

## TORY PAY PLAN IN ACTION

# HEATH DEMANDS WAGE-CUTS

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

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The first item on the agenda was how the government should fight out the inevitable confrontation their Phase Two policy of state control of wages will cause.

The propaganda war of lies has already started. Through the Tory-controlled national Press and television, workers are told Phase Two means an extra £1 and a 4-per-cent limit on wage increases.

But every working-class housewife knows that living standards have been slashed and that worse is to come.

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**AFTER NOVEMBER'S** 'freeze' on prices food has gone up 6 per cent in two months—that is an incredible rate of 40 per cent a year. Wage rises have been banned. On the latest Tory proposals the working class will suffer a 20 to 30 per cent drop in living standards in 1973.

The Tories, of course, are not expecting to convince the mass of trade unionists that their policy is fair. They have deliberately caused inflation by devaluing the pound 10 per cent and now they boast openly that food prices will not be controlled.

The government knows that a showdown with the working class is a certainty and leading Tory spokesmen have identified the car industry as the main field of battle.

Ford and British-Leyland workers both have claims for more than treble the 4 per cent norm. The government will not allow these, and the car workers may well take industrial action. Then the stage will be set for using the penalties under the anti-inflation Act—unlimited fines and jail.

Such a clash will spread far beyond the car industry. Like the jailing of the 'Pentonville Five' dockers, it involves a most important basic democratic right and the entire working class would respond.

**The Tories are actively preparing for this battle now.**

A main aim is to whip the middle class into line with the scare over inflation. This will begin in earnest on Wednesday when Heath holds his presidential-style questions-and-answers Press conference which will be televised.

The venue is Lancaster House, an opulent mansion in London where the government will try to recreate the splendour of the past to impress suburbia that the Tory fight against inflation is genuine.

Secret, but even more serious preparations are afoot.

Workers Press has already revealed the plans by the security services to create a scare around the socialist movement by false allegations of conspiracies and violence.

These go in hand with special political and military training thousands of middle-class individuals are receiving in the 'third force'—the revamped Territorial Army now being developed as a modern, fully armed 'blackshirt' blackleg force. (See this page.)

Such preparations tie in with the very serious possibility of a snap General Election. This would take place under conditions of a massive government-promoted red scare, perhaps at the same time as a massive industrial confrontation.

**Industrial confrontation.**

From this the Tories would hope to sail forth with a brief for dictatorship—it is not for nothing that their political commentators are all comparing Heath to General de Gaulle.

### Don't waste a single day

These are the great dangers that face the working class.

Every day wasted—every day that the working class is not mobilized—is a day for the Tories. Another 24 hours in which they can develop their plans for civil war and dictatorship.

The time to hit back is now. There can be no more illusions about the coming confrontation—the Tories have said so openly.

● All workers in the wages struggle must be united behind the political campaign to bring the government down and replace it with a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

● The TUC Congress must be recalled to plan this offensive and the old leadership that will not fight must be removed.

● Councils of Action, involving all sections of the working class and parties of the left, must be built in every area as the main instruments of the fight.



## Silent 'third force' army ready for Ulster in Britain

BY ALEX MITCHELL

**THE HOME OFFICE** and the Ministry of Defence have been quietly building up a 60,000-strong 'third force' to deal with civil unrest in Britain.

The body of armed and trained men is the revamped Territorials, known as the Army Volunteer Reserve (AVR). One division of this organization, AVR III, has forged close links with the police force. They conduct exercises together and have worked out a co-ordinated command structure in some areas.

AVR III with 23,000 men has an armoured car division; it would be used in the event of a General Strike or large-scale unrest for better wages or against the high cost of living.

The 'Daily Telegraph' defence correspondent, Brigadier W. F. K. Thompson, said on Saturday:

'There is general awareness in Whitehall of the possibility of a Northern Ireland form of violence spreading to other parts of the United Kingdom.'

'The present government has increased the establishment of the T and AVR by a further 10,000 men, one of whose roles is home defence.'

In 1967 the Wilson government disbanded the old Territorials, the part-timers who did drill in church halls and attended an annual camp.

In its place grew the AVR, a more disciplined and better-equipped force. Between March and December 1971 the size of the force rose from 49,100 to 56,300, mainly due to the addition of 20 infantry-type units.

A new set of official figures will be published next month and they are bound to show the strength is now over 60,000.

Recruitment for the AVR is being conducted vigorously among the middle class and the unemployed. Those who join are sworn to secrecy about the training programme and they are thus inducted into a 'brotherhood'.

Their chief activity is enacting 'war games'. Two training schedules are the storming of an IRA stronghold ('pretend you're in the Ardoyne') and putting down a race riot in Brixton.

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● For full story see p.11.

TURN TO BACK PAGE



# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● MONDAY JANUARY 15, 1973 ● No. 971 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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TURN TO BACK PAGE

## Basques hunted in Bilbao

SPANISH police have begun an intensive hunt in the Bilbao area for three youths who threatened to kill a fascist union official if he did not resign.

Santiago Urdampilleta works for the corporatist Sindicato in a railway rolling stock factory in Bilbao. He is attempting to dampen the workers' fight for higher wages.

The youths' actions are in line with the policy of the Basque nationalist army, ETA.

ETA's fomenting of individual acts of terrorism against the Franco regime and its agents is a diversion from the real political problems facing Spanish workers.

Over the last two months, almost 100 ETA youth have been arrested for bomb attacks and shoot-outs with the police.

The ETA is inspired to a great extent by the adventurism of Maoist theories.

Peking diplomats are busy, however, cultivating commercial relations and following the strongly pro-capitalist Europe views now favoured by Chairman Mao.

The latest Peking-Madrid deal was authorized by the Ministry of Commerce last Thursday.

China is to import 20,000 tons of super-phosphate worth 33.4 million pesetas.

## Overney: Killer gets 4 yrs

THE RENAULT motor company official who murdered a 23-year-old Maoist Pierre Overney outside the company's Paris factory last February has been sentenced to four years' jail.

Jean-Antoine Tramoni, a former army NCO who saw service in Algeria, claimed he had waved his pistol to intimidate a group of Maoist demonstrators when it accidentally went off.

Even the judge found it hard to swallow this story, which was a blatant cover for the employment of an illegal armed police force within the factories.

# Stalinist pressure for terms Hanoi making concessions?

**PRESIDENTIAL** adviser Henry Kissinger arrived in Key Biscayne, Florida, yesterday to report to president Nixon on six days of intensive talks with North Vietnamese envoy Le Duc Tho.

Kissinger arrived with General Alexander Haig, his former deputy on the White House national security staff. He refused to comment on whether agreement had been reached with the North Vietnamese in the 27 hours of talks last week.

However, according to presidential Press secretary Ronald Ziegler, the talks were 'serious'—a term which in American jargon could mean that the Vietnamese have made concessions to the US negotiating positions.

The talks were reopened in Paris after Nixon had called off the bombardment of Hanoi and Haiphong following heavy losses of B52 bombers over the North Vietnamese capital.

One of the key American demands in the talks is believed to have been for the effective sealing of the demilitarized zone between North and South Vietnam. The Americans want a large international force in Vietnam to supervise any ceasefire.

The biggest threat to the Vietnamese revolution remains the treacherous policy of the Moscow and Peking leaders. It is certain that the Stalinist bureaucrats in these countries have not relaxed their pressure on the government in Hanoi to come to terms with Washington.

Under the slogan of peaceful co-existence they want to liquidate the revolution in Indo-China to facilitate their own rapprochement with the leaders of American imperialism.

Their stand imperils the Vietnamese struggle and raises the spectre of a sell-out deal, perhaps along the lines of the 1954 Geneva agreement.

## Around the world

### Food 'watchdog' for Chile

CHILEAN workers have long since stopped worrying about the price increase of meat—there is none in the shops! Domestic meat production does not cover demand, and Chile's lack of foreign exchange makes it impossible to make large purchases abroad.

The meat that does exist is sold on the black market at exorbitant prices.

In a nationwide TV and radio broadcast Finance Minister Fernando Flores accused the opponents of President Salvador Allende's regime of using the black market to 'prepare the way for the fall of the government'.

A quota of about 30 essential foods, including oil, sugar, rice, meat and coffee, would be established and 'watchdog' committees set up to supervise supplies.

### Pay strikes

Already there have been bus and rail pay strikes, suggesting that little confidence remains in the Popular Unity government.

After two years of demagoguery about 'democratic socialism', Chilean workers cannot buy basic foodstuffs and face a cabinet dominated by generals like Carlos Prats.

### Hassan 'coup' executions

ELEVEN Moroccan Air Force officers were executed outside Rabat on Saturday for their part in the abortive coup against King Hassan on August 16 last year.

Among the executed men were two officers who fled to Gibraltar and were handed back to the Moroccan authorities by the Tory government.

# Social democrats under siege

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

THE SOCIALIST International ended its weekend meeting in Paris yesterday under a virtual state of siege in a hall surrounded by police and special anti-riot units.

Security arrangements were especially tight for Israeli premier Mrs Golda Meir, who flew to Rome after the final conference session to confer with Pope Paul.



GOLDA MEIR . . . Tight airport security.

The observation platform at the airport was cleared and the car park was emptied in case anyone tried to plant a bomb.

There were violent clashes on Saturday between police and pro-Arab demonstrators.

They were protesting against the Zionist bomb outrage which killed Mahmoud Hamchari, Paris representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr Hamchari was in-

jured by a bomb in his apartment last month.

He died of his injuries in a Paris hospital last week. Palestinian leaders flew from Cairo at the weekend to attend his funeral.

The conference was subjected to the tightest possible security to protect Meir and other social-democrat leaders.

Police banned all demonstrations outside the Luxembourg Palace where it was held, laid on an emergency ambulance service, forbade all journalists from entering the conference and drew up emergency evacuation plans.

Many demonstrators were injured during the fighting around the Boulevard St Michel as police struggle to prevent them from reaching the palace.

There were running battles in side-streets off the boulevard.

The Socialist International is the rump of the Second International.

A loose grouping of social-democratic parties, it meets on average about once every two years.

The British Labour Party was represented by James Callaghan, former Chancellor of the Exchequer.

## The industrial scene

# Tractor assembly workers fight mobility moves

ASSEMBLY WORKERS from the Massey-Ferguson tractor plant in Coventry are to lay plans today for winning their six-day-old strike over mobility of labour.

They are calling for support from other sections who have so far failed to back their action.

The strike began last Tuesday, when the company attempted to force 50 night-shift assembly workers to do work in the machine shop.

All the assembly workers then walked out. The following morning their action received the backing of the day shift and a meeting of the joint shop stewards' committee voted unanimously to call supporting action.

The mobility of labour agreement at Massey's dates from 1949, when the factory was owned by the Standard Motor Co. Under this agreement men could be moved from one department to another to prevent

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT  
redundancies in times of recession.

Men moved in such circumstances invariably did so either on a permanent basis or for protracted periods.

But this year, after the unions forced the company to concede a guaranteed week of 32 hours at average earnings for workers laid off, this custom is being changed.

Recently, when the Massey-Ferguson factory in Manchester went on strike, hundreds of fitters were laid off at Coventry on £36 a week.

Mobility is now being applied as it is in factories where Measured Day-Work is in force.

Production workers, particularly in the assembly shops, have been put on night-shift when the company had no intention of running the tracks. Men on tractor assembly have been moved into machine shops.

Objections led to ultimatums to accept the work or be sent home without pay.

The stewards' recommendation of factory-wide action against the company's latest attack was, however, defeated at a mass meeting last Wednesday afternoon.

One machinist told Workers Press that he thought the rejection vote was because stewards and convenors had allowed machine-shop workers to be transferred willy-nilly for years.

On Thursday, management instructed storemen and internal drivers to work machines which had been refused by the fitters.

The machine-shop stewards issued an ultimatum to the company to remove this labour. But this was rejected by the company, and after the metal mechanics' convenor had spoken against the stewards' strike recommendation, the machine shop remained at work.

Assembly workers insist, however, that the new company hard line is an essential part of its strategy for breaking down hard-won conditions in the Common Market and stress that they are determined to fight on.

# Furniture sit-in workers face the sack

WAREHOUSE workers at the John Banner cash and carry furniture store, Acton Vale, west London, who staged a sit-in last November are to lose their jobs by the end of the month.

After the results of a review announced last week, the warehouse staff were told that the store—part of the United Drapery chain—would finally shut down on January 27.

The sit-in began when the workers walked out of the store

in November claiming they could not stand the cold. On returning to work they were told they would lose a day's pay for their action.

They immediately barricaded themselves in the warehouse where they remained for two days before management agreed to pay up.

United Drapery's deputy managing director, Mr Bernard Sandler, commented: 'After a trial period of six months, it was found not to be economically viable.'

The man who led the sit-in, Transport and General Workers' Union shop steward, Harry Tait, said: 'The occupation had very little to do with the closure.'

He told Workers Press that he thought the 33 union members, made redundant in the closure 'will not have much difficulty' in getting other jobs in the area.

Some, he said, had been offered alternative employment by United Drapery. Others had been offered help from the union.

Socialist Labour League Yorkshire Rally

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**PAUL WHETSTONE** (Young Socialists)  
In personal capacity:  
**GEORGE LUBY** (U.P.W.)  
**ROBBIE ROBERTS** (N.U.M.)

# SHOUT 'SCAB'... AND GO TO JAIL

The Tory government has instigated a review of the laws on picketing following the militant activities of miners, dockers, building workers and others in 1972.

Sections of the Tory Party are demanding a legal limit to the size of pickets, and that picketing of premises not directly involved in the dispute (such as picketing of power stations during a miners' strike) should be outlawed.

But an article in the current issue of 'The Industrial Law Journal' reveals that the state already has considerable powers at its disposal, particularly in Scotland.

On February 14, during the miners' strike, 13 men were arrested when 2,000 miners picketed the Longannet power station. They were charged with mobbing and rioting.

When a person is arrested in Scotland it is for the Procurator-Fiscal to decide whether proceedings are to be taken, for what offence, and whether the case is to be tried summarily or by jury.

The Fiscal is an 'independent' public officer—but he is responsible to the Lord Advocate who is the senior government law officer for Scotland.

## Private

The accused does not have the right to elect for trial by jury—that is a matter for the Fiscal. If the latter decides to proceed on indictment it is normal for the accused to be remanded in custody until committed for trial—and this usually takes a week. The

accused cannot normally secure bail if this is opposed by the Fiscal. And these proceedings take place in private.

This was the procedure followed in the 'Longannet' case—except that when the men appeared at the Dunfermline Sheriff's Court there was such a large gathering of miners outside that the Sheriff declared the whole of the court building to be his chambers, in order to keep the public out.

And such was the outcry among workers when the 13 were remanded in custody that the Lord Advocate hastily flew up to Scotland from London and brought the pickets before the Sheriff again the next day, when they were released on bail.

(This was a foretaste of the intervention of the Official Solicitor in the case of the five London dockers jailed in July.)

However, the Longannet case is important not only because of this, but because it reveals a great deal about the law. As the author of the 'Industrial Law Journal' article points out:

'Basically, any form of mass picketing almost inevitably involves the commission of offence, unless the pickets remain quiet and orderly, do not obstruct the path or footway and do as they are told by the police.'

These restrictions, of course, make any effective picketing virtually impossible.

It is an offence to 'obstruct the highway'. 'Threatening, abusive or insulting' behaviour under the Public Order Act 1936, section 5 is equally an offence, as is obstruction of a



police officer in the course of his duty.

This provides the basis of the policeman's power to control the size and conduct of the picket line.

The whole gamut of criminal law in relation to violence, of course, applies equally to pickets.

And a statutory offence of particular relevance to mass picketing is that of 'watching or besetting' premises under Section 7 (4) of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875.

A mass picket could be considered a 'besetting' of the premises and as such illegal even without disorder.

In addition to all this the common law of Scotland provides two sweeping and vaguely-defined offences apt to cover almost any activity such as a mass picket is likely to entail.

The more serious of these, mobbing and rioting, was that charged at Longannet, when it was said of the accused that they:

'...formed part of a riotous mob of evil disposed persons which, acting with a common purpose, did conduct it-

self in a violent, riotous and tumultuous manner to the great terror and alarm of the lieges, and in breach of the peace did curse, swear and utter threats of violence...'

What is significant is that, according to the 'Industrial Law Journal' writer, once it is declared that intimidation by force of numbers or threats of violence took place, willing presence in the crowd is sufficient to establish guilt and participation in specific acts of intimidation or violence need not be proved.

## 'Alarmed'

There is also what the author calls the 'catch-all offence' of breach of the peace which is even wider in its scope in Scotland than it is in England.

It embraces any behaviour likely to lead to a breach of the peace and does not necessarily involve behaviour which is threatening, abusive or insulting.

It therefore covers, according to the 'Journal' writer, barracking of workers passing through picket lines and the use of 'opprobrious epithets'

such as 'scab'.

If those passing through the picket line are 'alarmed', 'upset' or provoked to retaliate it is the pickets who are criminally liable.

That is to say that a scab can physically assault a picket, but if it is established that he was 'provoked to retaliate', it is the picket who has committed an offence in law.

Under this statute the police are empowered to clear any obstruction off the street or take any such steps as are necessary to prevent a 'reasonably apprehended' breach of the peace. Obstruction of the police in such circumstances is also an offence.

It is clear from all this that bourgeois - democratic rights do not include adequate safeguards for workers in conflict with the bourgeoisie.

To think that the existing legal framework ensures the continuation of the basic rights won by the working class in struggle would, therefore, be a serious mistake.

The defence of basic rights today involves a revolutionary struggle against the ruling class and its state.

## TRUCK WAR STARTS IN EUROPE

The import duty on trucks from Europe goes down to 17.6 per cent this April—a fall of 4.4 per cent. And already manufacturers are making their preparations for all-out competition in this field.

Western European companies are fast building up sales and servicing facilities to be in a better position to move when the tariff comes down.

The Dutch manufacturer, Daf, has just announced separation of its car and truck operations in the United Kingdom.

A new company has been formed to handle trucks only to ease the management of operations.

Daf began selling trucks in Britain as an offshoot of its car operations about a year ago. It sold 150 in the first year and is now planning to sell 500 trucks in 1973 capable of operating at up to 38 tons.

Already 11 dealers have been taken on and another ten are being sought within Daf's perspective of doubling truck production by 1976.

Fiat, which has had some trouble negotiating with

British firms to handle its truck concessions, has finally decided to establish its own wholly-owned truck sales company.

The EEC's largest truck manufacturer, Mercedes-Benz, has just acquired a 36-acre site near Wakefield, Yorkshire, to develop into a national preparation and distribution centre. It will also double as a northern depot, one of four being established.

Mercedes plans to sell 2,000 trucks—over £7m worth—in Britain this year.

While the European giants are moving into the British market in force, British-Leyland—Europe's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer—is trying desperately to inflict similar blows on its opponents.

To date British-Leyland's trucks have been sold in the old Commonwealth countries like Australia, South Africa, Nigeria and New Zealand.

Now, with the British truck market having slumped 14 per cent over the past 18 months, Leyland is forcing through a ruthless rationalization of its entire range of trucks from 16 tons to 32 tons.

Lord Stokes' perspective is to reduce the range of models from 32 to 21, streamlining both production and components.

Yet in a shrinking market, the Common Market countries plan to reduce their tariffs to zero within four years. This will make certain that some truck manufacturers will not survive the competition.

## Writings of Leon Trotsky

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# KILLER DUST ON THE FARM

Dust disease is normally associated with the dark, dank pit bottom. But it also cripples thousands of farm workers who spend most of their time in the fresh air.



A recent unpublished survey finds that the disease, known commonly as 'harvest lung' affects some 15 to 20 per cent of workers who operate combine harvesters, grain-driers or clear out storage bins.

## Fungus

In some cases the effects of the disease are so bad that it would be dangerous for the man or woman to carry on working in dusty conditions.

The symptoms of the disease are coughing, wheezing, tightness round the chest, and headaches. Contrary to popular conception, it is not caused by shattered particles of plant material, but by spores from fungus that attack the ears of grain. These spores lodge in the bronchial tubes and cause acute irritation.

Concern started when a Dr Roe, who has a practice in the heart of cereal-growing Lincolnshire, realized a large number of his patients were suffering from chest complaints.

He passed on his concern to the chest unit at the Sheffield Royal Infirmary and found that doctors and specialists there were also worried about the unhealthy effects of some land work.

Dr Roe went to the National Union of Allied and Agricultural Workers in Leicester and asked them to co-operate with an investigation. A team of doctors carried out tests and came up with the figures quoted.

## Union backing

The recommendations, however, are rather feeble. Leader of the team, Dr Darke, concludes that very little can be done to prevent the illness. He calls for greater use of face masks, cap on harvesters and better ventilation facilities.

It is now up to the union to insist immediately that none of its members should be subject to such a health risk. If a land worker is victimized for refusing to wreck his health for the sake of the farmer's profit, he should be given full industrial backing from the union.



# BLUE-EYED BOYS GET £100

British-Leyland ended its four-year stint as owner of the Thornycroft gearbox factory in Basingstoke last week with what shop stewards described as an 'underhand', 'discriminatory' and 'disruptive' gesture.

The £430m car and heavy-vehicle combine is to pay workers who did not take part in last year's 11-week sit-in strike against closure bonuses of up to £100 each.

But with the Eaton Corporation of Ohio, US, taking over as employers today, a feeling of insecurity is already prevalent in the factory. Eaton's has only a three-year lease from the new owners of the site, the English and Continental Property Co, and there are already rumours that the corporation does not even intend to stay that long.

In these circumstances the bonuses smacked of a provocation, and since a majority of stewards felt industrial action would prove costlier than any victory they might win, their joint committee decided to take no action against their payment.

The sit-in at Thornycroft's began last August, following the announcement of Leyland's split-level sale.

Had the factory, then employing 1,100 workers, been allowed to close, the unemployment rate in the Hampshire new town of Basingstoke would have doubled overnight. The labour force was determined to resist—and they won backing for their struggle throughout the Leyland combine.

On August 28, 23,000 workers across the combine stayed away from work in support of the occupation.

Those who struck, in support of a decision by the British-Leyland combine stewards' committee, included heavy-vehicle workers at Bathgate (Scotland), Leyland (Lancashire) and Tractor and Transmission (Birmingham) and carworkers from Morris Motors, BMC Service and KD Export (Cowley, Oxford).

But the right wing did nothing to mobilize behind the combine committee's decision, and at the Longbridge (Birmingham) complex, and a number of other Midlands factories where Communist Party members have influence, there was no determined fight for the principle of the stoppage.

This undoubtedly strengthened the hand of the union leaders, who by November had forced the end of the occupation and handed Leyland terms which left the 750 workers

remaining with few real guarantees for their future.

Despite their heroic resistance to unemployment, the Thornycroft workers had foisted on them a 'Catch-22' deal in which orders are guaranteed by Leyland only 'subject to market conditions'.

Since both the home and export market in heavy vehicles is falling, the future for Thornycroft's, which supplies gearboxes for precisely this sector, is far from rosy. And it is here the background to last week's bonuses row becomes extremely important.

Why is it, for instance, that Eaton's paid £2.5m for a factory built in 1898 on which it has only a three-year lease? Does the corporation, which already has bought far more modern plant from the government at Bolton, intend to renew the lease when it runs out? What are English and Continental's reasons for negotiating such an unusual arrangement in the first place?

As a spokesman for a leading firm of London estate agents told Workers Press recently, the usual form for such deals is a 21-year lease with a rent revision every seven years.

'What seems to be happening', he went on, 'is that E&CP wants to develop the land and it will take about

Thornycroft workers in last year's 11-week sit-in against the factory's closure. On handing over to the new owners Leyland paid out 'bonuses' to those who did not occupy.

three years to get all the necessary permission for their plans. In all probability there will be a clause to this effect in the lease.'

The gain for Eaton's from such a development would be a period gaining expertise in making Leyland gearboxes, and a certain amount of machinery and other assets which could be stripped.

The advantage for cash-hungry Leyland in all this is obvious. It gets £5m.

Leyland claimed in discussion with the Thornycroft stewards last week that it was just 'coincidental' its bonuses of £50, £75 and £100 were being handed out to the people who stayed on the payroll during the sit-in strike.

The company refused the stewards' demands either to withdraw the bonuses or pay them to everyone.

This was described by convenor Gordon Owen-Jones as 'a typical management tactic'. He claimed it was designed to cause as much disunity in the factory as possible before the Eaton take-over.

The question now is: if this was a provocation, what is Eaton's move going to be?

# THOSE WHO DIDN'T JOIN THE NIXON LANDSLIDE

The US election gave the impression that Nixon had won the overwhelming support of the American people and annihilated all opponents.

While Nixon's defeat of the Democratic hope Senator George McGovern was certainly decisive, the total turnout for the President was disappointing to Republican leaders.

Only a third of the electorate cast their votes for Nixon, while 46 per cent of the voters stayed at home registering either their total disinterest, or their contempt for the mock battle between the two US capitalist parties.

The abstention rate was the highest of any American election since 1948. Young voters and large sections of the black community felt an understandable cynicism over the antics of the two contenders.

Another indication of the break-up in US politics was the votes received by presidential candidates who stood for policies to the left of the two main parties.

News has reached Britain through 'The Militant', journal of the revisionist Socialist Workers' Party, that an estimated 250,000 votes were cast for these alternative candidates—a sharp increase over the 1968 figure of 178,000.

The American Workers' League, which is in sympathy with the policies of the International Committee of the Fourth International, backed SWP candidates Linda Jenness and Andrew Pulley as part of the campaign in the US for a Labour Party.

The Socialist Workers' Party



'Left' candidates Dr Benjamin Spock, Carl Rogers of the People's Party, Judy Collins and the SWP candidates Andrew Pulley and Linda Jenness.

leaders did not offer a real alternative to the US working class. They played lip-service to their slogan of opposing both the Democrats and the Republicans. In practice they took up an uncritical attitude towards McGovern's 'radical' fringe and the Communist Party.

The SWP came out of the election with 68,226 votes—higher than the CP tally at 25,811 votes and the Socialist Labour Party total of over 53,000. They were beaten only by Dr Benjamin Spock's People's Party, a loose coalition of liberals and peace movement activists. About 80 per cent of Spock's votes, however, came from California. In other

states his showing was poor.

In Texas, SWP candidates polled as many as 90,000 votes with no Republicans in the field. Alice Conner, running on the SWP ticket in a special Georgia election polled 1 per cent of the vote according to the 'Atlanta Constitution' and in Minneapolis, home of the famous teamsters' strike led by Trotskyists, Bill Peterson, SWP Congressional candidate won 4,071 votes, 2.2 per cent of the poll.

The best statewide vote for the two presidential candidates were from Louisiana, in the deep south (14,398) and Massachusetts, in the east (10,600).

The SWP vote would have been a lot higher but for

rigging by some state authorities.

In Arizona, Secretary of State Wesley Bolin ruled that Jenness and Pulley votes could not be counted because their names were not listed on the ballot with the electors. The snag was that Bolin had ordered that the list should exclude the two.

The election officials also appeared to have swindled the SWP out of votes cast in Arizona's Pima County, which includes the city of Tucson. The United Press International recorded 30,945 votes there for the SWP.

Despite these practices, the SWP vote was up on the 41,389 votes in 1968. It is, in

fact, the highest vote for the party since it stood in the presidential elections.

The truly massive abstentions, particularly among the more-exploited section of the American working class, and the substantial vote for candidates to the left of the Democrats and Republicans, show that there is a solid basis for a Labour Party in America to represent the working class and win support from the middle class.

The election returns have revealed the possibilities. It will be the job of the Workers League, with the backing of the Fourth International, to realise those possibilities during 1973.



## KREISKY APPOINTS THE FIRST 'PRICES POLICE'

Austria's Social Democratic government does not intend to leave itself open to the charge that wages are being kept down in the country while prices skyrocket.

Beginning this month, 600 police will patrol shops, restaurants and pubs making sure vendors keep their prices down.

Last year the cost of living in Austria rose by 6.3 per cent—the highest rise since World War II.

Herr Bruno Kreisky's government fears that the new 16-per-cent Value Added Tax could seriously aggravate inflation—hence the appointment of the price police.

To slow down the growth of inflation, employers, trade unions and the government

agreed last November to what amounted to a prices and incomes freeze. A joint board was set up to oversee all price movements.

The price police, drawn from regular police ranks, can levy fines of up to 500,000 Austrian shillings (£900) if shopkeepers raise prices 'without justification'. Profits assessed as 'unfair' can also be expropriated by the state.

Shopkeepers have a maximum prices guide to go by, compiled last year by the price police. It lists permissible prices for over 500,000 items.

The VAT began operating on January 1 and in the first week many shops closed down for inventories and re-pricing. Some landlords immediately added the new tax to their rent bills, but this was declared illegal and tenants were invited to start civil suits.

The government has appealed for public support in administering its prices policy.

Left: Herr Bruno Kreisky, head of the Austrian government.

## PRICES UP IN HUNGARY

When Soviet premier Leonid Brezhnev visited Hungary in December, he gave full approval to the introduction of the next stage of the New Economic Mechanism (NEM).

Hungarian workers are experiencing the first fruits of the 'experiment' by the Stalinist bureaucracy in Budapest—that old-fashioned method of raising prices.

The retail price level of milk and dairy products are being increased by an average 28 per cent.

The price of milk has risen by 50 per cent. Other increases are: butter 20 per cent; cheese 13 per cent; tobacco goods 25 per cent. There are increases scheduled of 3 to 11 per cent in retail prices of bakery products.

Vilmos Saghy, first deputy Minister of Internal Trade, made the following blithe statement: 'According to our calculations, price increases will not bring about any fundamental change in the structure of consumption. Food sales will continue to develop in favour of up-to-date healthy nourishment.'

The NEM does not plan wage increases to meet this rapid climb of prices, so presumably Saghy means that the Stalinist bureaucracy will continue not to suffer from the economic distortions imposed in Comecon and the Soviet Union by the Stalinist theory of 'socialism in one country'. For the bureaucrats, it is consumption as usual.

The French Constitution gives wide powers to the President in appointing the Prime Minister and the members of his government. In its electoral propaganda, the French Communist Party constantly repeats that it also lays down that 'national sovereignty resides in the people who express it through their representatives'.

By posing the problem of the President's powers in this way they evade the real question of power which is posed in France as a result of the confrontation between the working class and the Bonapartist state of Pompidou, successor to de Gaulle.

But they also offer themselves, together with their coalition partners, supporters of the common programme, as an alternative government for French capitalism. They are giving many guarantees of good behaviour, including their acceptance of the Gaullist Constitution.

They make the point about popular sovereignty without reference to other sections of the Constitution of the Fifth Republic adopted in October 1958 after the return of General de Gaulle to power. At de Gaulle's behest the new Constitution gave extensive powers to the President himself.

Compared with the situation under the Third and Fourth Republics, the powers of the National Assembly and the Prime Minister diminished. It was de Gaulle's aim to establish 'a strong state' as opposed to 'the regime of the parties' which, under the previous constitutions, had led to governmental instability.

Not only were greater powers concentrated in the President's hands, but it was assumed that he and the National Assembly majority would be of the same political complexion — a permanent Gaullist majority.

French capitalism needed strong government of a Bonapartist character to meet the threat from the working class. While paying lip-service to the will of the people, great powers were concentrated in the executive. Above all the working-class parties had to be excluded from government and confined to the role of a more or less loyal opposition.

In fact the Socialist Party, under Guy Mollet, became, in the words of one of its election slogans, 'the vanguard of the Fifth Republic'.

The Communist Party, while claiming to be opposed to Gaullism, modified its stand when de Gaulle began pursuing an anti-American policy of peaceful co-existence with the Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

The Stalinists had, in any case, held back the working class during the crisis in May 1958, precipitated by the settler and army revolt in Algeria. And they openly supported the regime when it was threatened by a military putsch in 1961. In 1968, when the regime could have been toppled during the May-June General Strike, it once again threw all its weight behind the preservation of the *status quo*.

The present common programme of reforms and the electoral coalition with the Socialist Party and the Fabre Radicals, a capitalist party, represents its willingness to exercise power within the framework of the Bonapartist Constitution of 1958.

The Gaullists, for their part, have no intention of relinquishing power, even in the event of there being a left coalition victory at the March polls. The powers exercised by the President give them the whip hand.

Under the Constitution these powers are very extensive. The President, according to article 5, 'watches over respect for the Constitution' and he ensures 'the continuity of the state'—the state of the bourgeoisie, of course.

When the CP Stalinists appeal to Pompidou, they appeal not only to the one-time employee of the Rothschild banking house, the representative of finance-capital, but also to the arbiter of the bourgeois state and its institutions.

Under article 8 the President appoints the Prime Minister and nominates the other members of the government on his advice. Article 9 says that 'he presides over the Council of Ministers'—the cabinet.

The President is also head of the armed forces and presides over the leading committees concerned with national defence. He has emergency powers under article 16, which are supposed to be exercised in consultation with the Prime Minister, the presidents of the two houses of parliament and the Constitutional Council.

He can also appeal to both houses of parliament directly through messages read out to them which cannot be debated.

Generally speaking, the President's powers as defined in the 1958 Constitution, assume a basic agreement between him and the elected majority of the National Assembly. It does not deal with the case in which there would be a conflict between the executive and the legislature in which both could claim to be expressions of 'national sovereignty'.

It is clear that de Gaulle saw himself as the expression of national sovereignty, if necessarily against the National Assembly and the Senate.

Under the Constitution, also, Ministers have to resign their parliamentary seats — which are taken by their substitutes — to increase their dependence on the President. Deputies are supposed to vote in their personal capacity and not to be bound by mandates from their party under Article 27.

This is intended to reduce party discipline, especially on the part of the opposition—anti-Gaullist parties—and to enable the President (or his appointed Prime Minister) to appeal over the heads of the party organization directly to the members of parliament.

Everything is arranged to downgrade parliament while not discarding it altogether and to perpetuate Gaullist rule without a flagrant abandonment of the old forms of bourgeois parliamentarism.

In the case of a narrowly-fought election in which the Gaullists and their opponents were evenly balanced the President's role would be crucial since he chooses the Prime Minister.

Even within the letter of the Constitution, the President could make it difficult for a left coalition government to be formed and make it even more difficult for it to govern.

Appealing to the Constitution and to the same clause about 'national sovereignty belonging to the people' as the Communist Party, he could soon force a dissolution of parliament, appeal directly to 'the Nation' or initiate a change in the Constitution.

The CP and its electoral partners would presumably be quite happy to sit in a cabinet presided over by Pompidou and accept this Constitution. They are hoping that, in the event of an electoral defeat of the Gaullists, he would be prepared to do the same.

Of course, it could come to a trial of strength in which one side or the other would have to depart from the Constitution. Pompidou's assurances to the contrary are valueless. In any case, as he told his January 9 Press conference: 'I refuse to say anything whatever about what I shall do after the elections in

# THE POWER



one or another hypotheses except that I shall act in conformity with the Constitution.'

But what does 'acting in conformity with the Constitution' really mean? It comes down in the final analysis to a trial of strength, at the extreme points of which are a coup d'état from above or a revolution from below based on the mobilization of the strength of the working class.

Wisely refusing to commit himself further, Pompidou is evidently hoping that the Gaullists will win the election and the contingency will not arise. Meanwhile he holds himself ready to ensure 'the continuity of the [bourgeois] state' come what may.

BY TOM KEMP



President  
Marcel  
his wife  
de Ga



# THE POWER OF POMPIDOU

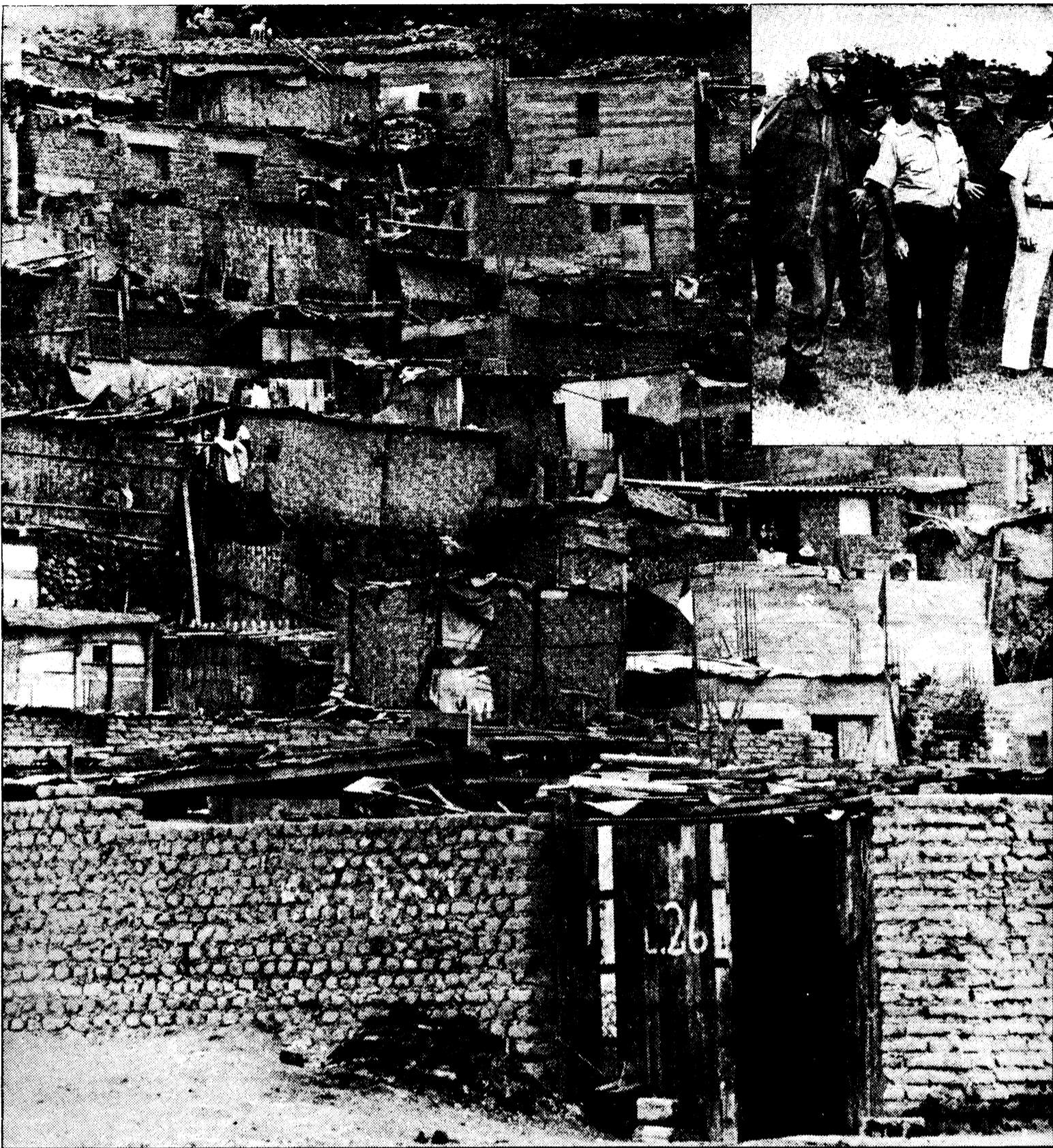




# ER OF POMPIDOU



President Pompidou of France : Left—with Raymond Marcellin, the minister of the Interior. Right—with his wife, Madame Pompidou. Far right—with Charles de Gaulle. Above—looking at an election poster.



Left: Slums on the outskirts of Lima, the capital of Peru. Inflation now eats into the already meagre living standards of the workers. Above: Cuba's Castro with the Generals who rule Peru. Castro gives his backing to this reactionary military regime.

corporation received from Velasco's nationalization of its mining interests.

'The efforts of the Cerro Corporation to diversify operations fit in very favourably with the general strategy of the Peruvian government to increase its role in mining.'

Cerro gets compensation for worn-out mines which it can invest in more profitable sectors of the Peruvian economy. The CP 'guarantees' no strikes and hard work on behalf of the 'revolutionary' process.

Velasco's economic policies have in no way opposed imperialist exploitation of the main Peruvian industry—mining and fishmeal. These have been opened up to imperialists from Japan, Europe and the US with guarantees for investment and with the suppression of the working class to counter-balance falling prices on the world market.

At the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in September 1969, the Peruvian Minister of Economy and Finance insisted that the regime's reforms were aimed at establishing the confidence of foreign investors, adding:

'We would like to tell all the developed countries of the world, without any discrimination at all, that the doors of our fatherland are open to foreign investment...'

Government statistics have spoken most eloquently of the drastic exploitation suffered by the Peruvian masses.

The National Administration of Statistics—an official government source—relates how 37.3 per cent of workers in Lima-Callao earned less than \$50 basic a month and only 9 per cent earned \$200 a month. The real wage of these workers, it continues, decreased by 75.4 per cent between 1967 and 1969.

At the end of 1970, the Institute of Planning stated that 35 per cent of the working population was unemployed.

Since then, unemployment has shot up rapidly. Velasco's agrarian reform law has thrust many peasants and small farmers into the masses of unemployed in the slums on the outskirts of Lima.

The CP has condemned strike movements by peasants and workers against unemployment and wage-cutting as 'unproductive', rationalizing the Ministry of Labour's anti-working class policy with the slogan 'revolution has not yet reached the Ministry of Labour'.

No wonder that the 'Military Review', published by the US Army Command and the Army General Staff College of Fort Leavenworth, has been able to give a positive evaluation of 'military populism or democratic Caesarism' in Latin America!

CONTINUED TOMORROW

Special correspondent JUAN GARCIA examines Stalinism and Trotskyism in Peru following the attack by Pompeyo Mares of the Communist Party on the Liga Comunista, which works in solidarity with the International Committee of the Fourth International. Part two.

# WHY THE PERUVIAN STALINISTS SLANDER TROTSKYISM

The Communist Party's attack launched against the young Trotskyist movement in Peru is inseparable from the striving of the Kremlin bureaucracy throughout the world to co-exist peacefully with imperialism, to rescue imperialism from its world crisis.

In Latin America, the Kremlin centres its support for imperialism on the trio of presidents Allende (Chile), Castro (Cuba) and Velasco (Peru) who, in different ways, are said to be carrying through progressive, socialist measures.

The impact of the crisis of imperialism has led to raging inflation in Latin America and a decline in the prices received for raw materials on the world market.

The main agents of Kremlin policy have moved swiftly to the right in the last three months. They must prepare to break up the mass movement against the destruction of the already meagre workers' living standards.

President Salvador Allende has given government control over to CIA generals led by Carlos Prats, four mouths be-

fore the Chilean elections. During Allende's recent visit to Moscow, Prats told workers they must neither demand wage increases nor strike.

The diplomats in Havana, Cuba, have announced their willingness to sign an anti-hijacking agreement with the United States.

Lt-General Juan Velasco's regime, in its turn, has outlawed the right to strike and begun the preparation for a corporatist-style state in Peru. It can only achieve any progress because of full CP backing.

Allende, Castro and a delegation of Peruvian generals met in Havana in the middle of December 1972 to plan their united campaign to clamp down on the Latin American masses.

Mares describes the process in Peru:

'The Communist Party has a policy which is anti-imperialist and anti-oligarchical, the fulfilment of which will create the bases for a later socialist programme. Many of the main points of that programme are shared—although in many cases not with the same depth—by the Revolutionary Government of the Armed Forces.

'Consequently, the Party supports and will support this process in a determined way,

thus carrying out not just in theory but in practical action the advance of the social process in Peru. This represents a terrible and concrete danger for imperialism and the oligarchy.'

This theory of 'anti-oligarchical' struggle is the negation of Bolshevism, a theory introduced into a degenerate Third International with the Popular Front of the 1930s.

It expresses the fallacious idea that there can be an independent development of democratic capitalism in the semi-colonial and colonial countries before there can be any talk of socialism.

When Juan Velasco's military junta took power in a military coup in 1968 the Peruvian CP did not immediately salute the 'anti-oligarchical' general.

On October 4, the day after the coup, the Stalinists published a manifesto, headed 'The people rejects the "gorilla" coup.' It said: 'Although the circumstances of the military coup make it appear as if aimed at frustrating the electoral objectives of Apra [nationalist party of Haya de la Torre] the main objective was to block the path of democratic and nationalist forces in the country which were advancing and had a perspec-

tive of victory in 1969.'

The main purpose of the coup, in fact, was to prevent the 1969 General Elections in which it was feared the CP might make gains. The imperialists needed a strong-arm regime to establish the outline of a corporatist style regime to restrain the masses who were radicalized by the crisis of imperialism.

Since then, the Velasco dictatorship has ruled on behalf of imperialism with full CP support. It could not last a day without the Stalinist brake on the mass movement. The CP weekly newspaper, 'Unidad', has given full credence to the nationalist demagoguery of the regime.

The CP leadership used the military junta's take-over of the International Petroleum Corporation petrol holdings in Talara to recognize the 'revolutionary' nature of the demagogic Velasco clique.

Mares defends the nationalization measures of Velasco as 'anti-imperialist'. The group of American monopolies in the Business International Corporation has been discussing behind closed doors in Lima with the military junta... and has a different view.

Its August 17, 1972, bulletin had a very confident statement on the advantages the Cerro



# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## REPLACEMENTS

Two more tales of the feudal condition the agricultural workers live under are recounted in the January edition of their union journal, 'Land Worker'.

Some years ago, Bill Latham from Winkleigh, north Devon, fell over when carrying a heavy railway sleeper. Because of the accident he contracted arthritis. Eventually he was forced to go to the doctor, who put him on the panel.

The farmer acted swiftly, telling Bill he wanted someone who could work. He was sacked and threatened with eviction from his tied cottage. The case went to court and two weeks before he was due to be turned out of his old home he was allocated a council house.

The council house was not ready for immediate occupation and a union official contacted the farmer to ask if his old employee could stay on a few days. The request was refused—Bill's replacement was expected from East Anglia that day.

Apparently the new worker got lost on the way. Up to the time of publication of the latest 'Land Worker', he had not been seen in the district.

This was despite the fact that the farmer told the judge at the court hearing that he needed a replacement for Mr Latham desperately.

The second case concerns another north Devon land worker, Mr J. Webber from Whiddon Down. He hurt his back on the farm a few years ago and eventually got his marching orders from the court. Originally he was given six weeks' grace to get out of his home. This was finally extended to four months.

The Rural District Council has still not re-housed him—council houses have been let to two other people whose need was apparently greater than his own.

His attempts to get rented accommodation also failed. Eventually he was forced to spend some of his carefully accumulated savings (you can't put much away on a 'frozen' land workers' wage) and buy a caravan.

The cottage will probably remain empty until the summer when it will be let as a holiday home to some rich family.

## NO DEBTS

The 'pink' coalition government in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) plunges further into the red.

Trade Minister Tikiri Banda Illangaratne warned the other day that Sri Lanka was getting more and more into debt repaying old loans and at the present rate of progress will never be able to settle her commitments.

Worse still, lending agencies would soon be unwilling to accommodate the country any further.

He said that in 1970, the year in which the United Front government of Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike took office, the total outlay on loan repayments and foreign debts was 656 million rupees (£43m), in 1971 it was 1,049 million rupees (£68m) and up to June last year was 1,011 million rupees (£65m).

The present generation of Ceylonese had a duty not to leave future generations a legacy of foreign debts, the Minister said.

## FORTUNES IN EURO-FRAUD

The increased membership of the EEC will also mean an enlargement in one of the sideline activities of the community—the Euro-fraud.

This is a massive industry in which fortunes are made by evading various import and export controls.

Last week four businessmen involved in a major Common Market fraud case were jailed and they and eight others were ordered to pay £63m to customs authorities.

A Lille court in France sentenced the four—from West Germany, Belgium and France—to a total of nine years imprisonment over large shipments of French maize.

The court also ordered all 12 involved in the case to make the payment to customs authorities for customs offences.

The case involved shipments of maize to West Germany which were fraudulently marked as destined for Britain and Denmark to obtain special Common Market subsidies on cattle feed exported to non-market countries.

Britain and Denmark had still to join the Common Market when the shipments were made.



## A RAW QUALITY OF LIFE

TV REVIEW BY ANNE BLAKEMAN

**Thirty-Minute Theatre: 'The Punchy and the Fairy'.** Written by Jim Allen. Directed by Roy Battersby. Produced by Anne Head. BBC 2.

**Softly, Softly: 'Conspiracy'.** By James Doran. Directed by Paddy Russell. Produced by Leonard Lewis. BBC 1.

**Man Alive: 'To Catch a Fox'.** Directed by Harry Weisbloom. Edited by Graham Shipham.

Two old seamen—'The Punchy and the Fairy'—in the wretched bowels of an old, recently-docked vessel casually expose the raw stuff of their lives and selves, one to the other. There is nothing left for either of them.

In an intimacy borne out of shared and interminable hardship and the need, like a couple of animals, for some last vestige of comfort and warmth, they chat of 'making a clean end to it all' with some relief.

Yet they are not animals, but men, struggling for any shred of dignity that may be left to them, some morsel that might pass as pleasure in their world of unknown ports and faces, stale alcohol, backbreaking work and the squalid camaraderie of being at sea, in all senses and straining to survive.

'All I've got to show for 30 years,' says Charlie, peering at his half-full suitcase.

This extraordinary glimpse of sheer human waste is given us by writer Jim Allen and finely directed by Roy Battersby in a way that left the stink of the seamen's quarters and the grinding of the dark ship's innards so close to the water in the air long after the piece was over.

The director drew rare performances from both Peter Kerrigan as Charlie and James Culliford as his 'sea-wife', Gilbert.

Kerrigan, skewering us with a wild blue eye gave a full-blooded sight of the bulldozing old seaman, reflexes still jumping, battering back at life as it beat him down, up from his bunk, bruised and hung over and fighting back for more.

Wistfully he beams back over the years to the glow of his youth: 'I was as broad as an Oxo cube' he says. 'When I walked down the street, the sky went dark.' It's all he has left—that and a sort of contemptuous affection for Gilbert 'the fruit', or 'the ageing queer' as Gilbert names himself. And one other thing—a zest and

vitality that years of an exploited dispossessed life at sea have never beaten out of him.

Gilbert has less. He begs Charlie to spend the night on board with him rather than go out on the standard search for a woman in port. He heaves Charlie's only pair of shoes into the sea rather than lose the chance of a few snatched hours alone together.

Charlie is cheerfully undeterred, says 'queers is all the same' and tries to persuade the younger man in the same moment to set them both up in their old age with the money from his abandoned wealthy family.

In despair Gilbert resorts to confidences of his own wretched childhood and the monster Nanny who ate him alive sexually, spiritually and all ways.

But Charlie's sympathy is fleeting; determined, greedy for the last crumbs life has left to offer him, he finds some boots and readies himself for more abysmal adventures on shore. He never makes it.

Gilbert puts a knife in his belly and the play ends sharply as the old man drops to the floor in amazement. 'You daft sod', he says.

The real quality of this play, illuminated by the direction so that it stood out vividly against the bland landscapes of every day television with its distortions and obscurist ploys, was the bitter realities it implied that were yet still combined with a view of human beings utterly isolated and abandoned by the indifferent world but resisting their isolation with a ferocity that gave no room to pessimism even in the end.

But back to those every day landscapes and an episode of 'Softly, Softly' which in a new and more forbidding form in some ways, plods on through the annals of telly history.

Though built around a tale of a bunch of young villains earning their living breaking and entering now and again (nicely underplayed by David Hargreaves and badly overdone by Ray Brooks), it was in fact a clear warning of how matters are with the law these days. For the nub of it all was centred on the business of making a charge of conspiracy stick on the criminals concerned.

As the oily and self-satisfied Welsh Det-Sgt Evans is careful to explain, this conspiracy business can make 'hearsay evidence admissible in court'.

Peter Kerrigan as Charlie (left) and James Culliford as Gilbert in 'The Punchy and the Fairy'.

In place of the surly constraint of Stratford Johns of old times there's a particularly unpleasant new character about in the form of a moustachioed, upper-class authoritarian who makes no bones about wanting to 'get in there and make it stick' when it comes to the interesting possibilities raised by conspiracy.

'Softly, Softly' is in a new mood these days. The cops are more menacing, there's less charm about and more verbal sniping than ever, a sort of cold self-satisfaction and the suggestion of brutality which is no more accidental than anything else of this kind which turns up on the screen. The state is providing all means to the hands of its police force when it comes to any kind of trouble or provocation these days.

If it hasn't already happened, there should soon be an episode on police use of provocateurs in among the treats in store for viewers of 'Softly, Softly'. It has to keep up with the times.

Finally a cursory look at the ruling class at play—fox-hunting—given by 'Man Alive' with lots of pretty filming of beautiful English countryside and a few tepid comments about the 'cruelty of man' and random shots of the upper classes frolicking on horseback near the stately homes and in their cups at a local hunt wedding.

Although the director Harry Weisbloom seemed bent on avoiding almost any reference to the real content—the class content—of this trivial and disgusting business, the menacing character of this particular segment of the upper classes could hardly be missed, even down to the aristocratic old farmer and his jocular chat about 'sooner kill a man than kill a fox'.

The hunt still shows up as a forbidding expression of deep ingrained feudal instincts and customs; of landowners given the added fillip of showing another side to their predatory selves in public.

It's a chilling experience to watch the luxurious horses (£1,000 each in value) and the riders in their gear (which costs around £300) enjoying their privileges, as one girl explained succinctly, and exhibiting the ominous relish of those to whom all kinds of hunting is possible, probably and pleasurable.

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# THE GRIM RECORD OF MR FEATHER

Dear Editor, When Victor Feather, TUC general secretary, spoke at Exeter last Monday, he told us that the Industrial Relations Act is simply 'the most explosive device that has ever been introduced into British industry and that it should be altered and changed as quickly as possible in order that good industrial relations can develop . . .'

So the Act is accepted: the only question is why not register and give up free trade unionism entirely? It is clear that Mr Feather would if he could, only the strength of the working class stops him.

In a speech designed to reassure the movement that there is nothing much wrong with the world that a chat with Heath cannot solve, and that Goad, Langston and company could be wished away, Feather treated it all as an unfortunate side-effect of the Industrial Relations Act which everybody wishes to stop.

'I think it is an astonishing thing that a government allows itself to get to a position where a whole industry or whole industries can be disturbed and disrupted by a single man, one eccentric individual, where the government's got to hold its hands up and say we can do nothing, where the employer says I can do nothing, where the unions say we can't do anything.'

As if these moves by individuals were unknown or unexpected by the Tories while the Bill was before parliament.

As if they were not an essential part of the Tory offensive. One union which seems to have upset Mr Feather is the AUEW. Although three of the four recent cases concern the AUEW, it was not mentioned by name once.

The talks with the Tory government are easily passed off by Feather. He said 'I wanted to talk . . . about the representations which we have been making to government, because we asked to see the government last week in order to protest against the freezing of wages and the freezing of collective bargaining . . .' And this is the way the crawling to the Tories is dismissed, at a time when it is clear that Heath is drawing the TUC into a conspiracy against the working class.

But surely, some will ask, Feather is against the moves to corporatism Heath is making? In principle he accepts the need for state domination. 'The trade union movement as the years go by is more and more concerned about the totality of factors which affect employment and living standards . . . today there can be no doubt that we are living in a world of state intervention on a large scale.'

Others will point out that the TUC secretary is bound to stand firm against entry to the Common Market, especially as Congress has gone on record against entry. Not at all:

'We are in the Common Market. It is no use blinking our eyes at the developments that will take place and I hope

as a consequence of being in the Common Market that we shall not neglect either the opportunities or indeed the responsibilities which we have in developing an interest on the services of the Common Market . . .' This is acceptance of Tory policy complete with high food prices, the unemployment and the anti-union laws that he claims to oppose.

The world is a very splendid place for the working class, according to Feather, with a few easily solved problems like prices, wage freeze and anti-union laws (in need of amendment). But some may still ask: what of the economic crisis we always hear about and see around us? Don't worry it doesn't exist.

'I believe we are in great difficulties, there are many problems, but I don't believe it is a crisis.'

Nothing like leadership is needed by the working class according to Feather—there is no crisis, no need to throw out the Tories and their Industrial Relations Act and Housing Finance Act, accept the EEC.

All that is needed is for the TUC leaders to meet the government, meet the US bankers, tie the unions to the state, and rather vaguely hope for a Labour government sometime in the future and all will be well.

In fact his speech is a symptom of the crisis—reassurance is not needed when things are going well. The crisis forces Feather into this position.

G.B., Exeter.

# THE NEW VIKING SUPER-SOUND-GUN

Dear Editor, I read with interest the article on the new Viking 'super-gun' (Workers Press, January 6, page 12).

Perhaps you will be interested to learn of the nature of US Patent 3557899. This concerns a device which comprises a high-frequency transducer connected to a speaker which is located near the cone of a parabolic reflector. An amplifier is designed to produce acoustic stimuli which are enhanced and concentrated by the reflector.

The device works at a frequency of between 8,000 and 13,000 Hz (1,000 times the resting frequency 'alpha rhythm' of the brain) and is provided with a trigger mechanism to allow it 'to be operated at will'. It can be made in portable form for 'mounting in a police car or any other suitable vehicle'.

The apparatus produces a mass reaction in the middle ear which is described as 'very offensive and undesirable', the only way to escape being to move outside the vicinity. The mass reaction created in the ear (due to pressure on the middle ear—rather than one of transfer through the middle ear ensures that 'it is not possible to block out the signal by placing an "interference medium" over the ear'.

In normal operation the device will employ a minimum of 120 dB as a sound level (150 dB is the level described as having 'traumatic' effects).

The device was described in a recent edition of 'Physics Bulletin' under the heading 'Science in the Service of Man?'

R. E. Thurstars, Leicester.

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# Over 1,000 march through Welsh town Merthyr tenants say they'll defy rent order

BY PHILIP WADE OUR HOUSING CORRESPONDENT

A THOUSAND tenants, housewives and trade unionists marched through Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales, on Saturday in support of the defiant Labour council which refuses to impose Tory-ordered rent increases.

Many carried placards saying they would not pay rent increases now demanded by the government-appointed Housing Commissioner.

The Commissioner, Mr Geraint Evans, was appointed when Merthyr refused to carry out the Housing Finance Act. Bedwas and Machen, the other Welsh council fighting the Tory 'fair rents' Act, has met with a similar fate.

Council tenants in both areas have been sent notices of rent increases by the Commissioner.

Merthyr councillor Digby Jones told Workers Press that the sooner the Housing Commissioner got out of town the better it would be.

'The only thing that will remove him is industrial action and rent strikes. Take what happened at Saltley coke depot, Birmingham—that's the sort of action we want.'

'It would follow that to get the Housing Commissioner out of Merthyr we would have to get the Tory government out,' said Cllr Jones.

He said he was 'dismayed' by the Labour Party's National Executive Committee statement last month 'which gave us no succour at all'.

Added Cllr Jones: 'The Labour Party needs to find its socialist base again and not be dominated by the right-wing like Roy Jenkins and the George Browns of this world.'

Cynthia Harris, one of the many Merthyr housewives who joined the march, summed up the feeling of the tenants:

'The whole thing is disgusting, in one word. We should never pay the rent increase. Between food prices and more rents we can just barely live.'

'We think we should get the Tories out,' said Mrs Harris to a chorus of support from her neighbours.

## Weak platform

There was no mention of any campaign to bring down the Tory government at the meeting which followed, however.

Labour MP for Cardiff North Ted Rowlands talked of the next election 'when it comes', while the speaker from the National Union of Mineworkers area executive merely pledged formal support.

John Evans, from the Communist Party-dominated National Association of Tenants and Residents, could only inform a stunned audience that the Roman Catholic church had suddenly become converted to the NATR's housing policies.

'It would be good to see the Archbishop of Canterbury make the same declaration,' Evans added.

The lack of any clear political perspective from the platform was confirmed by the presence of the anti-working class, nationalists Plaid Cymru.

Its representative, Emrys Williams, who called for a Welsh government to solve everything, was warmly applauded by Bernard Panter, appearing on behalf of CP's executive committee.

GOODYEAR tyre striker's return to work today on a promise from their union officials that their wage increase will be paid on February 28. Transport union officials say that the Tory control of wages will end on that date!



DIGBY JONES . . . Dismayed by lack of NEC support.

## Fighting the Tory rent Act Glasgow Labourites raise rents more than £1

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

ONE HUNDRED and fifty thousand tenants are reeling from the news that the City Corporation will raise rents by more than £1 a week.

The city's three-month-old fight against the Tory rent Act collapsed before Christmas when 33 of the 74 Labour councillors voted with the Tories for implementation.

Leading councillors on the Labour-controlled corporation believed from the outset they could not defy 'the rule of law'.

Their opposition to the legislation was triggered by the appearance last summer of militant tenants' associations in almost all of the city's 13 districts. Announcing the rent increases, approved unanimously at the weekend by the housing committee, Labour group leader Cllr Richard Dynes said:

'Today's decision was not

one I like taking—nor would any Labour member—but the government has ordered us to do this.'

In Hillpark and Mansewood, rents will go up from £3.41 to £4.49 a week. At Mosspark the increase will be from £2.33 to £3.33. Most council houses in areas like Drumchapel will go up from £2.12 to £3.03 a week.

Even without the rent Act the council was planning to make Glasgow tenants pay 'more economic' rents in 1973.

But this week's increases—averaging 75p a week—are among the highest in Britain.

The changes will bring in an extra £5.85m and are expected to wipe out the city's housing deficit. At the moment 18,000 tenants receive council rebates and another 40,000 get rent allowances under National Assistance.



Many Merthyr housewives joined the march through the town. 'Between food prices and more rents we can just barely live,' said one.

## TODAY'S TV

### BBC 1

9.38 Schools. 12.00 Office. 12.25 Cywain. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble mill at one. 1.30 Woodentops. 1.45 Animals at home. 2.06-3.55 Schools. 4.00 Pixie and Dixie. 4.10 Play school. 4.50 Blue Peter. 5.15 Fish. 5.40 Magic roundabout. 5.45 News. Weather.

#### 6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.45 YOUNG SCIENTISTS OF THE YEAR. Bexley v Preston v Neath.

7.10 STAR TREK. I, Mudd. 8.00 PANORAMA.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.

9.25 PLAY FOR TODAY: 'LAND OF GREEN GINGER'. Gwen Taylor, Michael Elwyn.

10.15 COME DANCING. 10.50 THE SPINNERS. Guest Moira Anderson.

11.20 LATE NIGHT NEWS. 11.25 CINEMA NOW. 11.50 Weather.

### ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.33 World War I. 12.05 Inigo Pipkin. 12.25 Alice through the looking glass. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Mr and Mrs. 1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 Le butin de Colbert. 2.20 Cartoon. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Film: 'Lydia Bailey'. Dale Robertson, Anne Francis. 4.25 Black arrow. 4.55 Clapperboard. 5.20 And mother makes three. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY. 6.40 OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS.

7.30 CORONATION STREET. 8.00 WORLD IN ACTION.

8.30 TWO OLD DEARS. Edie's Lovely Room.

9.00 CONJUGAL RIGHTS. Charles and Paula.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.30 INTERNATIONAL BOXING. John Conteh v Dave Matthews and John H. Stracey v Otho Tyson.

11.30 DRIVE-IN. 12.00 WORLD WAR I. 12.30 DEAR LORD . . .

### BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.

7.05 PARENTS AND CHILDREN. Getting ready to read.

7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.

7.35 LOOK, STRANGER. The Whispering Poet. Norman Nicholson.

8.00 ALIAS SMITH AND JONES. Smiler with a Gun.

8.55 CALL MY BLUFF. 9.25 DAVE ALLEN AT LARGE.

10.10 AMERICA. The Huddled Masses. 11.00 OPINION.

11.15 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.

### REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-11.52 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.00 London. 2.20 Film: 'On the Fiddle'. 4.05 Puffin. 4.25 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Maverick. 6.45 London. 11.30 News and weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 2.00 Living and growing. 4.05 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.35 Date with Danton. 11.27 News. 11.30 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.00 Schools. 2.10 Training the family dog. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 Film: 'The Three Musketeers'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 London. 11.30 News. 11.40 Farm progress. 12.05 Weather. Guide-line.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 1.00 Plus Tam. 1.30 London. 2.00 Farmhouse kitchen. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 Film: 'Back Room Boy'. 4.25 London. 5.20 Please sir. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.22 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 11.30 Scales of justice. 12.00 Let them live. 12.30 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 6.01-6.22 Y dydd. 8.00-8.30 Yr wythnos.

HTV West as above except: 6.22-6.45 This is the West this week.

ANGLIA: 12.05 London. 2.00 All our yesterday. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 Saint. 3.55 Romper room. 4.22 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.45 London.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 12.00 Today. 12.05 London. 2.00 Dr Simon Locke. 2.30 London. 3.00 Film: 'The Lamp Still Burns'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.45 London. 11.30 Stories worth telling. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 11.32 Let's look at Ulster. 12.05 London. 1.33 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 Film: 'Hue and Cry'. 4.22 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.15 Smith family. 6.45 London. 11.30 Monday night. 11.35 Branded.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 12.05 London. 2.00 All our yesterdays. 2.30 London. 3.00 Film: 'Passport to China'. 4.25 London. 4.50 Skippy. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar. 6.45 London. 11.30 Yoga. 12.00 Jimmy Stewart. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 1.55 Bugs Bunny. 12.05 London. 2.00 All our yesterdays. 2.30 Film: 'Petticoat Pirates'. 4.00 Crossroads. 4.25 London. 6.00 News. 6.25 This is your right. 6.40 London. 11.30 The evil touch.

TYNE TEES: 9.25 Prologue. 9.30 London. 2.00 All our yesterdays. 2.30 News. 2.31 Galloping gourmet. 3.00 Film: 'Double Bunk'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Cartoon. 6.45 London. 11.00 Spyforce. 12.25 News. 12.40 Lectern.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 12.05 London. 2.00 All our yesterdays. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 Film: 'The Lamp Still Burns'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Cartoon. 6.45 London. 10.30 Late call. 10.35 Lion and dragon. 11.20 Reg Varney revue.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 12.12 Cartoon. 12.25 London. 1.38 Schools. 3.05 News. 3.08 Film: 'The Green Man'. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Royal Clansmen. 6.45 London. 11.30 Jesse James. 12.00 Meditation.

## Engineers' chief in procedure talks

MARTIN JUKES, head of the Engineering Employers' Federation, and Hugh Scanlon of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers will meet on Wednesday to discuss a new national procedure agreement.

The meeting will be held at the EEF headquarters at Tothill Street in London.

Neither side is saying too much about the basis of the new talks. They last broke down in Novem-

ber when there was disagreement over *status quo*.

The fact that talks have resumed indicates that one side or the other has moderated its position.

For more than a year the engineering industry has been without a dispute procedure. This follows the decision of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions to tear up the 1922 York Agreement.

## All Trades Unions Alliance meetings

Fight Rising Prices  
Force the Tories to Resign  
Support the Engineers

BRISTOL: Tuesday January 16, 7.30 p.m. Building Design Centre, Colston Avenue (opposite SWEB building).

LUTON: Monday January 15, 8 p.m.: Labour Club (back lounge), Upper George Street.

WANDSWORTH: Tuesday January 16, 8 p.m. Selkirk Hotel, Tooting Broadway, SW17. 'The fight for a living wage'.

WATFORD: Monday January 15, 8 p.m. Watford Trade Union Hall, Woodford Road, opposite Watford Junction station.

CLAPHAM: Tuesday January 16, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor Street, SW4.

WILLESDEN: Thursday January 25, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, NW10.

# Vauxhall workers incensed by right-wingers' decision 'Co-operate with Act' move weakens strike against fines

**TWENTY THOUSAND engineers in the Luton district are expected to strike today against the industrial court fines on their union.**

But they will do so despite a last-minute stab in the back from right-wingers on the union's No. 20 divisional committee, who on Saturday called for a change in national policy to allow appearances at court.

Car workers at the big Vauxhall Motors factory in Luton are incensed at the decision.

BY DAVID MAUDE OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

With men and women from Chrysler UK and Electrolux, they will be out in support of the present no co-operation policy. They see the divisional committee's action as a direct capitulation to the court's seizure of £61,000 from the union in fines and costs.

The committee, which claims to represent 75,000 workers in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire, passed a resolution praising the union's opposition to the Industrial Relations Act, but asking the national executive to represent the union in court.

Its decision was described by one member as demonstrating 'opposition to the union's policy among moderate men on the shop floor'.

Luton district president Les Randall said: 'We feel that we should have the right to defend ourselves in the court, particularly following the heavy fines in the Goad affair.'

The No. 20 divisional committee, which has thus weakened the fight for the strike at dozens of small firms in its area, is notoriously right wing.

Although calling for defence of shop stewards penalized under

the Industrial Relations Act, it was among the nine out of 26 divisions which remained silent on the issue of defeating the Act itself.

● See 'procedure talks' story, p. 11.

● FIFTY South Shields fitters are still on strike at the Redhill Shipyard over a dispute arising out of the north-east one-day stoppage over the fines.

When they returned to work last Tuesday they found that management had operated plant and machinery normally worked by engineers. Since then they have been on strike demanding an assurance from management that this would not happen again.

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**JANUARY**

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Our paper, alone, has warned the working class of such an onslaught by this government against the working class. We must make sure that Workers Press reaches out far and wide to warn workers everywhere of the serious nature of the struggle ahead.

So give a boost to our January Fund. We need to collect extra amounts wherever possible. See what you can raise. Post all donations immediately to:

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PAKISTAN is preparing to try several hundred prominent Bengalis for alleged spying and treason. They are among the thousands of Bengalis stranded in Pakistan after the 1971 war. The trial plan is a cynical move to counter the Bangladesh government's proposals for war crimes trials of prisoners.

## Trouble as Thorn man attends union

THE TROUBLE at Thorn Radio Valves, Sunderland, over two workers who were refusing to join trade unions may not yet be over.

Last Wednesday a meeting of 1,500 Thorn workers voted to return to normal working after the two men, Joseph Young and Terence Canavan, agreed to join the unions—the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the General and Municipal Workers' Union.

But there was trouble at Sunderland's No. 18 branch of

the AUEW when Young applied for his old union card on Saturday.

Three resolutions were passed.

Branch president Barny McGorrigan says the issue will not finally be decided until the branch committee meets on Wednesday.

Originally the Thorn workers were demanding the dismissal of the two men, but they accepted a four-point formula involving a public withdrawal of statements by the two men that there was inter-union rivalry at the plant.



G&MWU convenor at the Thorn factory George Raynor with his deputy Sam Wood at the factory gates.

## Sit-in workers want to press home advantage

SIT-IN STRIKE leaders at CAV Fazakerley, Liverpool, reaffirmed their fight against closure at the weekend and called for supporting action throughout the trade union movement to be stepped up.

Franny Martin, Transport and General Workers' Union convenor at the occupied factory, said CAV workers in London had given a categorical assurance that no work formerly the preserve of Fazakerley would be done in their factories.

'This is a principled stand,' Martin said. 'It should be reiterated throughout the movement.'

The CAV occupation committee, which last Friday voted to stand firm against closure, may face a new move this week to undermine its fight to defend 1,000 jobs.

This is expected to come at Wednesday's meeting of the engineers' union district committee in Liverpool.

A section of shop stewards from the laid-off Lucas Industrial Equipment factory at Fazakerley, which occupies the same site as CAV, wants the occupation committee to allow supplies onto the site so they can restart work. They have been seeking the support of branches for this policy.

FORMER Labour government Minister Maurice Foley has accepted high office in the Common Market political machine.

Foley, Labour MP for West Bromwich, is expected to have the rank of director in the European Commission with special responsibility for developing countries.

His appointment will mean a by-election at West Bromwich where Foley had a 4,500 majority at the last election in a straight fight with the Tories.

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

This move has emerged just as the occupation—after almost 14 weeks—is showing signs of causing real alarm in the Lucas boardroom.

Lucas is now believed to be desperate for supplies of plungers and barrels to complete four types of diesel pumps.\*

A new pump range, intended to replace the Fazakerley product, is thought to be a year behind schedule because of industrial action at the group's

Acton complex. Meanwhile the Fazakerley workers' prompt action in occupying has stuck Lucas with thousands of aluminium housings for the older types.

So the combine could stand to lose both markets and a considerable amount of money unless it can find some way of breaking the Fazakerley workers' determination.

The question facing district committee delegates on Wednesday, therefore, seems to be: are they going to help the company or the sit-in strikers, a majority of whom are members of their own union?

\* The N-type, B-type, AA and BPF pumps. The new range is the Mark 15.

## Provos transferred to the Curragh

SEVEN Republican prisoners have been moved from Dublin's Mountjoy jail to the Curragh military camp.

Those in the transferred party included leading Derry Provisional Martin McGuinness, Brian Hearty, Thomas McGrath and Colman O'Muineachain, ex-editor of the Provisional magazine.

The move follows a week of sit-down protests, hunger strikes and an abortive escape attempt. The seven will join Sean MacStiofain and Rory O'Brady, who are both serving sentences for belonging to the IRA.

Meanwhile the Lynch government's round-up of IRA members continues. On Saturday Leo Martin was arrested near Sligo and taken to Dublin. He is being held under the recently-amended Offences Against the State Act.

But despite Lynch's savage attacks on the IRA, the Provisionals still place a touching faith in this puppet of British imperialism.

'An Phoblacht', the Provisional newspaper circulating in London, contains a front-page statement

by Rory O'Brady on the bombings carried out on the Irish border.

O'Brady says: 'Encouraged by their recent success in stampeding the Fine Gael opposition to the Offences Against the State Amendment Bill, the British and pro-British bombers have struck again in the 26 counties.'

'This time they hope to blackmail Mr Lynch into implementing

THE LAST section of building workers remaining at work on British Steel's Anchor construction site, Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, will meet this morning. Shop stewards are to put up a determined fight for them to support a key reinstatement strike.

Solidarity action is vital with 38 men sacked just before Christmas, says the site's joint stewards' committee chairman, Greg Douglas.

'If we don't win this one', he told Workers Press, 'no steward will be safe. At the present time, when trade unionism itself is being threatened, we've got to maintain the vital principle of solidarity with anyone who's under attack.'

The 38 were sacked after a decision to 'work to maximum safety' after their employer, the electrical contractors, Watson and Norris, had refused to pay rates comparable with the other two contractors on the site.

Last Monday, January 8, the

## Scunthorpe builders vote today

joint stewards' committee won support for a strike by all 4,000 workers on the site after a reinstatement formula had been rejected by the employers.

Workers for Redpath Dorman Long voted to rescind the decision, however. Civil engineering workers also remained at work.

The RDL stewards are refusing to cross picket lines onto the site. The men are expected to reverse their no-strike decision today under a threat that their stewards will resign.

The strikers have come under attack not only from the employers, but from full-time officials of the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union.

Scunthorpe official O. H. Hancock accused the strike leaders in a television interview of being politically-motivated left-wing extremists. This charge is denied by Greg Douglas.

## 'Third force' army

FROM PAGE 1

locations are created with great accuracy and one side is the soldiers ('the goodies') while the other side is the IRA or the coloured community ('the bad-dies').

Brig Thompson also reveals that a report on equipping the armed forces more effectively for civilian uprisings has been handed to Lord Carrington, the Defence Secretary and chairman of the Tory Party. The recommendations of the study will not be made public.

It was drawn up by a working

party of the Defence Scientific Advisory Council which began its investigation in 1971 six months after the Tories took office.

Although much modern equipment has been used in Northern Ireland, the government felt that there should be an on-going study of the latest weapons for crowd control.

The advisory council is a body of scientists which submits reports to the military on new developments in military technology.

Its chairman is Dr John Ken-

drew of Cambridge University. Kendrew, who jointly won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1962, is deputy chairman of the Medical Research Council Laboratory for Molecular Biology.

The Tories have passed legislation to strip the working class of all its basic democratic rights. Now they must enforce this legislation and that can only be done in a test of strength.

It is in this situation that the Tories are recruiting for their 'third force' just as they did before the General Strike in 1926.