

Catholic and Protestant workers under fire

ARMY HITS OUT AT BOTH SIDES

By John Spencer

THE FIRST anniversary of last year's Londonderry civil rights' marches sees the British army entering with more and more gusto into the task of restoring capitalist law and order.

Less than a week after their formation in the capitalist press, the 'heavy squads'—special bands of club-wielding soldiers trained to pick out demonstration 'ringleaders'—were in action for the first time.

More than 40 arrests followed their intervention on Saturday night in a crowd of people in the Woodstock Road area of Belfast. The squads were sent in after troops had allegedly been fired on from the crowd.

Attempts by the extreme right-wing Rev Ian Paisley to clear the largely Protestant crowd from the street were ignored and he was forced back from the crowd by tear gas.

On Sunday, troops were again brought in, this time against a procession of Orangemen leaving the dedication service for Rev Paisley's new £175,000 church.

'Army out'

The demonstrators shouted 'Out, out, army out' as they marched in defiance of a government ban on processions.

One thing emerges absolutely plainly from this weekend's battles—neither the Protestants nor the Catholics have anything but hatred for the army.

• PAGE 4 COL. 5 →

FASCIST SPAIN CLAMPS DOWN

By a foreign correspondent

DETAILS were published on Thursday of Franco's new labour code.

It represents a complete victory for the hard-line opponents of concessions to the working class.

Since the fascist victory in the 1936-1939 Civil War, the Spanish working class has been forcibly enrolled into 'syndicates', which embrace not only the workers of a particular trade or industry, but also the employers.

With the bosses firmly in control of these fake 'unions' and strike action outlawed, the Spanish working class has forged its own illegal independent organs of struggle, boycotting the fascist-dominated 'syndicates'.

Despite pressure from 'liberal' sections of the ruling class and the 'modernizers' in the lower ranks of the Catholic Church, Franco and his capitalist and landowning allies have come out firmly for the retention of all the old anti-working-class laws.

Franco appointed

The syndicates will continue to group workers and employers in the same organization, with their national president appointed directly by Franco.

The last ten years has seen a deep-going revival in the Spanish working class, with new forces unaffected by the defeat of the Civil War moving into positions of leadership.

Any relaxation now by the Franco regime would cor-

• PAGE 4 COL. 6 →

B.B.C. pay offer rejected

By Frank Cartwright

THE ASSOCIATION of Broadcasting Staff (ABS), representing nearly a third of BBC workers, has rejected a 4 per cent pay increase.

The offer included back-dating to July 1 but the membership has turned it down as inadequate to meet the increased cost of living.

They are not prepared to strike yet, but a decision on when to start a work to rule will be made at a meeting this morning.

New developments

This is a new development in the industry.

The ABS has always had the reputation of behaving more like a middle-class professional body than a trade union.

The BBC has encouraged the ABS along this road in order to prolong its own refusal to recognize the more militant Association of Cinematograph Technicians (ACTT).

Pressure

This move by the ABS membership also reflects the increasing pressure on workers in television and radio.

They know that the sedate BBC image is only possible for its own internal bureaucracy.

The workers in the studios, cutting rooms and elsewhere are putting in longer and longer hours as the external crisis makes itself felt.

Moon crash planned

APOLLO 12, the second spacecraft to land human beings on the moon, will be launched next month from Cape Kennedy.

The astronauts who will take part in the two scheduled moon walks of three-and-a-half hours each will be Alan Bean and Charles Conrad.

The third member of the team is Richard Gordon, who will remain in orbit around the moon.

The scientific programme to be carried out by Bean

Round-the-clock picket possible at E. Kilbride

By Mickie Shaw

A ROUND-THE-CLOCK picket by members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers may be introduced at the Better Sound Reproductions (BSR) factory, East Kilbride, where nearly 1,000 workers, mostly women, have been on strike since August 13.

Their aim is to force the BSR management to recognise their right to join and be represented by a trade union.

Mr. William Donald, the AEF's mid-Lanark district secretary has stated that although drivers in the Transport and General Workers' Union and Scottish Commercial Motor-men's Union were 'black-jacking' delivery of materials, goods were still being transported to and from the factory.

This appears to be done mainly at night by non-union drivers employed by the firm. It is estimated that the firm is continuing to maintain about 65 per cent production.

Not met

BSR management has not met representatives of any trade union or the Department of Employment and Productivity.

The TUC has asked Mrs. Barbara Castle to refer the matter to the Commission on Industrial Relations.

If it were the workers who were refusing to recognise an agreement proposed by the management, there is no doubt that Mrs. Castle's DEP would have acted with all speed to resolve the matter—in the interests of the employers.

Moon crash planned

APOLLO 12, the second spacecraft to land human beings on the moon, will be launched next month from Cape Kennedy.

The astronauts who will take part in the two scheduled moon walks of three-and-a-half hours each will be Alan Bean and Charles Conrad.

The third member of the team is Richard Gordon, who will remain in orbit around the moon.

The scientific programme to be carried out by Bean

and Conrad will be more ambitious than that of their predecessors.

They plan to bring back parts of the Surveyor spacecraft that was sent to analyse moon soil two years ago.

Also it is planned to deliberately crash the top half of the lunar module on the lunar surface before returning to earth.

By doing this it is hoped to create an artificial moon quake which can be measured by the seismograph left by the Apollo 11 astronauts.

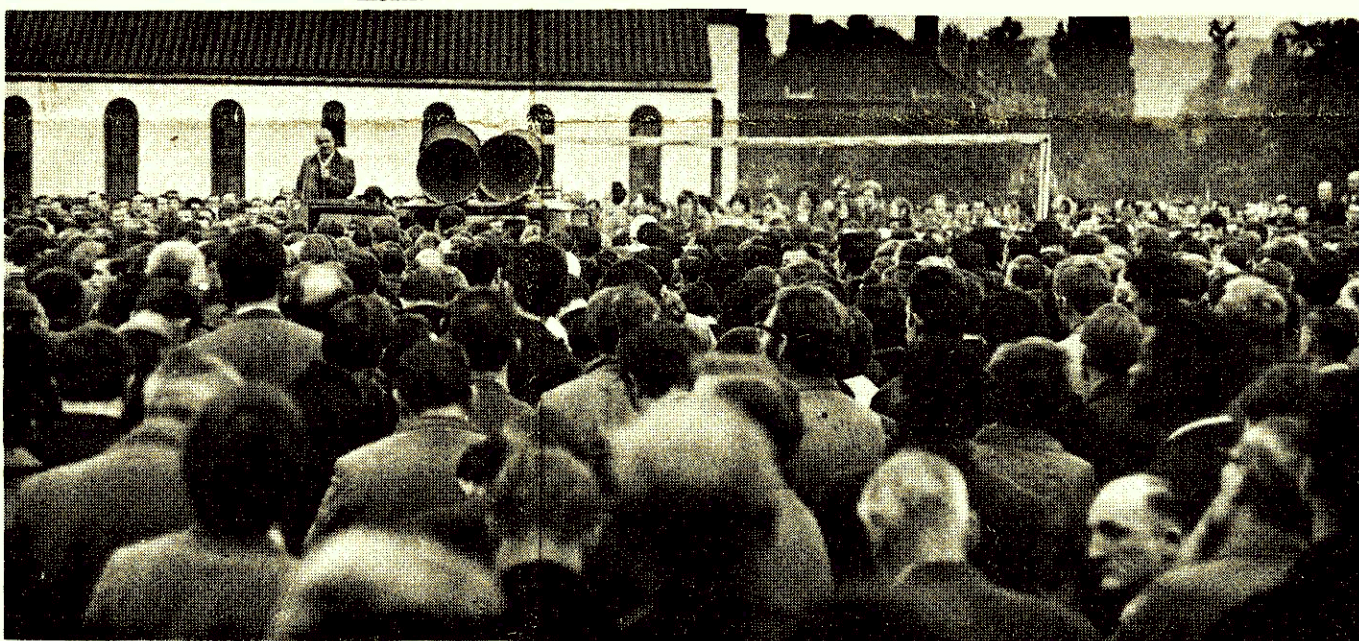
This will transmit signals

B-Leyland strike

OXFORD, MONDAY
THE one-day strike against short-time working at British-Leyland, Cowley, Oxford, brought the entire plant to a halt.

Despite the disrupting activities of certain elements at last Friday's meeting (seen below) it was a major success.

The canteen women picketed the factory with the men, thus ensuring that the scabs who drifted into work will be deprived of meals.



Vauxhall struggle Critical stage reached

TOMORROW'S talks on Vauxhall's proposed 'penal clause' pay agreement must be watched closely by every one of the company's 27,000 workers.

No confidence can be placed, after the experience of the Ford strike earlier this year, in mere declarations of opposition to the disciplinary aspects of the deal.

It is actions, not words, that count.

What can any principled union official have to say that is useful to employers about a deal that includes clauses agreeing to co-operation with time-studies, the dropping of restrictions on the work done by women and the disciplining of unofficial strikers?

Confined

The astronauts will still be confined to a relatively small area in the vicinity of their vehicle.

However, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) plans to provide future expeditions from 1971 with an electrically-driven vehicle capable of carrying two astronauts and their equipment at 10 mph across the lunar surface.

By David Maude

(AEF) instructions to return to work so that talks with the company can go ahead.

They stayed at home.

The men have refused to obey instructions to resume from both executive councilman Mr Arthur Hearsey and the union's Wirral and West Cheshire district committee.

It is ominous that Mr Richard Hopkins, Vauxhall's personnel director, was able to describe last Thursday's Brighton talks with Hearsey and officials of the National Union of Vehicle Builders (NUVB) and the Electrical Trades Union (ETU) about the proposed company-wide pay agreement as 'useful'.

What can any principled union official have to say that is useful to employers about a deal that includes clauses agreeing to co-operation with time-studies, the dropping of restrictions on the work done by women and the disciplining of unofficial strikers?

Reject deal

Complete rejection of the deal must be secured.

Shop stewards at Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port must immediately campaign amongst their members for action throughout the combine.

Standard-Triumph workers solid for victory

Workers' Press reporter

LIVERPOOL'S 1,150 Standard-Triumph strikers meet on Thursday to hear the result of yesterday's talks between shop stewards and union officials. They have been on strike for seven weeks.

Management-union talks

in London last Friday, arranged at Brighton the previous day, ended in deadlock.

Arranged by Engineering Employers' Federation, the talks included leaders of the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers—just returned from the Labour Party conference.

6,000 carworkers at the company's Coventry, Birmingham and Liverpool plants have now been thrown out of work by its refusal to settle the demands of the northern plant's body-shop workers.

The dispute is over the men's three-month-old claim for lay-off pay and revision of the bonus scheme.

Stewards point out that arbitrary lay-offs without notice over the last few years have reduced workers to virtual casual workers.

Wages have been eroded since they gave up some bonuses five years ago.

They are now fighting for not only a £4 10s. rise, but more stability.

Strength

Their strike has gathered strength not only internally but externally.

At last Thursday's mass meeting just two voted against staying out.

Messages of support and donations to the strike fund have come from dockers and other car workers.

Mr Len Brindle, convenor of British-Leyland's Lancashire bus and truck plants, has promised to move a resolution for 'moral, financial and all other support' at the combine executive's meeting in Birmingham tomorrow.

British-Leyland's refusal to meet the Merseyside claim proves the necessity for united supporting action both inside and outside the combine.

Donations and messages of support should be sent to:

Mr. G. Paterson,
1 Stonevale Crescent,
Liverpool 11.

Savings income down-withdrawals up

Workers' Press correspondent

NATIONAL savings withdrawals in the first half of the financial year were estimated at £126.2 million, compared with £10.1 million for the same period last year.

For the week to September 27, receipts were £1.2 million less than withdrawals.

In the corresponding week last year there was a surplus of £3.3 million.

The decrease in National Savings reflects the squeeze on home consumption in the form of higher prices and wages freeze which lies behind the recent balance of payments surplus.

All Trades Unions Alliance
SOUTH-WEST LONDON
Tuesday, October 7, 8 p.m.
The Horse and Groom
Mitcham Road
near Tooting Broadway Tube Station

Trade unionists greet our Press

SEVERAL trade unionists from the Merseyside have sent their greetings to the Workers' Press after seeing it produced for a whole week.

FROM R. REYNOLDS, member of Liverpool district committee Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers and Convenor Lucas Industrial Equipment (in a personal capacity):

As a supporter of the weekly 'Newsletter' and then the twice-weekly, I think the daily paper is a tremendous achievement and has a big part to play in the working class.

A daily paper like the Workers' Press will develop workers' political consciousness.

You can't have that without speaking out and speaking the truth, which is the aim of Workers' Press.

For example, I appreciated the way 'The Newsletter' spoke out on Ford's and the penalty clause in the last struggle of Ford's workers.

Others were suggesting that the result was a victory when it was not.

'The Newsletter' told the truth. Now Ford's workers have the same struggle again. I wish the paper all the best and a rapid increase in sales.

WALLY MILLER, Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers' steward and member of the shop stewards' executive committee, Vauxhall Motors, Ellesmere Port:

It is good to see a new paper fighting for the workers' cause.

It will be a big progress for the labour movement if it keeps up the high standards that we have seen during our struggle.

The reports on our struggle at Vauxhall have been very good indeed.

I wish you every success.

SID CARTHEW, member of the National Union of Seamen:

It is considered by seamen that if the Workers' Press carries on the same role as 'The Newsletter' in giving a lead as well as supporting workers' struggles, then we wish it every success.

Unlike other papers you know where you stand.

• More greetings tomorrow

All Trades Unions Alliance conference

Motor workers' conference

All car, car components and delivery workers are invited to a motor workers' conference

Digbeth Civic Hall,
Digbeth
Birmingham
Saturday November 8
2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Write for credentials to:
R. Parsons,
21 Strawberry Path,
Blackbird Leys,
Oxford.

Conference fee: 5s. a person

ORDER THE DAILY NOW

I would like to subscribe to Workers' Press for:

The rates are as follows:
Full subscription (posted daily)
3 months £2 10s. 0d. 1 year £10 0s. 0d.
Two editions (for any two days you select)
3 months £1 0s. 0d. 1 year £4 0s. 0d.

Name

Address

Post to: Circulation Organizer, Workers' Press
186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4
(TEL: 01-720 2000)

Catholic and Protestant workers under fire

ARMY HITS OUT AT BOTH SIDES

By John Spencer

THE FIRST anniversary of last year's London-derry civil rights' marches sees the British army entering with more and more gusto into the task of restoring capitalist law and order.

Less than a week after their formation was trumpeted in the capitalist press, the 'heavy squads'—special bands of club-wielding soldiers trained to pick out demonstration 'ringleaders'—were in action for the first time.

More than 40 arrests followed their intervention on Saturday night in a crowd of people in the Woodstock Road area of Belfast. The squads were sent in after troops had allegedly been fired on from the crowd.

Attempts by the extreme right-wing Rev Ian Paisley to clear the largely Protestant crowd from the street were ignored and he was forced back from the crowd by tear gas.

On Sunday, troops were again brought in, this time against a procession of Orangemen leaving the dedication service for Rev Paisley's new £175,000 church.

'Army out'

The demonstrators shouted 'Out, out, army out!' as they marched in defiance of a government ban on processions.

One thing emerges absolutely plainly from this weekend's battles—neither the Protestants nor the Catholics have anything but hatred for the army.

• PAGE 4 COL. 5 →

FASCIST SPAIN CLAMPS DOWN

By a foreign correspondent

DETAILS were published on Thursday of Franco's new labour code.

It represents a complete victory for the hard-line opponents of concessions to the working class.

Since the fascist victory in the 1936-1939 Civil War, the Spanish working class has been forcibly enrolled into 'syndicates', which embrace not only the workers of a particular trade or industry, but also the employers.

With the bosses firmly in control of these fake 'unions' and strike action outlawed, the Spanish working class has forged its own illegal independent organs of struggle, boycotting the fascist-dominated 'syndicates'.

Despite pressure from 'liberal' sections of the ruling class and the 'modernizers' in the lower ranks of the Catholic Church, Franco and his capitalist and landowning allies have come out firmly for the retention of all the old anti-working-class laws.

Franco appointed

The syndicates will continue to group workers and employers in the same organization, with their national president appointed directly by Franco.

The last ten years has seen a deep-going revival in the Spanish working class, with new forces unaffected by the defeat of the Civil War moving into positions of leadership.

Any relaxation now by the Franco regime would cor-

• PAGE 4 COL. 6 →

B.B.C. pay offer rejected

By Frank Cartwright

THE ASSOCIATION of Broadcasting Staff (ABS), representing nearly a third of BBC workers, has rejected a 4 per cent pay increase.

The offer included back-dating to July 1 but the membership has turned it down as inadequate to meet the increased cost of living.

They are not prepared to strike yet, but a decision on when to start a work to rule will be made at a meeting this morning.

New developments

This is a new development in the industry.

The ABS has always had the reputation of behaving more like a middle-class professional body than a trade union.

The BBC has encouraged the ABS along this road in order to prolong its own refusal to recognize the more militant Association of Cinematographers (ACTT).

Pressure

This move by the ABS membership also reflects the increasing pressure on workers in television and radio.

They know that the sedate BBC image is only possible for its own internal bureaucracy.

Moon crash planned

APOLLO 12, the second spacecraft to land human beings on the moon, will be launched next month from Cape Kennedy.

The astronauts who will take part in the two scheduled moon walks of three-and-a-half hours each will be Alan Bean and Charles Conrad.

The third member of the team is Richard Gordon, who will remain in orbit round the moon.

The scientific programme to be carried out by Bean

Round-the-clock picket possible at E. Kilbride

By Mickie Shaw

A ROUND-THE-CLOCK picket by members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers may be introduced at the Better Sound Reproductions (BSR) factory, East Kilbride, where nearly 1,000 workers, mostly women, have been on strike since August 13.

Their aim is to force the BSR management to recognise their right to join and be represented by a trade union.

Mr. William Donald, the AEF's mid-Lanark district secretary has stated that although drivers in the Transport and General Workers' Union and Scottish Commercial Motorists' Union were 'black-jacking' delivery of materials, goods were still being transported to and from the factory.

This appears to be done mainly at night by non-union drivers employed by the firm. It is estimated that the firm is continuing to maintain about 65 per cent production.

Not met

BSR management has not met representatives of any trade union or the Department of Employment and Productivity.

The TUC has asked Mrs. Barbara Castle to refer the matter to the Commission on Industrial Relations.

If it were the workers who were refusing to recognise an agreement proposed by the management, there is no doubt that Mrs. Castle's DEP would have acted with all speed to resolve the matter—in the interests of the employers.

and Conrad will be more ambitious than that of their predecessors.

They plan to bring back parts of the Surveyor spacecraft that was sent to analyse moon soil two years ago.

Also it is planned to deliberately crash the top half ascent stage of their lunar module on the lunar surface before returning to earth.

By doing this it is hoped to create an artificial moon quake which can be measured by the seismograph left by the Apollo 11 astronauts.

This will transmit signals

B-Leyland strike

OXFORD, MONDAY

THE one-day strike against short-time working at British-Leyland, Cowley, Oxford, brought the entire plant to a halt.

Despite the disrupting activities of certain elements at last Friday's meeting (seen below) it was a major success.

The canteen women picketed the factory with the men, thus insuring that the scabs who drifted into work will be deprived of meals.

Standard-Triumph workers solid for victory

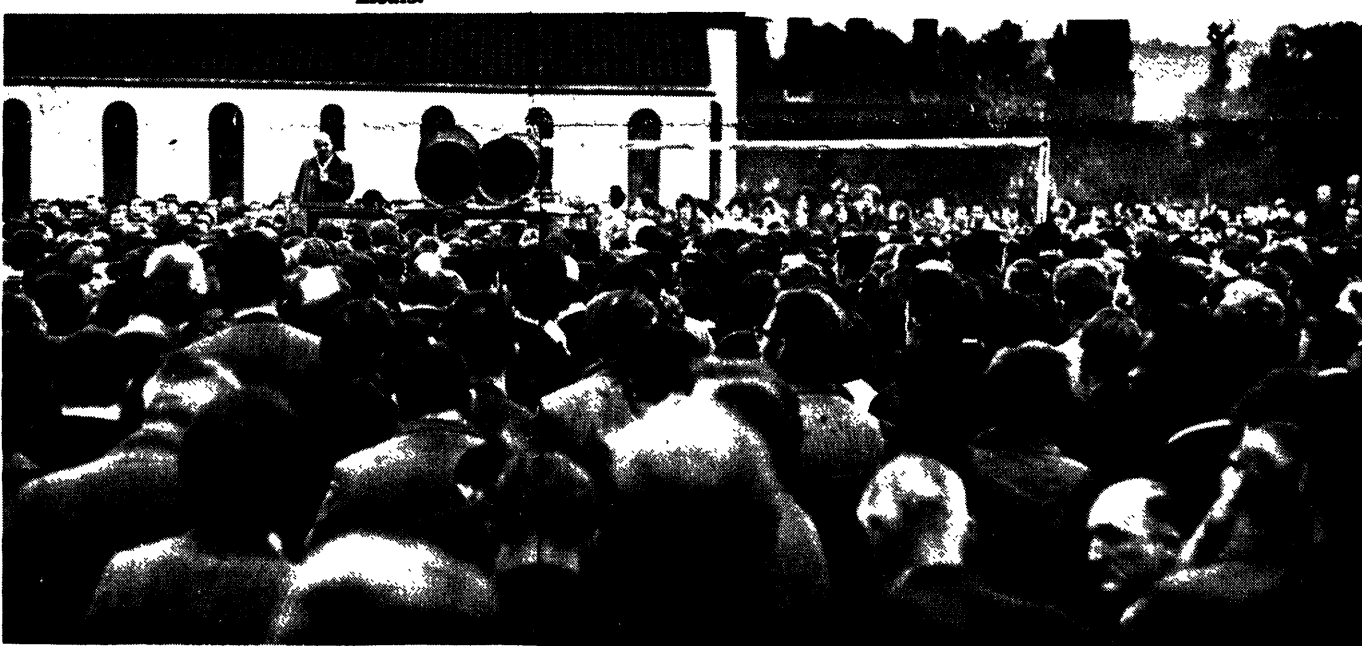
Workers' Press reporter

LIVERPOOL'S 1,150 Standard-Triumph strikers meet on Thursday to hear the result of yesterday's talks between shop stewards and union officials.

They have been on strike for seven weeks.

Management-union talks

in London last Friday, arranged at Brighton the previous day, ended in deadlock.



Vauxhall struggle

Critical stage reached

TOMORROW'S talks on Vauxhall's proposed 'penal clause' pay agreement must be watched closely by every one of the company's 27,000 workers.

No confidence can be placed, after the experience of the Ford strike earlier this year, in mere declarations of opposition to the disciplinary aspects of the deal.

It is actions, not words, that count.

Ellesmere Port press operators—sent home for working to rule over their pay and safety dispute—have already given their opinion of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers'

By David Maude

(AEF) instructions to return to work so that talks with the company can go ahead.

They stayed at home. The men have refused to obey instructions to resume from both executive councilman Mr Arthur Harsey and the union's Wirral and West Cheshire district committee.

It is ominous that Mr Richard Hopkins, Vauxhall's personnel director, was able to describe last Thursday's Brighton talks with Harsey and officials of the National Union of Vehicle Builders (NUVB) and the Electrical Trades Union (ETU) about the proposed company-wide pay agreement as 'useful'.

What can any principled union official have to say that is useful to employers about a deal that includes clauses agreeing to co-operation with time-studies, the dropping of restrictions on the work done by women and the disciplining of unofficial strikers?

Reject deal

Complete rejection of the deal must be secured.

Food prices will rocket - E.E.C. chiefs

THE TOP executive body of the European Common Market gave a stiff warning at the end of last week that food prices will rocket if Britain enters.

By John Spencer

Reporting on membership applications from Britain, Norway, Denmark and Ireland, the Market's Commission said prices for some products would rise steeply because Britain would have to guarantee a minimum price to its farmers.

At present the government subsidizes farmers and prices are also kept down by cheap imports from Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

The report states that 'the Commission definitely believes that the negotiations must not put the fundamentals of the Common Market's agricultural policy in question.'

Foot bill

'The problem of adjustment by new members to this policy must be solved by means of measures of adequate transition.'

In other words, the bill for Common Market entry—which will bring advantages to certain sections of British big business—will be footed by the working class as a steeply increased cost of living.

Subservience

Wilson's eagerness for entry even on these terms is a further indication of his subservience to big business and his complete contempt for the problems of the working class.

The Common Market is an association of European capitalists who have banded together the better to plunder the workers of their own countries and the rest of the world.

They agree only about one thing: the working class must

Trade unionists greet our Press

SEVERAL trade unionists from the Merseyside have sent their greetings to the Workers' Press after seeing it produced for a whole week.

FROM R. REYNOLDS, member of Liverpool district committee Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers and Convenor Lucas Industrial Equipment (in a personal capacity):

As a supporter of the weekly 'Newsletter' and then the twice-weekly, I think that the daily paper is a tremendous achievement and has a big part to play in the working class.

A daily paper like the Workers' Press will develop workers' political consciousness.

You can't have that without speaking out and speaking the truth, which is the aim of Workers' Press.

For example, I appreciated the way 'The Newsletter' spoke out on Ford's and the penalty clauses in the last struggle of Ford's workers.

Others were suggesting that the result was a victory when it was not.

'The Newsletter' told the truth. Now Ford's workers have the same struggle again. I wish the paper all the best and a rapid increase in sales.

WALLY MILLER, Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers' steward and member of the shop stewards' executive committee, Vauxhall Motors, Ellesmere Port:

It is good to see a new paper fighting for the workers' cause.

It will be a big progress for the labour movement if it keeps up the high standards that we have seen during our struggle.

The reports on our struggle at Vauxhall have been very good indeed.

I wish you every success.

SID CARTEW, member of the National Union of Seamen:

It is considered by seamen that if the Workers' Press carries on the same role as 'The Newsletter' in giving a lead as well as supporting workers' struggles, then we wish it every success.

Unlike other papers you know where you stand.

• More greetings tomorrow

All Trades Unions Alliance conference

Motor workers' conference

All car, car components and delivery workers are invited to a motor workers' conference

Digbeth Civic Hall, Digbeth Birmingham Saturday November 8 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Write for credentials to: R. Parsons, 21 Strawberry Path, Blackbird Leys, Oxford.

Conference fee: 5s. a person

ORDER THE DAILY NOW

I would like to subscribe to Workers' Press for:

The rates are as follows:
Full subscription (posted daily)
3 months £2 10s. 0d. 1 year £10 0s. 0d.
Two editions (for any two days you select)
3 months £1 0s. 0d. 1 year £4 0s. 0d.

Name

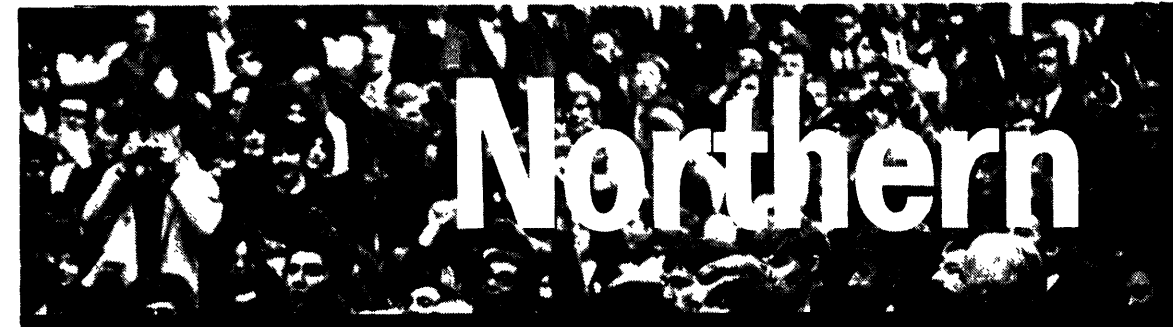
Address

.....

.....

Post to: Circulation Organizer, Workers' Press
186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4
(TEL: 01-720 2000)

All Trades Unions Alliance
SOUTH-WEST LONDON
Tuesday, October 7, 8 p.m.
The Horse and Groom
Mitcham Road
near Tooting Broadway Tube Station



The Political Background



1. Class Struggle and Civil Rights

IRELAND, after hundreds of years of imperialist oppression, was partitioned following the workers' uprising of Easter 1916 in Dublin and the 1918 Civil War.

The present state of Northern Ireland consists of six counties in the north-east of Ireland, the remaining 26 constituting Eire, the Republic.

From 1912 onwards, the landlords and capitalists of what is now Northern Ireland, particularly in Belfast, organized open military resistance against the proposed 'Home Rule', in which the Liberal government of the day at Westminster proposed to grant limited independence to Ireland.

Led by Sir Edward Carson, this reactionary group, supported by the Tories and by elements of the military General Staff in Britain, forced a situation where 'Ulster', or the six counties of the North-East, remained attached directly to the Westminster government.

These 'Unionists' have had to base their politics ever since on the supposed advantages of this union to the Protestant majority in Northern Ireland.

Whereas the Catholic religion predominates in Ireland as a whole, the six counties contain a majority of those professing Protestantism.

This arises from historical processes beginning in the 16th and 17th centuries, in which the English ruling class settled Protestant farmers, mostly Scots, in these counties, giving them the best land, in order to consolidate their rule.

WAGE WORKERS

Now, of course, the vast majority of their descendants who remain in Ireland are propertyless wage-workers in Belfast and the smaller towns.

In order to keep the working class of the North divided, to keep the Protestant workers in the political grip of the Unionist (Conservative) Party, it has been necessary above all to convince them that the connection with Britain and the continuance of Unionist rule is an advantage to them as workers.

Thus the Catholic worker is discriminated against by the capitalists and the state: his votes are worthless through 'gerrymandering' or the arrangement of constituencies; he has less chance of a house; he is excluded from many jobs; his children will be worse educated in inferior schools.

In addition, welfare services of the type won through struggle in Britain apply to the

North, and contrast with the Republic.

It is now a desperate matter for the capitalists of Ireland and Britain that this division be preserved. The international crisis of capitalism has reached the stage where a conflict with the working class in every capitalist country cannot be avoided.

This is the lesson of France, Italy and Germany, as well as Northern Ireland, Eire and Britain.

FATAL

It will be fatal for the capitalists once the workers who are crowded into Belfast slums are drawn, united, into this struggle against their real enemies, the employer, the landlord, and the government, instead of being led, as the agents of the capitalist class are deliberately leading them, into clashes on a religious basis.

There have been no barricades in the upper-class and middle-class areas of Belfast, no clashes between rich Catholics fighting for civil rights and 'Protestants fighting as 'Loyalists'!

The attention of the ruling class is turned instead to perpetuating these divisions in the working class.

But the game is up! Because capitalism can provide no

wing Unionists to raise the idea of breaking from Westminster was one thing: it was only a warning of the tensions which were coming to the surface as the old equilibrium became uneasy.

But for the poor Protestant workers of Belfast, deluded for generations into voting Unionist (i.e. for all that went with union with Britain) to fight British troops was quite another thing!

Simon-pure reformers and so-called socialists of course will object that those Protestant workers clashed with the troops only because the troops prevented them from fighting the Catholic workers.

That is, of course, what happened.

But the objective logic of events is here of decisive importance. These workers have been led to express their bitterness and frustration as victims of exploitation, unemployment and bad housing by taking it out on their class brothers, the Catholics.

CLASH

The clash with the troops signifies precisely that the maintenance of capitalist rule in Northern Ireland can no longer depend on this device together with the Special Powers Act that goes with it.

These same workers will

from the Republicans and the Stalinists, he has been led by the middle-class 'civil rights' advocates to believe that pressure on Wilson will bring positive reforms on job, housing, education, votes and protection against arbitrary arrest.

STRUGGLE

Many Catholic workers saw the Civil Rights movement as a way of expressing that willingness to struggle which has been steadily building up against capitalism in every country.

They thought that by giving their support to 'civil rights' they could bring pressure to bear on the Unionists for substantial reforms.

Their middle-class leaders peddled the argument that support for this could be got from the Labour government in Britain.

The whole perspective of the leadership of the civil rights movement—a middle-class leadership supported by middle-class 'socialists' of the

The first of two articles by Cliff Slaughter

opened up with O'Neill's resignation and the split in the Unionist Party brought in its train a series of objective struggles in which the class issues will inevitably come to the fore, and in which great opportunities arise for the development of united working-class actions and the development of a Marxist leadership in Britain as well as in Ireland.

If we approach the question from another angle, this becomes clear. What is the real content of the slogan 'one man, one job' or '... one vote' or '... one house'? What is the content of the demand for ending discrimination in education?

JOBS SCARCE

For the working class, the 'jobs' question is a matter of more jobs. But capitalism has entered a phase internationally—and even more certainly within declining British capitalism—where jobs must get scarcer and not more plentiful.

Thus, if the Northern Ireland and British government 'promise' to implement the reforms demanded by the civil rights movement, what can this mean?

Unemployment in Northern Ireland is at this time seven and a half per cent, or three times the rate in Britain.

The ruling class is patently incapable of controlling the social contradictions and establishing 'law and order'.

Hence the 'normal' problems of reducing the labour force in capitalism as a whole are much worse in Northern Ireland. These promises, like all the promises of Tories and all the promises of Wilson and the reformists, are a lie and a fraud.

Northern Ireland's problems, even more obviously than those of Britain, require socialist solutions.

LESSON

Bitter struggles, in which the workers of Belfast and Derry are unable to resolve even the smallest day-to-day questions without armed clashes with the forces of the state, will force this lesson upon these workers in a very short time.

To fight for these policies against all diversions is the task of Marxists in this situation.

It was because of the middle-class orientation of the initial leadership of the civil rights movement that the Catholic workers found themselves apparently facing the prospect of wholesale death and destruction by August of this year.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary and the B-Specials (consisting largely of extremist right-wing elements, some of them followers of the Protestant Reverend Ian Paisley) used their government status and their arms to carry out brutal attacks on the Catholic workers' quarters. Whole streets were burned down and several deaths occurred.

NOT ORGANIZED

Against these odds the unprepared workers fought bravely, but the independent fighting capacity of the working class had never been organized, of course, by the civil rights leaders, even of the so-called 'left wing'.

The 'state capitalists' of the 'International Socialism' group, and others like McCann, who constitute this 'left wing', then found themselves unable to oppose the intervention of British troops.

Their supporters say: 'Without the troops there would have been a pogrom (i.e. a violent attack and killing of Catholics)'. They forget, first, that this 'pogrom' is now about to be organized by the troops and

the Royal Ulster Constabulary and B-Specials who are part of the same state machine; and, second, that their own politics of liquidation into civil rights, instead of independent mobilization of the strength of the working class, created the conditions for Wilson's troops to intervene.

Now the Cameron Report on the events between October 1968 and April 1969, together with the witch-hunt of the capitalist press, led by the 'Daily Mail', is turned on McCann, Toman, Devlin and Farrell, of the student 'People's Democracy' section of the Civil Rights movement.

No effort must be spared in the Labour movement of Britain and Ireland to defend them and all the Irish militants against whom the attack is directed.

The Labour government must be told to keep its hands off any of the workers and civil rights members whom the Unionists want to make scapegoats for their own historical bankruptcy.

But the lessons must be learned.

These 'left wingers', among them revisionist supporters of

In order to keep the working class in Ireland divided, it is necessary to convince them that the connection with Britain and the continuation of Unionist rule is an advantage to them as workers.

groups like the 'state capitalists', considered that the further development of capitalism in Ireland gave the opportunity for a reform movement (civil rights).

In this way the Catholic section of the working class would begin to develop consciousness, so it was thought.

Instead, the revolutionary nature of the problems facing the Irish workers, Catholic and Protestant, was the essence of the question, and required a socialist, revolutionary, not a reformist programme and preparation; a working-class organization, not a liquidation into the middle-class organization (civil rights) with a reformist programme.

The situation was and is

building up to a revolutionary one.

Therefore, as soon as the workers show even a small example of their strength and combativity, counter-revolutionary reprisals are prepared by the Unionists.

Unable to prepare for revolution, the 'lefts', because of their revolutionary words, and because they are useful as a scapegoat, fall victim in the witch-hunt to these reprisals.

The working-class movement will defend them, because the attack on them is essentially the ruling class's first preparatory blow in tightening the grip of repression in Ireland.

To be continued tomorrow.



Street barricades in Dublin during the Irish Civil War of 1918.



The Union Jacks were out in this Protestant area when the troops moved in with their armoury. But all illusions about 'protection' from the army are being dispelled as state forces are used against both Catholic and Protestant workers.



Many Catholic workers saw the civil rights movement as a way of expressing that willingness to struggle which has been steadily building up against capitalism in every country.

T.V. PROGRAMMES

BBC-1

9.15 a.m.-12.23 p.m., For Schools. 1.0-1.25, Bob Yn Dri. 1.30, Watch With Mother. 1.45-1.53, News and Weather. 2.5-2.35, For Schools. 3.45, Malcolm Muggeridge. 4.20, Play School. 4.40, Jackanory. 4.55, Wacky Races and Space Kidettes. 5.15, Monster Music Mash. 5.44, Babar. 5.50, News and Weather.

6.00, London-Nationwide: news, features, opinions.

6.45, Z Cars.

7.05, Tomorrow's World.

7.30, Decidedly Dusty.

8.00, Tuesday at Eight: Old-Time Music-Hall.

8.50, Main News and Weather.

9.10, Where Do We Go From Here?: Tuesday's documentary.

10.00, The Horse of the Year Show.

10.40, 24 Hours.

11.15, The Sky At Night.

11.35, Weatherman.

11.37, Postscript.

All regions as BBC 1 except at the following times:

Midlands and East Anglia: 6.0-6.45 p.m., Midlands News and Weather. 11.42, News Summary and Weather.

North of England: 6.0-6.45 p.m., Look North. 11.42, Northern News Headlines and Weather.

Scotland: 3.45-4.20 p.m., Sunday Set. 6.0-6.45, Reporting Scotland. 11.37, Epilogue and Scottish News Headlines.

Northern Ireland: 6.0-6.45 p.m., Scene Around Six, News and Weather. 11.42, Northern Ireland News Headlines.

Wales: 5.15-5.44 p.m., Telewale. 6.0-6.45, Wales Today, News. 6.45-7.5, Heddidi. 8.0-8.25, One of the Family. 8.25-8.50, Cadw Cwmni. 10.0-10.20, Z Cars. 10.20-10.40, joins London Network.

South and West: 6.0-6.45 p.m., Points West, South Today, Spotlight South West, Weather. 11.42, South and West News Headlines.

7.00 p.m., The Question of Pressures: new series.

8.00, Floodlit Rugby League.

8.00, Floodlit Rugby League: Leigh v. Wakefield.

8.45, Jazz Scene.

9.10, Premiere: 'The Smugglers'.

10.45, Europa: Mao's China and Castro's Cuba.

11.20, News Summary and Weather.

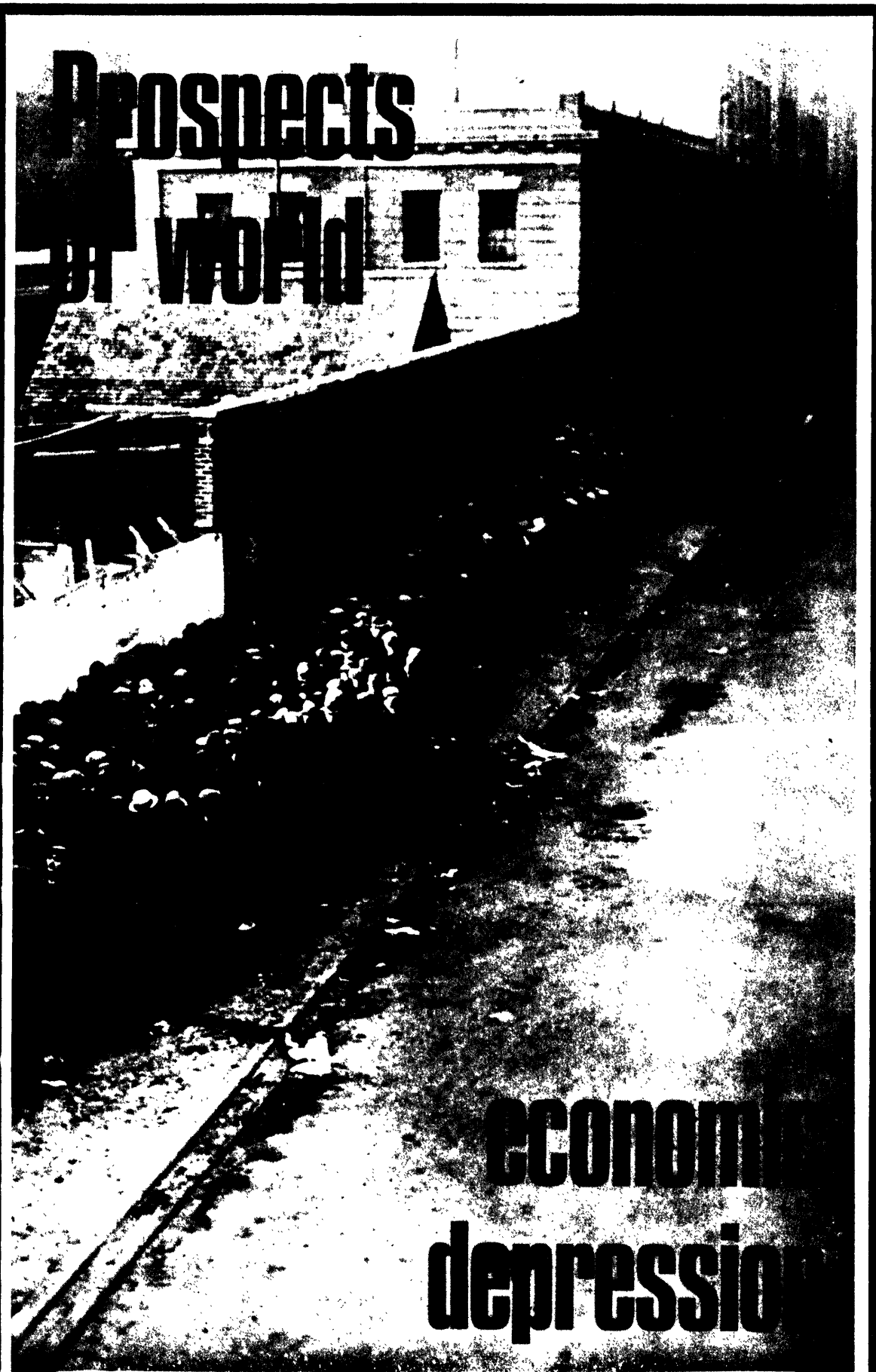
11.25, Line-Up.

Border Television

1.45-2.55 p.m., Schools. 4.0, Border News Headlines. 4.02, House-party. 4.15, Castle Haven. 4.40, Diane's Magic Theatre. 4.55, The Paper Bag Players. 5.20, Maggie. 5.50, National News. 6.0, Border News and Look-around. 6.35, Crossroads. 7.0, Feature Film: 'Carson City'. 8.30, The Dustbinmen. 9.0, Who-Dun-It? 10.0, News At Ten and Border Weather. 10.30, Man of the Month. 11.15, The Actor and the Role: scenes from Shakespeare's 'Tempest'. 11.40, Border News Summary and Weather.

BBC-2

11.00-11.20, Play School.



economic depression

FEARS of a possible world economic crisis of the type begun by the 1929 Wall Street crash are once again being expressed.

By Tom Kemp

Capitalism's supporters, who for many years assumed that governments now had at their disposal instruments to forestall and prevent such a disaster are no longer speaking with such confidence.

In the face of continued uncontrollable inflation in all the major capitalist countries they are saying: it must end sometime and what then?

Some self-styled Marxists have in the past also permitted themselves the assumption that a world crisis of the dimension of that of the 1930s is no longer possible.

To do this, of course, is to assume that capitalist governments have learned, with the help of Lord Keynes, to control the anarchy of the market or that the laws of capitalism no longer operate as they once did.

In other words it represents a rejection or revision of Marxism. Is, then, a major slump inevitable? Can it be predicted with certainty? At one time or another since the end of the Second World War such claims have been made in the name of Marxism.

However, no such slump has occurred. Is it, then, a simply a case of a premature prediction or of some other mistake?

BREAKDOWN

What Marxist political economy shows is that the working out of capitalism's laws of motion pushes the system towards a breakdown.

There is, then, a definite tendency towards a crisis of over-production. For this actually occurred on the scale of the 1930s towards a slump should come together in a particular way.

Marxism cannot predict with certainty that a world slump will occur at a particular time or even that one will actually take place. It does say, however, that there are powerful tendencies operating in this direction.

These tendencies operate despite the conscious efforts of capitalist governments to control the economy and keep it on an upward course. The Keynesian remedies, based

upon government spending and the financing of credit by the central banks, have only been able to operate through continuous inflation.

For years now governments, especially that of the US, have struggled to bring inflation under control but they have completely failed.

The great fear now is that the Nixon administration will find itself obliged to take the strong measures which Johnson spoke about but failed to apply. Already interest rates have risen to an absurd level, but still the inflation goes on.

In other words, the American economy, from which stems the world rise in prices, could become, as in 1929, the storm centre of a new economic blizzard.

Discussing some of these possibilities in 'Le Monde' (September 30), a financial journalist points out that the first break may very well come outside the USA.

SHOCK

As he says, the sign for the 1929 Wall Street crash was actually given by the failure of a bank in Austria.

The different parts of the world economy are so closely linked together that a shock in any part of it will rapidly be transmitted, and perhaps more powerfully, to the rest.

It is the uncontrollable chain reaction, when all the tendencies towards overproduction begin to predominate, which can set the stage for a world depression.

'Le Monde', in a long article written in an urgent tone, calls attention to the heavy indebtedness of the big capitalist firms in countries like Italy, Belgium and Germany.

Strong measures to deal with inflation in any one of these countries could easily result in a chain of business failures running from one country to another.

The first sign of such a break would not be unemployment, as the Keynesians assume—that would, of course, rapidly follow.

In fact, it is impossible for governments to forestall this type of financial seizure because they do not have the information necessary. In trying to deal with inflation and balance of payments problems they may inadvertently turn the screw too much and start the crash!

The European banking and financial situation is now in a precarious position because of low reserves and the draining of capital to the US. Governments are meeting their needs by a continuous increase in

paper money based upon short-term floating debt.

One or two countries like Germany or Switzerland may have for the moment a solid-looking currency—but they too are caught up in the same process.

The build-up of credit, the involved international financial transactions now going on through the medium of Eurodollars, the over-indebtedness of business and the lack of gold or foreign exchange reserves, puts the whole system at the mercy of some sudden breakdown in one bank or big firm, with the exposure of one financial scandal.

As 'Le Monde' says: 'Who can be sure that there will not one day be in London, in Frankfurt, in Geneva or in that paradise of the Euro-dollar, Nassau, a bank failure which will bring down the whole edifice, by a chance shock wave effect?'

This is not to say, of course, that the slump is inevitable or can be predicted with certainty. What it is possible to say with confidence is that the conditions for it are being prepared, that government action of the Keynesian type will be helpless to prevent it and that whatever arrangements the International Monetary Fund may make they will not be able to deal with the basic problems.

IMPLICATIONS

Capitalism has certainly changed in the past decade or so.

In some ways it has changed faster than many people realize.

These changes have been particularly important on the financial side; the implications of the Euro-dollar market, for example, are only slowly being recognized. Instead of making capitalism more stable, more subject to control, they move in the opposite direction.

They underline its anarchistic character. They show how the reckless search for more profit leads to a network of transactions which poisons the whole system more precariously than before and increases its risks of collapse.

That is why the supporters of capitalism themselves, if they pause to think, are stricken with anxiety about the future.

That is why the strength of the working class as manifested throughout western Europe is also so important. It shows that the future will be decided as a struggle of classes and not as the working out of inevitable economic processes.

TELEVISION REVIEW

The long, long list of censored programmes

By Frank Cartwright

THE USE to which the magnificent human developments of radio and television are put depends entirely on the social system in which they are employed.

Technique and science develop not in a vacuum, but in human society, which consists of classes. The ruling class, the possessing class, controls technique and through it controls nature... In a society in which the ruling class is militaristic, technique is in the service of militarism.

Trotsky's speech in March 1926 to the inaugural meeting of the First All-Union Congress of the Society of Friends of Radio stands as strongly now as it did then in the infancy of wireless communication.

Today pictures can be sent round the world via satellites with only few seconds delay.

Live pictures come from the moon and from the manned cabins of rockets in dark inter-planetary space.

Ships cross the oceans guided by signals which have travelled 24,000 miles out into space and then back again; the weather is studied from orbiting photographic laboratories. The advance in technique in a few short years is staggering.

But all this, and more besides, is in the service of the ruling class; all this is in the service of their global networks of missiles carrying enough explosive force to wipe out all life on the planet many times over; all this in the service of world capitalism in its desperate and destructive attempts to prolong its senility.

In recent years, perhaps the most celebrated act of television censorship was the BBC's decision not to allow the public to see Peter Watkins' film 'The War Game'. After much outcry it was finally released into selected cinemas where 'responsible' middle-class people could see it.

All over the world fellow film-makers awarded it prizes and the BBC even made a very large sum from gate money.

But it was never shown on British television.

It was, after all, an attempt to give a picture of the effects of a very small atomic bomb on human life.

It did it realistically and unromantically.

It could not be shown in case it 'upset' people.

Many other films and programmes have also been banned.

Some still languish in locked vaults; others were destroyed.

A film alleging discriminatory treatment of immigrant workers by the Metropolitan Police was mutilated after pressure from the authorities. Another about women criminals was treated similarly.

Plays have been delayed for months and years, radio programmes about police brutality completely stopped. The list is very long and in the coming period must get longer.

Meanwhile, of course, the screens are kept filled and four radio channels never fail to spread the gospel.

LAST WEEK both television set-ups did a job on Gandhi.

To celebrate the centenary of his birth BBC and Granada put out programmes on the same night.

Both idealized and romanticised him; neither offered any serious analysis of his politics or any suitable appraisal of his life.

Hated, persecuted and imprisoned during many of his years he also unconsciously served British imperialism well.

His creed of non-violence was plaintively lamented in one programme and cynically dismissed in the other.

With his hand-spinning and notions of a primitive economics (he was always anti-Marxist) he also lived a part of his life in the huge house of one of India's biggest industrialists.

His narrow nationalism was disastrous for the Indian peasantry and working class and his romantic asceticism was all grist to capitalism.

Passed off as the saviour of India by some, he opened the door to the continued exploitation of Indians.

The reformist social-democracy which sprang naturally from his politics also held back the growth of the Indian socialist revolution.

But, of course, we are meant to take him to our hearts and to follow along similarly idealist paths. Thus the programmes and their approach.

According to one report ('The Times', October 1), the broad proposals discussed, without any firm resolution, were that MPs should be lobbied 'to take notice' of the situation and that the Independent Television Authority should be asked to exercise greater control over programme companies and programmes.

A forlorn evening all round and one more sign that the Free Communications Group, a reformist group with middle-

The crisis in the industry is very deep indeed and no amount of reformist tinkering is going to put it right.

THIS WEEK too has seen another move in the desperate attempt to use all means in the effort to con the working class.

On Sunday at 12.30 p.m., a new series was begun on BBC Television.

Called 'Representing the Union' it's billed as 'a trade unionist's guide to productivity bargaining and management techniques'.

The producer insists that it's intended to help shop stewards negotiate a productivity bargain, 'to help them know whether or not they are getting a fair deal for their members'.

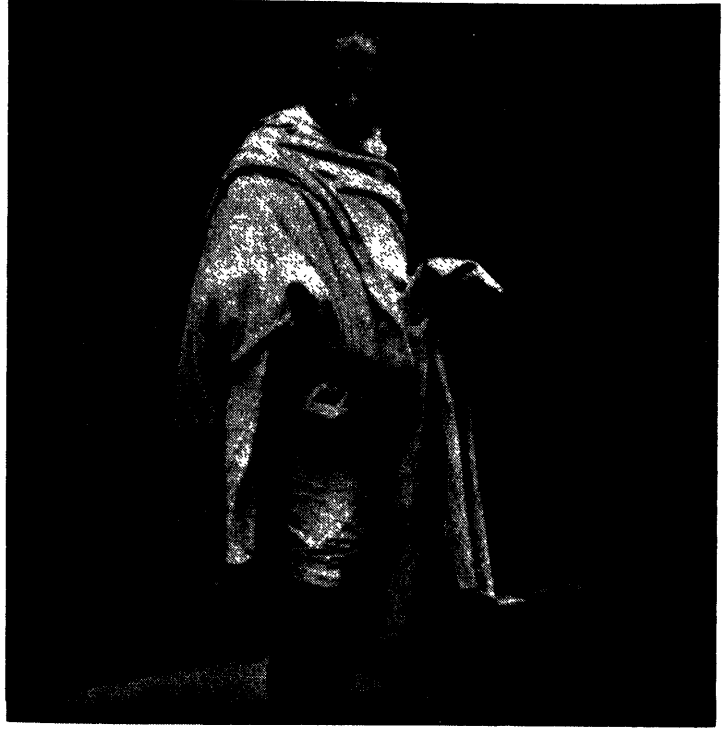
The very notion of 'fair' productivity deals is difficult to imagine in this system and it's no accident that Mr Vic Feather was quoted as saying that the series was of 'great importance'. ('Financial Times' September 23.)

Produced in close consultation with the TUC it deals with 'problems of effective communications, costing techniques, job evaluation, work-measurement and payment by results'.

Mr Feather also said that there have been many inquiries about the series, not only from some shop stewards, but also from manufacturing industry, 'mainly bigger companies'.

Other inquiries had also come from the Post Office, railways and hospitals.

One more attempt to sell productivity deals, this time in the disguise of fair-minded educational television.



Mahatma Gandhi

LAST WEEK too Associated Television (ATV) continued its new series 'The Dustbin-men'.

Condescending and patronizing programmes about the 'comic' working class are nothing new, but this series looks like setting new records.

In the same week that dustmen in Islington and elsewhere were fighting serious battles for decent wages and against productivity deals, the gap grew wider between reality and what the ruling class think will best entertain and confuse us.

TELEVISION coverage of the Labour Party conference also did little to reveal the real forces at work there.

One evening a group of delegates in Brighton met some workers from commercial television to discuss the crisis in the industry.

class politics which was behind the meeting, is well matched with its sympathizers in the Labour Party.

ON THE same day the Director-General of the BBC, Mr. Charles Curran, let it be known that despite the increase in all licence fees to be levied from April 1971, the Corporation will still be in serious financial trouble.

Radio alone will have an accumulated deficit of around £7 million by then and there seems no chance of solvency after that unless viewers make a massive and unlikely turn to expensive colour sets.

Later in the week (October 2) the Chairman of the BBC, Lord Hill, announced that educational broadcasting will also be severely affected in the near future unless the government can find a lot more money.

OUR mentors will go on trying to decide what we should know, what we shall see, what we may hear.

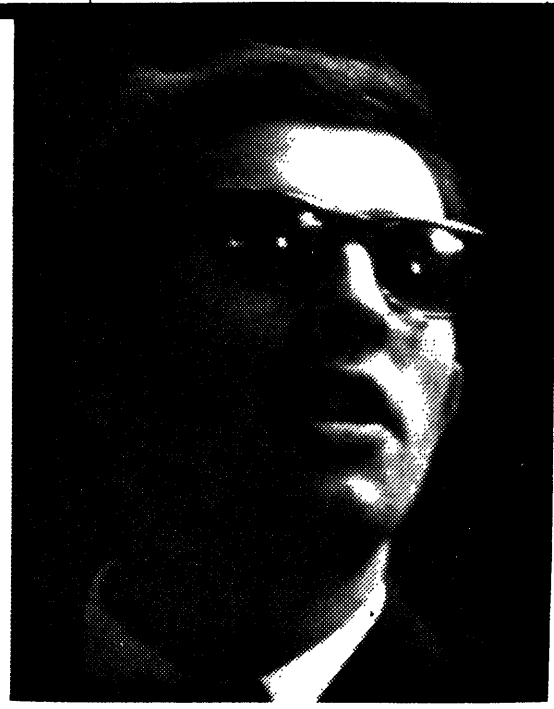
'Public' corporations like the BBC and statutory bodies like the Independent Television Authority, either through action or inaction, will attempt to hold back consciousness.

They will peddle the acceptable values and present the news as they see fit.

But whilst the great possibilities for freeing men inherent in broadcasting remain hidden, whilst the news goes on putting the American imperialist case in Vietnam, the federal Nigerian government's line on Biafra and the employers' interests in all class struggles, we should never forget the revolutionary future for which we are all building.

Speaking in 1926 about the

French young socialists (A.J.S.) send greetings to Workers Press



Charles Berg of the AJS.

THE National Bureau of the Alliance des Jeunes pour le Socialisme greets the launching of the Trotskyist daily paper Workers' Press published in London by the Socialist Labour League, the British Trotskyist organization.

The role played by the Young Socialists in the struggle to publish the daily Workers' Press provides the AJS with a wealth of experience.

Day after day, the AJS followed this struggle, because there is no such thing as two parallel, distinct struggles but one and the same struggle for the building of the tool indispensable for the victory of the proletariat—the revolutionary party.

The appearance of the daily Workers' Press is a tremendous step forward on the difficult way to build the revolutionary party and the International, in a situation where the working class has again taken the initiative in the class struggle, and engages itself in huge struggles against the bourgeoisie on a world scale.

In this situation, the launching of the daily Workers' Press constitutes a conquest for revolutionaries in every country.

For the appearance of the first issue of the daily Workers' Press a delegation of the National Bureau of the

AJS came to London on September 26 and 27 to bring our English comrades the fighting greetings of the French Revolutionary Youth.

The struggle of the Young Socialists and the struggle of the AJS are linked indissolubly for the destruction of the bourgeois state and capitalism, for the victory of the working class and its youth, and the establishment of socialism.

Together, the Young Socialists and the AJS will fight for the organization of an International Conference of Revolutionary Youth, for the proclamation of a Revolutionary Youth International, as heir of the heroic tradition of fight of the Socialist Youth International of Karl Liebknecht and the Communist Youth International of Lenin and Trotsky.

In this year which marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Lenin and the 30th anniversary of the assassination of Leon Trotsky we will win together this new victory.

Charles Berg, National Secretary For the National Bureau of the AJS.

Glasgow bus fares up

Workers' Press reporter

BUS FARES in Glasgow are to be increased on October 12 from 5d. to 6d.; 10d. to 1s.; and 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.

The night service will increase from 2s. 3d. for a single journey and the weekly ticket is doubled from 7s. 6d. to 15s.

The last increase in July 1968 was supposed to realize a surplus but the accumulated deficit for 1969-1970 was estimated to be over £1½ million.

Necessary

Much is made of the fact that the rises are necessary because of workers' wage increases.

So, both passengers and busmen are coming under the hammer.

In November the Govan garage will close, saving £60,000.

One-man mileage has increased from 630,000 miles last year to 3,500,000 and more conductorless vehicles are to be introduced.

The saving so far effected at the expense of the bus worker through the introduction of these vehicles is £127,000 a year.



Kensington and Chelsea dustmen on their way to the Caxton Hall negotiations last Friday make their demands quite clearly on their placards.

Exhibition men threaten national strike

EXHIBITION workers in many parts of Britain are threatening to stage a two-day unofficial strike on Monday and Tuesday over their deadlocked pay negotiations.

The men, working on stand-fitting and electrical installation at exhibitions, have asked for their basic rate to be increased from 9s. 8d. an hour to 14s. The employers have offered 11s. 7d. (P.A.)

CARDOWAN PIT TO CLOSE

CARDOWAN COLLIERY, near Steppes, Lanarkshire, is to close in December. The pit produces 650,000 tons of coking coal a year, which up to the present time has been consumed by Colvilles steel mills.

From Mickie Shaw

According to an official statement, Cardowan must be closed because Colvilles refuse to pay the £3 10s.-a-ton increase required to offset a £100,000-a-month production loss.

Third LSE lecturer not sacked

LONDON School of Economics' governing body has decided not to dismiss Mr. Laurence Harris, the 26-year-old economics lecturer arranged before a special tribunal in connection with events at the School last January.

Mr. Harris was the last of three staff members to appear before the tribunal. After two earlier hearings the governing body dismissed Mr. Robin Blackburn and Mr. Nicholas Bateson on charges in connection with the same events.

All three were accused of having taken part in or supported the students when they tore down 'anti-riot' gates and occupied the School.

The 'trials' followed an unprecedented witch-hunt in the capitalist press.

The Socialist Labour League's position in relation to this question has always been clear. We are opposed to any restrictions on the political rights of students and staff.

The real 'crime' of Blackburn and Bateson in the eyes of the governing body is that they supported the students in opposition to the reactionary school authorities.

Though we are opposed to the political position of the victimized lecturers, we support unconditionally their right to propagate and fight for them.

The decision in the Harris case throws into question the dismissal of his two colleagues. Students must fight for the unconditional reinstatement of Blackburn and Bateson. They should be backed by their trade union.

Big lobby for £20 claim

Dustmen are determined to win strike

LONDON dustmen are determined to win their strike for a £5-a-week increase despite the employers' rejection of the claim at Friday's joint negotiating committee meeting.

By Peter Read

The strike has now spread to 20 boroughs and affects more than four million people.

In a militant lobby of Friday's Caxton Hall negotiations, about 600 strikers showed a clear determination to win.

'We're not going back' was the main slogan shouted. Another popular shout was 'We want five!'

After the meeting, Mr Peter Evans, chairman of the union negotiating side, told the men that if the matter was not resolved satisfactorily at the next day's national negotiations the strike would be made official by the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Follow

Officers of the other unions involved—the National Union of Public Employees and the General and Municipal Workers' Union—indicated that their unions would follow suit.

Mr Evans, a T&GWU regional trade group secretary, said that the council employers had deplored the unofficial action and asked the unions to obtain a return to work.

Dustmen were incensed by the employers' assertion that they already operated an incentive bonus scheme paying £20 a week.

During the lobby I was shown pay slips on which the basic wages after stoppages came to less than £14.

Bonus test

Bonus could not be counted on, the dustmen said. Overtime and early morning money was lost during sickness and at holiday times.

One of the banners read: 'Basic wage £15 9s.: Rubbish'. A lobbyist told me negotiations for an extra 18s. had dragged on since last July.

The employers had made a 'diabolical' offer of 10s.

'After 30 years on the council all I get is £13 17s. 8d. with four kids to bring up,' he said.

There were immediate shouts of 'No! We work hard enough!' when Mr Evans reported after the meeting that the councils wanted more productivity.

All those interviewed by the Workers' Press were quite adamant about rejecting any productivity deal.

They already work vehicles short-handed at certain times.

No deal

As one dustman said: 'We just want a basic £20 and no productivity deals—these just cut our throats.'

Other local authority workers are joining the strike. Caretakers and porters from Tower Hamlets, on strike since Tuesday, joined Friday's lobby.

Evans' statement that the employers were being 'irresponsible' and 'did not really understand' the situation opens up big dangers for the strike.

The first is that the T&GWU's 'high wages, high productivity' policy paves the



Dustmen voted to move this rubbish from Ridley Road market, North London, when it was declared a health hazard to school children.

way for deals like the Lambeth dustmen's settlement earlier this year.

Of course, the employers do understand the situation—the Labour government will back them up to the hilt in resisting the claim.

Dustmen must prepare for a political struggle against the

Labour government's wages policy.

Intervention by Mrs Castle, called for by Haringey council, could well lead to attempts to engineer a sell-out through productivity concessions in return for wage rises.

This must be decisively rejected.

ARMY HITS BOTH SIDES

FROM PAGE ONE

As the repression tightens, it becomes clear to every worker that the sole purpose of the military intervention has been to assert the sacredness of capitalist property.

The British General Freeland is now the real ruler in Belfast. The process of 'cleaning up' has begun.

The army directs its blows against Paisleyites as well as against Catholic and Protestant workers.

This emphasizes the class character of the army intervention. A military dictatorship must establish its supremacy against all comers.

Those opponents of Marxism in the Communist Party and the revisionist 'International Socialism' group, who extolled the military intervention as a necessary step to prevent harm to life and limb, now find that themselves drawn into the preparation of imperialist dictatorship in Ulster.

The Socialist Labour League reiterates its consistent call for the withdrawal of the troops.

Only by a struggle around this slogan, which starts from the class character of the military intervention, can Irish workers be successfully brought to a realization of their real enemy—British imperialism.

FASCIST CLAMP DOWN

FROM PAGE ONE

rectly be taken as a sign of weakness and only encourage the workers and students to fight even harder.

The Stalinist 'solution' of collaboration with the 'liberals' in the ruling class, the army, the Church and the fascist 'Falange' is exposed as fraud and a death trap.

While the Spanish Communist Party leaders preach their policy of national reconciliation with the ruling class, Franco and his big business backers prepare violent battles against the working class.

There can be no 'national reconciliation' with fascism any more than there can be 'peaceful co-existence' with imperialism.

Historian Jan Tesar is now

Arrests begin in Czechoslovakia

AFTER the purge of party and government leaders in Czechoslovakia come the arrests. Reliable reports from Prague speak of the arrest of General Vaclav Prchlík, who was head of the Central Committee's military and security department under Dubcek.

By Robert Black

As a prelude to his arrest, the general's parliamentary immunity was lifted on Wednesday.

Other arrests are believed to have involved members of the group that signed a ten-point manifesto attacking the Soviet invasion and occupation.

One of them is Rudolf Battek, a leading sociologist, who was jailed within 48 hours of losing his parliamentary immunity.

The new repressive laws, worse even than anything suffered under Stalin and Novotny, are already being widely used to deal with any oppositionists to the Husak regime.

More signatures

Despite these and many other arrests, the manifesto continues to collect more signatures.

Historian Jan Tesar is now

in jail, while the popular TV personality Skutina is believed to be in hospital, suffering from stomach trouble after a hunger strike in protest against being jailed without charge for more than three weeks.

This is now 'legal' under the regime's new emergency legislation.

The Czech Party leadership is deeply split in this new crisis.

A sizeable minority voted against Husak at the recent two-day session of the Party Central Committee.

The issue was the legality of the Party Congress held in a factory in the first days of the Soviet invasion.

The new, pro-Kremlin Party leadership has naturally disowned this Congress which took a stand against the intervention and for a continuation of the 'Action Programme' endorsed by the Party in April 1968.

Even after numerous purges and threats, Husak was only able to rally 65 per cent of the Central Committee members behind a resolution invalidating the Congress and its decisions.

Crisis deepens

As a sop to Dubcek, who recently expressed his support for the laws now being used to jail his supporters, the 'liberal' leader was offered a 'responsible post' as Mayor of Bratislava, an insult that Dubcek declined.

The Czech crisis deepens hourly.

General strike in Ceylon?

THE Ceylon government is facing the prospect of a general strike, it was stated in Colombo.

A deadline for a return to work in three strikes already in progress has been ignored by the unions.

It is now possible that a big clash will develop between the whole of the trade union movement and the state.

Husak is only the half-way house to an even more reactionary and anti-working class regime.

The Kremlin has forced his hand to begin this new purge and wave of arrests, but much worse is planned for the future.

We insist once again:

- Withdraw all Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia.
- Form workers' councils, the only guarantee against bureaucracy and capitalist restoration.
- End the purges in Czechoslovakia.
- Free all those already arrested.

Strikes paralyse Fiat

THE GIANT Fiat motor works was again paralyzed by strikes on Thursday.

The employers' association admitted that in the whole of the Turin area, over half the labour force were out in plants affected by the strike.

Picket lines were strongly defended, which at Fiat reflects a remarkable development of class feeling in a company which, until this year, has had one of the lowest strike rates in Italy.

Joined

The Fiat, building, engineering, agricultural and educational workers were joined in strike action by technicians in atomic energy research plants.

Civil servants, scientists, teachers and peasants are now, for the first time, fighting alongside the industrial working class in the most powerful movement Italy has seen since the destruction of workers' organizations by fascism after 1922.

All the parties—capitalist, reformist, centrist and Stalinist—are in crisis as the struggle to either crush or contain this upsurge develops.

The dangers of a Greek-style military coup cannot be ruled out in this tense situation. In Italy the task is one of building revolutionary leadership. There must not be another Mussolini 'march on Rome'.

D.A.T.A. men in 16-week wage strike

By Jack Gale

NINETY-NINE members of the Draughtsmen's and Allied Technicians' Association (DATA) at David Brown Tractors, Meltham, Huddersfield, are in a long drawn-out fight for a substantial wage increase.

They are demanding parity with draughtsmen in the tractor industry, because their wages are as much as £10 a week less.

Negotiations were concluded as long ago as April 18.

There are scarcely 'wild-cat' strikers since the first 30 men were not called out until eight weeks later.

Lock-out

The men allege that the management subsequently locked out another 24 men for refusing to do the strikers' work.

Meanwhile the design team applied sanctions, but they were also called out following a union claim that a man was threatened with a lock-out if he did not work normally.

The dispute is now entering its 16th week and so far the management has only offered £1.

The management has been trying to force a bonus scheme on the men since September 1968.

But the DATA men want money, not bonuses.

Increase

Draughtsmen in other David Brown plants are also on the move.

The union claims that 30-40 men were locked out on September 29 at David Brown's, Sunderland, because they applied sanctions for a substantial increase.

DATA members at David Brown's Gearworks, Huddersfield, are also applying sanctions, but it is believed that negotiations are taking place there.

It is likely that the management will try to get a low settlement at this and the Sunderland plant in order to isolate the Meltham men.

No settlement should be reached at either of these plants until the main strike at Meltham is settled satisfactorily.

Important

It is also important that other workers at David Brown's should support the DATA men.

So far the right-wing stewards at Meltham have led no support. But stewards at Shardlow's, Sheffield, which supplies crankshafts to the Meltham plant, have had a meeting with Meltham stewards and are considering action.

Registered with the GPO as a newspaper. Published by Workers' Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180s Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.

B-P boilermakers throw out productivity deal

To enable the ASB leaders to sell the agreement the employers offered a 3s. to 3s. 6d. an hour rise.

CHEQUE This has the full support of the Department of Employment and Productivity, provided the productivity clauses are carried out in a normal 40-hour week.

Study of the agreement shows that if introduced the employers would be presented with a blank cheque.

Clause four cancels all previous agreements, clause five says that the agreement remains in effect indefinitely. It is clause six which has caused the main opposition since this provides for extensive inroads into trade union practices.

It requires interchangeability between all trades in the event of a labour shortage due to sickness, holidays, or any other abnormal job condition.

This could be an open door to strikebreaking when coupled with an anti-strike clause.

The agreement carries the signature of John Chalmers, ASB general secretary. Writing in 'Morning Star' last Tuesday, Chalmers said: 'Not least of all, one of our greatest problems these days is that of grappling with the saga of gigantic mergers, where we find the workers whom we seek to represent are at the heavy end of the stick.'

When asked about the deal signed at Grangemouth Chalmers said he did not know what was going on, but he would back up productivity deals 'to the hilt'.

ASB general secretary. Writing in 'Morning Star' last Tuesday, Chalmers said: 'Not least of all, one of our greatest problems these days is that of grappling with the saga of gigantic mergers, where we find the workers whom we seek to represent are at the heavy end of the stick.'

When asked about the deal signed at Grangemouth Chalmers said he did not know what was going on, but he would back up productivity deals 'to the hilt'.