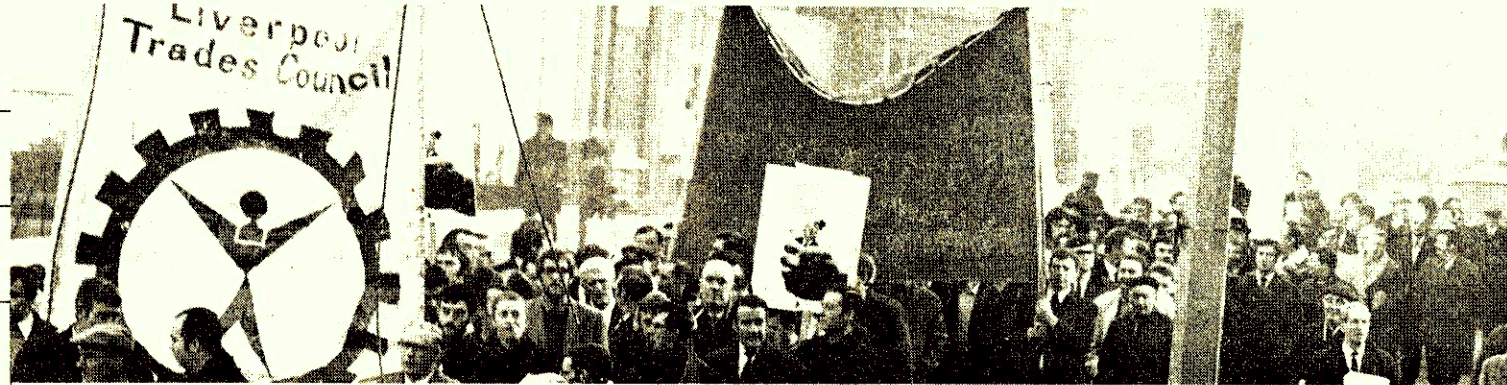


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Obviously, Heath's Kremlin admirers are satisfied with the 'sober' Tory government's progress.

Brandt's treaties with the Soviet Union and Poland, Gromyko's secret London talks with Tory leaders on the eve of the miners' strike—and Heath's statement welcoming closer relations with the Kremlin after the Stalinists had broken it—these events are all links in a single chain of conspiracy against the working class.

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Faced with the unbroken resistance of the Indo-Chinese and Arab peoples, and menaced at home by an unprecedented wages movement, imperialism is now being driven to open repression against the working class and its organizations.

Imperialism will undoubtedly rely more and more on Stalinism to do its counter-revolutionary work. This is the essence of the CP's 'protest' campaign against the anti-union laws.

The action was a trenchant reply to the campaign of hate and misrepresentation of the capitalist press, radio and TV and the no less insidious opposition of the TUC and the executives of many unions.

It has established indelibly the unquestioned capacity of the most-advanced workers to fight and their determination to finish off the government of millionaires, landlords and militarists.

The era of the mass strike has truly arrived. December 8 has shown the enormous scope for revolutionary propaganda and agitation in the working class and the growing receptivity to Marxist ideas and policies amongst advanced, politically-conscious workers.

December 8 has also, and more importantly, shown that an unofficial protest strike, no matter how large and militant, is still no substitute for an official national General Strike called as a result of a vigorous campaign within the unions to make the union leaders fight.

That thousands of workers demonstrated is important. But what is decisive is the organization of the overwhelming majority of the working class on an anti-Tory programme of action.

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In this sense, December 8 confirms the warning of Lenin to the early British and German Communists: 'You must soberly observe the actual state of class consciousness and preparedness of the whole class (not only of the Communist vanguard) of all the toiling masses (not only of its advanced elements) (Lenin, 'Left-Wing Communism').'

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Having pondered to the non-political syndicalist prejudices of these workers in the past, the Stalinists in many industries could not convince them to join their protest action.

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WELL OVER half a million workers struck yesterday against the anti-union legislation plans of Edward Heath's five-and-a-half-month-old Tory government.

At least 30,000 **DOCKERS** struck at Britain's five main ports.

Only 226 of Merseyside's 10,500 men reported for work yesterday morning, and the strike was supported by 6,000 dockers on each of London's morning and afternoon shifts. Hull, Manchester and Southampton docks were at a standstill.

Thousands of **CAR-WORKERS** withdrew their labour from plants of all the 'big four' manufacturers.

Ford's Halewood and Swansea plants were at a standstill, and about 8,000 stayed away from night and day shifts at the company's key Dagenham complex.

Vauxhall's 7,000-strong Ellesmere Port plant was halted.

About 9,500 Chrysler UK workers were out at Coventry and Linwood.

British-Leyland, despite the retreat of Sunday's all-stewards' meeting, had its Midlands light commercial vehicle, tractor, carburettor and Rover plants shut down.

With 2,300 workers on strike at its two Merseyside Standard-Triumph plants, about one-tenth of the combine's 200,000-strong labour force was on strike.

Some 3,500 workers at all three Merseyside-Lucas-Girling plants were on strike.

India Tyres at Inchinnan was also halted.

The Cwmbran, S Wales, GKN plant—making iron castings for the motor industry—was shut down by its 1,100-strong labour force.

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Without much conviction, Sir Geoffrey Howe—one of the faceless men most heavily involved in drafting the Industrial Relations Bill—claimed in Glasgow that the action was against the expressed wishes of most trade unionists.

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'The TUC must act.' 'Call a general strike against the anti-union laws.' 'Drive the Tories out.'

That was the unmistakable message of LONDON's magnificent 30,000-strong demonstration yesterday.

As one demonstrator—a Post Office telephonist—put it:

'Now we have to take the fight away from the framework of economic struggle and, in other words, have a General Strike with a political content.'

Strikers from SOGAT, the docks and the construction industry headed a huge and varied march. Contingents came from many different factories and trades.

The most explicit challenge to the official position on the anti-union law came from the

All Trades Unions Alliance contingent with its banners calling on the TUC to force the Tories to resign.

This was also the sentiment of many of the marchers, though only palely reflected in the hand-picked platform at the Hyde Park meeting that followed.

Stalinist Liaison Committee chairman Kevin Halpin gained a big cheer for a call for 'action of general strike dimensions' tacked on to a routine denunciation of press attacks.

'We are not opposed to the TUC, what we want is action,' he said.

Labour MP, Sidney Bidwell, assured the meeting that he wanted to see 'some determination' shown by the trade union and Labour leaders.

The TUC should be forced forward or forced out, he said.

'Morning Star' editor George Matthews, elevated on to the 20-foot high platform to get a much-needed boost for his paper's sagging fortunes, pleaded for aid to 'journals like "Morning Star" and "Tribune"' and said the demonstration was 'the voice of Britain' against the 'real disrupters'.

The meeting made quite plain that the Stalinist organizers of the Liaison Committee have no perspective and few concrete plans to carry forward the gains made yesterday.

About 1,500 **MANCHESTER** engineering and construction workers supported a march through the city organized by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

It was estimated that approximately 50,000 workers in the Manchester and Salford area stopped work for the day. Similar marches were being held at BOLTON and WARRINGTON.

Contingents of strikers on the demonstration came from Altrincham Trades Council; Openshaw GEC-English Electric; Manchester district of the Constructional Engineer-

ATUA's timely conference

IN TEN DAYS time in Birmingham, the All Trades Unions Alliance holds its second annual conference.

Coming at a time of Tory onslaught on all basic rights, this conference provides a tremendous opportunity to workers throughout Britain to discuss an organized opposition.

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The Cabinet's emergency committee under Home Secretary Mr Reginald Maudling is keeping the situation under review.

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Minister of Industry Sir John Eden's remark that rejection of the Electricity Council's £2 offer is 'sheer lunacy' indicates a government-inspired witch-hunt in the offing.

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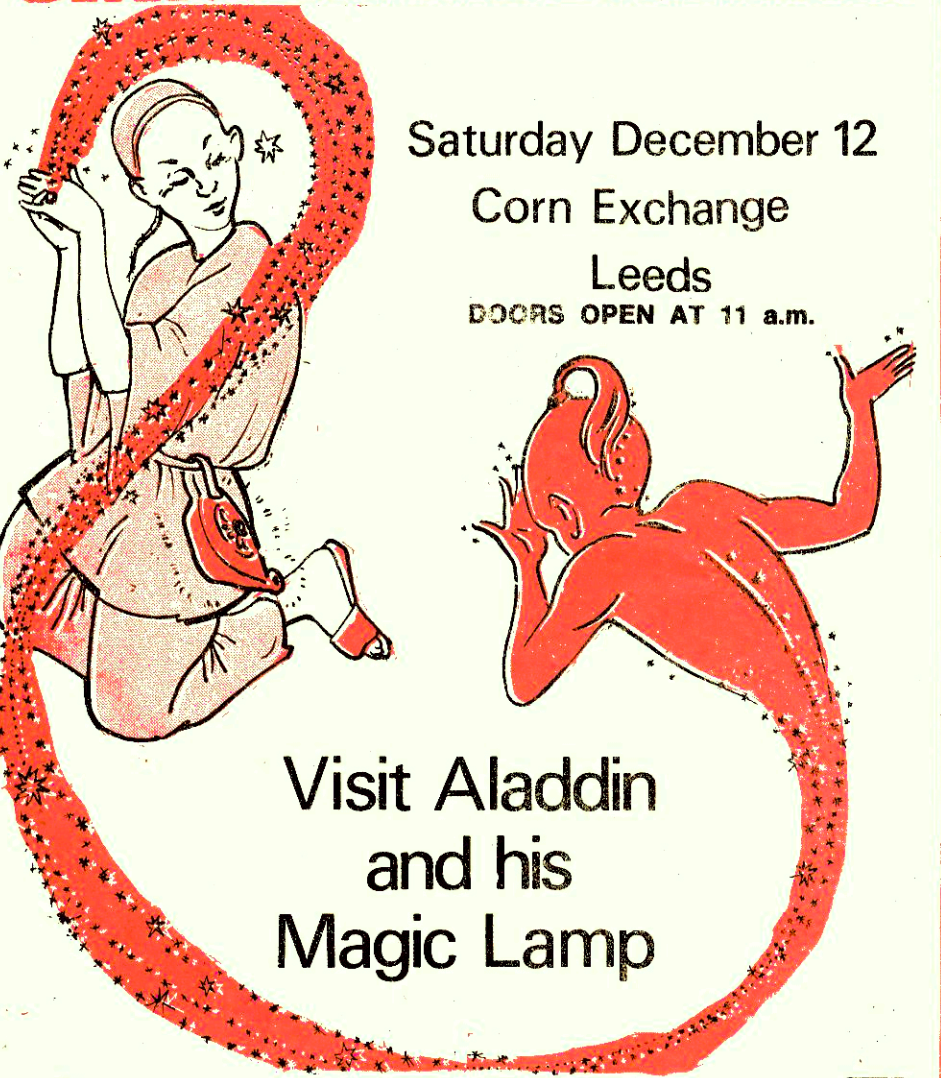
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GRADY

GRADY: three plays written for television by Edmund Ward, creator of 'The Planemakers' and the 'Power Game'; starring ANTHONY BATE in the title role.

OVER THE PAST three Tuesdays Yorkshire Television have transmitted at peak time a drama series called 'Grady'.

It's been a revealing and fascinating affair because it has expressed, albeit unconsciously in many ways, some of the contradictions which make up television in Britain today.

Grady is a strange although, at the same time, familiar figure and seems to be an amalgam of a number of myths and half-truths.

On the one hand he is a hard, self-sacrificing, working man who often loses his jobs because of his struggles and who frequently moves on—'50 jobs in a dozen industries'.

He is also given a rather poetic streak and his eloquent claim that the smell of the countryside coming to him in a train at night is sufficient to tell him where he is, clearly helps build a picture of a 'fine human being', as they say in the 'TV Times'.

And what are his struggles about? Clearly such a man, who sacrifices both wife and children, friends and comfort, must be deeply sustained by principles. So what are they?

Hero-figure

It turns out that this romantic hero-figure of a worker, this shop-floor militant who begins the series by returning from a prison sentence he got for trespassing and defending his right to look at the countryside, has the principles of the most backward, the most insular, the most individualist and most self-seeking worker.

FRANK CARTWRIGHT views GRADY: three Yorkshire television plays screened at weekly intervals from November 24.

... but all dressed up as sound sense and worth dying for.

He is made to say that he has 'no answers, just a few questions', but in each of the three parts of the series he was also made to fight for answers which he clearly held out as necessary to the well-being and progress of his fellow workers.

In the first part for example, he fought an all-out battle against a young militant who was clearly meant to represent the famous 'Trotskyist wrecker' of bourgeois and Communist Party literature.

This young man, Larson, was portrayed as a shadowy figure whose origins were unsure and, worse still, who appears to want to link local industrial struggles with world issues like the Vietnam war.

It's hardly necessary to add that he is also made to be unscrupulous, cold, a sponger off his girlfriend and rather incompetent.

Situation saved

But he does have a hold on the workers and he nearly gets them out on an unofficial strike. The situation is only

saved by Grady who appeals directly, openly and effectively to everything that is most reactionary in their consciousness.

He harangues them rhetorically—'Who is Larson? Who taught him? Who stuck him here?'.

He goes on: 'You're all being taken... strike by all means, but do it for the right reasons—do it for yourselves not for someone else' not, in other words, for some crazy

militant or for Vietnam. There is no strike.

Grady's solution in this case to the particular grievance of the men is that they work twice as hard—yes, literally—so that the works and warehouse storage space get clogged up, thus forcing management to reorganize 18 months earlier than they'd intended.

It's hardly necessary to spell out the implications here. Clearly the assumption of

the writer is that such reorganization contains the key to the welfare of the men as well as to the continuance in production of the boss.

Skilful

There is no hint of awareness that such reorganization would inevitably imply a struggle for profitability, and a speed-up and an intensification of exploitation through productivity deals.

The Archbishop and the 'Star'

THE CHURCH has always had a double role to play in politics: first, persuade the oppressed and exploited to turn the other cheek; second, advise the ruling class on the best way to maintain their rule.

During his S African tour, the Archbishop of Canterbury performed both functions—as befits a Prince of the Church.

As N. Makanda has explained so clearly in Workers Press, the Anglican Church was a leading institution in the enslavement of the peoples of southern Africa.

Ramsay's farewell speech at Johannesburg on December 1 contained the classical warning to the oppressor that his power was in danger.

'Violent revolution in this country might have the most tragic and ghastly results,' he declared.

'But I am sure that time is short and the only alternative is very big changes initiated by white people in removing some of the inhumanities and injustices.' Repeat, some!

In other words, get rid of a few of the most obvious expressions of exploitation—in case you lose the lot.

'The Times' had a leader about the speech next morning.

'It is conceivable,' said 'The Times', 'that the Archbishop's words will give some backing to the limited forces in S Africa still working for peaceful change. That would justify his visit.'

Not surprisingly, the Stalinists, leading apostles of 'peaceful change', were even more enthusiastic about Ramsay's speech.

The 'Morning Star' of December 2 also commented editorially. 'The Church of England is often described as "the Tory Party at prayer"', recalled the 'Star'. 'But after the comments of the head of the Church on S Africa, Mr Heath and the Tory

Cabinet must feel like repeating the words of Henry II about a former Archbishop of Canterbury: "Who will rid us of this turbulent priest?".

Was the 'Star' contemplating Ramsay being bumped off, perhaps at the hands of the 1922 Committee?

Without elaborating the point, the editorial went on: 'Professing Christians like Mr Heath and Sir Alec Douglas-Home claim to be able to reconcile the supply of arms to Vorster's apartheid regime with their religious principles.

'By doing so, they only discredit Christianity among hundreds of millions of people, black and white.'

The implication seems clear.

To prevent further undermining of belief in the 39 Articles—and, at the same time, to avert the danger to Vorster's regime—Ramsay would have to ordain as Ministers of Her Majesty's Church of England the leaders of the Communist Party.

Perhaps we now should revise the old quotation and dub the CP 'The Church of England at politics'.

Roads to Rome

EUROPEAN reactions to the alleged attempt on the Pope's life in the Philippines were varied.

Albanian Radio on November 28 put it this way:

'Pope Paul VI, the head of obscurantism and world Catholicism, intends to make a tour of some countries of Asia, particularly of S Asia, where the peoples have risen against the imperialists, the American aggressors and reactionary puppet regimes...'

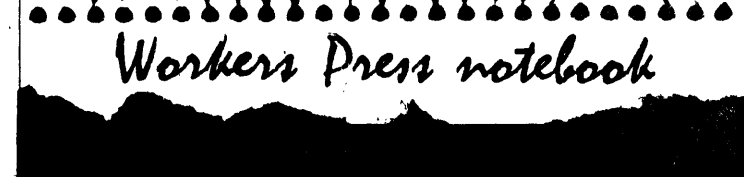
'The Pope's visit... is a desperate attempt by the Catholic Church, which relies on feudalism, to save its diminished prestige and stem its rapid decline as an exploitive and tyrannical force.'

It has also been reported that as soon as the Pope arrived at the Manila airport an attempt was made on his life. Only the quick intervention of the Cardinals waiting for him saved him from death.

'For protection the Pope is surrounded by an enormous police force.'

The Polish Press Agency took a rather different line.

It reported on the same day that the President of the Council of State, Marshal of Poland Marian Spychalski, has sent a telegram to Pope Paul VI, expressing his deep concern at the news of the criminal abortive attempt on the Pope's life.'



Chelsea expects

THERE IS something rotten in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

It is the mounting mass of old rubbish adorning the streets, as the Tory Council refuse to offer decent terms to the borough's dustmen for its clearance.

Living in the only area where the dustmen's strike has not been finally settled, residents have been writing angry letters to 'The Times'.

But they were hardly pacified by the comments of the Council leader, Sir Malby Crofton.

Far from promising to do anything about the situation, he boasted that his Council was 'standing firm on a principle'.

They had decided, he said, 'that we were not prepared to bribe our men to return to work.'

'I deeply regret that other boroughs have seen fit to do so, particularly as we in Ken-

sington contribute £1 million a year in "rate equalization" to other so-called poorer boroughs.

'We are proud of the stand which we have made in Kensington, and I believe we have reason to be.

'Unless those who have managerial responsibility in Britain today take a stand against unreasonable demands, at whatever personal inconvenience or hardship, then the future for this country will indeed be grim.'

So, as the scab contractors fail to deal with the decaying refuse of Kensington and Chelsea, ratepayers can console themselves with the knowledge that Sir Malby is proud of them.

The separate performances into a convincing whole. He'll try to control the pace properly, to offset the mood established in one scene with that in another and so on.

He'll try to make sure it 'looks right'. Cameraman, sound recordist, make-up, costume and many others will contribute their talents too.

No vacuum

But, of course, none of these very skilled people live in a social vacuum.

The actress who played Grady's wife for example, Diana Coupland, did an excellent job of the suffering but loving woman. In the current issue of 'TV Times' she also appears in full colour over two pages showing off her taste in expensive clothes against a background of her expensive house.

Anthony Bate too, as Grady, resorted to some very clever devices to give conviction to speech, a terseness, a sharp way of saying romantic or moving lines; also a certain physical trimness and hardness and a careful walk.

He was not a caricature and it was precisely the weight that his playing added to the lines which made them effective, and which made their reactionary content so 'appealing'.

In last week's episode Wilfred Pickles played the wife's father, a retired worker but a bosses' man. In Grady's words:

'There's millions like him... no bother. Got a gold watch and a few bob a week. He's settled for a small world.'

Again the combination of the surface features of such a worker (no mention of the price such millions pay for 'their small world') with the features which a professional sentimentalizer of the ruling class like Pickles finds so easy, made for a convincing characterization.

'Reality?'

And that's the point; within the terms of reality laid down by radio and television, the bourgeois press and most films, the situations, acting and writing of 'Grady' will have seemed 'real'. But it depends for its effect precisely on its incompleteness, on turning certain selected and surface features into the whole.

The writer of the series, Edmund Ward, did the same thing in his other immensely successful series, 'The Planemakers' and 'The Power Game'.

In those the late Patrick Wymark brought the same skills to his portrayal of the tycoon and Ward's scripts carried a similar conviction.

He showed us how 'human' everybody was and that, after all, is a role of the artist.

Indeed it is. And the conviction that Ward's scripts carry for millions of people is only a measure of how much those millions seek to see the real world distilled and made comprehensible in their art. It's from that mass desire that the mass media profit.

Ward gets closer than most, but it's precisely where he refuses to go, where he refuses to look, what he dare not hear that the contradictory reality lies.

Substitution

It's also relevant that such a series should come from Yorkshire Television. Its leading lights are Donald Baverstock and Alisdair Milne, two men who helped start 'Tonight' on BBC TV in the 1950s.

They continue to try to substitute a certain toughness for objectivity, as they did then, but like then their shift to this kind of output reflects big changes.

We see with class eyes and hear with class ears. A series like 'Grady' may do well with audiences precisely because it seems 'so true' and so contemporary.

It seems 'tough' and 'sharp'; it speaks with accurate not caricatured class accents and looks authentic. It's written and played with conviction. But it's a lie for all that.

It's how it seems to a middle-class writer and to artists quite separated from the actual realities of working-class and industrial life. It's how it seems on the surface.

Television companies are always looking for writers, directors and actors who can bring more 'reality' to the screens. The response from the audience is recognized. The companies pay well for such talent.

But there's also a point at which a drama can suddenly become too real!

Censored

Some of the original Wednesday Plays were censored or delayed for this reason.

But at what point is this qualitative transformation reached? And how can a thriving writer, etc. avoid crossing the evil line?

There's another side to this quandary, too. Some documentaries have been censored because they were too 'imaginative' and not real enough.

It's a hell of a problem doing television these days and 'Grady' is exactly the answer the executives are seeking.

But notice the change from the hero as tycoon to worker, however backward. It's necessary for television to keep up.



GRADY's wife Diana Coupland as she appeared in the 'Dressing for him' spread in the current issue of 'TV Times'.

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ADVANCE NOTICE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1971. 11 a.m.

ALEXANDRA PALACE
Wood Green London, N22

Young Socialists and All Trades Unions Alliance
GREAT NATIONAL RALLY AGAINST TORYISM

BOOK THIS DATE NOW!

Photo-news

Half Merseyside at standstill

ALMOST HALF of Merseyside's industry and commerce came to a total standstill yesterday as 100,000 workers came out on strike against the Tory government and its anti-union laws.

20,000 of them protested in Liverpool's biggest political demonstration in living memory.

Officials of the Liverpool Trades Council estimated that their call to strike against the Industrial Relations Bill had shut down nearly 50 per cent of Merseyside.

Docks on both sides of the river were at a total standstill. The strike also halted production at Ford's, Halewood, and Vauxhall motors at Ellesmere Port involving 23,000 car workers there.

MILE-LONG

All construction sites were immobilized as a massive lobby of building workers joined men from scores of other factories in the area on the mile-long march.

All delegations echoed the president of the Liverpool Trades Council, Eddie Loyden, when he told the Workers Press:

'This is only the beginning. Now we must go forward to a General Strike to bring this government down.'

The column of chanting workers took over half an hour to file into

the square by Liverpool's Pier Head. There, in an electric atmosphere, compared by older workers with the mass demonstrations of the 1920s, a resolution demanding the TUC organize a General Strike and link this to the campaign to bring the government down was passed unanimously.

Eddie Loyden gave this message to the Workers Press:

'This massive and inspiring display of class solidarity is an indictment of those in the trade union movement who say that workers cannot bring down this government and defeat the Bill.'

'Now the Trades Council will go forward to extend the struggle—this is only the beginning,' he added.

CONFIDENT

Merseyside yesterday confirmed the views of all those in the labour movement who are confident of the ability of the working class to smash Tory reaction.

The Liverpool Trades Council deserve an accolade from all workers for this bold and courageous step in the defence of the historic rights of the working class.



Banners on the London march.



THIRTY Sheffield factories shut down yesterday and 600 workers and students marched through the city centre.



Paperworkers, constructional engineers, tenants, electricians and printers joined a 200-strong anti-Bill march through Gravesend, Kent, yesterday. Organized by the Gravesend Trades Council, it was led by a delegation of the 3,000 Kingsnorth power-station workers who transformed their work-to-rule into a strike for the day. Also on the march were engineering workers from factories in the Erith, Kent, area. Some 2,500 printing workers were estimated to be on strike in the Gravesend, Northfleet and Southfleet districts.



Left and below: Other sections of the London march.

ATUA

FROM PAGE ONE

that they will not help the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board.

The Trades Union Congress should be compelled by union members and working men and women as a whole to call a General Strike against anti-union legislation.

The AEF executive council, as a first step, should have endorsed its members' action on December 8 instead of running away.

There has been a resolution for a month on our notice-board, carried by the shop stewards' committee, calling on our leaders to organize a general stoppage.

The Tories, of course, are not going to withdraw this Bill after just a one-day token. I supported this action on the 8th as a means to demand the TUC call a General Strike. Our rights won't be defended just by protests or gimmicks.

Further, the Bill will not be defeated unless the Tory government is driven out. We must ensure that we

are not shackled and made to worship at the shrine of supply and demand without having the right to demand the price for our labour, and losing the basic requirement of life—the right to work.

The alternative to the Tory government, brought down by workers' action, is a government that will carry out truly socialist measures of nationalization under workers' control. The working class has to make certain that the next Labour government comes to power with mass action that will protect our rights taking place around all these demands.

I agree that the answer to unemployment is the sit-in and occupation of factories. We fought for a sit-in in our factory. We lost the vote among our members, but the big thing is to strive for consciousness.

Workers are coming to understand more and more the attack of capital on labour, which threatens all the rights they have won. They have been held back only by the lack of a leadership basing itself on the true nature of the class struggle.

Ten coaches also travelled to London to lobby MPs on the anti-union Bill.

Workers from the British Steel Corporation's River Don works, English Steel, Sharncliffe and other factories followed the engineering union's banner through the busy Sheffield streets and responded with shouts of 'Tories out!' to the comments of Sheffield housewives on price rises.

The massive anti-Tory feeling of the demonstrators was expressed by English Steel engineering worker Alan Wilson.

'There are 3,000 out at the River Don plant', he told the Workers Press.

'There has been a lot of discussion about December 8 and it was a unanimous decision to strike. But the prospects of further one-day strikes will not get us anywhere.'

'At first, older workers would not support the strike, because it was only for one day. We had to explain that this was only the beginning, leading up to a general strike to throw out the Tories.'

At the mass meeting following the march, AEF district secretary, George Caborn, leading Sheffield Communist Party member, expressed his 'hopes' that the TUC leaders would fight.



Half million out

FROM PAGE ONE

ing Union; Shell, Carrington; Ferranti; Kellogg International; Hawker-Siddeley, Woodford; British Steel; Shell Chemicals; International Combustion; Metal Box Company, Altrincham; DATA workers, some from AEI; Manchester dry dock.

A very short open-air meeting passed a motion that: This meeting calls on the General Council of the TUC to mobilize the working class against the Bill on a scale never seen since 1926.'

Behind the Purnell's Federated Chapel banner 'No to Tory dictators', 500 trade unionists and students from the University and Polytechnic marched through the city.

Rolls-Royce toolroom was one of the leading sections taking part in the stoppage.

About 1,500 workers and students demonstrated through BIRMINGHAM yesterday afternoon against the Bill.

Leading the march was the local NUVB banner, and there were small contingents from most car factories in the area.

Many of the immigrant workers from Birmid-Quicast and Midland Motor Cylinder at Smethwick—closed down by the strike—intended to stay out for two days.

In S WALES building, car and steel workers were to the fore amongst 10,000 taking part there in yesterday's stoppage.

signers (SLADE) joined print colleagues in SOGAT Division A including those from Foreman's, the biggest print shop in Nottingham.

The Trades Council held a two-hour meeting in the town centre, but tried unsuccessfully to prevent All Trades Unions Alliance members from speaking.

SOGAT Division A members from Robinsons, Mardon & Hall and other firms made up the hard core of an estimated 8,000 strikers in BRISTOL yesterday.

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By a two-thirds majority the 5,000 men on the British Petroleum Baglan Bay construction site voted to strike. The Cwmbran steel works came out.

At Ford's Swansea plant 1,800 were out while some sections struck at the Llanelli British-Leyland factory.

Three colleges struck in the Cardiff area: the University, College of Art and Newport Art College.

Though a S Wales division miners' union banner was carried on the demonstration, marchers commented that leading Stalinists in the pits had not pulled out one colliery.

About 15,000 workers were on strike in the NORTH EAST.

Some 2,000 boilermakers, shipwrights and students marched through SOUTHAMPTON yesterday afternoon.

In N IRELAND, shipyards and light engineering factories were hit by the strike.

A complete stoppage shut Sirocco engineering near Belfast and Short Brothers and Harland's Castlereagh works.

Tories

FROM PAGE ONE

Stalinist betrayal of the miners who, despite their strong anti-Tory feelings, did not come out on December 8.

This also explains why, in many areas like the Midlands and Crawley, Stalinist stewards dropped the campaign for December 8 when they met right-wing opposition.

The Stalinist leadership has no intention of allowing December 8 to transcend its 'protest' limits and is consciously evading a major struggle on the anti-union laws or even the employers' rationalization plans.

'We are very disappointed in the TUC—in fact, we are disgusted with them.'

'After today there should be an all-out, complete strike. The TUC and the unions should make it official. There would be definite support among our members.'

They are afraid of any attempt to extend the struggle within the unions and exploit the massive revolutionary potential which still lies dormant within them.

They have no desire to upset the native bureaucracy in Britain or to embarrass the Moscow leadership which has once again praised the Heath government and given it political confidence.

We therefore urge all militant workers to transform this protest movement into a revolutionary avalanche by waging a vigorous campaign within the unions to make their leaders fight for a policy of General Strike to force the Tories to resign.

Every leader in the trade union movement must be made to stand up and be counted.

Bombard your ECs with resolutions. Lobby your district committees and executive

Power

FROM PAGE ONE

Clark was meeting employers' representatives and the N Ireland TUC committee at Stormont while the emergency committee of top civil servants was also meeting.

A side-effect of yesterday's December 8 strike was Fleet Street's inability to add any fuel to such attacks or get under way with its customary scare stories.

The swift reaction by the Ulster government is a warning that similar preparations are being made here.

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BRIEFLY

PRESIDENT NIXON is still trying to stave off a national rail strike planned for tomorrow night.

He has asked Congress to extend for another 45 days the period during which railway unions are forbidden to strike. The strike was first called for January 1, 1970.

KING HUSSEIN of Jordan flew into Washington from New York yesterday for talks with President Nixon.

Under discussion were the prospects for resuming peace talks with the Israelis. Israeli Defence Minister Dayan will be in Washington for similar talks on Friday.

CALLEY trial witness Thomas Turner (24) told the Fort Benning, Georgia, hearing that he saw Lt William Calley spend over an hour massacring Vietnamese civilians.

Turner, a corporal in Calley's platoon at the time of the March 1968 My Lai massacre, now a student at Nebraska University, described how Calley ordered small groups of villagers into a drainage ditch and shot them.

CALCUTTA and surrounding W Bengal were paralysed yesterday by a general strike against police repression, including manhunt by armed police for members of the Naxalite Maoist organization.

Transport services came to a halt as all police were put on duty and the army mobilized under the W Bengal government's state of emergency.

Police opened fire during an attack on a police station in N Calcutta.

PAKISTAN'S parliamentary election results—the first in the country's history—have shown Sheik Mujib's separatist Awami League leading in E Pakistan. In the western section of the country the left-wing People's Party of Mr Bhutto went ahead with 50 out of 122 seats declared.

Military ruler President Yahya Khan has warned that if a new parliament fails to adopt a constitution maintaining the political unity of E and W Pakistan, the country will revert to military rule.

LONDON teachers yesterday responded to the Inner London Teachers' Association's strike call despite the teachers' union executive branding the stoppage unofficial.

By lunchtime 12,000 pupils had been sent home and more were to follow as 31 schools were completely closed and 140 partially shut.

STOCKPORT yesterday saw 20,000 workers out, affecting 30 factories including Hawker Siddeley, Bowater-Stevenson, Bredbury steel works, Mirle's, Pickup's and Fairey engineering.

In NOTTINGHAM a big response came from Raleigh's where a majority of the 200 toolroom men walked out and were joined by garage mechanics.

Sections of the Society of Lithographic Artists and De-