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TRADE UNIONISM AT STAKE

BY A POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

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The chief purpose of the Act is to tie the unions to the state. Simultaneously, the state is attempting—with some measure of success—to regulate wages.

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● 250,000 hospital ancillary workers claimed 12 per cent and their union accepted 7.5 per cent.

● 770,000 local government manual workers claimed 12 per cent, and their union accepted 7.4-7.8 per cent.

● 120,000 electricity supply workers claimed 10 per cent and their union accepted 7.75 per cent.

● 165,000 bank workers claimed 8 per cent and their leaders accepted 7 per cent.

● 350,000 nurses claimed up to 25 per cent and their union accepted 8 per cent.

● And Tom Jackson, of the Union of Post Office Workers, accepted an 8 per cent increase for his members last week.

The TUC endorsed every one of these settlements, each a violation of its own declared 'high wage' policy.

The pattern has been set, 23,000 London busmen who

claimed 15 per cent have been offered 7.5 per cent; 400,000 teachers who claimed 13.7 per cent have been offered 6 per cent; 800,000 building workers who claimed 50 per cent have been offered 7.5 per cent; 2,500,000 engineers who claimed 40 per cent have been offered 7.5 per cent; and 80,000 ship-building workers who claimed 40 per cent have also been offered 7.5 per cent.

The trend is clear. The union leaders are falling in line with the dictates of the Tory government over wages. The miners were an exception because their determination, plus the overwhelming support for them throughout the working class, swept beyond the TUC's conservatism.

But the employers have seen the warning light.

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The working class fought to build unions in order to be able to regulate its wages against the wishes of the employers and the employers' governments. Now its leaders are preparing to throw away the fruits of 200 years of working-class struggle.

Because what is the point of trade unions if they cannot go beyond the state's allocation of wages?

The TUC itself claims that low wages cause unemployment. Yet wage 'increases' of 7 to 8 per cent are wage-cuts in real terms.

Not only is the TUC not fighting on wages, it is not fighting on unemployment either. That is being left to the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work marches from Glasgow, Liverpool, Swansea and Deal.

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To preserve the unions as working-class instruments of struggle against capitalism, to maintain their independence from the state, requires the building of revolutionary cadres in the unions as a matter of urgency.

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FROM IAN YEATS
IN KENT

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'It's definitely right what they're doing. There's a lot of unemployment round here and if you got the sack you'd be on the dole 16 months, or more, even.'

Betteshanger miner Alan Warman commented:

'I've never seen anything like this round here,' he told me. 'Betteshanger would certainly have supported it if we'd known.'

'The trade unions have never been more together than they are now. We could clear this lot out of government. The miners' strike showed what can be done if the working class stick together.'

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'Good luck to them,' she said. 'It's up to the young ones now. My husband's done plenty of marching in his time.'

Clause 4

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● See PAGE 2. Playing cards close to chest.

workers press

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER

MONDAY FEBRUARY 28, 1972

4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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● See PAGE 2. Playing cards close to chest.

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Greek women prisoners beaten up

WOMEN political prisoners at the Korydallos prison near Athens began a hunger strike after they had been severely beaten at Christmas last year.

Their struggle is reported in the latest issue of 'Ora Tis Allagis', the Greek Trotskyist newspaper. The report was delayed because the prison administration has introduced an intercom system to censor prisoners' conversations with visiting relatives. During the Christmas

holidays a woman chief guard attacked and beat prisoners for singing during the evenings.

A delegation of prisoners tried to meet the prison director to protest against the behaviour of the 'nun', as the chief guard is characteristically called. Not only did he refuse to talk to the committee, he used violence against its members.

While the 'nun' continued her brutality, the director visited the prisoners to give them the customary Christmas greetings. They con-

fronted him again with their demands, so he called in guards who again beat up certain prisoners.

Later the prison authorities warned that if anyone tried to refer to the beatings in the visiting rooms, the intercom would be cut off.

But in the visiting room the prisoners yelled loudly from behind the thick windows 'Don't leave us any food—we're not eating!'

Angry guards rushed in and immediately emptied the room.

Similar protests were made last year by men

detainees, which provoked international outrage. Minister of Justice Tsoulakas said at the time that these reports were 'communist fabrications'.

No doubt the same excuse will be trotted out this time as well by the vicious colonels who prove their bravery by beating up women.

As 'Ora Tis Allagis' says: 'No amount of protest against the tortures can be sufficient. Every denouncement must be a trumpet call for organization and action under the banner of socialism.'

Nixon-Mao play cards close to chest

By JOHN SPENCER

THE UNITED STATES affirmed in a joint communiqué at the end of the summit meeting between President Nixon and Chinese leaders that its ultimate objective was the withdrawal of all US forces and military installations from Taiwan.

The communiqué, issued on the eve of Nixon's departure for home, said the US would progressively reduce its forces and military installations on Taiwan as tensions in the area diminished.

The US defence treaty with the Chiang Kai-shek government

AMERICAN B52 bombers attacked alleged troop concentrations and base areas in S Vietnam close to the border with Cambodia and Laos, the US command reported yesterday.

The heavy bombers made five sorties against the National Liberation Front forces at the weekend, the command said. 4,000 S

on Taiwan is to stay, however.

If the Chinese gave any concessions in return for the US pledge on Taiwan, both sides are keeping them close to their chests.

On Vietnam, the other key issue in the negotiations, the communiqué gives no indication of any narrowing in the gap between Chinese and American positions.

Nixon's adviser, Dr Henry Kissinger, said the war had been discussed during the talks and the Americans had expressed their concern over prisoners of

Vietnamese troops are currently engaged in an operation across the border in S Cambodia.

The Saigon command also reported the use of huge 15,000-lb 'daisy cutter' bomb against NLF forces 40 miles east of Saigon. The bomb kills every living thing within a radius of half a mile from the centre of the explosion.

war held by the Hanoi government.

China's position, stated in the communiqué, is that the Vietnam war should be settled under the seven-point proposals put forward by the provisional revolutionary government of S Vietnam.

Both sides agreed, however, in demanding that Indian troops withdraw behind their own frontiers or the ceasefire line with Pakistan. They both sided with dictator Yahya Khan in the recent war between India and Pakistan.

Both countries agreed to facilitate the progressive development of mutual trade, but the communiqué does not mention the establishment of a permanent US trade mission in China—one of the points the Americans are believed to have wanted.

However, the communiqué does provide for further consultations, with a senior US representative visiting Peking from time to time to engage in 'concrete consultations to further the normalization of relations between the two countries and continue to exchange views on issues of mutual interest'.

Aberfan in W Virginia

AT LEAST 37 people are known to have died when a coal-slag dam holding back 20-foot deep water collapsed after heavy rains, flooding a remote mining valley in W Virginia. The death toll was feared to be as high as 100 in the disaster, authorities in the American state said yesterday.

Many victims were drowned and others buried alive by the wall of mud and water which gushed from the collapsed dam.

The mining community of Laredo was virtually wiped out with only a few houses left standing. About another ten hamlets in the valley, some 30 miles SW of the state capital of Charleston and in the centre of a major coal-mining area were badly battered.

PREMATURE POLL STRENGTHENS ITALY'S RIGHT

THE ITALIAN government collapsed at the weekend after only nine days in office, precipitating the first premature General Election since the fall of fascism 26 years ago.

Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti presented the resignation of his minority Christian Democrat government after he was defeated 158-151 in a Senate vote of confidence.

President Giovanni Leone asked Andreotti to stay on as caretaker until the elections take place. The likely date for the elections is May 7.

This means the Christian Democrats have achieved what they wanted from the formation of a minority government—control of the 'levers of power' during the pre-election period.

The break-up of the previous centre-left coalition under Emilio Colombo was brought about when the right-wing Republicans withdrew their support, accusing the government of being too soft on the working class.

Waiting in the wings are the fascists of Italian Social Movement (MSI) whose position has been vastly strengthened by the reformist treachery of the labour leaders, particularly the Italian Communist Party.

Clashes in the streets between workers and fascists are an almost daily occurrence as the crisis worsens.

There were nine arrests on Saturday in Rome and Milan where fighting broke out between left-wing students and fascists. In Milan, one of Italy's most industrialized cities, police used tear-gas grenades and repeated baton charges to disperse 200 youth from a local technical institute. They were holding a meeting in defiance of a police ban.

There have been big demonstrations throughout the week against the frame-up trial of anarchist Pietro Valpreda, charged with a bomb outrage.

The crime attributed to Valpreda is widely thought to have been perpetrated by fascists in collusion with the police.

In his closing speech in Saturday's confidence debate, premier Andreotti again warned of the danger of a drift towards fascism, saying his party was determined to prevent a return to the 'terrible times' of Mussolini.

But there are clear signs that many former big business backers of Christian Democracy are now turning rapidly to the right and throwing their support behind the MSI.

WHAT WE THINK

TORY PRESS AND THE SLL

THE RIGHT-TO-WORK marches, like every other campaign which the Socialist Labour League embarks upon within the working-class movement, has got to be discredited if at all possible by the capitalist press.

We're not complaining about this, because in its own way it is a backhanded compliment. Something would undoubtedly be wrong if our mortal enemies began to praise us. And to be scrupulously fair to Fleet St and the television gents, they invariably get absolutely no assistance whatsoever from the SLL either in the form of oral or programmed interviews. What we have to say in public we say in our daily paper, pamphlets and speeches.

Generally speaking in past years the press either ignored us completely or just did a snide job. When the Young Socialists last year mobilized 4,500 youth and trade unionists in a 'Make the Tory Government Resign' campaign at Alexandra Palace, it was ignored.

When the Young Socialists organized a similar number in a demonstration (last May Day) Fleet St sent along men blind in one eye who reported that they could only see 300 or 400.

But if a liberal 'left' blows his nose in a university, the noise tremors will prompt the press to warn about 'the danger of revolution'—(the safe kind).

Recently this technique has been changed. The new stance goes like this. 'We know the SLL is active and has a daily paper, but have you ever heard of the International Socialists?'

In the middle of the miners' strike, when the Tory 'Sunday Telegraph' was dividing its time seeking ways and means to break the strike with its distortions over Ulster, it found space to write about the 'state capitalist' (IS group) as follows:

'In any "Which?" type report of the New Left, the International Socialists would deliver most in terms of satisfaction, doctrine and sociability, and would undoubtedly be the "best buy".'

And if you want to know more about the kind of chaps who lead this 'best-buy' sociable type of outfit, why just read on a little further up the same page.

'In terms of leadership, the International Socialists are probably better endowed than their rivals: Mr Paul Foot, for example, a highly accomplished propagandist whose energy is prodigious, covering issues like the contradictory statements of Mr Harold Wilson over the year, the politics of Mr Enoch Powell and the Hanratty journalism, books pamphlets for IS.'

'Interesting', you might say, 'but why?' Let the 'Sunday Telegraph' further enlighten you.

'The philosophy of IS differs significantly from both the orthodox Trotskyists and the Communist Party. IS regards the Soviet Union as a "state capitalist" society, and would support a revolution against Russia's new "ruling class".'

Here is one of the main reasons for all the Tory enthusiasm over IS. For the foundation principles of Trotskyism are based on the inability of the Stalinist bureaucracy to destroy the nationalized property relations established by the October Revolution in the USSR in 1917. The IS claims that the forces of international capitalism have accomplished this and that the Soviet Union is a state capitalist country.

Such a major victory endears them to the professional anti-communists of the 'Sunday Telegraph' because there is nothing they would like more than to be able to continue smearing Marxism with the crimes of Stalinism, while at the same time writing off the October Revolution.

Fortunately, the real situation is different. The basic advance of the international working class is still preserved in the nationalized property relations of the USSR and these are a powerful force on the side of the working class today.

By writing them off and conceding victory to capitalism the IS reveals its true colours—a wretched group of middle-class liberals dabbling in left phrases.

That is why the Tory, right-wing Labour and liberal press are so keen to give them a political boost against the unmentionable, microscopic, three or four dozen, at the most, who together with the Workers Press constitute the SLL.

The 'IS as it is known' croons the 'Sunday Telegraph', 'has the deftest publicity machine'.

In the 'New Statesman' February 25, 1972 a certain John Drake becomes so enthusiastic that he writes as follows:

'The IS weekly "Socialist Worker" has increased its print order to 30,000 since the (miners) strike.'

In the 'Socialist Worker' of February 26, one day later, the editor claims:

'Twenty seven thousand copies of "Socialist Worker" were printed and distributed last week.'

Now just how deft can your publicity machine become gentlemen?

BUY ME KANGAROO DOWN, SPORT

Australian businessmen are worrying about the accelerating pace at which overseas interests are gaining control of business.

Leaders in commerce who fear widescale takeovers of Australian firms may not be to the country's advantage, say investment is flowing in from abroad almost unchecked.

Foreign investment reached record figures in 1970-1971 of \$A1,493m (over £700m), about 50 per cent more than came in during 1969-1970.

Most of the money is going into mining, quarrying, banking, finance and property firms, some of which are finding it difficult to raise money from Australians.

Mineral and oil exploration industry sources believe economic uncertainty in Australia is one of the major reasons why Australians are not putting up enough money to counter the overseas financial invasion.

'At one time Australians were prepared to subscribe risk capital, but since 1956 the incentives to do so have been progressively reduced, until now there is the prospect of all of Australia's petroleum resources falling under overseas control', says the chairman of one exploration company.

Oil exploration in Australia has begun to taper off. According to one source there were only 15 oil rigs operating in Australia at the end of November compared with 37 in 1969.

Oil companies partly blame this on the price for Australian crude of \$A2.06 a barrel (just under £1). They say this is artificially low. It is about 25 per cent below the price of Middle East oil entering Australia and about 50 per cent below the domestic price in the United States.

Few Australian exploration and mining companies have enough cash left to complete their own exploration and nearly

all have sought links with big overseas companies.

In Western Australia, where the speculative mining boom was sparked off by the big September 1969 nickel find of Poseidon Limited, there are now more than 300 known joint ventures between overseas and Australian prospectors.

Major American partners include such companies as American Metal Climax, International Nickel, Anaconda; while British groups include Anglo-American and Selection Trust which also have big interests in Africa.

Japanese companies like Mitsui, Sumitomo and Mitsubishi are also represented as are Belgium's huge Union Miniere and the French Societe Le Nickel.

One incentive for overseas business is Australia's currency according to the chairman of a Sydney finance company, who claims the Australian dollar is undervalued.

Australian shareholders and investors, disenchanted with seemingly perennial fluctuations in the stock market, have been reluctant to contribute more funds to exploration.

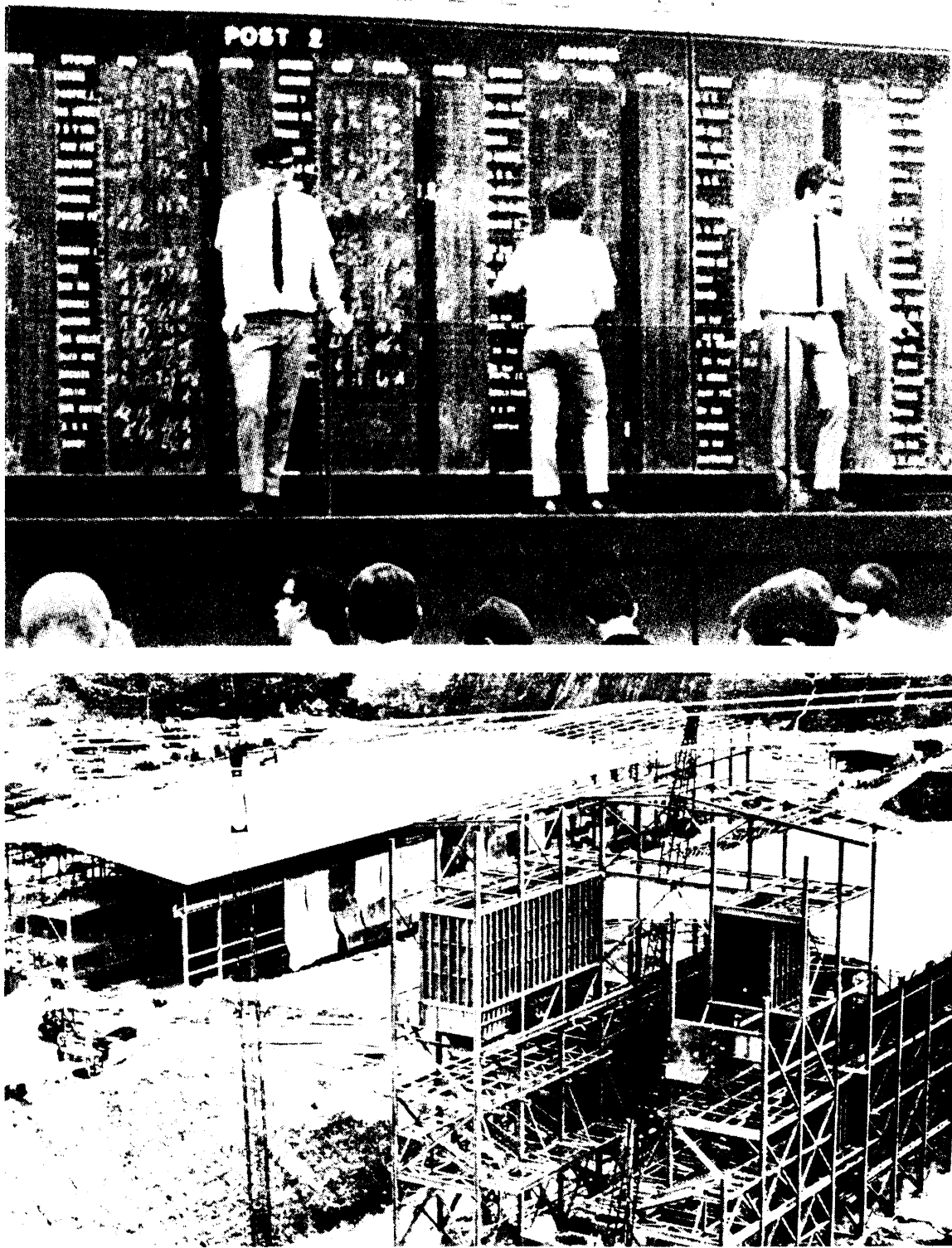
This forces some prospectors to conserve funds by such devices as surrendering claims of uncertain potential or seeking joint ventures for their companies.

Some seek diversification in less hazardous activities like real estate.

Industry leaders point to several other factors contributing to the tapering off of exploration activity, such as a Western Australian government decision to double annual rental on mineral claims staked in the state to \$A150 (about £70) 300-acre (121 hectares) claim.

Local bodies in the state are also making substantial rate assessments on claim holders.

Top: Sydney stock exchange. Right: Copper plant in Bougainville, New Guinea, financed by Australian and foreign capital.



LETTERS

RANK AND FILE

If we are to survive in our struggle against capitalism, we must first oust the Tories from office and return a Labour government pledged to true socialist policies—the All Trades Unions Alliance Draft Manifesto.

As the Tories have now won the vote on a second reading of the Bill to take Britain into the Common Market, they are going to get a full term in office. That is, of course, unless the TUC calls for a General Strike.

The mild backing that Feather, Scanlon and Jones gave to the miners in their fight leaves us to look to the rank and file of the trade unions to carry out the job.

This is the only way left for us to get out the Tories and make the Labour Party do its job properly. I wholeheartedly support the Draft Manifesto as adopted by the ATUA and also the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work marches.

Mrs Phyllis Starkey,
Micawber St
Liverpool.

Workers Press welcomes this letter from Mrs Starkey. She is absolutely right in her mistrust of Feather and the trade union 'lefts'. The miners' strike could have been won in full and much quicker if the trade union leaders had mobilized the force of the working class behind them.

The question is, however, what exactly is the role of the rank and file? Nobody could have been more militant than the rank and file miners and the other workers who helped them to stop the power stations and fuel depots.

Nevertheless, although they scored a substantial victory, they did not win their full demand and the Tories are still there.

What is required, therefore, is political leadership and organization in the fight to make the union leaders call a General Strike to force the Tories out. In the course of this political struggle, the consciousness of workers will be raised and a revolutionary leadership built in the unions.

That is the purpose of the Right-to-Work marches and of the decision to launch the Socialist Labour League as a revolutionary party later this year.

IMPLICATIONS

In your notebook item about John O'Callaghan resigning from 'The Guardian', you end with a jibe at John Palmer of the International Socialists which reads: 'Far from quitting the capitalist media, Palmer has recently taken to writing on—wait for it—the economy.'

The paragraph has several implications which seem dubious to me.

1. You imply that O'Callaghan's resignation was an example to be followed. I regard it as a setback. O'Callaghan was Father of the Chapel at 'The Guardian' and had taken a courageous line in trying to change 'The Guardian's' attitude on the N Ireland situation through collective journalistic action within the paper.

He gave good leadership on other important trade union matters too. He played a very progressive role in the Central London branch of the NUJ, which is not over-supplied with radicals. Now he is out of work

in a shrinking labour market which still has 30 journalists unemployed resulting from Associated Newspaper clear-out of 12 months ago.

2. You imply that the correct line for every opponent of the capitalist system who works as a journalist on a capitalist paper is to resign. Why just the journalists? Why not the composers and printers as well? What good would it do and where would we all work if we did resign? Is it not better for all workers who are forced to work for capitalist concerns—the majority of us—to fight through their unions for greater justice and for socialist consciousness? Or is such a fight only to be conducted at the Labour exchanges.

3. The humour of '—wait for it—the economy' is puerile. And anyway, I would much prefer Palmer to write about the economy for 'The Guardian' than someone who was less aware of the problems of capitalism, which applies to 100 per cent of the rest of the 'economics experts' of the capitalist press.

R.B.
London.

Mr B. is obviously reading too much into our 'notebook' item on John O'Callaghan's resignation.

Our purpose was simply to point out the contradictions in Mr Palmer's position as a leading 'state capitalist' and 'Guardian' staff writer.

As for Mr B. final objection, Mr Palmer can hardly be said to be more 'aware of the problems of capitalism' than the rest of the bourgeois press pundits.

He has long subscribed to the revisionist conception that capitalism has stabilized itself on the basis of the so-called 'permanent arms economy'.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Make the Tory government resign!

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

WILLESDEN: Monday 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 capitalism.'

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

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, Edmon- ton. 'Building the revolutionary party.'

BOOKS



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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 ARRIVE

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, W7. 7 pm
- LIME GROVE BATHS, Shepherds Bush, W12. 7pm

RALLY EMPIRE POOL WEMBLEY

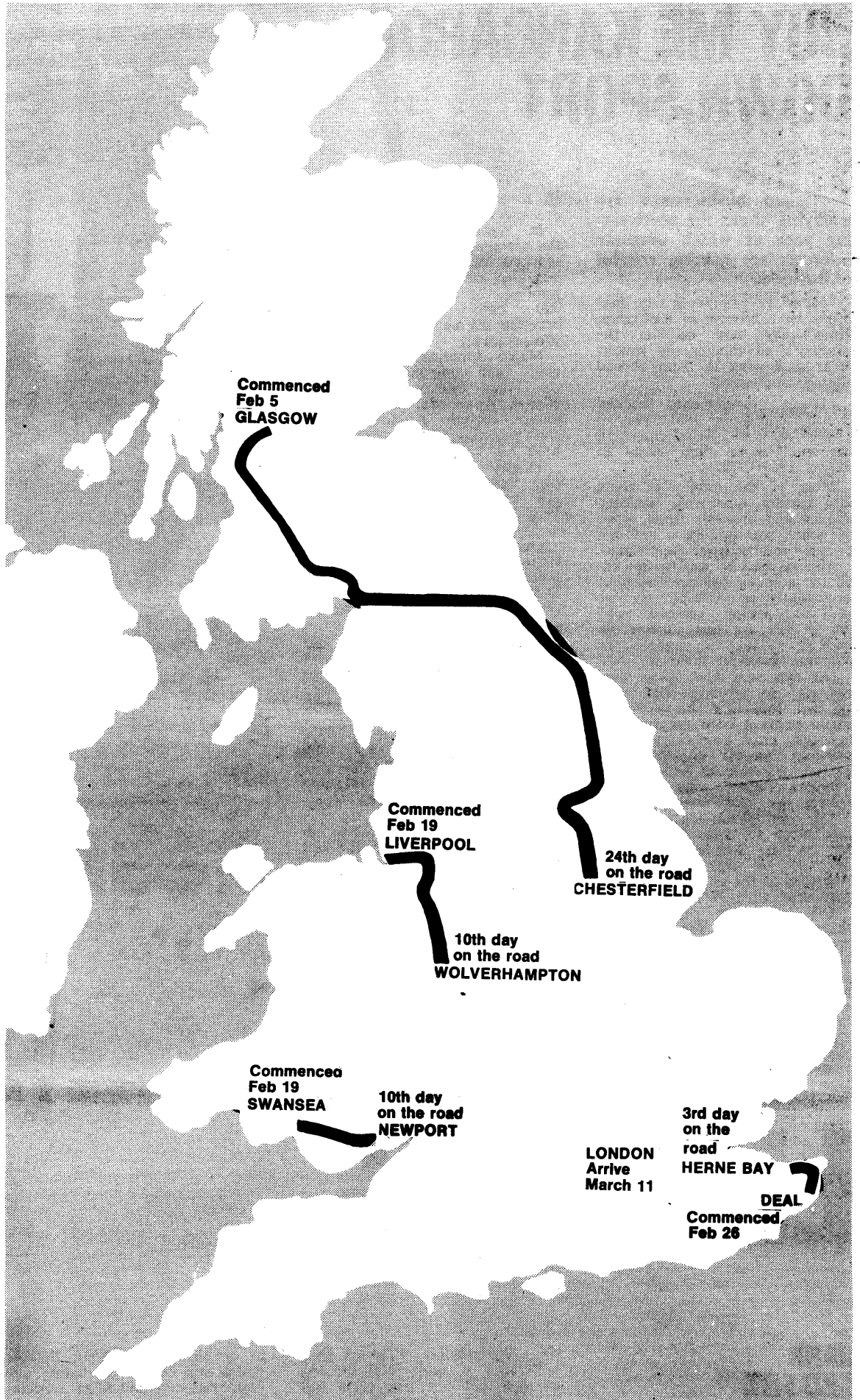
SUNDAY MARCH 12, 3 p.m.

- 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. 'ROCK 'N ROLL ALL STARS'. RAM JOHN HOLDER. ANNIE ROSS. GEORGE MELLY. LESLIE DUNCAN.



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

MARCH THROUGHOUT LONDON

MONDAY MARCH 13

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

MASS LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT

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

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NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK CAMPAIGN

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

SPIKE MILLIGAN. PAUL JONES. 'ROCK 'N ROLL ALL STARS'. RAM JOHN HOLDER. ANNIE ROSS. GEORGE MELLY. LESLIE DUNCAN.

Tickets: £1, unemployed 50p
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YOUNG SOCIALISTS

NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK CAMPAIGN

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

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- Tinned food
- Finance
- Brass/Jazz bands
- Please tick box where applicable

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BREAKING THE SPANISH STRIKES

By our Spanish correspondent

One of the most striking cases of Stalinist opportunism and degeneration must have been the speech made by Dolores Ibarruri ('La Pasionaria'—'The Passion flower'), 75-year-old leader of the Spanish Communist Party, at the Congress of the Polish United Workers Party held towards the end of 1971.

The Polish government has been to the fore in cementing diplomatic and commercial relations between Franco and the Stalinist bureaucracy in E Europe. This collaboration with fascism reached a peak with the sale of Polish coal to the regime to break the Asturian miners' strikes. Santiago Carrillo, secretary of the Spanish CP has criticized the growth of these relations, but 'La Pasionaria's' speech shows that behind the surface criticism, the leaders of Spanish Stalinism remain as tied as ever to the Stalinist politics in which they were trained in the Popular Front and anti-Trotskyist purges of the 1930s.

After the obligatory praise of Polish workers and intellectuals who fought in the Spanish Civil War in the International Brigade—with no mention of those who were liquidated on their return to Poland for being under-cover agents of 'Hitlerite-Trotskyism'—La Pasionaria launched into a eulogy of the Asturian miners for the bureaucrats who had been instrumental in breaking their strike:

'The miners of Asturias, Asturias of such great revolutionary traditions, challenging the HUNOSA monopoly, the government and police repression, have paralysed coal mining for more than ten weeks and have maintained the strike despite the threat of the closure of the pits, which threatened them with starvation.'

PRAISE

'La Pasionaria' continued with a hymn to the developments within the Catholic Church, especially a recent meeting of clerics which . . . 'publicly proposed that the church asks the people's pardon for its attitude of support to the fascist uprising against the Republic. This change in the Spanish Church is a revolutionary change which we appreciate in all its transcendence . . .'

Her speech ended with praise for the bureaucracy's efforts for a European Security Pact and the suppression of NATO and the Warsaw Pact:

'A struggle for peace . . . which requires a constant realization that the continued existence of fascist regimes like Franco's, Salazar's and the Greeks' constitute potential threats to the peace and security of all peoples.'

Yet 'La Pasionaria' knows full well that the Polish government, along with the rest of the bureaucracy in E Europe, has always wanted to bring Franco into these talks which constitute the preparation of the counter-revolution against the working class in E and W Europe.

The growth of militancy and working-class organizations in Spain has made this counter-revolutionary alliance all the more necessary.

In the wake of the Seat workers' strike and in the midst of national student repression, a delegation from the Polish Foreign Office, led by a Mr Staniszewski, met a Spanish delegation led by the Director General of Foreign Policy and issued the following communiqué:

'In these talks we have examined the present situation and the development of relations between both countries, as well as other subjects of joint interest, especially the projected European Conference for Co-operation and Security and its multilateral preparation.'

The Spanish Communist Party press which published the full text of 'La Pasionaria's' speech



Dolores Ibarruri, speaking at a mass meeting in Oviedo, 1936. She welcomed the Stalinist policy of the Popular Front.



Dolores Ibarruri with Russian cosmonaut Titov, Santiago Carrillo (second from left) and José Sandoval

has made no comment on this communiqué or these joint talks.

These manoeuvres, lies and omissions, aimed at disorienting the Spanish working class, are completely in the traditions of Spanish Stalinism.

'La Pasionaria', a founder member of the Spanish Communist Party, defended at every stage the policies of Stalinism and described every criticism as a conspiracy of Trotskyists in the pay of the fascists.

The same party conference in Bilbao in 1930 which elected her to the Party's Central Committee, condemned as 'divisive' a group of 'leftist' Catalans who were later to become the Workers and Peasants Bloc and the founders of the POUM, hounded as Trotskyite-fascists by 'La Pasionaria'.

She rapidly climbed up the Stalinist ladder. From being the national organizer of the 'Women against War' committees established to win 'important sections of middle-class women', she was elected as a delegate to the Congress of the Comintern held in July 1935.

At this Congress, Dimitrov laid down the new line of international Stalinism, the policy of the Popular Front. This meant a sharp turn from previous Comintern policy which had declared the social-democratic parties as 'social-fascist', to a policy which meant the complete subordination of the Communist Parties to the defence of bourgeois democracy.

This change was warmly welcomed by 'La Pasionaria', who had already been recommending this policy in Spain. Consequently, she was elected as an

alternate delegate to the Comintern Executive Committee.

On her return to Madrid, she began an amazing campaign to retain support of petty-bourgeois democrats throughout the world. Madrid was the Republican government seat during the early stages of the war and constantly a prey to Fifth Column spies who often hid in the robes of the clergy.

Apart from this immediate threat, there has always been a hatred in the Spanish working class and among sections of the peasantry for the Catholic Church, a big land and property owner, as well as a big business enterprise which controlled the educational system.

The burning of churches and convents have accompanied all insurrections in Spain, from the early 19th century. The Spanish Church had certainly not changed in the 1930s. A circular signed by the bishops of Spain was soon published, giving full support of the Church to Franco's 'Crusade against Communism'.

Lacking any elementary class hostility to the Church as an exploiter and hostile to Marxist principles, 'La Pasionaria' took on special responsibilities in the Party for defence of nuns—such was the political stance and activity of a delegate to the EC of the Comintern in the midst of a revolutionary civil war—all in the name of defence of freedom of religion.

In her autobiography, she rationalizes her actions in the following way: 'The Communist Party did everything it could to normalize the life of the people even if it meant incurring the

wrath of the charlatan Trotskyites and FAI-ists [Anarchist Federation]'

She describes how the Communist Party worked to protect nuns and took the initiative in ending the situation where they were automatically imprisoned: 'The next day, at Party headquarters, we discussed practical ways to help the nuns, many of whom were aged and unable to work.'

MISSIONS

On her own particular missions of mercy to the daughters of the Church she comments: 'Before going, I asked them, "Don't you have any statues or crucifixes? I'm sure that there are sisters here who are devotees of the Sorrowful Virgin, the Virgin of Carmen or the Miraculous Virgin. "How would you like it if I also brought you some pictures and a crucifix tomorrow?'

'We spent the morning in the shops buying wool, percale and white cotton fabrics. In a children's asylum on a nearby street which had been bombed, we found a beautiful crucifix and several religious images. We took them, carefully packed, to our new acquaintances.

'Surprise took their breath away. When they unwrapped the crucifix and gave it to the Mother Superior, she looked at it with eyes full of tears, kissed the image's feet and passed it around to the other nuns. "God bless you!" she said as we left.'

However, the charity of 'La

Pasionaria' and her Party was not available to those who opposed, in the slightest degree, the policy of subordinating the independent working-class movement for socialism to the fight for bourgeois democracy.

She describes the May Days in Barcelona in 1937 as the 'counter-revolution'.

The May insurrection took place when the Catalan Communist Party tried to remove anarchist workers from the Telephone Exchange which they controlled. The anarchists fought to retain their control of the Exchange, for it enabled them to control and monitor communications in Catalonia and keep some trace of Communist Party manoeuvres to eliminate all opposition.

The struggle developed, in spite of the Anarchist and POUM leadership, into a broad conflict which threatened the power of the Popular Front in Catalonia and posed the possibility of the socialist alternative.

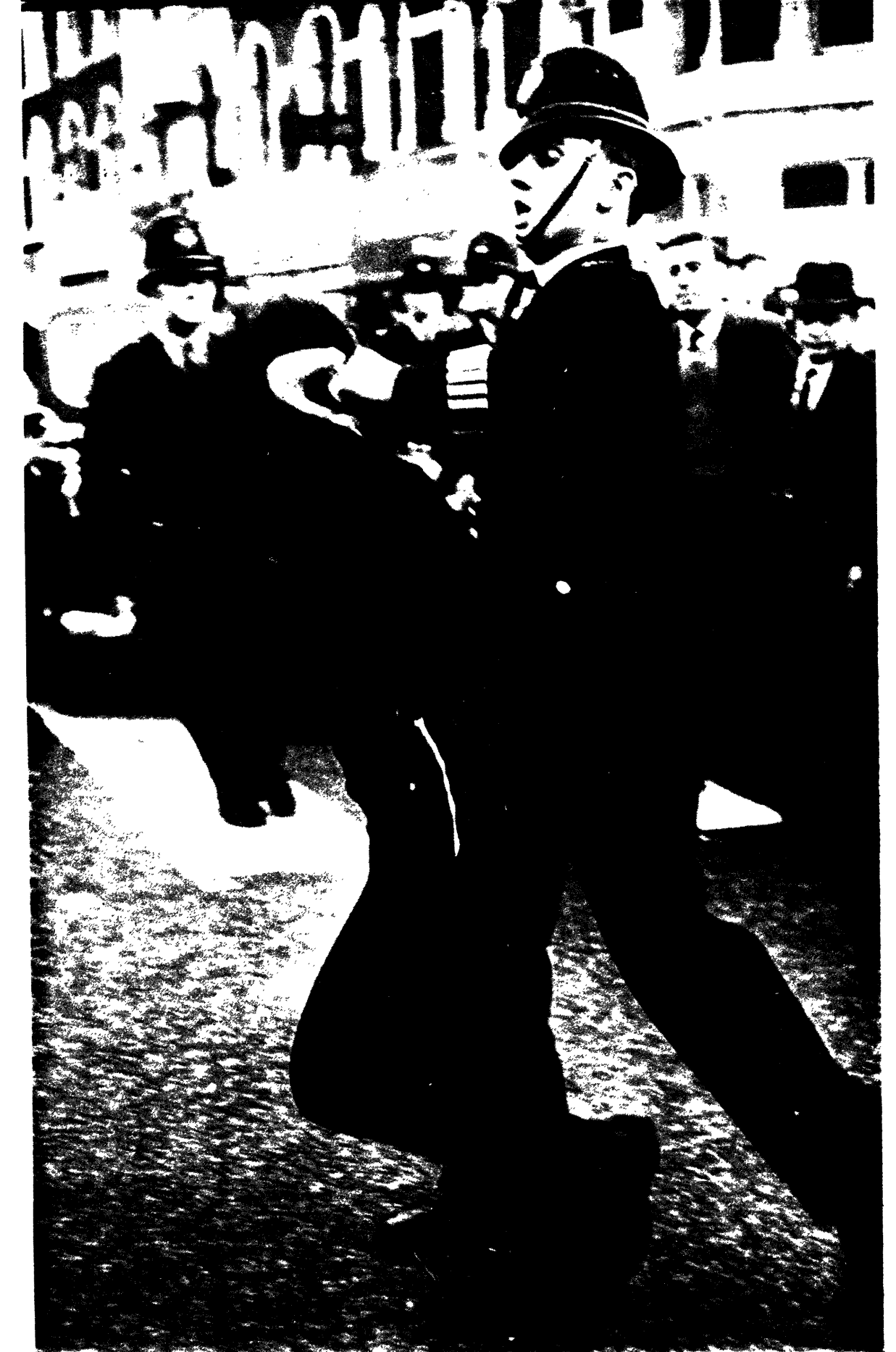
However, the cowardly, opportunist leadership of the anarchists and the POUM, who supported the Popular Front, led this movement to defeat. Very quickly their leaders were rounded up by the Spanish GPU, tortured and very often executed as fascist agents.

'La Pasionaria' describes it thus: 'The Anarcho-Trotskyites felt the strength of these organizations when their counter-revolutionary putsch, encouraged by the fascist radio, ended in defeat. . . The time for the outbreak was not chosen in Catalonia, but in the General Staff offices of Franco, as proved by the document already quoted from the German Ambassador Faupel which gives testimony to the ties of the POUM and FAI with the enemy.'

Such was the training of 'La Pasionaria' and the Stalinist leadership of the Spanish Communist Party in the 1930s—friendship for nuns and democrats, lies and slander against all criticism from the left to the point of physical liquidation of opponents.

This was the line being carried out in Moscow where the leaders of the Bolshevik party, Zinoviev, Kamenev and many others, were made to confess to being agents of the fascists and then executed.

Who the real allies of the fascists are is now clear to millions of workers who will not be deceived by the lying speeches of ageing bureaucrats like 'La Pasionaria', but will see the reality of Stalinism in the strike-breaking of the Polish government and the Stalinists' secret diplomacy in cities like Madrid, whose prisons are full of trade unionists and students who have fought for their rights.



CARR, THE MAN FROM SECURICOR LAUNCHES ANTI-UNION ACT

BY PHILIP WADE
The Tory government today brings the remaining sections of the Industrial Relations Act into force. They outlaw closed shops, sympathy strikes and action in support of other trade unionists. The law on picketing changes, with it being 'unfair' to picket a scab's home. An enshrined right not to belong to a trade union is also brought into effect. An attack is also launched on working-class newspapers. Clause 97 makes it an unfair industrial action to take action in support of an unfair industrial practice. It is generally agreed that this clause could cover articles in newspapers supporting so-called unfair strikes. The other provisions of the Act are, of course, well known to trade unionists. The right to strike is demolished, unofficial actions barred, cooling-off

periods imposed, secret ballots pushed through and the right to freely combine taken away with only organizations recognized by the state being given the status of unions. So the repressive apparatus created by the Act will then be in a position to begin its frontal assault on the trade union movement in Britain. In Peter Paterson's book 'An employer's guide to the Industrial Relations Act' he rightly emphasizes the nature of the changes wrought by the Act. 'Like all revolutions—for the measure is without doubt revolutionary—the Industrial Relations Act in its present form has not happened overnight, however startled those chiefly affected may appear.' (p. 13.) Paterson is right. There is a revolution in full swing, a counter-revolution aiming to take the working class back to the Combination Acts of 1799 and 1800 which illegalized trade unionism. The Pitt government of the period, in dreaded fear of the

growing working class since the French revolution, took action at the first signs of workers combining together. It was not until 1825 that the laws were repealed. The Industrial Relations Act aims to take us back along that same road. Faced with a resurgent working class and in its deepest economic crisis, the Tory government has had to attack the bastion of resistance—the organized trade union movement. Trade union leaders have said, in an effort to divert the struggle against the measure and against the Tories, that the Act is too complex to work and will collapse in on itself. Whether from naivety or not, these 'leaders' fail to see the real intentions of the Tory government. The Act is complicated precisely because it is intended to destroy all previously existing rights. Absolutely every possible loop hole is matched with another provision closing the door. Every previous Act conferring certain rights on trade unions, such as immunity from

damages following a strike, the independent nature of their organizations and so on, has been repealed or severely curtailed. Take, for example, the Trades Disputes Act 1906, which is completely repealed. This Act reversed the Taff Vale decision of 1901 in which a railway union had to pay out considerable damages following a strike. The aim of this article is to indicate how the Tories will proceed to use the Act and the unique nature of the institutions they have created. As the perceptive Paterson says: 'One of the sharpest differences between "In Place of Strife" and Tory proposals was seen from the date of the Consultative Document in October 1970 was the intention to rely very much less in the power vested in the state and much more on the operation of a network of institutions for the conduct and operation of industrial relations.' (p. 19.) What are these institutions? Who runs them? Who starts the proceedings? On what basis



The cornerstone of the Act is the Industrial Relations Court. Employment secretary, Robert Carr (above) appoints the judges

is a verdict reached? How can workers be sent to jail under their auspices? These are some of the questions we have to answer to see how the Tories will initially proceed on their main strategy of trying to destroy trade unionism in Britain. The cornerstone of the legislation is the National Industrial Relations Court. It is an entirely new creation and has the status of the High Court or in legal parlance a Superior Court of Record. It is the first such independent court to be created *ad hoc* since the Court of Equity was established by statute in the latter part of the 18th century. But it is the first court in British history to be able to sit where it likes and when it likes. For example, there is no separate court for Scotland. The NIRC is a fully-mobile weapon. Certain unique features make the court a devastating instrument in the hands of the ruling class. 1. There is **NO APPEAL** on questions of fact. It is the 'ultimate court of first instance'. Only on questions of the interpretation of the law can there be an appeal to the Court of the Appeal and further to the House of Lords. 2. The members of the court are not lawyers, except for the chairman who is a High Court judge. Instead, 'experts in industrial relations' are appointed for three years (re-

newable) by the Queen who follows the recommendations of the Employment Secretary, Robert Carr and the Lord Chancellor, Quintin Hogg. Although these men have no legal qualifications they become **JUDGES** in the fullest sense of the word. That is to say they have the status and privileges of judges in, for example, contempt of court questions. Three judges from the High Court have been nominated and have accepted positions in the NIRC. Their function is as chairmen and advisers on questions of law. The majority of the bench is always made up of the 'experts' who will sit in numbers of not less than two and not more than four. Decisions are reached on a majority basis. 3. Normal **RULES OF EVIDENCE** used in the High Court **DO NOT APPLY** in the NIRC. The underlying principle in rules of evidence is that nothing can be introduced as evidence which cannot be proved. For example, so the story goes, there was a case in which the judge asked what a game of cricket was. The point was that the same judge had played for a university cricket team. The idea behind such a move is to facilitate the introduction by the judges and witnesses of so-called 'experiences', making the NIRC a very flexible court in decision-reaching. The court will deliver judge-

Left: February 21, 1971. Trade unionists rally in Trafalgar Square against the Industrial Relations Bill. Above: The Act makes closed shops, and sympathy strikes illegal and opens the door to arrests and jailing of trade unionists involved in actions to defend their basic rights. ments on several of the so-called 'unfair industrial practices' which are mentioned throughout the Industrial Relations Act. In general, the NIRC will deal with cases other than those relating to an individual. Some idea of the range and power of the NIRC can be gained from looking at the 32 application forms available to an employer who wants to start an action against a union. They deal with the ending of the closed shop and its replacement by the so-called agency shop; the power to impose a procedure agreement on an industry or part of an industry considered to have a bad industrial relations record; applications to strike unions off the Registrar's list because their rules don't conform to his wishes; applications from employers alleging breach of contract by, for example, unofficial strikes, action against sympathy strikes, against picketers, strikes declared 'national emergencies' by the Tory government, the ordering of a cooling-off period of 60 days in such cases and the implementation of a ballot. **CONTINUED TOMORROW**

PART 1

Not even the most acute economic crisis is by itself a guarantee of the victory of socialism. For that a revolutionary leadership, strong in theory and steered in practice is required. Without this, the working class cannot win. This series of articles shows how the German working class paid the price for the absence of such a party. The price was fascism.

As Germany faced defeat in World War I, a coalition was formed (September 1918) under Prince Max of Baden. He pleaded with the Social Democrat leaders Ebert and Scheidemann to join it—and they didn't need much urging.

The Prince knew what he was about. On November 3, the sailors at Kiel mutinied, strikes broke out in Hamburg and workers' and soldiers' councils were formed on the model of the Russian soviets.

On November 9, a General Strike broke out in Berlin. Prince Max resigned and handed over the reins of government to Ebert. The Kaiser fled to Holland—although Ebert was, in fact, in favour of retaining the monarchy.

The Social Democrats came to the rescue of capitalism in Germany, and hence in Europe. Bloody clashes took place in Berlin. Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg were killed in the streets while under arrest by the soldiers.

As one bourgeois historian put it: 'To subdue the revolutionary workers, the provisional government (i.e., the Social Democrats) had to co-operate very closely with the military authorities.

'It had to use the armed forces and volunteer bodies of ex-officers to put down the mob. The Social Democratic leaders had before them the example of what happened in Russia; they realized how Kerensky and the moderates of the first revolution had been overthrown by the second revolution of Lenin.

'They were determined to prevent any second revolution in Germany. They were ultimately successful. But success meant retaining most of the conservative forces of the old Germany; the influence of the generals, the former imperial civil service, the industrialists and the great landlords in Prussia was still strong.'



Karl Liebknecht was forced to serve in the German army's 'Penal corps'.

Or, as Scheidemann put it himself:

'I saw the Russian folly staring me in the face—the Bolshevik tyranny, the substitution for the tyranny of the Tsars! No, no, Germany should not have that on top of all her other miseries.'

The Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919. It was dictated by the Council of Four—President Wilson of the United States, Clemenceau of France, Lloyd George of Britain and Orlando of Italy.

Under its terms Germany lost Alsace and Lorraine to France and also the ownership of the Saar mines. The Saar territory was put under the control of a League of Nations Commission.

Germany lost several small frontier territories to Belgium, Posen and part of Silesia to Poland and N Schleswig to Denmark. German colonies were placed under League of Nations' mandate. German armed forces were radically reduced, her fleet had to be handed over and the Rhineland was demilitarized and occupied by Allied forces. Part of her merchant fleet was given up.

Enormous reparations payments were enforced, so severe in fact that P. M. Keynes, then the Treasury Representative at



Above: a workers' demonstration in 1917, part of mass strikes against the war which took place as the German war effort collapsed. Below: 1917, armed workers man the barricades on the streets of Berlin



HOW HITLER CAME TO POWER

A five part series by JACK GALE on the rise of German fascism

the Versailles conference resigned on the ground that Germany would never be able to pay.

The Versailles Treaty was signed in June, 1919, and just over a month later the constitution of the Weimar Republic was drawn up. (Ebert had chosen Weimar as the headquarters of the new National Assembly, because he felt that it could not meet in the 'red' atmosphere of Berlin.)

The Weimar constitution declared 'All Germans are equal before the law'—'Personal liberty is inviolable'—'The house of every German is his sanctuary and is inviolable'—'Every German has a right to express his opinion freely'—'All Germans have the right to form associations or societies.'—'All inhabi-

tants of the Reich enjoy complete liberty of belief and conscience'.

But, while the National Assembly was meeting in Weimar, revolutionary outbreaks in Berlin and elsewhere continued. In March, Noske—the Social Democrat Minister of Defence—again put down a communist rising in Berlin. Civil war broke out in Bavaria. On May 1, government troops brutally crushed a communist rising in Munich.

The crushing of the workers did not prevent the Social Democrats in 1920 calling on the Berlin workers to defeat the right-wing Kapp nationalist movement with a General Strike. But when Ebert returned to Berlin—once the city was safe enough—the strike got out of

hand. And communist risings took place in W Prussia, Bavaria, Württemberg, Liepzig, and—most serious of all—in the Ruhr.

Without hesitation, the Social Democrats once again turned to the military to put down the workers who had saved them. They could not, however, halt the crisis.

The mark had stood at the rate of four to the dollar at the end of 1918. By the summer of 1922 the rate was 400 marks to the dollar (by the beginning of 1923 it was over 7,000) and Adolf Hitler—inspired by the success of Mussolini's 1922 march on Rome—could declare:

'There are only two possibilities: do not imagine that the people will for ever go with the middle party, the party of com-

promise. The people will turn either to the left—and then God help us, for it will lead us to complete destruction, to Bolshevism—or else to a party of the right, which at last, when the people are in utter despair, is determined for its part ruthlessly to seize the reins of power.'

The German working class did turn to the left. In repeated revolutionary struggles, it sought to overthrow capitalism. It was not only betrayed by its Social-Democratic leaders, it was literally mown down by them.

How did the German Social Democratic Party—numerically and organizationally the strongest party the working class had created anywhere—become the hangman of its own followers?

Trotsky explains: 'History has been so shaped that in the epoch of imperialist war the German Social Democracy proved to be the most counter-revolutionary factor in world history. The German Social Democracy, however, is not an accident; it did not fall from the skies, but was created by the German working class in the course of decades of uninterrupted construction and adaptation to conditions prevalent under the capitalist-junker state.

'The party organizations and the trade unions connected with it drew from the proletarian milieu the most outstanding, energetic elements, who were then moulded psychologically and politically. The moment war broke out, and consequently when the moment arrived for the greatest historical test, it turned out that the official working-class organization acted and reacted not as the proletariat's organization of combat against the bourgeois state, but as an auxiliary organ of the bourgeois state designed to discipline the proletariat.

'The working class was paralysed, since bearing down upon it was not only the full weight of capitalist militarism, but also the apparatus of its own party. The hardships of war, its victories, its defeats, broke the paralysis of the German working class, freed it from the discipline of the official party. The latter split asunder. But the German proletariat remained without a revolutionary combat organization.

'History once again exhibited to the world one of its dialectic contradictions: precisely because the German working class had expended most of its energy in the previous epoch upon self-sufficient organizational construction, occupying the first place in the Second International both in party as well as trade union apparatus—precisely because of this, in a new epoch, at the moment of its transition to open revolutionary struggle for power the German working class proved to be extremely defenceless organizationally.'

The other side of the contradiction had revealed itself in Russia. Here the rich history of the pre-Marxist revolutionary groups, the underground agitation of the pioneer Russian Marxists, the 1905 'dress rehearsal' and the theoretical struggles of the Bolsheviks prepared a revolutionary leadership, experienced in struggle and bound together in a worked out revolutionary programme and organization. Such a leadership was lacking in Germany.

The Manifesto of the Communist International to the Workers of the World, adopted at its first World Congress in March 1919, declared:

'If the First International presaged the future course of development and indicated its paths; if the Second International gathered and organized millions of workers; then the Third International is the International of open mass action, the International of revolutionary realization, the International of the deed.'

The greatest task facing this International was the construction of a Bolshevik leadership in Germany.

CONTINUED ON MONDAY

¹ T. L. Jarman 'Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany,' p. 69.

² Ibid p. 73.

³ Leon Trotsky 'A Creeping Revolution', April 1919. In 'The First Five Years of the Communist International' Volume 1, pp. 44-47.

⁴ 'First Five Years of the Communist International' Vol. 1, pp. 29-30.

GRIM LEGACY OF GENEVA

By JOHN SPENCER

As President Nixon and Chairman Mao Tse-tung drink their rice-wine toasts and hold their private consultations in the Chinese capital, the workers and peasants of Vietnam are brought forcibly up against one of the blackest betrayals in their history.

Behind all the mutual congratulations and the high-sounding phrases about the future of mankind and peace on earth, the central issue of the talks is the fate of the revolution in Asia and in particular of its highest expression, the struggle of the peoples of Indo-China.

Nixon, whose government has expended billions of dollars unsuccessfully trying to crush the Vietnamese revolution in a rain of airborne death and destruction wants the Maoists' agreement to a settlement in Indo-China which will leave his puppets in S Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

He has been encouraged by the Chinese government's support for counter-revolution in other parts of the world—particularly its fulsome backing for the suppression of the Sudan Communist Party and its support for dictator Yahya Khan against the people of Bangla Desh.

He knows that by itself imperialism is powerless to defeat the revolutionary upsurge in Asia. The eight years since American troops were sent in force to Vietnam have proved this beyond all doubt. The Vietnamese workers and peasants have stood up to everything the might of American capitalism could throw at them.

It is here that the full treachery of the Stalinist conception of 'peaceful co-existence' with imperialism comes into operation.

It was under this slogan that the Soviet and Chinese leaders banded together in 1954 to foist the Geneva agreement on the Viet Minh. In this way the Vietnamese were robbed at the conference table of the victories they had won on the battlefield. The fall of Dien Bien Phu at the end of April, 1954, sealed the fate of the French attempt to restore colonial control over Indo-China.

The defeat of the French forces was decisive because the entire strategy of the occupation forces had been centred around the defence of this key base in the thick jungles of NW Vietnam.

The American government of the day, headed by General Eisenhower, even considered using nuclear weapons to stave off the defeat of the beleaguered garrison in the Dien Bien Phu fortress.

The idea was rejected, though schemes for immediate American intervention—including dispatch of 15,000 Marines—were seriously considered by the Eisenhower cabinet.

The French position deteriorated so rapidly, however, that the US decided intervention would be impossible and would only compound the consequences of defeat for the French. This was the background to the long-drawn-out negotiations at Geneva in the months that followed.

The idea of 'peaceful co-existence between states with different social systems' follows inexorably from the conception of socialism in a single country with which the Soviet and Chinese bureaucracies justify their continued rule.

It means subordinating the revolutionary struggles of the working class in the capitalist world to the national requirements of the ruling caste in the deformed workers' states.

This is precisely what happened at Geneva. The Chinese and Soviet representatives—Chou En-lai and Molotov—were determined that a settlement would be reached not on the basis of the military victories won by the Viet Minh, but on the basis of dividing the area into spheres of influence.

The agreement provided for



STALINIST CRISIS



French troops before defeat, on a hill at Dien Bien Phu

the division of Vietnam along the 17th parallel, which was 'provisional and should not in any way be interpreted as constituting a political or territorial boundary'.

It provided for 'free general election by secret ballot' in both halves of Vietnam to be held in July 1956 to decide who should govern the reunited country.

As for Laos and Cambodia, the agreement provided for all citizens to 'take their place in the national community . . . by participating in the next general elections . . . in the course of the year 1955'.

The deal, in thoroughly reformist fashion, subordinated the conquests of the Vietnamese people to the ballot box—and under conditions where all the participants well knew the provisions were quite meaningless.

In any case, the US government refused to ratify the Geneva accords and proceeded forthwith to undermine the agreement. No elections were ever held—as it was clear from the beginning they would not be—and the US immediately stepped into the breach left by the French departure, sending military 'advisers', money and arms to prop up the crumbling regimes in Indo-China.

The Geneva agreements condemned the Vietnamese to another 18 bitter years of war and bloodshed to come within range of grasping the gains they were robbed of at the conference table.

The Stalinists around the world are still campaigning for 'peace in Vietnam' under the slogan of a return to the Geneva accords.

Their position is graphically illustrated by the 'Morning Star', organ of the British CP. In an editorial commenting on the Nixon-Mao talks, they claim Nixon's visit 'underlines the failure of US imperialism . . . to isolate China from the rest of the world'.

The purpose of the visit is attributed entirely to Nixon's

desire to catch votes and the editorial states that 'China's leaders need no lectures warning them about the trickiness of their guest'.

In that case, one might well ask, why did they invite him at all? Was it simply to give a gratuitous boost to his chances at the presidential elections in November this year?

The 'Morning Star' does not elaborate on these points. But it makes it clear that 'peaceful co-existence'—with the commander-in-chief of world imperialism—is the visit's main purpose.

The paper's only objection is that the Soviet Union isn't taking its full part in this treacherous alliance as well. 'There would be better grounds for hope from the visit,' the 'Star' says, 'had the breach been healed between China's leaders and the Soviet Union, which has repeatedly expressed its desire for this.'

This doesn't chime in very well with the Kremlin's own public declarations. Moscow Radio, for example, in a lengthy commentary by correspondent Anatoly Ivanov, cited Sino-American collaboration against the revolution in Bangla Desh, and went on to state that:

'Peking was not in the least upset when America resumed the bombings [of N Vietnam] although the Chinese leaders for many years claimed that China was the rear of the embattled peoples of Indo-China . . . Chinese leaders even pose before cameras with people whose colleagues are at that very moment dropping their deadly cargo on peaceful villages in Indo-China.'

The Soviet Stalinists, of course, have never been known to do any such thing. Those pictures of Khrushchev and Kennedy or Stalin and Ribbentrop are not to be believed.

But these historic considerations, like the Chinese Stalinists' treachery in inviting Nixon, don't worry the 'Morning Star', either. For them, 'peaceful co-existence' is a formula to justify every kind of counter-revolutionary treachery.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

BOMBERS

Constant bomb attacks on a Chicago statue have forced the authorities to move it off its pedestal to a safer position—the foyer of police headquarters.

Since 1970, when it was the target of two bomb attacks, the statue has been under constant police guard at an estimated cost to Chicago taxpayers of something like \$68,000 a year.

Mayor Richard Daly said the bombers were 'evil creatures who work in the dark'.

The statue shows a policeman in 19th century garb with his hands upraised apparently halting an oncoming stream of traffic.

In fact, it is supposed to commemorate the seven police officers killed in the course of the Haymarket massacre on May 4, 1886.

There is no monument to the workers who died in the massacre, though more than 20 are known to have been killed.

The massacre itself was the outcome of a deliberate provocation on the part of police, who tried to disband a peaceful meeting of workers. The meeting was called after police had opened fire the previous day on strike pickets demanding the eight-hour day, killing several.

When police arrived to close down the meeting, a provocateur threw a stick of dynamite at them, killing one outright.

Forthwith, the other officers opened fire pointblank on the crowd, some of whom returned the shots. Seven police were killed, and three times that number of workers.

The massacre was the signal for a massive witch-hunt against 'anarchists' and four German-born workers were sent to the gallows on framed-up charges before a jury later admitted to have been prejudiced against them.

The Haymarket trial and the martyrdom of the four workers' leaders set the pattern of frame-up and anti-working-class violence that has continued to this day in the United States.

Its latest manifestation in Chicago was the brutal suppression of the anti-war demonstrations outside the Democratic Convention in 1968, and the subsequent conspiracy trial of Bobby Seale and the 'Chicago Seven'.



The statue

SAFE

The City is engaged in a big drive to prove to the public at large that insurance, and in

particular, motor insurance, is as safe as houses.

Safe as which house? you might well ask. The table we print below is scarcely reassuring.

COMPANIES FAILED SINCE 1951

NO. OF MOTOR POLICY HOLDERS AT TIME OF COLLAPSE

Brandaris	60,000
Gibraltar	50,000
Irish American	70,000
London & Cheshire	120,000
London & Midland	65,000
Metropolitan & Northern Counties	100,000
Fire, Auto & Marine	300,000
Coventry	35,000
London & Home Counties	65,000
Industrial Life & General	10,000
London & Wessex	(est) 40,000
American Military	75,000
South Yorks	17,500
Craven	70,000
Carriage	(unknown)
Midland, Northern & Scottish	120,000
Vehicle & General	(est) 800,000
Falcon	20,000
Competitive	30,000
Total	2,047,500

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WHERE BED AND BREAKFAST IS £60 A NIGHT

BY IAN YEATS

Church halls are not usually very comfortable. They are not meant to be.

Big and bleak, amid a marked atmosphere of disuse, their hospitality however welcome, could hardly be described de luxe.

But every night scores of tired, cold and wet Young Socialists marching on London from Glasgow, Liverpool and Swansea stumble in among the wooden chairs and trestles for soup and sandwiches and a camp bed rest.

Next day, on the road, overtaken by silent Rolls-Royces with bowler-hatted and fur-coated passengers hurrying smugly to lunchtime cocktails, they will march behind their Right-to-Work banners 15, 20 or 25 miles.

They are marching from the drab, stone tenements of Glasgow, the century-old, industrial terraces of S Wales, the Victorian squalor of Liverpool.

Marching from the closed factories, shuttered shops, dole queues and slum houses which increasingly haunt the working class, like a spectre beckoning back across the years to the 1930s.

Marching to demand from the soft-handed men in 100-guinea suits and £20,000-a-year jobs the Right to Work and to a decent standard of living.

On the same day that all three YS marches took to the road, and in a blaze of publicity appropriate to the launching of the Titanic, the world's most luxurious and exclusive hotel opened its doors in London.

Workers Press was there. From the moment Queen Victoria built her empire on the blood and bones of Asia and Africa the London Berkeley has served as a country house in the heart of London for nobility and gentry, and quiet Americans.

GLEAMING

Ushered from his gleaming £10,000 limousine by a uniformed chauffeur the guest is helped through a revolving door by fawning porters in brown derbies, light-brown overcoats and white gloves.

They ignored me. People of wealth and quality definitely do not approach on foot with a used bus ticket in their ungloved hand.

Inside an antique clock, on a marble shelf above a log fire, lazily chimes the hour into the hushed, drawing-room atmosphere, where everything from the porters voices to the colour scheme is subdued and timeless.

It would be indelicate even to give ones nose a good blow.

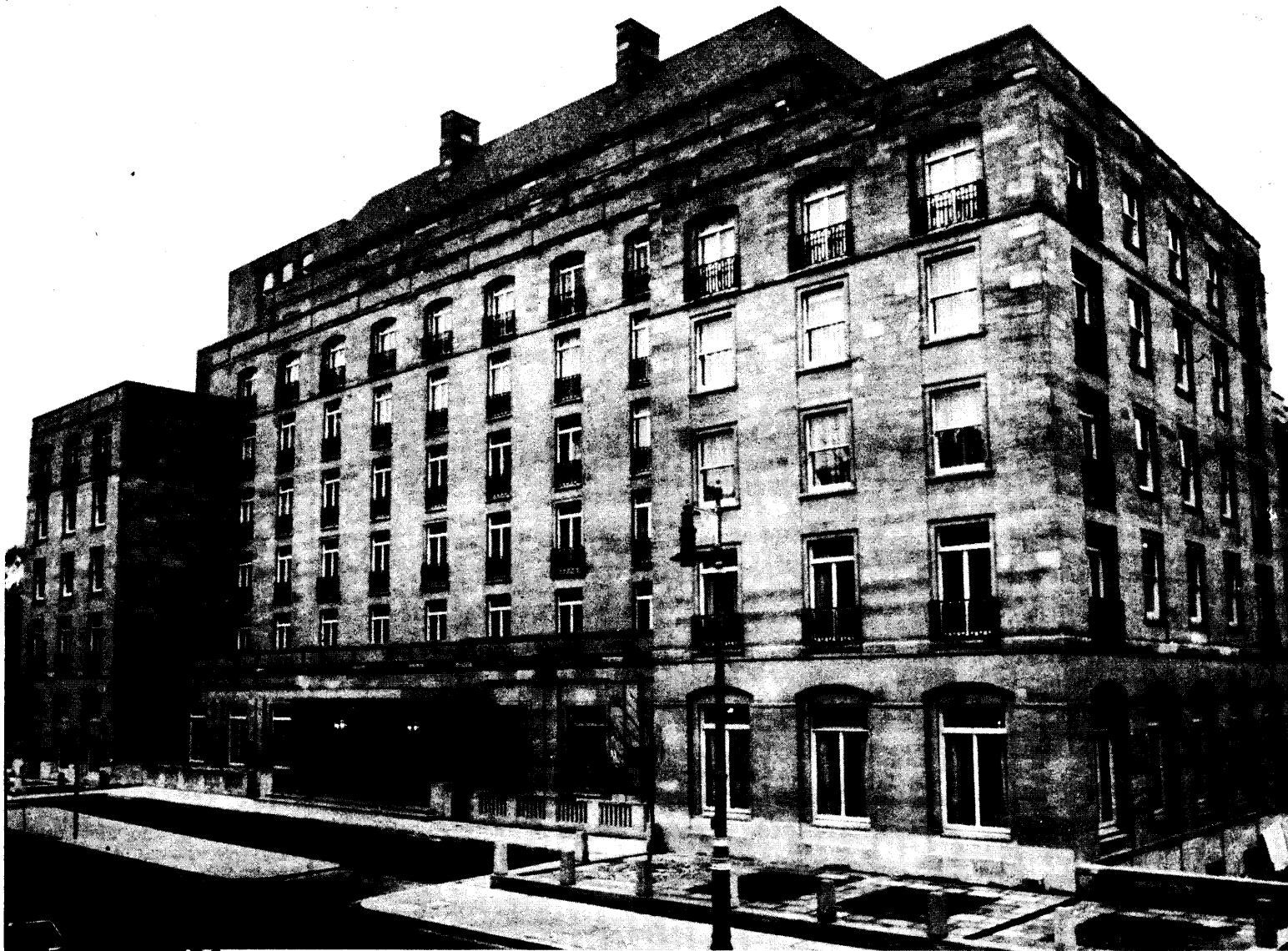
The reception desk is so discreet a stranger has to look for it, overcome with that apologetic feeling you have when you intrude, unannounced, into the privacy of someone else's home.

'Good morning sir, sorry to keep you waiting sir, we hope it's not inconvenient sir, please sit down sir'. A suit, an overcoat and an accent cover up anything.

The 300 guests do not hurry. They chatter lethargically in the cushion-sumptuous ante rooms, over brandy or coffee, depending on the time of day, or glide unobtrusively to the writing room for a swift check on Middle East oil prices flashing over the telex.

According to the hotel's management it was considered that the new Berkeley would be 'the last really de-luxe hotel to be built anywhere in the world.'

'This way sir, your coat sir, through the double doors sir' and into a circus of monkey-suited flunkies sharing the limelight with efficient yet courteous continental gentlemen in dark jackets and pin stripes.



Above: The Berkeley Hotel. Left: One of the rooms with its gilt, cut glass, leather and timeless quality.

And every room with its sumptuous, mock, old-world furnishings in quiet but rich colours, occasionally set off by bowls of red roses or carnations, is air conditioned with two alternative heating systems.

Materials and ideas for the seven-storey building have been brought from all over Britain, from France and as far away as Thailand and Honduras.

The Clipsham stone cladding was carted from Rutland and the green roof tiles from Westmorland.

Some of the textiles came from Asia, the curtains are Toile du Jouy from France. Panelling is of cedar, elm, yew, laurel, dyed leathers and even pony hides. Chandeliers, some from the old Berkeley, which once stood in Piccadilly are of cut and moulded glass.

Antique furniture, gilt light brackets and marble fire places were brought from the old Berkeley too and mix in with luxurious new, period-style furniture.

'The aim', management claim, 'has been to create an elegant and timeless quality very rarely met with in an age of speed and expendability.'

Ballroom, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, sauna bath, night club, hairdressers, telex and stenographers services are all on tap for the rich—all provided for by undisclosed but undoubted millions.

Not even a power cut can disrupt their comfort. A standby diesel alternator pumps juice through 160 miles of cable to the hotel's 5,000 outlets.

The man responsible for this obscenity in the midst of growing mass deprivation is 64-year-old Sir Hugh Walter Kingwell Woner, chairman and managing director of the Savoy, Claridges and Berkeley Hotels group.

He is a Tory of the old school. A man to whom the new Berkeley comforts are an accepted way of life.

He is clerk of the Royal kitchens and catering adviser to the Royal household. He served on the Coronation Accommodation Committee, is an HM Lieut and did his bit for the empire on the home committees of the chambers of commerce for Burma, India and Ceylon.

A man with an imperial past he does his share for law and order on the visitors' committee at Holloway Prison.

His awards and decorations are from appropriate quarters. He has the Order of Cisneris from Spain.

Also prominent among the seven directors is ex-Labour attorney general the Rt Hon Lord Hartley Williams Shawcross.

Meanwhile, on the road, the YS march on. . .

'Whisky sir, ginger, say when sir, biscuits sir, are you sure you're being taken care of sir, have you seen the press kit sir'.

The Berkeley is not so much a hotel as a home. Not as large as the Savoy or the Hilton and built to old-fashioned, non-industrial specifications it is a place of 'elegance and good taste' where, as Italian manager M Paolo Zago explained: 'Anytime you press a button you get anything you want.'

We go off in highly personal, little groups of four or five writers, journalists or travel agents mingling with modestly, but expensively-dressed guests, and sweeping past small groups of cynical and abused workmen still putting the finishing touches to furnishings and decor they never dreamed existed.

Of course those who stay there have to be able to pay for all this glittering luxury and obsequious attention.

For about £60 you could stay the night in the Wellington Suite and throw a party on the paved patio adjacent to a tennis-court-size drawing room overlooking Hyde Park.

Family men can watch their daughters out for an early morning canter along Rotten Row before going on to their music lessons.

The apartment includes a bathroom with every conceivable gadget and aid done out in mock marble and a bedroom lined with soft, quiet, carpets, cushions and drapes.

Wellington's crest adorns one of the walls, suitably inscribed 'virtue' and 'forunte', and two statuettes closely resembling charity peer satirically out at their opulent guests.

For a suite like this you'd need to be royalty or Aristotle Onassis. Your average run-of-the-mill millionaire would stay in the less expensive, double or single rooms costing from £45 down to £12 a night, plus extras.

We head up the decidedly Oriental, bamboo-lined lifts to the unfinished swimming pool on the roof. M Zago apologizes for the mess.

'That's all right' mumbles one of my travel-agent companions. 'I feel more at home in the dust and cement'.

We take a quick, rooftop view of London and take the lift down.

'It is, of course, a highly personalized service we offer', said M Zago.

440 staff, from boot boys to masters of ceremonies, minister to the slightest whim of their luxury-loving guests—68 of them below ground in kitchens the size of Euston station.

PRIVACY

The idea is that the rich should do virtually nothing for themselves. You can phone anywhere from New York to Moscow, listen to the radio, switch on three-channel, colour television and summon room service (waiter, valet, maid) all without moving from the bed.

No room opens directly onto a corridor and all windows are double-glazed to avoid noise and maximize privacy. And all connecting doors are thick and double to exclude neighbours' obtrusive snores — not that the rich do snore, of course.

Your responsibility to change country to socialism—miners

Right to Work DIARY

FROM DAVID MAUDE
IN S WALES

AT FIRST Merthyr Tydfil welcomed the Swansea-London Right - to - Work march cautiously, disturbed by it, but gradually revealing a great fund of support.

Our two-day stop in the town finished yesterday, however, with a great send-off to Pontypridd from miners, engineering workers and their families from Gurnos housing estate.

The marchers—now numbering 24 with two new recruits from Merthyr—chanted and sang their way round the estate.

They were particularly grateful to the two miners who arranged the send-off: Elwyn Williams, secretary of all 7,000 miners in the various union lodges around Merthyr, and Bill James, lodge-committee member at Trelewis Drift.

The organized labour movement in Merthyr, once the industrial capital of Wales, gave us every assistance.

For two days, we camped in the central headquarters of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. The Merthyr Labour Club provided us with showers and facilities to cook food. The Dowlais Labour Club gave us a room for a discotheque.

On Friday night, we received a midnight visit from Mayor Gerry Donovan—an AUEW member who led the Labour council's revolt against the Tory school-milk snatch—AUEW district secretary Albert John and Labour Party and Trades Council secretary Ralph Jones.

Gerry told us: 'A great responsibility rests on young people today to change this country to socialism.' And the marchers are proving more and more equal to this challenge.

Last Thursday's unemployment figures for the head-of-the-valleys area of Merthyr, Treharris and Dowlais showed that 22 workers are chasing every vacant job.

A total of 2,003 workers are registered at local employment exchanges, and the Department of Employment calculates that this represents 8.4 per cent of the working population.

This is an increase of more than 3 per cent on the figure for the same time last year—less



than half of which is accounted for by lay-offs caused by power cuts.

T. H. Dugdale, area manager of the D of E, told me he is 'cautiously optimistic' about the job prospects for the rest of 1972.

His opinion is shared neither by unemployed youth in the town, nor by local trade unionists, however.

Phil Owen (20) claimed that the D of E figure for youth unemployment in the area—120—was 'just way out'.

He told me: 'Nine out of ten young people here just can't find work. It's bloody disheartening looking for a job, they don't give you a chance.'

'I've been out for seven weeks

now and there's just nothing around. I'm willing to take a job anywhere. But all they say at the exchange is "Sorry, we can't help you."

'Most of the time they don't even say sorry.'

Phil wants to work and feels 'mentally ill' after seven weeks out of a job.

Since he left school he has had several jobs on building sites, a short spell as a painter and a year of borstal after a fight he says was provoked by local police.

With a sizeable group of other youth in the town, Phil will be battling to build the Merthyr YS following the marchers' visit.

Bill James, one of the miners who arranged our send-off yesterday, thinks that for many years there has been 'apathy' in Merthyr about unemployment.

'If your campaign and the Young Socialists generally can help to break this up, then more power to your elbow,' he said after our rally in the town on Saturday.

Many jobs were very precarious despite the expansion of the two Hoover plants in Merthyr in preparation for Common Market entry.

A GKN plant there was already on short-time even before the miners' strike.

At a meeting following the YS demonstration, Elwyn Williams said: 'The Tory Party is the party of unemployment. I'm proud to come along here and see all these young faces who are fighting for the principles of socialism.'

'The miners have the Tories by the throat, but the Wilberforce terms proved satisfactory to our membership as far as mining is concerned.'

'The government could have been defeated throughout if the miners had continued their struggle.'

Paul Renna, of Swansea YS, told the meeting that the enthusiastic reception the march had received in Merthyr was characteristic of the one it had received everywhere in the valleys.

TV

BBC 1

9.38 Schools. 1.00 Paul: Envoy Extraordinary. 1.30 Fingerbobs. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 Schools. 4.00 Boomph with Becker. 4.15 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Treasure Over the Water. 5.44 Crystal Tipps and Alistair. 5.50 News, weather. 6.00 LONDON THIS WEEK. 6.20 YOUNG SCIENTISTS OF THE YEAR. 6.45 THE MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW. 7.10 Z CARS. 'Week Off'. 8.00 PANORAMA. 9.00 NEWS, weather. 9.25 STEPTOE AND SON. 'A Star Is Born'. 9.55 THE REGIMENT. 'The Fortunes of Peace'. 10.45 24 HOURS. 11.20 SOUNDING OUT. Maggie Bell with Stone the Crows. 11.45 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School. 5.35 Open University. 7.05 Children Growing Up. Part 3. 7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather. 8.00 FILM: 'GUNFIGHT IN ABILENE'. Western starring Bobby Darin, Emily Banks, Leslie Nielsen. 9.25 FACE THE MUSIC. Musical quiz. 9.55 HORIZON: For Love or Money? Attitudes to management in industry today. 10.40 NEWS, Weather. 10.45 THIRTY-MINUTE THEATRE: 'The Quiet Earth', by John Hopkins with Shirley Knight Hopkins. 11.15 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV

10.20 Schools. 2.33 Racing from Doncaster. 3.10 Tea break. 3.45 Danger Man. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.50 Land of Giants. 5.50 News. 6.00 TODAY. News from London and the South East. 6.20 CROSSROADS. 6.40 OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS. 7.30 CORONATION STREET. 8.00 A EUROPEAN JOURNEY. Holland. 8.30 BLESS THIS HOUSE. Love Me, Love My Tree. 9.00 HOME AND AWAY. What is to be Done? 10.00 NEWS. 10.30 THE X FILM: 'BITTER HARVEST'. Janet Munro, John Stride. Welsh girl climbing social scale in London. 12.10 EAST MEETS WEST.

REGIONAL ITV

SOUTHERN: 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Tea break. 4.05 Houseparty. 4.18 Cartoon. 4.20 Lucy. 4.50 The Lionheart. 5.20 Bright's Boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.45 London. 10.30 Beloved Enemy. 11.00 Marcus Welby. 11.55 News. 12.05 Weather.

ANGLIA: 2.33 Racing. 3.35 Newsroom. 4.00 Tea break. 4.25 Romper Room. 4.55 Flipper. 5.20 Boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.45 London. 10.30 Probe. 11.05 Marcus Welby.

ATV MIDLANDS: 2.33 Racing. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Nanny. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Forest Rangers. 5.20 Bright's Boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 ATV Today. 6.45 London. 10.30 University Challenge. 11.00 Aquarius.

CHANNEL: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Racing from Doncaster. 4.05 Once Upon a Time. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 Yoga. 4.50 Rovers. 5.20 Bright's Boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 Channel News, weather. What's On Where. 6.15 The Pursuers. 6.45 London. 10.30 Weather Summary. 10.32 University challenge. 11.02 Marcus Welby. 11.55 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.20 News. 6.00 Diary. 6.20 Sports desk. 10.59 News. 11.55 Faith for life. 12.00 Weather.

ULSTER: 10.20 Schools. 2.22 My world. 2.33 Racing from Doncaster. 4.00 Yoga. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Joe 90. 5.20 Bright's boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.15 Best of Lucy. 6.45 London. 10.30 Monday night. 10.35 Film: 'Passport to China'.

GRANADA: 10.58 Schools. 2.30 Racing from Doncaster. 3.40 Yoga. 4.00 News. Hogan's Heroes. 4.35 Hatty Town. 4.50 Spiderman. 5.15 It's Fun to be fooled. Bright's boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 Newsday. 6.25 This is your right. 6.40 London. 10.30 Film: 'Curse of the Werewolf'.

SCOTTISH: 10.20 Schools. 1.40 Schools. 2.33 Racing from Don-

caster. 3.15 Another way. 3.30 Origami. 3.45 Castle haven. 4.10 Dateline: early. 4.55 Batman. 5.20 Bright's boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 Dateline: Monday. 6.15 Dr Simon Locke. 6.45 London. 10.30 Aquarius. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 The last stand.

ANGLIA: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Racing from Doncaster. 3.45 Women only. 4.15 Cantamil. 4.30 Superman. 4.50 Tom Grattan. 5.20 Bright's boffins. 5.50 News. 6.01 Y Dydd. 6.22 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 10.30 Return to Rhymney. 11.15 Tales of Edgar Wallace. 12.15 Weather.

HTV Wales and the West as above except: 4.15 Tinkertainment. 6.01 Report west.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 8.00 Yr Wythnos. **HTV West as above except:** 6.01 Report West. 6.22 This is the west this week. 10.30 Late night cinema: 'The Quare Fellow'.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00 Schools. 2.55 Racing from Doncaster. 3.37 News. 3.40 Junkin. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 Rovers. 5.20 Bright's boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 Grampian news, weather. 6.10 Country focus. 6.35 Cartoon time. 6.45 London. 10.30 University challenge. 11.00 McQueen. 11.30 Evening prayers.

TYNE TEES: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Racing from Doncaster. 3.35 Newsroom. 3.45 Farmhouse kitchen. 4.15 Dick Van Dyke. 4.40 Once upon a time. 4.55 Rainbow country. 5.20 Bright's boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today at six. 6.25 Love American style. 6.45 London. 10.30 Face the press. 11.00 Seaway. 11.55 News. 12.10 Revolution now.

YORKSHIRE: 10.20 Schools. 2.30 Racing from Doncaster. 3.40 Calendar news. 3.45 Farmhouse kitchen. 4.15 Dick Van Dyke. 4.40 Once upon a time. 4.55 HR Puffin. 5.20 Bright's boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.20 Country calendar. 6.45 London. 10.30 Untouchables. 11.30 All our yesterdays. 12.00 Weather.

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Rousing welcome due in the Midlands

THE RIGHT - to - Work marchers can be sure of a rousing welcome when they reach the Midlands.

Dozens of factories, trade union branches and trades councils have offered their assistance in accommodating and feeding the marchers and joining them at jobs rallies. In addition to the Midlands support we have already published, this is a list of new organizations joining the campaign:

- Daventry Trades Council is asking member organizations to give maximum support for the marchers when they reach Daventry from Liverpool.

- Wolverhampton Trades Council has donated £10 at its last meeting and is urging local members to give all possible help.

- Coventry DATA committee has donated £20 and has circu-

larized all its branches and shop stewards in the division urging them to join the marchers on the way into the centre of Coventry.

- Nuneaton central AUEW has donated £2.

- Coventry Trades Council has collected £8.50 at its last meeting. The council has already voted support for the campaign and is helping with facilities for the marchers.

- The Triumph Engineering motorcycle factory workers and members of the local Right-to-Work committee are taking responsibility for providing a midday meal for the marchers when they reach Meriden on the way to Coventry.

- Collections and donations from Rolls-Royce at Parkside and Ansty, will provide the marchers with breakfast and an evening meal in Coventry.

Other factories pledging support and collections are Climax, Alvis, Standard Triumph, Herberts-BSA, Lockheed, and Dunlop.

The most overwhelming of all is the generosity of the committee of the Coventry Co-operative Society.

Committee members have unanimously decided to give their well-heated Co-op hall on Walsgrove Road to the marchers for the night of March 2-3 to sleep in and hold a public meeting. And the hall is made available completely free of charge!

Support continues to come in from the Oxford area.

Guarantees of support have come from the AUEW Oxford district committee, the Morris Motors joint shop stewards' committee—where a factory-wide collection is being organized—and the Cowley 203 AUEW branch has given £5 and the Cowley 10 AUEW has voted support.

NEW YORK JUDGE NAMES MAUDLING

HOME SECRETARY Reginald Maudling has failed to have his name removed from the list of defendants in a £10m fraud case being heard in New York.



JEROME D. HOFFMAN: 'BRAINS' NOW IN JAIL

Maudling and two other British directors, Viscount Brentford and his son, Crispin Joynson Hicks, are defendants in a civil action launched by fundholders in Real Estate Fund of America, a Panamanian-registered company.

Maudling was first president of the now-bankrupt fund and Brentford, a former Tory Minister, and his son, a well-known lawyer, were both senior directors.

The 'brains' behind Real Estate Fund of America (REFA), Jerome D. Hoffman, was jailed recently for two years and fined £400 on fraud charges. He admitted being involved in a scheme which defrauded more than 500 mortgage investors in REFA of £400,000.

Hoffman who was sentenced on February 15, is now serving his time in a New York penitentiary.

REFA was launched in mid-1969 with the backing of some extremely reactionary international figures. The inaugural list of directors contained such names as:

Paul Henri Spaak, ex-premier of Belgium and then head of NATO;

Robert Wagner, three-term mayor of New York and ex-ambassador to Spain;

Holmes Brown, chairman of the New York Board of Trade.

Aides

Apart from Maudling, Brentford and Joynson Hicks, the company also included a number of prominent aides from the Johnson and Nixon administrations.

Late in 1970 the fund collapsed spectacularly and Hoffman left London in a hurry leaving behind scores of debtors.

Since then his name has been the subject of litigation in several countries.

In a New York Federal court last week Maudling's lawyers argued that as he had left on July 18, 1969, he should not be regarded as a defendant in the present litigation.

But Judge Palmieri found there was legally insufficient information in the record to reach reliable conclusions. He ruled that the fact of Maudling's resignation did not dispose of the question of jurisdiction. He said he would give a ruling later on the basis of their submitted testimony.

When he left the company, Maudling issued a statement saying: 'In my judgement the Real Estate Fund of America is a good and sound investment.'

Right to Work DIARY 100p.c. at Winsford

FROM PHILIP WADE IN CHESHIRE

WINSFORD, the Liverpool overspill town in Cheshire, undoubtedly gave us the best response we have had so far. The Labour Party, factories and trade unions supported us 100 per cent.

The town, which has doubled its population to 30,000 in five years, has 600 on the dole and there are fewer than 50 vacancies. Thousands of workers were lured there from Merseyside with the bait of new houses and jobs on the trading estate.

But the slump hit light engineering concerns. Three factories have closed and all the others have laid off workers—in May Tesco's plan to sack another 150.

Support for the march came from a dozen factories and workers in them raised almost £100 between them. And workers at the Bass Charrington site, Runcorn, most of whom come from Winsford, raised £23 and told us the news as we marched into town.

The transport workers' branch supported the march as did Winsford ETU.

The Labour Party, who won control from the Tories last year, unanimously voted support and gave £5. Most important, they let us have the use of the Labour Club for virtually the whole day and let us stay overnight.

At the meeting speakers included Bob McEvoy, T&GWU officer for Mid-Cheshire, and Labour councillor Ernie McGee. 'I don't come here as a full-

time officer to get a platform, but felt I had to come to applaud your courage and organization. You are making it inevitable that there will be no return to the 1930s and that my children won't have to say: no return to the 1970s,' Mr McEvoy told us.

Councillor McGee, whose wife has been made redundant by Tesco, pledged the support of Winsford Labour Party in any attempt to force the Tory government to resign and brought strong applause from the audience.

He later told me he was encouraged to see youth organized in a political way, something he hadn't witnessed for a long time.

Another person who went out of his way to help was John Welsh, club president. John was a Liverpool docker until he was lured to Winsford.

But trade unionism took time to forge roots in the town, he was victimized and blacklisted for his part in a strike. He has been on the dole for almost four years, barring one or two weeks.

One of our marchers, Dennis Bahrans, who comes from Winsford, has been out of work four years and he is only 20.

'Unless we throw the Tories out, Winsford will be another Kirkby and it will perish,' he said.

A word of thanks to Andy Davies, leader of Northwich youth club who put us up after the Labour Party right wing blocked us in Knutsford. As a result of our stay we gained another marcher, Carol West, who has just lost her job.

KENT MARCH

'It's about time we had something like this in this country. They're selling us out all down the line. Look what the miners have done by sticking together. If all the workers stuck together we'd get something new here.'

Speaking at the public meeting after the march Snodown miner Jim Bryan told the audience:

'The miners had the Tories on their knees and just at the point where the rank and file were going to call for a General Strike, Feather went to Miami.

'We've got to get these people out and not only the Tories and put in people who will fight for social justice. And from what I've seen, that's why the young people on this march are walking to London.

'When you work in the pits you're strangled by capitalism. We want the state to take over more industries, but workers must have control nad the profits must come back to them and not go into private hands.'

Alan Reed, from the OTO's head office branch, said nothing illustrated better the need for new leadership in the labour movement than the betrayal of the postmen after seven bitter weeks.

He warned: 'The miners backed by the united strength of the working class has forced a defeat on this government. They've been beaten in one fight, the whole battle has still to be fought.'

One more day to go:- February fund over the top

We knew you would do it. At the time of writing the February Fund stands at £1,260.58 and we still have one more day to the end of this month.

There couldn't be a clearer answer to the attacks of the Tory government. There is a growing demand for a daily paper that hits out in every way against Tory policies. Their government must be made to resign.

As you know we still have one day left. We are £10.58 over our target. Can you make it more? We know you will do your best. Rush all last minute donations to:

Workers Press
February Appeal Fund,
186a Clapham High St,
London, SW4 7UG.

Right-to-Work Campaign
RALLIES
W LONDON
Friday March 3, 7 p.m.
Camden Studios
Camden Street
Sponsored by LRT Branch of the UPW; Paddington NUR No. 1 Branch.

Scottish miners increase production

SCOTTISH miners increased output last year by more than 10 per cent despite a drop in the labour force, according to figures issued today by the National Coal Board.

Saleable output in Scotland in 1971 was 12,326,568 tons an increase of nearly 1½ million tons compared with 1970.

WE APOLOGISE to those readers — particularly postal subscribers — who may be experiencing delays in the delivery of Workers Press. Despite the government's power-cuts policy, we are endeavouring to get your copy to you at the usual time.

'RED JITTERS'

ROBERT CARR, the Employment Secretary, is suffering from a condition known as 'red jitters'. It is not uncommon among ministers of parliament.

The last outbreak occurred in 1966 during the seamen's strike. On that occasion Ray Gunter, Wilson's Labour Minister, saw reds everywhere. Gunter and Carr are very similar specimens. Apart from holding the same ministerial portfolio they have both served as directors of Securicor, Britain's largest private army.

Now, in the aftermath of another powerful demonstration of working-class militancy the miners' strike—the complaint has befallen Carr. Speaking to Young Conservatives at Malvern at the weekend, Carr hinted that there is 'a sinister conspiracy to over-

turn the structure of British society'.

He went on: 'There are active in our society small but virulent minorities who would like to see the whole present structure of our society destroyed. The role of these groups is something against which we should be more than ever on our guard.'

Presumably this is a reference to the millions of workers, their wives and families who are at present roaring for the Tories to be thrown out of office.

'Virulent minorities'? The only minority plaguing this country with unemployment, soaring costs and murderous repression as in Ulster, is the Tory clique of bankers and industrialists.

They are defying the huge majority of the people on questions like the Common Market and the Industrial Relations Act.

LATE NEWS

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