

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● TUESDAY DECEMBER 5, 1972 ● No. 938 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

POWELLITES RUN AMOK

TORY SPLIT WIDENS



Heath: Under pressure

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They want a Tory leader who will cease pussyfooting with the union leaders. They want a Tory

BY ALEX MITCHELL

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First defeat

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or VAT, or rates of exchange, or heaven knows what.'

The contradictions in the Tory ranks are seen most glaringly in the two important by-elections on Thursday at Sutton and Cheam and Uxbridge.

In Uxbridge, apart from the official Tory candidates, there are candidates representing three right wing organizations—the National Independence Party, the National Front and the Union Movement.

Members of the West Middlesex branch of the Monday Club, an official Tory ginger group, are not supporting the Tory candidate. They are backing the National Front nominee.

The strength of the right-wing

TURN TO BACK PAGE

AUEW faces new NIRC charges

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

ANOTHER MAJOR crisis between the unions and the National Industrial Relations Court loomed yesterday after news that the giant Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers faced another contempt charge for ignoring court orders.

Orders to initiate contempt proceedings will be laid before the court today and the case is likely to be decided on Friday or early next week.

The action is brought by James Goad, a Suffolk engineering worker who has been kept out of the union's Sudbury branch because he worked during a strike.

The court has already confiscated £6,000 in fines and costs from the union for ignoring its order to instruct the Sudbury branch officials to give Goad full rights. Many top AUEW leaders now fear a fine of £50,000 or more for further contempt.

Mr Goad swore an affidavit at his Colchester solicitors yesterday concerning events last Friday night, when he was again barred from a branch meeting at the Bear Hotel, Sudbury.

After the refusal, Mr Goad, a former Baptist preacher, exclaimed:

'The only help I get is from the knowledge that I go to the Lord Jesus Christ for guidance and wisdom—and I rely on that all the time.'

The Goad case may blow up into the most serious clash so far between the unions and the court. It will also jeopardize the tentative moves between the TUC right wing and the Tories to re-open negotiations on state control of wages after the so-called freeze.

Earlier this year the Transport and General Workers'

Union followed a similar path of defiance to the court over the blacking of lorries.

Like the AUEW, it was first fined £5,000 and then a further £50,000 for contempt. After this the union changed its policy. Its officials campaigned for the lifting of the black and the union went before the court to plead its case.

This was after court president Sir John Donaldson warned that the contempt in not calling for the lifting of the black had been aggravated by the union's refusal to be represented in the case.

The AUEW leadership so far has steadfastly stuck to the



Goad: Affidavit

national committee decision not to appear before the court.

These latest moves in the case highlight the extreme crisis of leadership in the AUEW. So far the national executive has recommended no action whatsoever to defend members' funds. Bigger fines will make this crisis more acute.



Powell: Poll favourite

leader who will immediately launch the inevitable confrontation with the British working class.

To many of these Tory skin-heads such a leader is Enoch Powell. A National Opinion Poll survey has just shown that from a list of 12 well-known politi-

**Workers Press Public Meeting
CLAY CROSS**

**Fight the Tory rent increases!
Force the government to resign!**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 5, New Inn, Market Street, 7.30 p.m.

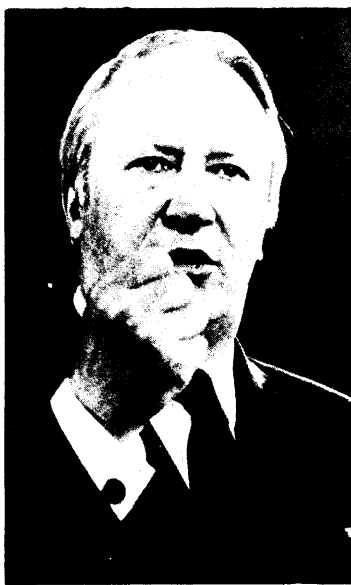
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Vietnam faces a civilian 'invasion'

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

UNITED STATES presidential aide Henry Kissinger yesterday reopened secret talks in Paris with Le Duc Tho of the North Vietnamese Communist Party's politburo.

The talks were suspended 11 days ago amid accusations from Hanoi that the Americans were engaged in a treacherous manoeuvre aimed at prolonging the war.

The United States has refused to ratify the nine-point agreement drawn up at the end of October, just prior to the US election.

It has intensified the bombing of the north, stepped up the sending of supplies to the puppet regime in Saigon and sent in thousands of civilian 'advisers' to the South Vietnamese army.

About 5,000 US civilians are due to arrive in South Vietnam in the next few weeks under confidential contracts to the Saigon regime. They join 5,000 'advisers' already in the country.

They will do everything from running the South Vietnamese army's military personnel and logistics computers, to teaching the Air Force how to fly and maintain newly provided planes, to repairing the complex military communications network left behind by the US army.

Fox Butterfield, reporting the influx of 'civilians' in the 'New York Times', quotes a western official as saying, 'It's like 1961 or 1965 all over again.'

It is abundantly clear that the US government is planning not peace but an escalation of the war behind a thin smokescreen of negotiation.

What we think

THE BITTER fruit of IRA terrorism in Ireland has been to open the door for the capitalist class to adopt the bomb as an instrument of government.

But for the twin-bomb blasts which rocked Dublin on Friday night at a crucial stage in the debate on the Lynch government's so-called anti-IRA Bill, there would be no new laws and a General Election.

Political opposition to the legislation was sufficient to defeat Fianna Fail. Some trade union leaders were calling for a General Strike and groups of workers organized at shop-floor level were marching on Leinster House.

The bombs stampeded the middle class and even sections of the working class behind the government, wiping out all effective opposition in the space of a few minutes.

Next day Labour Party and trade

union leaders alike claimed the explosions had tied their hands. In one night Lynch had achieved with the help of his own or Heath's special service units what could ONLY be done by unleashing state terror on the working class.

But without the political atmosphere created by four years of IRA bombings and shootings, such a provocation would never have been possible.

Throughout the 32 counties Republican terror and state counter-terror have broken mass support from the IRA and prepared the ground for a right-wing, centrist development in the organizations of the working class.

Devoid of and consciously shunning policies capable of offering workers a genuine and revolutionary socialist alternative to capitalism, the IRA has inevitably become isolated and beaten.

Bankruptcy of terrorism

In Ulster over 100 IRA 'officers' have been arrested in the past month and Belfast battalion commanders are now said to be 14-year-old boys.

In Dublin the IRA has been forced underground. Meetings and demonstrations have ceased and their offices stand unmarked and empty.

All those groups, including the International Marxist and International Socialist groups and the Anti-Internment League, whose members marched through the streets clapping their hands and shouting 'Victory to the IRA', bear a heavy burden of political responsibility for allowing the essentially weak Lynch government to take the offensive.

Lynch has seized the chance to rush onto the statute books at Leinster House laws which, when the time is ripe, will be used against the trade unions

and all the fighting organizations of the working class.

Ironically the revisionists have been among the first to suffer from Lynch's crack-down with police harassment all but forcing their literature sellers off the streets.

Last Friday's events have revealed naked terror as no alternative to the building of the revolutionary party. They have also given the final lie to all the reformists' and revisionists' claims as well.

In Ireland and in Britain, recession and the severe pressure on profit margins are rapidly forcing bourgeois parliamentary democracy to shed its sheep's clothing and reveal its essence as a body of men not only armed, but willing to use those arms to maintain its rule without regard to cost or lives.

The capitalist class is in its most serious crisis. It has no reforms to give. The class war is on.

Workers in Ireland and Britain face a common enemy, which, from January 1, 1973, will act in concert with seven other European governments in attempting to ride out slump by brutal repression of the working class.

Dublin proves conclusively that terror alone cannot defeat them, but can positively assist them. This bitter lesson cannot be evaded.

TUC in tripartite talks on trade

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

TOMORROW'S National Economic Development Council meeting will bring together the trade union leaders, the Confederation of British Industry and the government for talks on the world trade situation.

It is the first meeting between the three sides since the breakdown of the tripartite talks on the introduction of the Tory state wage control plan a month ago.

The TUC has prepared a 27-page document which urges the Tories to use the Industry Act to subsidize the electronics and components industries which have been hit by Japanese competition.

The document also calls on the government to aid the textile and clothing industries which are in deep recession and unable to compete with foreign imports. Resolutions calling for government action to protect these industries were passed by the TUC Congress in September.

The TUC leaders' policy is based on a supposed community of interest between British manufacturers and their workers. The demand for protection from foreign competition originates with the manufacturers themselves, who have for many months been clamouring for the Tories to take action against the Japanese.

On the basis of this chauvinistic and reactionary alliance, the Tories undoubtedly hope to draw the TUC chiefs into further collaboration against the working class. But behind the talk of class-collaboration against the foreign threat, the employers are preparing enormous attacks on their workers.

Shipbuilding barons are threatening to sack up to 30,000 workers unless they get new orders within the next six weeks. They blame the huge expansion of Japan's shipyards which are able to undercut British prices by a large margin.

Two delegations of European shipbuilders visited Japan last

Dangerous 'common interest' diversion

month to plead with their Japanese competitors to show restraint. The Japanese refused to take any steps to limit the build-up of their capacity.

The number of new orders placed in British yards between June and September this year was the lowest for any three months for 30 years. The ship-owners are now declaring that their workers can best defend the national interest from the dole queues.

The TUC's policy of pleading with the Tories for protectionist measures disarms the working class in the face of great class struggles and represents in reality the shortest road to unemployment for tens of thousands of workers. At the same time it panders directly to the nationalist and patriotic agitation of the extreme right.

There is no community of interest between the working class and the employers faced with a mounting international trade war.

The main enemy in this bandit conflict of rival imperialisms is at home. The task in front of British workers is to force the resignation of the Tory government and the election of a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

Talk of common interest through a programme for 'protecting' British capitalism is a reactionary diversion.

Steel shake-out in France

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

TWO THOUSAND steel workers at Thionville, Lorraine, are threatened with the sack under rationalization plans prepared by the Usinor combine.

This is part of the French industry's efforts to meet the British entry into the Common Market, switching investment from the traditional Lorraine steel works to new complexes on the coast.

Usinor has a modern steel plant at Dunkirk and is a partner with the other big French company, Wendel-Sidelor, in the massive steel project at Fos-sur-Mer, near Marseilles.

The enormous capital sums required for these projects have placed both companies' finances under great strain, though the government and the banks have come forward with substantial loans to help get the Fos project under way.

The Thionville sackings follow a series of pit closures in the district and there are threats that Wendel-Sidelor will also close some of its factories.

Usinor is also planning sackings at Valenciennes, close to the Belgian border in north-east France. The unions at Valenciennes are planning a one-day strike and demonstration on December 19, when President Pompidou is due to visit the town.

Large sections of the Fos site are currently strike-bound as a result of construction workers' demands for higher wages. Many of the workers are immigrants living in extremely bad conditions.

TV boost to Spanish car-making

SPANISH police arrested 27 workers and students in San Sebastian at the weekend on 'subversion' charges.

They are accused of causing strikes in factories and schools and organizing student meetings which had nothing to do with examinations or university life.

While more anti-Franco workers were imprisoned, Spanish Industry Minister Lopez de Letona discussed the economic future of Spain on the national

television network with José Luis Rodriguez Pomata, head of Fasa-Renault, and Pedro Gonzalez Bueno, chairman of Citroën in Spain.

Letona made a demagogic appeal: 'It is much more important to create jobs in our country than for factories to build in other countries which only function thanks to the workers sent there.'

He said that this was the decisive argument for welcoming Ford and others into Spain.

The Citroën and Renault rep-

resentatives were told they would have to change their views and understand that Spain had to measure up to Common Market requirements.

He accused some of 'our' manufacturers of having too many models and told them to concentrate on producing more rather than on diversification.

The whole broadcast was a nationalist propaganda exercise, with Letona playing the role of learned adviser to Citroën and Renault who fear Ford will drive them out of the European market.

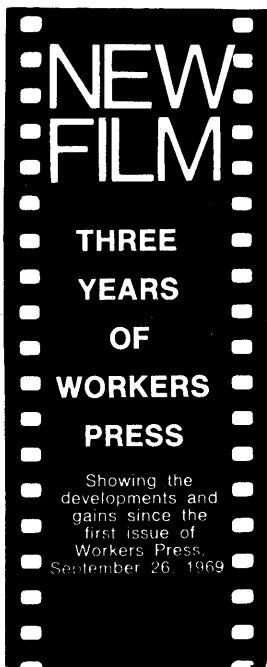
Socialist Labour League

CELEBRATE 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF WORKERS PRESS BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 7 p.m. County Hotel NEWCASTLE

Speakers:

- MIKE BANDA (SLL Central Committee)
- DAVID JONES (YS national committee)
- BOB MAINS (Unemployed)
- VINCENT FOY (Jarrow Trades Council secretary. In a personal capacity.)



GLASGOW

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 2 p.m. Woodside Halls St George's Cross

Speakers:

- MIKE BANDA (SLL Central committee)
- JOHN BARRIE (YS national committee)
- WILLIE DOCHERTY (chairman Paisley Tenants' Action Committee. In personal capacity.)

BIRMINGHAM

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 7 p.m. Assembly Hall Digbeth Civic Hall

Speakers:

- G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)
- WILLIE AITKIN (YS national committee)
- PETER SMITH (Rover shop steward. In personal capacity.)
- CORIN REDGRAVE (Equity. In a personal capacity.)

Fighting the Tories' rent Act

Altrincham council to confiscate rent strikers' property

ALTRINCHAM tenants, Manchester, will demonstrate outside the town hall tonight as the Tory-Liberal council meets to prepare court orders against rent strikers.

Rather than evict any of the 300 rent strikers, the council wants court orders to confiscate property to pay off the arrears or deduct the money out of wage packets.

Eight tenants have been selected at random as the victims of this new onslaught under the 'fair rents' Act.

Tenants' leaders claim that the decision not to evict but move against property has come from the Tory government in Whitehall.

Beware of 'left' talk in rents fight

BY PHILIP WADE

CLAY CROSS workers will demonstrate again on Thursday morning when the district auditor comes to town to see the Labour councillors who refuse to put up the rents.

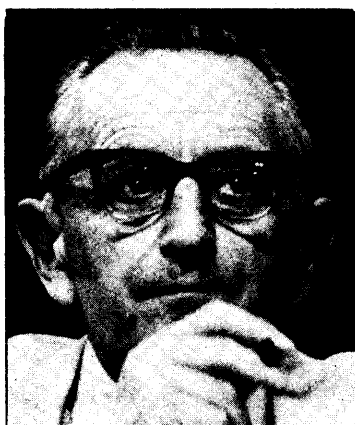
The councillors are not trying to disguise the fact that their unanimous decision not to implement the Tories' Housing Finance Act has led to a £7,000 deficit on the housing account.

The fight by this small Derbyshire council against the full weight of the Tory government is thus reaching a new point. Not only do the 11 councillors face the £7,000 bill, but they could find themselves automatically disqualified from holding their elected positions for five years.

What is directly posed, therefore, is the removal of the Tories from power. As council leader Arthur Wellon has already said:

'Nothing can be solved while this Tory government remains in office. Unless the whole of the trade union and working-class movement takes up the lead from us, then all we've done is prove a point.'

This means that the whole



MP Frank Allaun

working class must be mobilized behind Clay Cross with the perspective of making the Tories resign. Such a fight needs leadership.

In that sense, 'left' MP Frank Allaun's intervention at Sunday's Clay Cross rally was deception of the first order.

This was the man who, at the Labour Party conference, did the dirty work for the right-wing on

Allaun and CP want to plead with Tories!

the national executive by declaring that no Labour government could be placed in a position where it had to back councillors who fought the Housing Finance Act and were subsequently surcharged. Although conference later reversed this policy, it was clear the leadership would ignore it.

What pledges did he bring to Clay Cross?

'We are now fighting round two of the fight. It is clear that rent increases are an unnecessary burden on the people,' he declared.

His proposal? Only a pathetic suggestion that a deputation from the trade union movement crawl round to Downing Street to ask the Tories not only to withdraw the present increases, but stop any future ones!

The Tory government is set on a course of destroying the basic

right to council housing, has defaulted several rebel Labour councils and plans surcharges against them, and all Allaun can come forward with is a deputation.

Such fighting talk will be met with applause in the Cabinet room.

Providing the cover for the 'left' talkers, as usual, are the Communist Party Stalinists who are also opposed to bringing down the Tory government.

Yesterday's 'Morning Star' made Clay Cross the lead story and an editorial was devoted to the situation.

The last paragraph made clear the Stalinists' role on the question of rents and all other questions facing the working class. No call was made to force the Tories out. Instead we had the following:

'The trade union and Labour movement is strong to stay the government's hand, and in doing so can stop the rent increases. But it must accompany words of protest with strong enough deeds.' (My emphasis.)

In other words, do not in any circumstances make the government resign. Better to 'stay its hand'. Allaun and the 'Star' end up in the same camp; collaborating with the Tories.

The question now is to reject 'protest' and call for the mobilization of the working class to throw out the Tories and put back a Labour government pledged by the mass movement to socialist policies, including the repeal of the Housing Finance Act and all anti-working class legislation. That is the only way forward at Clay Cross.

Ancillary workers walk out at nine Liverpool hospitals

MORE THAN 1,200 ancillary workers from nine Liverpool hospitals were on 24-hour strike yesterday over the government's wage control legislation. The stoppage by drivers, cleaners, catering staff, telephonists and porters was the first in a series threatened throughout the country because of the Tory clamp on a £4-a-week increase claimed by the National Union of Public Employees.

'Voluntary workers' cooked and served meals during the strike.

A national half-day strike of hospital ancillary workers is due to take place on December 13.

Strikers also claimed yesterday that clerical members of hospital staffs manned switchboards during the strike.

Many hospital workers are demanding stronger action than their leaders are proposing.

NUPE hospital workers in Manchester have called for a full

day's strike and a mass demonstration.

According to Colin Barnett, the union's divisional officer, they 'are very angry and prepared to contemplate long-term industrial action'.

About 400 of the workers attended a meeting at the Engineer's Hall, Liverpool, to hear a report by Barnett on plans for a national strike on December 13.

The meeting voted to decide what further action to take within the United Liverpool Hospital Group at a branch meeting on Friday.

'Vandalism' charge stops Halewood

PRODUCTION of finished vehicles at Ford's Halewood, Liverpool, factory was halted again yesterday when 50 men employed in a section of the paint shop walked out demanding the reinstatement of a sacked colleague.

Over 2,000 production workers were laid off after union-management talks broke down. A management spokesman said workers were demanding that the man—sacked for alleged vandalism—should be reinstated pending a hearing tomorrow of his appeal under the normal dispute procedure.

Increase in share business

BUSINESS on the London stock market went up by more than £1,000m during November, figures showed yesterday.

All the dealings were said to be worth about £4,157m, compared with £3,151m in October. Turnover increased by more than £400m to £1,690m.

But all the levels reached in November were reported to be way behind those reached during early summer and well down compared with this time last year.

Engineers say: Free MacStiofain

COVENTRY 73 branch of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has passed a resolution which 'calls on executive council to start a campaign of action alongside the Irish trade unions for the release of Sean MacStiofain. We believe the laws worked out between Heath and Lynch for the Irish Republic will be used by the Tory government along with the National Industrial Relations Court against the labour movement in Britain'.

Writings of Leon Trotsky

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BOOKS ● PERIODICALS ● NEWSPAPERS

How successful have the policies of Sinn Fein and the Irish Republican Army been since the first civil unrest in Ulster in 1968? IAN YEATS reports in a series of articles based on interviews with leading Republicans, revisionists and reformists on both sides of the border.

IRELAND THE CRISIS OF LEADERSHIP

Throughout the sixties the Official Republican movement turned to the policies of the Communist Party for inspiration and here we examine the outcome of this relationship.

PART SIX THE IRISH COMMUNIST PARTY

The reformism of the Irish Communist Party reached a high point of farce when after Tory troops and tanks had rolled into the 'no-go' areas their northern paper 'Unity' proclaimed:

'We say. No tanks Whitelaw. We demand end repression and a Bill of rights for the entire people of Northern Ireland. United behind these objectives the labour and democratic forces can win.'

If it were not so serious that statement is almost as farcical, as Mrs Edwina Stewart's reply to my question about what would happen if recession prevented the rights they were demanding having any concrete meaning.

Mrs Stewart is the wife of Mr James Stewart, a leading Ulster communist and is also on the Northern Ireland executive of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association (NICRA).

She told me: 'It is going to be very unfortunate for the British government if it is trying to get a solution in the light of the recession because our experience is that Northern Ireland has always been that much worse hit than Britain herself.'

In other words, back to the streets. For four years the CP warned first Stormont and then Westminster that they should not do what they then proceeded to do—unhindered.

Although its protest-politics have manifestly failed and public support has fallen away, many NICRA and Official IRA members remain loyal to the Party line.

The CP-inspired theory of two stages to the struggle in the north is widespread. The first stage is the achievement of a Bill of rights and a democratic assembly in the north, the second a united, socialist Ireland.

James Stewart's account of the Party's aims could just as well be found in the IRA's policy documents.

In May 1971, he said in 'Unity': 'Our fight must be for democracy for the entire working people of Ireland. We must build political alliances in opposition to the pro-British monopoly capitalist governments in Dublin and Belfast.'

'In all Ireland we must build an anti-imperialist alliance on a programme for democracy, independence, unity and socialism.' This is the language of

the Spanish Popular Front translated into Irish.

Mrs Stewart's acknowledgement of the growing slump appears to have been more a personal foible than the Party line.

In their 'Manifesto' not only is no mention made of the recession, but they claim:

'Our country has the necessary resources, labour, skill and capital to develop an independent and thriving economy.'

And in their 1971 'Programme', under the heading 'Root of problems', they say: 'At the root of Ireland's political and economic problems that are crystallized in the present violent situation in the north is the historic and contemporary British imperialist political, economic and military interference in Ireland.'

And in 'Unity' on June 3, 1972: 'Above all the workers and their families must realize that the crisis of today is British imperialism's responsibility.'

The 'Manifesto' goes on to outline its belief in the building of 'national democracy' as the basis for a free socialist Ireland.

'It believes that such an Ireland can be achieved in stages and that there exists at present the potential for the replacement of the present ruling parties of the Unionists and the Fianna Fail by progressive governments north and south which can be pressed to forward the interests of the people.'

These perspectives were doubly poisonous. They underpinned the reactionary traditional nationalism of the IRA and Sinn Fein and at the same time channelled the search of the Officials and others for a revolutionary ideology into harmless reformist paths.

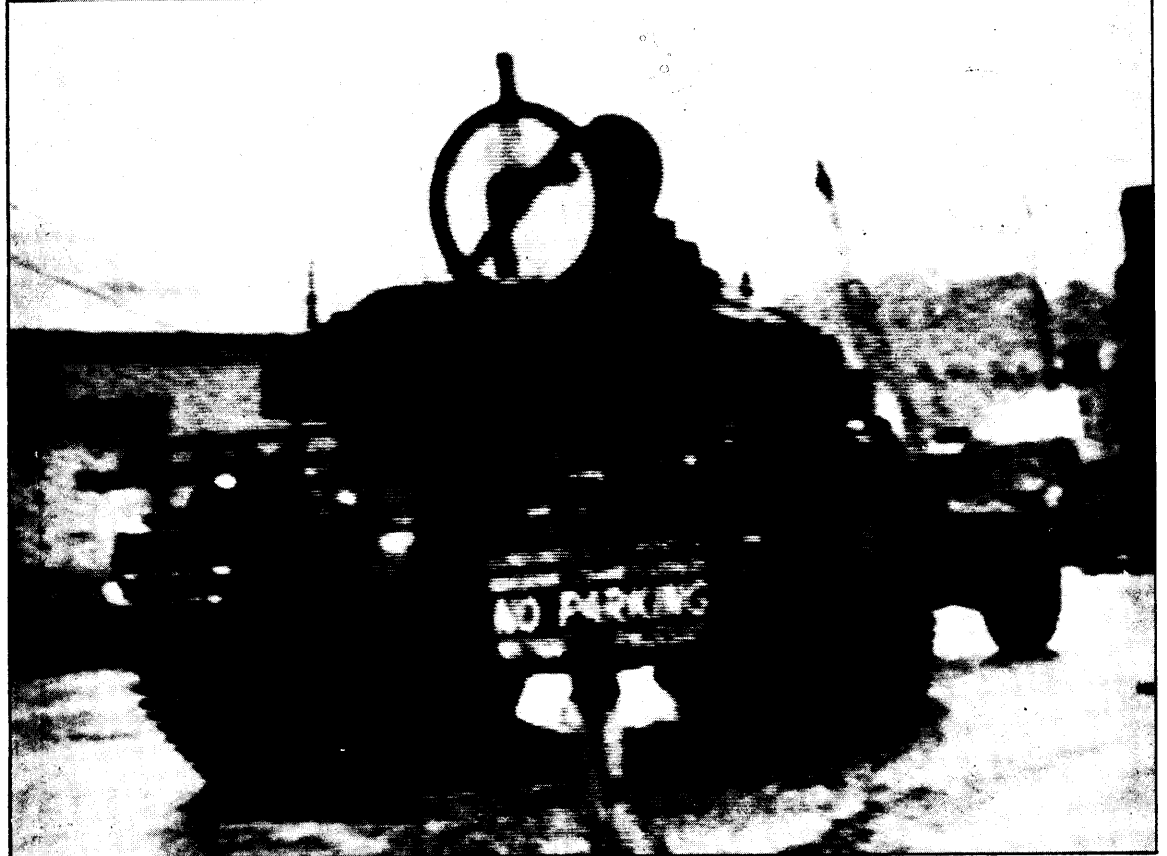
The extent of the effect of their two-stage formula, plus their attribution of all blame to Britain, must be measured in part by the fact that leading members of the Officials like Thomas MacGiolla, Cathal Goulding and Sean Garland put as their own what is in effect the CP line—in some cases word for word.

Throughout the four years, the only major point on which the Officials went their own way was on the question of Stormont.

They rejected direct rule because they said it bound them still more closely to Britain while the CP welcomed it, telling Westminster:

'If Heath is genuine and wants peace let him fulfill the task of creating conditions for talks.' What the CP had in mind was the promise of free elections under proportional representation (PR).

In December 1971, 'Unity' said: 'To bring peace and progress means that Westminster must enact legislation which will end the basis for sectarianism, establish fair boundaries for elections under PR—call it



The tanks rolled into the 'no-go' areas earlier this year and the barricades were bulldozed down

a Bill of rights, call it what you like, but win it and the Stormont Unionists will never again hold dominance over our daily lives.'

The CP also foresaw that direct rule could unite Protestants and Catholics and 'Unity' said in April:

'Workers of the Shankill and the Falls [areas of Belfast] must now raise the common demand on the British government for the enactment by Westminster of a Bill of rights for Northern Ireland and the complete rejection of all brands of unionism.'

The Officials always favoured unity, of course. They simply didn't agree with the demise of Stormont.

On the question of unity there is now no difference between them, and only last week Cathal Goulding hailed united working-class action as the only road forward to a democratic, socialist Ireland.

'Unity' summed up this view after the British docks strike when they said: 'United working-class strength beat them in Britain. With the experiences of our struggle here to work on, united working-class action can win a democratic solution in the interests of all the working people of Ireland.'

It must be pointed out that in Republican terms, working people means everyone except foreign capitalists and socialism covers virtually all forms of native Irish industry.

Pressure had freed the London dockers so, said 'Unity': 'Pressure must be brought to bear on Westminster to enact a Bill of rights for the working people of Northern Ireland which will guarantee equal democracy to that in Britain.'

The weapon to achieve it, the most militant, the most revolutionary, is through the

mass movement for civil disobedience led by NICRA.'

The CP not only did nothing to break Catholics from the idea that all would be well if only they could have a say in the running of their lives, but actively reinforced it.

Writing after the corrupt Unionist-dominated Derry corporation had met for the last time, Betty Sinclair wrote in 'Unity':

'Changes are taking place in Derry. The people there have fought for them. What they need now is for the government to give them the legislation to elect a corporation that will democratically represent them and have the will and the ability to take the city into a happy and prosperous future.'

When it did not happen and when, indeed, NICRA's demands were met with brutal repression, the CP's answer was demonstrations, which, of course, attracted more repression, to which the CP replied with demands for further demonstrations.

Thus the spontaneous anger of men and women labouring under the jackboot were substituted for serious political policies.

After internment on August 9, 1971, 'Unity' demanded: 'No rent. No rates. No arrears. The cry echoes throughout the length and breadth of Northern Ireland.' For good measure they added, 'sending a shiver of fear down many a Unionist spine.'

The British Tories and Stormont Unionists fear mass action more than the terror bomb or bullet. They could not deal with it on October 5, 1968, and they have failed to contain it since. The simple truth is that conscious mass action by the working people

demands and obtains solutions.'

When the Tory government showed just how cowed it was in July this year by passing legislation to take back rent and rates out of pay and Social Security, the CP advised weakly:

'Whitelaw should declare a rents and rates amnesty across the board.'

He has not and the ludicrous position has developed where many of the 20,000 tenants who took part in the campaign are still refusing to pay voluntarily, even though the money is being taken forcibly, to keep up the pretence of a fight.

A rent and rates strike within the context of a campaign throughout the labour movement and the working class to bring down the Tory government which is at root responsible for the conditions in Ulster and throughout Britain could have worked and would have had revolutionary implications.

But a rent and rates strike organized as mere pressure was doomed to failure and in the final analysis becomes a demand which is downright reactionary—and strengthens sectarianism.

The Tories are by no means averse to changing the political forms of government in Northern Ireland to give Catholics rights.

But the giving of rights will by itself leave workers where they were in 1968. Any new structure in Northern Ireland will be capitalist and any capitalist structure will share the growing crisis reflected in rising prices and falling employment. Only by overturning capitalism could the problems of Ulster workers be solved and this the CP never set out to do—and never will.

FRENCH CP WILL STAY IN THE COMMON MARKET

BY JOHN SPENCER

After 15 years of French membership in the Common Market the Communist Party is not in favour of pulling out because this would adversely affect the national economy.

Georges Marchais, the acting general secretary of the French CP, in London last week for talks with British Stalinist leaders, made this clear at a Press conference in the CP's Covent Garden headquarters.

'With our socialist allies we have agreed to act within the Common Market to democratize it and defend the interests of the workers.'

Following Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev's decision earlier this year to 'recognize the reality' of the reactionary EEC alliance of monopolists, the French CP has abandoned all pretence of opposition.

This appears to put them in opposition to the British Stalinists, who are still formally proclaiming their opposition to the EEC. But the difference is more apparent than real, as Marchais made clear.

'There are between our two parties differences which come from our different situations. But this does not mean there are divergencies,' he said.

Marchais claimed that the Common programme drawn up by the French CP with the Socialist Party and the Left Radicals does not accept the Common Market 'as it is now'. 'We do not accept its objectives which serve the interests of the monopolies and not those of the workers.'

However, the Stalinist chief-tain did not explain how the EEC is to be 'democratized' and converted from an instrument of the monopolies into an instrument for the working class.

CO-OPERATION WITHOUT PROGRAMME

He simply said the two parties would co-operate after British entry into the EEC to combat the multi-national firms whose harmful effects the British and French workers have experienced.

Naturally, neither Marchais nor British CP leader John Gollan have any programme for carrying this policy into effect.

The common programme of the 'left' in France envisages the nationalization of less than 1 per cent of all industrial enterprises. But, according to Marchais, these are the 'key' 13 businesses in France.

In addition, the government which Marchais hopes to form (under President Pompidou) after the March National Assembly elections in France would:

- Try and ensure more effective workers' representation within the Common Market (a clear sign that French CP deputies—unlike even the British Labour Party—will take part in the European parliament).

- Reserve the freedom to carry out its programme regardless of the measures taken by the Common Market as a whole (which indicates that the common front does not en-

visage basic clashes with the rest of the capitalist EEC).

- And not treat participation in the EEC as an obstacle to collaboration with other countries, 'without distinction of any kind as to their regime'.

In other words, France under this new-style Popular Front is explicitly committed to collaboration with fascist Spain and the colonels' Greece, though Marchais claims the CP opposes Spanish, Portuguese and Greek entry into the Common Market.

As far as relations with eastern Europe and the USSR are concerned, Marchais gave implicit approval to the Gaullist policy, while claiming that a Popular Front government would go even further.

BLUEPRINT FOR CONTINUED CAPITALISM

'The fact that certain policies of co-operation were set in motion by General de Gaulle does not mean that we should abandon our efforts. We support all efforts in that direction,' he said.

The policy outlined by Marchais is a blueprint for the continuation of French capitalism under conditions where the working class is duped into thinking that the EEC can be reformed.

It is advanced at a time when the Common Market monopolists are openly preparing for war on the working class through the establishment of dictatorial Bonapartist regimes all over western Europe.

Nowhere is this process more marked than in France, where the Pompidou government rules through a presidential system which deprives

the elected Assembly of any independent significance.

Only last week the regime began the trial in Lyons of nine workers under the so-called anti-riot laws which have previously been used only against students and left-wing groups.

The British Communist Party, which is plainly heading towards acceptance of the Common Market, despite its formal 'opposition', intends to participate as much as it can in this reformist line-up.

However, the movement of the working class throughout Europe is throwing both parties into considerable crisis. The French Stalinist Press is in serious difficulties, and there is talk of reducing the size of its daily, 'L'Humanité'.

Marchais attributed these difficulties to the general crisis of the Press in France—an explanation that will fool nobody who reads 'L'Humanité' itself.

The paper is full of appeals to readers emphasizing the necessity to carry out elementary tasks like selling it.

The British Stalinists are in an even more serious crisis.

According to the paper's editor, George Matthews, the 'Morning Star' faces a loss of over £35,000 by the end of next year.

The price is to be raised to 5p in the new year. According to the 'Daily Telegraph' it has 'faced growing competition from more militant journals including the Trotskyist Workers Press'.

Matthews talked in terms of a reduction of the paper's size from six pages to four.

It may well be that these questions were among the 'other questions of common interest' discussed between the two parties' leaders at their meeting in London.



Mrs Edwina Stewart (above), a Communist Party member and secretary of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association, explains how she sees the political prospects in Ulster.

◀ We have been working for an end to repression and an end to discrimination.

The old system of government has been scrapped, but Britain has not yet been able to provide a viable alternative.

We are determined that in any settlement the civil rights demands must be granted. I think that Whitelaw is endeavouring to build up some sort of centre grouping which would be basically conservative—a local assembly with less powers than Stormont perhaps based on the Labour, Alliance and Unionist Parties and the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP).

Provided we get the legislation guaranteeing democracy and smash the old corrupt Orange administration a new government would have to be prepared to adopt really radical measures to end unemployment and the housing shortage.

It is going to be very unfortunate on the British government if it is trying to get a solution in the light of the recession because our experience is that Northern Ireland has always been that much worse hit than Britain itself.

Unfortunately right-wing forces have used the demand for democracy to raise the monster of sectarianism. In the past this has obscured the bread-and-butter issues. You can generally manage to get some sort of alleviation, but instead they were at each others throats.

Speaking personally I think the enemy of the British and

Irish worker is the same. Co-operation between British and Irish workers against the Heath government is important.

In Ireland the main demand remains the demand for democracy. This is something we can and will win.

This can remove the basis for sectarianism and lead to a peaceful and democratic advance. How can you have a united working class while sectarianism exists?

Hopefully once sectarian divisions have been healed, you would have the working houses and jobs.

Derry was one of the worst housing areas, but they reckon now it will soon be solved because cash is being poured in. Even a Tory government providing houses and jobs will be cheaper than keeping the army in the north.

Generally it will be very difficult for these problems to be solved in the present climate of recession.

Regarding the independent revolutionary party this is probably a difference in tactics.

We have always believed the working class learns and advances by winning victories that are possible to win. It is such a rotten situation here that we have to create one more favourable to work.

The Communist Party has been trying to explain the economic crisis, but it is not a large party and sectarianism makes normal working-class politics difficult. ▶



Marchais and Gollan (right) at last week's Press conference



INVEST IN 'STRIKE-FREE' SPAIN

BY JUAN GARCIA

The Castilian city of Valladolid was a fitting scene for a car-plant opening ceremony. Its medieval walls, convents and religious seminaries gave a cheerful welcome to the approaching entourage, led by the Prince of Spain, Juan Carlos.

The Prince was greeted by Lieutenant-General Emilio Villaescusa Quilis, captain-general of the 7th Military Region, and reviewed a division of his Infantry.

The band played a triumphal air and red and yellow flags of the fascist fatherland were draped over balconies.

Local Archbishop Romero Mengibar was there to give his blessing and complete the triad of the Sword, Cross and the Throne — the feudal symbols of Franco's fascist rule.

The medieval charade was for the benefit of the opening of the latest extension to the Fasa-Renault car-plant which stretches 7km on the outskirts of the old city and is anything but medieval.

Jose Maria López de Letona, the Minister of Industry, ended the day's celebrations.

Left: After inaugurating a new container port in Barcelona, Prince Juan Carlos strolls round the latest piece of foreign investment in Spain, with the usual entourage of dignitaries and military. Above: It was all smiles as Tory Foreign Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, shook hands with General Franco last week. Spain's Foreign Minister, Lopez Bravo, looks on, smirking with satisfaction—Sir Alec had just told them that the Tories would welcome Spain in the Common Market.

after the bishop had blessed the production-line with a cup full of holy water, with full-some praise of this European enterprise:

'The future of this labour with an eye on Europe requires production for a broad national market, but it is also a platform for focusing on the conquest of new markets. This factory has European status, and we can see how much "Fasa-Renault" is contributing to the development of Spain.'

The Pope's water and European dream were for the benefit of a second assembly plant which will now enable 580 cars to be produced a day by 12,000 workers.

Renault was, with Fiat, one of the first European car monopolies to take advantage of the cheap labour and illegality of workers' organizations under the Franco regime.

The first Renault factory was built in Valladolid in 1951. After 20 years, Renault has a total investment in its Spanish branch of 200 million francs alongside a 25-per-cent stake of the Banco Iberico and 25 per cent from public shares.

The shares are doing well on the Spanish stock exchange—a dividend of 12 million francs paid out for 1971. In the first nine months of this year, 140,000 vehicles have rolled off the production lines.

Fellow pioneer in Spain was the Italian monopoly, Fiat, which began business in Barcelona in 1950 with the active support of the state National Institute for Industry, whose initial 70-per-cent participation has been cut down to 25 per cent.

where 24,000 workers are employed, 225,000 cars have emerged this year.

Remember that Spanish workers labour for six days a week for a wage of some £10. In last year's strike at Seat, one worker was shot dead by police with machine-guns who charged demonstrating workers.

The Citroën plant in Vigo, scene of the recent prolonged strike which is still being prolonged in the courtrooms of Vigo in trials of workers and their representatives, also began in the early 1950s. It provides for 8.5 per cent of the Spanish market.

Simca-Chrysler (8 per cent) and British-Leyland (6.5 per cent) only began to cultivate their patch in Spain from 1965 and 1967 respectively.

However, they were just in time to take advantage of the growth of the Spanish car market, which was to quadruple from 1964 to 1972.

The foreign investment in the 'Spanish' car industry had, until November 16, to guarantee that the level of locally-produced components would be no lower than 70 per cent.

The entry of Spain into the Common Market and the increasing attractiveness to international capital of the Spanish police state has meant some revision of trading laws.

Sanchez-Bella, Franco's Minister of Information and Tourism, noted this at a Press conference after the weekly Ministerial Council meeting:

'... the present economic situation in Europe, the scarcity of labour in many countries, the relative increase in costs provoked by the latest readjustments in the parity of many currencies, are objective circumstances which incline

many world-wide firms in the sector to consider the advantages of establishing in Spain their new production... especially in the intermediary situation before Spain's full integration in the Common Market, aspects which must not be ignored by our economy.'

He was referring to the new Decree which Franco had signed relating to the investment in car production in Spain which followed on the decision of Henry Ford to launch production in Spain.

The new Decree reduces the percentage of nationally-produced components used by car manufacturers to 50 per cent and demands that investment shall not be less than 10,000 million pesetas (£66m), and that at least two-thirds of the units produced must be exported.

As an added softener to those existing companies in Spain, the new arrivals may not sell on the Spanish market more than 10 per cent of the total number of new cars registered in Spain in the preceding year.

Henry Ford II is well-known for his partiality to the family tradition of hatred of trade unions and was naturally thrilled by the illegality of all independent working-class organizations in Spain.

After three trips to Spain in under a year, which took him from the Basque provinces to Catalonia and to Madrid to confer with Industry Minister de Letona, Prince Juan Carlos, and the doddering dictator himself, Ford took a vital decision on a report which had been drawn up by Ford experts on investment in Europe. The experts opted for an exten-

sion of production in Germany or a new factory in Spain.

The predictable outcome is that Ford will establish a factory in the region of Valencia, 200 miles to the south of Barcelona.

Investment to the tune of £90m will create 15,000 jobs in a factory with an annual production target of 300,000 cars. 90 per cent of this output will flood the European market from 1974-1975.

When Ford was in Britain in 1971 on a tour of his factories he snorted angrily:

'Labour problems are becoming increasingly difficult. I wasn't bluffing either when I said Ford's would re-invest elsewhere. We can't recommend any more capital investment in a country constantly dogged with labour problems.'

His reactions to the sunny climes of Valencia, where cheap labour is abundant since the closure of the local shoe-making industry — following protectionist measures from Nixon — are clearly entirely favourable.

In the footsteps of Ford... the vice-president of General Motors, who was in Madrid recently, and the Japanese car-manufacturer 'Toyota', which has just registered a Spanish company 'Toyota Motor SA'.

The essential factor which will upset the monopolies' plans for Spain, their springboard into the EEC, is the revolutionary action of the Spanish working class.

In repeated strike actions in the huge plants which now border the roads leading out of Franco's cities, Spanish workers have shown their determination to put an end to the Franco regime.

RENEGADES FROM TROTSKYISM

A new series of articles by Jack Gale dealing especially with the situation in Ceylon.

Today we publish the minority report of the Indian member of the Unified Secretariat's Commission on Ceylon.

This reveals a totally unprincipled attempt to bury all political questions emerging from this political scandal.

INDIAN DELEGATE'S REPORT

The Ceylon Commission invited both Comrade Bala Tampoe as General Secretary of the LSSP(R), the official section of the Fourth International in Ceylon, and Comrade Edmund Samarakkody, leader of the RSP which has broken with the section, to explain their respective positions in connection with the split of April 1968 following a special Conference of the Party.

The Commission had before it a written representation submitted by the Provisional Committee of the RSP entitled 'Events leading to the split in LSSP(R) in April 1968' demanding that the LSSP(R) be disaffiliated as a section of the Fourth International on the grounds that the latter was following bourgeois politics alien to Marxism-Leninism and further suggests that the RSP be recognized as a section in its place.

The RSP has also made some charges of a personal nature against Comrade Bala as the leader of the LSSP(R). These charges relate to a trip made by Comrade Bala to the US of America on an invitation and financed by the Asia Foundation and also to the unusually friendly relations maintained by him with the British and West German diplomatic missions in Colombo.

Comrade Bala on the other hand made a separate representation in a statement on behalf of the CC of the LSSP(R) challenging the right of Comrade Edmund, a former member of the IEC, to be present at the World Congress as a representative of a split away group. He had accused Comrade Edmund of splitting the Party in defiance of a specific directive given by the Fourth International leadership for maintaining unity, and of now trying to cover it up with various baseless charges.

The Commission sought clarification from both comrades on the charges and counter-charges made by them against each other. It is indeed regrettable that the split in the LSSP(R) took place in the manner in which it did without giving proper opportunity to the International leadership to intervene and avert it if possible.

Comrade Edmund justified the split on the grounds that the differences between his tendency and the majority of the LSSP(R) had reached a stage where they could not be resolved within a single organization. He also maintained that he kept the Unified Secretariat informed of the developments. He claimed the support of 40 out of 110 members who constituted the LSSP(R) in 1964 after they broke away from the reformist LSSP led

by N. M. Perera as a protest against the class collaborationist coalition politics of the leadership of the united LSSP.

The LSSP(R) which was recognized as an official section of the Fourth International in 1964 had to contend with the secession of a pro-coalition tendency led by Comrade Karlo which has since entered the reformist LSSP. It had then to face the disruptionist activities of the Healyites inside its organizational fold. After the April 1968 split the Healyites have left the Party to form their own separate group. It has been contended that some of the Healyites are still in the LSSP(R) led by Comrade Bala.

The latest split has not only seriously undermined the prestige of the Fourth International in Ceylon where the Trotskyist movement had once a mass party in the LSSP which has since degenerated. On the basis of some reports before the Commission there is no guarantee that the LSSP(R) as constituted at present after April 1968 will not further split especially in the context of the Healy tendency in the fold.

Therefore it is necessary for the World Congress to re-examine the entire strategy of constructing a section of the Fourth International in Ceylon by regrouping the best elements of the Trotskyist movement.

It must be said that the Commission did not have any evidence to substantiate the charge made by Comrade Edmund that Comrade Bala is an agent of the CIA, because he accepted a trip to the USA on a project sponsored by the Asia Foundation. The Commission rejects the charge as irresponsible and motivated by factional considerations.

But at the same time the Commission cannot but take a dim view of the manner in which Comrade Bala got himself invited to the USA ostensibly under a project sponsored by the Harvard University. Although Comrade Bala maintains that he had kept the Unified Secretariat and SWP informed about his trip, some of his activities in Washington like his interview with McNamara have not been fully explained.

Also the unusually friendly relations he maintains with the diplomatic missions of West Germany (he was invited to a dinner party by West German Chancellor Kiesinger) and UK (he and his wife were invited to a luncheon by the British High Commissioner in the midst of a strike of plantation workers)—all these do not befit a militant trade unionist and a revolutionary Marxist belonging to the Fourth International.

More important, however, is the fact that the political positions adopted by the LSSP(R) leadership on a number of questions during the last two or three years and the trade union tactics pursued by Comrade Bala as leader of the CMU also give scope for a great deal of misunderstanding. There is enough documentary evidence to show that the LSSP(R) has been pursuing a line on issues like united fronts with other working-class or-



Banner of the CMU. The Indian delegate's report says, '... an unfortunate tendency on the part of Comrade Bala [is] to subordinate the politics of the LSSP(R) to the needs of the CMU.'

ganizations which, to say the least, does not conform to the general strategy of the Fourth International movement.

The role of the LSSP(R) during some of the recent strikes in Ceylon like the government employees' strike and workers' strike action against devaluation measures of the UNP government, and its consistent refusal to have joint action with other working-class parties has been such as to place the party in the camp of the enemy as opposed to workers in action. It has been even alleged that during a recent strike some of the CMU units on specific instructions from the leadership resorted to strike-breaking activities—not a complimentary development for the Fourth International movement.

Further, the letter written by Comrade Bala to the Prime Minister of the UNP government during the anti-devaluation strike and the privileged treatment given to him to hold a public meeting when meetings by others were banned in Colombo—along with some other incidents—have made Comrade Bala a suspect in the eyes of the militant working-class movement in Ceylon. Comrade Bala's contention that the charges had been borrowed from the journals published by the LSSP, CP(M) and pro-Peking group, etc., does not minimize the gravity of the situation.

There is enough evidence to show that the CMU is controlled bureaucratically by Comrade Bala. His wife is an important paid functionary of the CMU. So are some of the other colleagues of his in the LSSP(R). The fact that a section controls a big union like the CMU with a membership of 30,000 is indeed a positive gain. But it must be remembered that the CMU consists mostly of white collar employees known for their conservative political outlook especially in Ceylon. And there is an unfortunate tendency on the part of Comrade Bala to subordinate the politics of the LSSP(R) to the needs of the CMU.

This perhaps explains to a large extent the opportunist tactics pursued by the party on several trade union questions. Whatever be the final decision of the World Congress on the status of the LSSP(R) there is

certainly a need for separating the leadership of the LSSP(R) from that of the CMU. In other words the top functionary of the CMU should not be the chief executive of the Party especially when the CMU represents the only mass [base] of the Party in Ceylon.

There are several charges against the leadership of the LSSP(R) which could not be verified on the basis of the documents placed before the Commission. But there are enough grounds to feel that there is something rotten about the functioning of the Ceylon section as it stands.

It has been alleged by a member of the LSSP(R), Comrade T. M. Perera for example, that the leadership denied any representation to the minority represented by Edmund on even the CC of the LSSP(R). Even if some of the charges are exaggerated the repercussions of unseemly controversy now raging in Ceylon in other countries can be far reaching.

Under the circumstances, the Commission feels that it would seriously undermine the prestige of the Fourth International as an international party of the revolutionary proletariat if the LSSP(R) as constituted today is continued as an official section of the Fourth International. Its bona fides are in doubt, even if there is no slur on the character of the individual leaders of the Party.

The Commission therefore recommends that the LSSP(R) should be disaffiliated as a section to create the proper political conditions and facilitate the regrouping of genuine Trotskyist elements in Ceylon as a new section of the Fourth International.

At the same time the Commission rejects the claim of the RSP to be granted recognition as an official section of the Fourth International as the behaviour of its leadership in precipitating a split has been far from being responsible.

The Commission deeply regrets to recommend such steps in a country where the Trotskyist movement has had a long tradition. It would have favoured a course whereby the two tendencies that have split from each other could be brought together into a single party. Such a possibility does not exist for the present.

The Commission suggests that the World Congress should set up a special Commission with powers to visit Ceylon at an early date and explore the possibility of a new section of the Fourth International being built in that country.

SECRETARIAT WAS INFORMED

It is particularly significant that, according to this statement by the Indian delegate—who was Chairman of the Commission—Tampoe claimed that he had kept the Unified Secretariat and the SWP fully informed about his trip to the United States. Neither of these bodies raised the slightest objection.

This calls to mind an earlier collaboration with the avowed enemies of Trotskyism by Colvin R. de Silva, a leader of the LSSP when that party was the official Ceylonese section of the Unified Secretariat.

In 1957 Covin R. de Silva, a leading member of the LSSP, visited the Soviet Union and broadcast greetings over Moscow Radio on the anniversary of Lenin's death. This was the same radio over which Stalin had broadcast the murder of the Old Bolsheviks in the purge trials of the 1930s.

The so-called Trotskyist leader made no mention of Trotsky nor of the fact that the Stalinist jails were still full of political prisoners. Nor did he mention the recent brutal crushing of the revolution of the Hungarian working class.

Challenged about this broadcast when he visited London, de Silva justified it by saying it was done with the full knowledge and approval of the Unified Secretariat—Mandel, Frank, and (at that time) Pablo.

This confirms once more that the Unified Secretariat is collaborating with the LSSP(R) in exactly the same unprincipled way that it collaborated with the LSSP right up until that party's leaders joined Mrs Bandaranaike's government in 1964.

● Tomorrow we publish extracts from the minutes of the Secretariat's Third World Congress since the 1964 reunification.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

IN PRIVATE

Lord Beeching, the man who did the hatchet work on British Rail during the 1960s, is now doing a handsome job in private enterprise.

A couple of years ago he became chairman of Redland Limited, the building materials company. At that time it looked as if Redland would fall victim to the takeover ambitions of Ready Mixed Concrete. Not any longer.

The company has just announced pre-tax profits of £10m for the first six months of this year. This represents an increase of no less than 76 per cent on previous years.

The company's overseas operations are doing splendidly. The American interests are back in the black after losses of £500,000 last year and Australia and Germany are also booming.

There are further bonuses for Redland shareholders around the corner. The company has already let it be known that it will be raising brick prices by 15 per cent in April, when Phase One of Heath's legislation is over.

The City pundits are busy telling share punters to rush to the Beeching bandwagon.

GRASSING



Heard of Shaw Taylor? He does a weekly television programme which is nicknamed 'Grass of the Week'. It gives details of thefts, robberies and assaults in the London area and he invites people to phone their friendly police force to reveal

information 'in complete confidence'.

It is straight public relations for the police. (And, brother, don't they need it right now!) Continuing his active role as a do-gooder, Taylor recently went to the Streatham Youth Centre in south London, near where he lives.

The idea was to teach the young ruffians in the area to have some respect for the forces of law and order.

He casually asked if any of them had been involved in bad experiences with the police.

He was regaled with horrific stories.

One youth said that while he was walking home he was stopped by the police and thrown over the bonnet of a Panda car to be searched. They accused him of robbing an old lady and took him to the police station. When he got there it was found that he did not fit the description of the robber so he was allowed to go home.

'The point is that I was manhandled by the police for no reason whatsoever,' he said.

Another youth told of the time he was taken to a police station and, because he did not call the officer 'Sir', he was beaten up.

'There was nothing I could do and when I said that I was going to report them, they all stood there and laughed at me.'

One youth said he was in a club in the West End when it was raided by the police.

'I was searched by them for drugs but I was clean. On my way out I was searched again, but this time I had some drugs on me. I explained that it must have been planted on me and said that I was searched by another policeman a little time before. He believed me so let me go.'

The naïve Mr Taylor then asked the question: 'Should I help the police?'

The majority of the youthful audience said No. One girl replied: 'I wouldn't inform to the police because the person might not get treated properly.'

There were two policemen from Brixton throughout the meeting. It is not known what conclusion they or Mr Taylor drew from the lively discussion!



RELENTLESS MR MERCER

TV REVIEW BY ANNE BLAKEMAN

Monday November 27, 9.25 p.m. Play for Today: 'The Bankrupt' by David Mercer. Directed by Christopher Morahan. Produced by Graeme MacDonald.

Monday November 27, 8.00 p.m. Granada 'World in Action' series. Producer Allan Segal. Executive Producer, Gus MacDonald.

A middle-aged man greets a worm in his garden. 'You and your mates are going to have a fine time with me one day', says Ellis Crippler—the bankrupt—morally, physically and emotionally, as he painstakingly observes.

There is little Ellis Crippler misses as an observer of his own degeneration—the bones of his mental decay rattle through their failing flesh.

David Mercer has a devastating grip on the quality of decay in any circumstances—decaying relationships, societies, bodies—all matter staggers past his merciless eye and makes for the exit.

His new play, perfectly complemented by Christopher Morahan's direction, had the chill and compelling impact of a refrigerated razor nicking back tissue after tissue of human despair and desolation.

The trio of critics in 'Late Night Line Up', obviously struck with mortal panic both by the piece and their task of defining their reactions, teetered on the brink and finally fell thankfully into banalities about 'symbolism' and 'what it all really meant'.

Their panic was well-placed—Mercer is capable of engendering a rare discomfort at least in much of his work and here Joss Ackland, in a remarkable performance, gave the portrait of the man Crippler as one human being epitomizing everything the title suggests: besieged by the fear of one who has lost all contact with his measure of reality (meagre as it may have been from one bent on extracting his slice of cake in corrupt construction business). Severed from his history by amnesia, isolated within his miserable carcass, which even his doctor cannot bring to heel or find anything wrong with (as Crippler is appalled to find), he comes to earth in his father's home.

Dad, a figure seen before in Mercer's plays, here strengthened by David Waller's baleful portrayal, is both the menacing phantom in Crippler's dreams and by day the dogged intolerant, who withdraws all understanding except for a trussed-up, working-class intuition which launches its beady eye at moments, on the truth.

Crippler's stupid sister (Althea Charlton) and her statuesque lawyer husband, all teeth and artificial repose,

upbraids him in civilized fashion and sort out a Cabinet Minister's daughter for his revival.

Only she is in fact a biologist, steadfastly played by Sheila Allen, who takes Crippler over for an illusory affair.

'Now you've got me in your laboratory', he rightly observes with pleasurable alarm.

Interwoven with the bland ploys of daily existence fall Ellis's dreams and his subterranean preoccupation. These take him further and further from the real world, particularly, for him, into the realm of the occult and the pentangle—that rigid formula across whose boundaries no other being may step and within which Ellis fears and longs to see the figure with its head downwards representing a demon—and madness.

Other selves make tasteful encounters with him in the form of Alexander the Great, Tacitus, Aristotle and Oscar Wilde.

Each tells him irritating truths which lead nowhere: 'Woman is the triumph of matter over mind; man is the triumph of mind over morals,' Wilde says.

Finally there is nowhere to turn, none of his 'loved ones' can resurrect him from the death he seeks.

The play is profoundly skilful on all levels—it illuminates a plane seldom scaled in television drama and no one is more of a master at ferreting in the darkness with such lucidity and wit than Mercer.

It is a highly-conscious crystallization of all the crude essays into this territory made by commercial cinema and on the television screen—and it is also a profoundly accurate worm's eye view of the grave into which bourgeois capitalism seems imminently to be toppling.

The writer has the extraordinary ability of being able to grasp our senses and nail them to the wall—the sight, smell, sound and taste of destruction is vivid and serves to underline that this is only one half of the truly terrible story which is all about us at this very moment.

There is an alternative to Crippler's route and it is there for us to choose. There are forces which can move against this wasteland. They are moving now. The dying world which David Mercer evokes and describes so memorably has its living opposite struggling as a contradiction within and around us.

And 'World in Action's' excellent half-hour film on the construction industry gave us some of the essentials of that very opposite: a run down on the hair-raising exploits of British Steel and its Anchor Project—the £235m construction site near Scunthorpe which is not only the biggest



David Mercer. Above: a scene from his play, 'The Bankrupt'.

in the UK, but one of the biggest in the world.

Within 18 months, six workers have been killed and 313 injured on this particular battleground.

Seventeen-year-old Larry Leonard's death in a fall from his work as a scaffolder's apprentice recently put the lid on things. The men are threatening serious industrial action and have fought for, and very recently gained, representation from their shop stewards' committee on the National Committee for Industrial Safety.

Although British Steel refused Granada's cameras the right of entry, they went in on risk and the workers took them round the site. We saw the wastelands of unused steel waiting to be cleared away (they never will be or have been except when Lord Melchett himself came for a visit and the requisite areas were cleaned up!).

We saw the hundreds of scaffolding erections with no handrails, the piano wire that can chop a man's hand off with no warning signs and some of the other countless hazards that face an enormous labour force there every day.

Yet the death of a man is apparently only worth £100—the maximum fine imposed recently on a firm which was proved guilty over lack of safety measures.

A nervous and defensive representative of the Inspectors' organization admitted that with 60,000 sites, on average each year in Britain there are only 100 inspectors available to cover them.

Facts like these are bringing the workers face to face not only with the basic questions of their rights in working conditions but, as British Steel ignores their anger and calls for increased production, with the fact that action will have to be taken.

'The only time we can ever get any response from British Steel is when we back up our demands with industrial action,' one worker said.

And there'll be further to go than that very soon for men like these.

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**Investigation
by Stephen
Johns**

OVER THE past two weeks, Chapeltown, a dilapidated immigrant area near the centre of Leeds, has been racked by a bitter controversy.

The centre of the storm is a ramshackle children's centre called Studley Grange. The Grange has become a symbol for the more militant black inhabitants of Chapeltown who want to take control of the building from the white and largely middle-class executive committee that controls it.

But apart from highlighting the legitimate—if very modest—demands of the black population of Leeds, the Studley Grange affair has revealed a political alliance between the International Marxist Group and a leading Leeds Liberal called Maureen Baker.

One of the first fruits of this totally unprincipled 'tactical marriage' has been a false and slanderous attack on the Socialist Labour League and Studley Grange's warden, Joss Browning.

The story begins in 1966 when a group of local mothers, mainly West Indian, found premises at 55 Louis Street, Chapeltown, for a pre-school play group and appointed a West Indian supervisor.

Gradually, as the centre attracted more money from charities and from the Leeds council, control of the premises fell into the hands of white, largely middle-class people who lived outside the Chapeltown area. The Grange's present executive committee reflects this development. It contains a doctor, an education officer, a bank manager, a minister and a Labour councillor who lives in a comfortable detached house miles from the

Chapeltown, Leeds

An IMG's that back

West Indians and Asians of Leeds.

The present warden is Joss Browning who learned his social work theory at Leeds Polytechnic. He has held the post for 18 months. Before that he was assistant warden, but won promotion when no one applied for the job when the original vacancy occurred.

A faction on the committee have always wanted to get Mr Browning out. They made little secret of their desire for a neatly turned out, certificated social worker, who would develop the centre.

One of their leaders, Mrs Doreen Hamilton, told me why she considered Joss Browning unsuitable:

'First of all his main interest was in the over-11 age group. Secondly he did not do the things we asked him to do. For example, we asked him to raise money for the centre and he came up with no ideas to develop the work there.'

Mr Browning replies that the committee never really made their minds up about the role of the warden. Was he to be 'an

enabler' organizing people who run the various activities at the centre, or was he to do everything, from running the youth club to keeping the books. It turned out to be the latter for Joss Browning.

FACTION

Even so, the mothers I talked to whose children went to Studley Grange for a tiny fee of 8p a day spoke warmly of the warden and the atmosphere of the youth club, held in a shed at the back of the Grange, which was friendly and free. The West Indian youth chatted to Mr Browning and played table tennis beneath the black power slogan on the walls.

The 'sack-Joss' faction, after secret meetings, gained a majority on September 20 when a vote on the executive committee with eight of the 11 members present went against him.

Eventually Joss struck back on Wednesday, November 22, when he put out a leaflet in Chapeltown signed by his supporters calling for the executive committee to be controlled by local people.

The leaflet was aimed at influencing a meeting to be held two days later on Friday, November 24 when Studley Grange would hold its annual general meeting and elect a new committee.

People have accused Joss Browning of jumping on a popular bandwagon and using local control of the centre as an issue to get a committee which would reverse the decision to sack him.

'I would say it was a mixture of both,' he told me. 'I certainly wanted to stay on at the centre. I think I can do the job and under the right circumstances be a good warden. But I also feel that local people should control the centre. They established it; it's for them and their children.'

CONTROL

It was at this point that a new element made a dramatic entry into the battle for Studley Grange. The scene was a meeting organized by the International Marxist Group at Chapeltown.

Speakers included Tariq Ali, a leader of the IMG, and a representative from the Afro-West Indian Brotherhood, a long-standing Chapeltown society which runs educational and other activities among the Chapeltown people.

The meeting was interrupted by two women. One was Mrs Maureen Baker, a Leeds officer for the United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service, and Veryl Harriot, who runs the local Citizen's Advice Bureau.

Mrs Baker handed over a leaflet prepared by a rather nebulous body called the Chapeltown Parents' and Friends' Association.

This attacked the 'white liberals' who controlled the Studley Grange committee, but also condemned 'a faction of the Executive Committee supported by the Chapeltown Community Association' who were 'desperately seeking your support'.

The leaflet called on the black community to take control of Studley Grange.

It ended with these words: 'For years the white liberals have been voicing their support of the black community. This is their

chance to show what they mean by moving out of their jobs and positions of power and giving the people who "live" rather than "reside" in Chapeltown, the opportunity to control their affairs.'

It ended: 'However, experience, both national and international, shows that this usually happens, and that control of a country, school or, as in this case, a children's centre, has got to be TAKEN.'

It encouraged people to 'take control' of Studley Grange at the AGM in two days on Friday.

One can only speculate whether the intervention was pre-arranged between Mrs Baker and the IMG.

But what certainly happened was that the IMG immediately spotted yet another chance of a public adventure, with all the attendant publicity and the added bonus of an attack on the SLL.

From the platform Ali wished his 'black comrades' good speed in their struggle and after the meeting Mrs Baker and the IMG retired to the local pub 'The Hayfield'.



The upshot was an extraordinary article in the IMG weekly newsheet 'Red Mole'.

The article (already dealt with in detail in last Friday's Workers Press) charged the League with demonstrating its 'reactionary attitude' on the black question.

The allegation was based on a series of false suppositions culled from 'sources' that Wednesday night.

The article decided that the black militants of Chapeltown were going to occupy Studley Grange on the Friday. Organizers of the protest deny this. Occupation is not mentioned in their leaflet, nor was it mooted at the meeting.

Rick Hatcher, IMG member in Leeds, says on this issue: 'I don't think I have anything to say about that except that was the way we understood it.'

They all decided Joss Browning was a member of the Socialist Labour League. This conclusion, which, of course, is totally false, was based, said Mr Hatcher, on 'sources' he would not name.

They also reached the astonishing conclusion that Mr Browning had resisted 'repeated requests' from black people to resign.

As we have seen, Mr Browning was in fact in no position to resign that Wednesday because he was serving his notice!

As for 'repeated requests', this was denied by every black inhabitant I spoke to in Chapeltown. As for 'resisting', Joss Browning says: 'I would be quite

happy to be sacked by people from round here, but I was not happy when I was sacked by a middle-class group outside the area.'

The gross inaccuracies of the 'Red Mole' report not only highlight the completely casual way members of the IMG approach the production of their paper and their contempt for fact and truth, but it also reveals their deep, middle-class hostility to revolutionary politics.

DIATRIBE

The article ended up with a vile diatribe against the League based on Joss Browning's alleged membership. We were accused of being 'reactionary' on the 'black question'.

In the light of this allegation it is instructive to examine the IMG's allies in their own 'fight' on the black question in Leeds.

The catalyst in the move to 'take control' of Studley Grange is Mrs Maureen Baker.

Mrs Baker has had a very varied political background.

She first came to the notice of the members and supporters of the Socialist Labour League in Leeds in about 1963 when she was a Labour Party member.

Mrs Baker approached the Trotskyist movement expressing an interest in its organization and politics. The discussions were, however, unfruitful. The Leeds SLL felt Mrs Baker had nothing politically to offer to the revolutionary movement.

In 1968 she left the Labour Party over the 1968 Immigration Act. But last year she popped up in the Liberal Party as a candidate in the local elections. She was annoyed over some issue of redevelopment, she says, so decided to stand as a Liberal.

Leader of the Leeds Liberals, Michael Meadowcraft, is most enthusiastic about Mrs Baker. He admits she was not a member of the Liberal Party until a little time before the May by-elections.

'We don't worry unduly about membership. What we look for is someone who has our flair and style. Maureen had this. I have known her for some time. We were delighted when she decided to stand as a candidate,' said Mr Meadowcraft.

He says she is still a member and that he agrees with everything she says.

During all this time Mrs Baker had close connections with the black community in Chapeltown, particularly people in the Chapeltown Parents' and Friends' Association, of which she is a member, and the Afro-West Indian Brotherhood, which attracts many of the area's young militants to its classes on black history. (While I was in Mrs Veryl Harriot's house, Mrs Baker appeared to be taking part in one class in the next room.)

She fits all this round of activity in with her job as an officer for the United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service (salary £1,600 to £2,500 a year).

This is a body largely financed by government through the Home Office. The job of the local officers is to represent immigrants before an adjudicator appointed by the Home Office and before an appeals tribunal under the Immigrants Appeals Act of 1969 which deals with any objection arising from a refusal to grant an entry permit to Britain.

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The UKIAS is disliked by voluntary immigrant organizations. They consider it a Home Office tool and very much part of the repressive immigration laws (the ones Mrs Baker resigned over). It is 'white' and at best liberal. One spokesman for the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants pointed out the UKIAS has done little for the 800 to 1,000 coloured people who have come to this country without permits and find themselves in British jails.

How does Mrs Baker explain her position?

She says the centre is 'bloody well overrun with students' and should be controlled by the black people.

'The control of the centre is not a primary aim, but it has arisen. I think it is essential if the community is to develop itself, it must mean that the community will develop to a point where it will control the environs of the community.'

She says the IMG report was 'quite a genuine misinterpretation of what was said at the meeting'. Exactly how this 'genuine misinterpretation' had occurred she could not say.

'I don't fit into the political organizations in England and

Leeds. Politically I support the aims of the people and the working class.

'I don't know if I am a socialist.'

Did she once admit she was a Maoist?

'I am a Maoist in philosophy but I am not a member of the Maoist Party of this country. If one looks at the history of the Russian Revolution one finds people associated with different groups and parties and why not if the aim is maintained? I do not know of one party that has the road and the truth.'

MORASS

This kind of political morass and confusion is only equalled for its lack of principle by the IMG, which embraces it eagerly in order to attack the Socialist Labour League.

The IMG says that another of its allies is the Afro-West Indian Brotherhood. The name smacks of Black Power and adventure. In fact the reality is rather mundane.

The Brotherhood is an organization within Chapelton with basically a peaceful—one might say liberal—perspective.

Mrs Veryl Harriot, a passionate advocate of black people's rights, explained the Brotherhood this way:

'The Brotherhood are a group of people trying to bring awareness upon themselves and build a sense of oneness in the community. To emerge into society you must know your history and background. You must know your identity and where you came from.'

'There has been a lot of work by us to keep the peace here, because I am telling you things were going from bad to worse.'

Was it a 'black power' organization?

'When we were defined as black power we took the label black power. But it depends how you define black power, in a destructive or a constructive way.'

'If you strike to get more education and self-awareness you can get more economic power and from economic power comes political power.'

Mrs Harriot's sentiment is one which the white liberals of the Studley Grange Committee would very much approve—a kind of 'self help' programme for the black races. It's a far cry from George Jackson and the Panthers.

The people with whom the IMG have allied themselves in Chapelton have no answer to the oppressions facing the black working class.

If we have detailed the political history of a woman like Mrs Baker, it is to warn the workers of Chapelton of the dangers of following the confused mass of liberal, sentimental, platitudes she mouths.

We would also warn against the political bankrupts of the IMG who encourage the Chapelton people into futile adventures to enliven their own middle-class lives, an adventure that would only deepen the split between the black and white working class.

The black workers of Chapelton are oppressed. Trevor Wynter, husband of Mrs Lucilda Wynter, who was treated in an insulting fashion when she applied for the job as warden of the Grange, told me of the struggle to get decent jobs, houses and conditions for black workers in Leeds.

Chapelton itself, with its broken-down houses divided up to house four or five families, is evidence enough of the way this most exploited section of the working class is treated.

But how can immigrants

liberate themselves from this oppression? By taking over a pre-school play group? By following Mrs Baker who says, first the centre, next the nation? By listening to the falsifiers of the IMG who say occupy, raise the black standard?

Of course not. When the Studley Grange issue is dead and buried the black people of Leeds will still face capitalism, unemployment and poverty.

Certainly the working class of Chapelton, black, white and Asian should run and control their centre. It is an important amenity, built by them, it should be their own.

But adventures are no substitute for building the revolutionary movement which can unite black and white against the common enemy—the capitalists and their Tory representatives.

The Socialist Labour League and the Workers Press will always fight bitterly against racialism in the working class, it is a capitalist disease which weakens black and white workers.

PARTY

But we say it is a disease that can only be stamped out in a socialist Britain. That is why we devote ourselves to building a revolutionary party for the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism.

We do not court favours from black and white workers as such, but stand on these principles. Black and white workers are all wage-workers, part of the working class. They must be mobilized politically to overthrow the capitalist system. This means they must be united in a revolutionary party.

Movements like the IMG hate this perspective and hate the Socialist Labour League. They substitute adventures that excite their middle-class minds for a principled political fight.

They do a disservice to the black working class with their antics, just as they did a disservice to the Vietnamese workers and peasants in the great days of television publicity when they could pose outside the American embassy. We see very little of this 'solidarity' movement now.

We predict that once the glamour of Studley Grange has worn-off, the people of Chapelton will see very little of the IMG. But the Socialist Labour League will still be there fighting to unite black and white workers in revolutionary struggle.

SLL LECTURES LIVERPOOL

Wednesday December 6
Trotskyism and the founding of the Fourth International

COMMON HALL
HACKINS HEY
off Dale Street, 7.30 p.m.

Lectures given by
Tom Kemp (SLL Central Committee)

LONDON

Sunday December 10

Opponents of Marxism
BEAVER HALL
at Mansion House tube
7 p.m.

Lectures given by
G. Healy
SLL national secretary

BARNESLEY

Sunday December 10

The struggle for power

Sunday December 17

Revolutionary theory and the Marxist Party

RED LION HOTEL
(Worsborough) 8 p.m.

Lectures given by
Cliff Slaughter
(SLL Central Committee)

SHEFFIELD

Monday December 11

Stalinism and Trotskyism

Monday January 8

Marxism and the revolutionary party

FORRESTERS HALL
Trippett Lane, 7.30 p.m.

LEEDS

Monday December 11

Revolutionary theory and the Marxist Party

WHIP HOTEL
Leeds
8 p.m.

(Note change)

BBC 1

10.00-10.25 Schools. 10.30-10.55 Steam horse. 11.40 (Schools). 12.30 Ar y trywydd. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble mill at one. 1.30 Camberwick green. 1.45-2.00 Canvas. 2.05 The young idea. 2.30 Schools. 2.50 Going for a song. 3.20 Soper at large. 3.45 Rosia and after. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Crystall Tipps and Alistair. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Josie and the pussycats. 5.15 John Craven's newsround. 5.20 Vision on. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.40 NATIONWIDE.

6.45 LAUREL AND HARDY. Helpmates.

7.05 FILM: 'THE CONSTANT HUSBAND'. Rex Harrison, Margaret Leighton, Kay Kendall, Cecil Parker. A civil servant with amnesia comes to realize he has seven wives.

8.30 MY WIFE NEXT DOOR. Keep right on to the end.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.

9.25 THE COMMANDERS. Georgi Zhukov, Marshal of the Soviet Union.

10.15 INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL BOXING. Alan Minter v Anton Schnedel.

10.45 MIDWEEK.

11.30 LATE NIGHT NEWS.

11.35 THE OPEN PERSUADERS. Joan Bakewell talks to Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones.

11.55 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 1.15-1.40 Medicine today. Diabetes in pregnancy.

7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.

8.00 FLOODLIT RUGBY LEAGUE. Wigan or Leigh v Oldham.

TV ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.05 Wild life theatre. 10.30 Season of Gilbert and Sullivan. 11.20 Bellbird. 11.35 Galloping gourmet. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Magic ball. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Lunchtime with Wogan. 1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 Harriet's back in town. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 The splendour falls. 3.25 A family at war. 4.25 Sooty show. 4.50 Magpie. 5.20 I dream of Jeannie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.

6.55 THIRTY MINUTES WORTH.

7.25 FILM: 'DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE'. Dirk Bogarde, Kenneth More. The life of a medical student.

9.00 THE STRAUSS FAMILY.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 DOCUMENTARY: 'A PASSAGE TO ENGLAND'. Story of a Pakistani nurse now living in England.

11.30 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING.

12.15 THE DE-HUMANIZATION OF LABOUR. Jimmy Reid talks to Nicholas Partridge about the need to work.

8.50 WHEELBASE. 2,000-mile RAC Rally.

9.25 THE EDWARDS. E. Nesbit. With Judy Parfitt as the children's novelist.

10.40 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

10.45 THE OLD GREY WHISTLE TEST.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-10.05 London.

1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women today. 3.00 London. 5.20 Shirley's world. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Police file. 6.15 Look-around. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Face of a Fugitive'. 8.30 Harry Worth. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 10.05 Ticket to Sydney. 10.15 Music of Vaughan Williams. 11.10 Short story. 11.35 Better driving. 12.05 London. 12.25 Gus Honeybun. 12.57 News. 6.00 Diary. 12.13 News. 12.16 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 10.05 Torch. 10.15 Cook's trade. 10.35 Southern scene. 11.00 Baltic story. 11.40 Cartoon. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.40 Please sir. 7.10 Harry Worth. 7.40 McCloud. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. 12.25 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.30-10.05 London. 11.15 Time to remember. 11.40 Survival. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 And mother makes three. 7.00 Film: 'Seven Angry Men'. 8.30 Harry Worth. 9.00 London. 12.15 Drive-in. 12.45 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except: 4.25 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50 Cantamil. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd. 10.30 Bro. 11.15 O'rwag. HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Report West.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30-10.05 London. 11.00 Coastguards. 11.35 Better driving. 12.00 Today. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 5.20 Jackson five. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Harry Worth. 7.30 Film: 'The Quick Gun'. 9.00 London. 12.15 Stories worth telling. 12.20 Jason King. Weather.

ULSTER: 12.05 London. 1.32 News. 1.35 Survival. 2.00 Lon-

don. 2.30 Cartoon. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.22 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Edge of Eternity'. 8.30 Harry Worth. 9.00 London.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 Let them live. 9.55 Alistair Maclean story. 10.50 Hogan's heroes. 11.15 Home James. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20 Survival. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Harry Worth. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 Columbo. 9.00 London. 12.15 Scotland Yard mysteries. 12.50 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 11.10 Schools. 12.00 Paint box. 12.05 London. 2.30 Looking at... 2.55 London. 5.15 Adam 12. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Put it in writing. 6.30 Crown court. 7.00 Harry Worth. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 Banacek. 9.00 London.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 Let them live.

9.55 Alistair Maclean story. 10.50 Bush boy. 11.15 Home James. 12.05 London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Kreskin. 3.00 London. 5.20 Survival. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Harry Worth. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 Columbo. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. 12.30 Epilogue

SCOTTISH: 10.05 No small change. 10.30 World fishing. 10.45 Great lakes. 11.40 Phoenix five. 12.05 London. 2.30 Date-line. 3.30 London. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Adam Smith. 7.05 McMillan and wife. 8.30 Harry Worth. 9.00 London. 12.15 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00 Dr Simon Locke. 11.30 Rainbow country. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Countrywise. 6.35 Crossroads. Harry Worth. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 Columbo. 9.00 London. 12.15 Meditation.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE PUBLIC MEETINGS

SWINDON

Wednesday, December 13 8 pm
AEU HOUSE, FLEMING WAY, SWINDON

SPECIAL SHOWING OF THE 'RIGHT TO WORK' FILM.
A film made by ACTT showing the five Right-to-Work marches from Glasgow, Liverpool, Swansea, Deal and Southampton to London, ending with a huge rally at Empire Pool, Wembley, on March 12, 1972.

Speaker: G. Healy, National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League.
Chairman: F. Willis, AEU steward at British Rail Engineering Workshop, Swindon (in a personal capacity).

- We demand the right to work!
- Make the Tory government resign!
- Build the revolutionary party!

BRACKNELL (Berks)

Thursday December 14 7.45 p.m.

MEADOW VALE SCHOOL, MOREDALE AVENUE,
PRIESTWOOD ESTATE
WAGES, DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AND THE TORY GOVERNMENT

Speaker: G. Healy, National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League

Workers Press MONTHLY APPEAL FUND

DECEMBER TOTAL IS NOW £245.79

THIS MONTH we are determined to try and raise a record amount. We face the Christmas holidays soon, so everything you can raise will certainly be needed earlier than usual.

A growing crisis faces this Tory government. In spite of legislation on the statute book to curb trade unionism and keep down wages, the Tories still have to tackle the working class.

All over the country there is a huge movement, growing all the time, against the Tories. No one will accept the enormous price increases and rent rises. In this political situation, Workers Press is decisive in giving a lead to all those taking up the fight today.

Help us with a very special effort for our £1,750 December Fund. Let's go all out now to raise a record amount. Post all donations immediately to:

**Workers Press
December Appeal Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London, SW4 7UG**

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Coventry credentials vote under fire

THREE Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' branches in Coventry have slammed the district committee decision to withdraw shop steward credentials from John Worth.

And Worth, who was a shop steward and deputy convenor at Chrysler's Stoke plant, has appealed against the decision through his branch to the AUEW executive council. The district committee decision to withdraw backing came last Tuesday

night. Right-wing chairman and national committee member Jim Griffin used his casting vote to swing the issue.

Chrysler management had sacked Worth. Then, after a five-day strike by 4,000 men, they took him back but refused to recog-

nize him as a steward. They then produced a 22-page dossier on Worth. Coventry No. 73, Worth's branch, and No. 27 AUEW have deplored the decision. Coventry No. 73 has accused the committee of weakening the union at a time when

the whole AUEW is under attack by the National Industrial Relations Court'. The executive council is asked to annul the district decision and instruct Chrysler stewards not to negotiate with management until Worth is recognized as a steward.

Hosiery workers want jobs Union HQ occupied

ASIAN hosiery workers on strike for five and a half weeks at Mansfield Hosiery, Loughborough, Leicestershire, yesterday occupied the local office of their union—the National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers. The number of strikers occupying the union offices was said to be over 200. They sang a song, which, they said, was a prayer for the strike to be made official.

The 500 men and women returned to work last week after winning an eight-point agreement which included a £1 increase for bar-loaders and a management pledge of increased job opportunities for Asians.

But inside the factory they discovered 41 white workers had been taken on during the strike as trainee-knitters.

They walked out again, de-

manding that these men be redeployed.

They rejected the advice of their union's general secretary, Mr Harold Gibson, who assured them that job opportunities would be given to any person who had the ability to take the necessary training.

They also turned down the appeal of the union's national organizer, Mr Albert Green, who said the offer was the best they were likely to get and the longer they decided to stay on strike 'the harder it would be to find a solution'.

Now they say they will not leave the union office until their strike is made official.

Meanwhile, national union leaders are today having talks with Victor Feather, TUC general secretary.

Union officials at the Loughborough office yesterday denied that an occupation had taken place.

Mr R. Cater, the union's district secretary, said: 'There is no occupation. There is a union meeting going on. I have nothing further to say.'

TRANSPORT and General Workers' Union leaders are to collaborate with big business in a study scheme to promote 'the improvement of industrial relations'. **TOMORROW** we examine the scheme.

'Angry Brigade' trial: Secret jury room

THE 'ANGRY BRIGADE' jury last night went to an undisclosed destination in the Home Counties after failing to reach an early verdict following the longest trial of the century.

Concluding his seven-day summing up Mr Justice James told the jury to reach a unanimous verdict.

There would be no question of a majority verdict unless and until he gave them further instructions.

He also told them to consider evidence against each of the eight defendants individually although the case against four

of the accused, James Greenfield, Anna Mendleson, John Barker and Hilary Creek, substantially coincided.

'Don't let your minds be clouded by issues and considerations which do not concern you,' the judge continued.

'Concentrate on the evidence and don't let prejudice or sympathy affect your judgement. Decide on the evidence and not on suggestions or inferences.'

The eight accused are charged with a bombs and arms conspiracy which included the bombing of the home of Tory Minister Mr Robert Carr in early 1971. The jury will continue considering its verdict today.

Lynch laws considered by Carr

'ANTI-SUBVERSIVE' laws in line with those passed by the Lynch government in Eire are now to be considered by the Tory government in Britain.

It was learned in London yesterday afternoon that Tory Home Secretary Robert Carr is to consider taking more power to act against members of the IRA 'and similar terror organizations', following the outlawing of the IRA in the Irish Republic.

This is in line with earlier statements from Unionist and Tory back-bench MPs demanding new laws against 'subversives' and IRA members.

Ulster Unionist MP for East Belfast, Mr Stanley McMaster, had already stated he would ask Carr on Thursday to introduce legislation making it unlawful for anyone living in Britain to be an IRA member or any branch of it.

He also wants to see the Tories re-introduce the death penalty for political murder.

Mr Philip Goodhart, Tory MP for Beckenham, had tabled a question to the Home Secretary asking what plans he had to amend the laws relating to subversive organizations which support terrorism in Britain.

● Police and immigration officers throughout Britain yesterday increased watches on ports and airports for known IRA members. New names are reported to have been added to Special Branch lists following latest intelligence reports from the 26 counties.

● In Belfast last night Ulster Secretary William Whitelaw again met Social Democratic and Labour Party leaders whose main suggestion was that the north should be governed jointly by London and Dublin!

Reserves up?

BRITAIN'S official reserves rose by \$36m during November to stand at \$5,895m. The Bank of England has not been supporting the pound since it was floated in July. There has thus been little or no drain on the reserves for nearly four months. In any case the figures should be read with great caution. In his memoirs, Cecil King refers to the fabrication of the April 1968 reserve figures. The published figure showed an increase of £21m, when the real figure was in fact a loss of £80m!

THE TORY SPLIT WIDENS

FROM PAGE 1

grip on the party can be gauged from the fact that the official Tory candidate at the crucial Lincoln by-election is none other than Jonathan Guinness, the Monday Club's new chairman.

Nor should the election of Edward du Cann as chairman of the powerful 1922 Committee be overlooked.

The committee, which is the main voice of backbench Tory MPs, is now in the hands of a former chairman of the party and a noted Heath rival.

Waged campaign

Du Cann was not given a job in the Heath Cabinet (as expected) and he has since waged a behind-the-scenes campaign against Heath's leadership.

He is chairman of Keyser Ullman, the merchant banking firm which had connections with the Rolls Razor group and Vehicle and General, and he is at present negotiating to take over the British subsidiary of IOS.

Had the Labour government lost an important vote in parliament and its backbenchers promised rebellion, the capitalist

Press would have splashed the news day after day.

But despite the deep divisions in the Tory ranks, the Fleet Street Press remains as quiet as it possibly can and dares not draw attention to the weaknesses of the government.

The Press lords know that Heath is shaky. They also know he must get into the Common Market.

Hence the uneasy calm in the Tory Press.

The fact remains that Heath and his government are weak. The working class is undefeated and undivided.

There must be no renewed talks with the government and the CBI, as suggested by Heath in a private letter to Victor Feather.

By talking with the Tories the trade union leaders help give the government credibility and thus help it to remain in office.

As the crisis worsens the Tory leadership—under Heath or Powell—will become a blind force of repression against the working class.

The urgent task of the labour and trade union movement is to mobilize its full strength to see that the government with all its reactionary plans is brought down.

CATERING staff, porters, cleaners and boilermen at Nottingham University staged a one-day strike yesterday in protest against a university decision not to pay a wage rise granted to local authority workers just before the Tory state pay law.

Farm pay: Ministers seen

FARMWORKERS' leaders appealed to Employment Secretary Maurice Macmillan yesterday to have their pay award exempted from the Tories' freeze. Today union president Bert Hazel and secretary Reg Bottini will meet Agriculture Minister Joseph Godber over the award which brought farmworkers' minimum to £19.50.

**YOUNG SOCIALISTS
XMAS BAZAAR**



**SATURDAY DECEMBER 9
Corn Exchange
Leeds**

Doors open 12 noon Price 5p

All Trades Unions Alliance MEETINGS

Fight Rising Prices
Force the Tories to Resign

WANDSWORTH: Tuesday December 5, 8 p.m. Selkirk Hotel, Selkirk Road, Tooting Broadway. 'Fight Rising Prices'.

CLAPHAM: Tuesday December 5, 8 p.m. Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor Street, SW4. 'Repression in Ireland—State Pay Laws in Britain: Preparation for the Common Market'.

SOUTHAMPTON: Wednesday December 6, 7.30 p.m. 'Bay Tree Inn', New Road.

TOTTENHAM: Thursday December 7, 8 p.m. Bricklayers Arms, Tottenham High Road (near White Hart Lane).

MANCHESTER: Friday December 8, 7.30 p.m. Milton Road, Deansgate. 'Force the Tories to resign!'

BIRKENHEAD: Sunday December 10, 7.30 p.m. Pier Hotel.

WATFORD: Monday December 11, 8 p.m. Upstairs Room, Watford Trade Union Hall, Watford Road (opp. Watford Junction Station).

WIGAN: Lancs. Monday, December 11, 7.30 p.m. The Market Hotel. 'Wages and laws against the trade unions'. Speaker: Mike Farley (Building trade worker).

HULL: Monday December 11, 8 p.m. 'White Hart', Alfred Chelder Street, near Drypool bridge. 'No state control of wages.'

ACTON: Monday December 11, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Road, W3. 'Free Sean MacStiofain'.

WEST LONDON: Tuesday December 12, 8 p.m. Prince Albert, Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross. 'No State Control of Wages'.

LIVERPOOL: Tuesday December 12, 7.30 p.m. The Mitre, Dale Street.

EAST LONDON: Tuesday December 12, 8 p.m. Festival Inn, Crisp Street, E14. 'Build Councils of Action'.

CROYDON: Wednesday December 13, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road, Croydon. 'Free Sean MacStiofain'.