

Common Market emergency conference

Labour must discuss anti-union law

By the Editor

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The parliamentary leaders, aided by the Stalinists and the Labour 'lefts', believe, as their predecessors did in Germany, Austria and Italy, that the longer the Tories are in power, the more unpopular they will get and in five years' time they will be defeated.

The corollary to this cretinous idea of 'after Heath, our turn' is that all revolutionary class struggle opposition must be dropped and the Tories allowed to get on with the job of smashing the workers' organizations while the MPs talk and the trade union leaders organize their petitions.

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This is the surest road to the corporate state.

Sell-outs

Contrary to what Mr Wilson said in parliament, it is not the Tories who suffer from a 'Mugshot' mentality, but the Labour leaders, who are preparing not one but many gross sell-outs for the working class.

The Tories are turning this to their own account by perfecting their preparations, isolating and undermining sections of workers in struggle and increasing their strength by attacking social services and marauding the nationalized industries on a massive scale.

In every sense it is a very dangerous situation and is an unpostponable challenge to the working class.

The only way to begin to meet this attack is by forcing the trade union and parliamentary leaders to stop the shameful retreat and stand their ground against the Tories.

This means not only a vigorous campaign to make the TUC call a General Strike to force the Tories to resign, but also a determined struggle to make the Labour Party leadership declare itself on

● PAGE FOUR COL. 2

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The committee had been encouraged to step up its work in union branches now that entry negotiations seemed to be going on in earnest, he told Workers Press yesterday.

A former witch-hunting Labour Party national youth officer and MP displaced at the last General Election, Williams said that sponsors of his committee include Lord Cooper of the General and Municipal Workers, the Amalgamated Engineers' and Foundryworkers' Jim Conway, Chemical Workers' secretary

● PAGE FOUR COL. 4

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His successor, the Silesian party leader Edward Gierk, is closely linked with the ultra-Stalinist 'Partisan' group.

This is headed by General Mieczyslaw Moczar, who, together with four of his supporters, was elected onto the ruling politburo at Sunday's Central Committee session in Warsaw.

This new regime, which obviously has Kremlin backing, will hit out at the Polish working class no less viciously than Gomulka.

This is already evident from Gierk's televised speech on Sunday night. He endorsed the repressions of the previous week, stressing that 'decisions concerning public order—action taken in the disturbances—were necessary in the interest of the nation's security.'

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'The entire country needs law and order', Gierk went on, urging that 'all factories, enterprises and public services should work normally, allowing nothing to disturb peace and security on the streets.'

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Gierk's first task is to break the strike wave, which in less than a week has spread from the Baltic coast to engulf every industrial region in Poland.

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Then on Saturday, hoping against hope that Gomulka's tanks had done their job, the 'Star' reverted to its original line of playing down the clashes, with its headline 'Life returning to normal'.

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● PAGE FOUR COL. 6

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Despite massive US aid, and the dispatch of a crack S Vietnam paratrooper regiment to the defence of Phnom Penh, Lon Nol is in serious trouble.

In Vietnam, Australian troops in Saigon have been

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The regulations include bed checks to see that all Australian personnel are in at 10 p.m., orders that they must not walk the streets in groups of less than three, and 'shotgun guards' on all vehicles.

Paynter recoils from logic of his past

VERBAL opposition to the government's Industrial Relations Bill expressed by every tendency in the labour movement, from left to right, is an indication of the power of the anti-Tory offensive developing inside the working class.

To a man, the trade union leaders refused to fight the Wilson government and its open and unashamed subservience to the needs of international capital.

They therefore share in full the responsibility for the return of this reactionary Tory band.

In speaking out against the Bill today, they rely on short memories and the hope that the Tories may be persuaded



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to soften the bitter pill through paper opposition.

Ex-Communist Party member, ex-secretary of the National Union of Mine-workers and ex-member of the Commission for Industrial Relations, Will Paynter is a case in point.

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'Tory governments are, by tradition and class identity, anti-working class and anti-trade union', he says. This appears to be a recent revelation, considering that he waited five months after the election before resigning from the CIR.

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● PAGE FOUR COL. 3

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£1,250 Dec. Appeal Fund reaches £852 15s 9d

THREE DAYS to go and still £397 4s 3d to raise. We are relying on you to complete this fund before Xmas. Every ounce of effort must be made during this week.

We promised you the Workers Press would be a revolutionary socialist paper that told the truth to the working class. We have kept our promise.

The growing response we are constantly getting makes us even more determined to keep up this important fight for principles.

So, don't sit back until the fund is complete. Do everything you can in the next few days. Post all your donations to: Workers Press Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4.

• PAGE FOUR COL. 4

Union flurry over shipyard's buyers

From our industrial correspondent

HARLAND and Wolff's management were busy denying reports of a work-to-rule at its Belfast shipyards yesterday as union leaders met prospective candidates for their purchase.

'It is merely an overtime ban,' a company spokesman said.

Angered by the company's refusal to make up pay-lost during the electricity dispute, workers at the shipyards decided to work-to-rule this week.

Talks between the unions and the management did not take place yesterday because most of the union leaders were in Tyneside discussing the future of the yard with Sir John Hunter of the Swan Hunter group.

This group of potential buyers is one of the four interested in the yards.

Harland and Wolff, which employs 12,000 men, is under temporary state control until its future is settled.

Talks

President of the Boilermakers' Society, Mr Danny McGarvey, has already had talks with Greek multi-millionaire Aristotile Onassis, who owns over 25 per cent of shares in the company. His proposals for the future of the yards have already been put to the N Ireland government.

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CHILEAN FAMILY IN SLUM

AFFLUENT FAMILY AT HOME



By a special correspondent

CHILE

Socialist revolution or defeat of the working class?

ON MONDAY, November 23, on BBC television's 'Panorama', we saw a moody Allende, the so-called 'Marxist' president of Chile, state quite clearly that his political programme was 'neither socialist nor communist'. This amounts to saying that it is a capitalist programme.

populist movements in Latin America in the past and present.

The main difference rests in the fact that in Chile it is a powerful coalition of workers' parties which has gained power on this reform programme.

Apart from that very important difference, the programmes of bourgeois populism and Allende's Popular Front are very similar. They amount to maintaining an obviously disintegrating capitalist order and trying to put new life into it.

This, of course, is justified in theoretical terms with the thesis of 'two-stage revolution' so dear to Stalinists and so deadly to any working-class revolutionary movement — Indonesia, Brazil, Iraq, Pakistan, to mention only the most tragic cases of defeat.

Tasks

Contrary to the Stalinist thesis, our position as revolutionary Trotskyists is that there cannot be and will not be such 'two-stage revolution', that those transitional tasks of the complete bourgeois revolution cannot be realized within the context of the Chilean bourgeois state.

There is only one way in which such transformations could take place, and that is the overthrow of bourgeois parliamentarism, and the abolition of the professional army, the establishment of the power of workers' councils and workers' militia and the establishment of a planned socialist economy.

imperialist US economy.

Foreign investments are valued at over a billion dollars. Apart from the large mining concerns such as Anaconda, Kennecott Corporation and Cerro Corporation, there are large monopolies, mostly American, such as IT & T, Dow Chemicals, Ford, General Motors, General Tyre and Rubber Co., North American Rockwell, etc.

But the importance of these monopolies is not measured by their number or size of the investment. It is measured in the degree of integration with other manufacturing or servicing plants in other countries, in particular in the US, by the control of markets where export goods are destined, by the control of supplies of intermediate goods, raw materials and machinery by the private ownership over the technological and scientific capabilities required for the normal functioning of many industries, for their renewal and improvement.

Last, but certainly not least, it is measured by the control that such firms have over finance capital, or the power that finance capital may have over them.

This network of advanced capitalist ownership and control over backward capitalism is certainly not an 'abstract theory', but a 'hard fact of life'.

Power

In the case of copper, the really crucial industry in Chile, due both to the concentration of imperialist power and its economic importance for Chile, it is well known today that imperialists have to a certain extent succeeded in creating a surplus capacity for the next decade, heading-off some of the 'nationalist steam' in countries such as Zambia, Peru and Chile.

'The world copper market is dominated by a few major consumers and the copper industry has become so integrated that that producers and consumers are often the same giant companies.

'Both Anaconda and Kennecott have made large efforts to achieve integration and diversification. . . . More importantly, both companies have done their best to develop their own mines within the US so as to be less dependent on foreign supplies.' (Financial Times, August 27, 1970.)

This has been reflected in the price of copper, which has declined since April this year from £749 per ton to less than £500 per ton.

International capital is not in the economic position to make concessions; there is a major economic and financial crisis on the way in every single advanced capitalist country and this includes first and foremost US capitalism. There is no reason to believe that imperialist capitalism is ready to make economic concessions to Chilean workers.

Referring to the nationalization with compensation of the copper mines (which are already 51 per cent owned by the Chilean government), the 'Sunday Times' said:

'If the terms for the remaining 49 per cent are seen to be less generous than those already negotiated, Allende could well find in future that vital foreign investment essential for the further expansion of the Chilean mines will no longer be forthcoming.

'As Americans, Japanese, Canadians, French, Yugoslavs, Rumanians and Britain's Charter Consolidated are currently engaged in schemes to a total

of \$767 million in the country, there is a pretty big appeal to upset.' (Sunday Times, September 13, 1970.)

Would the Stalinist bureaucracy in the USSR provide?

Clearly it is a question of vast capital resources, technology, markets, etc. which could potentially be absorbed by the huge nationalized economies of the deformed workers' states.

This is true, but only potentially. The workers' economy of the USSR, at present under the chaotic rule of bureaucracy, could not and will not, are convinced, fill in the gap.

Quite the contrary, the Stalinist bureaucracy will try by all means to convince Allende to play it as cool as possible, so as not to upset their present active deals with imperialism.

One cannot expect the ruling bureaucracy in the USSR presently displaying such desperate efforts to attract imperialist capital and technology into the workers' economy, to support any attempt by Allende's government to break its dependence on imperialist capital and technology?

The Kremlin rulers will try to convince Allende to do just the opposite—to deal, co-exist, compromise.



ALLENDE CAMPAIGNING

Some declarations attributed to Fidel Castro seem to point in this direction.

'Time' magazine, in its October, 19 1970 issue, quotes a series of 'advice' by Fidel Castro to Allende by means of Allende's daughter, Beatriz.

We remain doubtful on the authenticity of such quotes. But considering the clear tendency of Castro's government to transform itself into a mouthpiece of the Kremlin bureaucracy, such declarations are quite plausible and probably authentic.

1. Keep your copper exports within the dollar area.
2. Don't let your Chilean copper industry technicians get out of the country.
3. Don't talk too much revolutionary rhetoric. You know you are a revolutionary, and I know it, but don't shout it from the rooftops.
4. Don't break off relations with the US.
5. Try to maintain good relations with the Chilean military.

(Times, October 19, 1970.) So how is 'nationalization with compensation' going to take place? How is that industry going to develop? How is the 'bourgeois-democratic revolution' going to be financed?

How is agriculture going to emerge from backwardness?

Clearly if imperialism will not provide capital resources, technology and markets without 'fair profit rates' and if the Russian bureaucracy will not provide it either, the load must rest on working-class shoulders.

Allende's first major speech as Chilean president makes this suggestion clear more than once:

'The only way we who love this country and believe in it can overcome underdevelopment and build a new society is by putting all our shoulders to the wheel.'

'No state in the world is rich enough to satisfy all the aspirations of all its citizens if these do not first wake up to the realization that rights go hand in hand with duties and that success has more meaning when it stems from one's own efforts and sacrifice . . .'

'The full development of the people's awareness will result in spontaneous voluntary work, which has already been proposed by the young people.' ('Granma', Havana, November 15, 1970.)

Clearly, even a revolutionary overthrow of bourgeois power in Chile would have to make it quite clear that backwardness would not disappear overnight—in particular if any delay occurred in the internationalization of the revolution.

'Solidarity'

However, to speak in those 'solidarity' terms to the working class, and at the same time make all political decisions dependent on a bourgeois parliament and on the approval of the armed forces, which guarantee of bourgeois order, is, to say the least, to deceive the working class.

Only the fortress of proletarian dictatorship could make all the sabotage of the bourgeoisie and its professional politicians useless.

Only the abolition of the professional armed forces, and its replacement by workers' militia, could eliminate the capitalist and imperialist blackmail of the 'coup d'etat' of rightist reaction.

Only in the context of a proletarian dictatorship would 'voluntary' work have any sense at all for the working class!

But the working class, which voted massively for the Communist Party and Socialist Party candidate, is not particularly in the mood for 'sacrifice'.

The strength of the Popular Front vote is based on the aggressive mood of the working masses that have suffered decades of poverty and exploitation.

The electoral victory has certainly raised their militancy as the 70 per cent wage increase demanded by 12,000 miners of 'El Teniente' copper mines shows.

This claim, considering an inflation rate of 25 to 30 per cent per year, is not by itself as large as it sounds.

But coming soon after the 47 per cent settlement of last October, which took place after 21 days of strike action and brought losses to the American firms of up to \$16 million in exports, indicates clearly the workers' mood.

Living

This is not to say that the standard of living of the Chilean masses are in any way decent or human. To the contrary, as the French Stalinist paper 'L'Humanite' pointed out:

'Over a population of ten million inhabitants, only 400,000 directly participate in production. . . . There are over 350,000 unemployed and 250,000 underemployed. . . .'

'The cost of living has increased 1,000 per cent in ten years, the dollar is priced 150 times higher than 1940. . . . The foreign debt has increased from \$442 million in 1958 to \$2,000 million. . . . The average rate of growth of the economy has been less than two per cent a year in the last 30 years. . . .'

'Half the population under 15 years of age suffers from malnutrition. Due to improper diet, more than a million children have become mentally retarded in spite of having been normal at birth. . . . The housing deficit is over 500,000 lodgings. . . . 57 per cent of industrial capacity remains idle. . . . (November 6, 1970.)

Judging by the programme of Allende and his Communist Party supporters, this chaotic and backward state can be brought to a civilized level by a political programme which is not socialist and has 'respect for the constitution', which means that the bourgeois parliament and the armed forces will not be touched.

How does Allende intend to bring Chile out of its backwardness while preserving the bourgeois institutions of power?

Broadly speaking, the Popular Front's programme speaks of the nationalization of the monopolies, in particular the nationalization of copper, coal, iron and nitrate mines, the nationalization of the banks, agrarian reform and a progressive redistribution of income.

It is, in fact, no different from the political programmes put forward by many nationalist-



POSTER AT COMMUNIST PARTY HEADQUARTERS

These are in themselves tasks of the socialist revolution, tasks of a socialist programme. And there is only one way in which these tasks can be furthered and guaranteed—through the international extension of the revolution.

This is not 'just theoretical speculation' as many would like to think. It is, on the contrary, quite a dramatic reality which we cannot conceal from Chilean workers, just as we don't conceal at home the dangers of reformist and Stalinist leadership for the British working-class movement. Let us illustrate our argument a little more.

In Chile, as in the rest of Latin America, the whole economy is strongly geared to the

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BBC 1

12.55-1.25 p.m. Fo a fa. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Animal magic. 5.20 Dastardly and Muttley in their flying machines. 5.40 Seeing stars. 5.44 Magic roundabout. 5.50 News and weather. 6.00 NATIONWIDE. London. 6.45 QUIZ BALL. Derby County v Tottenham Hotspur. 7.05 Z CARS. 'Christmas Is Coming'. Part two. 7.30 THE LAUGH PARADE. 'One Good Turn'. With Shirley Abicair, Joan Rice and Thora Hird. 9.00 THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather. 9.20 'THE SELZNICK YEARS'. Portrait of producer David A. Selznick. 10.10 MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS. 10.40 24 HOURS. 11.15 A MUSLIM LOOKS AT CHRISTMAS. 11.20 Weather.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as above except:

7.05 Heddlu. 10.10-10.40 This world of Wales. 11.22 Weather. Midlands, E. 6.00-6.45 Nationwide. Midlands today. Look East. 10.10-10.40 Contact. (Mid-lands only.) 11.33 News, weather. North, NW, NE. Cumberland and Westmorland. 6.00-6.45 Nationwide. Look North, weather. 10.10-10.40 Wall game. (NE only.) 11.22 News, weather. Wales. 5.20-5.44 Telewest. 6.00 Wales today, weather. Nationwide. 6.45-7.05 Heddlu. 10.10-10.40 This world of Wales. 11.22 Weather. Scotland. 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland. 9.20-10.10 City in turmoil. 10.10-10.40 The shall have music. 11.05-11.40 News, weather. N Ireland. 6.00-6.45 News around six. weather. Nationwide. 10.10-10.40 question. 11.22 News, weather. SW. South West. 6.00-6.45 Nationwide. Points West. South today. Spotlight SW, weather. 10.10-10.40 Sound of Christmas. (South only.) 11.22 News, weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL. 7.30 p.m. NEWSROOM and weather. 8.00 INTERNATIONAL GOLF. The Best 18. Tony Jacklin v Arnold Palmer. 8.50 WHEELBASE. 9.20 MENACE. 'The Innocent'. 10.35 NEWS ON 2 and weather. 10.40 THE CODEBREAKERS. 'The Joe K. Case'. 11.10 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV

2.35 p.m. Journey of a lifetime. 2.50 U Thant—Secretary General. 3.20 The share out. 4.17 Hatty town. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Junior showtime. 5.20 Maaple. 5.50 News. 6.02 TODAY. 6.30 THE GHOST AND MRS MUIR. 'The Ghost of Christmas Past'. 6.55 THE TUESDAY FILM. 'Siege of the Saxons'. With Ronald Lewis and Janette Scott. A Robin Hood type figure holds King Arthur at swordpoint and is then persuaded to serve the King. 8.30 NEVER MIND THE QUALITY, FEEL THE WIDTH. 'I'll take you home again Kathleen'. 9.00 PLAYHOUSE. 'Rose and Fern'. With Patricia Routledge and David Knight. Double of plays about two women. 10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.30 'A PRIVILEGED VILLAGE'. Hampstead. 11.25 PEOPLE TO PEOPLE. 'Each Man an Island'. From Great Britain. 11.55 CHURCH AND FASHION. 'Henry VII to Elizabeth I'.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL. 4.00 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.10 Enchanted house. 4.25 Survival. 4.35 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.15 Police file. 6.15 Look around. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Movie: 'Soho Incident'. With Lee Patterson. 8.30 London. 11.20 Gazette. 11.25 News, weather.

SOUTHERN. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 Enchanted house. 4.30 London. 4.55 Hymn for children. 5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.40 Love American style. 7.00 Film: 'Girls at Sea'. With Guy Rolie and Ronald Shiner. Farce. 8.30 London. 11.25 News. 11.35 Farm progress. 12.05 Weather. Carol.

WESTWARD. As Channel except 3.58 News. 4.00 Gu Honeybun. 6.00

Diary. 11.25 Faith for life. 11.30 Weather.

HARLECH. 3.10 Flying Scot. 4.18 Women only. 4.40 Oriami. 4.55 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Champions. 8.00 Mr and Mrs. 8.30 London. 11.25 People to people. 11.55 Weather.

HTV (West) colour channel 41 as above except: 6.16-6.18 Y dydd. 6.01-6.55 Report West.

HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 as above except: 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 10.30-11.25 Dan syfr.

ANGLIA. 3.15-4.15 Movieband at Whiteley's. 4.30 News. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 11.25 Conceptions of murder. 11.55 Stories or histories.

ATV MIDLANDS. 3.20 Granny gets the point. 3.49 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today. 4.10 Peyton place. 4.40 Oriami. 4.59 Flatline boys. 5.15 London. 6.00 ATV today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Western: 'Green Grass of Wroming'. With Lloyd Bridges. Movie: 'Charles Colburn. Story of an outlaw stallion. 8.30 London. 11.25 Music room, weather.

ULSTER. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.30 News. 6.55 Movie: 'The Disorderly Orderly'. With Jerry Lewis. A hospital orderly tries too hard. 8.30 London. 11.15 White line.

YORKSHIRE. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.15 Movieband. 4.15 Wind in the willows. 4.30 London. 4.55 News. 5.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Nanny and the professor. 7.00 Movie: 'The Love War'. With Lloyd Bridges. 7.30 University challenge. Science fiction. 8.30 London. 11.25 All our yesterday. 11.55 A reading at Christmas. 12 midnight Weather.

GRANADA. 4.10 News. 4.15 Peyton Place. 4.40 Oriami. 4.55 London. 6.01 Newsday. 6.15 Shenandoah. 6.45 Film: 'Carry on Nurse'. With Kenneth Williams, Kenneth Connor, Shirley Eaton, Joan Sims and Charles Hawtrey. 8.20 Cartoon time. 8.30 London. 11.20 Four just men.

TYNE TEES. 4.10 News. 4.15 Mad movies. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.25 Where the boys are. 6.35 News. 7.00 'With you Curtis and Janet Leigh. 8.30 London. 11.25 News. 11.40 Reading at Christmas.

BORDER. 4.10 News. 4.12 Survival. 4.40 Oriami. 4.55 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'As Swindon Point'. With William Wilde, Maureen O'Hara, Robert Douglas and Gladys Cooper. Sons of the three musketeers. 8.25 London. 8.25 Shooting. 11.25 News, weather. 11.58 A reading at Christmas.

SCOTTISH. 3.40 Dateline. 3.50 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today. 4.15 Enchanted house. 4.30 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.35 University challenge. 7.00 Film: 'The Ladykillers'. With Alec Guinness, Cecil Parker, Herbert Lom and Peter Sellers. 8.30 London. 11.25 Late call.

GRAMPIAN. 3.40 News. 3.52 Women today. 4.10 Enchanted house. 4.25 Wally Wrayton style. 4.55 London. 6.00 News and weather. 6.10 Flintstones. 6.35 Crossroads. 6.55 Western. 'Ticket to Tomahawk'. With Dan Dailly, Anne Baxter and Rory Calhoun. 8.30 London. 11.25 A kind of living.

THEATRE Wedekind's 'Lulu': Battling with new forms

REVIEW BY
HUGH SPENCER

'LULU', now at London's Royal Court theatre, is an adaptation of two plays written by Frank Wedekind—'The Earth Spirit' and 'Pandora's Box'.

Between these two plays lay a gap of nine years, and it is important to understand something of the period in which they were written.

The former was penned in 1895, which was the year of Engels' death, and the latter in 1904—just before the 1905 revolution in Russia.

After the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-1871 a very rapid period of industrialization took place, and, with it, the growth of German militarism.

The two were very much linked through the arms race and the need for a recently-united Germany, with its expanding economy, to gain new spheres of imperialist influence.

Rapid changes

In conflict with this new German capitalism was a very strong and growing working class.

These rapid changes and developments had the effect of producing a strain of theatre that equipped itself with new forms of theatrical production; involving fresh theatrical talents in order to understand and express the new realities thrown up by the changing situation.

In this process, writers evolved an utter contempt for bourgeois society and identified themselves with the proletariat. This was expressed in the activities of the Independent People's Theatre Society of Berlin and the Workman's Theatre of Vienna in the 1890s.

It was in the heat of all these developments that the very passionate writer Wedekind emerged.

In the two plays that go to make up 'Lulu', he concerns himself with those dark passions that lay beneath the surface of the socially-accepted moral codes of the middle class.

His concern is not just to comment on the repressed sexual urges thinly disguised beneath the pious and hypocritical veil of puritanism, but to provoke this 'force of nature' to the surface where it can be seen and, if possible, understood.

Knowledge

To do this he took his acquired knowledge as a circus critic and variety performer and used it to construct an arena, within which he builds sexual fantasies and desires performed by a range of characters.

These range from a painter, a doctor, a financier, a bizarre Russian prince and a secret policeman to a tramp (Lulu's father), a circus strong-man, a Lesbian countess, two small boys, a deaf-mute, a playwright and Jack the Ripper.

We are introduced to the festivities at the start of the play by a whip-wielding ringmaster who invites us to 'come in'.

By this it is understood that we should not remain outside of the stage arena, but that we should lift up the carpet on this seething mass of humanity and not be surprised if we find some of our own lurking fantasies played out before us.

Tough girl

To conjure up these 'animal urges', Wedekind provides his central character, Lulu.

She is a tough slum girl with a fantastic ability to survive the perverse and hysterically funny situations that her erotic sensuality create. She is all things lustful and forbidden to all men (even her father can't, at one point, resist placing his hand on her crutch and swearing 'by all that's holy').

way in which they have been adapted by Peter Barnes.

The first play deals with Lulu's succession upwards through three husbands and several 'lovers'—with Lulu seen very much as the belle of society in her sexual relations. This part ends in a terrific scene that puts the Marx brothers to shame.

The second play is about her relationships when she is in decline, ending in her prostitution.

Finally, she falls too for the perversion of one Jack the Ripper who kills her.

The play is by no means just a sophisticated, German 'Moll Flanders' or a more theatrical 'Oh! Calcutta!'.

It is rather a serious, if limited, attempt to battle with

new forms and gain a greater understanding of what was going on in German society at the turn of the century.

At that time, the critics considered Wedekind either a pervert, a new guru of the permissive society or some kind of superman of the Nietzsche variety.

New theatre

Wedekind worked for a new kind of theatre, for a new kind of audience—and this must come as an embarrassing reminder of what the Royal Court once had pretensions towards.

However, even the Court, which now seems to exist in some kind of theatrical ivory tower, cannot escape from the reality around them.

On its opening night, 'Lulu' was interrupted by an electricity blackout.

Wedekind attempted to throw some light on the reality of the world in which he existed.

I wonder if, in that blackout, the Royal Court audience understood reality any better.

Written by Frank Wedekind
adapted by Peter Barnes
ROYAL COURT THEATRE
directed by Stuart Burge and Peter Barnes

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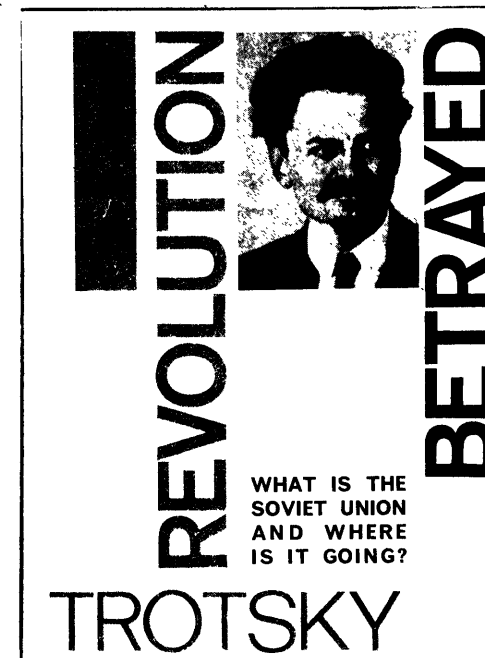
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JULIA FOSTER (LULU) AND JOHN JUSTIN (PRINCE ESCERNY) IN 'LULU'

The behind THE NEWS Polish 'hooligan' lie

EARLY IN June 1956, a 27-man delegation from the ZISPO (locomotives and heavy machinery) factory in the Polish city of Poznan travelled to Warsaw to negotiate with various government departments.

The delegation's aim was to obtain redress for economic grievances—particularly the crippling work norms.

Then the First Secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Edward Ochab had this to say at a plenary session of the Central Committee the following month:

Earnings down

'As a result of ill-considered measures taken during the past months the wages of some groups of ZISPO workers declined... a rise in labour productivity of nearly 24.6 per cent was achieved in the ZISPO works. This, however, was not properly reflected in wages.'

'As a result of the elimination of progressive piecework rates in the second half of 1955 earnings began to diminish. About 75 per cent of the workers were affected.'

'Contrary to binding regulations, the income tax of shock-workers was assessed at excessively high levels.'

By this time (July 19) his references to 'the callousness and bureaucratism of the authorities, both central and local' were a little late.

The bureaucratic handling of the ZISPO workers' grievances had lit a spark that exploded on June 28.

On that day, workers from the ZISPO factory and other plants staged a demonstration which turned into a pitched battle with armed detachments of police.

Fighting went on until the following day and the final (official) casualty figures were 53 workers and police killed and over 300 wounded.

The Stalinist bureaucracy was shaken from top to bottom.

Facing that parasitic caste throughout E Europe and the Soviet Union was the emerging spectre of the political revolution.

Within a few months, Soviet tanks were being used to crush the heroic struggle of the Hungarian workers.

First reactions

The first reaction of the Stalinists to the Poznan events appears familiar:

'Groups of provocateurs, taking advantage of discontent which arose among crews of certain factories in Poznan over economic difficulties, have caused anti-state demonstrations and bloody street riots.' (Polish Press Agency, June 29, 1956.)

'Hostile agents carried out a crude provocation in Poznan. Imperialist and reactionary Polish underground agents, taking advantage of certain economic difficulties, incited serious distur-

ances and street disorders in the city. Several public buildings were attacked, resulting casualties.' ('Pravda', July 1, 1956.)

Today, 'imperialist agents' do not fit in quite so well with peaceful co-existence, so we have 'hostile forces', 'adventurers' and 'hooligans'.

In 1956, the Polish bureaucrats brought forward Wladyslaw Gomulka, who was expelled from the Party in 1949, to the position of First Secretary, in an effort to alleviate the worst grievances and stem the tide.

Gomulka had this to say (October 20, 1956):

'The Poznan workers did not protest against People's Poland, against socialism when they went out into the streets of the city.'

'They protested against the evil which was widespread in our social system and which was painfully felt also by them, against the distortions of the fundamental principles of socialism...'

'The clumsy attempt to present the painful Poznan tragedy as the work of imperialist agents and provocateurs was very naive politically. Agents and provocateurs can be and act anywhere.'



Gomulka

but never and nowhere can they determine the attitude of the working class.'

Not taken in

This spoke the present First Secretary Gomulka 14 years ago.

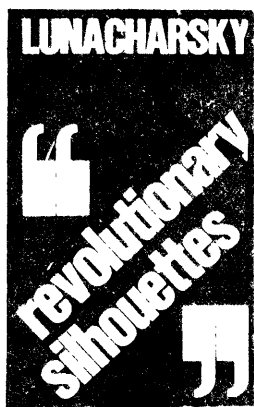
Today, neither the workers in E Europe, the Soviet Union nor the capitalist countries will be taken in by the Stalinist lies.

The Gdansk dockers who marched last week singing the 'Internationale' are only the tip of the iceberg. The proletarian battalions are moving into battle.

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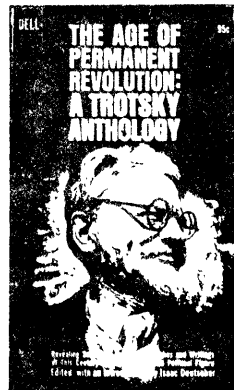
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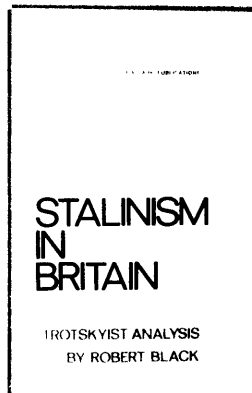
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