

What we think Tories hi-jack the TUC

THE ARAB guerrillas are assailed on every side, by 'friend' and foe alike.

At Thursday's session of the TUC, Transport Union secretary Jack Jones made a statement on behalf of the General Council bitterly attacking the hi-jackings.

He called for even more stringent measures against them, claiming that 'a repetition could obviously constitute an immediate threat to world peace and it is right that the UN Security Council should take up the matter urgently'.

Jones and TUC general secretary Victor Feather, who also added his voice to the anti-guerrilla chorus, have little or nothing to say about the political background to the hi-jackings.

In fact they are carried out by heroic men and women, dedicated to the liberation of their Palestine homeland from Zionist occupation.

Hostages are taken as part of the struggle to free guerrillas held prisoner in the European and Israeli jails. Jones and his General Council friends should be very careful when they begin to lay down the law on these methods.

The Tory press, already whipped into a frenzy by growing working-class militancy, has detected a parallel between the British strike wave and the operations of the Palestinian guerrillas.

On Monday, the union-baiting 'Daily Mail' fumed:

'It is obvious that the union guerrillas, crippling pockets of industry about the country, are not under the control of Victor Feather, now in his eve-of-battle tent in Brighton. We wish they were.'

To make certain the point was taken—and we are sure that it was—Tuesday's 'Mail' featured a large cartoon on the TUC.

Captioned 'The Hi-jacker', it depicted an 'Industrial Guerrilla' taking the chair at the Congress, flanked by Feather and Jones.

In his hands he brandished two grenades: 'Anarchy' and 'Wild-Cat Strikes'.

In its own distorted way, this is how the ruling class equates the workers' struggle in Britain against the Tories with the Palestinians' fight for national liberation.

So when Jones took the floor on Thursday to denounce the guerrillas, he was also striking a blow against his own members in the British trade union movement.

The fight to defend trade unionism from Tory attacks cannot be organized by a leadership that capitulates to the Tory press.

Today Jones and Feather echo the Fleet St and TV witch-hunt against Leila Khaled and her comrades.

Despite all the 'left' speechifying at Brighton this week, the General Council will capitulate when the fire is turned on the working class at home.

For while Jones has been reading the riot act to the embattled Palestinians, who have lost not an airliner, but a whole country, the Tories and employers are hi-jacking the TUC!

The trade union movement needs both a new crew and line of flight if the Tories' offensive on wages, jobs and union rights is to be defeated.

Socialist policies, developed in the fight to bring down the Tories, are the only answer to the present crisis.

Dearer beer

A WARNING that beer prices would have to go up was made yesterday by Mr Alex Bennett, deputy chairman and chief executive of Whitbread, at the company's AGM in London.

'We have held off in view of the serious economic situation which the new government inherited,' he said. 'But now we must shortly move our prices.'

He told shareholders that the company had made a good start in the first quarter of its financial year, when the weather had been excellent.

• PAGE FOUR COL. 7

SAY NO TO MDW JOBLESS FIGHT MUST START IN FACTORIES

By a political correspondent

'I HAVE never believed,' Mr Victor Feather, Trades Union Congress secretary, told Brighton conference delegates on Thursday, 'that the government wanted a showdown with the unions.'

What does he mean? our readers will ask. Has he not heard of:

- The proposed Tory anti-union laws which are now being feverishly drafted by the law officers at the Department of Employment and Productivity?
- The government calling the employers to battle stations against all wage increases?
- The declaration that it will give the lead in the state-owned industries by refusing to give way to the unions' just demands?

Of course he has. But since Mr Feather and the TUC have decided not to fight the Tories then why should they see any dangers ahead?

And, naturally, Mr Carr, the Tory Secretary for Employment and Productivity, appreciates very much what the TUC is doing. That is why he described the government policies towards the unions as 'firm but fair'.

Changed?

Does this mean, you may ask, that the 'Tory tiger' has changed his stripes and has decided to be 'fair-minded' to the working class?

Of course not. Both Feather and Carr choose their words carefully.

For Carr, the words 'firm and fair' mean that if you want to get more money, Mr Carr will see that you work harder for it. You've guessed it — Measured-Day Work.

No wonder Mr Feather is enthusiastic since MDW is TUC policy. Why should there be a fight with the Tories?

Mr Carr and the Tories haven't stopped laughing yet at the way they bluffed Transport and General Workers' Union leader Jack Jones into persuading the dockworkers to go back to work and accept Devlin speed-up.

Return

They know that the extra money they have to pay will be returned with interest as soon as the speed-up gets under way and the docks labour force is drastically reduced.

The Tories and the TUC have now, in fact, a common wages policy and it is based on the recent docks settlement.

In the state-owned industries, they are prepared to give a little money provided the labour force is reduced and speed-up introduced.

In other words, you can have a wage increase if you work harder and agree to sackings.

This is what the Tories want when they call for a fight against unemployment.

Beware

Those trade unionists who are fooled by the Tories and the TUC into giving up their demands for straight

• PAGE FOUR COL. 5

GKN strike still not official

THE 5,000 GKN-Sankey workers are not to get official backing from their unions. This emerged after a meeting at Brighton yesterday between Transport and General Workers' Union leader Jack Jones and the General and Municipal Workers' Union leader Lord Cooper.

The fight against Tory anti-union laws opens

THE STRUGGLE of the Pilkington glassworkers—sacked and blacklisted by Merseyside employers—is at the centre of the fight against Tory plans to outlaw strikes and crush militancy in British industry.

Because of this the national campaign of the All Trades Union Alliance against proposed Tory anti-union laws will open on October 3 with a conference to support and extend the dogged resistance of the Pilkington workers against victimization in St Helens six glass plants.

It will be the first conference of its kind. The 250 St Helens men withdrew their labour in support of a victimized fellow-worker.

For this they, along with 350 others now re-employed, were thrown on the dole and blacklisted.

They have become the front-line fighters to defend the right to strike—the bed-rock of all trade unionism.

Questions

Demands for the re-instatement of the sacked men and the blacking of Pilkington products raises all the questions facing every trade unionist today: the defence of the strike weapon and complete unity in the face of Tory attacks.

Let no worker imagine that this is an issue that merely involves a gesture of solidarity with the St Helens men.

The spirit of Pilkington waits in every boardroom in Britain—on the docks, in the mines, car plants and engineering factories.

If it is successful in St Helens, the hesitant desires of British employers will flower into ugly growth and no trade unionist will be safe.

Pledges broken

The trade union leaders, for their part, are afraid to

• PAGE FOUR COL. 1

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

The Pilkington struggle and the right to strike! Defeat the proposed Tory anti-union laws!

St George's Hall, Lime St LIVERPOOL

Saturday October 3

2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Credentials and visitors cards 5s each from Conference Secretary, W. Hunter, 58 Leighton View, Liverpool 8.

A 1,200-STRONG mass meeting of British-Leyland's Morris Motors workers (above) at Cowley, Oxford, yesterday voted to continue their week-old strike.

The men are standing firm on their demand for a substantial increase in interim pay while production is turned over from the Minor 1000 to the new ADO 28 model.

The management has proposed payment of 16s 10d an hour, £6 to £7 below the 'shop average'.

Guards strike

LOCAL trains to Manchester and Liverpool were among services affected when a 24-hour unofficial strike of rail guards began at Crewe yesterday over the introduction of conductor-guards.

MORRIS MOTORS Cowley men vote to stay out



Guerrillas to move hostages to Amman

ALL HOSTAGES held by the guerrillas on Dawson's Field in Jordan are to be taken to the capital Amman, the Central Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Organization announced yesterday.

This decision follows an Iraqi government call for their release, broadcast by Baghdad Radio earlier yesterday.

Iraq appealed to the commandos 'not to give enemies a chance and not to give a reason for foreign intervention in this matter'.

The broadcast said 'important contacts' had been made with the guerrillas in charge of the hi-jacking operation.

The Iraqi government had also informed the French, Soviet, US and British ambassadors in Baghdad of this move.

MODERATES

Moving the hostages is seen as a victory for the guerrilla movement's 'moderate' wing. Groups supporting the hi-jacking are in a minority on the commando Central Committee.

They have also lost the support of the Iraqi, who only two days ago were full of praise for the hi-jacking operation.

The sudden Iraqi turn is clearly connected with the European governments' refusal to release Arab commandos and the growing Jordan crisis.

• PAGE FOUR COL. 7



T&GWU executive member Marie Patterson: No job-evaluation with equal pay.

Action for equal pay rejected

From our Industrial correspondent DAVID MAUDE in Brighton

BORED acquiescence appeared the prevailing mood amongst delegates as the 102nd Trades Union Congress drew to a close yesterday.

The morning's debate continued to reflect—though in pale and distorted fashion—the grave problems facing millions of rank-and-file trade unionists moving into their fourth month of Tory government; problems which this week's deliberations totally failed to answer.

Calls for a card vote at the end of yesterday's equal pay debate were successfully brazened out by Congress president Sir Sidney Greene.

Delegates thus endorsed, by a show of hands, a woolly and long-winded rationale from General Council spokesman George Lowthian for rejecting the bid from the draughtsmen's union to commit affiliated unions 'to take industrial action to end this industrial apartheid'—despite support for it from the powerful engineers and transport workers.

'Initiative'

And they merely called on 'unions themselves to show an energetic initiative' to achieve

• PAGE FOUR COL. 5

Withdraw US forces from Vietnam call

THERE WAS applause as Congress carried without opposition the T&GWU's resolution opposing 'any policies that would result in British military forces being sent to S Vietnam, Cambodia or SE Asia'.

British government 'to disassociate itself from the action of the US government in S Vietnam and Cambodia' and declared that 'peace is impossible until the withdrawal of US forces takes place'.

THIS WEEKEND

YS SPORT

Swimming Gala

Saturday
September 12 6 p.m.
YORK HALL BATHS
Old Ford Rd, E.2

Sports Day

Sunday
September 13 2 p.m.
PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS

Organized by London Region Young Socialists

MONDAY-SEPTEMBER 14

THE FIRST OF TWO Trotsky Memorial Lectures

'Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism'

BEAVER HALL GARLICK HILL
Near Mansion House tube

Starts 8 p.m. Admission 2s



SECOND LECTURE

Monday September 21

'Trotsky's fight against revisionism'

Both lectures given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

Workers press

The daily organ of the
Central Committee of the
Socialist Labour League

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • PUBLISHED FROM TUESDAY TO SATURDAY • NUMBER 252 • SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1970

PRICE 6d.

Who we think Tories hi-jack the TUC

THE ARAB guerrillas are assailed on every side, by 'friend' and foe alike.

At Thursday's session of the TUC, Transport Union secretary Jack Jones made a statement on behalf of the General Council bitterly attacking the hi-jackings.

He called for even more stringent measures against them, claiming that 'a repetition could obviously constitute an immediate threat to world peace and it is right that the UN Security Council should take up the matter urgently'.

Jones and TUC general secretary Victor Feather, who also added his voice to the anti-guerrilla chorus, have little or nothing to say about the political background to the hi-jackings.

In fact they are carried out by heroic men and women, dedicated to the liberation of their Palestine homeland from Zionist occupation.

Hostages are taken as part of the struggle to free guerrillas held prisoner in the European and Israeli jails. Jones and his General Council friends should be very careful when they begin to lay down the law on these methods.

The Tory press, already whipped into a frenzy by growing working-class militancy, has detected a parallel between the British strike wave and the operations of the Palestinian guerrillas.

On Monday, the union-baiting 'Daily Mail' fumed:

'It is obvious that the union guerrillas, crippling pockets of industry about the country, are not under the control of Victor Feather, now in his eve-of-battle-ment in Brighton. We wish they were.'

To make certain the point was taken—we are sure that it was—Tuesday's 'Mail' featured a large cartoon on the TUC.

Captioned 'The Hi-jacker', it depicted an 'Industrial Guerrilla' taking the chair at the Congress, flanked by Feather and Jones.

In his hands he brandished two grenades: 'Anarchy' and 'Wild-Cat Strikes'.

In its own distorted way, this is how the ruling class equates the workers' struggle in Britain against the Tories with the Palestinians' fight for national liberation.

So when Jones took the floor on Thursday to denounce the guerrillas, he was also striking a blow against his own members in the British trade union movement.

The fight to defend trade unionism from Tory attacks cannot be organized by a leadership that capitulates to the Tory press.

Today Jones and Feather echo the Fleet St and TV witch-hunt against Leila Khaled and her comrades.

Despite all the 'left' speechifying at Brighton this week, the General Council will capitulate when the fire is turned on the working class at home.

For while Jones has been reading the riot act to the embattled Palestinians, who have lost not an airliner, but a whole country, the Tories and emulators are hi-jacking the TUC!

The trade union movement needs both a new crew and line of flight if the Tories' offensive on wages, jobs and union rights is to be defeated.

Socialist policies, developed in the fight to bring down the Tories, are the only answer to the present crisis.

Dearer beer

A WARNING that beer prices would have to go up was made yesterday by Mr Alex Bennett, deputy chairman and chief executive of Whitbread, at the company's AGM in London.

'We have held off in view of the serious economic situation which the new government inherited,' he said. 'But now we must shortly move our prices.'

He told shareholders that the company had made a good start in the first quarter of its financial year when the weather had been excellent.

• PAGE FOUR COL. 7

SAY NO TO MDW JOBLESS FIGHT MUST START IN FACTORIES

By a political correspondent

'I HAVE never believed,' Mr Victor Feather, Trades Union Congress secretary, told Brighton conference delegates on Thursday, 'that the government wanted a showdown with the unions.'

What does he mean? our readers will ask. Has he not heard of:

- The proposed Tory anti-union laws which are now being feverishly drafted by the law offices at the Department of Employment and Productivity?
- The government calling the employers to battle stations against all wage increases?
- The declaration that it will give the lead in the state-owned industries by refusing to give way to the unions' just demands?

Of course he has. But since Mr Feather and the TUC have decided not to fight the Tories then why should they see any dangers ahead!

And naturally, Mr Carr, the Tory Secretary for Employment and Productivity, appreciates very much what the TUC is doing. That is why he described the government policies towards the unions as 'firm but fair'.

Changed?

Does this mean, you may ask, that the 'Tory tiger' has changed his stripes and has decided to be 'fair-minded' to the working class?

Of course not. Both Feather and Carr choose their words carefully.

For Carr, the words 'firm and fair' mean that if you want to get more money Mr Carr will see that you work harder for it—Measured-Day Work.

No wonder Mr Feather is enthusiastic since MDW is TUC policy. Why should there be a fight with the Tories?

Mr Carr and the Tories haven't stopped laughing yet at the way they blurred Transport and General Workers' Union leader Jack Jones into persuading the dock workers to go back to work and accept Devlin speed-up.

Return

They know that the extra money they have to pay will be returned with interest as soon as the speed-up gets under way and the docks labour force is drastically reduced.

The Tories and the TUC have now, in fact, a common wages policy and it is based on the recent TUC settlement.

In the state-owned industries, they are prepared to give a little money provided the labour force is reduced and speed-up introduced.

In other words, you can have a wage increase if you work harder and agree to sackings.

This is what the Tories want when they call for a fight against inflation.

The fight against MDW is inseparable now from the fight against unemployment.

Beware

Those trade unionists who are fooled by the Tories and the TUC into giving up their demands for strike

• PAGE FOUR COL. 5

The fight against Tory anti-union laws opens

THE STRUGGLE of the Pilkington glassworkers—sacked and blacklisted by Merseyside employers—is at the centre of the fight against Tory plans to outlaw strikes and crush militancy in British industry.

Because of this the national campaign of the All Trades Union Alliance against proposed Tory anti-union laws will open on October 3 with a conference to support and extend the dogged resistance of the Pilkington workers against victimization in St Helens six glass plants.

It will be the first conference of its kind.

The 250 St Helens men withdrew their labour in support of a victimized fellow-worker.

For this they, along with 350 others now re-employed, were thrown on the dole and blacklisted.

They have become the front-line fighters to defend the right to strike—the bed-rock of all trade unionism.

Questions

Demands for the re-instatement of the sacked men and the blacking of Pilkington products raises all the questions facing every trade unionist today: the defence of the strike weapon and complete unity in the face of Tory attacks.

Let no worker imagine that this is an issue that merely involves a gesture of solidarity with the St Helens men.

The spirit of Pilkington waits in every boardroom in Britain—on the docks, in the mines, car plants and engineering factories.

If it is successful in St Helens, the hesitant desires of British employers will flower into ugly growth and no trade unionist will be safe.

Pledges broken

The trade union leaders, for their part, are afraid to

• PAGE FOUR COL. 1

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

The Pilkington struggle and the right to strike!
Defeat the proposed Tory anti-union laws!

St George's Hall, Lime St
LIVERPOOL

Saturday October 3

2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Credentials and visitors cards 5s each from Conference Secretary, W. Hunter, 58 Leighton View, Liverpool 8.

GKN strike still not official

THE 5,000 GKN-Sankey workers are not to get official backing from their unions. This emerged after a meeting at Brighton yesterday between Transport and General Workers' Union leader Jack Jones and the General and Municipal Workers' Union leader Lord Cooper.

MORRIS MOTORS Cowley men vote to stay out



A 1,200-STRONG mass meeting of British-Leyland's Morris Motors workers (above) at Cowley, Oxford, yesterday voted to continue their week-old strike.

The men are standing firm on their demand for a substantial increase in interim pay while production is turned over from the Minor 1000 to the new ADO 28 model.

The management has proposed payment of 16s 10d an hour, £6 to £7 below the 'shop average'.

Guards strike

LOCAL trains to Manchester and Liverpool were among services affected when a 24-hour unofficial strike of rail guards began at Crewe yesterday over the introduction of conductor-guards.

• PAGE FOUR COL. 5

Guerrillas to move hostages to Amman

ALL HOSTAGES held by the guerrillas on Dawson's Field in Jordan are to be taken to the capital Amman, the Central Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Organization announced yesterday.

This decision follows an Iraqi government call for their release, broadcast by Baghdad Radio earlier yesterday.

Iraq appealed to the commandos 'not to give enemies a chance and not to give a reason for foreign intervention in this matter'.

The broadcast said 'important contacts' had been made with the guerrillas in charge of the hi-jacking operation.

The Iraqi government had also informed the French, Soviet, US and British ambassadors in Baghdad of this move.

MODERATES

Moving the hostages is seen as a victory for the guerrilla movement's 'moderate' wing. Groups supporting the hi-jacking are in a minority on the commando Central Committee.

They have also lost the support of the Iraqis, who only two days ago were full of praise for the hi-jacking operation.

The sudden Iraqi turn is clearly connected with the European governments' refusal to recognize the Arab commandos and the growing Jordan crisis.

• PAGE FOUR COL. 7



T&GWU executive member Marie Patterson: No job-evaluation with equal pay.

Action for equal pay rejected

From our industrial correspondent
DAVID MAUDE in Brighton

BORED acquiescence appeared the prevailing mood amongst delegates at the 102nd Trades Union Congress drew to a close yesterday.

The morning's debate continued to reflect—though in pale and distorted fashion—the grave problems facing millions of rank-and-file trade unionists moving into their fourth month of Tory government; problems which this week's deliberations totally failed to answer.

Calls for a card vote at the end of yesterday's equal pay debate were successfully brushed out by Congress president Sir Sidney Greene.

Delegates thus endorsed, by a show of hands, a woolly and long-winded rationale from General Council spokesman George Lowthian for rejecting the bid from the draughtsmen's union to commit affiliated unions 'to take industrial action to end this industrial apartheid'—despite support for it from the powerful engineers and transport workers.

'Initiative'

And they merely called on 'unions themselves to show an energetic initiative' to achieve

• PAGE FOUR COL. 5

Withdraw US forces from Vietnam call

THERE WAS applause as Congress carried without opposition the T&GWU's resolution opposing 'any policies that would result in British military forces being sent to S Vietnam, Cambodia or SE Asia'.

British government 'to disassociate itself from the action of the US government in S Vietnam and Cambodia' and declared that 'peace is impossible until the withdrawal of US forces takes place'.

THIS WEEKEND

YS SPORT

Swimming Gala

Saturday
September 12 6 p.m.
YORK HALL
BATHS
Old Ford Rd, E.2

Sports Day

Sunday
September 13 2 p.m.
PARLIAMENT
HILL
FIELDS

Organized by London Region Young Socialists

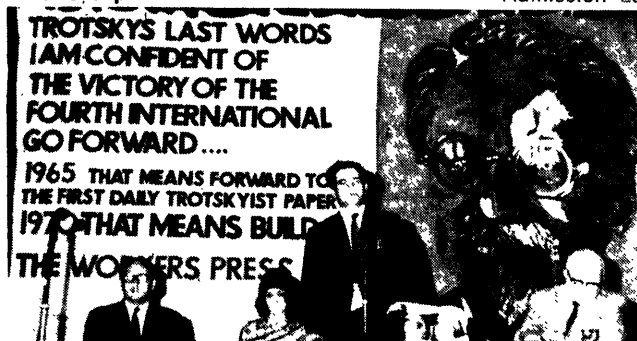
MONDAY-SEPTEMBER 14

THE FIRST OF TWO Trotsky Memorial Lectures

'Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism'

BEAVER HALL
GARLICK HILL
Near Mansion House tube

Starts 8 p.m. Admission 2s



SECOND LECTURE Monday September 21

'Trotsky's fight against revisionism'

Both lectures given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)



FINAL PART

Workers overturn a bus during the Belgium General Strike in 1960-1961.

Reform or Revolution

— a reply by Cliff Slaughter to T. Whelan's booklet 'The Credibility Gap—the politics of the SLL'



Strikers parade through the streets of Brussels.

Whelan & Mandel

BEFORE we turn to Whelan's main attack, which is directed at the statement of the SLL Political Committee of October 25, 1969, 'A Political Challenge', it is important to note how he takes up the defence of the spokesmen of the Pabloite 'United Secretariat' which he previously told us had 'capitulated to imperialism'.

The following long quotation from Whelan illustrates (a) the way in which Whelan has come to defend the most opportunist programmatic revisions of Trotskyism by the Pabloite Mandel, and, (b) the utterly unprincipled way in which Whelan distorts quotations from his opponents, in order to cover up his tracks.

Whelan refers to a series of articles in which Cliff Slaughter replied to Mandel's booklet 'Marxism vs. Ultra-leftism':

"In the second of these articles ('The Newsletter' February 11, 1969) Slaughter quotes from an article by Ernest Mandel in the Belgian paper 'La Gauche' of December 24, 1960 [i.e. during the Belgian General Strike, CS]: "In 'La Gauche' we have proposed a clear formula: a gov-

ernment of the workers supported by the trade unions."

He then quotes terms on which Mandel said the Belgian Socialist Party might form a coalition, and cites the verdict of the French co-thinker Gerard Bloch: Mandel "substituted an alternative both of the terms of which amounted to vulgar reformism, vulgar parliamentarism".

"Now we don't know all the details of the Belgian General Strike; it was a bit before our time, though judging by, in particular, Tom Kemp's pamphlet, Mandel's line was generally correct. But we do know that Slaughter's "critique", symptomatic of a certain infantile disorder, can only disorient those — presumably his followers — whom he is trying to educate.

"For Slaughter attacks Mandel's "advocacy in Belgium of a coalition government under pressure of the masses", an attack which seems to reveal more Slaughter's than Mandel's mistakes. May we remind him: since the collapse of the Third International, there have not been mass revolutionary parties in the advanced capitalist countries. What there have been are revolutionary organizations, the nuclei of future revolutionary parties. As he is discovering, the tactical problems of building these parties, in a workers' movement dominated by reformism and Stalinism, are considerable. And yet, arguing on the level on which he operates, one could denounce the Bolshevik Party for putting forward, in 1917, the slogan "Down with the Ten Capitalist Ministers". (p. 52).

One suspects that the Russian Revolution of 1917 was also a bit before Whelan's time, but we certainly cannot excuse him for his ignorance of it, any more than we can excuse him for his distortion, not ignorance, of the essential difference over the Belgian General Strike.

Patience in unravelling this long quotation from Whelan will prove worthwhile.

A workers' government

The question of workers' parties participating in coalition governments with bourgeois parties, however much one talks about 'mass pressure', is not at all a tactical question, but one of basic principle, and has been recognized as such by Marxists ever since the French Socialist Millerand joined a bourgeois Ministry at the turn of the century.

Now Whelan says that Mandel's line in 1960-1961 seems to him correct. But if we take the whole quotation from 'The Newsletter's' reply to Mandel, and not just the sentence selected by Whelan, it becomes crystal-clear, from Mandel himself, that he was talking about the Socialist Party joining a bourgeois coalition.

We therefore reproduce the whole passage from 'The Newsletter' underlining the short piece abstracted by Whelan.

"In 1953, when the French Trotskyists raised the slogan: "A government representing the workers, built from the national strike committee of the workers' parties and the trade unions", Mandel and Pablo had condemned them as "sectarian" and "adventurist".

"In 1960-1961, Mandel showed exactly what he had meant by this and what a betrayal his revisionism had led to.

"Writing in 'La Gauche' (December 24, 1960), Mandel says:

"The strike is directed against the government as collective representative of the capitalist class rather than of this or that group of bosses. Inescapably the movement leads to the defeat of the government. But what to replace it with? That is the question.

"In 'La Gauche', we have proposed a clear formula: A government of the workers supported by the trade unions".

"Had Mandel come over to the correct position of the French Trotskyists in 1953? On the contrary, he soon showed that he meant the exact opposite!

"The workers fear," he continues, "that if the government falls in the present social crisis, the Belgian Socialist Party (PSB) will enter a new coalition in order to prevent a situation in which the country would be without a government."

"Says Mandel, this would only be acceptable if: "First, the new govern-

ment abandoned the 'loi unique'; second, that the essential points in the structural reforms be kept as Cabinet policy."

"And further: "... it will be enough for the Christian-Democrat MPs to heed the voice of their own electors, that under the pressure of the strike they take a position in line with the aspirations of those they represent, for a new parliamentary majority to take shape on at least these two questions."

"In place of the slogan, "a workers' government", Mandel, as Gerard Bloch summarized it ("La Verite", no. 522, p. 72): "substituted an alternative both of the terms of which amounted to vulgar reformism, vulgar parliamentarism".

From this there emerge a number of uncomfortable facts for Whelan and his revisionist promoters.

First, Whelan's selective method of quotation hides the fact that what Mandel proposed was a coalition with a capitalist party, the Christian-Democrats, whereas Whelan quotes only a sentence which gives the impression that he probably meant a government of workers' parties. ("... a government of the workers supported by the trade unions").

Second, that the proposed programme of such a government was, as Bloch rightly says, thoroughly reformist.

Third, the reference to the Bolshevik slogan of 1917 is used to suggest the exact opposite of what it actually meant.

"Down with the Ten Capitalist Ministers" was a slogan directed against the coalition with capitalist parties, i.e. against the very type of coalition proposed by Mandel!

Whelan stands history on its head in order to be able to defend the revisionists from the Socialist Labour League. Not content with that, when he finds that what Mandel says is indefensible, he deliberately creates the impression that he said the opposite.

We criticised Whelan's method as that of an isolated individual unable to speak from the standpoint of building a party. We challenged him to state his relationship to the actual history of the political tendencies in the Trotskyist movement.

We need not wait for his answer. His problem is not, as he tries to make out, inability to see our position as 'realistic', but his agreement with the most reactionary aspect of the politics of the revisionists, and his willingness to use the most unprincipled methods in order to justify them.

7 The SLL and the Labour government

ONE especially important reason for taking in detail the above material on the Belgian General Strike is to establish Whelan's political position on the basic questions of reform and revolution, a workers' government, and the building of independent revolutionary parties.

Whelan, though objecting to our use of the term 'Pabloite revisionism', ended up with the Pablo position, that 'mass pressure' would force non-revolutionary (and in this case even capitalist) parties to do the work for the working class.

It is really this viewpoint which impels him to attack the SLL position on the Labour government.

Whelan tells us that we have an entirely exaggerated picture of the seriousness of the economic and political situation. For example:

"... we can say with reasonable confidence that in Britain unemployment is not going to become severe in the near future." (p. 38.)

With such confidence in the stability in the capitalist system (characteristic of revisionists) and such blindness to the actual trends, what sort of working-class leadership can be offered by Whelan and his friends?

As we keep on insisting, they approach political questions, life-and-death questions for the working class, not with the fighting responsibility of building the revolutionary alternative, but with the bland and rotten cynicism of the middle class.

One reason why Whelan was 'reasonably confident' there would be no serious unemployment problem was:

"... there is a General Election on the horizon, and if the best Tory prime minister of this century (i.e. Wilson) does not follow the example of all his recent predecessors and engineer a pre-election boom, we will be very surprised indeed."

Far from there being a pre-election boom, a crisis election was called, a year before the end of the government's term, (which Whelan, again,

was confident they would last out) because there could not this time be any 'boom'.

The strength of the working class was mounting too rapidly so long as Labour stayed in power. In calling the Election, Wilson carried out the policies of the capitalist class. All these things are now undeniable facts, and contrast sharply with Whelan's dismissal of our statement in 'A Political Challenge' that 'The government's policies and the employers' plans are one and the same thing'.

We never at any time failed to make clear that these policies paved the way directly for the return of the Tories, in order for them to implement the next necessary phase of the employers' policy.

The essence of our document 'A Political Challenge' was to warn that the mounting strength demonstrated by the workers in economic strike struggles was itself creating a situation, where the struggle for power was involved, and for which the essential preparation must be political.

In other words, we were explaining the qualitative political preparation necessary in the period opened up by the strike wave of the low-paid workers.

It is because he rejects any possibility of capitalist crisis, and considers that the reformists and the union bureaucracy can keep permanent control of the workers, that Whelan dismisses this essential content.

Whelan descends again to the misuse of quotations. He starts with an extract from the beginning of 'A Political Challenge':

"Whatever the form taken by the strike struggle... the content of them goes very deep because whole sections of the class are acting independently of their leadership in response to the deepest crisis of the system."

Laying on the sarcasm, Whelan comments: "Form" of the strike struggle? "Content" of the strike struggle? Are these concepts — no doubt, united opposites — exactly clear? Are they clearly explained, even?"

SATURDAY TV

BBC 1

11.40 a.m. Time Machines: lecture 1. 12.40 p.m. Weatherman. 12.45 Grandstand. 12.50 Football Preview. 1.05 Flight of the week: Featherweight Championships, Jimmy Revie v Alan Rudkin. 1.35: 2.35 Swimming: European Championships. 1.50: 2.20: 3.05: 3.35 Racing from Newbury. 2.05: 2.35: 4.30 Motor Racing. 3.20: 3.50 Rugby League: Leigh v Hull. 4.55 Results Service. 5.20 Pink Panther show: cartoon series. 5.40 News, weather. 5.50 Here's Lucy.

6.15 SHOW OF THE NORTH

6.45 HIGH ADVENTURE. 'Rampage'. With Robert Mitchum and Elsa Martinelli.

8.15 HARRY SECOMBE SHOW.

9.00 LAST NIGHT AT THE PROMS.

10.15 MATCH OF THE DAY.

11.15 SOMEWHERE UP THERE. Entertainment programme from the North.

11.50 WEATHERMAN.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as BBC 1 except: Midlands, E Anglia, North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland, SW, South and West: 11.52 Weather. Scotland: 5.00-5.20 Sports reel. 10.15-10.45 Sports reel. 10.45-11.25 Scope at the Festival. Part 2. 11.25 News, weather. Wales: 11.20-11.40 Cadi Ha. 5.50-6.15 Iris. Light entertainment with Iris Williams. 10.55-11.15 Match of the day. 11.52 Weather. N Ireland: 5.05-5.15 Sports results and news. 11.15 Saturday sound. Part 2: Patterson people. 11.40-12.00 Sports round-up. News, weather.

BBC 2

3.00 p.m. SATURDAY CINEMA. 'Stop, You're Killing Me'. With Broderick Crawford and Claire Trevor.

7.30 NEWS, sport and weather.

7.45 DISCO 2 (new series).

8.15 GREAT ZOOS OF THE WORLD. Part 6: London.

8.45 GARDENERS' WORLD. With Percy Thrower.

9.00 EYE FOR THE FUTURE. Patrick Geddes—1854-1932.

9.45 A TOUCH OF LEMON.

10.00 THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL. Part 1: Recluse.

10.45 ROWAN AND MARTIN'S LAUGH-IN.

11.35 NEWS and weather.

11.40 MIDNIGHT MOVIE. 'Beautiful But Dangerous'. With Gina Lollobrigida.

ITV

11.40 a.m. RAC road report. 11.45 Tallies tales. 12 noon Wind in the willows. 12.15 p.m. Captain Scarlet. 12.45 News. 12.50 World of sport. 12.55 On the ball. 1.20 They're off! 1.30: 2.00: 2.30: 3.10 Racing from Fakenham. 1.45: 2.15: 3.00 Racing from Doncaster. 3.25 International sports special. 3.55 Results, scores, news. 4.00 Wrestling from Wolverhampton. 4.55 Results service. 5.15 Stewpot. 5.45 News. 5.50 Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

6.15 BEVERLY HILLBILLIES. 'The Dahlia Feud'.

6.45 NOI THAT'S ME OVER HERE. 'Resignations'. With Ronnie Corbett.

7.15 MAGGIE'S PLACE. With guests Acker Bilk, Johnny Hackett, The Pattersons, Polly James and Peter J. Elliott.

8.00 'A GIRL NAMED TAMIKO'. With Laurence Harvey, France Nuyen, Michael Wilding, Martha Hyer and Gary Merrill. A half Russian, half Chinese photographer wants to get into the US.

10.00 NEWS.

10.10 THE GOLD ROBBERS. 'The End of the Game'.

12.05 a.m. HELP YOURSELF.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 12.45 London. 5.15 Road West. 6.10 News. 6.15 London. 6.45 No! That's me over here. 7.15 Film: 'Stage Fright'. With Jane Wyman and Richard Todd. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Court martial. 12 midnight Weather. SOUTHERN: 12.17 Weather. 12.20 Mr Piper. 12.45 London. 5.15 Joe 90. 5.45 London. 5.50 Cowboy in Africa. 6.45 No! That's me over here. 7.15 Film: 'Somebody up there likes me'. With Paul Newman. Booking story. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 Name of the game. 11.35 News. 11.45 Weather. 'Action 70'. WESTWARD: As Channel except: 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather. HARLECH: 12.15 Skippy. 12.45 Lon-

passage, but if it was not, we find only two sentences before in 'A Political Challenge':

"These effects of the world crisis — the threat of further unemployment, price rises, curtailment of investment, entry into the Common Market, speed-up and rationalization by the big monopolies helped by state finance — now begin to weld together the working class as a fighting force."

Whelan's sneers at dialectics are not accidental. He answers our analysis in 'A Political Challenge' by pointing out that the trade union leaders were able to reimpose their control, that we exaggerated in speaking of workers breaking free of bureaucracy, that only one million out of 20 million workers were on strike, that some scabbed, that teachers emulated dustmen's wage demands out of snobbery, etc.

This is just like his objections to the 'hard work' of the members of the revolutionary party.

Everything must be summoned up to prove that the time is not ripe for revolutionary work, that defeats, divisions and bureaucracy are the norm. Then it becomes necessary to paint the Marxists as if they were hot gospellers, imagining revolutionary upsurge from the workers at every turn, only to find themselves confounded by 'realists' like Whelan.

But our document was precisely a political challenge. To break the grip of the bureaucracy requires a political struggle to build the revolutionary party. To ignore this task is to leave the reformists and bureaucrats in a position to perpetrate disaster on the working class.

This, for example, was the meaning of our warning against the illusions of strength which could result from the strike

Quotations or distortions

This is the old trick of butchering quotations. We now print the quote taken by Whelan with the omitted phrases restored, just as it first appeared in Workers Press. The reader can make the comparison himself:

"Whatever the form of the struggle — against unemployment in the car industry and in GEC-EE, for parity with the best-paid motor industry areas, for the eight-hour day in mining, for equal pay for women, for substantial increases for the dustmen — the content of them goes very deep because whole sections of the class are acting independently of their leadership in response to the deepest crisis of the system."

It is quite evident that we detailed the 'form' of the struggles with a series of examples which Whelan just omitted, presumably to make it easier for him to say that we did not 'clearly explain' ourselves!

The 'content' of the struggles is also clear from the same

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.

Name _____

Address _____

STALINISM IN BRITAIN

A TROTSKYIST ANALYSIS BY ROBERT BLACK

NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS PRICE 22s. 6d 186A Clapham High St

European REVIEW

don. 5.15 Robin Hood, 5.45 London. 5.50 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 6.05 Not That's me over here. 7.15 Cinema: 'Strange Lady in Town'.

HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 6.45-7.15 Hyd a lled.

ANGLIA: 11.55 Seaway, 12.45 London. 5.50 News, 6.05 'Brands'. 6.15 Sky's the limit. 6.45 Not That's me over here. 7.15 'The Miniver Story'. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 Name of the game. 11.35 All our yesterdays. 12.05 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 12.15 Joe 90, 12.45 London. 5.15 Joker's Wild, 5.45 London. 5.50 Not That's me over here. 6.20 'Pepe in Hollywood'. Comedy film. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Espionage.

ULSTER: 12.45 London. 5.50 Laredo. 6.45 'The Miniver Story'. 8.40 Sports results. 8.45 Not That's me over here. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Prisoner.

YORKSHIRE: 11.35 Better Driving. 12 noon Training, the family dog. 12.30 Seaway. 12.45 London. 5.15 Gunsmoke. 6.10 News. 6.15 Sky's the limit. 6.45 'Knights of the Round Table'. With Robert Taylor and Ava Gardner. 8.45 Not That's me over here. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 Name of the game. 11.35 Sincerely Bernadette. 12.05 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.25 Casting around. 11.50 Underwater swimming. 12.15 Stingsy. 12.45 London. 5.10 Flipper. 5.45 London. 5.50 Laredo. 6.45 Not That's me over here. 7.15 Tough guys. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.15 Man in a suitcase. 11.10 Another evening with Burt Bacharach.

TYNE TEES: 12.15 Joe 90, 12.45 London. 5.50 Bonanza. 6.45 Not That's me over here. 7.15 London. 8.00 Film: '99,000 Suspects'. With Claire Bloom and Richard Johnson. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Gazette. 12.05 Epilogue.

BORDER: 11.50 All our yesterdays. 12.20 Captain Scarlet. 12.45 London. 5.50 Sports results. 5.55 Joe. 6.20 Branded. 6.45 Kenny Everett's Espionage. 7.15 London. 8.00 'The Full Treatment'. With Claude Brulins, Diane Cilento, Ronald Lewis, Françoise Rosay and Bernard Blier. A racing driver has mental black-outs after a crash. 10.00 London. 10.10 Name of the game. 11.35 Party's moving on.

SCOTTISH: 12 noon London. 12.15 Richard the Lionheart. 12.45 London. 6.15 Sky's the limit. 6.45 Movie: 'Yankee'. With Robert Taylor and Elizabeth Taylor. 8.45 Not That's me over here. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 Magazine report. 10.25 Late call. 10.30 Movie: 'I Died in a Thousand Places'. With Jack Palance, Shelley Winters, Lori Nelson and Lee Marvin.

GRAMPIAN: 12 noon London. 12.15 Ivanhoe. 12.45 London. 5.50 Laredo. 6.45 London. 7.15 Film: 'Tonkank'. With Melina Mercouri, Maximilian Schell, Peter Ustinov and Robert Morley. 9.15 Maggie's place. 10.00 London. 10.10 'Dial M for Murder'. With Ray Milland, Grace Kelly and Robert Cummings.

Curtains

THE TORY press often reveals its character more clearly in the stories that disappear from its columns than in what can be read in them.

And no story was more hastily dropped than that of the millionaire Italian aristocrat Casati, who shot his wife and her student lover, and then himself, on the night of Sunday, August 31.

Reminiscent

But as the squalid details came in, the 'gentlemen of the press' found themselves with something far too reminiscent of past revelations of Toryism at play to be suitable for public consumption, and the curtain was hurriedly drawn.

The Marquis Casati, one of Italy's premier noblemen, with a palace and vast estates in Lombardy and a fortune of over £250 million (giving him a daily income of over £1,500) called his 41-year-old wife, the ex-model Anna Fallarino and her lover, 25-year-old economics student Massimo Minorenti, to the family house in Pariolo, Rome's most affluent district, and murdered them both with a shotgun, saving a cartridge for himself.

Photographs

Precisely why he did so remains obscure, but it was certainly not straightforward jealousy.

Police took possession of a

Minorenti (far right) took part in the attack of Fascist thugs on Rome University in 1968.

green 'diary' which proved to contain the most salacious particulars, written in Casati's own fair hand, of scores of his wife's previous affairs, together with hundreds of photographs (in both black-and-white and colour) illustrating the text.

Compiling the diary appeared to have been his principal recreation for some years.

Suffice it to say that in comparison those involved in the Profumo affair appear as paragons of rectitude and purity.

One difference was that Casati employed no gentlemanly one-way mirrors, preferring to satisfy his curiosity in person. And he was particularly enthusiastic about his wife's antics with Minorenti.

Fascist student

The private filth was matched in the politics of the affair.

Minorenti was a thug for the fascists in Rome University and took part in the attack in which a left-wing student, Paolo Rossi, was murdered two years ago.

And for years Casati had been involved in tax 'evasion' on a gigantic scale; declaring less than 3 per cent of his real income.

An example of thrift to gladden the heart of many a Tory, but decidedly not proper material for public airing.



The sabres are silent

THE newly-concluded Moscow-Bonn Pact is intended by the bureaucracy to put pressure on the US for a far-reaching settlement of their differences in various parts of the world.

This is blatantly implied in a broadcast to W Germany by Moscow Radio on September 1.

Gone are the old slogans aimed at 'W German revanchists' and 'Bonn sabre-rattlers'.

Instead, the W Germans are warned that the danger to European peace and security comes from the US.

'It is known that from time to time Washington intimidates Bonn with the possibility of reducing the number of troops stationed in the German Federal Republic if Bonn does not bear all the stationing costs and refuses to make its military contribution to NATO.

'Thus Washington uses the US military presence in the Federal Republic as a means of exerting political pressure on Bonn ...

'BRAIN DRAIN'

The broadcaster also sympathizes with the plight of W German monopolies hit by the 'brain drain' to the US.

'Does this promote scientific and technological progress in the German Federal Republic?'

The commentator also objects to US monopoly exploitation of the W German working class:

... the American capitalists

can gain far higher profits from the exploitation of the W German workers ... Labour in the GFR is much cheaper than in the USA ...

But the W German monopolies—especially those involved in the contract to build the mammoth £460 million truck plant in the Soviet Union, are no longer cast in their traditional role as Common Market ogres.

POLITICAL AIM

This blatant attempt to build up W German capitalism and its armed forces against the US has a political aim:

'In the USA they realize that even preparations for all-European co-operation may entail all kinds of guarantees of independence and security for W European States so that they can liberate themselves more or less from the heavy US tutelage. Hence the US presence in the German Federal Republic is intended to prevent this.'

OCCUPATION

On other occasions, addressing other audiences, Moscow Radio has called for the honouring of the Potsdam Treaty of 1945, which provided the diplomatic pretext for the occupation of Germany by the allies.

Here the intention is to direct German nationalism against the occupation—a highly-dangerous game that could easily rebound in the wrong direction.

'The Third Republic implanted in us once and for all—and not only in laws, but also in our spirits and our customs—political democracy.'

VIOLENCE

This Republic, inspirer of Chaban Delmas and his ilk, was three quarters of a century of capitalist violence, deceit, exploitation and hypocritical self-congratulation.

It was baptised, in May 1871, in the blood of the Paris Communards massacred by the government of Thiers, and ended its days providing legal uncton for the fascist Vichy regime which helped Hitler enslave the working people of France during the Second World War.

But at the same time a whole tribe of capitalist politicians, seeing that Bonaparte's jingoism was headed for inevitable catastrophe, gave only lukewarm support to the war and prepared to replace imperial brigandage with republican exploitation.

On September 1 the main French Army was routed at Sedan, and Bonaparte taken prisoner. Palioli, War Minister, and appropriately head of the government, dared not announce the defeat immediately, but by September 3 it could be concealed no longer, and the first proclamation—a summons to the defence of Paris—was issued by the Council of Ministers, putting an end to the Empire. Huge crowds filled the streets,

starvation their 'Government of National Defence' formally surrendered Paris on January 8, 1871.

But the National Guard stood firm and the German army could occupy only a small corner of the city.

Jules Trochu, the lawyer who became Military Governor of Paris, sworn to defend the city, on September 4, called in vain for surrender. From that point on French and German capital understood each other clearly—they faced a social revolution.

CUNNING

And the organizer of the counter-revolution was Thiers, the most cunning of them all, who was a monarchist when it suited him, and a thief and parasite all the time.

Thiers headed a government of 'Conservative Republicanism' in a legislature transported to Bordeaux and renamed the 'National Assembly'.

In March he sent troops to try to recapture the artillery of the National Guard in Paris—declaring it 'state property', though it had been paid for by the workers' subscriptions.

They failed, most of them fraternizing with the workers, and on March 26 the Commune was formed.

Capitalist France, reinforced by Bismark, who returned the prisoners taken at Sedan, laid siege to revolutionary Paris.

Thiers spared no effort to prevent news of the Commune's programme reaching the rest of the country. All the scum of the Empire; stockbrokers and courtiers, with their whores and journalists, gathered at Versailles to enjoy the massacre.

BLOODLETING

In the last week of May their troops retook the city, and set about the most terrible blood-letting. In ten days at least 20,000 men, women and children were killed to restore 'order'. Large areas of the city burned in ruins. Thousands of the communards died shouting 'Long live the Commune!' at their executioners.

And when all was quiet Thiers was officially elected first President of the Republic.

If his name was not mentioned in last week's 'celebrations', it was only from a sense of caution.

For Chaban-Delmas, Pompidou and Marcellin 'democracy' is precisely what it was for him—a vile façade backed by readiness to use whatever weapons come to hand against the working class.



Coffins of the Paris Communards slaughtered in May 1871.

Little wonder, therefore, that it inspires the 'patriots' of the Fifth Republic, who in June 1968 fell over each other in their haste to make a quick profit by converting their francs into Deutsche marks.

September 4, 1870, when the Third Republic was proclaimed, is even enshrined in the only Paris Metro station to be named after a date.

celebrating the fall of the dictatorship and determined to take on the defence of the Republic against Bismark. The National Guard was re-organized, putting the working men of Paris, armed, under the lead of democratically-elected commanders.

WORKERS DEFEND

With the enemy at the gates and Bismark insisting on the annexation of Alsace and Lorraine and the payment of vast reparations to fatten German capitalism, the working class proved the only part of society ready to defend the capital.

And, with murderous logic, as the working class took the initiative, the capitalist spokesmen of the new Republic joined hands with German militarism to rescue their class position.

After five months of siege and

SUICIDAL

When Louis Bonaparte, hoping to divert the growing strikes and struggles of the workers declared war on Bismark's Germany in July 1870, it was the act of suicide for his Second Empire.

The Paris section of the First International, even before the official war declaration, called for the unity of all European workers against the common enemy.



In 1969, Leyland motor workers demanded parity with the Midland car workers.

struggles. We did not say, as Whelan suggests, that it was not possible to win concessions. On the contrary, we said:

'The strength of the organized workers in these strikes can and will force certain concessions from the employers and the government which supports them.

'But the government and the employers will continue to press forward, in whatever ways they can find, with exactly the type of policy which has produced higher prices, cuts in public spending, reductions of credit and deflationary policies.'

And later, we emphasized: 'The Tories and the right-wing Labour leaders can only go on by provoking the severest clashes.'

Again:

'The present wave of strikes is an essential preparation for the struggle against unemployment, because these strikes accelerate the unification of the working class. Most essential is a socialist policy and leadership to direct this strength.'

Now, Mr Whelan. Were we right in posing this question in a dialectical, contradictory way, from the standpoint of how to intervene to overcome the dangers inherent in the very strength of the workers industrially, or were you right in your anti-dialectical 'common-sense' deduction from 'experience' that there would be a full term for the Labour government and a 'pre-election boom' (which by rights we ought to be in the middle of right now)?

preparations, one must ask the IMG whether they are still 'very pleased' to have published Comrade TW's analysis ...

On this question, one note needs to be added. Whelan makes great play of the defeat of the anti-union laws in June 1969 as being in some way a refutation of the line of the SLL, and says that 'pressure' changed the government's policy.

He takes it as contradicting our statement 'The government's policies and the employers' plans are one and the same thing'. The first question is: Did the strikes in June 1969 change the government's policy? Doesn't such a claim hide the essence of the question that the government were prevented from implementing their policy, precisely by fighting against their capitalist policy?

Secondly—and we are back to the dialectic so hated by Whelan—did this defeat for the government make all the more inevitable the resignation of the government in face of the forces which it unleashed, and not at all a change in the government's policy in favour of the working class?

Revolution and reformism

The Socialist Labour League did not, as Whelan suggests, content itself with abstract statements about what the government could or could not do.

It organized the fight against the anti-union laws, a fight which began with our initiatives against the prices and incomes legislation, when Whelan's Pabloite friends were collaborating with the Stalinists in denouncing us as 'pre-mature' and 'sectarian'.

We remind Whelan: it was not 'before his time' that predecessors of the IMG were telling us that the Wilson regime was 'left reformist' and that it was wrong to characterize it as a capitalist government.

And so the whole reformist line contained in Whelan's defence of Mandel and his bourgeois coalition government comes out clearly in his criticism of the Socialist Labour League in Britain.

This is only proper. But we cannot leave the matter of political perspectives for Britain and his denunciation of our 'sectarianism', 'ultra-leftism', 'infantile disorder' and the rest, without pointing out to him and his friends that in between the writing and the publication of his attacks there occurred a General Election.

What was the line in this election of the International Marxist Group, into whose ranks ran Whelan, outraged by the 'sectarianism' of the Socialist Labour League?

While the SLL fought for the maximum Labour vote, as part of the struggle for socialist policies, the IMG, in its organ, 'The Red Mole', did not campaign for a Labour vote. In the issue immediately preceding the Election, its front page shouted, 'Whoever wins on June 18 the workers will have to FIGHT!'

How very profound! What splendidly 'realistic', 'scientific'

leadership! The editorial in the same issue, headed 'Elections', did not say vote Labour and concentrated on pointing out that the vote was of no importance.

'The Red Mole' of April 15 carried a two-page spread by Robin Blackburn (who later graced the IMG's Trotsky Memorial meeting platform on August 21) entitled, 'Let it Bleed Labour and the General Election'.

It included the following passage, the gist of the article:

'I will therefore conclude that the only principled course for revolutionary socialists during the coming election will be an active campaign to discredit both of Britain's largest capitalist parties (i.e., for Blackburn, the Tory and Labour Parties). In this campaign we should certainly pull none of our punches. We should disrupt the campaigns of the bourgeois parties (Tory and Labour) and their leading spokesmen using all the imaginative and direct methods which the last few years have taught us.'

This line dominated the pre-election statements of IMG spokesmen, and only 'The Red Mole' of the pre-election fortnight (from whose editorial we have already quoted) did Pat Jordan, in a signed article, make a feeble attempt to put up a corrective to Blackburn, and even he could not bring himself to advocate a campaign for a Labour vote.

Where then is Whelan to go? He condemns the SLL for saying the Labour government is a capitalist government (though even the india-rubber man Pat Jordan got round to saying that by the time of the Election!), but finds himself allied with Blackburn, who says the Labour Party is a capitalist Party!

Before leaving the question of the relation between the work of the revolutionary party and the reformist Labour Party, we must expose an even more blatant example of Whelan's lies. He condemns us for warning against Stalinism at the first meeting of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, and then throws out the following, supposedly to show what behaviour in a 'united front' ought to be like.

'Even the SLL is aware of this sort of situation: on that famous occasion when Gerry Healy spoke in Trafalgar Square from the same platform as Harold Wilson, during the

Labour Party's campaign against the Tories' invasion of Suez, he did not renounce the man next to him ...'

He would have had great difficulty in so doing ... because no such 'famous occasion' ever happened.

It is a pure invention of Mr Whelan!

It would take a booklet to equal length to Whelan's to expose all his distortions, but in this example he has gone to the limit of actually inventing a complete lie. This is his politics.

The only difficulty is to know whether to warn Whelan of the awful political whelp of association with Blackburn, who combines this dangerous adventurism with the friendliest of relations with the Stalinists, or to point out to Blackburn and Jordan what a gem they have acquired in Whelan!

All Whelan's conclusions about the SLL turn out to be based on worthless impressions and downright distortions. His own political past and the nature of the political tendency he has now joined (IMG) he tries to avoid, but it is easily exposed.

The IMG itself adds its mite to the lies. In its introduction welcoming Whelan, it accuses the SLL of having broken with the Fourth International. They know this is a pack of lies.

It was their own predecessors and mentors, Pablo and Mandel, who abandoned the Transitional Programme, and the method of Marxism, and the building of independent revolutionary parties.

The fact that they usurped the name of the Fourth International is on a par with the fact that the Stalinists call themselves Communists.

The Socialist Labour League is the British section of the Fourth International. Its revolutionary programme and its daily paper represent what Trotsky fought for all his life. Its members are fighters in the class struggle, basing themselves on the method of Marxism. They will reject with contempt the lying distortions of the renegade Whelan, and conclude that in lining up, temporarily at least, with the Pabloite revisionists of the IMG, he takes the logical step from his petty-bourgeois empiricism, while at the same time marking a further step in the theoretical and political degeneration of the IMG itself.

BBC 1 SUNDAY TV

9.00 a.m. Nai Zindagi-Naya Jeevan. 11.00 Seeing and believing. 1.25 p.m. Farming, weather for farmers. 1.55 Heritage. Part 6: Landscape of choice. 2.20 Made in Britain. 2.30 News. 2.31 In a class of their own. 3.00 A film for the family: 'Stars in my crown'. 4.25 Farnborough 70. 5.40 The Black Tulip. 6.05 News and weather. 6.15 MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE ASKS THE QUESTION WHY. 6.50 SONGS OF PRAISE. 7.25 DR FINLAY'S CASEBOOK. 8.15 IN THE TIME OF WAR. 'The First of the Few'. With Leslie Howard and David Niven. 10.00 NEWS and weather. 10.25 OMNIBUS. Ustinov's Expo '70. 11.15 'MY WORLD' ... AND WELCOME TO IT. James Thurber. 11.40 WEATHERMAN.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as BBC 1 except: Midlands, E Anglia, North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland, South and West: 11.42 Weather. Wales: 3.00 The doctors. 3.45-4.25 Rugby Union: Bridgend v New-bridge. 6.15-6.50 Unwath Yn Ddym. 11.42 Weather. Scotland: 6.15-6.50 Sunday set. 11.42 N Ireland: 11.42 News, weather.

BBC 2

1.50 p.m. CRICKET. Essex v Surrey. 7.00 NEWS REVIEW and weather. 7.25 THE WORLD ABOUT US. 8.15 CAROL BURNETT SHOW. With guests. 8.50 CHILDREN TALKING TO GERALD HARRISON. 9.00 MUSIC ON 2. From the Proms: Glinka and Rachmaninov. 9.55 BROADEN YOUR MIND. 10.25 THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL. Part 2: Marriage. 11.40 NEWS ON 2. Cricket scoreboard and weather. 11.20 FILM NIGHT.

ITV

11.00 a.m.-12 noon Church service. 12.20 p.m. Sunday Session. Taliesin tales. 12.40 Families talking. 1.05-1.20 Decimalization. 1.45 All our yesterdays. 2.15 Survival. 2.45 Big match. 3.45 Never a cross word. 4.15 Joe. 4.45 Golden shot. 5.30 Forest rangers. 6.00 HICK CHICK. 6.05 NEWS. 6.15 LORD OF THE WILD PLACES. 6.35 INCLUDE ME OUT. 7.00 STARS ON SUNDAY. 7.25 PLEASE SIRI 'Dress Circle'. 7.55 HAWAII FIVE-O. 'Run, Johnny, Run'. 8.50 ANOTHER EVENING WITH BURT BACHARACH. 9.50 POLICE 5. 10.00 NEWS. 10.15 BIG BROTHER. 'Dying Gets You Nowhere'. With Michael Gwynn and John Thaw. A government official leaks top security information to the press. 11.15 AQUARIUS. 'Hair in Israel'. 11.45 THINK TWICE. With Russell Davies and Clive James. 12 midnight HELP YOURSELF.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 11.00-12.15 London. 2.15 Weather. 2.15 Big match. 5.10 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 4.10 London. 5.30 Skippy. 6.00 Cartoon time. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Yearling'. With Gregory Peck. 10.00 London. 10.15 Burt Bacharach. 11.15 Avengers. 12 midnight Epilogue, weather. SOUTHERN: 11.00-12.00 London. 1.42 Weather. 1.45 All our yesterdays. 2.15 Farm progress. 2.45 London. 3.45 Seaway. 4.35 News. 4.45 London. 5.30 Magic boomerang. 6.00 Papa gets the bird. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Strangers When We Meet'. Starring Kirk Douglas and Kim Novak. 10.00 News. 11.15 Burt Bacharach. 12.15 Weather. Action '70. WESTWARD. As Channel except: 1.20 Rabbits or profits. 1.45 All our

HARLECH: 11.00-12.00 London. 2.00 Decimalization. 2.15 Sport. 2.45 Survival. 3.15 Joe 90. 3.45 Survival. 4.45 London. 5.30 Tom Grattan's war. 6.00 Popeye. 6.05 London. 7.25 'The Sims of Rachel Cade'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Burt Bacharach. 12.15 Weather.

HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 and HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 1.30-2.00 Testun Trafol.

ANGLIA: 11.00-12.15 London. 1.40 Weather. 1.45 Farming diary. 2.15 March of the week. 3.15 Kenny Everett explosion. 3.45 Joker's wild. 4.10 Joe 90. 4.40 London. 5.30 Tom Grattan's war. 6.05 London. 7.25 'The Huggers Abroad'. Comedy. 9.05 Hawaii Five-O. 10.00 London. 11.15 Burt Bacharach. 12.10 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-12.15 London. 1.40 Douglas Fairbanks presents: 'The Ludlow affair'. 2.15 Star soccer. 3.15 'The Golden Blade'. With Rock Hudson. 4.40 London. 6.00 Popeye. 6.05 London. 7.25 'Coast of Skeletons'. American war. 8.20 London. 9.30 Burt Bacharach. 11.15 Strange report.

ULSTER: 12.40 Families talking. 1.50 Saint. 2.45 Big match. 3.45 Survival. 4.15 Joe 90. 4.45 London. 5.30 Flipper. 6.00 Popeye. 6.05 London. 7.25 Branded. 8.45 'The Straw Hat'. With Dean Martin and Gerry Lewis. 10.00 London. 10.15 Burt Bacharach. 11.15 Conceptions of murder.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00-12.15 London. 12.55 Decimalization. 1.05 Shooting. 1.30 Yorkshire matters. 1.50 Farming diary. 2.20 Soccer. 3.15 'The Lost Hours'. 4.45 London. 5.30 Tom Grattan's war. 6.00 Felix the Cat. 6.05 American war. 8.20 'The Straw Hat'. With Gerry Hamilton and Jeanne Moreau. 10.00 London. 11.15 Burt Bacharach. 12.15 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-12 noon London. 12.39 Faces of justice. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 2.15 Survival. 3.15 'The Football. 3.20 Time tunnel. 4.15 Survival. 4.45 London. 5.30 Cartoon time. 5.35 HR Puffness. 6.00 Felix the Cat. 6.05 London. 7.25 'A Guy Named Joe'. With Spencer Tracy. 9.30 Shenandoah. 10.00 London. 10.15 Big brother: 'Dying gets you nowhere'. 11.15 Felony squad.

TYNE TEES: 11.00-12.15 London. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 1.50 Farming outlook. 2.20 Shoot. 3.20 Matinee: 'Prince of Pirates'. With John Derek and Barbara Rush. 4.45 London. 5.30 Tom Grattan's war. 6.00 London. 7.25 Film: 'The Fast Lady'. With James Robertson Justice and Leslie Phillips. 9.05 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 10.00 London. 10.15 Burt Bacharach. 11.15 Bann. 12.10 Epilogue.

BORDER: 11.00-12.15 London. 1.50 Diary. 1.55 Farming outlook. 2.15 Soccer. 3.20 'The Fast Lady'. With James Robertson Justice and Leslie Phillips. 9.05 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 10.00 London. 10.15 Burt Bacharach. 11.15 Bann. 12.10 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 11.00-12.15 London. 1.45 London. 2.15 Farm progress. 2.45 Gazette. 3.45 Survival. 4.15 London. 5.30 Tom Grattan's war. 6.00 Popeye. 6.05 London. 7.5

Tory laws

FROM PAGE ONE

mobilize the working class. This is shown in St Helens, where, despite solemn pledges, the TUC, in the person of Victor Feather, has not lifted a finger to reinstate the sacked Pilkington men at Pontypool, end victimization in St Helens and destroy the blacklist in the hands of Merseyside employers.

How can such men lead the struggle against mass unemployment and Tory legislation?

Enter this campaign therefore with no illusions. It will be only a leadership that can face all the political challenges it involves, a leadership that is not afraid to mobilize the enormous strength of the working class that will be able to defend and advance the power of the trade union movement.

Let us end this appeal for all trade unionists to attend the Liverpool conference as delegates or visitors with the words of John Potter, secretary of the Pilkington rank-and-file committee:

Workers' right

'Our fight does not just affect glassworkers. Pilkington's have attacked, and attempted to destroy, a right that is the property of every worker: he has violated the property of the working class. If he wins here, which group of workers will be next for the dole... who will be next?

'Therefore I ask you to take our struggle into your factories and your unions and back us. The fight to defend the workers from attacks by the Tories and employers is a fight for solidarity with the glassworkers of St Helens.'

WEATHER

London area, SE and Central Southern England, E and W Midlands: Rather cloudy. Rain at times. Wind SE, becoming variable, moderate. Rather cool. Max 16C (61F).

Central northern England: Bright intervals and mainly dry. Becoming cloudy with rain at times. Wind SE, light or moderate. Rather cool. Max 15C (59F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Cloudy with rain. Becoming brighter with showers. Winds variable, becoming NW, fresh. Rather cool. Max 16C (61F).

NW England, Glasgow area, N Ireland: Sunny intervals and showers. Winds variable or NW, light or moderate. Near normal. Max 15C (59F).

Edinburgh: Sunny intervals and showers. Winds South or SW, light or moderate. Near normal. Max 15C (59F).

Outlook for Sunday and Monday: Unsettled with rain at times. Rather cool.

B-Leyland

'economies' hit Bathgate

BRITISH-LEYLAND workers in Scotland are now aware of the significance of Lord Stokes' 'routine' visit to Glasgow a fortnight ago.

It has been followed by the announcement that 600 of the 5,000 workers at the combine's Bathgate factory are to be sacked. One hundred are clerical and supervisory staff, the rest are production maintenance workers.

This follows proposals for closing two Sterne refrigerator factories, subsidiaries of Leyland at Woodside, Glasgow, employing 430.

Redundancies at Bathgate were discussed in May this year and were followed by Stokes' warning of imminent economies.

On his Glasgow visit in August Stokes stated that the future of Bathgate and other Scottish plants would be decided purely on economics and added:

'Endless spiral'

'We are caught in an endless spiral of costs and wages, and we are very concerned about the future situation at Bathgate.'

'It does cost more to produce vehicles in Scotland because it costs more to ship the parts to Scotland and to transfer the finished cars back to the main markets in the South of England.'

American sales of British-Leyland cars were down last month on the August figures for 1969 by 16 per cent. Management have blamed strikes at home for the fall. Despite this, sales of Leyland's Austin, Jaguar, MG, Rover, Land Rover and Triumph models were 8 per cent up in the first eight months of this year compared with the same period of 1969.

American car imports rose from 95,950 to 108,954 in August.

Black cloud over Clyde jobs

GLASGOW workers at Sterne Refrigeration — a British-Leyland subsidiary — are proposing to launch lightning strikes and demonstrations against the proposed closure of two factories and the resulting 430 redundancies.

Sterne's management have been given notice of industrial action, expiring on September 18.

Shop stewards' committee chairman William McCann told Workers Press that profit margins are high and that the management had been asked to diversify production into general engineering.

This had been rejected on the grounds of high costs.

Strike action

The Glasgow district committee of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers has passed a motion for token strike action by engineers throughout the whole of W Scotland.

The union's Clyde district secretary has pointed out the grave situation facing workers in Bathgate and Sterne.

'The Clyde,' he said recently, 'is under its blackest cloud since the war. We have reached crunch point where no alternative jobs are available for people who have been sacked.'

'Nationalize'

In the light of this situation leaders at Sterne have called for the nationalization of the factories — a demand echoed by the Woodside AEF branch.

The main call must be for the nationalization of the factory. This must be related to a struggle against the Tories, said shop steward McCann.

Sainsbury pickets out

SAINSBURY'S grocery shops in parts of London were picketed yesterday by workers threatened with redundancy through the closure of the company's Blackfriars factory.

2,000 Blackfriars workers have been out since Wednesday. Only 800 to 900 will be employed at Sainsbury's new Haver Hill, Suffolk, factory.

Gas strikers slam G&MWU official

By Industrial reporter
WEST MIDLANDS Gas Board manual workers voted for the second time in a week at Birmingham yesterday to continue their strike for a 'decent living wage'.

The men, who are also demanding the right to negotiate their wage structure at local level, passed a vote of no confidence in General and Municipal Workers' district secretary.

On Tuesday, they rejected the advice of a full-time G&MWU area official to return to work and take their claim through procedure.

But although 2,500 of the Board's 4,000 manual workers are now involved in the dispute, gas supplies are still being maintained by staff 'blacklegging'.

Chile: Anti-left alliance planned

RIGHT-WINGER Jorge Alessandri was reported yesterday to be going ahead with his original plan to defeat the left-wing victor in last week's Chilean Presidential election, Allende.

This ended several days of confusion in Chile, where reports had circulated that Alessandri would not contest the result.

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

It is this movement that produces the frenzied political crisis.

Both Christian Democrats and National Party chiefs fear the explosion that could face Alessandri if parliament used the constitution to reverse the poll.

FEAR

Equally they fear Allende in power — no matter how reformist both he and the other Popular Alliance leaders are.

He heads the mass movement that filled the streets of Santiago with tens of thousands on election night. Alessandri's latest man-

oeuvre is an attempt to gain time to resolve the crisis.

Many right wingers are looking to the military chiefs to step in and end electoral and democratic rights.

A fresh election campaign would provide the time, and the political confusion, to strengthen these forces.

INVESTMENTS

Chile's political crisis is far from being a domestic question — American and European imperialists who have large investments in the country are involved in the Alessandri conspiracy.

The Popular Alliance leaders' 'peaceful road' policy, supported by international Stalinism, opens the door for this conspiracy.

There must be a preparation for class action to defend Allende's victory and his election programmes to meet this danger.

Hunger strike Maoists on trial

WEAK from a hunger strike, ten young Maoists were being tried in Paris yesterday for 'reconstituting dissolved leagues'.

All members of 'Gauche Proletarienne' ('The Proletarian Left'), they have been held in jail under strict conditions since their arrest. The organization's leader, Alain Geismar, has been held for three months (see yesterday's editorial).

They began their hunger strike on September 1 in protest against the persecution and prison conditions and several appeared in court in a very weak state.

Defence lawyers demanded a postponement of the trial and the granting of bail.

In a different court on Wednesday, Maoist Sophie Buisson, was jailed pending trial after being caught carrying ten copies of the banned paper, 'La Cause du Peuple', and leaflets.

Stalinist youth group wound up in Prague

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

THE PRAGUE branch of the 'Leninist Youth League' has dissolved itself at its last meeting on September 9.

In her final speech to its members, branch chairman Dr Sona Penigrova called on them to join the 'Socialist Youth Union'.

The League is an ultra-

Stalinist group totally isolated from the mass of Czech youth.

It has only 15,000 members, as against the much larger Union which embraces around 15 per cent of all Czech youth.

(Before the Soviet invasion, the proportion was 36 per cent.)

This surprising development coincides with the publication of an article in the current issue of the Party weekly, 'Tribuna', which criticizes in guarded terms the ultra-Stalinists in the Party leadership.

Boom silenced

PRODUCTION of the French Concorde and European Airbus at Toulouse will be hit by daily technicians' strikes — officially sanctioned yesterday — for improved wages and promotion agreements.

Careerists

Oldrich Svestka, who was a 'conservative' member of the Party Politbureau in the Dubcek era, said that many of those who joined the campaign against him today were pure careerists.

'At stake was their fate, or more accurately, their livelihood, the jobs they held, which they in more than one case identified with the fate of the Party, with the fate of our friendship with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.'

Czech Party teachers expelled

SEVENTY-FIVE former teachers of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee 'school' for political education have been expelled from the Party. Central Committee secretary Fojtik said lack of ideological work had caused 'serious damage', both under the 'arbitrary improvisations of the Novotny leadership... and in the opportunism of the renegades of the Dubcek leadership'.

ROAD BLOCKS

Armed guerrillas and government troops remained in their strongholds yesterday. Commando barricades and road blocks are still in place.

Jordan — the focus of the entire Middle-East crisis — is on a knife edge.

The future of the Palestinian struggle now depends more than ever before on a break from nationalist conceptions, however militant, and the building of revolutionary leadership.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETING

LEICESTER: Tuesday, September 15, 8 p.m. Queen's Hotel, Rutland St. 'The wages offensive and the Tories'.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

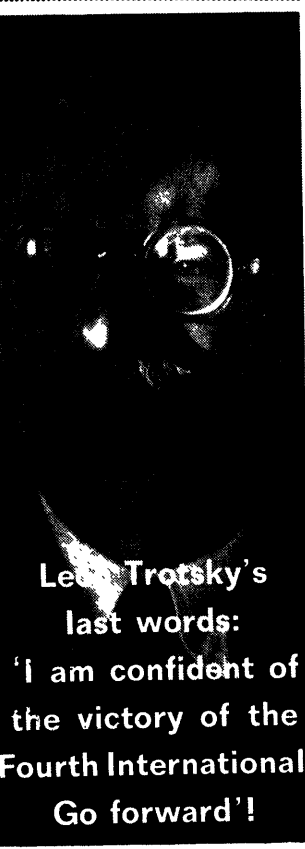
Trotsky Memorial Meeting

GLASGOW
Partick Burgh Hall
(nr Merikland St underground)

7.30 p.m.
Admission 2s.

'Trotsky and the coming English Revolution' (SLL)
Speaker: G. Healy (national secretary)

Sunday
October 4



DELEGATES at yesterday's closing session of the 102nd Trades Union Congress applauded the passing of the Transport and General Workers' resolution — requesting general secretary Harry Urwin — calling for withdrawal of US forces from SE Asia. See page one report.

Acton CAV technicians reject strings

STAFF EMPLOYEES at CAV's Acton, London, factory are continuing to push for substantial wage increases and the three unions involved—CAWU, DATA and ASTMS—are having varying degrees of success in their negotiations with management.

DATA technicians have recently rejected an offer of around £3 a week and are demanding increases of over £4 without strings.

Staff personnel consist of lower management, clerical workers and technicians and it is clear that the parent company Joseph Lucas is pressing Acton chiefs to tie any increases to strings.

Settled

So far only the CAWU members' claim has been settled. Earlier this week they accepted increases of £3 for lower grades and £3 12s 6d for higher grades up to monthly-staff status.

This deal was linked to strings which include a 12-month wage freeze, an end to merit rating and the award to be set against any future national increase.

Divide-and-rule

The management's divide-and-rule policy has operated in the past by relying on promotion-seekers who will rarely support militant action.

The Acton foremen have been split by a recent £220-a-year increase, only given to those directly concerned with production.

The foremen have also been offered a £35 lump sum and their merit-rating scheme has been discontinued.

RIPPON IN HONG KONG

Hong Kong, Friday — Mr Geoffrey Rippon, Britain's minister in charge of negotiations for entry to the Common Market, flew in today to discuss Hong Kong's anxiety about the impact on the colony's economy if Britain joins the Market.

Sky marshals for US planes

ARMED US agents will ride as guards on American international airline flights, it was reported in Washington yesterday.

Treasury agents and Federal Aviation Administration marshals will be assigned to transatlantic and European flights of PWA and Pan-Am Airlines from today after a period of training.

'We haven't much desire to see armed guards on our planes,' a pilots' spokesman commented.

'We don't like shoot-outs at 50,000 feet.'

6th Fleet moves up

Washington, Friday—An aircraft carrier and supporting ships of the United States Sixth Fleet in the Eastern Mediterranean were reported today to have been moved into position near Jordan to provide any assistance necessary in the evacuation of the airline hi-jack passengers.

Meanwhile from Adana, Turkey, it was reported that 25 US Phantom jet fighters and four more C-130 transport planes arrived at Incirlik air force base.

Tight security measures are in operation at the base where earlier this week six C-130 transports arrived in case they were needed to help move hostages held at Dawson's Field, 45 miles North of Amman.

Equal pay

FROM PAGE ONE

phased progress towards eliminating sex differentials by the end of 1972.

London draughtsmen's delegate, Ron Whiteley urged 'use of our tremendous industrial strength to bring to an end the era of mini-wages'.

Supporting him, T&GWU executive member Marie Patterson insisted:

'Legislation can never be successful in itself...'

'No deals'

And there were 'very many good reasons', she said, why workers wanted nothing to do with job-evaluation deals — recommended in Labour's equal pay act as a means of providing 'equal pay for work of equal value'.

Lowthian's answer was that it was 'not the responsibility of the General Council to be asked to support industrial action irrespective of any other factors...'

JOBLESS FIGHT

FROM PAGE ONE

across-the-board pay increases without strings in return for a pay rise with strings, are making a rod for their own backs.

Accept this deal today and you may well be unemployed tomorrow.

Beware of this 'firm but fair' Tory clap-trap. Beware of the TUC's role.

Real strength now

Hostages

FROM PAGE ONE

After several days of bitter fighting in Amman between guerrillas and King Hussein's troops, another uneasy truce has been declared.

While it was still supporting the hi-jackers, Baghdad radio warned that the US was preparing to rally behind Hussein.

'Through closing its Embassy, Consulate and AID office, US imperialism is pre-

paring for a landing operation in Jordan to protect its lackeys from the revolution.'

But within 24 hours of this warning, the Iraqi government had made contact with the US Ambassador in Baghdad, putting fresh pressure on the guerrillas to release their hostages.

'Protective measures' threaten trade

THE COMMERCIAL vehicle industry has to meet problems beyond its control, said Motor Manufacturers' and Traders' Society President Douglas Richards yesterday.

Although exports are now running at £144 million, the industry 'faced' 'protective measures' taken by individual markets and the legal requirements on safety, noise reduction and smoke emission.

On 'containerization', he said that if the industry was to benefit, it must be allowed to build larger vehicles.

The present permitted maximum of an articulated should be raised from 32 tons to 44 tons, he said.

The commercial motor vehicle show opens at Earls Court next Friday.

Dearer beer

FROM PAGE ONE

July and August were cooler and trade in these months was 'marginally below' the previous figures.

For the second half of the year, however, in view of the wages and salaries explosion and the impact of increased barley and malt costs, it was going to be 'far more difficult' for the group as regards profits, he said.

Whitbread office girls ended a pay strike at the company's Luton brewery this week.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

Full subscription £10 a year (Post free) £2 10s for three months

Two editions (For any two days you select) £1 for three months £4 a year

Post to: Circulation Organizer, Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4. (Tel: 01-720-2000)

I would like to subscribe to Workers Press for

Name: _____

Address: _____

LATE NEWS

TUC PRESIDENT: LORD COOPER

General and Municipal Workers' general secretary Lord Jack Cooper is to be the new TUC chairman, it was announced in Brighton following a meeting of Congress's freshly-elected General Council yesterday afternoon.

The immediate reaction in rank-and-file trade union circles is expected to be particularly critical in view of events at Pilkington's St Helens glass factories, GKN-Sankay and — this week — amongst W Midlands gasworkers (see col. 5 this page.)

Amman, Friday—The Central Committee of the Palestine resistance movement has decided to release all the passengers of the three hi-jacked planes, except Israelis with a military capacity, the Committee announced.

The Committee said in a statement that it had also decided to release the three hi-jacked airlines and their crews.

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180 Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.