Workers nress

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24, 1972 • No. 697 • 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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The capitalist press yesterday argued that the huge levels of unemployed expected today would be as a result of the power restrictions.

But when the Tory lock-out ends, not all the laid off workers will return to their old jobs. Secretary for Trade and Industry John Davies made this clear when he announced his emergency power cuts. Thousands of workers laid off by the Tories' panic measures will lose their jobs

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One of their first targets will are expected to take the line that the new wage bill has priced some pits and some miners out of a job.

This pernicious argument has already been presentedsome success-to the TUC.

Workers must resist this Tory intimidation. The fight for the Right to Work is a basic right of the working class. In taking away a man's right to work, the Tories take away his right to live.

Opportunity

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The job-destroyers must be forced out. And the incoming Labour government must be pledged to restore full employ-

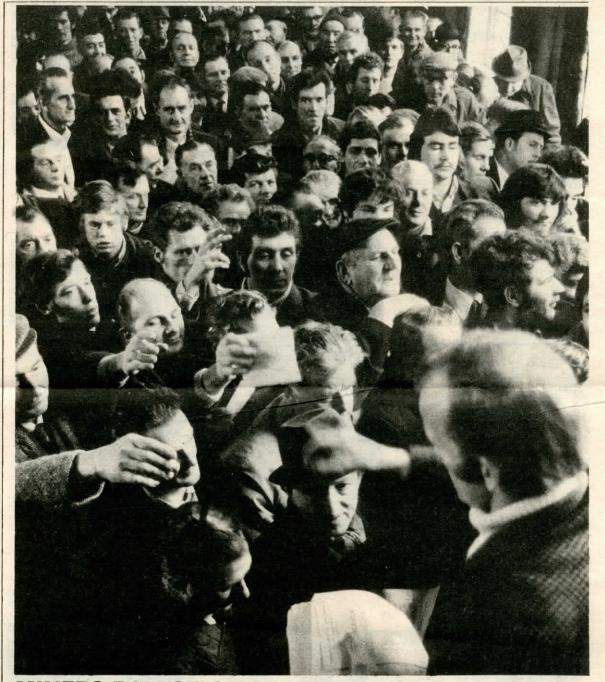
Campaign details p. 4. Diary pp. 10 and 11.

UNITE EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED

W LONDON A75 branch of ASTMS. which has already donated £10 to the Right-to-Work campaign, has pledged to do its utmost to help in the provision of accommodation and food.

The branch has also passed the following motion of support:

This branch supports the Right-to-Work campaign in its efforts to unite employed and unemployed workers against the Tory government. The right to work is a basic right which can only be kept by forcing this Tory government out of office and returning a Labour government pledged to restore full employ-



MINERS BALLOT ON WILBERFORCE

Miners went to the polls throughout Britain's coalfields yesterday on the Wilberforce inquiry terms for ending their seven-week strike. The result is expected tomorrow. Our picture shows colliers collecting their ballot papers at Betteshanger pit, Kent.

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\$ ANOTHER 10 p.c.

AMERICAN Treasury undersecretary Paul Volcker has asked Congress to empower the President to devalue the dollar by another 10 per cent, on top of the devaluation agreed in Washington two months ago.

Congress is currently discussing a Bill to raise the price of gold from \$35 to \$38 an ounce.

Volcker told the Senate Banking Committee that a further 10 per cent devaluation might have to be considered in time. 'This kind of question can be important and Congress should address themselves to it as part of the monetary reform issue,' he said.

His statement means the administration is already considering undercutting the dollar rate agreed in Washington on December 18.

Volcker also made it clear that the US will not restore the dollar's convertibility with gold for at least another two years.

This remark will not be well received by the United States' foreign creditors, who hold

more than \$40,000m in unwanted paper at their central banks.

The absence of dollar convertibility is making it impossible for Britain to meet its debts to the International Monetary Fund. The IMF now refuses to accept dollars in payment of debts and is insisting on gold and 'hard' foreign currencies.

Tory premier Edward Heath recently complained that the \$1,000m British debt could be paid off immediately if the dollar was convertible.

HEAVY STENCH OF FRAME-UP IN ITALIAN ANARCHISTS' TRIAL

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 2,000 police surrounded Rome's Palace of Justice yesterday morning for the opening of one of Italy's most important political trials.

In the dock are four anarchists, charged with planting a bomb in a Milan bank and causing the deaths of 16 people.

The government has tried to pin responsibility for the blast on 39-year-old Pietro Valpreda, a former television dancer and three of his comrades.

Witnesses in the case have died in mysterious circumstances and a heavy stench of frame-up hangs over the Rome court. There is a good deal of evidence to show that the bomb was planted by neofascist commando squads working in liaison with the police.

Driven to bank

Against Valpreda the prosecution has ranged the evidence of a taxi-driver who claimed to have driven him to the Milan Agricultural Bank a few minutes before the bomb went off.

The driver was killed in an 'accident' last July and was since been shown to have been bribed.

The rest of the prosecution's thin dossier of evidence is similarly suspect, indicating an attempt to railroad the four anarchists and discredit the left in Italy.

About 5,000 anarchist demonstrated outside the court yesterday as Valpreda's trial began. They waved placards with slogans such as: 'Free Valpreda', and 'Proletarian justice'. They sang a new anarchist song, 'The Ballad of Valpreda and Pinelli'.

Guiseppe Pinelli fell to his death from the windows of the Milan police headquarters while he was being questioned about the bomb blast Valpreda is accused of eausing.



TAXI DRIVER WITNESS CORNELIO ROLANDI 'DIED'



.....VALPREDA DURING AN ANARCHIST DEMONSTRATION

WHAT WE THINK

Terrorism and Marxism

FOR over 300 years the British army has killed, tortured and destroyed in Ireland. The real practitioners of terror have always been—and still are—the armed forces of imperialism.

For this reason, Workers Press will not join the outbursts of moral indignation over the Aldershot bombing. We address this editorial to the Irish workers, as a matter of political principle.

We are not concerned about the British press and television which, in the service of the oppressor, will squeeze every drop of sentiment out of the Aldershot events.

WE CONDEMN THE BOMBING, AS MARXISTS, BECAUSE IT CAN ONLY WEAKEN THE STRUGGLE OF THE IRISH WORKING CLASS TO ACHIEVE ITS EMANCIPATION.

Seventy years ago, Lenin condemned the Russian terrorists pointing out that 'their predilection for terrorism is causally most intimately linked with the fact that they have always kept and still keep, aloof from the working class movement, without even attempting to become a party of the revolutionary class which is waging its class struggle'.

Lenin insisted that acts of terrorism did not weaken the oppressor, but strengthened him, that only the masses could defeat him and that acts of terror did not bring the masses forward but held them back. Workers as a class are not roused by 'short-lived sensations'.

'Only new forms of the mass movement or the awakening of new sections of the masses to independent struggle really rouses a spirit of struggle and courage in all.'

The Aldershot bombing holds back this type of development in the working class as a whole.

Last week the Tory government was on the brink of defeat. It had failed to beat the miners. It has failed—despite Derry—to crush the Irish working class. And opposition to growing unemployment and entry into the Common Market forced the Labourites into their first real challenge to Heath.

Above all, it was the miners' strike which, by dealing a body blow to the Tories, provided the greatest assistance yet given by the British working class to their Irish brothers.

The miners' strike and the fight against unemployment, now being crystallized round the Right-to-Work marches, mark an important stage of political development in Britain. Their significance is the support given to them by all layers in the working class, and not only the most conscious elements active in the trade unions.

It is this total class unity which presents the greatest source of danger to the Tories and thus the greatest strength to the Irish workers.

By substituting military action for political action, the Official IRA has not only turned its back on these developments, not only handed a weapon to Faulkner in the North and O'Malley in the South, but has provided the Tory government with the means of driving a wedge into the working class.

Until now, the Official IRA has opposed the reactionary, indiscriminate violence of the Provisionals. Though its leaders were being hurled into jails and internment camps in Ulster, Officials gained support and respect by its rejection of blind terrorism.

Now it has thrown the gains away.

Lenin said that without revolutionary theory, there could be no revolutionary practice. The Russian Revolution—the greatest revolutionary practice in history—was carried to success, not by those who threw bombs, but by those who studied Marxism and the development of the oppressed classes, and through this won their confidence.

The terror of the oppressor cannot be overcome by terror from the oppressed. The Irish workers cannot win the Socialist Republic this way.

We have said this from the beginning and we will go on saying it, without making the slightest concession to the crocodile tears of the British bourgeoisie.



LEN SMITH: PEOPLE WHO SHOULD BE ORGANIZING THE CAMPAIGN ARE SILENT

Big S London union backing for YS campaign

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

TRADE UNIONISTS in the S London area have pledged their full support for the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign and for the mass rally at the Empire Pool, Wembley, to greet the unemployed marchers on their arrival in London.

Speaking at a meeting organized by Clapham Young Socialists on Tuesday night, Len Smith, Transport and General Workers' Union fulltime official for Smithfield meat market, questioned the role of the union leadership during the miners' strike.

He described the situation in 1919 when the miners' leader, the leader of the railwaymen and the transport workers' and the transport workers' leader were sent for by Lloyd George who posed them with the power the Triple Alliance had and whether they were ready to take state power.

'In my opinion if these same people were posed with power today they would also reject it.

today, they would also reject it, just like the leaders did then.'

Announcing his support for the Young Socialists' campaign, Ian Smith, a Labour Party member, said he did not care who was organizing the march. 'After all, if we are honest, we must say that the people who should be organizing this cam-

paign are not doing it.

'The TUC,' he said, 'should be making the funds available for this march instead of us having to go round begging for it.'

Mr Smith also denounced the TUC leaders' sham fight against the Industrial Relations Act, for their policy of demonstrations when they should have been organizing a General against the Act. Strike

Jack Dunne, a leading shop

steward for Sainsbury's S London depot, also spoke. Workers at the depot have already collected £50 for the marchers.

Mr Dunne praised the courage of the marchers in being pre-pared to brave all the difficulties en route to march to London on this fundamental principle.

He called on everyone, 'a thousand times, a thousand, thousand times, to give their full support to the campaign and to attend the March 12 Empire Pool rally to give them a magnificent welcome.

Tim O'Sullivan, convenor of P. B. Cow, Streatham, also brought pledges of support from his shop stewards and wished the campaign every success.

Lambeth Trades Council secre-

tary Vivienne Mendelson expressed the trades council's support for the marchers and called on everyone to work to make Empire Pool a huge success.

Sylvester Smart, secretary of Clapham YS, and Sarah Hannigan, YS London region secretary, expressed the determination of youth to carry forward the miners' struggle for the removal of the Tory govern-

A resolution, passed unanimously, pledged to carry forward the campaign and to raise a further £500 for the Right-to-Work fund and to organize the largest possible contingent for the March 12 rally.

CIR: 'compulsory arbitration' Pay talks to be enforced by law?

THE TORY government's industrial relation 'code of practice' is to come into effect next Monday. Employment Minister Robert Carr has announced that the code—a key part of the Industrial Relations Act—is the same as the final draft submitted to parliament earlier this year.

This provided for complete employers' control over factory union organizations through secret ballots, lengthy procedure agreements and regular contact with union officials.

Carr even proposed employers have a say on shop stewards' credentials. Also included in this corporatist document are provisions for 'consultative committees' and proposals for new 'workmeasurement systems'.

The Commission on Industrial Relations has also called for the type of conciliation outlined in the code.

Speaking to the London Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, Leonard Neal, CIR chairman, said he supported proposals for special emphasis to be placed on a comprehensive system of a comprenensive system voluntary conciliation and arbitration'.

(These suggestions came recently from Transport and General Workers' Union general secretary Jack Jones.)

GREATEST POWER

Neal, obviously shaken by the miners' strike, added:

'If we settle all our differences by force, the prizes inevitably go to those with greatest power and organization; equally-deserv-ing groups which cannot brandish same strength will be left behind.

'Too much reliance is placed on old-fashioned strategy once two sides reach a deadlock.

'The national strike should be outdated, but its effectiveness for short-term gain makes it the first resort after breakdown as opposed to the negotiation of procedures for the avoidance of strikes.

Neal called for urgent efforts to reinstate the authority of 'impartial and if necessary, compulsory arbitration in industry.

More police recruited

POLICE numbers in England and Wales increased more last year than they have done for the past five, claims Tory Home Secretary Reginald Maudling.

There was a net gain of 3,100 men and women to the police and a total increase in manpower for police purposes of over 6,000.

Ex-convicts 'hounded'

MORE than a million ex-convicts are hounded throughout their lives, according to a report 'Live

The report is published by Justice, the Howard League for Penal Reform and the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

They are people who have broken the law only once or twice and who have not been convicted for at least a decade with minimal chances of further

Case histories include a married man with three children who was refused a university lectureship in the commonwealth four days before sailing because the university learned that 14

LEONARD NEAL

house-breaking—his only offence.

In another, a man of 23 was refused a job as a postman because when he was 12 a farmer reported him for trespasing and taking eggs—though the offence was denied and the the offence was denied and the farmer withdrew the charges.

The number of years over

which long forgotten offences are resurrected is a sharp warning of the detailed and unrelenting way in which the security services maintain records of 'miscreants' of all types.

The report points out that Britain is the only Council of Europe member which does not have a law protecting rehabilitated offenders.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Make the Tory government resign!

Return a Labour government pledged to restore full employment and repeal all against the unions!

WILLESDEN: February 28, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, NW 10. 'Labour must force a General Election.'

E LONDON: Tuesday February 29, 8 p.m. Toynbee Hall, Commercial St, Aldgate East. 'Bangla Desh and the fight for socialism'.

W LONDON: Tuesday February 29, 8 p.m. Prince Albert, Wharfedale Rd, off York Way, Kings Cross. 'Crisis of capi-talism'.

SW LONDON: Tuesday February 29, 8 p.m. Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4. 'Labour must force a General Elec-

ACTON: Wednesday March 1, 8 p.m. Mechanics Arms, Churchfield Rd, W3. 'Labour must force a General Election'.

SE LONDON: Thursday March 2, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club (opp New Cross stn). 'The General Strike'.

N LONDON: Thursday March 2, 8 p.m. Town Hall, Edmonton. Building the revolutionary

kept from defence committee

SO MUCH information is classified 'secret' that it is impossible for parliament to have control over wide areas of executive decisions.

A blatant negation of all that even bourgeois democracy is supposed to be, the situation was revealed by a Commons sub-committee on defence and external affairs.

They complained they should

not be prevented from making their own judgements on the fullest information supplied by the Ministry of Defence.

a report, the committee 'question whether cost escala-tions expressed in per centage terms should be classified infor mation and believe they should be freer to inform the House of the unit cost of major equip-ment items where they judge this as necessary to highlight important defence expenditure

options. 'In general the sub-committee are convinced that the Ministry of Defence has nothing to fear from a freer discussion over defence expenditure and that greater disclosure would lead to

more informed debate.'
On the issue of long-term costings, the committee say that all figures should be made available to them so they 'can do their work properly'. YOUNG SOCIALISTS

NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK CAMPAIGN

There are now well over one million people out of work in Britain, the highest joblessness for a quarter of a century. These huge levels of unemployment are as a direct result of Tory policies. The Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign is a challenge to these policies and, therefore, the continued rule of this government.

MARCHERS

SATURDAY MARCH 11

The marchers will arrive at the outskirts of London and will be greeted at:

EAST INDIA HALL, East India Dock Road, E14. 7 pm HANWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE, Westcott Crescent,

LIME GROVE BATHS, Shepherds Bush, W12. 7pm

ipire pool wembley

SUNDAY MARCH 12, 3 p.m.

Speakers: G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)

CLIVE NORRIS (National Secretary of Right-to-

Work Campaign)

JOHN BARRIE (YS leader of Glasgow march) CHRISTINE SMITH (YS leader of Liverpool

march) MIKE BANDA (Socialist Labour League Central

Committee)

The following in a personal capacity:

ALAN THORNETT (Deputy senior steward,

Morris Motor)

BRIAN LAVERY (National Union of Mineworkers, Wheldale colliery)

SIDNEY BIDWELL, MP

Chairman: CLIFF SLAUGHTER (Socialist Labour League

Central Committee)

TOP LINE ENTERTAINMENT, 7.30 p.m.

SPIKE MILLIGAN. PAUL JONES. 'STONE THE CROWS'. 'ROCK 'N ROLL ALL STARS'. RAM JOHN HOLDER. 'THE PENTANGLE'.



Tickets: £1, unemployed 50p Apply to: Clive Norris, National Right-to-Work Campaign, 186a Clapham High St, London, SW4 7UG Phone: 01-622 7029

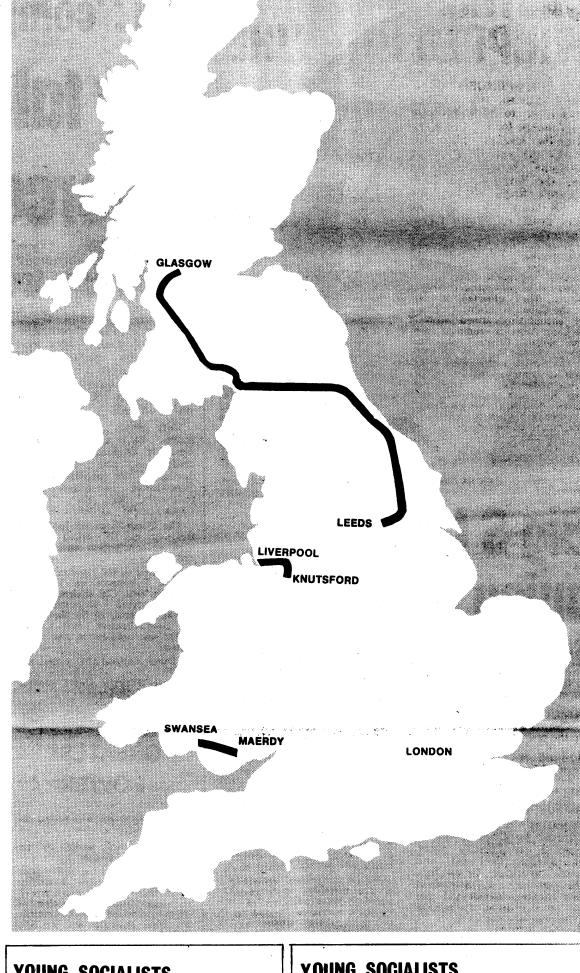
ROUGHOUT LONDON

MONDAY MARCH 13

Assemble: 10 am, Speaker's Corner, Marble Arch March: 11 am through West End to the Temple.

MASS LOBBY

Lobby your Labour MP: 2 pm Meeting: 4.30 pm Central Hall, Westminster



YOUNG SOCIALISTS

NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK

We are marching from **GLASGOW FEBRUARY 5—LIVERPOOL** FEBRUARY 19—SWANSEA FEBRUARY 19 to a mass rally at EMPIRE POOL, WEMBLEY on MARCH 12

WANTED URGENTLY Accommodation ...

Cooking equipment

Finance Brass/Jazz bands .

Tinned food

Please tick box where applicable

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

Please complete above form and post to: Clive Norris, National Secretary, Right-to-Work Campaign 186a Clapham High St, London, SW4 7UG Or phone 01-622 7029.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS NATIONAL

IGHT-TO-WORK

SUNDAY MARCH 12 EMPIRE POOL, WEMBLEY, RALLY 3 p.m. TOP LINE ENTERTAINMENT, 7.30 p.m.

SPIKE MILLIGAN. PAUL JONES. 'STONE THE CROWS'. 'ROCK 'N ROLL ALL STARS'. RAM JOHN HOLDER. 'THE PENTANGLE'.

Tickets: £1, unemployed 50p I would like to come to the rally

NAME ADDRESS

tickets I would like

Amount enclosed £

Please send details of transport to the Empire

Complete form and send to: Clive Norris, Right-to-Work Campaign, 186a Clapham High St, London, SW4 7UG.

CASTRO: WHIPPED INTO LINE

BY JOHN SPENCER

Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, is to visit Moscow next month for talks with the Kremlin leaders. His visit marks the growth of closer relations between Havana and the Soviet Union. It is Castro's first trip to the USSR since 1964, when he was guest of Nikita Khrushchev.

Since that time, there has been considerable tension in the the Soviet Union. The Soviet leaders' disagreements with Castro were concentrated on two fronts. They objected strongly to the Cuban government's policy of encouraging armed struggle in Latin America—summed up in the slogan 'Create, one, two, many Vietnams'.

The Soviet leaders were reluctant to continue shoring up the crisis-ridden Cuban economy unless the Cuban leaders were prepared to back the Kremlin's counter-revolutionary line. With the failure of his grandiose plans to raise the country's sugar output, Castro had nowhere else to

The Soviet policy of peaceful coexistence with imperialism is embodied in the agreements reached between the Soviet Union and the United States at the time of the Cuban missiles crisis in 1963. Relations with Cuba reached a low point at the time of the ill-fated guerrilla mission of Che Guevara in Bolivia in 1967. The Moscow-oriented Bolivian Communist Party refused assistance to the guerrilla band and virtually sealed its fate at the hands of the military regime.

Castro has now been whipped into line. From the fire-eating advocate of armed revolution throughout the colonial and semicolonial world he has become the chief spokesman of peaceful coexistence, anti-Trotskyism and relations with counter-revolution.

Castro's evolution gives the lie to the revisionists of the so-called Unified Secretariat (Pabloites) who claimed that the Cuban revolution was a proletarian revolution and praised Castro as an 'unconscious Trotskyist'.

an 'unconscious Trotskyist'.

Nine years ago the American
Socialist Workers' Party (SWP)
finally broke from Trotskyism
and fused with the European
revisionists because, according to
SWP leaders Farrell Dobbs and
Joseph Hansen:

'To the majority of Trotskyists throughout the world it became increasingly self-evident that the continued division of the Fourth International was anachronistic and that vigorous efforts must be made to heal the split so that united forces could be brought to bear in the promising situation developing in all countries

to bear in the promising situation developing in all countries.

'The victory of the Cuban revolution and the fact that both sides [the SWP and the European Pabloites] through parallel analyses, reached identical conclusions concerning its meaning, sions concerning its meaning and powerfully reinforced the trend towards requisitions.

towards reunification.'
The meaning of the Cuban revolution, in the eyes of these anti-Marxists, was that 'unconscious' revolutionaries, like Castro, could carry through the historical tasks of the working class, despite the absence of revolutionary parties of the Fourth International.

Cuba, according to the revisionists, was a workers' state established 'unconsciously' and without a party. Hence, there was no longer any necessity to build the Fourth International or fight for Trotskyist principles. Revolutions could be made even by those most hostile to Trotskyism, such as Castro.

skyism, such as Castro.

They closed their eyes to the patently petty-bourgeois and Bonapartist character of the Cuban regime. The Cuban workers have no control over the means of production or of the

state machine.

Castro himself has long made no secret of his hostility to Trotskyism. At the Tri-Continental Congress in 1966 he launched a major attack on the Fourth International, much to the joy of the Kremlin. Since that time, he has accommodated himself more and more completely to Moscow's requirements.

The decisive turning-point was the defeat of Che Guevera's Bolivian adventure and the growing crisis in the Cuban economy. This coincided with the first wave of revolutionary struggles in Europe and Latin America (France, Mexico, Czechoslovakia).

The first indication of Castro's attitude to these developments came at the time of the May-June 1968 General Strike in France. He ostentatiously refused the slightest support to the workers and students in struggle against Gaullism. Though many of the students looked to Cuba for inspiration, there was utter silence from Havana. Like the Kremlin and their French agents in the Communist Party leadership Castro was for the continued rule of French capitalism.

When Czechoslovakia was invaded Castro expressed his full solidarity with the Warsaw Pact forces. Similarly, he kept silent while the Mexican dictatorship butchered 400 students on the eve of the Mexico City Olympic Games.

By July 1969 he was publicly praising the Peruvian military junta's 'revolutionary' qualities—describing as 'nationalist and developmentalist' the repressive regime which consigns striking miners to the horrors of the Sepa concentration camp in the Amazonian jungle.

Amazonian jungle.

In Cuba itself, the Castroites commenced the public hounding of dissident left-wing critics like the poet Heberto Padilla.

Castro's visit to Chile and Peru at the end of last year marked another major step to the right. Throughout the trip he was extremely conciliatory in his statements about the United States. He gave unstinting backing to the Popular Unity government of Salvador Allende—an alliance of Stalinists, social-democrats and liberals which has dedicated itself to preserving capitalist property in Chile against the workers' and peasants' 'excessive pretentions'.

Prensa Patina, the Cuban press agency, commented on the tone of Castro's speeches: 'The Cuban Prime Minister said that contrary to the assertion of some political pundits, the Cuban government had never denied the possibility of an electoral victory that would open the way to a revolutionary process

'This in spite of the fact that during many years the main emphasis of the Cuban position was on the armed guerrilla road to fundamental political change.'

The agency also remarked on the change in Castro's attitude to the military regimes of Latin America: 'Castro stated as far back as July 1969 that he believed the process led by Gen Velasco Alvaredo in Peru to be a revolutionary one... Since that time... the Cuban and Peruvian governments have developed healthy economic and social relations and might in the near future initiate diplomatic relations once again.'

Castro's stop-over in Peru, after his visit to Chile, did give him the opportunity to cement ties with the military junta.

The visit was marked by mutual congratulations between the two regimes.

Castro has now become the chief mouthpiece of Kremlin treachery in Latin America. His visit to Moscow sets the seal on a record of unprincipled betrayal which gives the lie completely to the pretensions of the revisionists.

For the benefit of these people, we can cite the recent polemic against Trotskyism by Boris Ponomarev, secretary to the CPSU central committee and a veteran Stalinist, who took an active part in preparing the Moscow Trials of the 1930s. Here is an extract from his article, published originally in the Moscow 'theoretical' organ 'Kommunist':

"Trotskyism has become a vulgar weapon of imperialism and reaction," said Fidel Castro recently, when describing the Trotskyist's intrigues against the revolutionary forces in Cuba and Latin America.

"The Fourth International, he said, had committed "a real crime against the revolutionary movement", isolating it from the masses and discrediting it."

A quotation which speaks

A quotation which speaks volumes for Castro's role in the Stalinist strategy of betrayal in Latin America.





Top: Fidel Castro. Above: Castro described General Velasco (left), the recently ousted leader of Peru's reactionary regime as a 'revolutionary military governor anxious to do a great deal for the future of Peru's

BLOOD Running

The blood-sucking imperialist has become a popular figure of speech, especially in Latin America where exploitation is at its most obvious and blatant.

But for the poor people of Haiti the phrase has an even more direct significance. It is here that the American-owned blood company Hemo Caribbean has its headquarters.

In Port au Prince every morning there is a line of ragged donors waiting their turn at the company's blood bank. The firm pays \$3 a pint for their blood, a sizeable sum for almost any Haitian, given the country's rock-bottom per capita income.

The blood, bought from the underfed and anaemic Haitians, is then shipped to the United States in the form of plasma and serum and sold through the company's Miami and New York offices.

The operation is the result of a ten-year contract between Hemo Caribbean director Joseph Gorenstein and the late Papa Doc Duvalier, dictator of Haiti. The operation is so profitable that the company plans to spread to other Latin American states,

including the Dominican

Republic

The trade in blood is causing some concern in the US Congress. Last week 46 Congressmen presented a report demanding the passage of a Bill controlling such imports. They are not concerned about the ethics of the trade or the effects on the Haitian donors. They are worried that Haitian blood is not subject to health controls and may constitute a threat to people receiving it. Their chief concern is virul hepatitis, a disease which is transmitted from person to person by injection with infected needles or by transfusion of infected blood.

The disease is rife in the United States, spread almost entirely by transfusions of contaminated blood. Its alarming spread is due to the commerce in blood.

Once a person has had jaundice, his blood carries the hepatitis virus for the rest of his life. Where there is no commercial traffic in blood, under the British Health Service for example, donors have no incentive to lie if they have had jaundice in the past. Consequently the disease is rare in Britain. On the other hand, the Haitian donors have every incentive to deny ever having suffered from

the disease.

Other diseases are also likely to be spread in the same way. Under the US-backed Duvalier dictatorship, the country is one of the poorest and most disease-



Papa Doc Duvailer and son.

ridden on earth. Daily caloric intake of the average Haitian is only 1,783, 1,700 below the minimum set by the World Health Organization. Per capita income averages \$50 a year—less than 25p a week!

Malaria and other parasitic diseases are extremely common. Thirty-five per cent of the peasantry carry the malaria organism in their blood. Infant mortality in Haiti is among the world's highest—one out of every four babies dies at less than one year old and the average life expectancy is 32 years.

All this misery is concentrated just 600 miles from Miami, America's most ostentatious holiday resort.



BY JACK GALE

The story of Jarrow is the story of Palmer's shipyard. Started in the mid 19th century, Palmer's yard pioneered the use of screw-driven tramp steamers to transport coal, and grew rapidly until a few years after the end of World War I.

That was a paradise of profiteering for the ship-owners. Freight rates soared. For example, coal rates of 7s 9d in 1913 had become 80s by 1916, grain rates of 12s 6d rose to 145s.

In the first two years of the war, the ship-owners' net profits totalled £262m. In the same period British shipping tonnage went up in value from £175m to £500m.

Both ship-owners and ship-builders ended the war with huge reserves at their disposal. Most of them had evaded war taxation and the Excess Profits Duty by a variety of means—some of them legal.

But after the war naval orders stopped abruptly. The volume of British exports, imports and reexports were substantially below the 1913 level. Some foreign customers had been lost to neutral

But there was a rush of home orders for ships, based on the assumption that Britain's share of world trade would remain as dominant as it had been in 1914. In the haste to make profit, fantastic high rates were charged, even though the United States was making heavy inroads into the British shipping trade. In the name of the same good profits,

shipbuilding rates had also escalated. The price per ton of a new cargo steamer was £35 10s in 1920 compared with £7 2s in

Not only was British shipping losing in trade, British shipbuild ing was losing in technique. In the years of easy profits, the British shipbuilders had allowed foreign rivals to forge ahead. Ships were moving from coal to oil. And the new cargo liners were bigger as well as faster and required new and wider berths.

But Palmer's, in 1920, thought prosperity was eternal and began to buy up subsidiary shipping companies, engineering factories and mines, all when prices were at their highest.

For a while production rose, from 1.25 million tons in 1918 to over 2 million tons in 1920. But by 1921, contracts were being cancelled and work on ships

The shipping and shipbuilding firms were bound to crash and they did. In 1920 the Western Counties shipping line bought up the Moor line at £22 per ton. A year later, they were glad to sell it at £4 per ton.

The shipping employers, of course, sought to face the crisis by cutting wages. 15 per cent was knocked of piece rates in the Jarrow yards. In 1921 wages were cut throughout the shipbuilding, engineering, mining and railway industries.

Palmer's ironworks in Jarrow was closed all through 1921 and 1922. It worked for three months 1927. After being open for less than a year, it closed again before a short spell of activity during the short-lived boom of 1929. It then closed its gates for

In the mid 1920s things were bad throughout the NE. Armstrong Whitworth's had only one berth out of 12 occupied. The yards of the Tyne Iron and Ship-building Company were closed. The Newcastle Shipping Company at Hebburn was sold up.
Throughout Britain, by October 1925, 30 out of the 96 shipyards did not have a single vessel on the stocks. Fifteen others were nearing completion of work with no sign of further orders and not a single yard was working at more than one quarter capacity.

Things improved from 1927-1930, but in 1931 production collapsed completely. The attitude of the employers was put bluntly by Sir James Lithgow, the dominant figure in both the British shipbuilding industry and the Scottish iron and steel in-

'Social standards have for the present outstripped the international value of those who enjoy them.' The answer put forward by this gentleman was the abolition of unemployment benefit and a return to the standards

Lithgow was the driving force and chairman of the National ¹ Ellen Wilkinson 'The Town

that was Murdered', p. 147.

Shipbuilders' Security Ltd. This organization had a simple purpose—to buy up shipyards and close them. Its members were all powerful shipbuilding and shipping company owners.

The NSS scrapped one-third of the British shipbuilding industry and also paid firms not to build ships in some of the remaining yards.

The bankers were also keen on this process. In 1930 the Bankers' Industrial Development Company was formed, under the chairmanship of Montague Norman. In 1930 the NSS, backed by the banks, began operations. Three shipyards were bought up in Scotland and one in Newcastle. Every yard dismantled by NSS was not to resume shipbuilding for 40 years (i.e. the working lifetime of any man in

In 1931, eight yards on the NE coast, one at Whitby and three in the Middlesbrough-Stockton area, were scrapped and two other companies agreed to stop shipbuilding in return for grants from NSS. At the end of 1930,

92,000 shipbuilding workers were out of a job. A year later there were 117,000—or 60 per cent of the insured workers in the industry. In the NE the figure was 72

In June 1930, there were 3,300 unemployed in Jarrow. In June, 1931, there were 6,700 unemployed in Jarrow.

In June, 1932, there were 7,248

80 per cent of the insured population was out of work.
On July 19, 1932, the last ship to be launched from Palmer's went down the slipway. In June, 1933, the fate of Jarrow was decided. Palmer's was sold to

That year 29,000 people in Jarrow were on the dole or relief—out of a total population of

35,000. The town council sent a deputation to see the President of the Board of Trade, Mr Walter Runciman, himself a member of a ship-owning family. 'Jarrow' said Runciman, 'must work out its own salvation.'2

² Wilkinson op. cit. p. 198.

It was then that the Labourcontrolled town council decided on the Jarrow march. Two hundred were selected out of the many hundreds who volunteered to go. Many volunteers, of course, had to be rejected on medical grounds. Before they set off, the marchers were blessed by Bishop Gordon of Jarrow, but he hastily recanted after his superior, the Bishop of Durham, denounced the march as 'revolutionary mob

pressure'. (The man of God, of course, was following a hallowed ecclesiastical tradition—an earlier Bishop of Durham, in 1803, had lent his stables for a concentration camp in which striking miners were chained to the mangers.)

The Christians, complacent as always in the face of other people's sufferings, were not the only ones against the march. It was denounced at both the TUC and the Labour Party conferences

The TUC, in fact, sent out circulars—largely ignored—advising trades councils to render no

assistance to the Jarrow men. The march also gets little mention in Wal Hannington's books about the period, because — unlike the hunger marches—it was not led by the Communist Party.

In fact, the march suffered from the type of leadership it had. Organized by the Labour council and Jarrow's MP Ellen Wilkinson, the march was kept as politically neutral as possible, with assistance being sought from businessmen and Tories. When a deputation of marchers met MPs in the House of Commons, the main speakers on their behalf were civic dignitaries, in robes and chains of office.

Indeed, the picture of the scenes in parliament when the weary marchers finally arrived is incredible:

'It was a tense moment. As many marchers as could be got in were packed in the galleries. The members, flooded with postcards and letters from their con-stituents, to whom we had appealed en route, were interested and sympathetic. But, of

course, there could not be a debate. A few questions were asked and the House moved on

to other things . . . 'The men, who were entertained to tea in the House, were rather disappointed. They had imagined an imposing ceremony and a long discussion. But they were very sporting about it, as we explained that that was just how the most important petitions of the past had been presented

to parliament.'3 After all, they had only walked 300 miles. They could hardly expect parliament to devote any time to the matter!

As the marchers returned to Jarrow, the whole town turned out to meet them and bonfires were lit in the streets. But the Labourites had taken them as far as Labourites could go. Nothing further was planned.

Three years later, the men of Jarrow were summoned to fight a second world war on behalf of the ruling class that had starved them and ignored them.

³ Wilkinson op. cit. p. 209.

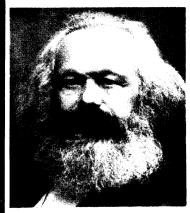
LESSONS OF THE THIRTIES

The first of a three-part series on conditions in the 1930s.

THE SURPLUS

BY BERNARD FRANKS

Unemployment is a direct and indispensable product of the capitalist system of production. But it is not a passive product. It is used as an active weapon to enforce the will of the state and the employers on the entire working class, whether in work or out.



Karl Marx, exposing the innermost mechanisms of the system, wrote: 'The surplus labouring population is the lever of capitalist accumulation, nay, a condition of existence of the capitalist mode of production.'

mode of production.'

In the 1930s the British government, faced with financial and economic disaster, laid siege to the entire working population on behalf of the City, foreign bankers and the employers. A virtually leaderless working class— Labour, trade union and Communist Party leaders had consistently betrayed the Labour movement in preceding years—faced a massive political attack on wages, jobs, social welfare, strikes, unions and all previously won rights and conditions.

During this decade, unemployment never fell below 1½ million (one in 13 of the working population) and twice it nearly reached 3 million.

It was not just Britain, but the

It was not just Britain, but the the entire world capitalist system which was in crisis, triggered by the 1929 Wall St stockmarket crash. In the first five years of the 1930s, the United States government spent millions of dollars on destruction of commodities, raw materials and means of production because of so-called 'over-production'.

Unpicked cotton was ploughed up and millions of sows slaughtered to prevent 'overbreeding' of pigs. While workers went ragged and hungry, \$250m were paid to farmers to reduce cotton and wheat acreages.

In Brazil, in 1932, over 10 million bags of 'surplus' coffee were destroyed. At the same time, in Europe, millions of farm animals were killed and incinerated so the carcases could not be sold. Machines were scrapped and factories closed and left to fall into ruins.

In Britain a company was set up in 1930 to dismantle ship-yards and an Act was put through parliament by the Labour government virtually limiting coal production. The employers in a variety of industries called for heavy tariffs on imports to stem the 'dumping' of cheap goods in Britain.

goods in Britain.

Farmers did the same. Fresh milk was said to be heavily in glut, yet was too expensive for the majority of workers who bought the skimmed ('Unfit For Babies', said the label) or condensed varieties.

In May 1931 the collapse of

In May 1931 the collapse of the Austrian Credit-Anstalt Bank led to a succession of bank failures and panics in Europe on





Top: Wall Street speculators before the crash. Above: ploughing cotton back into the ground, southern USA

top of the already acute trade depression.

The weak position of the pound and general loss of confidence in British finance led to demands from the City and from foreign bankers that cuts must be made in public spending and, in particular, in unemployment benefit to the 2.7 million out of work.

In order to 'restore confidence' in British capitalism and to meet the terms of huge loans asked from the French and American banks, a ruthless war on workers' incomes was to be launched.

In power was a Labour government led by James Ramsay MacDonald. It was elected in 1929 on a policy which included the ending of unemployment. This was to be carried out by 'rationalization of industry' and a 'drive for maximum efficiency' which was to create more jobs. What was created, however, was

more than double the amount of unemployment—it had been 1.3 million in 1929.

A committee of capitalists set up in February 1931 by MacDonald to advise on economic measures, estimated that by 1932 there would be a budgetary deficit of £120m if immediate action were not taken. It recommended cuts in public spending totalling £96m, including a 20-per-cent reduction in unemployment benefit and heavy wage cuts for government employees.

A Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance recommended, on June 4, 1931, a tightening-up of qualifications for dole, increased contributions and a cut in the rate. It argued that unemployment pay was 'insidiously sapping the whole social and financial stability of the country'.

MacDonald and the Labour

Cabinet had no second thoughts about supporting measures to try and solve the crisis and save capitalism.

They agreed to cuts totalling £56.4m. These included:
Unemployment insurance:

Unemployment insura £22m.

Roads: £9m.

Education: £10.7m (including a 15-per-cent cut in teachers' pay).

However, the Tories and the bankers—English and foreign—made it clear that this was not enough. At least £25m-£30m more must be cut, mainly from unemployment insurance, if a foreign loan was to be assured.

But some of the Cabinet, at least, could not stomach the bigger reduction in dole. What would happen to a party of reform which not only could not provide reforms, but must even take back those already obtained?

And what would happen to trade union support for the Labour Party? The Labour Cabinet approached the TUC leaders to try to get them to accept the cuts, but even the right-wing General Council took fright at the enormity of the proposals, and refused.

'The General Council are pigs.
They won't agree to any "cuts"
of unemployment insurance, or
salaries or wages, said Sydney
Webb, Fabian and member of
the Labour Cabinet.
A majority of the Cabinet, including Webb, voted to carry out
the requirements of the bankers

A majority of the Cabinet, including Webb, voted to carry out the requirements of the bankers, particularly as they had agreed that a 10-per-cent instead of a 20-per-cent cut in dole might be enough. The voting was 11 to nine, but the split meant the end of the government, which resigned on August 24, 1931.

Immediately, MacDonald joined with the Conservatives and Liberals in setting up a 'National Government' to put the bankers' measures through and launch a vicious offensive against the working class. The new Cabinet consisted of four Labour members, four Conservative and two Liberal members.

Liberal members.

The Labour members were MacDonald, Lord Sankey, Philip Snowden and J. H. Thomas, head of the National Union of Railwaymen.

The National government was immediately backed by the bankers and the employers and an £80m loan was made available jointly by the Bank of France and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Previously the King, George V, had told MacDonald that he was the only man to lead the country and that the Liberals would support him 'in restoring the confidence of foreigners in the financial stability of the country'. Now, having accepted the job, MacDonald can remark to Snowden: 'Tomorrow every duchess in London will want to kiss me.'

Terrible years followed for the working class. The dole was immediately cut by law from 17s to 15s 3d for adult men, and for a wife, from 9s to 8s.

The Means Test was introduced which demanded that the un-

The Means lest was introduced which demanded that the unemployed must submit to cross-questioning and house searching by the Poor Law Authority. For having saved a few pounds or kept a few precious possessions, thousands had their dole further cut or stopped altogether.

The time during which benefit could be drawn as of right was cut from over a year to 26 weeks—a diabolical act against those who had been out of a job the longest. In fact, nearly 20 per cent of the unemployed had been without work longer than this period and many had not been in employment for years.

been in employment for years.

After the 26 weeks, only socalled 'transitional payments'
decided by the means test were
available. At the same time, unemployment insurance contributions were raised for men at
work from 7d to 10d a week.

Work from 7d to 10d a week.

(Official figures put average wages during the 1930s at around £3 for a 46-hour week, though workers throughout entire industries were well below this level.)

An Anomalies Act was introduced, the main effect of which was to strike thousands of married women off benefits. By the end of the year over 170,000 women had been disallowed in this way. Those struck off did not register as no benefit was paid, so were not included in the unemployment figures.

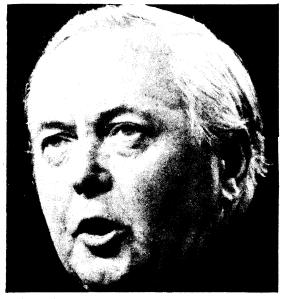
A few months later, in 1932, all subsidies for council house building in England and Wales, except for slum clearance were abolished, and drastically reduced in Scotland.

In education, expenditure on school-building was cut from £9.2m in 1930-1931 to £2.7m in 1933-1934—and this with 1,500 elementary schools still on a black list drawn up in 1921!

Free places in secondary schools were abolished and replaced with 'special places' based on a means test. The system of free school meals to children of poorer families was tightened up, the meals were to be supplied only on a doctor's report of malnutrition.

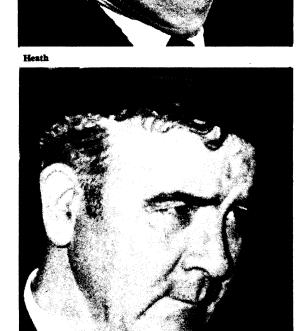
Wages of police, armed forces and teachers were to be reduced by up to 20 per cent, including a 15 per cent cut for teachers. A massive campaign against the reduction was organized by the teachers.

Bernard Franks' next article will describe how the attack on the working class was intensified.









All the elements of the crisis which is pressing in on the Tory government have been reflected in the pages of the Fleet St press.

There is the impotent rage at the spectacle of miners' determination and tenacious militancy to break the incomes 'norm' barrier which encourages a powerful movement against the Tories throughout the working

The press were prepared to patronize the miners, just so long as they remained convinced the Tories could beat them.

Then the knives began to come out. You had the 'Sunday Times' on February 13 urging the government to stick it out to the end against the miners. Gone was the liberal handwriting about was the liberal handwriting about the miners' special circumstances. After the Saltley coal depot battle no one could doubt that the Tories were faced not only with the NUM, but with the whole trade union movement. Under the heading 'Why the miners must not win', the 'Sunday Times' urged the government to even more forceful action (John Davies had already put most of

Davies had already put most of the country on a three-day week). Is the price of fighting the miners

worth paying? the paper asked.
It concluded that it was.
Otherwise there would be 'a sharp reversal of the limited success against spiralling wages and prices' which the Tories, in their eyes, had gained so far. Surrender 'would be an even

more damaging and insidious prospect than the imminent national stoppage of industry.

Any recognition of inflation would remove still further the possibility of attacking unemployment and the prospect of expansion would diminish'.

On the same page, Ronald Butt spoke of the 'almost lethal blow' that might be delivered to 'the economy and the fabric of British society' by 'this minority' of intransigent men.

The point may come,' he said, when the Prime Minister may have to choose between the coercion of a minority, led by men whose motives now seem to be predominantly political, and the safety of the state.'

The fact that the leaders of this illegal Tory government are a minority whose motives are most certainly political appeared to have escaped Butt's attention, but it was graphically borne home by the overwhelming popular support behind the miners.

The safety of the capitalist state was paramount in Butt's mind. 'This potentially catastrophic strike is, moreover, taking place,' he wrote, 'at a time when the question whether Britain is becoming ungovernable



Lord Thomson's lackeys speak

By JOHN SPENCER

can be asked in all seriousness. Industrial and community life is being paralysed because the miners allow themselves to be misled by their leaders and tempted to use duress on others.

'In Ireland, similarly, well-meaning or silly men are captive to ill-meaning men in the interests.

of destruction . . . The majority is, indeed, silent.'

It was to remain so silent that the Wilberforce court of inquiry was forced to offer an increase way beyond the wages norm, and yet the miners' executive still felt strong enough to demand

Noting the bankruptcy Noting the bankruptcy of parliamentary democracy in this situation, Butt goes on to lament the arrival of what he calls 'something dangerously like a Weimar Republic phase of our history'. He hopes the silent majority will put this right by slapping down workers' unslapping down workers' warranted pretentions.

'Four years ago, at the height of the Paris mini-revolution, the supporters of de Gaulle and of order marched—250,000 of them, with hooters blaring and lights flashing—along the Champs Elysees. They marched peaceably as a demonstration of national order. That in fact, was the moment when the "revolution" collapsed.'

Butt, of course, fails to point out why de Gaulle was able to rally his supporters not at the 'height' but at the final stages of the May-June events. It was because the Stalinist leaders of the working class had been able to regain their bureaucratic grip over the masses, in the absence alternative revolutionary leadership.

Other Tory commentators knew this basic mechanism of betrayal

could be put into operation in the miners' strike. The 'Daily Express' on Monday drew this conclusion in an editorial on Wilberforce. It was a direct appeal to the mine union chiefs to show 'honest endeavour' and end the strike. It was particularly hard on Lawrence Daly and Harold Wilson.

Their statements, the palest of pale reflections of the boiling militancy in the ranks, had got the 'Express' leader writer's back up. Wilson's 'jibes' served no good purpose he said. And 'as for Daly's 'deplorable' delay in submitting evidence to the court of inquiry, it was not to be tolerated.

'Tactics like these suit only those who seek industrial anarchy,' the paper fulminated.
Plainly the Tories' great worry

is that the working class has got out of control, that its bureau-cratic leaders will be pushed too far and break up Heath's crisisridden government.

The Common Market debate in the Commons, with its slender eight - strong Tory majority, brought this fear even more sharply to the fore. The ultra-chauvinist 'Express', which has long opposed entry into the Common Market, was forced out into the open.

Their editorial on the morning after the debate gave a token word of praise to the Tories who 'stuck by' their anti-Market convictions. But it also uncharacteristically praised Heath and the Liberals for their firmness in fury which Labour members directed at Mr Thorpe is the measure of their frustration,' the editorial said. 'They are enraged that he should have acted according the state of t ing to his lights instead of con-niving with them to smash the government.'

The 'Express' is exaggerating wildly when it accuses the Labour MPs of a 'greed for power' in its next paragraph. Never have a group of politicians been less eager to seek office. But the basic class point is clear. The entire employing class — whatever its family quarrels—is united in one thing: its determination to keep the Tories in office and back their strategy for crushing the working class.

This is now the consideration This is now the consideration overriding all others for Tories who are plainly fighting for their political lives against an unprecedented wave of militancy from the depths of the working class. They will use the full power of the state to maintain their rule and there must be no illusions either about their determined. illusions either about their determination or the viciousness with which they will reply to the working class.

'OUR BOYS'

Here's one item which didn't find its way into the capitalist press in Britain.

It concerns 'our boys' in Ulster.

Details of the particularly asty incident were revealed in a Downpatrick Court last

Four soldiers were said to have surrounded a girl teacher and threatened her with a knife. They were also said to have assaulted a youth called

Martin Carson,
The incident occurred at Irish Street in Downpatrick.

Miss Pauline McGrath said she was with Dick Killen when she first saw the soldiers. They formed a semi-circle round her and one said: 'We are the security forces. We are the occupying army you read about in your Republican newspapers. One of them dropped a knife and said 'You are pretty now

but you won't be in a minute.'
Martin Carson said the four caught him and Pte J. P. M. Barr of the 3rd Queen's Regiment rubbed an open razor down his face. He was hit in the face and kneed on the ground. Miss Killen also identified Barr as the one with the knife.

Barr denied that he had a knife but said he couldn't remember the incident since he was very drunk.

He was jailed for six months for disorderly behaviour, and three months, to run concurrent, for assault and having an offensive weapon.

Another soldier, Alan P. Hopkins, was fined £3 for indecent behaviour.

BURDEN

Courts in Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital, are in a 'state of paralysis', according to District Court president Momcilo Preradovic.

He gave a heart rending account of the problems to a recent conference of Serbian

legal experts.

The main problem, it seems, s the excessive burden of work on the judges, or, as Preradovic put it: 'The great number of cases, the citizens' undisciplined attitude to summonses, the absence of legal regulations in the field of civil law and the intentional delay of proceedings by individual barristers.'

The pace of work is too much. About 70,000 law suits, nvestigations and criminal

cases came before the 294 Belgrade judges last year. Despite the sterling work of Preradovic and his colleagues, no doubt operating in shifts round the clock, 20,000 of these cases are still awaiting trial.

Worse still, some barristers try at all costs to prolong the proceedings and, according to the judge, they 'work on the principle that in time memories grow dim and facts lose their immediate topicality'. In short, says Preradovic, 'they cause retrials' — an intentional misuse of rights.

Perhaps because of this appalling pressure of work, the Belgrade judges are not applying the full rigour of the law, particularly to cases of economic crime. 'Punishments imposed by the courts were milder last year than they should have been and below the legally permitted maximum, the judge said. He plans to call in the Belgrade barristers for a pep-talk in the

VAMPIRE

near future.

Roman Polanski is off to make films in France or Italy. Anywhere but Britain. Why? 'Unions are crippling Britain's industry. They were devised to defend — now they are defeating their own object by strangling their own livelihoods,' he says. Polanski's latest effort is a little number called 'The Vampire Killers' called 'The Vampire Killers'!

GODLY

Not many workers expect anything from the church. Bitter experience has taught that whatever might fall from the lips of the Godly is rarely matched by similar outpourings from their pockets.

The usual excuse is that the church is there for our political guidance—in other words to keep us on the capitalist straight and narrow and teach us how to bear the burdens of adversity.

The extent to which the church acts as an agent of the ruling class is graphically revealed by the case of Karen Cooper (31), the German psychologist and teacher who threw ink at Heath on the day of the signing of the Common Market Accession Treaty in Brussels.

She has been in prison without trial since January 23 and forced—illegally as it turns out -to pass the time threading red string through 500 price tags a day. Her jailers-



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Westhoughton welcome from council chairman and miners

OUR RECEPTION on Tuesday in Westhoughton, a small mining town between Wigan and Bolton, was typical of the warm way we have been received by the Lancashire working class.

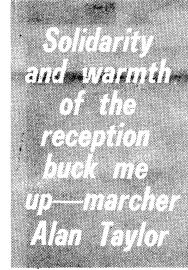
It was only last Sunday that Labour Club's committee heard the Right-to-Work march was passing through. But im-mediately they offered us their premises and a mid-day meal.

Club president is Cyril Thomas. who is also chairman of Westhoughton council. Two other committee members also sit on the council. Unfortunately, the Tories manage to control the council by one vote, that of a so called 'Independent'.

The town has been really hard hit by unemployment. There used to be ten pits in Westhoughton but now they're all closed. Out of four mills only two remain. And only the other week Hawker Siddeley's paid off another 200 workers because of falling orders.

Committee man Joe Roberts met us at the door of the club: 'We were very pleased to welcome the young people on the march. They can come back any time they like', Joe, who was a miner himself for 15 years, told

One of the years he spent as a miner was 1926: 'We went back



worse terms than when we came out—they starved us back. But this time it's been a real victory, the best we've ever had.'

Although the Tories control the council, Westhoughton always returns a Labour MP. 'It's been like that since 1901 when Lord Derby, the Tory MP, called postmen bloodsuckers because they were asking for another two bob a week', said

There's no doubt that the response we're getting from the working class and its organizations is an inspiration to the

'I didn't think we'd get such' a response, said 21-year-old Alan Taylor from Liverpool, who has

on the dole since April

'But I was mistaken. The solidarity and the warmth bucks me up. When you see workers like those in St Helens town hall stand up and clap us, it makes you feel proud to be factories for the working class. fighting for the working class.

'If we can now build branches of the Young Socialists and the Socialist Labour League in all these districts, it really will be worth it', said Alan.

Finally, I must record the welcome we had in Wigan the night before. The AUEW district committee and the Wigan breads council made all the arrangements for us. And the AUEW lent us their hall for a

meeting at which £6 was raised.

Over 3,000 workers are un-employed in the town. 'We are certain the Tories are trying to strangle Wigan', AUEW district secretary Bill Broxton told me.

Over 20,000 miners and textile workers have lost their jobs over the last ten years. Last year 2,000 more jobs were lost.

The unemployment is so bad that about 30 per cent of all workers in Wigan travel as far as Liverpool and Manchester every day to earn a living.

'The youth on the march must ignite the spirit of the working class and get the Fories out. We're fighting for our very existence', said Mr Broxton.



OUR ENEMIES in the Labour Party have been confounded once again. The Party rank and file in this Tory horseracing town have turned out and given us a warm wel-

The local Party had the usual circular from Ron Evers, nor-thern organizer of the Labour Party, warning the members off the march because it was run by a 'proscribed organization'.

This did not stop the rank and file campaigning for the march however. They established a committee to raise money and get accommodation for the Glasgow-London column.

Thirsk Labour Party executive committee member Fred Bendlow (65) was at our sleeping quarters greet the marchers on their 18th day on the road.

'I admire their courage and their aim—to get rid of the Tories. It's a great achievement and I speak as a veteran of five Aldermaston anti-bomb marches,' he told me.

The marchers sat down to a meal provided by the Thirsk rank and file as soon as they arrived in this agricultural town. They certainly needed the food. Today's haul of nearly 30 miles was the longest of the march and twice the daily distance of the Hunger Marchers in the

Fred, until recently a Com-munist Party member, told me of the support organized by the local Labour Party.

At their annual general meeting they donated the £24 surplus for 1971 to a fund for the marchers. A stall in the market, plus house-to-house collections raised another £8.

Labour Party members baked

and collected cakes.

Apart from tonight's three-course meal, they will be laying on breakfast tomorrow and a meal nine miles out of Thirsk on our way to York—our last stop before Leeds.



HAVING A BREAK ON THE WAY TO THIRSK

'This is a left-wing Party in Thirsk. We had no hesitation to back you,' said Fred. 'A six-man committee was established to deal with the arrangements.

'Frankly most of us in the Party are dead against any bans and prescriptions. If we can achieve unity of the working class, we can isolate the right wing in the Party as well as defeat the Tories. This is my aim

'Particularly on this issue of unemployment there must be action. We all know what this Tory government is up to now. It's kicking people onto the dole

and creating a core of unemployment to drive down wages. In Rhodesia and Ireland we can catch'a glimpse of what could happen to the British working

Later at our Thirsk meeting. Joan Maynard, the town's Lab-Party agent, backed the

'I think the slogan, the right to work, is a very positive one. Unlike the 1930s, you are not campaigning on the issue of unemployment. The working class are stronger and better organized now than they were in those days. They have had the power

to stop the Tories turning us back to those times.'

At 4 per cent, unemployment in Thirsk is relatively low compared to the areas we have passed through on the march. But this should be qualified. The predominant industry is agriculture. This means low wages, bad conditions—in fact 'hidden' unemployment. If men had jobs to go to they would leave the land.

Instead, what factories do move into the surrounding area employ mostly women workers at cheap rates.

The Labour Party exists amidst a sea of reaction. On the town



FRED BENDLOW: ADMIRES COURAGE

council they have three seats compared with the Tories' 28. The MP is the right-wing Conservative Sir Robin Turton, one of the Common Market rebels. who voted against the government in the most recent division.

The bulk of the Labour Party vote comes from agricultural workers and the N Yorkshire region of the Agricultral and Allied Workers is noted for its militancy. They opposed the recent wage 'settlement' in the industry and have spearheaded the fights against that near feudal relic—the tied cottage.

Under this system the agricultural worker stands to lose his home as well as his job if he does not accept the low wages and archaic conditions for working

on the land.

Despite these obstacles, Fred told me that the Party had been gaining ground over the last decade and slowly eating away at Turton's majority.

If the support they have shown us is any guide, there may come a day when Turton is turned out of office in favour

of a socialist candidate.

Our thanks again to the rank and file of Thirsk for demonstrating there is more to the labour movement than paid officials and servile right-wing Labour MPs.

Miners and pensioners bulwark of support

on their Wilberforce-plus pay offer in a watchful mood.

While acceptance of the offer appears to be widespread, they are poised to reply both to a later Tory ambush or to the first hint of betrayal by their own

It is in this spirit that they are backing the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work march.

In a strenuous, 26-mile push into the heart of Glamorgan-shire, the Swansea-London marchers passed into mining territory proper.

At Blackmill, six miles out of Bridgend in the Ogmore valley, Cam Evans laid on mid-morning tea and toast for us at the small cafe he runs with his family.

'Any time,' he told us. 'I'm all in favour of what you're

'We want to defeat the Tories, sure, and put Labour back—but we want them back to do something for the working class this

A full-time miner at Wyndham and Western colliery, Cam added that 'socialism is instilled in the men who work down the pits' and that they were now impatient to achieve it.

Our trek along the Ogmore valley led us 800 feet into the Rhondda, where 2,201 workers were jobless at the January count. This is 162 more than at the end of last year.

Figures to be announced today are expected by the Department of Employment to show a further big increase.

In the Rhondda-Llantrissant-Pontypridd area as a whole unemployment is running at 6.3 per cent, 1.2 per cent more than last year, or 2 per cent above the national average.

Six pits have shut in the area over the last 15 years and at least one other is now on the jeopardy list, sharpening the miners' already well-developed fear of redundancy.

A group of miners in the 'Black Diamond', Williamstown, cheered the marchers when Workers Press sellers told them we were not protesting against unemployment as in the 1930s, but fighting for the removal of

Over 1,000 of the Rhondda's unemployed live in Tonypandy, the grim, granite town where



CLIFF TRUE, LEADING CP MINER JOINED MARCH

Churchill sent troops against the miners in 1911.

The most modern building we

saw there was, appropriately enough, the new Social Security office. In the streets the people responded magnificently to the marchers. The local branch of the Amal-

workers at the British Steel Corporation subsidiary of T. C. Jones in the town, four miles along the valley from Tonypandy, are to stage a collection for the marches tomorrow.

For the last leg of our march, from Treorchy into the mining village of Treherbert, we were joined by Ferndale miners' union secretary Cliff True.

A leading member of the Communist Party, he told me he

supported the aims of the march.
'But it's only a start,' he said as the tired but determined marchers kept up their chants of



SWANSEA-LONDON MARCH MOVES INTO MINING VALLEYS

'Tories out!' for most of the way. 'What's needed is to mobilize the mass of the working class against this government.'

Ferndale has accepted the Wilberforce-plus settlement 'with open arms', he said.

'The Tory government has been pushed back. We won concessions in the Downing St talks last Friday that we've been fighting for without success for 25 years.

Asked whether he thought the Tories could have been brought down had the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers stuck out for the £5-£9 original claim, Cliff True said:

'Two weeks more and the government would have collapsed-by that I mean would have had to concede our full claim.

'The question is what would have happened in the union and in the country. We would have been split 50-50 in our own ranks, and last Saturday morning you could already see us losing

public sympathy.'
Cliff True's support was a welcome change from the bitter hostility of his Party's leaders,

but his words are open to debate when one considers the marchers' fighting spirit.

It is this which is winning widespread support in the labour movement.

TYMEWYDD Labour Club, for example, supplied the marchers with food for their overnight stay at Treherbert.

The party members there thus join ranks with those all over the country who are helping us break the vicious official ban organized by Transport House.

On our way out of Bridgend, Mrs White, 72, stopped one of our collectors and donated £1

from her pension to the march. 'If they get through,' she said, 'it will shake the Tories up and do us a world of good. For a fight like this I insist on giving

She wouldn't take 'No thank you' for an answer, telling us with tears in her eyes about her son-in-law who marched in the 1930s hunger marches. 'I don't want to see this return again,'



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BBC 1

9.38-12.00 Schools. 12.55-1.25 Tresarn. 1.30 The herbs. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 3.45-4.10 Conflict at work. 4.15 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Dr Dolittie. 5.44 Sir Prancelot. 5.50 News and weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE. Your region tonight.

TOM AND JERRY.

7.00 OWEN MD. 'Ancient Enemy'.
7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.
8.00 SIX OF RIX. 'Aren't Men Beasts!' Brian Rix.
8.50 DO YOU REMEMBER? Robert Robinson.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather.

PLAY FOR TODAY. 'Cows'. Alison Leggatt, Alan Webb, Tessa Wvatt.

10.30 24 HOURS.

11.15 PEOPLE LTD. Need there be 'them' and 'us'?

11.40 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.35-6.30 Open University.

6.35 ROSLA AND AFTER. 'The more we are together'.

OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWSROOM and weather.

8.00 THE SHADOW OF THE TOWER. 'The Princely Gift'. James Maxwell.

8.50 EUROPA.

8.25 SHOW OF THE WEEK: DAVE ALLEN AT LARGE.

NEWS ON 2 and weather.

'ORPHEE'. Jean Cocteau's modern version of the Orpheus and Eurydice legend.

11.55 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

10.20 Schools. 2.32 All our yesterdays. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.10 Tea break. 3.40 Marcus Welby. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Roadrunner show. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.00 TODAY. Eamonn Andrews.

6.40 CROSSROADS.

'DESTROYER'. Edward G. Robinson, Glenn Ford. War drama about a battling ship's crew.
9.00 MY GOOD WOMAN. New series with Leslie Crowther,

Sylvia Syms, Keith Barron.

9.30 THIS WEEK.

10.30 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 CINEMA. Mickey Rooney.

11.00 SOMETHING TO SAY. Dr Barry Commoner, American ecologist, debates with John Maddox, editor of 'Nature'.

12.00 THE TEACHERS.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 10.20-2.32 London.
4.05 Origami. 4.18 Puffin. 4.22
Nanny and the professor. 4.50
Bush boy. 5.20 London. 6.00
News and weather. 6.10 What's
on where. 6.15 Farming news.
6.20 Sports roundup. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The Snorkel'.
8.30 This is your life. 9.00 London. 11.00 British Museum. 11.30
News and weather in French.
Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.18 News. 6.00 Diary. 11.30 Faith for life. 11.35 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 10.20-2.33 London.
3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Tea break,
4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Cartogn.
4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Superman.
5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day,
6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film: 'A Touch
of Larceny'. 9.00 London. 11.00
News. 11.10 British museum. 11.40
Weather.

HARLECH: 10.20-2.32 London. 3.50 Beloved enemy. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Huckleberry Finn. 5.20 Dibyndobyn. 5.50 London. 6.01 Ydydd. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.10 Film: 'Three Came Home'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Songs for your delight. 11.15 Marcus Welby. 12.15 Weather. HARLECH:

HTV Channel 10 as above except: 5.20-5.50 Magpie. 6.01-6.18 Report

HTV West as above plus: 6.18-

ANGLIA: 10.20-2.33 London. 3.40 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Tea break. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 Bush boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 London. 7.00 Comedians. 7.30 Film: *Outcasts of Poker Flat'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Jesse James. 11.30 Living and growing.

ATV MIDLANDS: 10.20-2.33 London. 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Family affair. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 Get this. 5.20 London. 6.00 ATV today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Film: 'The Old Dark House'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Marcus Welby.

FORKSHIRE: 10.20 London. 2.33
Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper.
3.05 Matinee. 3.35 Calendar news.
3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Lone
ranger. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Bottom of the
sea. 7.20 Film: 'California Holiday'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Yorksport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drivein. 12.00 Weather.

TYNE TEES: 10.20 Living and growing. 11.00 London. 2.32 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 British Museum. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Captain Scarlet. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today at six. 7.00 Film: 'California Holiday'. 8.50 Love American style. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sportstime. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive-in. 12.15 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 10.20-2.32 London. 3.30 Once upon a time. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.00 Dateline. 4.55 Fireball, XL5. 5.20 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.15 Cartoon. 6.30 Who do you do. 7.00 Film: 'Beau Geste'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Prisoner.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00-2.32 London.
3.38 News. 3.40 Dick Van Dyke.
4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Oligami, 4.55
Rainbow country. 5.20 London.
6.00 News and Lesley Blair. 6.35
Film: "Donovan's Reef". 8.55
Police news. 9.00 London. 11.00
Survival. 11.30 Golf. 12.00 Prayers.

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BY RENOUNCING their national claim in favour of plant bargaining, the engineering union chiefs have not 'side-stepped' the employers' policy of holding down wages, Mr D. C. Bamford told the Engineering Employers' Federation annual dinner at the Dorchester Hotel last night.

Bamford, the EEF president, said the employers would be even more determined to fight wage demands because of the losses imposed on them by the miners' strike.

Noting that 'we have prominent trade union officials with us tonight-some of them are old friends', Bamford urged them to be 'moderate' in their demands. He went on to warn:

'Our members have no alternative but to resist extravagant claims—especially at this time. If this resistance should lead to strike action on a large scale, the strikers will be postponing indefinitely the resurgence of their industry and its ability to provide a rising standard of living for its employees.'

His threats were warmly

HADARA (1944) HADARA

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AS UNEMPLOYMENT grows at an alarming rate, the Right-to-Work marches show a way forward to workers everywhere.

Our basic right to a job must be defended. The Tory govern-ment must not be allowed to take away this basic right. Instead they must be forced to resign.

Workers Press is right in the forefront of this fight. Now, with six days left to the end of February, the fight is on for our Appeal Fund. Make a special effort this month. We know you will do everything possible to clear our target, but let's try to raise a record amount Post all raise a record amount. Post all your donations immediately to:

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Right-to-Work Campaign **CROYDON**

Thursday February 24, 8 p.m. **RALLY**

Ruskin House, Coombe Rd
E Croydon
sponsored by Ford's (Croydon) shop stewards' committee

Speakers: Ray Elliott (convenor Ford's, Croydon) Sarah Hannigan, (secretary London YS)

LATENEWS

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Plant-level pay talks will be just as tough

fall. Much of this has been caused by the closing down of individual plants, and unhappily

bankruptcies in the industry have

never been higher.
'I believe, however, that the

bulk of unemployment in en-gineering has been the con-sequence of rocketing labour

costs, impelling our members to

reduce their labour force, as a proportion of their sales, and to employ their remaining labour

'Manufacturing investment fell by 5 per cent in real terms in 1971 and the level of net new

applauded by Prime Minister Edward Heath, who also spoke at the dinner.

Reviewing the state of the engineering industry, Bamford laid special stress on the recession in capital goods, the spate of closures and bankruptcies in the industry and the rapid growth of unemployment. He said:

'The demand for the products of the engineering industry as a whole has remained stagnant for almost two years, and indeed production fell somewhat in the second half of last year.'

He was encouraged by signs that the government's reflationary measures of last July were working in consumer industries.
But I have to bear in mind the

other 80 per cent or so who produce, or who are concerned in production of, capital equipment.
The serious unemployment

situation has in no way bypassed

and their capital more effectively. This they must continue to do, particularly at a time when entry into the Common Market will mean stiffer competition for

the engineering industry. In the orders throughout last year was 11 months to November last persistently below 1970 and even year, employment in engineering 1969,' Bamford continued. decreased by 7½ per cent, and has undoubtedly continued to

The real motive behind investment, Bamford said, was not acquiring tax incentives or investment grants. It was 'the general level of profitability and the confidence that new assets will earn a satisfactory return in a bouyant market.

'Profit, present and anticipated, is the key to greater invest-ment.'

'It is against such a back-ground that we must view our present position with the unions,' he declared.

Bamford's speech is a frank statement of the engineering emplant wage struggles. In their drive for profit they are determined to beat back the wage demands of the engineering workers.



BY A CORRESPONDENT

'GUARDIAN' reporter Simon Winchester, told the Widgery tribunal yesterday that he was fired at twice, apparently by an army sniper, as he attempted to make his way from Rossville Flats to 'Free Derry Corner' on 'Bloody Sunday', Januay 30.

Winchester was giving evidence on the third day of Lord Widgery's one-man inquiry into the 13 civilian deaths in Derry, N Ireland, after a civil rights demonstration.

He said he saw a soldier standing on a street corner 150 yards away put his rifle to the

Earlier he described how a crowd ran for cover when three or four one-ton armoured personnel carriers swept into the Bogside from William St. 'We all started to run and I

saw some soldiers running with the vehicles. I thought the vehicles were going to run around as fast as they possibly could and break the crowd up into smaller groups and use gas

winchester added: 'The vehicles seemed to be going very fast. My feelings were that I was going to be knocked down, or arrested. There was a lot of hysteria—a lot of screaming and a lot of shouting.'
He described how he saw two

men fall wounded in the court-yard of Rossville Flats—one aged about 18 and the other slightly older. Neither was carrying firearms as far as he could see.

Farmworkers 'special case' turned down

FARM workers' claim for a £1.80 rise to a minimum of £18 for a 40-hour, five-day week was a special case as much as the miners, National Union of Agri-cultural and Allied Workers secretary Reg Bottini said yes-

Mr Bottini pointed out that farm workers' earnings were at least £10 a week lower than the average in industry and that they worked a 42-hour week, while most other industries were on a 40-hour week.

The claim, rejected yesterday by the Agricultural Wages Board, also asks for double time for weekend and public holiday working for the 320,000 farmworkers in England and Wales.



TUC GENERAL SECRETARY VICTOR FEATHER

TUC PRAISE FOR PLANT BARGAINING

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE TUC yesterday turned its back on the weakly - organized sections of the labour move-

The first phase of its 1972 conomic Review claimed Economic that, 'a revolution is sweeping through many areas collective bargaining'.

In tacit praise of the aims of the Industrial Relations Act to smash national wage agreements and undermine the strength of the trade unions by substituting plant-bargaining, the review says:

'Moves to company bargain-ing in manufacturing industry generally nearly always involve a shift to new maxima several pounds a week above the industry-wide negotiated rate.'

It adds that bargaining with private international companies can bring big increases in wages that were not possible before.

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Ignoring the fact that such settlements are only given on the basis of shut downs, unemployraised the review notes 'new perspectives are opening up'.

In line with its opposition to an incomes policy, and with the miners in mind, it goes on: 'In these circumstances, it is simply not possible for the public sector to set the pattern for wages in many sectors of industry.

'A wise government would be well advised to adopt a more relaxed posture so far as wages in the public sector are concerned.

With the fingers of slump having an iron grip round the throats of the Tories and employers, the TUC simply decide to throw the weak to the wolves by making weak appeals for new 'postures'.

This policy was further exposed by TUC general secretary Victor Feather at yesterday's press conference launching the

He said, as Heath and his ministers have repeated often enough: 'The miners' settlement should not be taken as a yardstick. The increase was gained on its merits and other claims will be judged on their merits.'

Young Socialists National Right to Work Campaign

Right-to-Work **MARCH**

from Glasgow to London arrives in SHEFFIELD Saturday February 26 **COME TO OUR RALLY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 27**

Lower Refectory **Lower Rectory** Sheffield University, 7.00 p.m.

see our documentary play 'THE ENGLISH REVOLUTION' Directed by Corin Redgrave Written by Tom Kempinski

followed by a meeting

Speakers:
G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)
BRIAN LAVERY (NUM-Wheldale Colliery in personal capacity)
JOHN BARRIE (YS leader of march from Scotland)

Admission 20p