film festival. 11.45 Out of town. 12.05 a.m. Trends or gimmicks?	CHANNEL: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.02 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.13 Enchanted house. 4.20 Ghost and Mrs Muir. 4.55 Captain Scarlet. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Channel report. 6.55 Crossroads. 7.00 Carrousel time. 7.05 Dr in the house. 7.35 Movie of the week: 'The Over-the-Hill Gang' with Pat O'Brien and Walter Brennan. 9.00 London. 10.30 Finders seekers. 11.00 London. 11.40 News, weather in French, weather.
11.00-11.20 a.m. Play school. 7.05 p.m. Heritage: 'The High Cost of Cheap Food'. 7.30 News and weather. 8.00 Wheelbase: World Cup rally—Rio to Santiago. 8.25 The spoils of Poynton: 'Retribution'. 9.10 World cinema: 'David and Lisa' with Keir Dullea and Janet Margolin. Two young people at a school for disturbed adolescents gain one another's confidence and establish a genuine friendship. 10.45 Line-up.	WESTWARD. As Channel except: 4.00 News. 4.02 Gus Honeybun show. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sports desk. 11.45 Faith for life. 11.51 Weather.	ULSTER: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Lost in space. 5.30 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Cinema: 'His Great To Be Young' with John Mills and Cecil Parker. Comedy musical about a music master (Mills) whose sacking leads to a mass strike by the pupils. 8.30 London. 10.30 Sportscast. 10.55 Friday night with Charles Cooper. 11.00 London.
All regions as BBC 1 except: Midlands and East Anglia: 6.00-6.25 Midlands today. Look East, weather. 11.32 News, weather. Weekend prospects for anglers. Road works report. North of England: 6.00-6.25 Look North, weather. 11.32 News, weather. Wales: 12 noon-1.30 Cricket. 1.30-1.45 Ar lin man. 6.00-6.25 Wales today, weather. 6.45 Heddiw. 7.05 Dyna wall. 7.30 Week in week out. 7.55-8.25 International amateur boxing: Wales v Ireland. 10.00-10.30 Llygaid y geiniog. 11.32 Weather. Scotland: 6.00 Reporting Scotland. 6.15-6.25 General Assembly. 8.25-8.50 Current account. 11.32 News, weather. Northern Ireland: 6.00-6.25 Scene around six, weather. 11.32 News, weather. South and West: 6.00-6.25 Points West. South today. Spotlight South-West, weather. 11.32 News, weather. Weekend road works report.	YORKSHIRE: 11.00-3.00 London. 3.55 Houseparty. 4.10 Better driving. 4.25 Matinee. 4.50 Rainbow country. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Wheel of fortune. 7.00 'Rhapsody' with Elizabeth Taylor, Vittorio Gassman and John Ericson, a young concert pianist falls in love and has second thoughts about his musical career. 9.00 London. 10.30 Yorksport. 11.00 London. 11.45 Weather.	
	HARLECH: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.20 Wind in the willows. 4.35 Junkin. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report. 6.10 Bugs Bunny. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Strange Cargo' with Clark Gable and Joan Crawford. Eight men prepare their escape from a penal colony. 9.00 London. 10.30 Funny you should ask. 11.00 London. 11.45 Weather.	GRANADA: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.15 News. Zingalong. 4.25 Short story. 4.55 Newsview. 6.02 Songs from the Two Brewers. 6.30 Gilligan's island. 7.00 Saint. 7.55 Dr. in the house. 8.25 Branded. 8.50 Put it in writing. 9.00 London. 10.30 Whiplash. 11.00 London.
	HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 as above except: 11.00 Y ddyd. 11.30 Hyd a lled. 12 midnight weather.	TYNE TEES: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.08 p.m. Newsroom. 4.10 Better driving. 4.40 London. 4.55 Cowboy in Africa. 5.30 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.30 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 7.30 Dr in the house. 8.00 It takes a thief. 9.00 London. 10.30 Aquarius. 11.15 Monster movies: 'Paranoia' with Janet Scott and Oliver Reed.
	HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 6.01 Y ddyd. 6.30-6.35 Report Wales.	BORDER: 2.00-2.37 London. 4.00 News. Zingalong. 4.15 Jug. 4.40 London. 4.55 Lost in space. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Roundabout. 7.35 Bracken's world. 8.30 Dear Mother. Love Albert. 9.00 London. 11.45 News.
	ANGLIA: 10.58-3.00 London. 4.25 Newsroom. 4.35 Romper room. 4.55 Lost in space. 5.30 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Survival. 7.30 It takes a thief. 8.30 London. 10.30 Aquarius. 11.30 'Dark Eyes of London' with Bela Lugosi. A series of well-insured victims are found in the river. 12.31 Reflection.	SCOTTISH: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.20 Scotland early. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Phoenix Ave. 5.25 Lone Ranger. 5.50 London. 6.00 Scotland now. 6.20 Sincerely Bernadette. 7.00 London. 7.30 Name of the game. 9.00 London. 10.30 Name of the game. 11.00 London. 11.45 Epilogue.
	ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.00 Women today. 4.10 Peyton Place. 4.40 London. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 London. 6.00 ATV today. 6.55 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 Champions. 8.30 London. 10.30 That girl. 11.00 Aquarius. 11.45 Midland member. Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey de Freitas. 12.03 Pulse, weather.	GRAMPIAN: 10.58-3.00 London. 4.25 Survival. 4.55 Land of the giants. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Why on earth. 6.30 Room 222. 7.00 London. 7.30 Saint. 8.30 Calum's ceiling. 9.00 London. 10.30 Points north. 11.00 London. 11.45 Epilogue.

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AN EVALUATION of Ho Chi Minh's political role during nearly half a century at the head of the Vietnamese revolution can only be made with an understanding of Stalinism which has dominated and held back its whole course.

Lacouture has been unable to make such an analysis because his approach does not allow him to penetrate beneath the most superficial of appearances.

For Lacouture Stalinism as a political force does not exist.

His biography does not measure up to the work of the more acute bourgeois observers who have some understanding of the history of collusion between the Stalinist bureaucracy and imperialism.

The author's method is revealed by his own statement that in analysing Ho Chi Minh's ideology: 'I will quote from friends and foes alike; and then I shall try to work out a "middle-of-the-road" interpretation.'

Eclecticism

This eclecticism lies behind a major mistake in the book.

Lacouture is wrong when he says that a democratic peace and a 'neutral' position—which is itself nonsense—could at any time be achieved in Vietnam by negotiations with imperialism.

This held true for both occasions when Ho was involved in attempts to reach such a settlement—within the French Union (empire) from 1945 to 1946 and through the Geneva talks of 1954.

Lacouture ignores Stalinism's record in Vietnam

through the 1954 Geneva conference.

Of the protracted negotiations between Ho and the French government from 1945 to 1946 he says:

... in the whole of this drawn-out attempt to guarantee bloodless revolution in friendly accord with the colonial power,



BOOK REVIEW
HO CHI MINH
By Jean Lacouture
Pelican pp. 272 7s

reviewed by
PETER REID

conditions, unacceptable to the other side.

Stalinism always seeks to blunt and destroy the struggle of the working class whenever it offers a decisive challenge to capitalism.

Lacouture's comment that '... to his credit he [Ho] spoke like a man who anticipated that the [Geneva] agreement would be adhered to in the main' misses the mark completely.

Compromise

On these decisive questions the author's naive pragmatism leads him to mask over Stalinism's betrayal in horse-trading for a compromise with imperialism, and conversely, that the forward development of the Vietnamese revolution is dependent on a break from Stalinism.

Lacouture, of course, is bewildered by Ho's retention of his

leading positions after the crucial events of 1946-1947 and after 1954.

A few empty phrases such as Ho's 'incredible vitality' and 'the affection of the ordinary people' are used in place of an explanation of the workings of the Stalinist bureaucracy and Ho's loyal service to it as a mediator between the Vietnamese working class and imperialism.

Lacouture's rejection of a class analysis reduces his evaluation of Ho Chi Minh on occasions to the level of the crassest idealism.

A statement made by a US officer in 1965 is quoted as evidence 'which nobody is likely to dispute':

'What keeps the guerrillas fighting, and the peasants supporting them, is the magic surrounding the name of Ho Chi Minh.'

When he dies 'the Vietcong's resistance will crumble for lack of inspiration'.

The limitations of Lacouture's method of analysis means that the light he throws onto Ho's career is somewhat accidental to his intentions.

Nevertheless the detailed narrative—especially that of the diplomatic manoeuvrings—is of some value.

The most useful section of the book describes the protracted negotiations with the de Gaulle government before and after the March 1946 agreement, although the essential background for an understanding of that period is omitted.

Conspiracy

Ho took his cue from Stalin's post-war conspiracy with imperialism to head off revolution everywhere outside the territories occupied by the Red Army.

He therefore demanded no more than 'independence within the framework of the French Union', even though after the collapse of the occupying Japanese forces the Vietminh were effectively in control of the country.

Ho tried for months to negotiate more precise conditions for

this mythical 'independence' to replace the vague promises of a 'free state' that he had been fobbed off with.

The French government used this time to reverse their weak military position in Indo-China.

Ho called on the population to welcome the French troops moving in to take over strategic positions!

All those who fought for the unconditional independence of Vietnam were crushed in the interest of establishing a 'Franco-Vietnamese democratic front'.

Numerous Trotskyists were killed and Ho said of the murder of the leading Trotskyist, Ta Thu Thau:

'All those who do not follow the line I have laid down will be broken'. This was the authentic voice of Stalinism.

Ho was not only faced with the opposition of leading political opponents.

The Hanoi workers' reaction to the March 1946 agreement is described as 'cold and suspicious'.

Lacouture, who was in Hanoi at that time, writes of the mood in the city just before Ho spoke to a mass rally justifying the treaty:

'Our ears rang with the charges which had been levelled in the streets of Hanoi for the past 24 hours (that he was a traitor... a Communist who had sold his country into the hands of his French comrades).'

Even after hostilities broke out in the last days of 1946, Ho sent appeal after appeal to the French government for their cessation.

He said later that the only reply he received was that his letters were believed to bear a forged signature and were for that slender reason not considered.

Sacking

The sacking of the French Communist Party ministers by Prime Minister Ramadier in May 1947 soon brought contact with de Gaulle's government to an end.

One episode epitomizes this period.

Bao Dai, later to become puppet 'emperor' under the re-established French rule, was appointed a senior adviser to the Vietminh government as a 'symbol of our will to remain within the framework of the French Union'.

He soon tired of his post and moved to Hong Kong to begin a social life which attracted the attentions of the gossip columnists.

Ho wrote to Bao Dai: 'Do not forget that you symbolize Vietnam and its history. Let your life be worthy of the name which you bear, of the land which we share.'

Lacouture aptly comments: 'It is as though Robespierre were writing to a Louis XVI who had avoided arrest at Varennes and inherited the tastes of Louis XV.'



BAO DAI

Lacouture's idealist method is responsible for his making a factual error about an important aspect of the 1946-1947 events.

He argues that Ho was encouraged in his efforts to come to terms with de Gaulle's government because a third of it was composed of French Communist Party (PCF) deputies and another third of socialist deputies.

In what is intended to be supporting evidence for this contention, the PCF's 'colonial line' is wrongly described as 'undecided'.

The 'Indo-China Chronology' published in Workers Press on Thursday, May 7 removed all doubt on this score.

PCF general secretary Thorez amply fulfilled his boast that he had not the 'slightest intention of being held responsible for a sell-out of France's position in Indo-China'.

Re-establish

The PCF deputies several times voted for the war credits, the bulk of which were designated to pay for the Expeditionary Corps dispatched to re-establish French rule over Vietnam.

The same men, on December 20, 1946, voted for a National Assembly motion congratulating General Leclerc for his offensive against the Vietnamese.

The Stalinist ministers were to remain in the Cabinet for another five months after this time and were eventually removed over another issue.

To ignore Stalinism's record in relation to Vietnam, as Lacouture does, while writing a biography of Ho Chi Minh is rather like a surgeon who proceeds solely on the basis of the external appearance of his patient and will not ask about as much effectiveness.

REVOLUTION

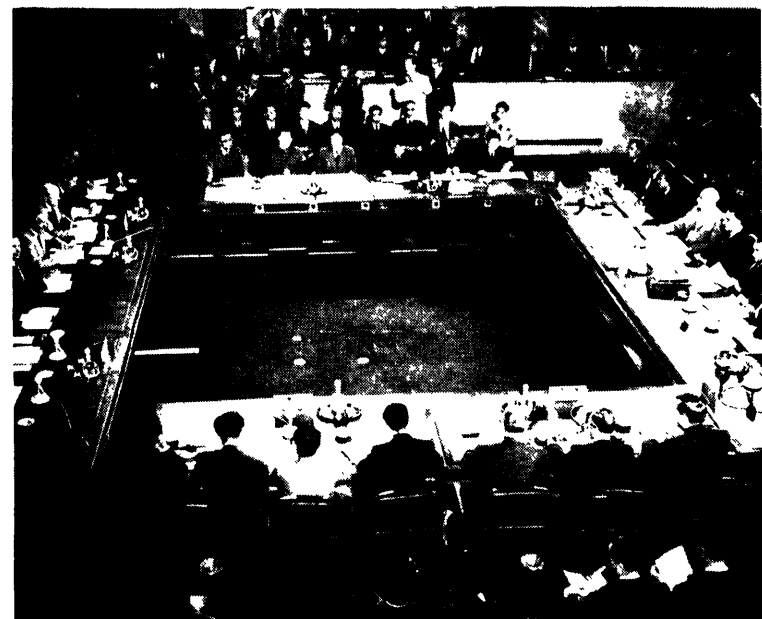
WHAT IS THE SOVIET UNION AND WHERE IS IT GOING?
TROTSKY

BETRAYED

Available from New Park Publications Ltd, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.



The Geneva Conference (below) paved the way for the puppet regime of Diem (seen left with US ambassador to S Vietnam, Cabot Lodge).



As a Workers Press editorial insisted, as Marxists have always done, several months before the breakdown of the Paris talks following the escalation of the war into Cambodia:

... the imperialist leopard does not change its spots—or its appetite—even when it agrees to sit down at a conference table with its colonial victim.'

The Vietnamese revolution, developing in line with the Permanent Revolution, inevitably comes into violent conflict with imperialism.

As in the other colonial countries the struggle of the Vietnamese workers and peasants against imperialism poses at first 'bourgeois-democratic' tasks—land distribution, democratic rights and national self-determination.

Unable

But the Vietnamese bourgeoisie is so weak and dependent on imperialism that it is unable to carry through these tasks.

The working class is therefore the only class which can give leadership to the peasant masses to achieve these demands.

Because this is so, socialist tasks are on the historical agenda, tasks which can only be consolidated when the Vietnamese revolution merges with the world socialist revolution.

Lacouture's account flies in the face of this conception as he believes that a democratic peace could have been achieved within the French empire and later

these are the hours which do him [Ho] most credit.'

Lacouture maintains that the French leaders made a 'mistake' because they did not realize how far Ho would relinquish claims to sovereignty in return for the unification of his country.

The events surrounding the 1954 Geneva conference are treated in the same spirit.

Defeat

The French occupying forces were withdrawn in April 1954 after their military position had been shown to be untenable by the decisive defeat at Dien Bien Phu in the previous month.

The Vietminh were then the only effective power in the country.

The Soviet bureaucracy agreed at Geneva to the partitioning of Vietnam into North and South even though the United States had made its intentions clear by its refusal to sign the agreement which was to exclude all foreign military forces from the South along with the promise of elections to decide the question of reunification by 1956!

Ho acted out his part in implementing this compromise, through which the Soviet bureaucracy worked to continue its co-existence with imperialism.

He wrote to his comrades in the South, soon to be exposed to the savagery of the US puppet regime of Diem, that they must 'be capable of enduring the present' and argued that they must not 'put forward excessive

Here comes the judge (No.3)

LAST WEEK'S unanimous vote in the Senate approving the nomination to the Supreme Court of Judge Harry Blackmun brought to an end an unprecedented period of bitter political infighting.

This not only kept a Supreme Court seat vacant for the longest time since the Civil War, but has made Nixon the only President this century to have two successive nominations rejected by the Senate.

Nixon made it clear during the 1968 election campaign that he wanted to change the complexion of the court, attacked by Republicans for its 'liberalism' on questions of 'law and order', civil rights and desegregation.

It has become conventional to divide the Court's judges into 'liberals' and 'conservatives'.

Divisions

This covers narrow but nonetheless important divisions of opinion on capitalist law, especially over civil rights and the trade unions.

The so-called 'liberalism' of the Court can be judged from one decision last month.

Justice Hugo Black ruled that a criminal defendant can lose his right to be physically present at his trial, may be cited for contempt or be bound and gagged in court for 'unruly behaviour'.

This decision relates directly to the Chicago conspiracy trial ending in March which was made notorious by Judge Julius Hoffman.

US Round-up

His draconian measures to control the defence included the binding and gagging in court of one of the defendants—Black Panther leader Bobby Seale.

Nixon began his campaign against the Court by securing the resignation last May of Judge Abe Fortas through a calculated 'leak' by the Attorney General's office of the Judge's remote association with a man convicted later of stock manipulation.

The retiring Chief Justice Earl Warren was replaced by a safe conservative, Judge Burger.

The line-up on the Court was thereby changed from six 'liberals' to three 'conservatives' to an even four-four—who deadlocked over several issues—and one vacancy.

Nixon's first nomination for this was Judge Haynsworth who drew the opposition of the AFL-CIO (the US counterpart of the TUC) for his anti-labour decisions and his record in civil rights cases.

Evidence

The Senate rejected Haynsworth after hearing evidence that he had presided over a case involving a company in which he had substantial share holdings.

Judge Carswell, also a Southerner, was Nixon's second and more disastrous nomination.

During the Senate Judicial Committee hearings his claims to have 'forgotten' being involved in turning a Florida golf course into a whites-only establishment were completely exposed.

Carswell's nomination was defeated by the Senate, his opponents showing that the longer he stayed on the bench the more appeals were being successfully made against his judgements.

Senator Fulbright, having previously supported Haynsworth and then Carswell, was forced to change his mind, declaring that Carswell was 'simply not up to the job'.

Nixon's third nominee was the successful candidate, Judge Harry Blackmun whose qualifications, stockholdings and origin—Minnesota, safely outside the South—were finally acceptable to the Senate.



JUDGE CARSWELL

Union-sponsored Negro mayor calls in National Guard on Teamsters

THE TEAMSTERS (lorry drivers) in their recent unofficial strikes had to face not only the vicious harassment by police and National Guardsmen, but the intervention of Cleveland's mayor Carl Stokes—a Negro Democrat.

At one stage more than 72,000 teamsters were out, closing down trucking traffic in key areas like Los Angeles, St Louis, Pittsburg and Ohio.

A roving patrol system was set up by the Ohio teamsters able at very short notice to mobilize 300 strikers to stop any scab lorries in the area.

The same National Guardsmen who shot down the four Kent University students on May 4 had previously been used in a vain attempt to break the teamsters' picket lines.

It was Cleveland mayor Carl Stokes who called together

mayors from Ohio's cities and on their behalf requested state governor Rhodes to call out the National Guard to break the strike.

Stokes, who complained about the 'violence' of the strikers, was put into office with the full support of the AFL-CIO.

His actions show once again the anti-working class nature of the Democratic Party.

The US Stalinists, who are trying to promote a 'people's anti-monopoly coalition' around Democrats such as Stokes, denounced Governor Rhodes for sending in the National Guard.

But their paper 'Daily World' carefully covered up for Stokes. It did not report that Rhodes acted in response to Stokes' call, but only that Stokes had called the mayor's meeting to discuss 'means of ending the strike'.

Jobs figures UP wages DOWN

THE AFL-CIO last week attacked the 'bankrupt' economic policy of the Administration and was especially critical of the unemployment rate which last month jumped to 4.8 per cent from 4.4 per cent in March.

This was the sharpest month-to-month rise since the mild recession of 1960 and compares with 3.5 per cent at the beginning of the year.

As the April figures have already exceeded the Administration's estimates for 1970 as a whole Nixon's aides now claim that they will feel 'severe disappointment' if unemployment rises over 5.5 per cent by the year's end.

Unemployment

The March-April jump in unemployment hit Negro workers hardest of all, so that 87 out of every 1,000 black workers are now unemployed.

While amongst the youth under 20, four out of every 25 are out of work.

Nixon's concern with the rising militancy of the working class in the face of these problems was reflected in the unexpected visit he paid to AFL-CIO President George Meany last week.

Meany's attack on the bankruptcy of the Administration's policy significantly came after what one US newspaper described as 'the warm and friendly reception Mr Nixon received from Mr Meany' and his executive council.

During the discussion the executive repeated its willingness to agree to wage controls if Nixon imposed similar constraints on prices, profits, dividends and rents. Like their British counter-

parts the AFL-CIO leaders put forward a programme whose Utopian character is re-emphasized daily by the deepening economic crisis.

They even advocate the selective allocation of credit 'to where it will do most good for America'—as if Nixon, by a simple remedy, could do what he has signally failed to do, that is, revive a stagnating economy while reigning in the galloping inflation.



NIXON

This is being seen for the nonsense it is by more and more workers who now face lower average incomes than four years ago.

This fall in real wages began at the same time as the escalation of the fighting in Vietnam.

This cannot but speed the movement of the US working class into the struggle against the Indo-Chinese war.

Cambodian invasion denounced Danger of third world war-Mao

BY ROBERT BLACK

IN ONE of his rare political statements, Mao Tse-tung has denounced the US invasion of Cambodia and warned of the dangers of third world war.

Broadcast on Wednesday by Peking Radio, Mao's statement called on the Indo-Chinese to fight 'a protracted people's war' against US imperialism.

Mao expressed his support for the Cambodian government in exile, formed by the deposed Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and his confidence in the final victory of the Indo-Chinese peoples over imperialism.

'A weak nation can defeat a strong one, a small nation can defeat a big one. The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country if only they dare to rise in struggle, take up arms, and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country. This is a law of history.'

Threat

There is another law of history also operating in SE Asia—the drive of imperialism towards world war. Mao—quite correctly—drew attention to this threat:

'The danger of a new world war still exists, and the people of all countries must get prepared. But revolution is the main trend in the world today.'

Mao's firm statement contrasts vividly with the latest utterances of the Soviet bureaucracy, which, apart from a few vague references to 'threats to peace' by Nixon, have been directed at China.

On Monday, 'Pravda' carried a 5,000-word attack on the Chinese CP leadership, the most vicious since the Sino-Soviet border talks began in Peking seven months ago.

China's leaders were accused of 'great-power hegemonistic ambitions'.

Editorial

The unsigned editorial accused the Mao leadership of fostering a war crisis in South East Asia, not Nixon.

'Whenever the international situation deteriorates (i.e. whenever US imperialism launched a new offensive against the semi-colonial peoples), the Peking leadership tried to aggravate it and push the world towards the war which Mao Tse-tung had declared was inevitable.'

This is a classic Stalinist slander.

In fact, as his latest statement shows, Mao has warned against the dangers of world war, emphasizing that it can be averted by revolutionary action:

'... but revolution is the main trend in the world today' [not the forces of war].

'Pravda' charged China's leaders with having 'actually opened a front of struggle against the world socialist system'.

Nixon, apparently, is not guilty of such a crime.

Slander

Following their brief and enforced 'left' manoeuvre after the US invasion of Cambodia, the Soviet Stalinists are quickly redressing the balance with a renewed slander campaign against the Chinese Communist Party leadership.

Behind this smokescreen of lies, new approaches can be made to Nixon.

In fact, the Soviet bureaucracy's strategy of peaceful co-existence with imperialism is one of the biggest single factors in permitting capitalism to mount a third world war.

Firm working-class action in all the major imperialist countries is the only effective defence of the workers' states, and the surest way of blocking the imperialist drive towards a third—and last—world war.

Telecontrol agreement near at C.A.V.?

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

REPRESENTATIVES of management at the Acton, London, factory of CAV Ltd met shop stewards on Wednesday to outline the company's proposals for the Acton site.

The proposals are believed to involve a 30 per cent increase in output based on a thoroughgoing rationalization of the factory.

The main element in the rationalization is, of course, the telecontrol system—the 'spy-on-the-machine' which allows management to monitor each worker minute by minute and record details of work and output.

According to management figures, the overall introduction of telecontrol at Acton could raise output by 30 per cent, or allow the present amount of work to be carried out with 250 fewer operators.

EVADED

Management spokesmen at the meeting are believed to have evaded questions about redundancies as a result of telecontrol.

Few of the stewards appear to have raised any serious challenge to the management's plans and the atmosphere at the meeting is believed to have been 'genial'.

In direct contradiction to previous statements by leading stewards, the management appears to regard the £1 interim rise won some weeks ago as a down-payment on the introduction of telecontrol.

Leading stewards are thought not to have challenged this although they have maintained that the £1 was part of the factory claim.

WORTHLESS

All management guarantees about redundancies must be thoroughly questioned.

The aim of increased output and efficiency is to produce more with less labour.

Use of the term 'natural wastage' is also dangerously misleading. It means that people who leave, retire or die are not replaced, and that others take on their duties.

The future employment of young workers is not for sale. Telecontrol will allow management to make full use of departmental productivity deals and introduce a general speed-up.

Conditions will inevitably deteriorate and discipline will tighten.

Any increases gained in exchange for the introduction of this system will be swiftly eroded by rising prices, rents and fares, but the changes will bring permanent benefits to the CAV management.

CAV directors have recently been given rises of £2,000 each. No question of productivity is known to have been involved in this substantial pay rise.

Workers at Acton must instruct their shop stewards to fight for the factory claim: £6 a week for men, £8 for women and girls without strings.

There must be no sell-out on telecontrol, which must be completely rejected and kept out of the factory.

Albania trades with Greek butchers

FOR THE first time since the Second World War, an Albanian trade delegation was to arrive in Athens yesterday, following the recently signed trade agreement.

Since Albania and Greece are still officially at war, the two countries have no diplomatic relations. But this has not prevented the Albanian leadership, like the Chinese and Soviet leaders, from hastening to establish cordial

NHS and laundry pay for P.I.B.

BY A CORRESPONDENT

MRS Barbara Castle, DEP secretary, has referred to the Prices and Incomes Board the pay and conditions of ancillary workers in the National Health Service and others in laundries, dry cleaning and contract cleaning.

Thousands of women workers will be affected by this investigation into lower-paid sections with a view to raising productivity.



One of the recent workers' demonstrations for government reforms.

Garaudy Tory plot to catch votes

FROM PAGE ONE

preparations for frame-ups in Czechoslovakia, he was booed by the delegates at February's 19th Party Congress for insisting that the Congress should consider the sending of coal by the Polish government to help Franco break the strike of Asturian miners.

Not broken

Garaudy has not, in fact, broken from Stalinism. On Tuesday he pursued — on television — his 'dialogue' with the Church, joining in a discussion programme with the reactionary Jesuit Cardinal Danielou. The leaders of French Stalinism are now trying — by shouting 'anti-communist' as loud and long as possible, and by expelling him, book and candle — to bury the important questions raised in the 'Garaudy affair'.

They must not be allowed to do so.

Czech trials

The report that three Czechs prominent before the Soviet invasion — Vaclav Havel, Ludvik Vaculik and Jan Prochazka — are to be tried on the serious charge of 'conspiracy against the Republic' makes the fight against frame-ups by the Stalinist bureaucracy an urgent one.

This fight can only be waged through the sharpest political battle against those who try, with secret dealings and bureaucratic expulsions, to cover up the international class questions now forcing themselves to the front in W Europe.

Tory plot to catch votes

FROM PAGE ONE

failed to condemn unequivocally this capitalist attack were aiding the witch-hunt and preparing a noose for their own necks.

We make no apologies for our criticisms of the IS group and its spokesman — Terry Barrett — who refused to withdraw the public slander that Rosemary Whipple 'wanted to be victimized'.

Nor do we retract anything we said about the scabby role of the 'Morning Star' and the CP organizers who refused to defend Rosemary Whipple.

Our unconditional defence of these groups against the capitalist witch-hunt has never meant that we keep silent about their duplicity and lack of principle in the face of this witch-hunt.

Unity in action against capitalist attack does not imply a mutual amnesty on political differences.

Our warnings about the CAV-Girling witch-hunt are being proved a thousand times right now by the line of the capitalist press on the Pilkington strike and the S African cricket tour.

The press and its Tory backers know that this election, which is so vital for the Tories, will be decided in the margin seats and, therefore, they have decided to create the maximum confusion and fear in the marginal constituencies around the cricket tour and

Vorster and Banda cement friendship

IT WAS smiles all round at the state banquet held in honour of South African Prime Minister Vorster, currently visiting Malawi at the invitation of its president, Hastings Banda.

Banda, once detained without trial by British imperialism for his activities as an African nationalist, stated:

'To see the head of state of South Africa in my country makes my life worthwhile. Grovelling before the white supremacist Vorster, who holds thousands of anti-apartheid fighters in jail without trial, Banda thanked me for my aid in building Malawi's new capital.'

Accepted

'Leaders of other black African states call me the odd man out in Africa. I don't mind at all. S Africa extended the hand of friendship and we accepted it.'

Vorster, overcome by this praise, replied in similar style:

'S Africa's national anthem never sounded so beautiful as when I heard it in Malawi.'

After Wednesday's banquet at Zomba, Vorster flew with his foreign minister, Dr Hilgard Muller, to the site of the new capital Lilongwe, where they inspected construction work already in progress.

S African exploitation of Malawi labour is the common language that unites black nationalist Banda and white racist Vorster.



S African premier Vorster (left) with Hastings Banda in the Malawi capital Zomba on Wednesday.

Job evaluation threat to building workers

FROM PAGE ONE

his opinion on how important each requirement is — the report states:

'Members of the panel each doing his own rating will not come up with the same answer every time. At first, especially there will be many divergences.'

'But when the members discuss these, they can often reach agreement. If they cannot, their ratings can be averaged.'

Also extra 'weight' would be given to requirements considered more important than others.

List

For example, whereas exertion might be marked out of five points training might be marked out of ten or 15 points because it is considered a much more important quality.

All jobs having been evaluated in this way they are

placed in an ordered list with the jobs with most points at the top and those with the least at the bottom.

At this stage the report explains:

'There can be no question of 100 different rates for 100 jobs, but the whole run of jobs can be divided into say seven or eight grades, with a single rate of pay for all the jobs in each grade.'

This particular points-rating system of job evaluation is regarded by many work-study consultants as the best way of preparing for the introduction of Measured-Day Work into a workplace.

Once the pay structure is rationalized and all extras, bonuses, etc., are consolidated into the basic rate or otherwise eliminated, it is possible to relate the fixed payment remaining to work-study times

and performance standards. This system is also seen by employers as a preparation for the introduction of flexibility of working hours and for the breaking down of demarcation between trades.

Directed

Operatives will be expected to do any job in their grade as directed by management on the basis that the work is all paid at the same rate anyway.

Job evaluation is not a method of increasing wages as the managements and union officials will claim. On the contrary it acts as a spearhead for a campaign by the employers to tie down wages, cut back on jobs and to prepare for a tremendous speed up of all working operations associated with the building industry.

ITALY Tension mounts as strikes end

BY DAVID BARNES

THE FOUR-DAY strike of virtually all public service workers in Italy is scheduled to end today in an atmosphere of rising political tension.

Trade union leaders rejected the offers made by the government at Tuesday's meeting to discuss the demands for sweeping government reforms in housing, health, social services and transport, as well as price curbs on important commodities to halt the rising cost of living.

In addition to the government and state agency employees, POSTAL WORKERS struck this week.

RAILWAYMEN are on strike until this evening, and TEACHERS have also taken action. AGRICULTURAL WORKERS are striking by region against the high levels of unemployment in many rural areas. FIREMEN struck on Wednesday.

REFORM DEMOS

The strike by particular sections of workers on their own claims are more and more closely linked with the general movement of the working class behind the demands for reforms, which have paralysed Italy with a series of regional general strikes in recent weeks.

The government no longer feels able to rule out the possibility that the strike movement, breaking free of the 'responsible' control of the Stalinist and Socialist trade union leaders, may spread to approach a general strike.

The situation is the more tense because all newspapers except those of the extreme right wing are shut down by a week's strike until next Tuesday after the breakdown of negotiations on a new labour contract.

BULLETINS

The Communist Party, and some trade union organizations have started to issue duplicated bulletins. To this the state radio and television channels have responded by devoting themselves even more assiduously than usual to the utterances of Christian Democratic politicians.

The developments of this week are likely to produce a bitterness in the campaign for the June 7 regional elections such as has not been seen in Italy since the period of the Cold War — a bitterness which only palely reflects the sharpening class hostility underneath.

Glass men

FROM PAGE ONE

Mr Pilkington and Mr Bassnett.

Its long-term purpose will be to keep up the pressure for a negotiated settlement of the strike based on acceptance of the company's new productivity scheme tied to reconciliation with the G&MWU.

Similar pressure will undoubtedly be brought to bear by the Trades Union Congress.

On the other side of the coin from the government inquiry is the brutal intervention of the police and the vicious sentences handed out to pickets from the courts.

Feeling was growing amongst strikers today against these attacks from what they now call 'Pilkington's private army'.

Finance

A fund was set up by the strike committee in order to finance appeals by those already sentenced and the defence of those remanded on bail.

Feather's intervention today became the vehicle for press allegations — a blatant 'red herring' — that strike leader Gerry Caughey yesterday misled the strikers about TUC backing for their demands.

The Workers Press has one question for the gentlemen of the press who tried so 'bravely' to trap the strike committee on this at yesterday afternoon's press conference.

When are you going to turn your attentions to Lord Pilkington? Or to the G&MWU — which yesterday elected Harold Norton, the district official responsible for Pilkington's, as its vice-president?

Strikers were also extremely bitter today about attempts in this morning's 'Daily Express' to revive what they described as 'the Red bgey' and accused International Socialist member Ross Hill of assisting the paper in doing this.

Closure fears behind Kent miners' strike

1,200 miners at the Snowdown Pit near Canterbury are on strike after deciding at a mass meeting on Tuesday evening to take action over three men put on to day wage instead of contract work.

This involves a loss of some £2 a shift for the men concerned.

Prior to a visit from representatives of the Kent area National Coal Board headquarters, pit officials had found that the men were behind on their production targets.

One of the three men in fact was off at the time because he had fractured a finger when a girder fell in the pit.

Together with the recent change of management at Tilmanstone and Betteshanger pits, the men suspect that this is an early warning of attempts to close another Kent pit.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

SW LONDON
Tuesday, May 26, 8 p.m.
Princes Head
Falcon Road, SW11

Dunlop engineers stay out

THE three-week-old strike of 1,500 engineers at Dunlop's Birmingham factory is still on, following a vote yesterday rejecting the union executive's recommendation for a return to work.

In response to the workers' demand for a £6 pay increase without strings, the management have offered £3, provided 100 engineers accept 'voluntary' redundancy.

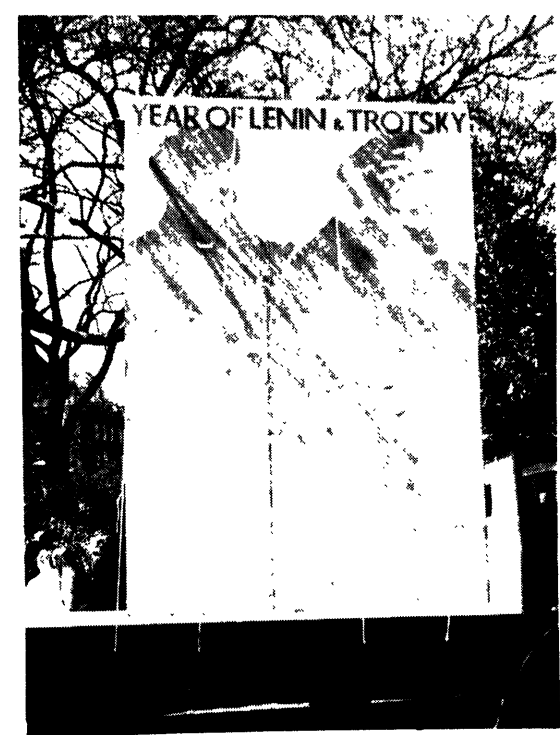
WEATHER

London area, SE, central southern and central northern England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, showers. Winds NW, moderate or fresh, becoming mostly light later. Near normal. Max. 16C (61F).

Edinburgh: Sunny intervals. Showers. Winds NW, fresh, perhaps strong locally at first. Rather cool. Max. 13C (55F). Channel Islands, SW and NW England: Sunny intervals, showers. Winds NW, moderate, becoming light SW. Near normal. Max. 15C (59F).

Glasgow area, N Ireland: Mainly dry with sunny periods. Becoming cloudy later with a little rain in places. Winds light, variable, becoming westerly, moderate. Near normal. Max. 13C (55F).

Weekend outlook: Some rain at first in the North and East. Becoming mainly dry and warmer with sunny periods.



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LATE NEWS

ARMY WARNS ULSTER CROWDS

Army headquarters in N Ireland yesterday warned that anyone who failed to break away from a crowd told to disperse faced arrest.

FRENCH TUBE STRIKE

Underground railway services in Paris will be halted today by a 24-hour strike called by trade unions to back claims for pay rises and better working conditions.

CALLAGHAN AND SPRINGBOKS

(See page one) Home Secretary yesterday denied that General Election had played any part in his decision to ask the Cricket Council to cancel the Springboks tour.

The council would reply by lunchtime today. He had no further steps in mind and thought the Cricket Council 'a very reasonable body'.

Behind this smokescreen of lies, new approaches can be made to Nixon.

In fact, the Soviet bureaucracy's strategy of peaceful co-existence with imperialism is one of the biggest single factors in permitting capitalism to mount a third world war.

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