

What we think
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'Business as usual' is their operational slogan, or, as it is known in the parlance of Stalinists, 'peaceful co-existence'.

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As in France in 1968 and Italy in 1969-1970 the sole purpose of the Stalinists is to confuse, demoralize and disorientate the working class and restrict its activity within the parliamentary-constitutional strait-jacket.

They do this in order to keep imperialism in power so that the diplomatic-political intrigues of Stalinism can continue, while millions of workers in Greece, Indonesia, Sudan, Iraq, Cambodia and elsewhere bleed to death.

The first condition for the implementation of such a policy is to deprive the working class of its independence by tying it to the labour bureaucracy and by opposing all forms of revolutionary struggle.

'All power to the TUC—not to the workers' is the counter-revolutionary slogan of the Stalinists from 1926 to 1970.

The second condition is to substitute disjointed rank-and-file protest actions and other reformist gestures of impotence for a struggle within the unions for a concrete policy to defeat the government by mass actions of the working class.

This, and only this, explains the betrayal of the miners' strike, the bureaucratic muzzling of conferences and the opposition to any and every call to make the union leaders fight.

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So no matter how much workers may hate Heath, Powell and company and see them as the real enemy, they must be persuaded that they have a lot in common with them; that they are all part of the so-called 'nation' which is but a euphemism for the channel house of British imperialism.

This leads the CP and the 'Star' to support British troops in Ulster, to support the military budget (only up to 50 per cent of course!) and to consciously restrict and subordinate the anti-Tory movement to the 'national interest' and 'foreign policy' of the Tory government.

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By an industrial reporter

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It is believed that if the Registrar were given this power it would encourage unions to seek greater control over their members and thereby increase their strength and responsibility', the CBI concludes.

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In other words, the CBI complains, 'enforcement could only apply after the event'. Encouraged by the sight of retreating union leaders' posters, ruling-class bodies such as the CBI and the EEF are becoming increasingly rampant in their demands for the attack on the workers' rights to be pressed home. Their confidence — and their power — must be crushed by forcing the union leaders to mobilize official industrial action to scotch the Industrial Relations Bill and force the Tory government to resign.

Three millionaires at glass firm

THREE members of the Pilkington family — main owners of the St Helens-based glass company — were confirmed as millionaires yesterday.

Chairman Lord Pilkington was shown as holding 790,000 shares worth £1,300,000. Vice-Chairman Mr A. C. Pilkington with 655,000 shares worth £1,100,000, and director Mr Douglas Phelps, also a member of the family, whose 593,000 shares are worth just over £1 million.

These figures came to light through the prospectus for next week's sale of nearly £10 million worth of shares in the family-owned concern to outside investors.

Because of trust holdings it is difficult to know just how many other family members also have millionaires status.

Pilkington's estimate profits for the current year at £10,400,000 against £14,074,000 the previous year — and blame the major strike earlier this year for the fall.

Not that this is going to bring any cold winters to the firm's 300 shareholders.

Panther arrests delayed

NEW ORLEANS police yesterday gave Black Panther lawyers 24 hours to seek an injunction halting the arrest of the Black Panther leaders barricaded in an apartment in the city's ghetto area.

A 14-year-old boy was injured by police gun-fire when they closed in on the Black Panther headquarters on Thursday, but their attack was blocked by a crowd of more than 200 who stood between the building and the armed police.

Military spending puts strain on dollar

BY A FOREIGN REPORTER

UNITED STATES Defence Secretary Melvin Laird yesterday urged the Senate to restore military budget cuts rather than face unemployment in a number of key industries.

He was also closely questioned, behind closed doors, about the Nixon Administration's military appropriations for Israel and Cambodia.

Laird's speech is a response to a House of Representatives decision clipping more than \$2,000 million from Nixon's military estimates. Laird wants \$1,360 million restored, bringing the total military budget to \$68,000 million.

\$500 million has already been agreed by Congress for aid to Israel, but the administration has put forward a new request for a further \$1,000 million—for aid to Cambodia, Jordan, Lebanon, S. Korea and S. Vietnam.

COMBINING

With unrest growing in the US army, and the prospect of major class battles at home, Nixon is following a policy of combining US money and foreign lives in his overseas wars. As Senate Republican leader Hugh Scott puts it: 'The choice here is between dollars and blood.'

Critics of the President's policy are worried that the aid appropriations will embroil the country in new Vietnam-type wars in the Middle East and Cambodia.

INFLATIONARY

They are also concerned at the inflationary effects of the military budget, which puts an increased strain on the already shaky dollar. US economists are becoming extremely concerned about the dollar position. European bankers like Milton Gilbert of the Bank for International Settlements, and Rinaldo Ossola of the Bank of Italy, have spoken recently of a devaluation of the currency from its present gold parity of \$35 an ounce.

Since the last dollar crisis in March 1968, when the 'two-tier' system was established and the US reneged on its obligation to sell gold at \$35 an ounce to all comers, US gold stocks have been quietly but inexorably haemorrhaging away to overseas central banks.

WEEKLY

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'The US must not count on its creditors' forbearance', the paper added, and concluded that 'one day they may decide to stop being suckers.'

Though Nixon's administration officials have hotly attacked the magazine's prediction, there is no doubt that Nixon is seriously worried about continuing dollar inflation, and that attempts to buy time in preparation for the 1972 Presidential elections could easily provoke another dollar crisis.

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Kremlin change on EEC

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With the Tories' application to join the market now under consideration by the Six, a sudden switch by the Kremlin on this issue could seriously embarrass the leaders of the British Communist Party. For the last ten years, they have conducted a nationalist campaign against British entry—often in alliance with extreme right-wing Tories.

Subsidy cut threatens miners' jobs

BY DAVID MAUDE

FRESH Tory threats to coal-industry jobs brought a new bitterness into the stubborn struggle of 46,750 striking miners yesterday.

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By the time the draft comes up for debate, there will have already been widespread discussion on its proposals amongst some of the most important trade unionists.

The ATUA is determined to bring the point of view of the rank and file into the picture.

As the Tory government does everything in its power to press home its attack against the trade unions, the Alliance believes that two of the most fundamental issues before us are to establish the independence of the trade unions from the capitalist state and consistently to campaign for democracy inside the trade unions.

Points way

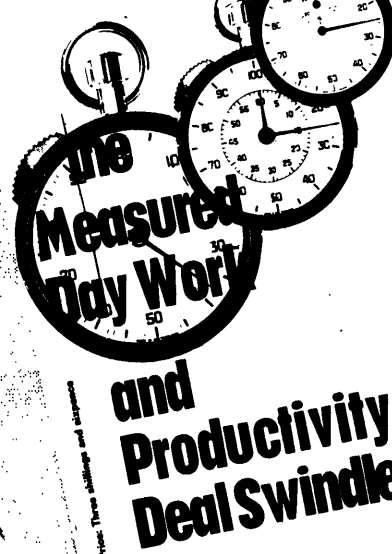
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By an industrial correspondent

Making reference to 'the situation which has occurred too often in recent times in companies which have previously had a good record of industrial relations', the bulletin goes on to reinforce the second prong of its attack.

Both the Engineering Employers' Federation and the CBI, it points out, have expressed themselves strongly to Carr on the desirability of hedging round national procedures with legal bonds.

The bulletin complains that the government's present proposals would only attach enforceability to company agreements. Nationally-agreed disputes procedures could only be made enforceable under the present draft in a single company if 'orderly industrial relations in the undertaking concerned had been seriously impeded by recourse to industrial action in breach of the procedure'.

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SOME PAGES FROM MINERS' HISTORY

Red Friday

AFTER THE sell-out of 1921 (Black Friday), the miners' conditions declined. The average wage per shift worked went down to less than half what it had been in 1920-1921.

Indeed, the miners were worse off than they had been before the First World War.

BY JACK GALE

There was unemployment and there was victimization. Then in April, 1923, the coal-owners told the miners that the only way to obtain a better wage was to work a longer day.

In January 1924, the first Labour government took office under Ramsay MacDonald. But this government continued the attack on the working class (for example, J. R. Campbell, editor of 'Workers' Weekly', was arrested).

Labour lost the election in the same year, largely as a result of the Zinoviev Letter forgery.

About this time there was a short-lived boom in coal exports, due to the occupation of the Ruhr by French forces and the cessation of production there.

In these circumstances, the miners voted to end the 1921 wages agreement. After a long drawn-out series of negotiations the coal-owners conceded a new wages agreement in May, 1924, which gave substantial increases to the miners.

It was also about this time that A. J. Cook became Secretary of the Miners' Federation.

A member of the Communist Party for a short time, Cook had been one of the group in the Rhondda Valley responsible for the bitter Cambrian Combine strike. He had been imprisoned in 1918 for his strike activities and again in 1921 for his part during the lock-out.

Reparations

Conditions were soon to turn against the miners. The Treaty of Versailles, at the end of the World War, had imposed reparations on Germany at the rate of £150 million a year.

Coal reparations were also due to France, Belgium and Italy every year for ten years. This destroyed Britain's coal export trade.

Things were made worse in 1925 when Churchill restored the gold standard. The standard of living of all workers was forced down.

In June 1925 the coal owners gave the Miners' Federation of Great Britain notice of their intention to terminate the wages agreement of the previous year.

They demanded an immediate cut in miners' wages and an end to the guarantee of a minimum wage. This meant that there would be no end to the extent to which miners' wages could be reduced.

The government nominated the First Lord of the Admiralty (W. C. Bridgeman) to act as mediator between the owners and the miners, and set up a court of inquiry.

The Miners' Federation refused to co-operate with this committee, since its aim was to cut wages and increase hours. The TUC General Council declared its support for the miners and movements went ahead to create an Industrial Alliance of heavy industry and transport unions, which would act jointly to defend the hours and wages of their members.

The newly-formed Transport and General Workers' Union voted to strike if necessary in support of the miners, and ASLEF also voted full support.

But already leadership was being placed in the hands of the top bureaucracy. Discussions took place between the Miners' executive and a special committee of the TUC, the miners' leaders declaring that they 'placed their case unreservedly in the hands of the General Council of the TUC as the supreme Trade Union Committee'.

A special TUC conference then agreed to put an embargo on all movements of coal in the event of a miners' lock-out.

On July 30, 1925, the Prime



A government propaganda poster in 1920

PREVIOUS ARTICLES IN THIS SERIES APPEARED ON OCTOBER 12, 26 AND NOVEMBER 2.

Minister, Stanley Baldwin, uttered his famous statement to the miners:

'All workers in this country have got to take reductions in wages to help put industry on its feet.'

The same evening instructions were issued for the embargo on coal movements to be put into force. These instructions were as follows:



Stanley Baldwin

Railways:

1. Wagons containing coal must not be attached to any train after midnight on Friday, July 31, and after this time wagons of coal must not be supplied to any industrial or commercial concern, or be put on the tip roads at docks for the coaling of ships.

2. All coal en route at midnight on Friday to be worked forward to the next siding suitable for storing it.

3. Any coal, either in wagons or stock at a depot, may be utilized at that depot for the purpose of coaling engines for passenger and goods trains, but must not be moved to another depot.

Docks, Wharfs etc:

Coal Exports: All tippers and trimmers will cease work at the end of the second shift on July 31.

Coal Imports: On no account may imported coal be handled from July 31.

General: A general stoppage of men handling coal on other classes of tonnage on Friday midnight.

Waterways and Locks:

All men on canals, waterways etc. engaged in carrying coal will cease Friday midnight, with the exception of men who have coal en route, who will be allowed to take it to destination and tie up. Safety men for pumping etc. will be permitted to work for safety purposes only.

Road Transport:

All men engaged in delivering coal to commercial and industrial concerns will cease Friday night, July 31. Men delivering for domestic purposes will cease at 12 noon, Saturday, August 1.

Local Committees:

For the purpose of carrying out these instructions the members of the organization herein concerned shall, from each district, establish small sub-committees so as to co-

ordinate policy in giving effect to same.

This was signed by the leaders of ASLEF, NUR, Railway Clerks' Association, T&GWU and the TUC Special Sub-Committee.

The effect was immediate. An emergency Cabinet meeting was called. The government offered a nine months' subsidy in return for which the coal-owners would be willing to withdraw their notices.

A full inquiry was to be held, but there was no doubt that the government had yielded to the embargo threat — this was Red Friday, July 31, 1925.

But all the anti-labour forces were alarmed and warned.

Not only were the government and the coal-owners concerned — the Labour leaders were, too.

It was Ramsay MacDonald who declared:

'The government has simply handed over the appearance, at any rate, of victory to the very forces that sane, well-considered, thoroughly well-examined Socialism feels to be probably its greatest enemy.'

Throughout this period the Communist Party fought amongst miners, particularly in the Miners' Reform Movement (later to become the National Miners' Minority Movement with its own paper 'The Mineworker').

The Miners' Reform Movement programme was: one union for all miners (instead of the Federated Districts); affiliation to the Red International of Labour Unions; no wage cuts; and a six-hour day.

Reactions

The inaugural conference of the National Minority Movement itself (in August 1924) had been attended by 270 delegates, representing 200,000 workers.

The forces of reaction were on the move, however, and recognized the danger represented by the small but influential Communist Party.

In October, 1925 — three months after Red Friday — 12 leading Communist Party members were arrested and charged with unlawfully conspiring to utter and publish seditious libels and inciting people to commit breaches of the Incitement to Mutiny Act of 1797.

Five Communists — Inkpin, Gallagher, Pollitt, Hannington and Rust — were sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment.

The other seven were told that they would be bound over if they undertook to do anything more to do with the Communist Party! When this offer was rejected, they were sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

But the Communist Party was already becoming tainted with Stalinism and lining up against Trotsky.

In the Autumn of 1924 the Executive Committee of the British Communist Party issued a statement condemning Trotsky's book 'Lessons of

A TON OF COAL COSTS 33/3 AT THE PITHEAD WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

MINERS' WAGES	24 3
Other costs including management salaries, insurance, office rent, etc.	5 11
Royalties	8
Capital Adjustments under Finance Act	4



Miners' leader A. J. Cook



Ramsay MacDonald

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TV SATURDAY

BBC 1

9.35 a.m. Square two. 10.00-10.30 Si dice così. 12 noon Weather. 12.05 p.m. Space Kidettes. 12.35 EdandZed! 12.45 Grandstand. 12.50 Football preview. 1.10 Grandstand's fight of the week. Heavyweight Championship of the World: Joe Frazier v Bob Foster. 1.50, 2.20, 2.50 Racing from Ascot. 2.10, 2.40, 3.10, 4.30 International lawn tennis: The Embassy Championships, Ladies' singles finals. 3.45 Rugby league. Yorkshire Cup Final: Featherstone Rovers v Leeds. 4.55 Results service. 5.20 Pink Panther show. 5.40 News and weather. 5.50 Wildlife safari to Ethiopia. 6.15 IF IT'S SATURDAY IT MUST BE NIMMO. 6.45 DIXON OF DOCK GREEN. 'The Undercover Man'. 7.30 THE ROLF HARRIS SHOW. 8.25 SATURDAY THRILLER. 'The Borgla Stick. With Don Murray, Inger Stevens and Barry Nelson. A young couple with shady pasts are used by a crime syndicate to invest some of the millions they have harvested from crime. 10.00 NEWS and weather. 10.10 MATCH OF THE DAY SPECIAL. Two-match football action and International Lawn Tennis. 12.10 a.m. Weather.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as above except: the day. 12.12 Weather. Scotland: 5.00-5.20 and 10.10-10.40 Sportsresult. 10.40-11.10 Monty Python's Flying Circus. 12.12 News and weather. Wales: 12.05-12.25 Cadi ha. 5.50-6.15 Disc a dawn. 10.45-11.05 Match of the day. 12.12 Weather.

BBC 2

3.00-4.30 p.m. Saturday cinema. 'Lullaby of Broadway'. With Doris Day and Gene Nelson. Story of a musical comedy actress. 7.10 WESTMINSTER. 7.10 NEWS, SPORT and weather. 7.40 RUGBY SPECIAL. 1871-1971. RFU Centenary Year series. Wales (under 25) v Fiji. 8.25 CHRONICLE. 'The Coming of the Black Ships'. How the Japanese greeted visiting ships in the 19th century. 9.15 CHAMPAGNE ON ICE. With Sandie Shaw, Donald Jackson and Frank Ifield. 10.00 THE ROADS TO FREEDOM. The Reprieve. 'September 24, 1938—Morning'. 10.45 DISCO 2. 11.10 NEWS ON 2 and weather. 11.15 MIDNIGHT MOVIE. 'Phaedra'. With Melina Mercouri, Anthony Perkins and Raf Vallone. Drama about a love affair between a young man and his step-mother.

ITV

11.05 a.m. RAC road report. 11.10 Music room. 11.35 Toolbox. 12 noon Wind in the willows. 12.15 p.m. Stingray. 12.45 News. 12.50 World of sport. 12.55 On the ball. 1.20 They're off! 1.30, 2.00, 2.30, 3.00 Racing from Warwick. 1.45, 2.15, 2.45 Racing from Wetherby. 3.10 International sports special. 'Boxing'. 3.55 Results, scores, news. 4.00 Wrestling from Brent Town Hall. 4.55 Results service. 5.10 Forest rangers. 5.40 Beverly hillsbillies. 6.10 NEWS FROM ITV. 6.15 SATURDAY SPORTS NEWS. 6.30 EV. Kenny Everett with guests Roger Dean, The Tremeloes and Cyril Fletcher. 7.00 NO, THAT'S ME OVER HERE. 7.30 THE GOLDDIGGERS IN LONDON. 8.00 HAWAII FIVE-O. 'The Second Shot'. 9.00 FRAUD SQUAD. 'The Great Blanket Factory Swindle'. 10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.10 THE FROST PROGRAMME. David Frost. 11.10 THINK TWICE. 11.24 ON REFLECTION. Sir Hugh Casson reflects on John Nash. 11.55 ONLY CONNECT.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 12.45 London. 5.15 Shane. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.05 No, that's me over here. 7.15 Film: 'Upstairs and Downstairs'. With Michael Craig, Anne Heywood, Mylene Demongeot, James Robertson Justice and Claudia Cardinale. 9.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 12 mid-night Weather. WESTWARD. As Channel except 11.30 UNO concert from Vienna.

12.15 Mr Piper. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather. HARLECH: 12.15 Skippy. 12.45 London. 5.10 Robin Hood. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Randall and Hopkirk (Decayed). 7.05 F troop. 7.30 Saint. 8.30 No, that's me over here. 9.00 London. 10.10 Don Quixote. 11.10 Name of the game. 12.35 Weather.

ITV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 6.15 Y miscedd. 7.00-7.05 Arthur.

ANGLIA: 12.15 All our yesterdays. 12.45 London. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 These Dangerous Years. With Frankie Vaughan, George Baker, Carole Lesley and Jackie Lane. Teenagers in Liverpool. 8.30 No, that's me over here. 9.00 London. 11.10 Name of the game. 12.35 Epilogue.

ATV MIDLANDS: 12 noon Decaligatun. 12.15 Joe 90. 12.45 London. 5.10 No, that's me over here. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 Jesse James. 7.15 Horoscope. 7.19 Film: 'On The Threshold of Space'. With Gw Madison, Virginia Smith and John Hoark. A young doctor volunteers to test ejection equipment. 9.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Frost, weather.

ULSTER: 12.30 Wind in the willows. 12.45 London. 5.10 Beverly hillsbillies. 5.40 Sportsresult. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 No, that's me over here. 7.15 Picture: 'Dear Heart'. With Michael Redgrave and Mervyn Johns. An architect has a strange recurring dream. 9.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Frost.

YORKSHIRE: 11.30 Casting around. 11.55 Toolbox. 12.20 Skippy. 12.45 London. 5.15 Gunsmoke. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 No, that's me over here. 7.15 'To the Shores of Tripoli'. With John Payne, Randolph Scott, Maureen O'Hara and Nancy Kelly. Story of wartime Marine recruits. 9.00 London. 10.10 Marcus Welby MD. 11.10 Tom Jones. 12.10 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.25 On reflection. 11.50 Toolbox. 12.15 Fireball XL5. 12.45 London. 5.10 Lost in space. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 No, that's me over here. 7.30 Film: 'Men in War'. With Robert Ryan. Korean war film.

TYNE TEES: 12.15 Joe 90. 12.45 London. 5.15 Bonanza. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 No, that's me over here. 7.15 Picture: 'Dear Heart'. With Michael Redgrave and Mervyn Johns. An architect has a strange recurring dream. 9.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Frost. 12.10 Epilogue.

BORDER: 11.50 All our yesterdays. 12.20 Phoenix 5. 12.45 London. 5.10 Big valley. 6.05 Sports results. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 No, that's me over here. 7.30 Film: 'Tarzan Savage Fury'. With Lex Barker and Dorothy Hart. 9.00 London. 11.05 Match report. 11.20 Late call. 11.25 Film: 'House of Dracula'. With Lon Chaney Jr and John Carradine.

SCOTTISH: 12.20 Richard the Lionheart. 12.45 London. 5.15 Mad movies. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Goldiggers. 6.45 No, that's me over here. 7.30 Film: 'Tarzan Savage Fury'. With Lex Barker and Dorothy Hart. 9.00 London. 11.05 Match report. 11.20 Late call. 11.25 Film: 'House of Dracula'. With Lon Chaney Jr and John Carradine.

EAST & WEST European REVIEW



Right-wing demagogue Franz Joseph Strauss (left) thought he had bought FDP deputy Karl Geldner but he had another think coming



Buying a deputy

THE PARLIAMENTARY scandal which erupted a week ago in W Germany underlines the contempt with which capitalist politicians regard the 'democratic' niceties when important political manoeuvres are afoot.

Leading figure in the act was Franz Joseph Strauss, the right-wing demagogue from Bavaria (the region centring on Munich in the South of W Germany) who heads the Christian Social Union (CSU), closely allied with Kiesinger's Christian Democratic Union (CDU), W Germany's main capitalist party.

Strauss has been involved for at least a year with several of W Germany's largest monopolies in attempts to bring down Social Democratic Chancellor Brandt's coalition government.

Their main target has been the deputies of the minor partner in his coalition, the lay capitalist Free Democratic Party. This summer three FDP deputies, including ex-Minister Mende, left the majority to form the right-wing National Liberal Alliance, in fact a political appendage of the CSU.

The effect was to reduce Brandt's already slender majority to only three.

At the end of last week Strauss, having arranged for full publicity, announced from Nuremberg the defection of another FDP deputy, the Bavarian Karl Geldner.

But he soon proved to have miscalculated. Within a few hours Geldner and FDP representatives called a press conference in Bonn and denied the claim.

Loyal

Geldner proclaimed his full loyalty to party and coalition and proceeded to explain that he had not played along with the approaches made to him by the CSU to obtain proof of Strauss's political methods.

He produced a letter from Strauss offering him a safe parliamentary seat in Bavaria if he would desert. What was said that a director of the Bayer paper and packaging company had offered him 'consultancy fees' totalling almost £50,000 over four years for the same purpose.

His exposure brought an immediate protest from Strauss about 'gangsterism in politics'.

Geldner, he said, had made the first approach, and neither he nor the CSU had ever made any offer of money. What was the precise details, Geldner made a very halting show at a subsequent press conference, where he declined to read out his full account of the episode on the ground that it 'involved other FDP deputies'.

While it is true that Strauss's methods have been brought further into the open, there remains the suspicion that he was also guilty of miscalculating the market in deputies in Geldner's case.

Questions

And the incident raises obvious questions about the earlier switch of loyalties by Mende and his fellow FDP members. But more important than the squalid careers of individuals is the political division in the W German capitalist class, faced with an onslaught on wages by the working class which is unprecedented in the post-war period.

Following the unofficial strikes by hundreds of thousands of metalworkers in some of the largest engineering plants this autumn, dockers, railwaymen, public service workers and many other sections are pressing hefty wage claims to keep ahead of the galloping inflation in the German economy. The 'economic miracle' is now definitely a thing of the past.

Kiesinger and most of the Christian Democrats have tried to dissociate themselves from Strauss's political bandwagon.

They see Brandt as an indispensable buffer between them and a re-awakened working class. And they have raised no basic objection to his diplomatic and trading agreements with the Soviet Union and E Europe, which they hope will bring German capitalism considerable advantages in the sharpening competition on the world markets.

But their differences with Strauss—like those between Heath and Powell—are secondary.

They are agreed on the need to take on and defeat the working class. And the growth of the extreme right-wing, in close association with Strauss's nationalism and anti-communism, provide a useful lever for use on the cowardice of the trade union bureaucrats.

So whatever scandals may come to light they, and their friends in the capitalist press, have no intention of seeking Strauss's political death.

One strand of Mafia web breaks

A FATHER and son have been arrested in Palermo, Sicily, in connection with the hospital murder of Camdido Ciuni, a minor 'mafioso', which last month shocked Italy.

The arrest follows two months of political crisis and violence during which the Christian Democratic Party has sought to clear itself of charges of association with the Mafia.

The two men are Pasquale Bove, 55, accused of organizing the crime, and his son Raffaele, 21, accused of being one of four men who broke into a Palermo hospital on October 28 and, disguised as doctors, machine-gunned to death hotel-keeper Ciuni, 44.

After years of official connivance at Mafia activity—the organization is deeply involved in Sicilian and national politics—shootings and public allegations of the Christian Democrats and the coalition Rome government have been forced to act.

Revelations

The parliamentary commission investigating the Mafia, headed by Christian Democrat Franco Cattanei, which had produced nothing of significance since it was first set up, has now discovered a remarkable web of criminal activities and corruption.

The hospital murder—immediately after the mysterious disappearance of left-wing, anti-Mafia journalist Mauro de Mauro—brought the commission to Palermo for on the spot investigations.

The attack occurred in Palermo's Civic Hospital. Gunmen disguised as doctors entered by a side door and threatened hospital staff.

Distract

Two men entered Ciuni's room and while one distracted his wife the other opened fire.

Ciuni was recovering from a knife wound in the chest which he received after being caught in a dark alley near his hotel.

He had a 'moderate' chance of recovery.



Star turn

'NOTHING but good of the dead' was the guideline for the Stalinist press in both France and Italy following the decease of General de Gaulle.

The tragedy was front-page news for three days in the French CP's daily 'L'Humanité' and earned a special edition of the Italian Party's 'Unita'.

He was warmly remembered as an 'anti-fascist', blandly glossing over the fact that he invited murderers of the Algerian Organization of the Secret Army back from exile immediately after the general strike of May-June 1968.

But outdoing both organs in their sense of 'history' were the 24 Stalinist representatives on the Paris city council. On November 13 they joined in the unanimous vote of that body to rename Paris's most imposing public place—the 'Place de l'Etoile' or 'Star Square'—as 'Place Charles-de-Gaulle'.

A large circular space, it lies at the intersection of 12 wide avenues (whence the previous name), including the Champs-Élysées and the Avenue Victor Hugo.

In the centre stands the Arc de Triomphe, started by Napoleon in honour of himself and completed under Louis Bonaparte.

The change of name was proposed by a Gaullist representative and passed within minutes.

So enthused were the Stalinists with this transfiguration of the corpse of republican France that they quite forgot one of their own political campaigns.

And the Paris Communist Party branches are now engaged in a vociferous campaign of protest—including the collection of thousands of signatures for presentation to the Gaullist government—against inefficiency and high fares in commuter transport.

PUBLIC LECTURES Elements of Marxism

The importance of Marxist philosophy in the building of the revolutionary party.

Lectures by M. BANDA (Editor of Workers Press)

BARKING Co-op Hall, Whitney Chambers Fanshawe Ave. 8 p.m. Monday November 23 Monday November 30

Lectures by G. Healy and M. Banda NEWCASTLE Hotspur Hotel Sunday, November 29 Haymarket 7.30 p.m.

Lectures by C. SLAUGHTER (Central Committee of Socialist Labour League)

SHEFFIELD Crooksmoor Vestry Hall Sunday November 22 Crooksmoor Rd, Sheffield 6. 7.30 p.m. LIVERPOOL OXFORD Wednesday November 25 Thursday November 26 Royal Institution, Colquitt St (near Bold St), 7.45 p.m. Northgate Hall. 8 p.m.

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SUNDAY

BBC 1 9.00 a.m. Nai zindagi—naya jeevan. 9.30 Know how. 10.00-10.30 Si dice così. 11.00-11.30 Seeing and believing. 11.35 Men and materials. 12 noon Ask Zena Skinner! 12.25-12.50 Hardy heating international. 1.25-1.50 Farming. 1.55 Education programme. 2.20 Made in Britain. 2.29 News. 2.30 Personal choice. 2.55 Golden silents. 3.20 Asterix the Gaul. 3.25 Sunday's adventure. 'Harry Black and the Tiger'. With Stewart Granger, Anthony Steel and Barbara Rush. 5.10 Here's Lucy. 5.35 Little women. 6.00 NEWS and weather. 6.10 MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE asks the question why. 'America'. 6.50 SONGS OF PRAISE. DR FINLAY'S CASEBOOK. 'Made For Each Other'. 7.25 NIGHTS OF NIGHTS. With Frank Sinatra and Bob Hope and introduced by Princess Grace from the Royal Festival Hall. 9.30 NEWS and weather. 9.45 OMNIBUS. 'A Requiem For Modigliani'. 11.00 AD LIB. 11.30 Weather. REGIONAL BBC All regions as above except: Midlands, E Anglia, North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland, SW, South, West: 11.32 Weather. Wales: 2.30-2.55 Wildlife safari to Ethiopia. 3.20-3.55 Rugby union. 3.55-4.10 Swyn y glec. 4.20 The doctors. 5.05 Asterix N Ireland: 11.32 News, weather. BBC 2 7.00 p.m. NEWS REVIEW and weather. 7.25 THE RAY STEVENS SHOW. 8.15 THE WORLD ABOUT US. 'Save Our Suffolk'. 9.00 MUSIC ON 2. 'The New Rhythm of Music'. Pierre Boulez on Bartok and Stravinsky and their place in 20th century music. 9.50 THE ROADS TO FREEDOM. The Reprieve. 'September 26, 1938—Evening'. 10.35 THE GOODIES. 11.05 NEWS ON 2 and weather. 11.10 FILM NIGHT. Malcolm McDowell, star of 'IF', talks to Tony Billow. ITV 11.00 Morning service. 12.10 p.m. On reflection. Dominic Le Foe reflects on John Nevil Maskelyne. 12.35 Music room. 1.00 Toolbox. 1.25 Granny gets the point. 1.45 All our yesterdays. 2.15 University challenge. 2.45 The big match. 3.45 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 4.45 Golden shot. 5.35 Flaxton boys. 6.05 NEWS FROM ITN. 6.15 SEVEN DAYS SPECIAL. 6.55 GIVE AT SEVEN. 7.00 STARS ON SUNDAY. 7.25 PLEASE SIR! 'A Star is Born'. With Frank Sinatra and Clint Walker. War drama set in the South Pacific. 9.50 POLICE AFTER. 10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.15 HAPPY EVER AFTER. 'The Marriage Vow'. 11.15 THIS IS... TOM JONES. 12.10 a.m. ONLY CONNECT. REGIONAL ITV CHANNEL: 11.00-12.35 London. 2.03 Weather. 2.05 Farming news. 2.15 Man from Uncle. 3.10 Big match. 4.05 Cartoon. 4.35 Date with Danton. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Battle of the V.I.'. With Michael Rennie and Patricia Medina. 10.00 London. 10.15 Tom Jones. 11.15 Avengers. 12 midnight Epilogue, weather. WESTWARD: 12.35-1.25 London. 1.30 Free and easy. 1.45 Farm and country news. 1.55 Acres for profit. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather. SOUTHERN: 11.00-12.05 London. 12.07 Weather. 12.10 London. 1.30 Sara and Hoppity. 1.45 London. 2.15 Farm progress. 2.45 Soccer. 3.45 Seaway. 4.35 News. 4.45 LONDON. 7.55 Picture. 'Turn the Key Softly'. With Yvonne Mitchell, Terence Morgan, Joan Collins and Kathleen Harrison. The stories of three women released from Holloway prison. 9.30 Mating machine. 10.00 London. 11.15 Frost. 12.10 Weather. Action 70. HARLECH: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.45 University challenge. 2.15 Big match. 3.15 Minutes: 'Good Beginning'. With John Fraser and Eileen Moore. Story of a newly married couple. 4.15 Adam 12. 4.45 London. 7.55 Screen: 'Hell and High Water'. With Richard Widmark and Bella Darvi. A multi-national crew go on a secret exploration in the Arctic to investigate Communist atomic goings on. 9.40 Eartha Kitt in the Penthouse Suite. 11.15 Frost. 12.10 Weather. HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 and HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 12.10 Dan sylw. 1.00 Sel a'i sylwedd. ANGLIA: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.55 Weather. 2.00 Farming diary. 2.30 University challenge. 3.00 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 3.55 Match of the week. 4.40 London. 7.55 'Tempest'. With Van Heflin and Silvana Mangano. Russia in the time of Catherine the Great. 10.00 London. 12.10 Epilogue. ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.30 Mr Piper. 1.45 London. 2.15 Star soccer. 3.15 'Tomorrow At Ten'. With John Gregson, Robert Shaw and Alec Clunes. A blackmailer locks a small boy in a room with a time bomb. 4.41 Horoscope. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'God's Little Acre'. With Robert Ryan and Aldo Ray. A god-fearing Georgia farmer thinks there is gold hidden on his land. 10.00 London. 10.15 Tom Jones. 11.15 Saint, weather. ULSTER: 12.10-1.30 London. 2.15 University challenge. 2.45 London. 3.45 Randall and Hopkirk. 7.55 Movie: 'The Forsyte Saga'. With Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon, Errol Flynn, Janet Leigh and Robert Young. The first part of Galsworthy's Forsyte odyssey. 10.00 London. 10.15 Tom Jones. 11.15 Festival cinema. YORKSHIRE: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.35 Calendar. 1.55 Farming diary. 2.25 Soccer. 3.20 'Double Confession'. With Derek Farr, Peter Lorr, William Hartnell, Naunton Wayne. Murder mystery. 5.05 Room 222. 5.35 London. 7.55 Film: 'Stalag 17'. With William Holden, Don Taylor and Otto Preminger. Prisoners of war race against time to find the traitor in their midst. 10.00 London. 11.15 Frost. 12.15 Weather. GRANADA: 11.00 London. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 1.55 Interpol calling. 2.20 Football. 3.20 Quentin durgens. 4.15 Secret service. 4.40 London. 7.55 Picture: 'Topkapi'. With Melina Mercouri, Maximilian Schell, Peter Ustinov and Robert Morley. A group of criminals plan to rob the Topkapi museum. 10.00 London. 11.15 Frost. TYNE TEES: 11.00 London. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 1.55 Farming outlook. 2.25 Shoot. 3.20 Champions. 4.15 Nanny and the professor. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Mister Moses'. With Robert Mitchum and Carroll Baker. An African tribe think Joe Moses is the Biblical Moses. 10.00 London. 10.15 Tom Jones. 11.15 Challenge. 12 midnight Epilogue. BORDER: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.50 Farming outlook. 2.15 Diary. 2.20 Football. 3.20 Saint. 4.15 Ev. 4.45 London. 7.55 'The Notorious Landlady'. With Kim Novak, Jack Lemmon, Fred Astaire and Lionel Jeffries. An American diplomat rents a flat from a murder suspect. 10.00 London. 10.15 Tom Jones. 11.15 Frost. 12.15 Epilogue. SCOTTISH: 12.10-1.25 London. 3.20 All our yesterdays. 3.50 Seaway. 4.45 London. 7.55 Cinema: 'St Joan'. With Richard Widmark and Richard Todd. 9.55 Appeal. 10.00 London. 12.15 Late call. GRAMPIAN: 12.10-1.25 London. 1.45 London. 2.15 Farm progress. 2.45 Training the family dog. 3.10 Movie: 'A Weekend With Lulu'. With Bob Monkhouse, Leslie Phillips and Shirley Eaton. A young man wants to spend a holiday weekend with his fiancée, but her mother insists on coming too. 4.45 London. 7.55 Cinema: 'Green Dolphin Street'. With Lana Turner, Van Heflin and Donna Reed. Two girls fall in love in the Channel Island seaport of St Pierre of the 1840s. 10.00 London. 12.10 Waiting.

US hots up trade war

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT
THE UNITED STATES House of Representatives took a major step towards world trade war when it voted 206 to 173 to approve the Trade Bill—described as the most protectionist legislation the US has seen since the early 1930s.

If it becomes law, the Bill will reverse 36 years of US free trade policy. It has already led to threats of retaliation from British and European exporters.

Main target of the legislation is Japan, though the import quotas contained in the Bill would markedly affect British and European exports to the US as well.

More than 70 industries have lobbied strongly for the Bill in an effort to counter undercutting by cheap imports.

Footwear and textiles head the list of goods whose import would be restricted under the Bill.

These restrictions alone could cost Britain at least £5 million in lost exports during a full year. And there is provision in the Bill to impose restrictions on a wide range of other commodities.

'Voluntary'

The Bill's supporters are pushing it through despite President Nixon's recent efforts to force Japan to accept 'voluntary' restrictions on trade with US.

Negotiations between the two countries—accompanied by considerable arm-twisting from the US, are reported to be near completion.

Textile imports under the Bill would be rolled back by more than 30 per cent and shoes by more than 40 per cent from next January—with catastrophic effects on Japan's footwear and textile industries.

Other industries can claim that they are being caused hardship by imports, and win increased tariff protection. The Bill's formula for distress cases could include such industries as motors—and the US is one of the biggest outlets for British car exports.

Fish, antibiotics, synthetic hormones, earthenware, explosives, many basic chemicals, sewing machines, calculating machines, radio and electronic products, clocks, optical lenses and sports goods are among items which could well be hit if the Bill goes through.

Retaliation

Retaliation against American exports from countries hit by the Bill's provisions could rapidly escalate, leading to a full-blown trade war situation and growing unemployment throughout the capitalist world.

The Bill jeopardizes the whole shaky structure of the capitalist world market and brings the threat of world slump closer than ever.

State of emergency in Calcutta docks

PORT authorities have declared a month's state of emergency in Calcutta docks, which have been brought to a standstill by strike action for the last fortnight.

It follows increasingly harsh government measures against the Maoist Naxalites, who are being hunted down by police gunmen.

Work at the port halted on November 6, when about 2,500 stevedores' labourers demanded registration of casual workers.

LATE NEWS

LAST DUSTMEN RETURN
Kensington and Chelsea dustmen, believed to be the last local authority workers still on strike, yesterday voted to end their eight-week stoppage and return to work on Monday.

The men stayed out when national action ended because the council refused to pay a £60 bonus for clearing the rubbish backlog. The men have refused a £15 offer.

From Monday they will refuse to go out in wet weather or to clear the backlog.

ITALY SCHOOL BOYCOTT
3,000 Turin school pupils boycotted their lessons yesterday as part of the national day of protest against the Italian government's education policies.

In Rome, fascists attacked left-wing students demonstrating for university reforms.

December 8 action restricted

State capitalists line up with the Stalinists

THE ONE-DAY strike and demonstration against the anti-union laws on December 8 is being deliberately restricted to an isolated protest by the Communist Party and 'left' trade union bureaucrats who support it.

This absolves them from any fight against TUC general secretary Victor Feather and the right wing in the unions.

It plays the game of the class enemy by avoiding the main question: the mobilization of the working-class movement to force the Tories to resign.

Yesterday's 'Times' was quite explicit.

Its editorial asks if 'the tide of wages expectations is beginning to recede under a combined pressure of public fear and economic recession'.

Not only that, but, 'The continued rise in unemployment comes as a warning to the greedy. Given these factors, 'The Times' advocates tougher resistance' to wage claims.

In other words, the Tories need to defeat the workers' wage offensive and get higher unemployment to make the anti-union laws work.

Therefore a fight on socialist policies against inflation—and unemployment policies of expropriation by the working class of capitalist companies—is necessary, combined with a campaign to force the union leaders to prepare a united fight to bring down the Tories.

'Face'

The Stalinists try to give themselves a military face by calling for the December 8 strike. Meanwhile they betray the miners' strike and oppose every attempt to make December 8 part of the preparation of a general strike to defeat the Tories.

The day after the Stalinists completed their sell-out of the miners' strike, the government announced severe cuts in coal-burning subsidies to the electricity generating industry.

Special compensation will be paid, however, to miners made redundant by pit closures,' says 'The Times'.

So the Stalinists helped the employers in the pit strike to resist the wage claim and to win time during which unemployment can play its part.

Mr Moss Evans, Transport and General Workers' national officer, on Thursday addressed a Southall meeting ostensibly called on the fight against the anti-union laws.

He confined himself to a general call for 'sufficient support from the trade union movement to oppose with all its strength the intentions of the Tory government'.

He is prepared to see December 8 happen, he is prepared to talk against the anti-union laws; but he does not raise the question of defeating the government; he does not raise the question of the responsibility of the TUC General Council and the trade union leaders in mobilizing the mass movement.

For these reasons Moss Evans fits in very well with the Stalinist action.

No wonder that Heath, and now 'The Times' in its call for 'tougher resistance', hailed

KHRUSHCHEV IN HOSPITAL

Former Soviet Prime Minister and Party Secretary Nikita Khrushchev is back in hospital with heart trouble, it was reported from Moscow yesterday.

the GKN-Sankey settlement last September as a beacon for the nation.

The instrument for getting the strikers back to work was Moss Evans!

passage of the Tory laws is to make it clear that the entire labour movement will resist them lock, stock and barrel if the government should ever try to use them. What is needed to smash the Bill is a demonstration NOW that the trade union movement will stand united behind any group of workers attacked under any part of the proposals if they become law.

'The Tories would be forced to rethink if a significant number of union leaders were to declare now that, in the event of the legislation coming into force, they would: 1. Announce their refusal to register... or assist in the work of the Industrial Court. 2. State that they would refuse to pay any fines imposed under the new laws or accept any cooling-off periods or strike ballots. 3. Tell their members that all disputes would be immediately declared official to stop rank and file members or shop stewards being penalized.' (Our emphasis, Editor.)

These revisionists are even more explicit than their Stalinist friends in giving the Tories just what they want.

For the Stalinists, this comes from the interests of the treacherous Kremlin bureaucracy in keeping 'peace' with the imperialists. For 'International Socialism' it is the fruit of years of revisionist attacks on Marxism from the standpoint of impotent middle-class radicalism.

It is this very same impotence, which can be turned only for purposes of confusing militants, that produces the headline this week in 'Socialist Worker': 'The Sad Spectacle of Lawrence Daly'.

'Sorry' and 'pitiful' are their adjectives to describe Daly's capitulation to the right wing in the miners' strike.

They write about him as a good militant who 'preferred to remain within the confines of "respectability" defined by his fellow union officials... He was so used to manoeuvring in a bureaucratic set-up that he had completely lost contact with the forces that had put him in office'.

The left-sounding words, against 'bureaucratic set-ups', are nothing but a lying deception.

Daly was the result of accepting the Stalinists as the 'left-wing' of the union. He had no political policy, the policy of a revolutionary party, independent of these Stalinists.

The Stalinists acted as strike-breakers all down the line, once they had been defeated on the executive with their motion for a delegate conference. 'Socialist Worker' is criminally silent on this Stalinist conspiracy to get the miners back to work.

It is no accident that the anti-communist centres in the West ardently take under their protection those trying to vilify the ideas of socialism and Soviet reality... Solzhenitsyn has even been awarded the Nobel prize with evidently provocative aims'.

This is a blatant lie, which can easily be refuted by a reading of the great writer's works.

But because their publication is banned in the Soviet Union (though it seems Pilotovich has secured copies for himself) the mass of the Soviet people have no opportunity of doing so.

See a review of Solzhenitsyn's 'One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich' in 'Tuesday's Workers Press'.

Apartheid property

IAN SMITH's white supremacist Rhodesian government yesterday got ready to publish an apartheid-style property bill, which imposes even tighter restrictions on the country's black majority.

Indeed, the paper concentrates on the demand to change the union's rules.

This is precisely the Stalinists' own get-out, when they explain that without the two-thirds majority rule, there could have been an official strike.

Daly's conduct in the miners' strike resulted from the same capitulation to the Stalinists as the 'Socialist Worker' has now adopted.

It is not a question of a 'sorry spectacle', but of the need always for a revolutionary party in constant struggle against Stalinism.

The Socialist Labour League and the Workers Press have shown that only such a struggle can produce a strategy and policy to unite the working class and defeat the Tories.

The middle-class politics of this wretched revisionist group have, in the last few years, driven them more and more into the arms of the Stalinists.

Their editorial in the same issue of 'Socialist Worker' is even more open than the Stalinists', and accepts that after the December 8 protest he should be stopped.

They do not call anywhere for the bringing down of the government, but only for declarations by union leaders that if the Bill is passed they will oppose its use!

Every trade unionist who is serious about the political fight against the Bill and against the Tory government will see the dangers in what 'Socialist Worker' now advocates, in this passage:

'The best way to stop the

BY CLIFF SLAUGHTER



CAV setters refuse to work tele-control

MACHINE SETTERS at London's Acton CAV plant are taking action from Monday against management's refusal to concede their six pay and condition demands.

Writer attacked again

SOVIET novelist Alexander Solzhenitsyn was attacked in a speech on Thursday by the Byelorussian Party official Stanislav Pilotovich.

Wretched Get-out

Indeed, the paper concentrates on the demand to change the union's rules. This is precisely the Stalinists' own get-out, when they explain that without the two-thirds majority rule, there could have been an official strike.

Nanterre clashes

STONES flew and tables crashed through plate glass windows at Nanterre University campus, near Paris yesterday as left-wing students clashed with supporters of a former Gaullist Justice Minister, Jean Foyer, who lectures there every Friday.

Foyer played a key part in setting up the State Security Court, where a number of left-wing militants have recently received long jail sentences, and helped to draw up the defence agreement under which French troops were sent to the Republic of Chad.

EEC strike

THE Common Market's staff of 4,161 civil servants will strike next Tuesday in Brussels in support of demands for higher pay, better working conditions and union representation, a spokesman for the European Economic Community said yesterday.

Some of the S Wales coalfield delegates leaving their conference in Porthcawl on Thursday when they adopted a recommendation from their union's area executive for a return to work. Now their jobs come under another threat from the Tories. See Page 1 story.

EEC pressure to open up Suez

COMMON MARKET Foreign Ministers have agreed to draw up a common position on four specific aspects of Middle-East policy.

They are: freedom of navigation, the creation of demilitarized zones between the Arab states and Israel, the status of Jerusalem and the question of the Palestinian refugees.

Significantly, the first three were proposed at Thursday's Munich meeting by France's Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann. The fourth was added during the talks.

The most pressing problem

for all the Common Market powers—and the Tories in Britain—is the opening of the Suez Canal, which has, of course, been blocked since the 1967 six-day war.

While less of a burden to the United States, the alternative Cape route has proved enormously expensive to the Common Market countries.

This has been a big factor behind the so-called 'pro-Arab' gestures of the French government since the Arab-Israeli war.

Always sensitive to every development in imperialist policy, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon stated in a TV interview on Thursday night that he never believed the Canal would be Israel's permanent political boundary.

'It was not only an excellent tank barrier,' he said, 'but a very strong bargaining point.' (It was Allon who represented the Zionists in their secret talks earlier this month with King Hussein of Jordan.)

New pressure

Bearing in mind that it was France that first raised the question of a Middle-East policy for the Common Market powers, the Zionist leaders doubtless fear that new pressure will be brought to bear on them to make peace with Egypt.

WEATHER

MUCH of England and Wales will be cloudy with scattered showers.

NE England will be cloudy, with rain falling as snow over the high ground. Generally becoming drier later.

In E Scotland it will be cloudy with rain, heavy in places, falling as snow over the high ground. W Scotland will start bright but become cloudy with occasional rain. In N Ireland it will be a bright day with occasional showers.

Temperatures will be mostly near normal.

Outlook for Sunday and Monday: Scattered showers and sunny spells in most places, but more general rain will spread to SW later. Temperatures near normal.

Spanish protests against Basque trial

THE MOVEMENT in Spain against the military trial of 16 Basque socialists—six face possible death sentences—continued throughout this week.

Despite a state of virtual campus occupation by armed police, Madrid university students held daily demonstrations and 'sit-ins' against the trial in Burgos and recent police violence in the capital.

On Wednesday police fired in the course of one demonstration.

The movement has now spread to the tens of thousands of students in technical colleges and engineering institutes in Madrid.

In the Basque country six young men have been arrested for distributing leaflets against the trial and unknown demonstrators raised a Basque flag, decorated with the hammer and sickle, over a monument to fascists killed in the Civil War.

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French public sector strikes

BY DAVID BARNES

OVER 12,000 French postal workers struck yesterday as a prelude to the second 'week of action' called by union leaders for all sections from next Monday.

Postal services are being squeezed through the refusal of Pompidou's government to provide the necessary finance in the national budget.

Workers are now forced to fight back for increased night-work pay, a shorter working week and parity of the provinces with Paris.

They take the lead among many sections of public sector workers who are now facing the government.

On Thursday firemen from all over France demonstrated against government neglect of conditions and against under-manning and crippling hours on duty, especially for unmarried men living in 'bar-racks'.

Teachers in all France's state secondary schools and many further education colleges will hold a two-day strike at the end of the month.

Like the firemen, they face sharply deteriorating conditions and increasing workloads because the government refuses to spend the money necessary to recruit enough trained teachers.

ELITE

Standards in all but the few elite schools are being forced down.

In Paris, tens of thousands demonstrated on Wednesday against government neglect of the city transport system, which leads to high fares, long delays and intolerable conditions for those travelling to work each day. (See 'Star turn' page 3.)

The sharpening question of unemployment is pushing union leaders into protest actions in many areas.

In the Aube region of E France 10,000 struck on Thursday, and 2,500 demonstrated in Troyes, the main town.

NOTHING

But the political leadership of the movement, like that in the Vosges region, is calculating to do nothing, but split up the strength of French workers.

Stalinist and Social Democratic union leaders protest against the 'strangulation of the area' in the government's 'Vith plan, asking the capitalist regime to give preferential treatment to depressed areas.

The rising cost of living thrusts one section of workers after another into wage claims which employers are increasingly determined to resist.

In a secret ballot organized by union leaders on Thursday 1,500 ground-service strikers at 'Air-Inter', France's main internal airline, decided to reject a management offer and continue their action.

Thirty iron mines in Lorraine (E France) are shut down by a growing strike. Following widespread unofficial stoppages the union leaders have called for a week of strike action.

REFUSAL

And in four of the seven Perrier plants in the Vosges, strikers continue against management's refusal to consider any wage increases before national negotiations, scheduled for the end of the year.

All Trades Unions Alliance

Second Annual Conference

Discuss

THE CHARTER OF BASIC RIGHTS

The right to a job, to strike and organize, to retain gains made, to fair prices, to welfare benefits and to decent housing.

Defend and maintain these rights in a fight to force the Tories to resign.

BIRMINGHAM Sat. December 19

Digbeth Civic Hall, Digbeth 10.30. am

For delegates' or visitors' credentials send 5s to Alan Wilkins, ATUA secretary, 53 The Hirton, Styvechale, Coventry.