THE DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

## What we think

# We must hesitate

NOBODY IS any longer in doubt that Heath's Tory government is very different from the previous Macmillan and Home governments. This is because the economic and political crisis is much

Competition between capitalist nations is growing more acute, so the need to solve the contradictions of the capitalist system requires an all-out attack on workers' standards of living not only in Britain, but throughout the capitalist world.

The class relation of forces has undergone a consider-able change over the past

Every major group of employers, actively assisted by the government, is now engaged in building up the offensive against organized trade unions throughout industry.

To defeat the working class means first of all to destroy the fighting capacity of their trade union organizations.

This is the purpose of the anti-union laws.

The Tory Party is today divided into two wings, respectively led by Heath and Powell.

The former defends the interests of the big mono-polies and banks whilst the latter waits in the wings to take over as soon as the struggle shifts to the extraparliamentary plane.

There is no fundamental political disagreement between them. It is simply question of a division of labour. Both sides must be defeated by the working

The time has long since passed when the British radical tradition of protesting was effective. Only major class battles can bring down this Tory government.

The urgent need of the hour is to raise workers' militancy in every struggle in which they engage.

This is the only way to establish their independence and expose those tinue with class compromise under conditions in which the capitalist class is preparing to destroy the working class.

If, in the course of a number of strikes in the coming months, workers' militancy is raised to the point where employers are defeated, then the disintegration of the Tory government cannot be long postponed.

Powell will come forward when he and the ultra-right feel Heath is failing. This, in turn, will widen the breach in the Tory Party to the extent that a general election may well be the only feasible solution.

The Tory Party would un-doubtedly present an even more reactionary programme in such an election, but this would serve to educate the masses and help them understand the sharpness of their factory struggles.

Ideal conditions for defeating capitalism in Britain no longer exist. It requires stepping up the class struggle and what that implies in terms of step-ping up the conflict with

the enemy class. Revolutionists must anticipate periods of semi-legality and even illegality with harsh iail sentences as well.

It is time for the British working class to get rid of the flabbiness of reformist

It is high time to pay great attention to the techniques employed by the state to penetrate the working class with agents provocateur.

The Workers Press is dedicated to preparing the labour movement to repel the treachery of the class enemy and build the revolutionary party for the purpose of taking power.

### Govt and CBI launch

# campaign

# to cut wages

BY THE EDITOR

HEATH'S government has started a wellprepared mass media campaign to condition workers to accept wage-cutting, unemployment and anti-union laws as their only salvation.

relentlessly attacking shop-floor organization in the

On the contrary, these 'con-

Wages and salaries never

were, and are not, the cause of the economic crisis.

'There was general agreement that wages and salaries had not originally begun the

has occurred over the past 15

'Devaluation was seen on

all sides as the trigger mechan-ism, working through its

effect on import prices, higher

indirect taxes, restraint of real income increases and higher

months.

Even the NEDC was reluc-tantly forced to this con-

cessions' will encourage every reactionary scheme of big busi-

This is the meaning of the dire warnings of Mr Anthony Barber and the Confederation of British Industry at the National Economic Development Council class; meeting on Wednesday about Britain being on a 'suicidal course' un-'wage inflation'

was checked. Coincidentally, the statement of Lord Stokes on British - Leyland's profits down from £40m in 1969 to £3.932.000 in 1970—was also designed to whip up antiunion hysteria amongst the middle class and persuade less class-conscious workers that profits, not wages, are

of paramount importance.

The employers' represent-atives at the NEDC went

Lord Stokes

further than even the Chan-

cellor dared to by evoking the spectre of 800,000 unem-

ployed and gigantic bank-ruptcies in 1971. This was a bit too much

According to Peter Jay of 'The Times':

to think that the CBI's fears

about mass bankruptcies and

resulting unemployment were a little exaggerated.'

Insidious

Exaggerated or not, the fact

is that this insidious campaign

to make workers 'profit con-scious' is being helped along

by the class collaboration policies of Stalinism and the

trade union bureaucracy and

is meeting with a certain

measure of success in industry.

The acceptance of £3,000

by ex-Stalinist convenor Devey in Sheffield and the decision of British-Leyland's

Bathgate workers to delay

a £3-a-week pay claim for

six months in return for a guaranteed working week,

are ominous precursors of a sinister trend which must

The foregoing of a wage increase will not save the 5,000 jobs being chopped in

Nor will the £3,000 to Devey

prevent the government from

introducing their anti-union Bill nor the employers from

the Austin-Morris division.

combated uncompro-

The government seemed

even for the government.

#### unit labour costs spread over stagnant production.' ("The Times', January 7, 1970.) Stunted

To these factors must be added the extremely high interest rates which stunted economic growth in 1968 and

Profit-reaping based on private property is the main cause of the crisis and this accumulation is irreconcilably opposed to any wage rises.

Even the TUC says pay—
despite the so-called 'wages explosion' has fallen far short of expected levels.

In 1969 Britain had the lowest rate of wage in-creases in Europe. It is obvious that a tolerable—leave alone a high standard of living—is either impossible under capitalism or is a very short-lived exception.

The TUC demand for a costof-living clause in wage agree-ments itself shows the ex-tremely serious position of the working class menaced by the disintegrating tendencies of capitalism.

The employers' and govern ment's rejection of this demand is even more eloquent proof of this trend within

#### Perish

All talk of halting inflation by voluntary wage-freezing, sacrifice in the 'national interest' and 'monetary stabiliza-tion', is a monumental deception of the working class

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# New recruit **Keynes**

PRESIDENT Nixon may adopt 'New Deal' policies to cope with the growing US unemployment and economic recession.

Widespread speculation along these lines follows his statement after a broadcast interview that 'I am now a Kevnesian in economics'. On the lips of a Republican president this remark sounds like a Christian saying 'All things considered think Mohammed was

Nixon wants to win the 1972 presidential election and must bring down the present 6 per cent un-employment level in order

Traditional Republican policy has been to reduce inflation by holding down

public spending.

But during his television interview, Nixon said he would rely in future on an expansionist economy and deficit financing—as proposed by the British economist Lord Keynes. Keynes, who died in 1946, advocated large public

spending to prevent the growth of unemployment and stimulate the expansion of privately-owned industry.

#### TVA SCHEME

His theories formed the basis of Franklin D. Roosevelt's 'New Deal' policies in the 1930s, when millions of dollars were poured into government schemes like the Tennessee Valley Authority to drag the economy out of slump and set US capitalism back on

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#### £1,250 January Fund reaches £114 5s 0d

Our biggest campaign, to mobilize all the Our biggest campaign, to mobilize all the anti-Tory forces for a mass rally at Alexandra Palace on February 14, is under way. The Workers Press is right out in front demanding this government be made to resign.

Go into action today. Give a big boost to the fund this month and help us collect an extra £1,000 for the publicity and arrangements for the Alexandra Palace Rally. Raise all you can. Post your donations to:

Workers Press Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4.





Top: Some of the pickets outside the Fulkam, London, depot. Above: Ensuring essential services.

## Oil strike snowballs

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

THE OIL tanker drivers' strike snowballed yesterday when 500 Esso men and 50 Mobil drivers walked out over the use of 'cheap labour' by outside distributors. The action - taken against

union advice—has affected petrol supplies to 2,000 gar-

ages in London and the Home

At Heathrow and Gatwick,

aircraft refuelling is threat-

Talks

the London area were very

suspicious of press handling

of their dispute, following the

bitter experience of the power

They stressed that hospitals,

old peoples' homes, fire and

ambulance stations were all

The strike flared on Wed

nesday after five months' of talks aimed at closing the

gap between the wages of drivers employed by the major oil companies and

those working for outside dis-

depot told us: 'We want them

up to the same basic money

Pickets at Shell's Fulham

Tanker drivers fear their

work may be transferred to

distributors paying lower

So far, 19 distributors have

paid the extra money to bring their T&GWU drivers up to

the level paid by the oil com-panies. Seven are still holding

About 1,500 drivers are

involved in the strike, which affects all major oil companies. Shell Mex-BP drivers at two

terminals—Walton-on-Thames

and Northfleet-voted yester-

day afternoon to return to

Coventry

workers.

being supplied.

as us'-£28 5s.

Pickets at depots throughout

#### **Scottish** breadmen return

SCOTTISH breadvan drivers voted to call off their bitter eight-week strike yesterday after union officials persuaded them to accept the employers' original offer.

They returned with a wage increase of between £2 4s 6d and £2 9s 6d pending negotiations on their original £4

At vesterday's meeting over a quarter of the men voted against the officials' recommendation

The Scottish Commercial Motormens' Union assistant general secretary Peter Talbot said the Scottish TUC would re-open negotiations with employers on working hours, overtime rates and productivity deals.

The men earn a basic £15

#### Closure bluster by Corby steel chiefs

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

OVER 12,000 Steel Corporation workers at Corby were told yesterday that they may all face the dole if they oppose productivity deal or stage

strikes. In a New Year message to workers in the Corby steel and tube works and its associated ore quarries, Mr W. H. Crawford, resident director, says that the entire works may close if costs are not cut and more efficiency introduced during the coming year.

This threat of mass unem-ployment comes at a key stage in the negotiations over a major productivity and job evaluation scheme, known locally as the Corby-Wide Productivity Programme.

#### DEADLOCK Talks on the scheme, which

have taken consultants Urwick Orr seven months to complete, are now in deadlock with the works' 2,100 craftsmen insisting on a guaranteed 334 per cent pay increase staggered over three years. George McCart, Corby dis-

trict secretary of the Amal-

gamated Union of Engineers, and Foundryworkers, told the Workers Press yesterday that on no account would his members in the steel works accept the deal in its present form. 'In the deal they are pro-posing the breakdown of all demarcation and one pool of labour. For us this is just not on at this time especially as they are not prepared to guarantee any rise in our rates, he said.

We are not intimidated either with the blind threats of redundancies,' added Mr McCart. A spokesman for the Cor-

poration said yesterday that they could not 'talk money' with the men until the new programme, which involves a re-vamped wages structure, was settled. 'We must make Corby more

efficient and reduce costs. We feel that if this is done there will be more money for the work force and more money for the tax payer, said the spokesman.

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# New facts blast CP's role in Devey affair

I WAS shattered when Batchelors offered £3,000 to end the strike.' This was the headline of an 'exclusive' statement to the Tory Sheffield 'Star' on Wednesday by Terry Devey, the ex-convenor who accepted the pay-off.

Devey's statement is no doubt intended to justify his own conduct and to place all the blame on other leading Communist Party members.

But he succeeds only in confirming that the whole sequence of events was the direct consequence of Stalinist policies in the unions, and it was carried through by leading

Devey begins: 'When we knew the DEP officials had been called in, the strike committee had a long meeting to consider all the possible offers . .

This implies that the DEP was called in above the heads of the strike committee. George Caborn, AEF full-time official and long-standing CP member, has never denied the repeated statements that it was he who

Now a statement issued by three members of the strike committee confirms this. They

'Mr Caborn asked DEP officials to intervene without our knowledge. If we had known, we would have opposed the idea. We thought the strike was going well and that we would force the firm to take Terry Devey back after Christmas.'

#### FIRST NAIL

So the first nail is firmly driven in. This pay-off settlement, inspired by a

government department, in absolute accordance with Tory anti-union laws, was initiated by the leading CP union official in the Sheffield area, by his running to the DEP without informing, let alone consulting, the men on strike.

'reply' to Devey, and the silence of their industrial organizer Bert Ramelson, cannot erase the question: what are you going to do about George Caborn? The CP has denounced the

settlement as a capitulation to the same forces which are be-hind the Industrial Relations

But what about Caborn's responsibility, his capitulation? Nothing can be said, be-cause the facts make clear that Caborn's capitulation was the CP's capitulation.

#### **ADVICE** We return to Devey's

Barry Bracken, secretary of the Sheffield Communist Party, agreed that I should accept the decision of the strike committee, but later Howard Hill, Communist Party York-shire district secretary, told me that I should refuse the money at all costs.

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#### Hire-andfire threat sparks docks row

BY DAVID MAUDE

HIRE-and-fire discipline will now be seeen by many port-workers as their employers' next objective under Two of the Devlin docks 'modernization' scheme.

A major battle with rank-and-file dockers can be ex-pected over the influential London Ocean Trades Em-ployers' demand for powers to sack workers they think are

unfit. It will certainly strengthen the Merseyside men's deter-mination to resist Phase Two terms proposed by employers

The attitude of top union chiefs nationally, however, is by no means so certain.

#### 'No attack'

A London port employers' spokesman claimed yesterday that the severance call implied no attack on the 1947 national dock labour scheme.

The employers' argument is that a ruling allowing compulsory severance of the 22 per cent of London dockers they describe as unfit should be made by the National Dock Labour Board 'for their own sakes', and could be done without interfering with the

It is difficult to square this. however, with the context in which Ocean Trades Employers' chairman C m d r Dermot Jewitt chose to present his Wednesday night call for 'some form of compulsor severance'.

#### 'Discipline'

Introducing a report on the first three months of Phase Two in London, Jewitt claimed that shiploading and discharge speeds have dropped by 26 and 33 per cent respectively.

Some 2½ hours of each 6½hour working shift were being entirely wasted, he said.

He insisted that no form of

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# YOUNG SOCIALISTS MASS PALLY FEBRUARY TA Wood Green NRA PALAY TA NR22 St 71 A CE For more details or a ticket please write to YS national secretary John Simmance, 186a, Clapham High Street London SW4. Please send me more details/a ticket. I enclose cheque

#### Stand firm on our rights—garment workers Conference believes that all members have basic

LEEDS clothing workers have issued a call for their union to stand firm in defending its members' basic rights against the Tory

The call was contained in a resolution passed unanimously at the Leeds No. 1 branch of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers.

It will be submitted to the Union's national con-

ference later this year.

tary right. To support this no Measured-Day Work, no intensification of working conditions, full support for any section of workers engaged in a wages struggle. No sackings, any firm which cannot give security to its workers must be nationalized without compensation under workers' control. 2) The right to strike and

1) Full employment is not a privilege, but a basic necessity of life, an elementhey have made. 4) The right to fair prices for our necessities.

3) The right of the working class to retain the gains Jan 12 meeting

5) The right to high welfare benefits and decent housing at reasonable rents.

city-centre meeting at noon

next Tuesday against the Tories' anti-union Bill. See Late News.

A 250-STRONG meeting of Coventry convenors and senior stewards urged rank-and-file members to attend a

3003

Les Anarchistes Espagnols et le Pouvoir 1868-1969 by CESAR M. LORENZO Collections Esprit, 28 NF

CESAR LORENZO sets anarchist trade union federation), which was age from 1937 the need for a political party?

With the possible entry of Spain into the Common Market, he sees room for an anarchist movement, pledged to defend the dignity of the worker, provided that it learns from its experience the need for a positive approach to politics . . . of a reformist variety.

These conclusions are the real fruits of anarchism's rejection of the scientific analysis of the crisis of capitalism and the revolu-tionary role of the working class.

The Spanish working class has twice had its trade unions destroyed—in 1874, when a military coup put an end to the Catalan insurrections, and in

the Civil War of 1936-1939.
In the 1870s international capitalism was expanding and the working class was small in Spain: in the Civil War, capitalism was in absolute crisis, but Stalinism the dominated international

working class.
In both cases, the anarchists acted empirically, using trade union militancy as a pressure on bourgeois politicians, even though many anarchist workers wanted

In May, 1936, three months before they controlled the most important industrial sectors of Spain, Lorenzo correctly describes

the confusion of the CNT:
'The men of the CNT were to become the great protagonists of the drama . . . They had no plan of struggle, no orientation, no clear philosophy, no views on what should or should not be done in a revolutionary situation.

When, six months later, they entered a bourgeois government, they showed they were clear on

# out to explain the paradoxes of anarchism in Spain: why on November 4, 1936 did the CNT (the apparently so opposed to bourgeois politics, join a bourgeois government and why did they envisage from 1937 the need



**REVIEW** BY **PETER BUSH** 

**CNT** leader Garcia Oliver.

at least one thing-their opposition to the working class taking

This clarity in confusion was apparent in the early days of

anarchism in Spain. After the Liberal Revolution of 1868 had failed to give workers and peasants the freedom and wages they had hoped for, there

was a big turn towards trade

union organization. The anarchists were able to get considerable influence in this movement and spread the ideas of Bakunin. 1873 saw 'Paris Communes' established in several towns in southern Spain, general strikes in Barcelona and many confrontations between

peasantry and the army. The anarchists were unprepared for this and completely atomized the struggle: anarchists would not support peasants and workers who had taken over towns because they had a Republican leadership, although

the anarchists in these towns had, of course, liquidated them-

US Round-up

selves into the Republican movement and participated in revolutionary Republican juntas. These defeats led to the decimation of workers' organizations and the emergence of a series of anarchist acts of terrorism, until the turn of the century when trade unions were again being constructed.

THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR:

**Barcelona** after

fascist air-

raids.

In 1910 the CNT was formed and grew rapidly compared with the reformist union the UGT, the trade union arm of the Spanish Social Democratic Party which had its origins in the fight Marx and Engels against Bakunin, but was now a bureaucratized party of the Second International. (CNT: 1915.

15,000; 1918. 345,000; 1 million; the UGT: 100,000; 1919. 150,000.) This expansion was based on

the wages movement during the

First World War when there

was a boom in the Spanish economy. Despite sympathy in the ranks and sections of the leadership for the Bolshevik Revolution, the

leadership opposed the construction of a revolutionary party.
Their strikes in 1917 were put at the disposal of such dubious bourgeois politicians as Lerroux

and Cambo, who called for a Long before 1937 their anarchist principles were confined to the conference room.

Lorenzo's complaint is that, although a national political force, they had no political strategy. In fact, their strategy was to occupy themselves with day-to-day problems and leave politics to the bourgeoisie.

When in July 1936 they controlled the whole of Catalonia, the CNT decided to leave the bourgeois state intact and form an alliance of the left to rule behind this façade.

The CNT leadership was very conscious of what was at stake: they stated there was a risk of installing a dictatorship against the middle class and the peasantry, of not being followed in the rest of Spain and of meeting the hostility of international

So when workers and peasants had set up workers' councils and had initiated a period of dual power, the CNT leadership con-sciously turned this movement away from the dictatorship of the proletariat to an opportunist collaboration with the bour-

As Garcia Oliver put it in August 1936: 'Either we col-laborate or we impose our dictatorship.'

Thus, they prepared their entry into the Popular Front and their alliance with the Stalinists. This opportunism again expressed itself when the CNT refused to defend the POUM against the

Stalinists for fear of losing Soviet

Despite anarchists' constant criticism of Stalinism as responsible for the Franco victory, they shared, and still share, Stalinism's ment of the working class, and its love of gradualism and

reformism. After the Civil War, with all the debate proceeding on whether the CNT needed its own party or not, the degeneration continued: at one moment they made agree-ments with the Royalists for workers to give up the right to strike during the period of national reconstruction under a constitutional monarchy after the disappearance of Franco: at the next, they attempted to reform fascism from within.



Bakunir

We can draw one lesson from Lorenzo's book: if the CNT had constructed a party, it could only have reflected its own reformism and opportunism and opposition to Bolshevism.

In the struggles of the Spanish working class to build their independent organizations once again, a section of the Fourth International must be built for the success of the Spanish

## COMPANY Seattle unemployed queue

for food stamps

of the seven Weathermen had a fitting backdrop in the city's long dole queues —the longest in any major

city. Seattle's workers face a grim winter with unemployment hit-ting a 10.9 per cent high—nearly double the national 5.8 per cent

ployed out of the area's 1,400,000 population. Seattle's depression can be

attributed to cut-backs at the Boeing company which in boom times employed nearly 10 per cent of the region's labour.

Caught in the aero-space industry crash, Boeing's labour force has been halved over the past two years to just over 40,000 at present.

The darkening cloud over the future of Boeing's supersonic

THE STATE of health care

has sunk so low, one senator

said recently, it 'threatens

For the richest metropolitan

country in the world, the US does

not do too well in the inter-

national tables: 13th in infant

mortality; 7th in the proportion of mothers who die in childbirth;

18th in the life expectancy of

Congress will soon be grappling

with a plethora of proposals for

tackling the near-chaotic state of the health services.

There is the widest agreement

on the need for state-run health

insurance, but none of the form

Name

our vitality as a nation'.

LAST WEEK'S Seattle trial airliner threatens a further 5,000

Boeing has already sold one factory, closed another and reduced output of jumbo jets from seven and a half to five a

So Seattle's unemployed have come to include many skilled technicians and engineers who are unlikely to find comparable One took work at Christmas

as Santa Claus in a department store. He was lucky to get even that out of the ten applicants.

Every job vacancy brings hundreds of men desperate for work. 280 men took exams for 20 police vacancies.

The Unemployment Compensation Services have had to take over more office space to cope with the dole queues which begin And by March another 10.000 are expected to swell the ranks.

**Private care** 

As the Tories in Britain pre-pare to introduce health charges,

it is timely to look at some

effects of the absence of state

health insurance and operation

US experience shows that

private insurance schemes cannot

replace a state scheme, except

for the richest people.
Out of the 1968 US health

bill only a third was paid by

insurance companies.

The patients or their families

paid the rest.

The £28 daily cost for a

patient's hospital care throws a

crippling burden on to workers

are patronized by the middle and upper classes, while the poor

who need treatment there. Private health insurance schemes

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SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE,

186A CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON, SW4.

THE SOCIALIST

for profit across the Atlantic.

The Washington State legislature will have to vote on extending unemployment benefit for thousands as it runs past the

39-week limit. The seven members of the Weathermen faction of the Students for a Democratic Society in last week's trial used to go down to talk to the unemployed.

The vicious sentences meted out to them for 'contempt' reflect ruling-class determination to prevent anyone bringing left politics into the workers' movement.

have to live in constant dread of

illness and consequent monstrous hospital bills.

Two-thirds of families with incomes below £1,250 cannot afford

hospital insurance.
Figures for 1968 show that
20 per cent had no hopsital
insurance, 57 per cent no insurance, 57 per cent no insurance.

the destitute.

# Trust thy

INDIANA'S law - and - order lobby have come up with a simple but all - the - more sinister plan, worthy of their White House mentors.

federal aid towards a scheme for civilians to be paid for monitoring conversations and rumours about possible subversive or criminal incidents in their neigh-The 'rumour-control monitors' would, of course, work secretly and operate best in areas where

they had lived for years. Director of Indiana's Criminal Justice Planning Agency Mr William Greeman was asked if the system would turn out to be

Indiana is asking for £5,000

a civilian spy network. Greeman admitted: 'That's what it could amount to. We might not be able to trust our neighbours after a while. But as long as we're not doing anything

RESPONSIBILITY for the deaths of 38 Kentucky miners in last week's pit explosion is to be laid at the doors of the government and mineowners.

ance for doctor's fees and 97 per cent no dental insurance. The only state provision is 'Medicare' for the over 65s and For both have long blocked implementation of the Mines Safety Act.

Private health insurance Eyé witnesses said when the schemes provide rich pickings. Finlay Coal company's mine ex-Two years ago insurance comploded, a cloud of smoke and dust 'as big as a mine hole roared panies garnered \$12,500m in premiums, yet paid out only \$10,800m—20 per cent swallowed out of the mine like a tornado covering nearby trees with debris. up in administration and the The explosion was caused by pockets of the operators.

Medicare's administrative costs were a quarter this rate at 5 per cent. Private health schemes are very inefficient. example, millions only

insurance coverage for have hospital treatment. So doctors send their patients there when treatment at home or in the surgery would be just as

effective.

Nixon has said he will submit his own health programme to Congress early this year and give it high priority.
But it is likely to be directed

towards meeting only the cost of catastrophic illness. Reports indicate it will be far removed from the Bill endorsed by United Auto Workers' Union which covers every US resident for all health services, with no charges to patients.

Doctors, hospitals and manufacturers would be paid directly

A spot check in November revealed five infringements of the Federal safety laws at the mine, just on a 'walk-in, look-around' type of inspection.

three days in June because of violations of the same law. Miners in many states struck last year in an attempt to get the rudimentary standards of the

The mine was also closed for

sition.

Safety Act put into practice. They faced concerted oppo-

The government had proposed to slash the mines' safety budget. The Bureau of Mines already has only a fraction of the necessary inspection staff and has long been suspected of allowing mineowners to proceed with few

The extremely corrupt miners

we shouldn't have to

Later realizing this reassurance

would have precisely the oppo-site effect to that intended,

Greeman retracted his admission

claiming he had been 'talking off

the scheme is already under way with 12 youths being hired by

police at £1 1s an hour 'to attend

The state police chief indicated the nature of the monitors' work.

Although they would not be involved in 'political harassment'

(provocations), he said, they were

to eavesdrop on 'subversive' con-

In the Indiana city Fort Wayne

the top of my head'.

wrong,

worry!

gatherings'.

union leadership under president 'Tony' Boyle negotiated a contract outlawing strikes over safety questions! Union leaders have a direct interest in boosting production—inevitably at the expense of

For each ton of coal mined employers pay 40 cents into the union's pension fund which is

used as an open till by officials. Union chiefs, politicians and pit owners—all will be brought to the bar by the working class for their crimes against the



Rescue workers deliver bodies from the Finley mine, Kentucky

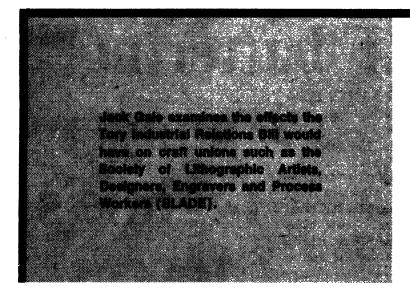
#### IMPORTANT READING

**NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS** 

### **STALINISM** BRITAIN

A TROTSKYIST ANALYSIS BY ROBERT BLACK

**Available from New Park Publications** 186a Clapham High St. Price 24s paperback 41s 6d cloth (Post Inc.)



A CIRCULAR to members from the general secretary of the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers (SLADE) underlines how the government's proposed Industrial Relations Bill would practically destroy a craft union such as this.

Craft categories and apprenticeships would cease to have any meaning. The secretary, Mr L. Knapp, points out:

Your employer will be able to employ any person he chooses to employ, provided only that he is satisfied he can do the job. Camera operating, planning, powderless etching, re-touching
—you name the job (or part of a
job) and the employer can engage anyone to do it.

'And he will not have to be a Society member — or a member of any other union. Your employer will be able to do this regardless of any members who may be unemployed and desperate for employment.'

Any attempt to keep out such

government calls 'an unfair in-

Any SLADE member, or or the Society itself would be acting illegally in trying to keep out non-unionists if the government's Bill is passed.

They could be subjected to a court order for bringing 'unfair' pressure on either the man or the employer and would be liable to punitive damages or even prison.

#### Action

Mr Knapp goes on to explain how the bargaining power of the union and its members would

You, as a Society member, will not necessarily be able any longer to effectively influence your wages or working conditions, or even to bargain for

'The decisions as to who shall negotiate and determine your conditions of employment can be taken over by the Commission of Industrial Relations, which is one of the official state agencies given enormous power under the new

'It will only need an employer or a group of workers to initiate such an action. The Commission can recommend one bargaining for each bargaining "unit", the bargaining unit being the specified group of workers whose wages and conditions are

# GRAFI UNIONS

A particular threat to small raft societies such as SLADE would be the disappearance of the closed shop, which would become illegal, and its replacement by the 'agency shop'.

This requires that more than 20 per cent of the employees in a shop, or the employer himself, may ask the National Industrial Relations Court (another of the new state bodies to be set up) to conduct a secret ballot.

The union gaining the majority in this ballot would then be responsible for the wages and conditions of all employees in the shop, including those in

But the danger is even more than this. The National Industrial Relations Court (NIRC), which will have High Court powers, will be able to decide and impose decisions on workers and unions in a whole variety of

That is, it will be able to impose a procedure for determining wages and working conditions in any given situation, quite regardless of the wishes of

the unions themselves or their

The NIRC could decide, without having to consult anyone, that the state of industrial relations in any situation required investigation by the CIR.

The Commission would then make its recommendations and the NIRC would have power to decide whether a particular scheme for dealing with disputes or for negotiating wages and conditions should be legally imposed, irrespective of what trade union members thought.

to be virtually impossible.' new law.

acting in sympathy'.

According to Mr Knapp, this means that 'the kind of plant bargaining that we have been engaged upon in litho, process, gravure, and news houses, and the policies adopted by you and the rest of the members, could be made illegal by decision of the

'In the case of the litho situa-tion, for instance, they could legally impose a procedure for negotiating wages and conditions. Certainly any policy on a house-bargaining basis, in opposition to an employers' organization, in process, gravure, or any other section, would be so difficult as

Even if SLADE could avoid all these pitfalls, its possibilities for action would still be crippled.

#### Illegal

If the Society wished to use industrial action, even a limited action far short of an actual strike, it would be required to conduct that action in accordance with the requirements of the

This would make a number of so-called unfair industrial actions' illegal. Among these is

By the nature of the industry, the success of any action taken by SLADE members depends upon the support given by other members, particularly in ensuring that work affected by the dispute ('fugitive' work) is not taken elsewhere.

Under the Tory Act, however, anyone taking sympathetic action to workers elsewhere who are 'likely' to be committing an 'unfair industrial action' would themselves be acting illegally.

#### No right

Moreover, it would also be illegal to induce, or threaten to induce, anybody who is party to a legally-binding agreement to

Since under the Act almost everybody would be subject to a legally-binding agreement, sym-pathetic action would be legally ruled out, thus crippling the possibility of action by a union such as SLADE.

Mr Knapp also points out that the power of the union's memto decide their own rules would also be lost:

'The new Registrar of Trade Unions and Employers' Associations, and the National Industrial Relations Court, will have power to deny any union the right to do its job if they think its rules conflict with the "principles" of

"They would decide whether a rule was "reasonable"; whether it had been fairly applied; whether a worker should be admitted or expelled: whether we had exercised sufficient discipline over our members; and whether d used our deavours" to prevent or stop an

time by a political party sitting at Westminster, and as it will be interpreted by the the govern-ment agencies set up by the new The SLADE general secretary

'Democracy of the members will clearly have to take a back seat, and in future our rules and all our actions in representing the interests of you and your

colleagues will be made legal or illegal according to the law as it may be amended from time to

'The fact is that it will be impossible or extremely difficult for you, your Chapel or anyone else in the Society to carry on doing the majority of the things which we now do.

'Many of what we regard as normal procedures and policies will be illegal, and the whole of activities will be in the melting

Obviously, the Society will continue to devote itself to finding ways and means to progress the interests of the members whatever happens, but the ability of you and everyone else to maintain present employment standards seems doubtful once the Act is passed.

'The total effect of the Act is to dramatically weaken your personal rights with your employer, either as an individual or as a member of the Society.

'It is a bosses' charter!'

However, this very clear exposure of the effects of the Tories' intentions on the membership of this union is weakened by the total absence of any strategy to defeat the Tories.

Like the rest of the trade union leaders, Knapp wants to confine all action to protest:

'Please raise your voice in protest before it is too late! In particular the executive committee urges full representation at the local meetings of protest being organized by the TUC and the Trades Councils; fullest possible representations at the TUC's Albert Hall demonstration in London on Tuesday, January 12, and at all the local protest meetings being organized for lunchtime on January 12.' (Our emphasis.)

#### **Future**

Everything is to be tailed behind the TUC and no indication whatever is to be given of

'The TUC is arranging a special Congress to be held in March, at which the trade union movement will no doubt decide what there is next to be done.'

This is insufficient and lays the movement open to defeat.

Throughout this document, which clearly exposes the Tories' intentions, there runs a fatalistic acceptance that the Bill will

Only the policy of the Socialist Labour League and the All Trades Unions Alliance - now taken up by the S Wales miners and Liverpool Trades Council— General Strike to stop the Bill can ensure any secure future for the members of SLADE.

# go to wall in Tory drive against wages

Weaker firms will

BRITISH industry is facing 1971 in a mood of unbroken gloom. Nearly every giant firm recorded drastic downturn in fortunes last year and expectations have been further depressed by the slump in British-Leyland profits from £40m to £4m.

The Confederation of British Industry predicts even grimmer times ahead and it the government and the National Economic Development Council that there will soon be massive bankruptcies among both big and large concerns unless something is done to stop wages rising.

After Wednesday's NEDC debate on cost inflation, Sir Fred Catherwood, director general of the Economic Development Office said the CBI had given notice of 'acute anxiety' on the part of many of their members.

#### **Eroding assets**

'Many firms,' said Catherwood,
'are eroding their assets to pay
dividends and higher wages.
This means that the possibilities
for investment on which future
growth depends are being growth eroded.'

Average pay rises, he said, had risen from 6 per cent in 1969 to more than 11 per cent by the end of 1970.

In the last two years many firms had been buying industrial peace by conceding wage claims. As a result many had been threatened with bankruptcy and pressure had mounted on the Bank of England to soften its tight money policy.

The Bank did this in the three months prior to the June election when it boosted the rate of money supply to the exorbitant annual 17 per cent level.

Days required

(Please tick)

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This money, say the pundits, was fuel for further wage increases and promoted laxity on the part of managements faced with strikes: hence inflation went

A new crisis is expected by the Treasury in the spring when the pressure will be again on the Bank to relax on monetary

But this time the camp of the hard money men, now swollen with fresh allies (not least Enoch Powell) will be better prepared and the Bank may be forced to

If it does, a number of companies will go to the wall.

Firms in the home engineering market are expected to have a particularly thin time; home machine tool orders are, for example, at a particularly low ebb and results for the final quarter of 1970 are likely to show results even worse than the 12 per cent drop recorded in the preceding three months.

Shipbuilding too will suffer casualties and robbed of its airbus contracts the aerospace industry can only count on Con-

#### Hawkish

The government may well swing over to a hawkish position on money supply and add this to its extensive armoury it plans to deploy against the working class.

Such a policy for industry will be an ordeal by fire, but for the Heath administration the lure of the eventual goal is overpowering — mass unemployment and the final solution to the power of the organized working class.



Brixton garage busman Len Scholey (wearing hat) and some colleagues talk to a Workers Press reporter

## Busmen furious at strike vote reversal

MANY rank-and-file London busmen are becoming furious with their leaders obstruction of the fight against the Tories. The fruits of this obstructive policy were repeated at a busmen's delegate conference on Wednesday night.

On a Transport and General Workers' executive recommendation, a previous Region 1 delegate conference decision to strike next Tuesday was reversed and brought in line with the TUC's inaction programme for the day.

By a card vote of 51 to 15, the strike decision of December was nullified, to the disgust of a number of delegates.

As one said: 'If Jack Jones, who controls 1,750,000 men, was to stand up tomorrow and say we're going on strike against the Bill, it would get 100 per cent

support.'

Brixton busman Len Scholey told Workers Press: 'We are furious about this. There is a lack of generalship in the Transport and General.

This is the real face of the T&GWU executive's December

decision to support the TUC's misnamed 'national day of action'-to castrate the movement against the Tories on the pretext that more 'understanding is necessary.
Yet, reporting the executive

decision on December 12, the Stalinist 'Morning Star' pro-vided the usual cosmetics for 'But in doing this [supporting TUC action] it [the T&G execu-

tive] is also pressing for more militant action to be called on the day and in the campaign to get the Bill defeated.' This militant action involves meetings outside working hours and a national indoor rally.

Of course, every action against the Bill next Tuesday must be supported to the hilt, but to use the 'national day of action' as a means of crushing any independent action of the working class is the surest way of smoothing

#### IMPORTANT READING

### MARXISM and the **TRADE UNIONS** Trade unions in the epoch of imperialist decay- Communism and syndicalism-

Available from New Park, Publications, 186A Clapham High St., SW4. 5s (post inc.)

BBC 1 12.55 p.m. Drosodd at Alun Williams, 1.30 Watch with mother, 1.45 News. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Double deckers. 5.15 Abbott and Costello. 5.20 Ask Aspel. 5.44 Magic roundabout. 5.50

6.00 YOUR REGION TONIGHT, weather.

6.45 THE VIRGINIAN. 'A Bad Place to Be'.

8.00 STANLEY BAXTER SHOW. 8.30 THAT'S YOUR FUNERAL. 'Last Tribute'.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather. 9.20 HOLIDAY 71.

12.05 a.m. Weather.

9.45 24 HOURS.

10.15 INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS. 11.00 FILM: 'Duck Soup'. Marx Bros.

#### REGIONAL BBC

All regions as above except:

Midlands, E Anglia: 6.00-6.20 Midlands today. Look East, weather. 12.07 News, weather.

North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland: 6.00-6.20 Look North, weather. 12.07 News, weather. Wales: 1.30-1.45 Ar lin mam. 6.00-6.20 Wales today, weather. 6.45 Heddiw.

7.05 O lein i lein. 7.30-8.00 Liver birds. 12.07 Weather.
Scotland: 6.00-6.20 Reporting Scotland.
8.30-9.00 Current account. 12.07

8.30-9.00 Current account. 12.07 News, weather.
N Ireland: 6.00-6.20 Scene around six, weather. 8.30-9.00 Speak your mind. 12.07 News, weather.
SW, South, West: 6.00-6.20 Points West. South today. Spotlight SW, weather. 12.07 News, weather.

#### **BBC 2**

11.00 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL.
6.30 p.m. MONKEYS WITHOUT TAILS. Lecture.

7.30 NEWSROOM, weather.

8.00 EUROPA. 8.30 TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT.

9.00 GEORGE THE FOURTH. George Hamilton IV with the Hillsiders. THIRTY-MINUTE THEATRE. Waugh on Crime.

10.40 NEWS, weather. 10.45 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

2.55 p.m. Ideas in print. 3.40 Living writers. 4.10 Zingalong. 4.25 Jesse James. 4.50 Road Runner show. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.45 News.

5.55 TODAY. 6.30 PEYTON PLACE.

7.00 WHEEL OF FORTUNE. 7.30 SIX DATES WITH BARKER. '1937: The Removals Person'.

8.00 HAWAII FIVE-O. 9.00 HADLEIGH. 'Invasion'. New series.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.30 POLICE 5.

10.40 HALF HOUR STORY. 'Shelter'. Wendy Craig and Colin Blakely. 11.10 FILM: 'THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE'. Burt Lancaster, Laurence Olivier, Kirk Douglas and Janette Scott. Film of Shaw's play

based on the American War of Independence.

#### REGIONAL ITV

12.20 a.m. STATE OF THE NATION.

CHANNEL: 3.55 Zingalong. 4.05
Puffin. 4.15 Ghost and Mrs Muir.
4.50 Lost in space. 5.45 London. 5.55
News, weather. 6.10 What's on where.
6.15 Cheaters. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00
Report. 7.30 Film: "Canyon Pass".
Patricia Neal, Steve Cochran. 9.00
London. 10.30 Darts championship.
11.05 Six dates with Barker. 11.35
Champions. 12.20 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.53 News. 4.05 Gus Honeybun. 5.55 Diary. 6.20 Sports desk. 6.30 Horoscope. 12.25 Epilogue. 12.30 Weather.

Women today. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.12 Zingalong. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 Bush boy. 5.15 London. 6.00 Day by day. (Channels 6, 11 and 27 only). 6.00 Scene South-East. (Channels 10 and 66 only). 6.36 Out of town. 7.00 London. 7.30 Weekend. 7.35 Department S. 8.30 Nearest and Dearest. 9.00 London. 10.30 Conceptions of murder. 11.00 News. 11.10 Prisoner. 12.10 Weather, It's all yours.

Is that a fact. 5.45 London. 5.56 Report West. 6.16 Report Wales. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Gun Glory'. 8.30 Six dates with Barker. 9.00 London. 10.30 John Morgan. 11.15 Edgar Wallace. 12.15 Weather.

HTV (West) colour channel 61 as above except: 4.07-4.09 and 5.56-6.35 Report West. 10.30-11.15 Aquarius. HTV (Wales) colour channel 41, HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 5.15-5.45 Magpie. 5.56-6.16 Y Dydd.

ANGLIA: 3.35 Granny gets the point. 4.00 News. 4.05 Women today. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 Lost in space. 5.45 London. 5.55 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Branded. 7.30 Mod squad. 8.25 Six dates with Barker. 9.00 London. 10.30 Aquarius. 11.15 Film: 'House on Haunted Hill'. 12.40 Epilogue.

the point. 3.10 Houseparty. 3.25 Horoscope. 3.30 Women today. 4.09 Peyton Place. 4.30 Two little pups. 4.40 Zingalong. 4.50 Land of giants. 5.45 London. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.6 From a bird's eye view. 7.30 Dept. ment S. 8.25 Six dates with Barker 9.00 London. 10.30 Whiplash. 1 Scientists. 11.45 Midland mem. 12.00 Personally speaking, weather.

ULSTER: 4.10 Enchanted house. 4.2 Romper room. 4.45 News. 4.45 Thui derbirds. 5.45 London. 5.55 UT Reports. 6.35 Beverly hillbillies. 7.3 Gunsmoke. 8.30 Six dates with Barker 9.00 London. 10.30 Deadline. 11.0 Name of the game.

YORKSHIRE: 4.00 Houseparty. 4.16 Zingalong. 4.25 Matinee. 4.50 Lost in space. 5.45 London, 5.55 Calendar 6.30 Wendy and me. 7.00 London, 10.30 Yorksport. 11.00 Edgar Wallace. 12.10 Weather.

GRANADA: 4.05 News, Peyton Place. 4.40 Zingalong. 4.50 Spiderman. 5.15 Joe 90. 5.45 London. 6.01 Newsday. 6.20 Beverly hillbillies. 6.50 Film: "Jesse James". 8.25 Six dates with Barker. 9.00 London. 10.30 Avengers. 11.00 One step beyond. 12.00 Weather.

TYNE TEES: 4.00 News. 4.05 Women today. 4.35 Zingalong. 4.50 Thunderbirds. 5.45 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.30 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 7.30 London. 10.30 Film: "Term of Trial". Laurence Olivier. 12.40 News.

BORDER: 4.05 News. 4.07 Junkin. 4.40 Zingalong. 4.50 Land of the giants. 5.45 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.25 Sports review. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Hitler'. Biography. 12.15 News, weather.

SCOTTISH: 4.05 Dateline. 4.15 Zingalong. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 Joe 90. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.45 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.30 Bonanza. 7.30 Department S. 8.25 Six dates with Barker. 9.00 London. 10.30 In camera. 11.05 Late call. 11.10 McCue's Music. 11.40 Weather.

only), 6.36 Out of town, 7.00 London, 7.30 Weekend, 7.35 Department S, 8.30 Nearest and Dearest, 9.00 London, 10.30 Conceptions of murder, 11.00 News, 11.10 Prisoner, 12.10 Weather, It's all yours.

Weather, It's all yours.

Weather, It's all yours.

HARLECH: 4.09 Moment of truth, 4.34 Women only, 4.50 Bugs Bunny, 5.15

GRAMPIAN: 4.05 News, 4.10 Zing, along, 4.25 Moment of truth, 4.50 Rainbow country, 5.15 Charlie Brown, 5.45 London, 5.55 News, weather, 6.05 Ask George Kidd, 6.35 Crossroads, 7.00 London, 7.30 I Spy, 8.25 Calum's Ceilidh, 9.00 London, 10.30 Six dates with Barker, 11.00 Untouchables, 12.00 Epilogue.

# Big power pressure for Mid-East talks

Keynes

At that time US capital-

ism was strengthened by the

complete prostration of the

European working class.
Roosevelt took office in

the same year as Hitler's

accession to power in Germany and the next year

saw the military crushing of the workers of Vienna.

Nor has Nixon acquired Roosevelt's astute handling

of the opportunist US

labour leaders, which played

a big part in the carrying through of the 'New Deal'.

based itself on European

misery. This is a thousand

times more applicable today.

In so far as Nixon operates

**ALL TRADES** 

UNIONS ALLIANCE

**MEETINGS** 

SHEFFIELD: Thursday January 7, 7,30 p.m. Hare and Hounds, Nursery St. 'Batchelor's and the future of the AEF in Sheffield'.

Miners and the

Charter of Basic

Rights

CASTLEFORD: Seturday, January 9, 12 noon. Ship Inn. Speaker: Sid Hinchcliffe (Glasshoughton Colliery).

BENTLEY: Senday, January 10, 12 noon. Bay Horse Inn. Speaker: Frank McCabe (Brodsworth Colliery).

OLLERTON: Seturday, January 16, 12 noon. Ship Inn. Speaker: Ecki Barker (Ollerton Colliery).

Come to

Alexandra Palace!

Force the

Tories to resign!

LUTON: Tuesday, January 12, 8 p.m. AEU House, 396 Dunstable Rd.

WEST LONDON: Wednesday, January 13, 8 p.m. Prince Albert, Balfe St, NW1.

DAGENHAM: Thursday, January 14, 8 p.m. Marsh Green School, New Rd.

SOUTH EAST: Thursday, January 14, 8 p.m. The Artichoke Camber-well Church St, Camberwell Green, S.E.5.

NORTH LONDON: Thursday, January 14, 8 p.m. Sir George Robey. (Opposite Finsbury Park Astoria).

SOUTH WEST: Monday, January 18, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, 47-51, Bal-ham High Rd.

ACTON: Wednesday, January 29, 8 p.m. Oddfellows Hall, Fletcher Rd, W3.

EAST LONDON: Wednesday, January 26, 8 p.m. Festival Inn, Chrisp St Market, E.14.

WILLESDEN: Thursday, January 21, 8 p.m. Fishermen's Arms, Old Lane, nr Willesden Junction Station, N.W.10.

SLOUGH: Monday, February 1, 8 p.m. St George's Church Hall, Long Furlongs Drive, Britwell Eastate.

week, was right to criticize

In the 1930s, US recovery

FROM PAGE ONE

**UNITED NATIONS Middle-East envoy Gunnar** Jarring was in Jerusalem today for urgent talks with Israeli leaders.

short-run.

round the globe, though it

could not, of course funda-mentally alter the basis of

can only postpone a clash with the working class and

do nothing to tackle the basic root of the crisis: the

slump in capitalist profit

Profit rates, in the long-

monetary manipulation, but

and workers in Britain.

doubt prefer to postpone them until after the In-dustrial Relations Bill is on

This would give the government far wider powers to attack workers

and their organizations and hit out at the revolutionary

If—and this is a big if—

it begins to take effect rapidly enough — Nixon's

policy switch could con-

ceivably provide Heath with

a breathing-space to post-pone the coming collision

Nixon may also be con-

cerned to postpone a show-

working class until he has

wound up or scaled down

his military commitment in

Vietnam.

The gradual run-down of

the US role in the Vietnam

war will itself create economic problems at home

and increased public expen-

diture would compensate

for falling military spending.

US foreshadow misery and

poverty in Europe.

The fight to force the

Tories to resign is the only

way workers in Britain can

fight Nixon's plans to make

overseas workers pay for

the crisis in world capitalism.

Australia

'racialist'

VANCE DICKIE, immigration minister for the State of

Victoria, agreed in London

yesterday that an Australian's

attitude to immigration was

in a BBC Radio interview,

had earlier been reported as

saying that it was official

Australian policy to refuse

£10 assisted passages to coloured British citizens.

On the programme he said:

'As far as Australia is con-

cerned, down through the

years, we have believed that

in the interests of Australia

it would be best if we de-veloped our race round people

skinned people, but they would be allowed in only

when there were jobs which could not be filled by

Australians or white immi-

There was no ban on dark-

of European background'.

Dickie, who was speaking

'racialist'.

Kevnesian policies in the

for a short period.

**POSTPONE** 

the statute book.

movement.

In fact, Keynesian policies

the capitalist crisis.

standards.

#### **British to** the last back axle

TORY MP Sir Gerald Nabarro vesterday leaped to the defence of the British industry and deit ad as 'drivelling rot' the latest 'Which?' conclu-

5 75 on the superiority of at eign cars. Describing the Consumer A sociation's magazine as that wretched, intemperate journal', the be-whiskered member for Worcestershire said that there were millions and millions like

myself' who were satisfied with British cars. Sir Gerald, chairman of the House of Commons
Motor Club, has six cars,
two three-wheel vehicles
and a moped—all British!

#### WEATHER

Brighter, though showery, weather will follow the rain in W and N areas, but SE England will remain cloudy, with rain at times. Winds will be generally strong, reaching gale force at times in exposed W and N areas. Weekend outlook: Mild and changeable, with rain at times and some bright spells.

#### ORDER YOUR **POSTERS TODAY!**



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#### LATE NEWS

POST OFFICE workers' leaders will meet officials of the Post Office today in crucial talks on the union's 15 per cent pay rise demand. Union of Post Office Workers' general secretary Tom Jackson, hopes to have something concrete to report to a meeting of the union's executive on Tuesday. If there is no pay offer, or

if it is not thought sufficient, the executive is expected to consider giving notice of some form of industrial action, possibly involving a strike.

IF THE government had the courage to attack the smoking epidemic on the scale required might well be surprised at the support it would receivefrom smokers as well as nonsmokers, says the 'British Medical Journal' today. Royal College Physicians report, earlier this

a succession of governments for consistently refusing the by prolonged action, says the BMJ. money to combat the epidemic WORKERS at the two Clyde-

side shipbuilding yards of UCS and Yarrows will strike against the anti-union laws next Tuesday-the TUC's day of protest against the Industrial Relations Bill. At Wednesday's meeting of

the Glasgow Trades Council a call for a demonstration against the Bill on Tuesday was not supported by Communist Party members. One of their delegates in the National Union of Railwaymen said that meetings after working hours should take place, which is TUC policy.

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He was joined by Israeli UN ambassador Yosef New recruit for Tekoah, who, with Foreign Minister Eban, has been delegated by the Meir Keynesian policies at home, it can only, in the long run, cabinet to conduct all talks be at the expense of the on a Middle East settleworking class abroad. Other pressures, too, may ment with the Arab states. be pushing Nixon in the

Jarring hopes that, following direction of economic exhis Jerusalem visit, he can pansion — at least in the begin his mediating role in New York with the represent-atives of Egypt, Jordan and Unlike Roosevelt in the 1930s, Nixon and the rest of the world capitalist class face a much more combative working class.

A change of US policy would have repercussions

#### Call

The Soviet Union and Britain are putting pressure on both sides to begin the talks and to this end UN delegates Jacob Malik and Sir Colin Crowe called on Jarring in New York before he set out for Jerusalem.

In line with these steps towards a deal between Arab leaders and the Zionists, new moves are being made to implement the 'reconciliation' term, cannot be restored by agreements signed by leaders the Palestinian guerrillas only by direct attacks on and the Jordanian government. workers' wages and living

It was reported from Amman Tory premier Heath, for example, on his return trip to Washington, must have report on the negotiations will soon be submitted to Arab raised with Nixon the growleaders, possibly in time for the Cairo 'summit' of the new Arab federation of Egypt, ing danger of explosive clashes between the Tories Libya, Sudan and Syria, which While Heath certainly is scheduled to begin on Janrecognizes that clashes are uary 20. inevitable, he would no

All the authority of these four regimes is now being thrown behind the deal with Israel, a policy that will inevitably lead to new clashes with the Palestinian Liberation movement in Jordan.

FRANCE has decided on rapid development of an Hbomb system expected to be operational within five years, official government sources said yesterday. The decision means the

thermo-nuclear strike system will be more primitive than those developed by the US and USSR, but operational

#### Closure bluster by Corby steel chiefs

• FROM PAGE ONE

In his message Mr Crawford claims that to concede a 10 per cent wage increase during the next year would mean profits of £600,000 which are well below the £2m

Management feels the works are threatened by cheaper Japanese steel and the coastal steel works in Britain which make use of richer foreign

Corby is a major producer of steel tubes—annual output amounts to some 18,000 tons
—and together with the
quarrying, blast furnaces and plant, closures would virtually mean the economic destruction of the town.

In June and July last year Corby craftsmen struck for better bonus rates and relucductivity strings for a £1-aweek increase.

Clearly redundancy threats are being used now by manto force through a major productivity deal which would undoubtedly reduce the labour force and mean speed-up for those that remain in the plant Similar deals are being implemented by the Corpora-tion's steel works as part of

the 'green paper' reorganization of works practices. A drive for profitability would also fit in with the government's plans to carry through some form of denationalization of steel.

One of the schemes being considered by the Cabinet is the so-called 'BP solution', which would leave the Corporation intact, but allow half the shares to be held by private investors and under the Tories only the profitable sectors would be open to private finance.

#### Hire-and-fire threat sparks docks row the Ocean trades employers'

• FROM PAGE ONE

incentive bonus scheme should be introduced, and that productivity would have to be pushed up through 'will and self-discipline'.

The port employers' spokesman insisted yesterday that they had 'no knowledge of any discussions with the government about abolishing the dock labour scheme', under which registered dockers have at least partial guarantees against being summarily

But abolition of the register will certainly have been major talking-point in behind the-scenes discussions between employers, union leaders and the government which are believed to have been going on since last June's Tory election victory. Executives of the govern-

nent-sponsored National Ports Council were suggesting openly within three weeks of the election that as a first step towards abolishing what they described as 'the sheet-anchor of dockers' rights for many years', that they should have representation on the National Dock Labour Board.

#### Incensed

While last week's reappointments to the NDLB gave the NPC no such representation, t is understood that the gov ernment and the employers are already working towards far more drastic plans.

London dockers and rankand-file union officials are understandably incensed by

They are determined to resist any attempt to compul-sorily cut back labour and introduce hire and fire.

• In tomorrow's Workers Press, we publish the results of an exclusive investigation into the employer-union-government plans for a major shake-up in Britain's ports organization.

### to make peace with Nazi Germany, using the Italian Deadly gas 'lost'

Nazis.

THE CRIMINAL nonchalance with which the US military machine handles the most lethal weapons is nowhere more vividly illustrated than in 'the case of the

missing nerve gas'. The US Defence Department has admitted that the army lost a supply of deadly nerve gas for over two years after it sank unnoticed to the bottom of an Alaskan

The canisters of the gas—a mere drop of which would be fatal—were placed on the frozen lake in January and February, 1966.

'For reasons unable to be de-termined, the order to de-

given and, with the advent

the Pentagon inquiry.
No one at the US army test
centre in the remote Gerstle River area apparently noticed that the 200 canisters were missing. They lay on the lake bottom until August,

Skating over the Kremlin's

cordial relations with Hitler at this time, 'Pravda's' Lon-

don correspondent pointed out that in 1940, the British Cabinet considered proposals

of the lake. There was now a strict accounting system of where sisted that all the canisters

there was no contamination toxic munitions are stored.

this could have been done, and this is now conclusively 'A letter signed by all four union officials was delivered to the firm to all the strikers proved by the statement of the Batchelor's strike comexcept Mr Devey—calling them to a meeting the next mittee members, worth quoting in detail: day to hear "the agreed formula for a return to work".

**NATIONAL LIBERATION Front** fighters are hammering forces of

the pro-US regime in a battle South of Saigon in the Mekong

With US troops either refusing to

After five weeks of combat against crack NLF guerrillas in the swampy

bamboo grove region known as the

undertake or being withdrawn from 'search-and-destroy' missions, the brunt of the ground fighting is now being borne by units of the Saigon regime.

Delta's U Minh forest.

'forest of darkness', the 7,000-strong puppet force

has suffered at least 300

In the extreme NW of S Vietnam, US B-52 bombers launched raids yesterday on guerrilla supply routes for the third time in four days.

Many of the bombs fell

within a mile of both the demilitarized zone border-

ing on N Vietnam and the frontier with Laos, where liberation fighters are also

active.

The failure of the Saigon

offensive underlines the bleak future facing the puppet regime if US forces are

completely withdrawn from S Vietnam, which is Nixon's declared policy.

does Hill explain Devey's

After acceptance he

But what were he and the members of his organization

doing to stop the settlement? The Workers Press has

maintained from the start that

nounced the settlement.

Hill advised Devey not to

casualties.

Devey affair

• FROM PAGE ONE

nation.

'I told him I would do

whatever the strike committee

decided I should. Then I was

told I would be an embarrass-

ment to some people in the

Party, so I offered my resig-

Bracken and Devey, to-gether with Caborn, are the rotten fruits of Stalinism's

subordination of all principle

to their rotten alliance with

'left' bureaucrats in the unions.

Bracken, who advised acceptance, was appointed full-time Party organizer after

many years' membership of the Party branch in Ambrose

Shardlows, for years sup-posedly the pride of the whole

industrial organization of the

no different from his partici-

It is not just individuals,

but the Stalinist party which is responsible, with leaders like Ramelson and Howard

**EXPLAIN** 

'clean hands', but why does he

poses to continue with the

same policies in the unions

Bracken? For that matter how

produced Devey and

**Stalin-Hitler** 

pact

STUNG by the recent release of classified

British government documents for 1940, which

contain many references to the Stalin-Hitler

Pact, 'Pravda' has tried to turn the tables by

accusing the West of collaboration with the

not condemn Caborn?

Hill wants to emerge with

Hill out in front.

'As the talks went on we became more and more convinced that we were going to win, but when the full-time officials told us about the cash offer we did not know what to think.

His advice to Devey is the result of that training and is They told us that we had no chance of getting Terry his job back, and that the best we could do for him was to accept the money to give him and his family the chance of pation in the sell-out over the victimization of Shardlow's steward Roy Wilkinson in 1967.

a fresh start.
The full-time officials—Mr
Caborn, Mr E. W. Johnson of
the EETU, Mr Charles Nutton of the sheet metal union, and Mr W. Moffatt of the plumbers' union—used our loyalty to Terry Devey to get this

#### **CARDS THREAT**

both threatened to instruct their members to end the strike after that night's meeting (Dec. 15) of the AUEW

### REPORT

'That evening the AUEW district committee accepted Mr Caborn's report of what had happened, but made no recommendation to the strikers 'Pravda' avoids who were to meet next day.

mittee.

chance of changing the dedecision?

Devey's resolution at last Tuesday's district committee shows that he is moving even

It is now proving a very grave danger to the immediate future of the working class, and the Devey affair must be the means to awaken thousands of militants to

#### becomes Allende's PR man

Debray said yesterday he

# **NLF** battering puppet regime's forces

#### DEEP-WATER PORT NEXT CAMBODIAN TARGET

LIBERATION forces were yesterday reported to be approaching Cambodia's only deep-water port at Kompong

They are already dug in on the outskirts of the capital, Phnom Penh.

A party of Saigon officers which arrived at the city's airport announced they were the advance contingent of an S Vietnamese force sent into the

They will be used to shore up the tottering and demoral-

district committee, and said that if they refused to go back "some union cards could well

The action of these right-

wing officials was certainly a

step that must be absolutely condemned, but at no time

did Caborn separate himself from them! The statement

'In the circumstances we

principle of payment and to recommend a return to work.'

What now, Mr Howard Hill? What about Caborn?!

file Communist Party mem-

bers and others in the factor-

ies have assured that the right

wing in the AEF has been re-

duced over the years to a minority on the district com-

What did the CP majority

It met on the crucial even-

ing of December 15, the eve

settlement. Let the Batchelor's

on the district committee do

about the sell-out?

Years of work by rank-and-

(Our emphasis.)

be withdrawn".'

week had two of its battalions wiped out in a clash with guerrillas 33 miles North of the port near Veal Renh.

More than 100 puppet troops were killed in the rout.

### Wages

• FROM PAGE ONE

which leads to unemployment and the pit of pauperism.

As the Transitional Promme of the Fourth International states unequivocally:

The question is not one of a "normal" collision between opposing material interests.

The question is one of guarding the proletariat from decay, demoralization and ruin.

The question is one of life and death of the only creative and progressive class, and by that token of the future of mankind. 'If capitalism is incapable of satisfying the demands in-

evitably arising from the calamities generated by itself, then let it perish.'
We have nothing to add to this prognosis except to de-mand and fight for the return of a socialist government in

The All Trades Unions Alliance conference on Dec-ember 19 showed through the Charter of Basic Rights that the SLL is the only tendency which fights in-transigently for class consciousness to fight monopoly capitalism and against 'profit consciousness' which serves capital in its hour of crisis.

Now we appeal to all sec-tions of the trade union and labour movement to take another huge step forward in the struggle to expropriate monopoly capital by support-ing the Young Socialists Alex-andra Palace anti-Tory rally. This is our answer to the threat of inflation, unemployment and capitalist dictator-

Alexandra Palace Rally.

### prices despite potato glut HOUSEWIVES are un-

likely to find any reduction in potato prices despite the biggest surplus for many years.

the total £10m cost.

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

No reduction in shop prices will take place as distribution costs are claimed to have risen substantially. Plans to encourage increased

consumption with an expensive publicity campaign and to reduce growing acreage are being put into operation this

Consistent surpluses of a number of farm productsmilk, potatoes, sprouts, apples -during recent years reflect a deep underlying crisis of the agricultural industry with thousands of the small and medium sized farms going broke each year.

At the same time, hundreds of millions of pounds are paid by the government to farmers every year to destroy or 'store' products, or not to produce them in the first place. Farmers are continually supported and higher yields brought about by the advances in farm technology cannot be supplied to those who need

They are destroyed in order to try to maintain prices. This shows the total in ability of capitalist farming to utilize the new agricultural forces of production for its own or anyone else's benefit

# for two years

of the spring thaw, they sank to the bottom,' admits

After a tip-off the Army thing' at the bottom.

been no real check previ-ously on the whereabouts of some of the most deadly substances on earth.

Nazi aggressors in their seizure of other countries, the Munichites went so far that they were prepared to buy off the Nazis with their own territories.' Stalin's 'appeasement' Hitler had the virtue—for the Kremlin-of not surrendering Soviet territory, but Poland's — partitioned between Stalin

drained the lake for 'some-A Pentagon spokesman in-sisted that all the cansisters were recovered and de-stroyed and analysis showed

cations being that there had Icelandic trawler fleet yester-

These evasions are identical to those of the 'Morning Star', which, in its coverage of the 1940 papers, also avoided any mention of the Stalin-Hitler This will be the subject of a special article in Saturday's

and Hitler under the secret protocol of their August 1939

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

fascist dictator Mussolini as mediator (Mussolini only came

into the war in June 1940, with the fall of France).

But the plan, which involved

British surrender of Malta and

Gibraltar, was turned down.

Buy off

started by encouraging the

'Pravda' comments: 'Having

SKIPPERS and mates of the

day announced strike action

for higher wages as soon as

'If they thought that there was any alternative to the settlement, why did they not say so when they stood a

This question is directed straight at the Communist Party and Howard Hill.

of the AUEW, condemning CP interference in the union, further to the right. Like the notorious develop-

ment of the Electrical Trades Union leadership and of Paynter in the NUM, this is the réactionary product of Stalinism itself.

urgent need to fight Stalinism and build a truly Marxist revolutionary party.

# Debray

REGIS DEBRAY, the French intellectual recently released from prison in Bolivia, is to work in the press office of dent Salvador Allende.

This was announced yesterday by a spokesman for the president's chief press officer, who offered 30-year-old Debray the job when he arrived on Wednesday in Valparaiso, where Allende is based during the summer.

intended to work on an analysis of the Chilean political situation and that president Allende's election 'signifies a change in all of Latin America'.

At present Debray, who served 44 months of a 30-year sentence for his part in Che Guevara's abortive Bolivian guerrilla uprising, is staying at the summer home of leading Chilean Stalinist Pablo Neruda, a poét.

# Forward to February 14-Same

Record yields have produced nearly a million tons over and above market requirements. Yet the Potato Board has not had sufficient support funds to buy up this excess government has lent most of

Part of the increase is being sold off as livestock feed, but prices of the surplus stocks are being raised in order to ensure that they are not used to under - cut guaranteed