

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY DECEMBER 15, 1972 ● No. 947 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE



BOB WRIGHT

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West district committee has decided to ignore union policy and take no action to defend the union. Instead it is calling for a national committee meeting to reverse the policy on the Act.

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ENGINEERING UNION CHIEFS MUST

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

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In some areas, like Liverpool, the action is likely to spread outside the engineering to affect building sites and the docks.

This snowballing support shows that defence of the engineers has become the focal point of opposition to the Tory government for many workers.

But despite this impressive resistance, serious weaknesses have appeared in the ranks, highlighted yesterday by the decision of the CAV workers at Sudbury, Suffolk, to return to work after their three-day strike.

The Sudbury decision, like the vote against strike action in the CAV-Lucas combine Birmingham, is the work of the right wing within the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

The right wingers have launched a determined campaign to stop engineering workers from taking action to defend policy of total opposition to the anti-union laws. Their long-term aim is to get a recall of the AUEW National Committee and overthrow the union's principled stand on the Industrial Relations Act.

Within the Lucas combine they have encouraged the most backward sections of the membership, who do not see that their living standards depend entirely on a strong trade union, to lead the stampede back to work.

Rather than fight this the right wing would prefer to hand over the union and its 1.2 million members to the Tory government and its courts. As such they are little better than James Goad, the Sudbury engineer whose deep hostility to a fighting working class is well known in Sudbury.

The AUEW executive members must bear part of the responsibility for this situation. Their indecision over action against the fine has encouraged the right wingers to do their dirty work.

It is time now for the leadership to stop sitting on the fence and expecting officials in the areas to lead the campaign. They must come out and tell all their members to go on strike.

ACT AGAINST RIGHT WING



Sudbury decision at dawn

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Union policy must also carry with it the force of discipline. The right wing is weakening the union every day it is allowed to conspire against the official line.

These men must be told to obey instructions or get out of the union. The AUEW can well do without its coterie of James Goads in every area and branch.

It was not with men like this that the foundations of trade unionism were laid during the bitter struggles against the Combination Laws over 150 years ago.

The other step the executive should take is to demand an immediate meeting of the national Confederation of Ship-

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The unions in this body have given a lead in many areas in calling on their members to fight alongside the engineers. But the national leaders have kept a cowardly silence.

With the exception of the sheet metal workers, they have offered the AUEW no form of assistance or support. It is time for Hugh Scanlon to demand Jack Jones of the Transport and General Workers' Union declares

where he stands—it was, in part, the action of the engineering workers that helped secure the release of five of his members from jail in August.

Finally the struggle against the fine has got to be seen for what it is—a political battle against this government and its laws.

This perspective was ignored during the campaign before the Industrial Relations Bill became law and the working class is paying the price.

FLEET STREET engineering workers yesterday afternoon voted overwhelmingly to hold an indefinite national stoppage over the £55,000 fine on their union.

The meeting of 290 engineers passed the resolution calling on their national executive to declare an indefinite stoppage by 216 votes to 29.

An earlier resolution calling for a one-day stoppage on Monday had 106 votes against and 180 for.

The secretary of the Fleet Street AUEW branch said afterwards: 'The feeling of the meeting is they would prefer an indefinite national stoppage until the Industrial Relations Act is removed from the statute books.'

The failure to develop a political consciousness among the members now gives the right wing a base and puts a real obstacle in the way of defending the union.

It is also vital that workers in all unions come out and back the engineers. The warnings are there for everyone to see.

Prices are rocketing, wages are frozen, entry into Europe is only weeks away. The stage is set for a massive showdown between the working class and the Tories. In this fight the rank and file will need the strength of the AUEW on its side. The engineers must win this fight.

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Employers spoiling for showdown

German engineers ballot on strike

SPECIAL REPORT BY JOHN SPENCER

I. G. METALL, the 2.2 million-strong West German metalworkers' union, is to ballot its members in North-Rhine Westphalia in preparation for a strike after Christmas. The decision follows the collapse of 13 hours of steel industry pay talks in Frankfurt.

'Frenzied' US war means no signing

NATIONAL Liberation Front delegate at the Paris 'peace' talks, Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, says no agreement can be signed 'as long as the United States continues frenziedly the war in South Vietnam and introduces thousands of military advisers in civilian clothes'.

She added that the US was using South Vietnamese President Thieu to put forward 'unacceptable demands with a view to torpedoing the peace accord'.

Dr Henry Kissinger, President Nixon's special adviser who had been having talks in Paris with the North Vietnamese negotiator Le Duc Tho, has returned to Washington without reaching any agreement.

NLF guerrillas blew up South Vietnam's largest ammunition dump only six miles from Saigon. Explosions continued for eight hours and shock waves rocked the capital.

Thousands of tons of bombs went up in the most successful attack of its kind since the war began over eight years ago. Flames swept from one munitions area to another with deafening blasts as dumps of 200 lb and 500 lb bombs exploded.

The explosion is reported to be the work of two NLF sappers who penetrated the barbed wire perimeter of the dump, leaving behind fused charges before making their escape.

While remaining completely opposed to the October peace terms, the Saigon government, backed by the US, has tabled a resolution at the Paris peace talks for a Christmas truce to include the release of military prisoners.

Hanoi and NLF delegates scornfully rejected the proposals.

The union is demanding increases of about 11 per cent, with slight regional variations in the claim. But the employers have put forward a provocative 5.6 per cent offer in reply.

The steel claim is closely linked with the union's wage demand in the engineering industry and the steel employers' stance is a sign that the engineering bosses will also take a tough line.

The employers are spoiling for a showdown with the union, which won substantial increases last year after a bitter 3½-week stoppage. They have taken the responsibility for negotiations out of the hands of the regional employers' associations and centralized their organization in preparation for the fight with I. G. Metall.

There is certain to be overwhelming support for strike action when the ballot is held on December 20. 'The workers are still walking on air after the election victory of the Social-Democrats,' I. G. Metall official Fritz Hauser told Workers Press on Monday. 'The result has increased their expectations and there is a militant feeling in the big factories.'

Mr Hauser said the union had carefully tailored its claim to take account both of the workers' wishes and the pressure of public opinion.

'Public opinion polls show that 80 per cent of the people do not want inflation, so we have taken this into account in making our claim,' he said.

He explained that I. G. Metall does not intend calling a national strike to back the claim. 'Last year's strike showed that a

SOME 8,000 West German miners and white-collar workers in the coal industry are to lose their jobs next year, federal coal industry commissioner Gerhard Wozatz announced yesterday. He told a Press conference the men would become redundant with the closure of three pits in the Ruhr area and one pit in the Saar region bordering France.

stoppage in one industrialized region can shut down key sections of industry all over Germany,' he said.

He argued that the union could not afford to pay strike benefit from its funds to the entire national membership. I. G. Metall's strike pay is virtually equivalent to the basic engineering wage.

Mr Hauser made it clear that the union leaders are concerned about the growing militancy in the factories and see it as part of their job to restrain the workers. He supports the law which bars political activity in the factories because it keeps out Maoist and other left-wing groups.

Workers defied the law during the recent election to plaster their machines with posters supporting the social-democrats. For the first time the metal union came out publicly in support of the re-election of Willy Brandt.

First test

The Brandt government does not intend to repeal the law against politics in the factories, nor does it plan to do away with the anti-union legislation which makes contracts legally binding and enforces strike ballots.

With the cost of living rising at more than 6 per cent a year

and the employers still smarting from their defeat at the polls, the West German workers are pressing forward strongly.

The metalworkers' wage struggle will be the first test for the new Brandt government which is trying to steer German capitalism through a situation of mounting economic crisis.

As the workers push forward, Brandt must emerge more and more openly as the front-man for the employers.



IG Metall members in a 1971 strike rally

MONEY WORERD

US goes deeper into the red

THE US balance of payments slipped deeper into the red in the third quarter of the year with a \$2,215m deficit compared with \$1,864m in the second quarter.

This means that despite the improvement over 1971 registered in the first six months, the total deficit this year is about the same.

The figure shows a marked worsening of the trade position in the first half of the year. The bigger deficit in the third quarter was mainly accounted for by a long-term capital outflow.

This reflects investment decisions by US multi-national corporations and by foreign businesses operating in the US. More American capital was flowing overseas while some foreign capital was being withdrawn.

The balance of payments figures for this year show that the policies pursued by the Nixon administration since August 15, 1971, when it ended the convertibility of the dollar into gold, have failed.

A still more intensive drive will be necessary to cut back on imports and boost exports. The new Nixon administration is being tooled up to press on with a tough line at the forthcoming trade talks.

'Socialist' to form Belgian government

THE LEADER of the Belgian Socialist Party, Edmond Leburton, has been invited by King Baudouin to try to form a government. There has been complete political deadlock since the fall of the Eyskens government three weeks ago over the long-standing linguistic dispute.

Passport confiscated

A LEADING spokesman of the 'liberal' opposition to the Soviet Union's Jewish policy and a founder two years ago of the Soviet Human Rights Committee has been deprived of his Soviet citizenship.

He is Valery Chalidze, a scientist specializing in polymer physics who has been lecturing in New York and Washington. A

representative of the Soviet embassy came to his hotel room and took away his passport.

Chalidze is one of a number of opposition intellectuals who have recently been allowed to leave the Soviet Union to lecture abroad. The obvious intention is to block their return unless they give guarantees of future good behaviour.

Economic slowdown in Soviet Union

THE ECONOMIC slowdown in the Soviet Union, together with this year's disastrous harvest, is causing the bureaucracy serious concern.

Premier Alexei Kosygin himself has warned in the latest issue of the theoretical journal, 'Kommunist' that the rate of growth of the national income this year will be the lowest since 1963.

He claims that while over the past two years national income grew by 10 per cent, this year the figure is expected to be down to 4 per cent.

Figures on labour productivity given in the latest issue of the Moscow journal, 'Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta' help to explain what is going wrong.

Instead of the planned 6.1 per cent increase over 1970 the figure for the first 11 months of this

year was only 5.4 per cent. This is a reflection not only of bad management, which leads to all kinds of wastes and disproportions, but also of the attitude of Soviet workers.

The consumer goods industries have failed to fulfil Leonid Brezhnev's promises that they would be available in larger quantities this year.

There was little growth

in clothing and textiles and footwear production is 4 per cent below target.

TV sets, radios and record-players—symbols of the promised shift to consumer goods production showed only small gains.

The bureaucracy continues to give the main priority to heavy industry, just as it did in Stalin's day, and is achieving its targets.

Faced with an agricultural crisis and lagging industrial production, the key to which is labour productivity, the Soviet leadership has turned to the capitalist countries.

American and Japanese monopolists are invited to invest in the Soviet Union on a massive scale and are offered alluring prospects of new markets and big profits.

Castro's collective capitulation

FIDEL CASTRO put forward a theory of collective capitulation when he told a Havana rally on Wednesday: 'If we negotiate with the United States, we will not do so alone, but jointly with many revolutionary peoples and governments.'

Standing at his side was the visiting Chilean President, Salvador Allende. Castro informed Cubans

of the hijack talks which started three weeks ago with the United States through the Swiss Embassy in Havana.

He added that nothing else would be discussed as long as the 'economic blockade' against Cuba remained in force.

'Our dignity forbids it . . . Let this be clear, this does not mean a recon-

ciliation with the United States.'

The offer to negotiate with Nixon if the blockade were lifted follows a series of Cuban statements warning the US that Cuba could become a base for Japan in Latin America.

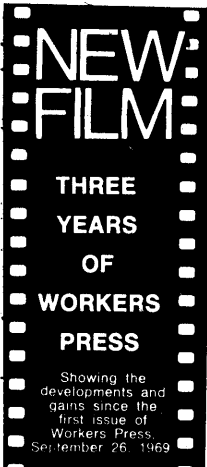
The statements boasted how Japan, Spain, France and many other capitalist countries had ignored the blockade.

Socialist Labour League

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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.)

BY ALEX MITCHELL

WHOLESALE prices rose last month in spite of the government's 'freeze' legislation. Official figures show that the November increase was the same as the previous three months leading up to breakdown of the tripartite talks.

In other words while wages are being held down prices are being allowed to skyrocket. The Department of Trade and Industry bulletin shows that wholesale prices of all manufactured products are increasing at the rate of 9 per cent a year.

A 3-per-cent rise was registered last month—the first

Prices skyrocket

Wholesale prices are still rising while state pay law freezes workers' wages

30 days of the 'freeze'—which means that prices have gone up by a staggering 3 per cent in the past four months.

At the same time there was a 1-per-cent increase in the price of basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry last month.

These increases must be taken against the fact that fresh fruit, vegetables and

meat are not controlled by the legislation. All these staple goods have increased in price over the past few months.

When EEC entry is achieved in two weeks' time there will be a further round of increases to be followed by Value-Added Tax on April 1.

As we have previously stated, the object of the Heath state pay plan is to smash the

standard of living of the working class by simple Tory arithmetic: hold wages down, let prices rise.

Although millions of working-class families are painfully conscious of what the Tories are up to, the TUC leaders appear not to understand.

On Wednesday the economic committee chaired by Sir Sidney Greene of the National

Union of Railwaymen voted by nine to two to return to talks at No 10 Downing Street.

Ostensibly they are going to complain about soaring prices. But everyone knows that the real intention is to start talks about 'Phase Two' of the wages plan.

The government has already advanced plans for the new measure which will bring in permanent, statutory controls over the salaries of workers.

By continuing talks with the Tories the TUC leaders are leading their members into a dangerous trap.

There should be no further talks with this reactionary government. Instead of supping with Heath the union leaders should be mobilizing support throughout the labour and trade union movement to throw him and his government out.

Sudbury CAV men return to work

By David Maude Our Industrial Correspondent

LACK of immediate, decisive action from other areas of the country was blamed by CAV workers at Sudbury, Suffolk, for the ending of their three-day strike yesterday.

The strike — against the £50,000 fine imposed on the engineers' union by the National Industrial Relations Court — was called off at an early morning mass meeting outside the factory.

A brief shop stewards' meeting beforehand decided to recommend a return on the ground that the Sudbury workers were carrying a 'disproportionate burden' of the fight against the fine.

But the recommendation included the important proviso that James Goad, whose legal action led to the fine, should never be allowed back into the factory.

Several workers voted against — demanding that



GOAD . . . Never allowed back

the management sack Goad before a return.

CAV management refused either to sack him or give an assurance that he would never be taken back. Before returning to their jobs, therefore, the workers reaffirmed overwhelmingly that they will under no circumstances work with him.

Ron Halverson, assistant district organizer of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, told the meeting that 'an impressive list of consequential support' had resulted from the strike of

the 1,300 Sudbury workers.

Hecklers challenged with him the decision of the Lucas factories in Birmingham not to strike. There were also shouts criticizing district committees for only calling one-day actions.

The Birmingham decision was to be regretted, Ron Halverson said, admitting that 'it is no secret we would have preferred more positive actions to be taken'. But the Sudbury workers had nothing to be ashamed of in returning to work, he said.

After the meeting, factory convenor Bill Duckling confirmed that the strike would most probably have continued had more backing been forthcoming.

'I don't think this meeting would have taken place had our colleagues outside come forward with a form of support.'

Several shop stewards criticized the AUEW national executive for failing to give a lead with a definite call for strike action.

Among those voting against the stewards' recommendation the major-



ity view was that there should have been no return until Goad was definitely sacked.

Workers are particularly bitter that he remains on full pay throughout the stoppage.



DUCKLING . . . Needed more backing

Oil 'boom' doubles value of property

HOUSE VALUES in Aberdeen have doubled in the past three years because of the North Sea oil boom, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors claimed yesterday.

This is not due to the activities of house-hunting oil executives, who tend to rent rather than to buy, but to the demand for land resulting from the introduction of the new industry. Building land in the north east of Scotland is expected soon to exceed £10,000 an acre.

A five-room home with garage which cost about £8,500 new in May 1971 is now fetching £12,000. A larger house which cost £14,000 new one year ago is now realizing £20,000 or more, said the institution.

Missile costs shoot up

THE COST of developing the Seawolf guided missile for the navy has doubled over the last three years and the project is still not completed, according to the House of Commons watchdog committee on expenditure.

Between November 1970 and the end of 1971 expenditure on Seawolf rocketed by an incredible £9m and there was a marked slippage in the time scale, the committee report.

Concern was also expressed over the mounting pressure from increased costs in general. If this process continues, defence budgets of the late 1970s will be increased by enormous amounts.

HOSPITAL workers are to be balloted on new industrial action to back their £4 claim which has been 'frozen' by the government. The 120,000-strong Confederation of Health Service Employees is to seek a meeting with the three other unions involved to consider 'the very serious situation that would exist' if the £4 is not paid soon.

'Halt gas conversions for full investigation'

A CONSUMER protection group has urged that conversions to natural gas should be halted while a full inquiry takes place.

In a telegram sent yesterday to the chairman of the Gas Council, Sir Henry Jones, the National Consumers Protection Council said aspects of the conversion were giving cause for concern.

The telegram said: 'Owing to the continuous stream of complaints about repairs and post-conversion leaks and fumes, we urge complete investigation into gas boards and temporary halt to conversions.'

'North Thames are the worst as far as complaints we receive are concerned, but we do have complaints from all gas boards.'

A spokesman for the protection council said: 'Somehow or other, this massive organization, which is virtually a monopoly, needs to be broken into smaller, more manageable, regions.'

'Things have reached such a pitch that they never seem to catch up with themselves and conversions are causing constant

complaints about leaks and fumes a year or more after conversions are completed.

'Because the situation is serious and we know that many consumers have come to the end of their tether, NCP feels that the time has come for a thorough investigation at top level.'

Shelter chief

A CITY broker and former president of the National Union of Students, Geoff Martin (32) is to be the new director of Shelter the national campaign for the homeless. He succeeds John Willis, who leaves at the end of the year to become manager of Liverpool Housing Trust. Mr Martin and his wife Gay, a barrister, live in Richmond.

● THE average council house rent in England and Wales has risen by 45 per cent over the last four years, the highest rises coming in the north (58 per cent) and the lowest in the west Midlands (35 per cent).

The average rent is now £2.75 a week compared with £2.48 a year ago, says the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants in its annual return of rent statistics, published yesterday.

Rents continue to vary enormously. A three-bedroom house can cost between £1.21 and £8.30 a week.

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WEALTH AND POVERTY

Tom Kemp looks at some government statistics

The population of the UK increased from 53 million in 1961 to 56 million in 1971. The proportion of older people has tended to increase. In 1971 over 7.5 million people received retirement pensions.

Since the early 1960s more people have left Britain than have entered it as immigrants. The increase in population has been a result of the excess of births over deaths. The most recent trend, however, is for the birth rate to fall.

The statisticians found that 'illegitimate births' rose from 5.7 per cent of all live births in 1961 to 8.2 per cent in 1968. The highest rate of illegitimate births and premarital conceptions occur to women in the age group 15-19; in 1971 one-quarter of the total births to mothers in these ages were illegitimate and three-fifths of the births within marriage had been premaritally conceived.

The statisticians are very concerned about the crime rate. The 1971 total for in-

dictable offences of violence against the person known to the police is two-and-a-half times the corresponding figure for 1961.

No explanation is offered for the increase in crimes against the person or for the growth of theft and other forms of crime—all symptoms, in fact, of a 'sick' society.

The strength and growing combativity of the working class is shown in the growth in trade union membership and more particularly in the number of days lost through strikes.

The figures show a steady increase as follows:

Working days lost in millions:	
1951	— 1.7
1961	— 3.0
1966	— 2.4
1969	— 6.9
1970	— 10.9
1971	— 13.6

Disputes over wages formed a more or less constant proportion of the whole.

Sickness accounted for 138 million working days lost in 1960-1961 and 180 million in 1970-1971. It is estimated that bronchitis alone accounted for the loss of 30 million

working days among males in 1970-1971 covered by doctors' certificates.

Altogether this publication provides a useful compendium of statistical information which confirms the Marxist diagnosis of the crisis of capitalism. Despite the modest improvements in living standards which have been obtained through struggle by the working class, capitalism has not changed.

A large part of the gain made in money wages has been absorbed by inflation and especially by the spiralling costs of housing. More women have to go out to work—when they can find a job—to finance the family budget. This gives the employers the opportunity to tap a cheap source of labour power, since women have not yet won equal pay and many work on a part-time basis for low wages.

There has been little reduction in the hours actually worked and this has been cancelled out, and more, by the increased rate of exploitation about which this volume can say nothing. The increased pressure and intensity of

modern work, as well as the strain of getting to the job and back again, imposes additional expenses on the worker.

The housing crisis remains acute and is getting worse in the more congested areas. There has been little improvement in health and little is being done against scourges such as influenza, bronchitis and heart disease.

The huge inequalities in wealth and income which capitalism reproduces reveal themselves even in these statistics. Even redistribution through taxation and Social Security payments takes place mainly within the working class itself.

Supporters of capitalism are disturbed most of all by the big increase in the crime rate which has accompanied the rise of the supposedly 'affluent' society. They are unable to explain the forces behind this and other symptoms of capitalist decay which this report reveals.

British capitalism once again operates with a sizeable reserve army of labour which is tending to increase. The average number of unemployed in 1971 was 806,000

Above: march against the jailing of five dockers. The strength of the working class, is shown in the growth of trade union membership and in the number of days lost through strikes.

of whom over a quarter, be it noted, were in the prime of life in the 20 to 30 age group.

Supporters of capitalism have tried to draw what comfort they can from some of the figures recorded in this volume, notably what is claimed as a rise in real incomes. But such improvements as have taken place have had to be wrested by the workers through their bargaining strength and in struggle.

That it has become increasingly difficult to do this is shown by the rapid increase in the number of days lost through strikes in the past three years.

In fact, the statistical record charts the growing crisis of capitalism, its inability to solve the social problems of the working class, its perpetuation of the contrast between riches for a minority and toil and hardship for the great majority.



CHINA PLANS AID TO MALAGASY STRONGMAN

China is considering aid to one of the most anti-communist regimes in Africa—Malagasy, formerly Madagascar, the third largest island in the world.

The Foreign Minister of the Republic, ex-naval officer Captain Didier Ratsiraka, has recently been politely received in Peking and the Chinese are seeking details of Malagasy investment projects before considering financial support.

Mr 100 per cent

The new strongman ruler of the island is Gabriel Ramanantsoa, a General who overthrew President Tsiranana and got union leaders to call of a General Strike by giving the false impression he was slightly to the left of his predecessor.

Ramanantsoa came to power after months of serious rioting and unrest which began in the island on May 13. The old President, called Mr 100 per cent because of his remarkable performances in elections where he tended to win all the votes, had been a bitter anti-communist.

He even startled the white supremacists in South Africa when he told them: 'Even if it comes from France, communism will never be established here as long as I can prevent it. And listen to this. Listen carefully.'

'Even if South Africans took it into their heads to become communist some fine day, I would slam the door on them.'

Since independence in 1958 many people, particularly the poor farmers in the south, have suffered a decline in standards and the island has a massive unemployment problem with 450,000 youth on the dole.

Unrest grows

Each day now the situation gets worse as Malagasy finds it increasingly more difficult to stand up to strains imposed by the French franc zone. Confidence among European businessmen is evaporating.

Unrest is also spreading among the intellectuals. By 1967, almost 60,000 graduates are expected to be unemployed—already more than 10,000 qualify for posts in the administration and the professions, but there are only places for 2,000 to 3,000.

China's slight reluctance to plunge into the Malagasy scene, however, is not dictated by the abhorrence of the present regime. The main obstacle is the 18,000 Chinese who control most of the local business and the economy.

They send considerable sums to the homeland each year and would be disturbed if China encouraged any radicalization of the official policy.

Aid might signal such a move and an end to the cash flow. So, for the present, the super opportunist of the Chinese bureaucracy Chou En-lai is pursuing a 'policy of smiles', but no cash yet.

GOD IS ON FRANCO'S SIDE

The 80th birthday of General Francisco Franco was an excellent opportunity for the customary speeches of praise of the dictator's rule on Spanish radio and television and at numerous public meetings up and down the country.

The recent signing of a trade pact with the Soviet Union and the acknowledgement by Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home that the Tory government would welcome Spain in the Common Market were pointed to by the Madrid Press as two high points in the General's drive to establish Spain in the 'new' Europe.

The message of gratitude to the Caudillo from the Spanish government delivered at a meeting of the Council of Ministers on December 7 by vice-president of the government, Admiral Carrero Blanco, showed that the 'principles' which guide the Spanish state have not changed since the end of the 1936-1939 civil war.

Echoing the fanatical broadcasts of Queipo de Llano in the 1930s, Blanco told of the struggle against the Popular Front government 'which wanted to convert Spain into an atheist country, a vassal of communist imperialism . . . Our war was not then a civil war: it was a war of liberation and a crusade'.

The proof of this? 'Isn't communism the declared enemy of God? . . . Churches were burned down and, just for believing in God, 13 bishops and 7,933 priests were murdered.'

To back up these remarkably accurate figures was a juicy quotation from the encyclical of Pope Pius 13th on behalf of 'Christ the Redeemer', issued in March 1937. 'The communist fury has killed bishops and especially those priests who worked with the poor and the working class.'

God has been well-served since Franco's armies, backed by Hitler, Mussolini and the Vatican, destroyed the political and trade union organizations of the working-class—to the tune of 300,000 million pesetas, no less, spent on monasteries, seminaries and convents which litter the towns of Spain.

Apparently, it was the hand of God which kept Spain out of World War II and thus saved her from communism since 'the victors in 1945 were the USSR and what were called the western "democracies", that is, communism and liberalism, the best political system for weakening peoples. . . .

The veteran Falangist terminated his oration by pledging 'blind faith in the decisions of your authority in the struggle against free-masonry and Marxism'.

In his tirade, the Spanish vice-President was re-affirming that the Spanish government would continue its policy of outlawing the working class and that these are the terms which make Spain's entry into the EEC a necessity.

No doubt, thunderous applause will have reverberated round the board-rooms of all those firms which hope to make Spain their base for taking over the European market, from Ford Detroit to British-Leyland.



A Madrid church sacked in the Spanish Civil War: The Catholic Church has always supported the landed aristocracy and capitalists and has built up huge fortunes whilst workers and peasants have starved. Above: General Franco confers with father Teodoro Tack, head of the Augustine order in Spain. With Tack is a delegation of provincial Augustine fathers. Along with the civil service and big business, the monkish orders offer the best career prospects to the sons of the middle-class.



WOMEN WIN UNION RIGHTS

On Monday Ken Charlton, a South Shields Tory councillor, drove his Rover up to the Barbours' rainwear factory. Through the tinted glass of the windscreen he saw the usual picket of girls—his employees.

But this time they had been joined by some miners, engineers and delegates from the South Shields and Jarrow Trades Council. With a little less than his usual self-confidence the managing director made his way through the crowd. He was stopped. But the police were at

hand—seven Panda cars and a minibus full had arrived an hour earlier, at 7.30 a.m. An inspector and the managing director went into a kerbside conference. The police decided it was time to act and sweep the girls out of the Barbours' entrance. It was then the men from the Elsie and Gibbons engineering factory next door made their move. Eighty of them rushed across the green to protect the girls from the charge.

The police had second thoughts, called off the tough stuff and Charlton knew he

was beaten.

After a brief discussion with her boss, Josie Lloyd, secretary of the strike committee, was able to announce: 'We have won. We have got what we set out to achieve, the recognition of our trade union. Today we have seen the working class in action.'

This was the triumphant way the Barbours strike—one of the most remarkable disputes in South Shields since the war—ended. It was fought by 80 largely politically inexperienced women workers who, by their deter-



Barbours on the march. Trade unionists in South Shields line up behind the striking girls (above) before their march through the town. It was solidarity like this that helped win trade union rights. The pickets stop a traveller entering the small rainwear factory (above left). Things were not always so peaceful. Police were called in against the girls several times and only the last minute intervention of sheet-metal workers stopped more violence on Monday. Left: Ken Charlton managing director of Barbours slinks past the picket.

mination and example, won the support of workers throughout the north east.

Barbours is a small clothing factory which made £65,000 profit last year—half of this went to pay for Charlton and the two other directors.

The average wage of the 119 staff was well under £20 a week. The girls decided to turn their back on low pay and they chose a 'tough' trade union to fight their case—the Transport and General Workers.

Then the battle started. Management not only refused

them their increase, but made it clear that there was a plain choice between the union and employment with the firm. The workers refused to give up their fight and the strike began on October 22.

It was a long and bitter dispute, but every day the determination to win grew on the picket line. The police also encouraged the women to stand up and fight for their rights. On November 10 single girls who had no source of income went to the local Social Security office to put in emergency claims for benefit. They were refused an 'audience' and the police moved in and manhandled them off the premises.

The incident led to an apology from the Social Security officials. They gave South Shields Trades Union Council officials the assurance that 'on no future occasion would police be used to prevent or inhibit members of the public from making legitimate claims for benefit'.

The law, however, was un-

repentant. The Durham police headquarters told the trades council in a letter that their officers had 'acted properly under instructions'.

The struggle of the Barbour women aroused the anger of South Shields and the working class came to their aid. After a march last weekend Monday's big picket was launched.

United action and devotion to the principles of the working-class movement won the struggle. The girls returned with full trade union rights, a £2 increase, which has already been agreed, and a promise of negotiations over a rise to be paid after the freeze.

South Shields Trades Union Council secretary Jack Grassby spoke for everyone when he said the day Charlton was beaten: 'We want to pay tribute to the Barbours' girls. They have fought the battle of their lives. They have won a victory for the whole working class and trade union movement.'

Photograph: Peter Kelly

RENEGADES IN ACTION— THE IMG

PART SIX

Following the articles 'Renegades from Trotskyism' dealing with the situation in Ceylon, JACK GALE now examines the British section of the revisionist Unified Secretariat of the Fourth International, The International Marxist Group (IMG).

Over the last few years the Socialist Workers' Party of the United States has deliberately built up a minority tendency within the British International Marxist Group.

Like the SWP itself, this 'tendency' is a petty-bourgeois group moving to the right. It turns its back on the working class and adapts to middle-class layers like Women's Liberation.

The right turn of this tendency emerges clearly from the Report of the Unified Secretariat's Fact-Finding Commission into the IMG. In particular it took the following forms.

(1) In Nottingham women members of the tendency concentrated almost entirely on a Nottingham Socialist Women's Committee, producing a paper—'Socialist Women'—which they insisted was independent of IMG and not subject to its control.

They resisted an IMG decision to build 'Socialist Women's Groups' and objected to marching with other IMG women at a national rally on women's rights. They claimed this would be 'separating themselves off from the mainstream of the women's movement' (p.38).

In Glasgow, tendency supporters also resisted carrying out the IMG's line and insisted on working in a 'Women in Action' group (p.88).

(2) The tendency opposed the use of such slogans as 'Victory to the National Liberation Front', 'Power to the Provisional Revolutionary Government', 'Solidarity with the Indo-Chinese Revolution'—which were the agreed slogans of IMG—on the grounds that this was 'a question of tactics' (p.80). That is to say, they might offend some middle-class people who would otherwise march with them. It is well known, of course, that the SWP and the minority inside the Unified Secretariat also oppose these slogans.

But Pat Jordan's reply to these objections reveals what a totally unprincipled organization the Unified Secretariat is. It is worth quoting:

'The slogan "Victory to the NLF" has been used on all our demonstrations since March 1968, and before that.

● It is absolutely implicit in the statement of aims of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign (VSC), which has been our main instrument of intervention in this field for five years.

● It is embodied in our political practice of selling flags and distributing badges with the NLF flag on.

● It is the policy of the (Unified Secretariat of) Fourth International to advocate using this slogan in those countries which have not got troops in

Vietnam as the main focus (see Ernest Germain's report to the December 1969 IEC). (My emphasis J. G.)

So, you don't demand 'Victory to the NLF' if the troops of your 'own' country are fighting them! It is almost impossible to open a single page of Lenin without finding a refutation of this cowardly social patriotism. Leninism developed in opposition to exactly this. We give only one reference—from Lenin's 'Socialism and War':

'A revolutionary class in a reactionary war cannot help wishing the defeat of its government, it cannot fail to see the connection between the government's military reverses and the increased opportunity for overthrowing it.'

We defy a single member of IMG—or any other section of the Unified Secretariat—to reconcile Lenin's position with that of Germain (Mandel) and Jordan.

(3) In Glasgow tendency members ignored a request of the 'Red Mole' editorial board to send in material on UCS until the Stalinist work-in had been in operation for almost a month. Indeed, the editorial board complained to the entire membership:

'As it is politically impossible for the paper to come out without carrying material on UCS two comrades in London have had hurriedly to write articles which are neither particularly good nor original' (p.92).

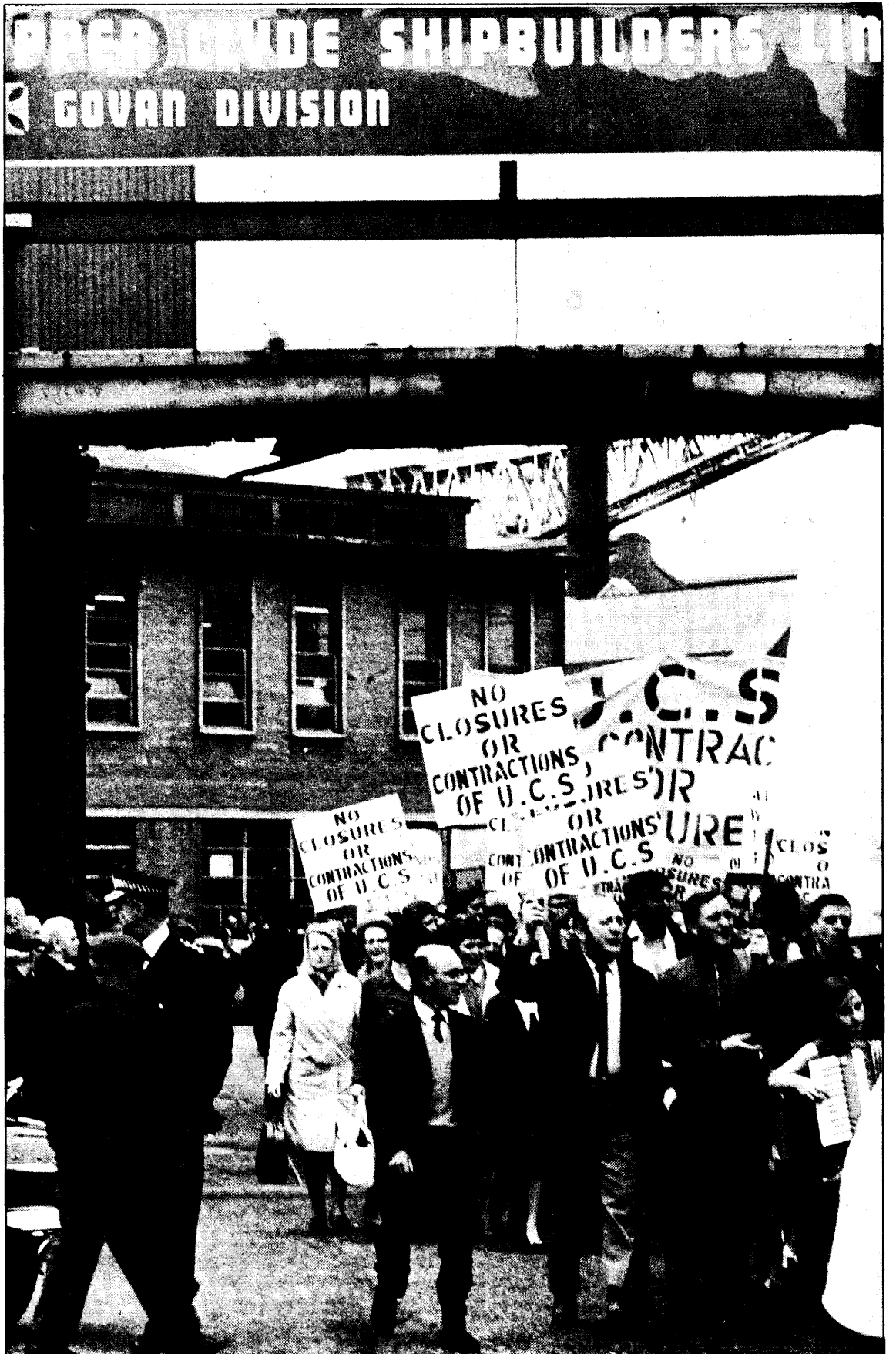
This sort of communication from the editorial board must really encourage IMG members to dash out and sell their paper!

The tendency supporters in Glasgow claimed that they had not sent in material because it took time to do a good job! The real reason was that they disagreed with the IMG line on the work-in.

One can hardly blame them for disagreeing. Because the line was that the Stalinist work-in was 'The First Step Towards a Scottish Workers' Republic'! (p.38). This astonishing pronouncement from an organization claiming to be Trotskyist appears to have excited no comment from Mandel, Hansen and company.

(4) At the 1971 conference of the International Marxist Group, tendency supporters abstained on a message of support to the PRT/ERP in Argentina on the grounds that it endorsed the kidnapping of Stanley Silvester, the British consul in Argentina.

As has been pointed out in previous articles, the split in IMG mirrors an equally deep split within the Unified Secretariat. The tendency supports—in fact is dependent on and maintained by—the Socialist Workers' Party, which itself supports a minority position within the revisionist Inter-



Pat Jordan with NLF flag on May Day, 1968. The Unified Secretariat holds the completely unprincipled position that it is only in countries which have no troops in Vietnam that the slogan 'Victory to the NLF' appropriate. On UCS (above) the IMG said it was the 'First Step Towards a Scottish Workers' Republic'.

national (although, for legal reasons, it cannot be an actual member of it).

Since the 1963 reunification—by which the SWP declared its political solidarity with the Pabloite International—was carried through without any principled discussion, it is equally impossible to hold a principled discussion within the Unified Secretariat today. To do so would blow it apart.

Thus, political differences within Unified Secretariat

sections are dealt with, not in a principled way, but with the most bureaucratic authoritarianism. When this brings the organization to the point of breakdown, an international 'Fact-Finding' Commission is appointed. The purpose of this commission is not to deal with the political issues involved, but to paper over the cracks and hold the strife-ridden section together.

This is certainly the situation within the International

Marxist Group. The incidents mentioned in previous articles—IMG members playing darts with a picture of Joseph Hansen as the target, NC members throwing beer-bottles through the glass door of an IMG member's house because they were refused admittance to a party (p.122)—are only two of many.

The Glasgow branch, apparently, used to be regarded as a 'model' IMG branch. But by 1970-1971 supporters of the IMG leadership in that branch described the situation as one of 'utter stagnation'. They declared that 'we completely missed out on the postal strike and on a protracted local strike'.

Branch activity consisted of 'some rather low-key work on women and Ireland, routine activities such as attendance at branch meetings, 'Mole' sales and very little else. Our industrial work has been uninspired and unproductive.'

The atmosphere within the branch, they said, was 'almost indescribably bad—personal and political enmities have become inextricably mixed up'.

'One half of the branch is scarcely on speaking terms with the other half.' When people sought to speak on behalf of the national IMG leadership they were 'subjected to a barrage of abuse, laughter, jeering, name calling, constant interruptions for two and a half hours'.

They concluded, with some under-emphasis: 'This situation, of course, has its effect on branch meetings' (pp.89-90).

CONTINUED TOMORROW

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

'UNKNOWN'

University employment experts in Manchester are complaining that a table issued last month by the University Grants Committee showing that the city has the fourth highest graduate jobless total in Britain is 'unfair'.

The UGC figures show that 144 graduates from Manchester University were still looking for jobs on December 31, 1971—five months after getting their degrees. Only London, with 712 unemployed graduates, Leeds with 168 and Cambridge with 163, were worse, pointed out a local Manchester evening paper. (Quite rightly.)

There was also a statement from the secretary of Manchester University's careers and appointments service, Mr Bernard Holloway, who claimed that 'when you put the number without jobs as a percentage of the total, figures are very much the same as the national average, at about 8 per cent.'

The table, he said, takes no account of the number of students passing through each university.

But after a closer look at the number without jobs as a percentage of the total graduates from Manchester University, we found that in fact it averages not at 8 per cent but at 8.8 per cent (i.e. a total of 1,637 students graduated from Manchester University in the academic year, 1970-1971).

But there are a few more points that Mr Holloway seems to have forgotten or overlooked. First that in addition to 144 definitely without jobs, a further 71 graduates were classed as 'unknown'. In the majority of cases, according to the UGC, it is safe to assume that the great bulk of these is also without jobs. Assuming that 50 per cent of the 'unknowns' are out of work, that makes a total of just under 11 per cent!

'NORMALIZATION'

One man who is fully convinced of the Utopia of European unity in the form of the Common Market is none other than Michel Debré, French Minister of State responsible for National Defence.



Writing in the December issue of the National Defence Review, Debré states: 'Because there can be no European defence, political Europe can not take on any precise form. "Co-operation" and "normalization" have a fundamental limit . . . including the intangibility of frontiers resulting from World War II.'

Debré is well known for his agreement with the political principles upheld by the Franco regime in Spain and recently played host to his Soviet opposite number, Marshal Gretchko.

His thoughts on the future of Europe include the following profession of conservatism: 'It may seem contrary to the nature of things and men that immobility should be a condition of the future. But in the present state of Europe, one cannot imagine that it should be otherwise.'

On the European Security Conference: 'We think that this conference will ratify the present state of Europe, above all in relation to frontiers.'

The latest Press hand-out from the blue-eyed technocrats and rationalization men at the European Commission in Brussels talks about removing 'psychological and chauvinistic factors' from the European capitalist scene. Perhaps they had Debré's psyche in mind!

THE ART OF DRAWING

This country contains many misnamed institutions—the Royal Courts of 'Justice', the 'public' schools . . . and the 'British' Museum. Most of the objects in its collections and the books in its libraries are by foreigners who never saw either side of the Channel.

What makes them 'British' is that they were purchased (or pinched) with a small fraction of the surplus extracted by the British ruling class from British working people.

And since British imperialism at one time held much of the material wealth of the world in its hands, the museum contains many fine and beautiful things.

Some of them are brought together in the exhibition 'The Art of Drawing': several hundred examples of 'draftsmanship' from 11,000 BC to AD 1900. The major portion are by Europeans from the Renaissance onwards, and they are well worth looking at.

In order to draw, it is necessary to see; and in order to see it is necessary to think. Much more than in painting, the brain must take control over both the hand and the eye. Why is this?

The real world exists to the eye of the painter as space, light and colour; and beyond and within this as an infinity of possibilities—the cold on his flesh, the smell of dung in the farmyard, the skin of another, the sadness when the disappearing figure has ceased to be. His work is to bring what isn't on the canvas into being with what is.

He is fortunate, for he has colour. His sky can change from black through blue and green and yellow to a line of white, giving solidity to the hill which puts an end to it. But, being fortunate, he may be tempted to be extravagant.

The draughtsman faces a much bigger effort of abstraction. He can give the appearance of depth, but his greys and browns will never take colour. He must be truthful, but he cannot be literal—he must depart from the appearance of his subject and discover its essence, then fix the abstractions that live within it as a scrape of charcoal, or an area of paper whose meaning is expressed solely in the fact that it has not been drawn upon.

In the Rembrandt drawing of a sleeping girl there are no hands. In sleep, her fingers lose their opposition and distinct tensions—and without fingers there are no hands. It is not her body we see sleeping, but her robe, drugged by the warmth and tiredness it has swallowed. Her life is concentrated in her head. The background is lightened behind her hair—combed down, dark and clear-cut.

This is not just a device of composition; we feel that the light comes from within her head, that she is dreaming, that this is the meaning of the darkness which has gathered in her eyes.

Her body is not in her dream, but what is in it we cannot know. All we can see of it is the light from behind her hair. Rembrandt has told us of a secret dream, but he is truthful and has told us no more, lest the secret should cease to be a secret.

Watteau's young woman is



A woman at her toilet. Watteau. Above: Girl sleeping. Rembrandt

wide awake. Her thought is practical. Her mind is focused on her body. This—not the chair, the basket or the dress—is the subject of the drawing.

But the heaviest lines are not in her figure; at the closest—on her left arm, her right foot—they surround it. She stands out as the most delicate, most finely-worked, object on the paper. So delicate, she is almost unreal.

Seen literally, her right shoulder is only half the width of the left. Her right leg is draped in cloth—it seems that there is no knee and her foot carries no weight. Yet we know from the serenity of her face that each limb comes together in a living and balanced whole.

The chair, the dress and the basket are also of her. She is a fashionable young woman, making herself up for others. In the original she is in red chalk, while the chair is grey-black. This difference allows the chair to embrace her, formally, but with admiration. But within its embrace she remains intent on herself. Is the chair hers, or is she the chair's?

When she puts on the dress, will it shape itself to her, or will she have made herself part of the world of objects?

For all her concentration on herself, Watteau is able to show us a secret about her that she would never suspect—that it is not she but society that is creating her. And this in fewer lines than it would take to describe it in writing.

The most difficult decisions in drawing are not what to put in but what to leave out. Looking at drawings we are forced to study the struggle in which thought reflects the world—its endless search for a clear and intelligible stream in the marsh of evident 'facts', never grasping more than a vital fraction of the wealth around it. Anyone who has ever attempted to draw will know that success only comes through the effort of abstraction. To see the world clearly one must struggle to climb the mountain; in this exhibition one can see some of the most courageous of the mountaineers.

Rembrandt (Dutch, 1606-1669) Girl sleeping; Watteau (French, 1684-1721) A woman at her toilet.

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SLL LECTURES

BARNESLEY

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 January 8
Marxism and the
revolutionary party

FORRESTERS HALL
Trippett Lane, 7.30 p.m.

TODMORDEN

Monday January 8
'The economic crisis'

Monday January 22
'Stalinism'

Monday February 5
'Trotskyism'

THE WEAVERS' INSTI-
TUTE, Burnley Road,
7.30 p.m.

HULL

Wednesday January 10
Stalinism and Trotskyism

Wednesday January 24
Marxist theory and the revolu-
tionary party

WHITE HART HOTEL
Alfred Gelder Street
(near Drypool Bridge)
8 p.m.

BBC 1

10.30-10.55 Steam horse. 12.00
Seventy plus. 12.25 Ryan a
ronnie. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble
Mill at one. 1.30 Joe. 1.45 Last
Apollo. 2.15 Cradle of England.
2.45 Wreck of an East India-
man. 3.35 Tomorrow's world.
4.00 Clangers. 4.10 Play school.
4.35 Crystal Tipps. 4.40 Jacka-
nory playhouse. 5.05 Deputy
dawg. 5.15 Record breakers.
5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.45 BARNEY BEAR.
6.55 PINK PANTHER SHOW.
7.15 THE VIRGINIAN.
8.30 DAD'S ARMY. A Brush
With the Law.

9.00 NEWS. Weather.
8.25 CANNON. Devil's Play-
ground.

10.15 MUSIC OF GILBERT
O'SULLIVAN.

11.00 DOCUMENTARY: 'THE
MILLIONAIRE WHO'S
NEVER FELT RICH'. J.
Paul Getty, 80 years old
today.

11.45 LATE NIGHT NEWS.
11.50 FILM: 'HOW TO MARRY
A MILLIONAIRE'. Marilyn
Manroe, Betty Grable and
Lauren Bacall trap mil-
lionaires.

1.15 Weather.

1.15 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.

7.05 SEARCH FOR THE IDEAL.
Reflections on Neo-
Classicism.

7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.

8.00 MONEY AT WORK. Europe
—Who Gets What?

9.00 ONE MAN'S CHINA. A
Great Treasure House.
Final film in Felix Greene's
series.

9.25 FILM: 'LES ENFANTS DU
PARADIS'. Second part
of Marcel Carné's master-
piece. With Arletty, Jean-
Louis Barrault.

10.05 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

10.55 FILM NIGHT. Stacy Keach
talks to Sheridan Morley
and Philip Jenkinson
about his career.

ITV

9.40 Some great painters. 10.10
Film: 'Gasbags'. The Crazy
Gang. 11.35 Galloping gourmet.
12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow.
12.25 Wendy Craig tells . . .
12.40 First report. 1.00 Time was.
1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General
hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon.
3.00 Junkin. 3.25 Marcus Welby
MD. 4.20 Adventures of Gulliver.
4.50 Magpie. 5.20 Smith family.
5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.
6.35 CROSSROADS.
7.00 THE PROTECTORS. For
the Rest of Your Natural.

7.30 HAWAII FIVE-O.
8.30 THE COMEDIANS.
9.00 UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS.
An Object of Value.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.
10.30 POLICE FIVE.
10.40 FILM: 'THE BRAIN
MACHINE'. Patrick Barr,
Maxwell Reed, Elizabeth
Allan. Murder and drug
smuggling.

12.05 SIX CENTURIES OF
SONG.

12.10 SPYFORCE. The Courier.

12.10 SPYFORCE. The Courier.

12.10 SPYFORCE. The Courier.

TV REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 Lon-
don. 2.30 Let's face it. 3.00
Film: 'The Ballad of Andy
Crocker'. 4.20 Puffin. 4.30 Flint-
stones. 4.15 London. 5.20 Jun-
kin. 5.50 London. 6.00 News.
6.10 Report. 6.35 London. 7.30
FBI. 8.30 London. 9.00 New
Scotland Yard. 10.00 London.
10.35 Film: 'The Curse of the
Mummy's Tomb'. 12.00 News,
weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except:
9.40 Last stand. 10.05 Stench in
the ear. 10.40 Whicker within
a woman's world. 11.10 Short
story. 11.35 Better driving. 12.05
London. 12.57 News. 1.00 Lon-
don. 4.20 Gus Honeybun. 6.00
Diary. 6.25 Sports desk. 10.32
News. 12.00 Epilogue.

SOUTHERN: 10.00 Torch. 10.15
Tricks of the good cook's trade.
10.35 Film: 'Go To Blazes'. 12.00
News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women
only. 3.00 Galloping gourmet.
3.25 Saint. 4.20 Weekend. 4.25
Funky phantom. 4.50 London.
5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads.
5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day.
Scene SE. 6.35 Out of town.
7.05 Sale of the century. 7.35
Film: 'If Tomorrow Comes'. 9.00
London. 10.30 Weekend. 10.35
Film: 'Desire Under the Elms'.
12.30 News. 12.40 Weather.
Guideline.

HARLECH: 10.35 Enchanted
house. 10.50 Woobinda. 11.15
Time to remember. 11.40 Sur-
vival. 12.05 London. 1.00 Let
them live. 1.30 London. 2.30
Women only. 3.00 London. 4.25
Rovers. 4.50 London. 5.20
Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads.
5.50 London. 6.01 Report West.
6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Bonanza.
7.30 Film: 'Hunted'. 9.00 New
Scotland Yard. 10.00 London.
10.30 Turnbull's finest half-hour.
11.00 Now it's your say. 11.30
We shall see. 12.30 Weather.
HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as
above except: 4.25-4.50 Stesion
cantamil. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 10.30
Outlook. 11.00 Sports arena.
11.30 UFO. 12.30 Weather.
HTV West as above except: 6.18-
6.35 Sport West.

ANGLIA: 12.04 News. 12.05
London. 3.30 Dick Van Dyke. 3.55
Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25
Merrie melodies. 4.50 London.
5.20 Elephant boy. 5.50 London.
6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London.
7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30
O'Hara. 8.30 Turnbull's finest
half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30
Probe. 11.00 Film: 'Bedevilled'.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.45 Film:
'There's Always a Thursday'.
10.50 Caretakers. 11.35 Better
driving. 12.00 Today. 12.05 Lon-
don. 3.30 Dangerman. 4.20
Forest rangers. 4.50 London. 5.20
Flintstones. 5.50 London. 6.00
Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sky's
the limit. 7.30 Protectors. 8.00
Adventurer. 8.30 Turnbull's
finest half hour. 9.00 New Scot-
land Yard. 10.00 London. 10.30
Film: 'The Dark At The Top of
the Stairs'. Weather.



Certainly the films have it tonight. On BBC 1 the 1950s style Marilyn Monroe tells 'How to Marry a Millionaire' at 11.50. Earlier, at 9.25 on BBC 2, the World Cinema series presents Marcel Carné's 'Les Enfants du Paradis' with Jean-Louis Barrault and Arletty.

ULSTER: 12.00 News. 12.05 Lon-
don. 2.00 Women today. 2.30
Cartoon. 2.40 Romper room.
3.00 London. 3.25 Randall and
Hopkirk. 4.23 News. 4.25 Funky
phantom. 4.50 London. 5.20
General hospital. 5.50 London.
6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 7.00
Sky's the limit. 7.30 UFO. 8.30
London. 9.00 New Scotland
Yard. 10.00 London. 10.30
Food of love. 11.00 Film: 'Love
Hate Love'.

GRANADA: 11.00 Theatre of
stars. 12.00 Paint book. 12.05
London. 3.25 Smith family. 3.50
Cartoon. 4.00 Crossroads. 4.30
TV funnies. 4.50 London. 5.15
Turnbull's finest half hour. 5.50
London. 6.00 News. 6.25 Wagon
train. 7.50 Protectors. 8.20
Comedians. 8.50 Cartoon. 9.00
London. 10.30 Kick off. 10.55
Film: 'Corridors of Blood'.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 Let them live.
9.55 Felix the cat. 10.05 Stench
in the ear. 10.50 Bush boy.
12.05 London. 2.30 News. 2.31
Yoga. 3.00 London. 3.25 Danger-
man. 4.25 Merrie melodies. 4.50
London. 5.20 Me and the chimp.
5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35

London. 7.00 Sky's the limit.
7.30 London. 8.30 Turnbull's
finest half hour. 9.00 London.
10.30 Film: 'The Third Secret'.
12.25 News. 12.40 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 10.05 First principles.
10.50 Lions 71. 11.40 Phoenix
five. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline.
3.00 London. 3.30 It takes a
thief. 4.25 Nanny and the pro-
fessor. 4.50 London. 5.20 Cross-
roads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today.
6.30 Protectors. 7.00 Sky's the
limit. 7.30 London. 8.30 Turn-
bull's finest half hour. 9.00 Lon-
don. 10.30 Friday night. 11.00
Late call. 11.05 Film: 'Behemoth
the Sea Monster'.

GRAMPIAN: 11.05 Cowboy in
Africa. 12.02 News. 12.05 Lon-
don. 2.00 Dick Van Dyke. 2.30
London. 3.25 Shirley's world.
3.55 Katie Stewart cooks. 4.20
Funky phantom. 4.50 London.
5.20 General hospital. 5.50 Lon-
don. 6.00 News. 6.05 Thomp-
son at teatime. 6.35 London.
7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Cade's
county. 8.30 London. 10.30
Hogan's heroes. 11.00 Job look.
11.10 Film: 'How Awful About
Allan'. 12.30 Meditation.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Fight Rising Prices
Force the Tories to Resign

WINSFORD: Friday December 15,
8 p.m. 'Red Lion'.

CENTRAL LONDON (Press and
Entertainments): Sunday, De-
cember 17, 7 p.m. RSC Rehear-
sal Rooms, 11 Floral Street,
WC2. 'Press Freedom in Britain
and Ireland. Lynch Law and
Toryism.' Speaker: Alex Mitchell,
Workers Press.

BRADFORD: Sunday December
17, 7.30 p.m. 'Talbot Hotel', Kirk-
gate. 'No fines on the unions'.
AUEW speakers.

LONDON TEACHERS: Monday
December 18, 8 p.m. Caxton Hall
(near St James's Park tube).

SKELMERSDALE: Monday Decem-
ber 18, 7.30 p.m. Quarry
Bank Community Centre.

ROCHDALE: Tuesday December
19, 8 p.m. Rochdale Town Hall.

MEDWAY: Tuesday December 19,
8 p.m. 'The Greyhound', Roches-
ter Avenue, Rochester.

CAMBRIDGE: Tuesday December
19, 8 p.m. 'The Mitre', Bridge
Street. 'Fight rising prices'.

CLAPHAM: Tuesday December
19, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths,
Clapham Manor Street, SW4.
'Force the Tories to resign'.

KINGSTON: Tuesday December
19, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Mill
Street. 'Way forward for trade
unionists'.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thurs-
day December 21, 8 p.m. Dept-
ford Engineers' Club, New Cross
Road (near station). 'Build Coun-
cils of Action'.

CLAY CROSS: Thursday Decem-
ber 21, 8 p.m. Social Centre,
Derby Road. 'Fight Tory rent
rises!' 'Make this government
resign.'

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ANGRY BRIGADE

AFTERMATH

Defendants speak at rally

Essex student strike over jail sentences

BY SARAH HANNIGAN

STUDENTS at Essex University yesterday organized a one-day protest strike against the ten-year jail sentences on so-called Angry Brigade members and the earlier 15-year sentence on Jake Prescott. During the afternoon they organized a meeting attended by over 300 students which was addressed by three of the acquitted defendants in the 111-day trial—Angela Weir, Chris Bott and Kate McLean.



Chris Bott, former Essex student



Angela Weir (left) and Kate McLean who spoke at yesterday's protest meetings.

The decision to stage the strike was taken last Monday at a general meeting of 400 Essex students. A resolution was passed stating:

'This meeting is disgusted at the perverse, distorted and untruthful coverage in the Press of the so-called Angry Brigade trial, at which four people were added to Jake Prescott [imprisoned for 15 years] and were imprisoned for ten years as the result of an elaborate police frame-up and state conspiracy.

'The trial was an overtly political trial, aimed at whipping up hysteria against the revolutionary left in Britain, and all those who support the struggle for socialism. This meeting is outraged at the ensuing witch-hunt against the university, led by a combination of local people and the local and national Press.'

It went on to express solidarity with those convicted in the trial but pointed out that the meeting 'does not support the tactics of bombing and shooting as were alleged to have been used by the Angry Brigade and recognizes that any such action at any time must be supported by the working class'.

One strike organizer, Ken Browne, told Workers Press that the morning's activities had been well attended by over 200 students. The strike was 70 to 80 per cent effective, he said.

The students have also set up an Essex University Defence Committee to organize support for a demonstration tomorrow in support of the jailed five.

SINN FEIN men have been arrested in Donegal on charges under the recently amended Offences Against the State Act. Joseph O'Neill (36), a publican, and Paddy Dawson (40) were arrested by Special Branch men on Wednesday night. They were taken to Dublin and held under Section 30 of the Act.

Writings of Leon Trotsky

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These extremely vital writings by Leon Trotsky between the years 1929 and 1940—his third and final exile from the Soviet Union—are now available in Britain from the Paperbacks Centre (see advert below).

IS letter was libellous: Chesterton awarded damages

A. K. CHESTERTON, founder and policy director of the League of Empire Loyalists and former chairman of the National Front, was awarded libel damages in the High Court yesterday.

The amount was not disclosed in court. Chesterton, who lives in Elmhurst Court, St Peter's Road, Croydon, did not appear in court. He is in South Africa for health reasons.

His counsel, Mr Alan Suckling, told Mr Justice Bean that a letter written by the secretary of the Hull International Socialists was published in the Hull 'Daily Mail' on December 4, 1971.

'This stated that Mr Chesterton had been one of Oswald Mosley's propagandists in the 1930s, the other being William Joyce, who was hanged after the war for collaborating with Hitler, and Mr Chesterton himself had been interned for his pro-Nazi sympathies. This grave attack upon Mr Chesterton's loyalty and patriotism was wholly without foundation.'

In World War I Chesterton

joined the army at 16 and was awarded the Military Cross for his part in the attack on the Hindenburg Line.

Although a prominent member of the British Union of Fascists in the 1930s, he had resigned in 1938, largely because of his disagreement with the movement's increasing pro-German sympathies.

In World War II Chesterton again saw active service in the army and was in the British advance into Italian Somaliland and Abyssinia.

Counsel said Hull and Grimsby Newspapers Ltd and Mr James Humble, editor of the Hull 'Daily Mail', had immediately published a letter correctly setting out the part Chesterton had played in both wars.

In addition to the agreed damages they had also agreed to pay Chesterton's costs.

Mr Robert Alexander, for the defendants, said they unreservedly withdrew the wholly unjustified imputations against Chesterton. The judge agreed to the record of Chesterton's action being withdrawn.

Protectionist talk doubly dangerous from union chief

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

JAPANESE trade unionists at an international conference in London were warned to take action against their government's trading practices or face a swing to protectionism in the British labour movement.

The chauvinistic warning came from Mr Roy Sanderson of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Trades Union. He was speaking at a conference on multinational electronic and electrical companies organized by the International Metalworkers' Federation.

Sanderson is a former leader of the Communist Party's fraction in the electrical union who left the Party to become a right-hand man of the present leadership.

Sanderson said that the British market was being flooded with goods from low-wage countries in Asia causing unemployment in the electrical goods industry.

In Hong Kong workers were earning 6p an hour producing electrical equipment for export. 'British workers cannot be expected to compete with these wage rates,' he said.

He warned that unless the Japanese unions took action to ensure that their government operated 'orderly marketing' po-

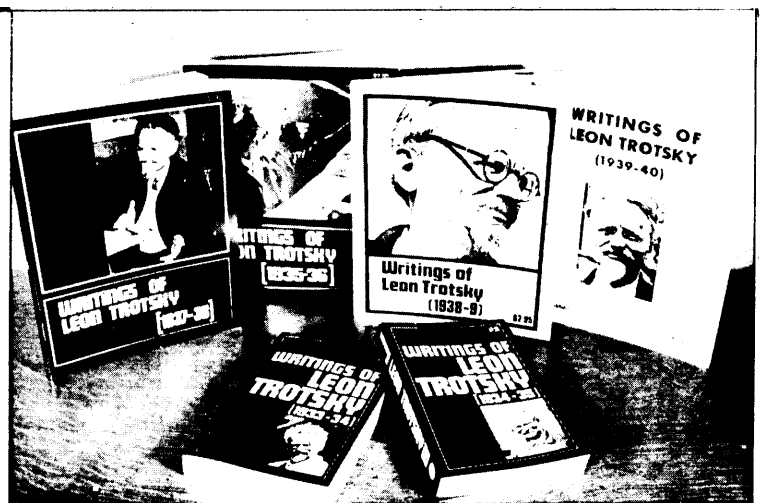
licies to restrict exports, they could expect British unions to back the erection of tariff barriers against their products.

The Japanese delegation sat impassive through Sanderson's speech which echoed his union's protectionist stance at the September Trades Union Congress in Brighton.

As the struggle for markets between the main capitalist powers intensifies, the reformist union leaders in all the countries come to the support of the 'national interest' of their 'own' exploiters.

In the process they set worker against worker and undermine the international solidarity of the working class. In this way they help prepare the ground for the transition from trade war to shooting war.

The main enemy of the British workers is the British capitalist class and its Tory government. It is not the Japanese employers and certainly not the Japanese trade unions. Sanderson's diatribe at the metalworkers' conference is a thoroughly reactionary diversion.



Workers Press MONTHLY APPEAL FUND

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TWELVE days to go to Christmas. We need to try and complete our £1,750 target by then. We are sure that, with a huge effort, you, dear readers, will do everything possible to raise it.

Every other daily paper deliberately plays down the support throughout the trade union movement for the engineers. Only Workers Press shows the great movement that exists for a fight against the Industrial Relations Act.

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Distillers expect £56m profit

DISTILLERS, the whisky empire and the marketers of thalidomide, are expected to make a £56m profit this year.

This profit forecast was made yesterday when the company announced pre-tax profits of £27.3m for the six months to the end of September. The company has just announced a £12m trust fund for victims of thalidomide.

MP Jack Ashley described the offer as 'very crafty' and needed 'great study'. He thought a £20m fund was nearer the mark.

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Textile inquiry opens Striking Asians complain jobs were filled

ASIAN WORKERS from the Mansfield Hosiery plant, Loughborough, found that 41 white trainee knitters had been taken on when they returned after a six-week strike.

And the strikers claimed yesterday that leading officials of the National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers knew that outside labour had been given jobs.

Dhiru Patel claimed this was so when he gave evidence yesterday at the first day of a committee of inquiry at Nottingham into the strike by 500 Asian workers at the Loughborough factory.

FROM PHILIP WADE IN NOTTINGHAM

The strikers originally decided to go back on November 27 on the basis of an agreement with management that Asian workers would be trained as full-fashioned knitters.

No Asians have ever been trained for these jobs in the plant—being employed only as low-paid bar loaders.

'When we went back management tried to bring new procedures and routines,' said Mr Patel through an interpreter.

'Workers were put on different machines and some were told they could only work say three days a week.'

Management then told the Asians that they had employed 41 trainee knitters from outside and that the union had been informed.

'We brought in the union officials,' said Mr Patel, 'although one denied knowing about the knitters management contended that they told them.'

'All the bar loaders said they wouldn't work in such conditions and went back on strike,' added Mr Patel. He claimed: 'The union was aware of the new knitters'.

Peter Prendergast, president of the union, and Harold Gibson, the general secretary, were both at the committee of inquiry.

The chairman of the government inquiry is Kenneth Robinson, former Labour Minister and now personnel chief of the British Steel Corporation.

Second meat move away from London's dockland

LORD VESTEY'S Thames Stevedoring Company in the Royal docks faces closure following the decision to switch the South American meat trade to Southampton.

There are about 1,100 men employed on the South American trade. London's dockland has already suffered a serious decline through the recent removal of the New Zealand meat trade to Sheerness.

In both trades the Vestey organization plays a commanding role. The group has refused to comment on the latest move to Southampton, but it is no secret that the directors have been complaining about the handling charges in London.

Recently the employers were demanding a 50-per-cent increase in productivity from London dockers.

The decision to close down London's traditional meat trade is a huge blow at the docks.

If Lord Vestey closes his Thames Stevedoring—which now seems likely—the 1,100 dockers will have to be re-allocated to other work in the port.

If there is no other work for

them, a hitherto unspecified form of work-sharing will be introduced.

The effects of this are not clear, but when the Jones-Aldington terms were announced,

Jones said it could mean dockers losing pay.

The first ships carrying the South American traffic will start discharging at Southampton next March.

Mine and car claims due in New Year

MINERS' union leaders yesterday gave their negotiators what amounts to a completely free hand in pay talks starting January 10.

No firm demands on either pay or hours emerged from a morning meeting of the National Union of Mineworkers' executive.

Joe Gormley, NUM president, stressed that the figures of £5 and £7 mentioned at the union's conference in July were simply targets.

So was the five-hour cut in the working week which had been called for. No one had specified a date by which these things should be achieved.

Gormley denied that the ex-

ecutive's attitude had been influenced by the government's pay-control law. 'We are negotiating as if it didn't exist,' he claimed.

FORD UNION negotiators yesterday submitted a substantial pay claim on behalf of 50,000 workers at 21 plants.

Besides a big increase in wages, the unions want a cut in hours, more holidays and higher pensions.

The present agreement runs out at the end of February, and any new deal is certain to be affected by pay legislation following the present standstill. But there were no threats of industrial action yesterday.

CAV: Docks leaders still drag their feet

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

SHOP STEWARDS throughout Merseyside are to call for a black on CAV-Lucas products over the occupation of the group's Fazakerley factory in Liverpool.

The black was agreed at a meeting of Liverpool Trades Council on Wednesday which also voted to back the one-day strike called this Wednesday by the Liverpool district committee of the AUEW over the £55,000 fine.

But Liverpool dockers' leaders are still dragging their feet over the key question of blacking Lucas goods throughout the port of Merseyside.

Dock delegates led by shop stewards Jimmy Symes and Jimmy Nolan said their members were willing to black Lucas goods, but wanted guarantees from other factory workers.

They want an assurance that if action was taken against them under the Industrial Relations Act they would be supported by other sections of industry.

This argument has all the marks of deliberate evasion of the issue. A mass meeting of shop stewards, called by the Trades Council after the release of the five dockers jailed by the National Industrial Relations Court, is already on record pledging industrial action throughout Merseyside if any trade unionist is penalized under the Act.

The question of blacking on the docks, therefore, still remains unresolved despite requests for this action weeks ago.

Another indication of the retreat by the docks leaders came on the vote for the one-day stoppage.

The bulk of them abstained in the vote for the strike. They argued that the proposal would have to be put to their membership first—a consideration that did not stop the majority of the 80 shop stewards present from factories all over Merseyside voting for the resolution.

THIS SUNDAY CENTRAL LONDON

All Trades Unions Alliance meeting (Press and Entertainments branch)

RSC Rehearsal Rooms, Floral Street, WC2, 7 p.m.

'Press Freedom in Britain and Ireland

Lynch law and Toryism' Speaker: Alex Mitchell (Workers Press)

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North London and Lambeth Councils of Action call on tenants, housewives, trade unionists, youth and unemployed.

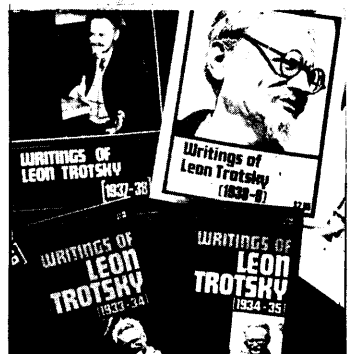
Fight rising prices! Make the Tory government resign!

December 16

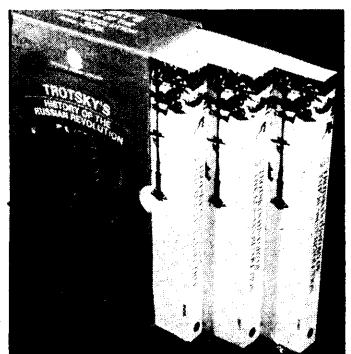
March through Brixton shopping centre
Assemble 2 p.m. opposite Brixton Town Hall
Meeting: Clapham Baths Clapham Manor Street 4 p.m.

March through Wood Green and Tottenham
Assemble 2 p.m. opposite Wood Green Town Hall
Meeting: Downhills Park School 3 p.m.

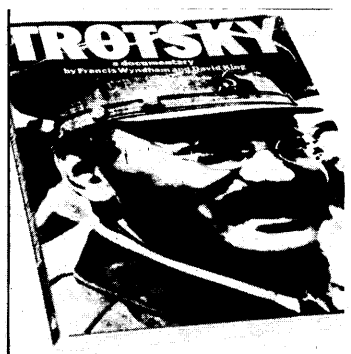
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