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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

TORIES WHIP UP 'LAW AND ORDER'

BY ALEX MITCHELL

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These measures have been seized to create an atmosphere of panic and hysteria, particularly among the middle class.

Evidence of the Tory 'law and order' crackdown is voluminous:

● In January a Yorkshire miner, Ernest Critchley, married with two young children, was given a year's jail for poaching. He was caught with ten pheasants in a bag.

● At India House on February 20 two teenage Pakistanis were shot dead by members of the 'shoot to kill' Special Patrol Group whose police nickname is the 'Central London Commitment'. At the inquest last Friday two officers were commended for their 'courage' in shooting the boys, who were waving toy plastic pistols.

● On March 15 24 building workers appeared in court at Shrewsbury charged with conspiracy under an 1875 Act. They face a total of 210 charges. When building workers, steelmen and dockers arrived to picket in their support they faced a 1,000-strong contingent of police from the new 'riot squad'.

● Last week pickets at the St Thomas's Hospital site in south London were manhandled by the police anti-picket squad thus allowing a coachload of scabs to move on to the site. The police have broken the picket line each day for the past week.

● At the Fine Tubes factory at Plymouth on Monday seven pickets were arrested during an angry clash with the police. Special police reinforcements were drawn from other constabularies to smash a national picket organized by the strike committee.

● Also on Monday Mr Justice Croom-Johnson sentenced a 16-year-old boy to 20 years' imprisonment for mugging. He pleaded guilty to assaulting a man and robbing him of five cigarettes, a bunch of keys and 30p. His accomplices, aged 15, got 10 years each.

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Behind these sinister developments in the police and the judiciary is a deliberate Tory strategy: they want to mobilize the middle class with a series of scares and hysteria-charged court cases.

For example, the direct result of the bomb incidents in central London has been the establishment of a full-time 'security committee' under the chairmanship of Earl Jellicoe, the Lord Privy Seal.

This is the first time in peacetime that the military, the intelligence services, the police and the civil service have set up such a command.

And why? We must ask why?

Is there any evidence to show that there is going to be widespread bombings or muggings throughout the country? Is there shortly to be a takeover of embassy buildings by immigrant children waving rubber daggers and cap guns?

These suggestions are patently ludicrous—and the Tories know it. Heath and his cronies are whipping up this atmosphere to prepare for a massive counter-attack on the trade unions and the working class.

And when it comes to violence and brutality this is a government of experts. In Northern Ireland they introduced horrific torture techniques at Holywood barracks and then legally whitewashed the shooting of 13 innocent civilians in Derry on Bloody Sunday.

It is the same government which has created record post-war levels of unemployment and pursued policies which deliberately increase the cost of living beyond the reach of ordinary working men and women.

Shoppers are 'mugged' on the high streets every day of the week by the Tories' food policy. Food prices have gone up 15 per cent since the so-called freeze began in November while wages have been held down by all-powerful legal restraints.

It is a government which can be up to its ears in giving away North Sea oil rights in a multi-million pound scandal, and yet



The face of Tory 'law and order'. Top, St Thomas's Hospital site workers take a beating from the newly-formed anti-picket police squad. Above (l to r) the story of four judicial actions: Paul Storey, aged 16, who got 20 years for 'mugging'; John Poulson's case has abruptly ended following the anonymous repayment of his major debts; Belfast mother of 11, Mrs Emily Groves, lost her eyesight when hit by a rubber bullet fired at point blank range by a Para; Alex McDonald, chairman of Distillers, the multi-million pound whisky empire which marketed the drug thalidomide.

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The same people in parliament and the judiciary who are screaming for law and order today are significantly silent about the Poulson case which has been mysteriously buried. An anonymous group of business men have paid Poulson's debts thus forestalling further interrogation of the bankrupt and the likelihood of more big names coming out.

In the face of this sort of activity William Whitelaw, the Ulster Secretary, has the hide to say that British trade unionists are 'terrorists'.

The real terrorists are the government and its agents who, for example, were responsible for shooting Mrs Emily Groves at point blank range with a rubber bullet thus causing the loss of her sight.

The soldier responsible for firing the shot was a member of the First Battalion, the Parachute

Regiment, the followers of Brigadier Frank Kitson. But who trains these thugs? Who pays the torturers?

It is arrant hypocrisy for this hated government to talk about 'law and order'. The working class can and must answer this reactionary conspiracy by launching an all-out fight to remove the Tories from office.

WHO SAID IT?

'THE STREETS of our country are in turmoil. The universities are filled with students rebelling and rioting. Communists are seeking to destroy our country. Russia is threatening us with her might. And the republic is in danger. Yes, danger from within and without.'

'We need law and order! Yes, without law and order our nation cannot survive. We shall restore law and order.'

—Adolf Hitler, Hamburg, 1932.

workers press

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Italian Stalinist slams 'Pravda' distortions

ITALIAN Stalinist leader Enrico Berlinguer has attacked 'Pravda' for giving a distorted version of his meetings in Moscow last week with Leonid Brezhnev and other leading bureaucrats.

In an interview published by the Italian CP newspaper 'L'Unita', Berlinguer said that 'Pravda's' comment 'did not reflect in several points the spirit and the letter of the final communique'.

Passages omitted from the version of the final communique published in the Soviet paper included a reference to 'the right of every party to elaborate autonomously its own road towards the democratic and socialist transformation of society'.

'Pravda' also left out a phrase endorsing the need for the 'gradual overcoming of the counterposed blocs until their liquidation'.

Instead the Soviet paper stressed that 'the CPSU and the Italian CP are fully prepared to act, on the basis of the great ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin, in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, on the decisions of the 1969 conference in order to make a new contribution to stronger unity of the international communist and working-class movement'.

Berlinguer told 'L'Unita' that the reference to the 1969 Moscow meeting was 'particularly surprising since it is well known that the Italian party, which took an active part in the extremely long debate, signed only one of the four parts of the final document, the part dealing with the

concrete aims of the struggle against imperialism.

'Our attitude has not, in fact, changed since that time.'

The Italian CP secretary also affirmed his party's right to 'make up its own mind' about developments in the USSR and Eastern Europe.

He said the Italian CP 'could judge what is possible and what is not in this reality, without in any way giving lessons. But we do not want to stop speaking the truth because this builds faith in socialism'.

Berlinguer's critical remarks were again ignored in 'Pravda's' report of his interview with 'L'Unita' which dwelt only on the Italian leader's 'satisfaction' with the outcome of the talks.

Behind the dispute between the two parties is Moscow's desire to tighten its control over the western Communist Par-

ties at a time of great crisis for world Stalinism.

Berlinguer, who hopes for a government portfolio in an Italian version of the Popular Front, is clinging grimly to his party's 'independence'. Like the British CP the Italian Stalinists criticized from a right-wing standpoint the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Their criticisms were designed to enhance their image with the middle-class and prevent a devastating split in the parties' ranks. Now Moscow aims to whip them back into line in preparation for betraying the coming revolutionary struggles in Europe.

The disagreements in no way signify a break from Stalinism by the Italian Communist Party, which has a lengthy history of counter-revolutionary treachery to the Italian working class.

Fascist's nephew faces bomb charges

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

CLAUDIO ORSI, nephew of one of Mussolini's right-hand men, has been arrested by police in Monza on charges connected with bomb attacks on trains and buildings in 1969.

The Italian authorities released the anarchist Pietro Valpreda at the end of December after they had found it impossible to prove any link between him and the bombings. Valpreda was in jail for three years.

Orsi, whose uncle was Italo Balbo, was imprisoned in the San Vittore jail on Saturday evening. The owner of a motel in Ferrara, a rendezvous for the local fascist youth, he is no stranger to judicial investigations.

Last November he was questioned on his involvement in a series of attacks on synagogues, but the local magistrate, Aldo Fais, cleared him of these charges of anti-semitism.

On March 5 he was arrested for distributing leaflets which accused the Andreotti government of fascism and threatened two of the Ferrara judiciary with death.

Within a few days of his release, Orsi was making confessions of anti-fascism to the press: 'I'm not a fascist. What can I do about it if Italo Balbo was my uncle?'

In Ferrara he lived as a lapsed hippy, mingling with the ultra-left and the ultra-right and thriving as a provocateur.

From being a member of the fascists, he moved on



Claudio Orsi.

to found the Young Europe movement, 'based on the teachings of Hitler and Mao Tse-tung', and then a so-called Italy-China Association. The latest twist is collaboration in an anti-semitic magazine.

Orsi has continuously been in close contact with Giovanni Ventura and Franco Freda, two prominent fascists. Ventura confessed to magistrates on Saturday that he participated in the bomb attacks on the law courts of Milan and Turin in May and July 1969.

When Franco Freda was arrested for his complicity, it was Orsi who organized two conferences to establish the innocence of his friend and begin a solidarity campaign.

The favourite venue for Ventura and Freda in Ferrara was Orsi's motel.

In a last attempt to maintain his 'ultra-left' image, Orsi has defended himself: 'All these suspicions are without any basis in fact. I've been a friend of Freda's for ten years, but I've never shared his political ideas.'



Valpreda . . . released after 3 years.

Spain's mission to Moscow

SPAIN'S director of embassies, Luis Villegas, has just returned from Moscow after a three-day visit to fix up accommodation for the Spanish commercial mission in the Soviet capital.

A communique from Franco's Foreign Ministry stated that an official headquarters has been located near the centre of the city and that 'the attention and facilities provided by the Soviet authorities have allowed a satisfactory, rapid solution to the practical problem of the trade agreement.'

Villegas must have been helped by the hospitality that the Spanish Embassy in Helsinki has given to countries involved in the European Security Conference.

The embassy has organized two meetings to discuss the military aspects of security in the Mediterranean. Participants included Portugal, Greece, Germany and . . . East Germany, Rumania, and Yugoslavia.

Torture sentences for army men

EIGHT military policemen in Rio de Janeiro have been sentenced to a total of 473 years in gaol for torturing four soldiers to death last year.

One of them, ex-Commander of the First Armoured Battalion, Lieut-Col Gladstone Perna-asetti I Eixeira, was given seven years.

The others were a captain, a lieutenant, three sergeants and two corporals.

Two members of the civilian police, also found to be involved in the killings, were sentenced to one and two years' imprisonment.

The four murdered soldiers—all aged 19—were suspected of being connected with vice and drug smuggling but had not appeared before a court.

The sentences on the torturers, however, have yet to be ratified by the Supreme Military Tribunal.

US food prices rising at 56 p.c.

FOOD prices in the United States have gone up by an annual increase rate of 56 per cent in the last three months.

This was claimed this week by Senator Abraham Ribicoff (Democrat), who also said that prices of farm products and processed foods had increased at an annual rate of 30.8 per cent over the last six months.

Ribicoff was attempting to introduce legislation in the senate which would freeze the cost of agricultural and meat products at their level of March 1 this year.

Journalist could get 25 years jail

TRIAL of journalist Peter Niese wand on charges under Rhodesia's Official Secrets Act ended yesterday. Niese wand (28) was remanded in custody until March 30 when the regional court magistrate, J. E. T. Hamilton, will give judgement. He faces possible sentences of 25 years imprisonment and fines of up to £11,300.

Witnesses who attended the trial—heard in camera—included Rhodesia's Director of Information, David Williams; Secretary for Law and Order, Jack Fleming; and two journalists, Michael Keats of United Press International and Anthony Rider, who represents a South African newspaper group.

● The Rhodesian State Prosecutor, R. R. Horn, has demanded the death penalty for three Africans convicted of 'possessing arms of war', under the Smith regime's Law and Order (Maintenance) Act.

Currency strains hit Common Market

BY JOHN SPENCER

SIGNS of strain in the eight-member joint float of European currencies appeared within hours of the reopening of the international foreign exchange markets.

The joint float involves the French, Belgian and Luxembourg francs, the Dutch guilder, the Danish, Swedish and Norwegian kroners and the German mark. These currencies will float against those of every other country but will attempt to maintain a fixed relationship among themselves.

The central banks of the various countries involved have agreed to intervene in the market in support of the other members of the joint float.

On Monday, the float's first day, the German central bank had to sell Belgian francs and Swedish kroner to keep the mark within the 'tunnel' of parity values.

The participants are showing every sign of lack of confidence in the ramshackle joint float arrangements.

France has toughened still further its already stringent exchange controls, eliminating the payment of interest on foreigners' holdings in French banks.

The Benelux countries have gone even further, bringing in a negative interest rate as a discouragement to foreign holdings of their currencies.

These measures reflect the fear that the European float will be the next target of 'speculation' on the international money markets.

This lack of confidence can only encourage the holders of hot money to cover themselves against the break-up of the joint float by moving their funds to the safest currency. If this

happens on any scale the float will collapse.

With three of the nine Common Market countries floating their currencies independently, it is becoming impossible for the EEC to carry out even such simple tasks as fixing next year's farm prices. This was postponed earlier this year in the vain hope that the currencies of the nine would stabilize themselves.

The EEC is disrupted by the monetary crisis and its future is extremely tenuous.

BOLTON RENTS

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

TENANTS in Bolton held a victory party last night after a threat to auction off their furniture to pay rent arrears was lifted by the borough treasurer.

Six council house families were originally under threat for refusing to pay Bolton's £1.04p rent increase under the Tory Housing Finance Act.

Last week bailiffs impounded furniture to compensate the authority for the £22.88p rent arrears, but after an emergency meeting of the housing committee on Monday they have been called off.

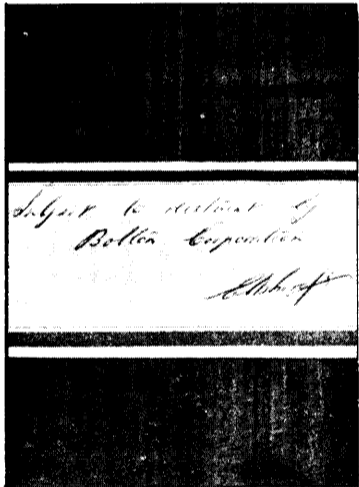
Neil Duffield, a carpenter and one of the six, told me that the deputy borough treasurer had rung him yesterday morning to tell him of the climb-down.

'It was great news,' he said. 'We consider it a victory. I think that the solidarity demonstration made the treasurer think twice.'

'We have been going round other tenants, and some are going back on rent strike they have been so encouraged by our fight.'



Neil Duffield faced seizures worth £50.



The bailiffs left their mark.

'But we know we are not out of the wood yet. The treasurer has only abandoned one method of intimidating us because it clearly failed.'

This remarkable episode at Bolton began last Tuesday when the bailiffs called at Eileen Kelly's house.

'We won't take your suite,' they said. 'We'll take the sideboard, table and chairs instead.' They stuck their mark on the furniture.

'Now they're ours in law,' they said and they walked out with this warning: she and her husband had 15 days to pay their £22.88 rent arrears or the furniture would be sold by auction. She couldn't move the table but she could polish it, they added.

'That made me real mad,' Eileen told me. 'My husband Roy worked for that table—now they just come in and snatch it. You don't have any rights really.'

Eileen and Roy Kelly and the five other families on Bolton's Brightment estate are the first victims of the Housing Finance Act in the north-west. Other tenants have been threatened with eviction but these are the first to face a threat of having their 'goods and chattles seized'—to use the medieval phraseology most fitted for this almost medieval legal procedure.

The six are the remnants of a once powerful rebellion against the Tory Act which has raised the rents in the town by £1.04p.

At the height of the campaign 500 out of Brightment's 5,000 tenants were refusing the in-

crease. Now the six are fighting it out alone.

'I came home that night and I was real mad. You feel so powerless to do anything about this kind of dictatorship,' said Roy Kelly, a maintenance fitter. 'Then I thought we had better pay.'

'But after the demonstration I am determined to stick it out.'

He was talking after the solidarity demonstration in Bolton which attracted tenants from Oldham, Manchester, Hattersley and Kirkby, Liverpool.

Despite yesterday's decision Bolton may set a precedent for action against other tenants. So far the authorities have acted mainly against councils who defy the Housing Finance Act, and all in England bar Clay Cross have caved in. Tenants have been subject to normal eviction warnings for arrears. But such action carries with it the complication that tenants can go to a county court and protest.

Bolton's borough treasurer appears to have found an ingenious way of avoiding courts and penalizing the tenants directly. The irony is that it is the town's Labour council that is mainly responsible for his power.

He claims to be taking action under a clause in the 1958 Local Government Act, but a solicitor has told the tenants that under this act the treasurer is exceeding his powers. But the treasurer says that a council decision last November effectively delegated to him many powers normally residing with the elected representatives.

Seize property

'This to me was a very crafty move,' says Neil Duffield, a carpenter, who has bailiff stickers on a table and benches in his living room worth £50.

'At that time there were a few hundred tenants resisting and the borough treasurer was clearly thinking how he could get round the legal complication with as little fuss as possible—so he got these powers.'

'When I rung him up he said the November decision was just a formal recognition of custom and practice with Bolton County Borough.'

Under the regulations the bailiffs can seize property at will. They can apparently break into the house with police help if the tenant is not at home. It is also within their power to estimate the amount of furniture necessary to recover the arrears.

'When they came to my house,' said Neil, 'they looked round. "How much is that table and benches worth", they asked. I said about £50. The arrears are only £22, but they said that at public auction they would get less than £50 for the stuff.'

'The Press was in the room at the time. I had tipped them off.

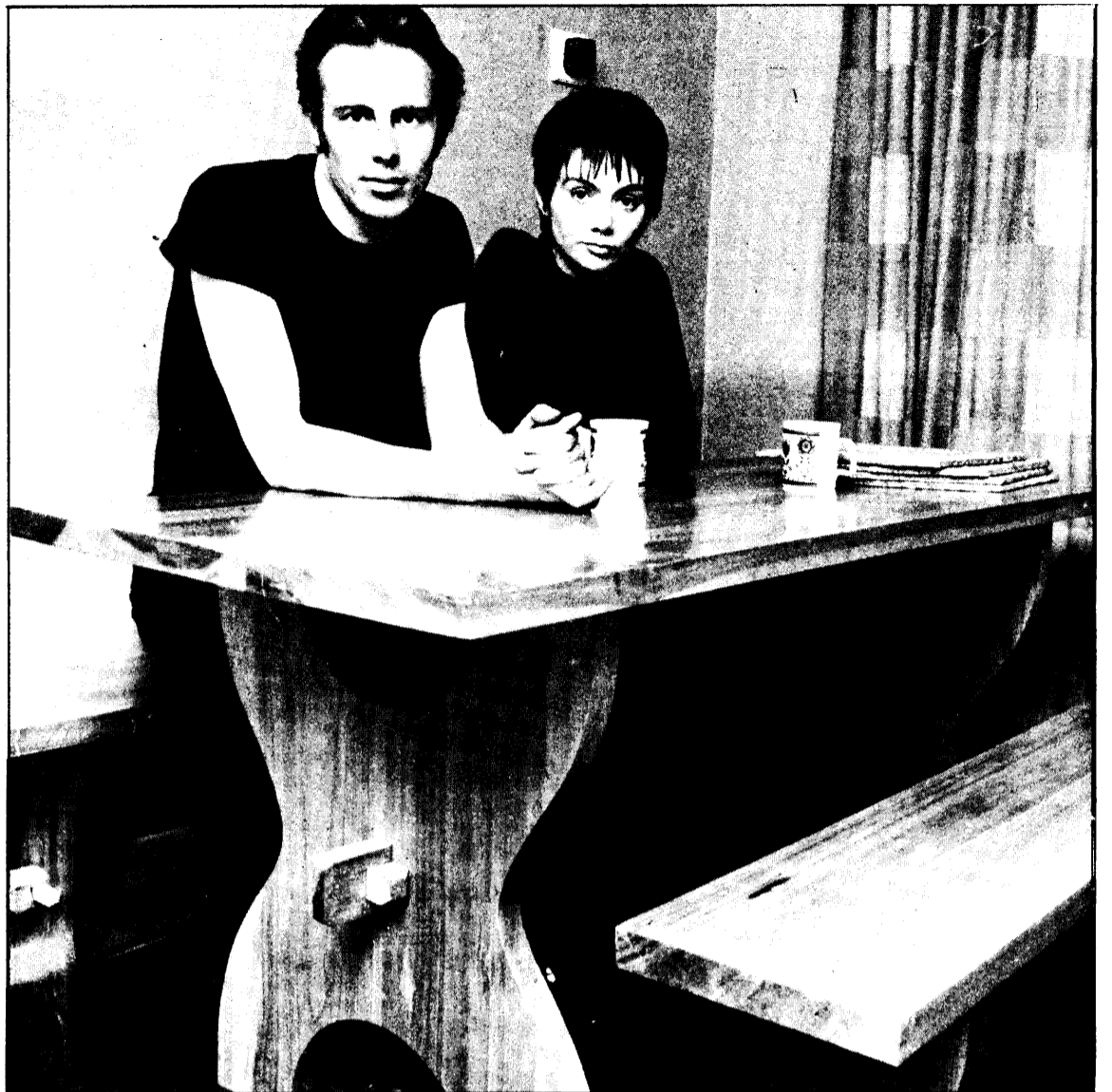
Oxford car men fight speed-up challenge

PRODUCTION at the British Leyland car plant at Cowley, Oxford, came to a halt for the second day running yesterday after another spontaneous walk-out by 5,000 direct workers.

The unrest has been caused by a management attempt to further its Measured-Day Work schemes by imposing industrial engineering studies on the labour force.

After the walk out, which followed similar action by Monday's night shift, the men held a mass meeting and

The day the bailiffs came



Roy and Eileen Kelly with furniture the bailiffs wanted to take away.

'This inhibited the bailiffs, I think. They warned they would sue if any pictures of them appeared. But at other houses they were less respectful with the people. Some of the women were very upset indeed,' said Neil.

The behaviour of the Labour council when faced with this attack on their staunchest supporters has been despicable.

They decided to implement the Housing Finance Act before it became law. There is even the suspicion that their decision in November to hand over powers to the treasurer was made to shift responsibility from their shoulders.

The six families were left with tables, chairs, sewing machines, food-mixers and a host of household goods earmarked for the bailiffs and two official notes.

One reads: 'Take notice that by virtue of an authority given to me by the mayor, alderman and burgesses of the County Borough of Bolton and Thomas William Pickering as agent I have this day seized, distrained and impounded on the premises the goods specified in the following inventory for the sum of £22.88p.'

'And further take note that unless the said rent be paid together with the expenses of this distress or the case to be re-

levied within five days . . . they will be sold according to auction.'

The second document was a 'walking possession' order, which is simply notice to the tenant that the bailiff can walk in at

any time and seize his furniture.

The threat at Bolton has receded for the present, but rent strikers elsewhere in the country should be on their guard. It could be used again.

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UNION SINGS PRAISES OF 'OUR MAN ON THE BOARD'

Mr Larry Eaton, chief clerk at the British Steel Corporation's concrete plant at Stanton and Staveley, Ilkeston, near Nottingham, has been re-appointed an employee-director. A member of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, Eaton will serve the employer as a part-time divisional employee-director.

He resumes his director's seat at a time when BSC, under the direction of the Tory government, plans to snatch away the livelihoods of 50,000 steelworkers and their dependants in the next decade. Some 1,300 of these jobs are at Stanton, where iron-making is to cease.

Workers to be thrown on the scrap-heap include 4,600 at Ebbw Vale, South Wales; 6,000 to 7,000 at Corby, Northants; 6,500 at Shotton, north Wales; 4,100 at East Moors, Cardiff; 1,000 at Newport, Monmouthshire; 3,500 at the Anchor works, Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire; and 2,800 at Hartlepool, Co Durham.

Trade unions who permit their members to participate in the employers' 'worker-director' schemes are openly collaborating with the bosses and the Tory government in turning thousands of their members onto the streets.

The scheme was originally devised by the TUC and BSC in 1967 and ran into heavy distrust on the part of workers. The G&MWU 'Journal' describes this opposition as 'teething troubles'. Eaton himself says that 'liaison with unions and discussions with personnel services' should be increased.

A two-year long TUC-BSC study of the scheme produced the startling information that the worker-director (BSC has 16) 'lost touch with the men he was supposed to represent and became increasingly embedded in the management structure.'

As a result of this, the rules were changed to permit the

'worker-directors' to retain any union post they might hold.

This simply means that a type of corporatism has been evolved in which labour bureaucrats carry out the functions of capitalist managers and foremen.

Over 200 years the working class built up trade unions to defend and improve their conditions of work.

Now the Tory government is trying to strip away trade union rights and replace them by these corporatist-style 'worker-directors'. G&MWU bureaucrats are going all the way with them as thousands of their members are flung on the dole.

Eaton, who is a staff branch committee member of his union, makes this perfectly clear. In the G&MWU 'Journal', he says: 'We try to bridge the gap between management and the shop floor and try to overcome the suspicion that has existed between the two.'

As if every steelworker in the land did not have very good reason to be 'suspicious' of the BSC management.

But the union journal sings the praises of 'Our Man on the Board'. 'Employee-directors,' it says, 'can play a vital role in industrial relations. They can encourage the shop floor and management to talk round a table if a dispute threatens.'

Their knowledge of the pressures operating on both sides make them a useful safety valve in a contracting industry where industrial strife could have disastrous results for all.'

In other words, their role is to confuse and sidetrack workers while the employers and government plan to throw them out of work.

What steel-workers need today is not 'safety-valves', but a leadership which will fight to save their jobs. The 'worker-directors' should be told to get out of the board-rooms or be expelled from the union.

And the union leaders must be told to quit collaborating with the employers and do the job they get paid for—fight for their members' real interests.

The close liaison and friendship between the army and the para-military Protestant organizations in Ulster is an open secret.

The British army, particularly the officer caste, look on 'illegal' organizations like the Ulster Volunteer Force with special favour.

New evidence of this cosy relationship has just come out of Ulster. Protestant extremists have recently launched a propaganda drive among British troops based on the London bombings alleged to have been carried out by a mysterious freelance Republican group from the Andersonstown area of Belfast.

Spearheading the drive is a virulently loyalist newsletter circulated in Ulster by the Constitution Party which appears to have its sympathies with the UVF—the most ruthless of the Protestant terrorist forces.

Friendly

Distributors of the 32nd edition of the publication, called 'The Ulster Constitution', have been seen recently in Belfast in deep and friendly conversation with troops who eagerly read the literature.

The lead article of the paper is openly seditious. Under the masthead 'Help Us' it asks troops to:

- Surrender their arms to the Protestant organizations.
- Ignore arms found in Loyalist areas.
- Tip off Loyalists who are about to be arrested.
- Allow Loyalists in detention to escape.
- Desert to the Protestant forces with their arms.

The appeal exploits possible fears caused by the London bomb attacks. It begins:

'As we predicted, the IRA are now bombing English cities. The next Provo bomb could kill your wife, your sweetheart, your family. Your interests are the same as ours. In order to protect your loved ones, the IRA must be dealt with. This is no longer a conflict from which you can stand aloof. Help us. Help us get the tools to deal with our mutual enemies. We need guns and ammunition. Help us get them.'

Things get a little more awkward when the anonymous author attempts to 'explain away the incidents in east Belfast, when Protestant fire was directed against the British army during the recent strike.

'A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR ARMY FRIENDS'

The Ulster Constitution

32nd EDITION, VOL 1
16th MARCH 1973. Price 4p



HELP US!

A MESSAGE TO THE ARMY

As we predicted, the I.R.A. are now bombing English cities. The next Provo bomb could kill your wife, your sweetheart, your family. Your interests are the same as ours. In order to protect your loved ones the I.R.A. must be dealt with. This is no longer a conflict from which you can stand aloof. Help us. Help us get the tools to deal with our mutual enemies. We need guns and ammunition. Help us get them. If you are sent to search a Loyalist area ignore anything you find. We know that some of you are already doing this and we thank those that are! No gun in Loyalist hands will be used against you regardless of propaganda you may have heard. As any member of the Engineers will have to admit even the much publicised shooting during the strike in East Belfast was not aimed at targets but was obviously simply intended to keep heads down. Even this shooting required a fantastic amount of provocation before it was authorised. We do not even blame you for the provocation. We know that you were acting under orders and that you considered yourselves to have no alternative. You have an alternative. You can refuse to carry out orders on conscience grounds. If you can desert to us bringing your rifle, we will make sure you do not lose by it. Even if you do not want to go that far you can misinterpret orders, be sluggish in carrying out orders, etc. If you are sent to search a Loyalist area tip off the Loyalist organisations. If you are sent to serve a detention order on a Loyalist try to tip him off, and if you cannot try to make an opportunity for him to escape! Remember, the next bomb may kill or mutilate one of your loved ones in England, or Scotland, or Wales. It is in your interests that as many of the I.R.A. bombers as possible are disposed of. Help us to help you make Britain, the whole of Britain, safe to live in.

While we send our sympathy to those injured by the Provo bomb in London we feel that we must point out that we, and many others in this country, told you that if the Westminster government had backed up the Ulster security forces in 1969 instead of doing everything to handicap and finally destroy them this would not have happened. The people of London are reaping a small part of the crop which their politicians, by their bungling and meddling, have sown. If anybody from London thinks that this sounds bitter, they should remember that we have reaped the bulk of their crop. For every bomb that they have had, we have suffered a thousand. We have had our Province literally torn down around us with the co-operation and at times the active help of Whiteley, Heath and Wilson, who evidently prefer Britain's declared enemies to the Loyal people of Ulster. It is no wonder we are bitter.

This happened, says 'The Ulster Constitution', because there had been extreme provocation and then the action was designed merely to 'keep heads down.'

Embarrassed

The kind of people behind the paper is revealed in a page 2 article which describes why corporation bus driver Patrick Crossan had to be murdered (or 'judicially executed', as the journal delicately puts it).

He was, says 'The Ulster Constitution' a Republican who had been observed shooting from Catholic areas. The article goes on in embarrassed fashion to explain why the atrocity led to a 100-per-cent busmen's strike, despite the high proportion of Protestant workers. This demonstration of class feeling was caused by 'Provo threats', it is said.

Despite the nature of the appeal and despite the quite open approach by the paper's

supporters to members of the army, no action has been taken against the journal or its distributors.

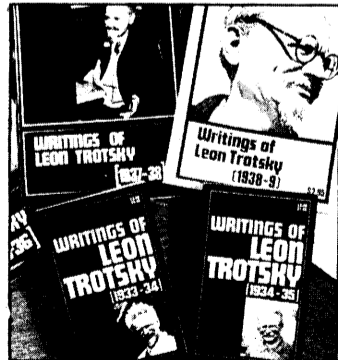
One can only conclude that the army hierarchy is either afraid of the backlash which action against the propagandists would bring or even approve of such extreme Loyalist sentiments.

Inquiries could start with Belfast city councillor R. Lindsay Mason, whose name appears on a recruiting slip on the back of 'The Ulster Constitution'.

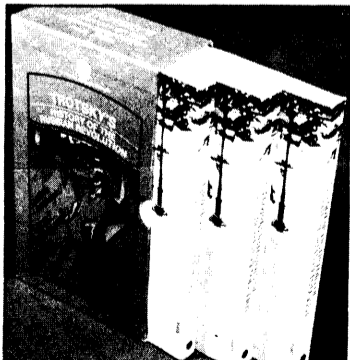
Such inactivity over sedition is confined only to the extreme right-wing Protestants.

Workers Press readers may remember the case of Cork-born Michael Anthony Tobin in April last year. He was found guilty of encouraging desertion by Maidstone Crown Court. Tobin had been distributing leaflets to British soldiers urging them to join the fight for free Ireland. He got two years.

ANNOUNCING...



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WORKERS WANT AN END TO CHEMICAL POISON

Residents of Sutton, St Helens, have threatened to picket a local chemicals factory in protest against alleged dangerous pollution.

Angry workers and residents have now given the Leathers Chemicals factory a week to close or they will picket it.

Mrs Joyce Haury was treated at St Helens Hospital after she collapsed while working at Crosby Spring Interiors in Fleet Lane, a mile from Leathers.

She said she was still suffering from after-effects a day later. About 50 workers were evacuated from the factory as the fumes built up, she said.

Mrs Haury (28), mother of two, said: 'I couldn't get my breath—I was gasping. Everybody was going for the doors. Even the men were in panic. My legs and arms were tingling like pins and needles. Then they went blue. I thought I was going to die. I was terrified.'

Firemen gave Mrs Haury oxygen and she was rushed to hospital by ambulance.

Mrs Jean Jones (34), who also works at Crosby's, said: 'There was a burning sensation at the back of my throat. Everybody was coughing and spluttering.'

Mr Roy Bryan (26), a foreman at the Crosby works, said: 'When we got outside there were people in Fleet Lane staggering about. The fumes were a terrible sensation'. Mr Harold Scott said: 'I was doubled up and on my knees with coughing. I couldn't get my breath.'

Another local resident, Mr H. L. Barton, said: 'I was taking my dog for a walk when I got a mouthful of gas. I could hardly breathe. I just managed to stagger home. I was fighting for breath for three and a half hours.'

'This is the second time I have been caught in leakages from Leathers and I don't want a third dose. It might kill me next time. If it is not closed after this, something terrible is going to happen to the families of Sutton and St Helens.'

LONELY DEATH

Salvador Villalba Tordillo was one of millions of workers forced to leave Spain to find work elsewhere in Europe. He died on January 24 at the age of 25 in a Zurich hospital, a victim of the harsh conditions imposed on immigrant workers.

He left his native Tesorillo-Jimena, near Cadiz, in southern Spain in 1971 with a work-contract for an agricultural labourer's job in the Swiss canton of Thurgau.

After his contract ran out, he returned to Spain, but was unable to find work in the would-be economic land of plenty of Franco's police-state. Once more he took the road to Switzerland.

He worked for a year as a waiter in restaurants where he had no stable employment since he could not get a work permit. On August 15, he finally 'got a seasonal workers' permit in Lenzerheide/Valbella.

With the low wages, bad food and long, tiring hours, as well as having to share one small room with three others, Salvador Tordillo gave up the job and went to Zurich.

There he worked in the Seilbahn restaurant and there he died without any medical treatment.

A diabetic, he was afraid that his employers would sack him if he fell ill, and so he gave himself insulin injections during the day and very rarely consulted a doctor when feeling weak.

This came to an end on January 4 when he fell into a coma through lack of medical attention. When Salvador did not turn up for work, his employer went to his room, found him unconscious in bed and left him there for fear of the money he would lose if he became involved in medical expenses.

Salvador lay there for hours until his employer finally sent for an ambulance. He died before reaching hospital.

His boss washed his hands of the affair: he thought Salvador was drunk, so he left him 'to sleep it off'.

On January 9, Salvador was buried. Just two brothers attended his funeral—they travelled from England where they work.

POWS CASH IN

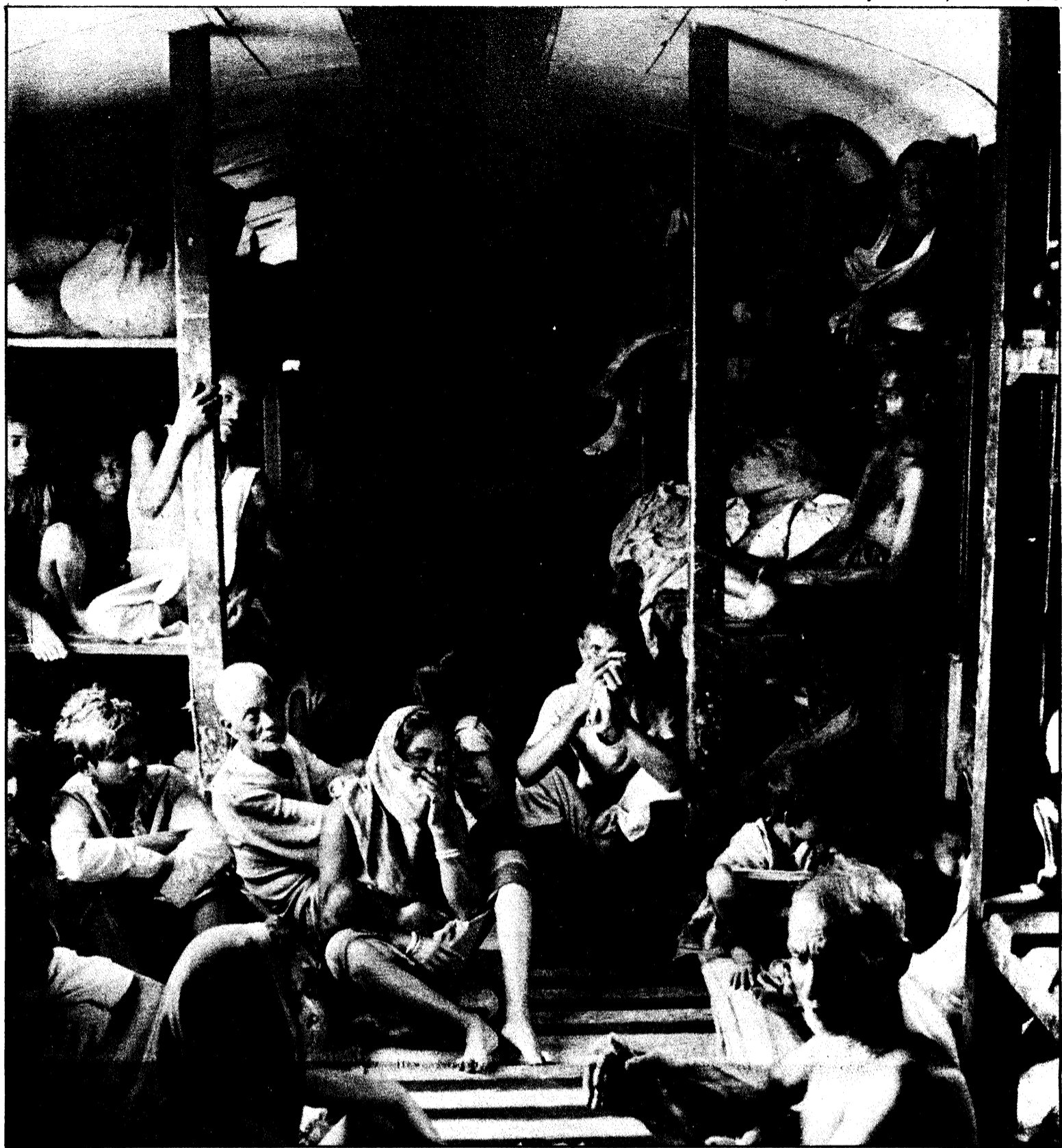
American pilots released from captivity in North Vietnam are to set up a corporation to manage the money they hope to earn from their books, articles and public appearances.

Final plans have not been worked out for the corporation, but the US army is unlikely to raise any objection. The POWs concerned are mainly career officers who may wish to remain in the forces for some time.

Considerable sums are awaiting them from back pay and allowances and the proposed corporation will also look after the investment of this income. The POWs are being showered with offers of money and gifts, most of which are linked to sponsoring of commercial products.

A Pentagon official commented: 'A guy who's in on this isn't supposed to turn around and exploit it for profit. On the other hand, there's absolutely nothing in the regulations preventing him from writing or giving a speech.'

While still prisoners-of-war they realized that their temporary misfortune could be turned into dollars on their release. The initiative in the project was taken by senior officers in the North Vietnamese prison camps who took as their model the Apollo astronauts, some of whom have made fortunes as a result of their notoriety.



SPECTRE OF STARVATION

Starvation is threatening millions of people as the world faces the biggest famines in history. This is the dire warning now being issued by experts such as Dr Akkela H. Boerma, Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization.

Speaking recently to the Council of Europe, he said that food production had probably fallen in 1972 despite continued growth of population. India and other parts of Asia were already seriously threatened by food shortages. Over 1,500 million people are estimated to be slowly dying from malnutrition or outright starvation.

The much-vaunted 'green revolution', which was to overcome the food crisis in the underdeveloped countries, has proved a total failure. Based on the use of high-yield seeds, fertilizers and improved techniques of cultivation, it has brought prosperity to a handful of rich farmers and peasants, but has made no impression on the overall problem.

The great mass of peasants are too poor to employ such methods and have insufficient land to enable them to be

applied successfully. In addition, millions are landless and jobless and their numbers have increased while capitalist farming has made progress.

Harvest failures in a number of countries have led to depletion of world food stocks, including basic cereals. At the same time, the price of food has been climbing steeply.

In the face of this critical situation, Boerma can only launch pathetic appeals to indifferent governments. He wants those in the underdeveloped countries to carry out reforms to enable output to be increased while he pleads with the advanced countries to devote a larger part of their resources to overseas aid.

Both these remedies are equally futile. The national-bourgeois governments in countries like India are too closely tied up with the big landowners, capitalist farmers and village moneylenders to be able to carry out the necessary revolution in agrarian relations.

Appeals to the governments of the advanced countries are equally futile. Boerma's remedies, such as the constitution of stocks of food for emergency purposes, increased aid to the developing countries and the opening of markets for their processed agricultural products in the richer countries, will be disregarded, as they always have been.

The capitalist governments and big corporations are interested only in exploiting the less-developed countries. They are not moved by the slow starvation of their inhabitants or by the danger of famine. They are only worried about the danger of revolution and that they will aim to prevent in concert with the govern-

ments of the national ruling classes.

There is no solution to the problems of the underdeveloped countries within the framework of capitalism. In fact they are now being aggravated by the breakdown of the international monetary system with the accompanying trade war and drive to protection.

DAIRY STOCKS PILE UP—WORKERS GO WITHOUT

While the world suffers from a shortage of food and prices soar, the Common Market is menaced by excess production of milk and milk products.

The nine EEC members have 400,000 tons of butter and 350,000 tons of powdered milk in stock. This is kept off the market to keep up prices under the Common Agricultural Policy. So while surpluses accumulate, prices actually rise.

Although prices to producers have been reduced, output continues to grow because there are more dairy cows and their milk yield tends to rise. By the end of the year the stocks of unsold butter and milk are likely to be higher still—and so, undoubtedly, will the price paid by the housewife.

The 'experts' say that the markets in Europe are satur-

ated. That is to say, with present levels of income not much more butter could be sold even with some price reduction. At the same time, millions of families cannot afford butter because of the all-round increase in the cost of living.

The powdered milk could save the lives and improve the health of thousands of children in the underdeveloped countries where starvation stalks. Instead, much of it is likely to be destroyed or made unfit for human consumption and put to some industrial use.

Because capitalism is a system based on production for profit and not human need it cannot resolve contradictions of this kind where food is overproduced while millions go hungry. The Common Agricultural Policy has only aggravated these contradictions.



CARR SEIZES GUN LAW

A Home Office working party on firearms has recommended a full-scale re-arming of the British police.

Already some sections of the country's 67 police forces are equipped with new guns described as 'some of the most up to date and powerful in the world'.

This large-scale arming of the police—undertaken without the consent of parliament or the public—has nothing to do with beating bank robbers.

Home Office figures issued earlier this month show that police were faced with guns, real or imitation, on only 20 occasions last year.

But in the same period firearms were issued to police officers a total of 2,237 times, an average of six occasions every day.

In other words the police are roving around with loaded revolvers in their belts on false pretext.

If it's not to shoot it out with bank robbers, then why have the police resorted to gun law?

The answer lies directly in the political and economic crisis of the Tory government.

Fearing a large-scale challenge to its bankrupt and parasitic system of exploitation, the ruling class is arming itself with every possible weapon to attack the working class.

The Home Office has sent to all chief constables a circular which is divided into two sections: recommended arms and those mentioned purely for information.

It is a measure of the savagery being planned by the Tory government that section one includes the British army's 7.66 mm Belgian FN rifle fitted with telescopic sights. This deadly weapon is currently being used in Northern Ireland.

'What the police would be getting here would be a definite man-stopper.'

Are Carr and the other 'law-and-order' campaigners going to tell us that these are to be used to stop muggings on the high street? These weapons have only one use—shooting people from long distances. They are the equipment to launch a civil war.

The main recommendation in section one is the dropping of the British-made Webley pistol and the introduction of two imported handguns:

- The US-made Smith and Wesson Model 10. It is a 0.38 calibre six-shot revolver; and
- The German-made Walther Polizei Pistole 9 mm seven-shot automatic, probably using 0.38 Colt ammunition.

The overseas guns which will be introduced almost immediately by the Metropolitan Police are reckoned to increase the 'man-stopping' effectiveness of police marksmen by one third and provide a 100-per-cent increase in rapid-fire ability.

Both use ammunition which has greater hitting power and penetration than anything currently in use.

A source close to the Home Office working party told a 'Guardian' reporter:

'The basic consideration was to find a cheap, sturdy, reliable modern handgun which was readily available and would give Rover-car dependability in standing up to repeated handling by different officers. It also had to meet the primary objective of being able to stop and kill a man in the open with accuracy at 50 yards.'

Geoffrey Boothroyd, an authority on guns and author of the authoritative book, 'The Handgun', said: 'Both the Smith and Wesson and the Walther are about in the same league. The revolver is slightly heavier at 34 oz than the 27½ oz Webley.'

'What the police would be getting here would be a definite man-stopper.'



Above: German police in action during the arrest of the Baader-Meinhof group. The authorities used a 'law-and-order' witch-hunt of the anarchists as an excuse to arm the German police on a massive scale. Right: Hans-Dietrich Genscher, head of German police, he has inaugurated some of the most advanced equipment and techniques.

only the main characteristics are considered the computer can answer in 12 seconds.

These computer techniques are justified on the grounds that they are needed in the fight against crime. Obviously they can be used in that way. But they can also be used against political groups which incur the hatred of the American and West German ruling class.

In West Germany, as we have shown, the political potential of such systems has been openly admitted. As the working-class internationally comes into sharper and sharper conflict with capitalism, we can expect an intensification of such police techniques.

US AND GERMANY: COMPUTERIZED POLICE

BY JACK GALE

American and European police are increasingly using the most-advanced scientific techniques which will assist them in their fight against political opponents.

In West Germany, a computer system has been introduced which, by the middle of this year, will enable the names and descriptions of wanted people to be flashed on display screens at vital police points across the country within ten seconds.

The system got off the ground last November when Bonn Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher inaugurated

the first terminal at West Germany's biggest airport, Frankfurt. At the same time, terminals were also opened in airports at Cologne and Düsseldorf.

Genscher will be remembered for the part he played in the shooting down of members of the Black September group during the Munich Olympics.

Indeed, an article in the 'Computer Weekly International' makes it clear that there is a direct connection between the Munich events and the development of these police techniques:

'The country has been hit repeatedly by plane hijackers and terrorist groups, culminating in the Munich Olympics tragedy last year, and this has

obviously been one of the considerations behind the speedy introduction of the system. Speaking in Frankfurt, Genscher said the system would be a big help in combating air piracy and similar crimes.'

The new system is being built up at West Germany's new 60m deutschemark Bundeskriminalamt (BKA—Federal Crime Office) in Wiesbaden.

The Bonn government is pouring 122m deutschemarks into BKA development this year—compared with 22m in 1969.

The German Federal states are also developing similar systems. Last year the Bavarian state government ordered a Siemens 4004/45 computer and eventually this will link up to 18 police centres throughout the state.

Lower Saxony, Hamburg and Northrhine Westphalia are also collaborating on such a system.

The BKA Wiesbaden centre now has two Siemens 4004/150 computers, and a Siemens 404/6 central unit.

It also has 12 discs with 660 million characters, and nine tape units. Other equipment on hand includes three printers, two punch card readers, three punch card stampers, two punch tape readers and two document writers.

Backing this are 18 Siemens Transdata date display screens in the BKA itself and one each at crime police headquarters in Saarbrücken, the Hessen state crime office and the frontier police HQ in Coblenz.

Another 18 are installed at frontier crossing points.

The new system can process eight inquiries per second and feed back information within ten seconds maximum.

When the system has been fully developed there will be about 600 display screens within West German borders. Deputy President of the BKA, Herr Heini, describes the system as 'a closed mesh dragnet'.

After only two months' work, and with only one 4004/150 in operation, display screens were covering about 10 per cent of West German frontier cross traffic—about 300,000 people a month—and 65 per cent of all air traffic. And that is only the beginning.

The way the system works at airports is that the passenger hands in his passport to control officers who, if they think a check is worthwhile, lay the passport face down on a counter glass panel from which a TV camera flashes a picture onto a screen in an adjoining room.

Here a second officer types the details of the passport via a display screen unit directly into the Wiesbaden computers. The answer 'no record' or

'person wanted' is flashed back within seconds.

A similar system is already in operation in the United States.

Customs Automated Data Processing Intelligence Network (CADPIN) is one of the most advanced computerized systems in the world.

The heart of the network is a Burroughs B5500 system.

The computer is linked to 160 tele-type terminals located at US Customs inspection areas along the entire 2,200-mile Mexican border as well as 42 other key points. These include major crossings on the Canadian border, selected international airports and Customs field offices throughout the United States.

First put into operation in April 1970, CADPIN now works round the clock and responds to each inquiry within one or two seconds. It is currently processing between 330,000 and 500,000 queries from primary terminals per week.

That is an average of one inquiry per 1.3 seconds and the rate is considerably higher during periods of peak crossings.

The Americans are also developing a computer analysis and comparison of voice characteristics which can identify a speaker on a telephone.

A group of scientists at Bell Telephone Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey, have been granted a patent for such a system.

A sample of a person's speech is taken and then its characteristics are broken down and stored in the computer's memory. Later speech can then be compared with this sample on the computer's screen.

Solid line voice patterns on the display screen represent the current speech and dotted line patterns represent the person's reference sample.

A full comparison of all the speech characteristics takes about seven minutes, but if



REVISIONISTS SLANDER THE RCL

A series on revisionism and Ceylon by Jack Gale. Part three continued.

Jaya Vithana, in the International Marxist Group pamphlet 'Ceylon and the Healy School of Falsification', says that several letters sent by Bala Tampoe to Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike during the Ceylon 'emergency' in 1971, were 'soft'.

But he also thinks they 'laid the basis for the reawakening of the working class and reorienting it on a perspective of struggle'.

We will quote again what these letters actually said.

On May 14 Tampoe's Ceylon Mercantile Union wrote to Mrs Bandaranaike: 'We think it necessary to draw your attention to certain emergency regulations that have opened the door to police and military terrorism against the people.'

Apparently, this 'revolutionary' trade union leadership laboured under the illusion that Mrs Bandaranaike did not know what was going on! They continued: 'There is a widespread belief that "excesses" and even atrocities have been committed by police officers and members of the armed forces.'

A further letter declared: 'Does it serve any useful purpose to regard the rebels as criminals, who have intimidated and murdered innocent people, raped and looted and indulged in kidnappings and arson, even if some of them may be proved to have committed such acts' (See Workers Press, October 20, 1972.)

'Is the view that the young rebels should not be regarded as "terrorists" and that they are deserving of humane treatment, a view that cannot be taken seriously in a country where the teachings of the Buddha are revered.'

The 'basis for reawakening the working class and reorient-

ing it on a perspective of struggle' was laid, according to Vithana, by letters which (1) Appealed to the head of a ruling government to stop the oppression on the grounds that she may not be aware of the 'excesses' taking place.

(2) Conceded the bourgeois claim that the young rebels were murderers, rapists and looters.

(3) Appealed to that well-known revolutionary source, the almighty Buddha.

Little wonder that Vithana fails to back up his claims as to the revolutionary content of Tampoe's letters by quoting from any of them!

'Not taking a position'

But, if that were not enough, two leading IMG members—Tariq Ali and Robin Blackburn—published a letter to Mrs Bandaranaike, together with Ernest Mandel, Alain Krivine and others which began:

'Without wanting to take a position with regard to the armed clashes which recently occurred in Ceylon . . . the undersigned are profoundly perturbed.'

Can the IMG leaders tell us of one instance in which the leaders of a genuine revolutionary tendency issued a public statement saying that they were 'not taking a position' on the mass murder of workers and peasants by bourgeois armed forces?

A further lie and distortion deserves some attention. Vithana alleges that 'after the repression had begun, the Revolutionary Communist League wrote a letter to the Prime Minister pleading with her to lift the ban on their newspaper and citing as a reason the fact that they were the only ones who had consistently attacked the JVP's politics.'

'Given the situation, there was nothing wrong in using

the tactic of writing letters to Bandaranaike in order to reach the masses. But Healy's Ceylonese friends were more concerned about their own sect and driving a nail into the JVP coffin rather than the mass movement.'

IMG members ought to note that when we refer to Unified Secretariat statements, CMU letters, etc, we quote verbatim from them. All the IMG has to do, if it wishes to refute our charges, is to reprint the original documents.

Vithana, by contrast, refers to our statements only in the most general terms. He never quotes literally from them—because if he did so his lies could not be maintained. Let us examine his claim that our comrades 'pleaded with Bandaranaike, etc'.

The letter he refers to was printed in full in Workers Press on May 29, 1971. We specifically stated that 'This appeal is made by Wilfred Pereira, residing at No 27, Arethusa Lane, Colombo 6, who is the registered proprietor, printer and publisher of the following newspapers which have been banned by the Competent Authority under the Emergency Regulations:

"Kakaru Puvath", "Virodhaya" and "Thollalar Seshl"—organs of the Revolutionary Communist League—and "Tharuna Satana"—organ of the Revolutionary Communist Youth.'

Unlike Vithana and his IMG mentors, we will now republish extracts from this statement. We invite Vithana, the IMG, the Unified Secretariat, or anyone else to challenge this statement—or, indeed, to compare it with Bala Tampoe's references to the venerable Buddha:

It should be abundantly clear to any political literate who has followed our press that our politics can by no stretch of the most-fertile police imagination be put in

the same category as the politics of the JVP (which is purported to be the government's main enemy at the moment) and similar Guevarist or Maoist organizations.

Between our politics and the politics of those other organizations—as also between ourselves and the traditional 'left' leaderships—there lies the unbridgeable gulf that exists between Marxism and the several varieties of petty-bourgeois reformism.

The putschism or conspiratorial adventurism of such organizations isolated from the working class is only the obverse side of the counterfeit coin of parliamentary reformist opportunism, which the petty-bourgeois agents of the bourgeoisie try to palm off on the working class as genuine Marxism.

When we differentiate ourselves from those other organizations and parties, we do not for one moment imply that we condone the suppression of their newspapers. Nor do we demand that the press of our political opponents be suppressed.

On the contrary, we stand for the democratic rights of all political parties and organizations that base themselves on the workers and peasants and speak in their name and for the socialist transformation of society, irrespective of the means they advocate . . . Proscription and press gags are, above all, a means of suppression resorted to by governments which cannot find any other answer to the political arguments of their critics and opponents.

As this appeal will show, we are justified in believing that herein lies the reason for banning our newspapers.

In this appeal, however, we are only permitted to plead on behalf of our democratic rights. If and when those rights are restored to us, we shall take up once again for public agitation the question

Mrs Bandaranaike in 1964 after the formation of the coalition government. In 1971 Tampoe was writing to her and appealing to Buddha to treat the 'terrorists' humanely.

of general democratic rights, in defence of which we have always been in the forefront.

As Marxists, we believe that the fresh enthusiasm and aggressive spirit of the youth can be won for the struggle for socialism only if the youth can acquire faith in the ability of the working class to lead society onto a new road.

The working class can inspire this faith only by its strength, the firmness and determination of its actions and the clarity of its perspective. The propaganda and agitation carried on by our newspapers was always inspired by this unshakable belief in the leading role of the working class.

Our newspapers, with their emphasis on Marxist theory and method for ideological arming of the working class, were not only vehicles for propaganda and agitation; they were above all a school of Marxism. And for us Marxism is the distilled essence of the historical experience of the international working class . . .

In the name of humanity, whose fate today is threatened by the forces of international reaction, and in the name of the international working class who alone can fight and overcome those forces, we appeal against the banning of our newspapers and for the restoration of our democratic rights in order to allow us to resume our work for the building of the revolutionary party in Ceylon as part of the international party of the socialist revolution, the Fourth International, which is a *sine qua non* for the building of a new world.

On behalf of the Political Committee of the Revolutionary Communist League.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

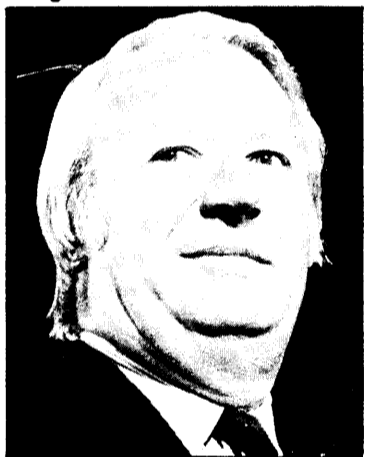
SEX SYMBOLS

Paul Johnson, the ex-editor of the 'New Statesman', is alleged to be the finest prose-weaver in the Hampstead set. This is a dubious claim. What is even more dubious is his authority to be writing about sex.

Yet this is the ambitious task which Johnson has just set himself in the women's magazine, 'Cosmopolitan'.

He listed 55 politicians that Cosmo girls might fancy. His 'Cosmo Girl's Guide to Politicians' included such raving sex symbols of the 1970s as Edward Heath, Lord Longford, Reg Prentice, Cyril Smith ('Nice one Cyril'), Norman St John Stevas and William van Straubenzee.

Below: Cosmo politicians, Edward Heath and Lord Longford.



PARADISE

One man who must be quite happy with the virtual martial law in Northern Ireland and the unemployment and poverty in Britain is Anthony Grant, Tory MP for Harrow Central. He told an audience the other night that there was no better place than Great Britain in which to live and work and no other where the lights of freedom, justice and honesty shone so brightly. He said no one should be guilty of selling Britain short. 'We can leave that to the BBC,' he added.

MIRACLES

Someone should take the Trade Descriptions Act to the Rev Melvin Banks. He has just held a public meeting in Fleetwood and the advertisement for his appearance says: 'The blind see! The lame walk! Miracles will happen!'

Banks is on a 'divine healing crusade' in which these astonishing events are due to take place.

BIG NEWS

The really big news is reported in the 'Harrow Observer'. Item appearing in last week's paper:

'Someone stole clothing from a washing line in a garden at Headstone Lane, Hatch End, on Monday morning.'

RARITY

Have you got a set of Josef Stalin's works—in Russian—on your bookshelf? If so, you may be able to do business with an advertiser in Saturday's 'Morning Star' who is appealing for these volumes. It is rare to find a reference to the tyrant who destroyed the Bolshevik Party in the columns of that journal these days. It is intriguing to think that there is a demand for his works, particularly in Russian. Can it be that the Soviet embassy is trying to buy them up for reasons of its own?

BOOKS BY TROTSKY

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CARRILLO HAS PRAISE FOR THE BISHOPS AND MILITARY

A recent edition of the Spanish Communist Party's fortnightly newspaper, 'Mundo Obrero' carried the most groveling article yet on the 'Liberation of the Spanish Church'.

The 17th Conference of Spanish Bishops apparently accepted a statement headed 'Peace is possible' which claims that there is no incompatibility between Christianity and Marxism.

'Mundo Obrero's' expert on the revolution of the cassock, Fernando Melchor, claims that the document shows that 'objectively, not a few Christians are in favour of Marxist analysis.'

One's enthusiasm grows on hearing that the document has the support of 'important Spanish capitalists' and was written by 'an ex-ambassador for Spain, a distinguished member of the bourgeois opposition'.

It was, of course, the boast of veteran Spanish Stalinist Santiago Carrillo at a meeting organized by the British CP in London last year that socialism would be built in Spain 'with the cross and the hammer'.

Carrillo also wants a modern army to help him on the way and is always castigating the 'Francoist feudalists' for not having a modern army for national defence.

General Diez Alegria, head of the General Staff of the Spanish Armed Forces, has been spotlighted by the Carrillo leadership as belonging to the 'evolutionist' wing of the Spanish bourgeoisie.

A member of an aristocratic family which also sports a progressive Jesuit, Jose Maria Alegria, he is a cultured man, and, so it is said, in no way, a 'gorilla' like Hugo Banzer, the dictator in Bolivia.

Happily, the radical Spanish publishing house 'Editorial Alianza' has recently published a selection of the general's works.

In one section, 'Defence and society', Alegria writes:

'The first duty of the army today, undoubtedly, is to constitute the means of coercion of the state, the organized

force at the disposal of the community. This is expressed in readiness to deal with invasions and to deal at home with subversion or violence...

'But we must not forget that included in this primordial mission, is a historic duty as the guardian of national values and traditions which must remain in the moment of historic crisis which we are experiencing.'

A fillip for the CP recruitment campaign amongst the officers of Franco's army: 'There is preoccupation among officers, particularly, the young ones, about the economic social conditions in the country, which fills them with repulsion when they feel they are unfavourable...'

One Stalinist critic said of this enlightened remark:

'Diaz Alegria is not one of the slave-drivers in the barracks, but a man with an independent-nationalist consciousness like the Nasser-type colonels in Peru, Chile and perhaps Uruguay and Panama.'

The same Stalinist praises Franco's general for having a 'centrist mentality equidistant between the extremes on the relation between the state and the army'.

That is because he wants to

use the army against the right-wing para-military groups like the Warriors of Christ the King and the 'extreme left, guerrillas, the fifth column, and violent revolutionary struggle'.

Since there is so much radicalism among the bishops and



CP secretary, Santiago Carrillo. Above: Franco with monks. The church remains the friend of the fascist regime, not of the working class.

military high command in Spain, it should surprise no one that the Spanish CP has been so luke-warm in its criticism of the deals between Moscow, Peking and fascist diplomats in Madrid.

KGB TRIES TO SILENCE 'THE CHRONICLE'

The crackdown on oppositionists by the state security police, the KGB, ruthlessly carried out in the past few months, appears to have been partly successful.

The underground journal 'Chronicle of Current Events', which kept up publication every two months for five years, has not appeared since last October. A main KGB aim was to silence this voice of the opposition.

The KGB has warned that there will be random arrests

of known and suspected dissidents if another issue appears. A few people have been held, but it is believed that the editors of the 'Chronicle' are still at large and intend to bring out a further issue sooner or later.

One dissident was told by a KGB major, Gennadi Kislykh, that he would be arrested if it did appear again. The police have also been trying to buy off oppositionists with vague promises of an amnesty if they will say how the 'Chronicle' reaches other countries.

BBC 1

9.15 Schools. 12.30 Nai zindagi naya jeevan. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 In the town. 1.45-2.00 Made in Britain. 2.05-2.50 Schools. 3.00 Sunday debate. 3.35 Television top of the form. 4.00 Deputy dawg. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Boss cat. 5.15 Val meets the VIPs. 5.40 Sir Prancelot. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.45 ASK THE FAMILY.
7.05 TOMORROW'S WORLD.
7.30 ARE YOU BEING SERVED?
8.00 BARLOW AT LARGE. Trespas.
8.50 WEEK BY WEEK.
9.00 NEWS. Weather. 9.25 SPORTS-NIGHT.

10.00 CONSERVATIVE PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST.
10.10 MY WIFE NEXT DOOR. Joint Assignment.
10.40 MIDWEEK. 11.25 NEWS.
11.30 MAN AT WORK. Who's Watching Your Health? 11.55 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open University.
7.05 TAKE ANOTHER LOOK. Home Sweet Home.
7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.
7.35 THE NATIONAL TRUST.
8.05 MAN ALIVE. Possessed. Ghosts and witches.
8.55 FILM: 'The Private Lives of

ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.35 Yoga (London only). 11.00 Schools. 12.05 Hickory house. 12.25 Cuddles and co. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Sing out with The Settlers. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 Harriet's back in town. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Whose baby? 3.25 Saint. 4.20 Get this. 4.50 Jensen code. 5.20 University challenge. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY. 6.35 CROSSROADS. THIS IS YOUR LIFE.
7.30 CORONATION STREET.
8.00 THE BEST OF FATHER DEAR FATHER. Housey-Housey.
8.30 ALL OUR SATURDAYS. When the Nodding Had to Stop.
9.00 LOVE STORY. Reflections.
10.00 CONSERVATIVE PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST.
10.10 NEWS. 10.40 SOCCER. FILM: 'The Large Rope'. Donald Houston. Susan Shaw. An ex-convict returns to his home town.
12.50 PRIORITIES. Howard Root talks to Dr. Justin Schligh.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-11.55 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Galloping gourmet. 3.00 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Hogan's heroes. 6.35 London. 7.00 Treasure hunt. 7.30 London. 8.00 This is your life. 8.30 London. 10.00 Life in France. 10.10 London. 11.35 Angling. 12.05 Epilogue. Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.25 Hammy hamster. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 12.02 News. 12.05 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 3.30 Danger man. 4.25 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.30 Whicker. 7.00 London. 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 11.35 Shirley's world. 12.05 News. 12.10 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Jimmy Stewart. 7.00 London. 11.35 European journey. 12.05 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.20 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50 Cantamil. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd.

HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Report West.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 3.30 Odd couple. 3.55 Romper room 4.19 News. 4.20 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London. 8.00 Protectors. 8.30 London. 11.35 Spyforce. 12.30 Reflection.

TODAY'S TV

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 12.00 Programme guide. 12.05 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 8.00 Please sir. 8.30 London. 11.35 Shirley's world. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.32 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.45 Romper room. 3.00 London. 3.25 Women. 3.55 Harriet. 4.23 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 8.00 Protectors. 8.30 London. 11.35 You and your golf.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 3.30 Jason King. 4.25 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 London. 8.00 Anna and the king. 8.30 London. 11.35 Spyforce. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 12.00 Handful of songs. 12.05 London. 3.25 Yoga. 3.50 Cartoon. 4.00 Crossroads. 4.20 London. 6.00 News. What's on? 6.30 Here's Lucy. 7.00 London. 8.00 Lovers. 8.30 London. 11.35 Kreskin.

TYNE TEES: 9.20 Believing to live. 9.30 London. 3.30 Doctor Gannon. 4.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 8.00 Anna and the king. 8.30 London. 11.35 News. 11.50 FBI. 12.40 Lectern.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Date-line. 3.00 London. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 London. 10.40 Sound stage. 11.10 To see ourselves. 11.40 Late call. 11.45 Blue light.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.45 Cartoon. 2.52 News. 3.00 London. 3.25 Women. 3.55 Harriet. 4.20 London. 5.20 Wildlife theatre. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Thompson. 6.35 London. 8.00 Adventurer. 8.30 London. 10.45 Untouchables. 11.35 Protectors. 12.05 A kind of living.

SLL LECTURE SERIES The Socialist Revolution in Britain Middleton (nr Manchester)

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Sundays: March 25 April 1 and 8
Lectures given by Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee)

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2. The roots of capitalist crisis: Marxism and the contradictions of capitalism. Britain and the world crisis.
3. The state and revolution. Reformism and revolution in Britain. The fight for democratic rights today means preparing for working-class power.

Basic reading:
Perspectives for transforming the SLL into a revolutionary party.
Marxist Analysis of the Crisis. Problems of the British Revolution (Trotsky).
Death Agony of Capitalism and the Tasks of the Fourth International. Communist Manifesto.

'Frame-up' claim in incitement trial

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

LITTLE ATTENTION has been paid to the Old Bailey trial of Tony Soares a young community control advocate accused of attempting to incite readers of the magazine 'Grass Roots' to commit murder, to make Molotov cocktails for an unlawful purpose, to commit arson, and to possess firearms with intent to endanger life.

The charges arose out of an article in the September 1971 issue, reprinted from the 'Black

Panther' newspaper in America, about how to make a self-igniting Molotov cocktail and a 'people's hand grenade'.

The defence has claimed that similar recipes have been published elsewhere in Britain without prosecution and that the 'Black Panther' magazine had itself been on sale in this country with the same article in it.

The prosecution says, however, that the attempt to incite is peculiar to the 'Grass Roots' organization, which operates politically in Britain.

Judge Alan King Hamilton drew the jury's attention to the following passages in the article.

'In our 400-year struggle for survival it has been the guns and force manifested in the racist pig cops that occupy our communities that directly oppress, repress, brutalize and murder us.

'So for us to talk about survival, we must talk about self-defence against this brutality and murder that is defined by the racist power structure as justifiable homicide.

'So when a self-defence group moves against this oppressive system by executing a pig by any means—sniping, stabbing, bombing, etc.—in defence against the 400 years of racist brutality and murder, this can only be defined correctly as self-defence.

'All self-defence groups must strike blows against the slave-master until we have secured our survival as a people, and if this takes shooting every pig and blowing up every pig-sty, then let's get on up.'

Then follows the detailed recipes for the two devices which the prosecution's expert armaments witness said worked very effectively.

In his defence, Soares has claimed he is being framed, and that the editor of 'Grass Roots' at that time was one Tony Jamal, who has since fled the country. Soares admits having previous and subsequent close connection with editing, producing and distributing the magazine, but no special connection with this particular issue.

He told the court that he was working full-time at the North Kensington Law Centre at that period and although he still was active in the Black Liberation Front and attended meetings to do with the 'Grass Roots' bookshop and magazine at that time,

he had not even read the offending article when the issue came out.

The prosecution has claimed that Jamal probably does not exist, since the police were never able to find him and he never turned up for meetings arranged through Soares, who claimed he was acting as Jamal's legal adviser. They surmised that Soares was Jamal, which the defence and many witnesses have strenuously denied.

Summing up, Judge Hamilton said that although the authorities were unable to establish who was responsible for the article's appearance, the jury could not acquit Soares just because he was the only person connected with the paper who was in the dock.

If he was in any way responsible for that issue in the editing, production or distribution, the jury must say so regardless of who else might have been involved.

The judge said it was no defence that the article had first been printed in the US.

As evidence of incitement, he drew the jury's attention to the episode in the case concerning three Ukrainian suspected terrorists arrested in London with

fire-bomb equipment. At the home of one of them was a copy of the 'Mini-Manual of the Urban Guerrilla' printed by 'Grass Roots' from sheets of an American edition of the book found in Soares' possession.

Although Soares had no connection with these Ukrainians, they may have been incited by the manual if the jury decided the manual was capable of such incitement. The fact that Pelican Books had also published the manual, which included recipes for Molotov cocktails, was not the same thing as attempting to incite, the judge went on.

The prosecution tried to connect notes written by Soares for an issue of 'Grass Roots' with the recipe issue, and submitted a letter written subsequently from Algiers by Soares about his 'enforced retirement' from Britain. The prosecution alleged he was running from the police.

Soares said the notes referred to a later issue of 'Grass Roots'.

Notes written later about an armed seizure of key London installations were, Soares claimed, the outline of a book he planned to write.

Market slump hits transformer jobs

A FURTHER 150 workers at Ferranti's transformer division at Chadderton, Oldham, are to lose their jobs at the end of this month.

The news comes seven months after the group announced 175 redundancies at Chadderton,

and will bring its labour force there down to 11,050. It follows a long period of extreme depression in the UK market for transformers. There has also been a significant jobs cutback at General Electric Co transformer plants. Over the last 30 months Ferranti has reduced its overall labour force by around 3,000 to 16,000.

Edinburgh journalists fight on

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOURNALISTS at the Edinburgh 'Evening News' have defied management and National Union of Journalists' instructions to go back to work after walking out last Thursday over a productivity dispute.

The 68 journalists want their current wages agreement to be terminated at the end of 1973 instead of April 1974 in return for working on increased sizes of editions.

Ending their current agreement three months early will enable the journalists to get back on par sooner with Glasgow journalists who went ahead of them in the last round of pay negotiations in Scotland last autumn.

The Edinburgh journalists are beginning to regret the hasty deal they allowed their union leaders to push through in November, under pressure of the oncoming government-imposed pay standstill.

Typewriter men fight wage-cut

WORKERS at the Copdale Road plant of Imperial Typewriters, Leicester, have pledged support for strikers in the auto department.

They threatened to strike too if management went ahead with a new agreement which threatened to cut wages by up to £10 a week.

The Imperial workers, many of them immigrants, mounted a picket yesterday. Their strike is not being supported by the official union leadership.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

'Forward to the Revolutionary Party.'

TOTTENHAM: Wednesday March 21, 8 p.m. Bricklayers Arms, Tottenham High Road, nr. White Hart Lane.

WOOLWICH: Wednesday March 21, 8 p.m. Castle, Powis Street, SE18.

READING: Wednesday March 21, 8 p.m. Transport and General Workers' Union office, Kings Road. 'The battle against the Tory pay laws.'

WEMBLEY: Wednesday March 21, 8 p.m. Copeland School, High Road, Wembley.

SOUTHALL: Wednesday March 21, 8 p.m. The Library, Osterley Park Road.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday March 22, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road.

HACKNEY: Thursday March 22, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, opp. Town Hall, Mare Street.

LEWISHAM: Thursday March 22, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road.

SLOUGH: Thursday March 22, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.

STEVENAGE: Thursday March 22, 8 p.m. 'Red Lion', Stevenage Old Town.

WILLESDEN: Thursday March 22, 8 p.m. Labour and Trades Hall, High Road, NW10.

MIDDLETON: Thursday March 22, 7.30 p.m. 'Assheton Arms'.

WANDSWORTH: Monday March 26, 8 p.m. Kings Arms, High Road, SW18. 'The Fight against Stalinism'.

WATFORD: Monday March 26, 8 p.m. Trade Union Hall, Woodlands Road, near Watford Junction.

ABERDEEN: Monday March 26, 8 p.m. West Front Room, Music Hall, Union Street.

DUNDEE: Tuesday March 27, 7.30 p.m. YMCA, Constitution Road.

FORD carworker Ronald Frederick Dorrington, who was knocked down while picketing during the strike, has won £3,071 damages. The sum, plus legal costs, was awarded against Terence John Jiggins, who drove at the picket line with a loud exhaust system and headlights on in a bid to break the line. 'He took the risk that some people might not be able to get out of the way quickly enough and unfortunately the risk did not come off,' said the judge.

Army will stay, says White Paper

BY SARAH HANNIGAN

THE TORY White Paper on the future of Northern Ireland includes a commitment to maintain the military occupation.

The long-awaited document, published yesterday, keeps Ulster Secretary Mr William Whitelaw in charge of 'security.'

Its other main pledge to the Protestant bourgeoisie is that the Six Counties shall remain part of the UK so long as the majority of its people wish.

A Northern Ireland Assembly of about 80 members is proposed and elections are to be held 'as soon as possible'.

Westminster is to permanently retain responsibility for appointing judges, magistrates, etc., conduct of public prosecutions, elections and 'exceptional measures in the law and order field to cope with emergency situations.'

The strategy of the Tories' Ulster Secretary, William Whitelaw, is to isolate 'extremists' on both sides and hopefully settle down with a patched-up solution which will have the support of the 'moderates' of all shades and persuasions.

Whitelaw's apparent concessions are made in the hope of some statement from the Eire government welcoming the proposals as the 'best that can be hoped for at present'.

Such a move is expected to carry weight with the Social Democratic and Labour Party and the north's Catholic community, as well as weakening support for the Provisional IRA. Government ministers in the

26 Counties would find it politically impossible to disown the objective of unity of Ireland, if only because this could leave the Provisionals as the only political group advocating such a policy.

Yet privately, ministers and officials in Eire say that unity is not possible in this century!

In spite of all the publicity build-up for the Tories' proposals, the White Paper can offer no solution for workers in the Six Counties. The Tory government is in no position to offer concessions to the Irish, or the British, working class.

All the basic problems of high unemployment, bad housing, rising prices and political discrimination still remain.



Whitelaw

The civil war in Northern Ireland arose out of the inability of the British ruling class to grant any concessions in the Six Counties.

The publication of the White Paper can only be the blueprint for the continuation of military rule from Westminster which will continue to deny workers in the north their basic democratic rights—to vote, to work and to a decent standard of living.

Until these problems are resolved there can be no peace in Ireland.

The rapid worsening of the economic crisis and the sharpening of class conflict now opens the door for the collaboration of the Heath Tory government with all the most right-wing and reactionary forces in the army and police.

Brigadier Frank Kitson, who was involved in the top-level decision which sent the paratroopers into Londonderry on Bloody Sunday last year, is now one of Heath's closest allies in the secret preparations against the British working class.

These men are the greatest enemies of the working class, both Catholic and Protestant, in Ulster.

The issue facing every worker in Ireland and Britain today is one of power. No amount of bargaining or pleading or acts of 'good faith' will change the Tories' minds.

They are driven on by the objective pressures of the economic crisis. The working class must prepare to defeat them.

In Ireland this means a total rejection of the Westminster proposals and the preparation to build a revolutionary party based on Marxism which will fight to unite both Catholic and Protestant workers and youth against the class enemy.

Hospital steward suspended



Ancillary strikers at Ladywell Hospital, Eccles, in Lancashire, on picket duty.

HOSPITAL workers at St Leonard's, Shoreditch, were engaged in a 24-hour strike yesterday against the suspension of a shop steward and a member of their union committee.

The workers insist that the suspensions are a clear case of victimization.

Last Friday the two men—Pat Lynott and Alan Malpass—were suspended on minor charges relating to their work in the hospital theatre pending an inquiry by the management board of the East London group of hospitals.

The charges, Pat Lynott says, included 'failure to change into theatre clothing, not reporting to the theatre sister and other petty items'. He explains: 'It has been normal practice not to change into theatre clothing when doing routine work when there are no operations being carried out.'

St Leonard's ancillary workers returned to work last Thursday from an official eight-day strike.

Says a statement from their union committee: 'The two workers suspended are both leading activists within the hospital who are organizing and advising their members in the present action of work-to-rule and go-slow after having just returned to work.'

'This move by the management is being taken as a clear case of victimization.'

SWANSEA hospital workers are to continue their tough action which has completely closed one of the five hospitals in their area.

They have rejected a plea from the Gwent Hospital Board to operate an emergency laundry service.

The strikers have been angered by local press propaganda which has suggested that the strike caused the closure of Mount Pleasant maternity hospital, which was due for closure because of alteration before the strike.

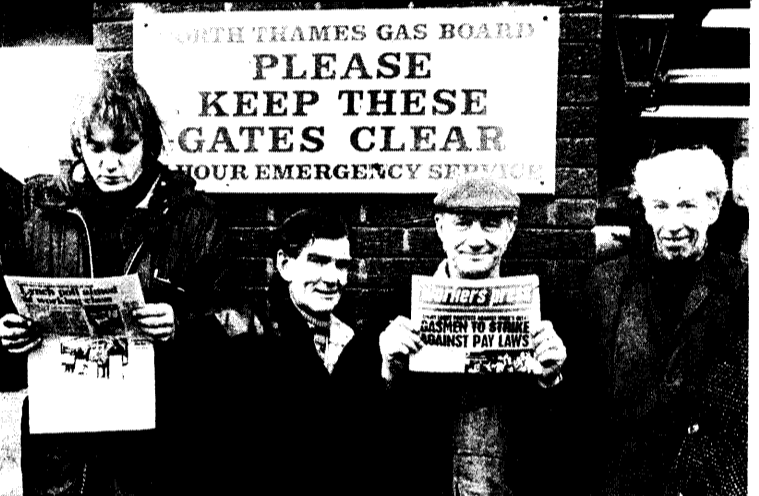
THREE HUNDRED ancillary workers at Ladywell Hospital, Eccles, are currently on strike. Last week they unanimously voted to keep up their action.

COLOURED people face 'substantial' discrimination when house-buying, according to a Community Relations Commission study of Manchester, Nottingham and Sheffield.

The private housing market was the area of worst abuse. Discrimination was continuing despite efforts to abolish it, the study said.

THERE IS to be no inquest into the 43-year-old station foreman who died after arguing with passengers during the rail work-to-rule in London. Police said Herbert Fox died of a heart attack caused by hardening of the arteries.

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TEACHERS MEETING

Victory to the teachers!
Force the TUC to call a General Strike!
Make the Tories resign!

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 21

6.30 p.m.
Norfolk Room
Caxton Hall
Caxton Street, SW1

ORPINGTON and SIDCUP
Council of Action

DEMONSTRATION

- Halt rising prices and rents.
- Force the Tories to resign.
- Elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies and to restore democratic rights.
- Victory to gasmen, civil servants, hospital workers, teachers, railwaymen and car workers.

SATURDAY MARCH 24

Assemble: 10.30 a.m. Corner of Cray Avenue and Orpington High Street.

Socialist Labour League
PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Road to Workers' Power
Build the revolutionary party

LIVERPOOL
Sunday March 25, 7.30 p.m.
Mona Hotel, James St
(entrance at back Moor St)

PRESTON
Sunday March 25, 8 p.m.
Windsor Castle Hotel,
Egan Street

Police attack Leeds pickets

FROM OUR OWN
CORRESPONDENT

FOR THE third time in as many days police man-handled pickets yesterday.

Leeds electricians claim that at 9.30 yesterday morning they were without warning pushed, shoved and sworn at by police.

Electricians at Wimpey's Albion site have been on strike for eight months after they were sacked for refusing to cross picket lines during the builders' strike.



Police officer warning St Thomas's Hospital electricians' picket

They were reinstated for eight days but when they worked to rule in protest against having their pay stopped during the builders' strike they were dismissed a second time.

Electricians' union shop steward Jim Peyton said yesterday: 'Four of us were picketing one of the gates and then four police arrived.'

'They went berserk. I've never seen anything like it. They really had a go. They attacked us—pushing and shoving and swearing and shouting abuse.'

"GET BACK"

'They told us we weren't going to picket any more and to get back to work. All the time they were pushing us, although none of us spoke or took our hands out of our pockets. They pushed us about 20 yards, two yards at a time.'

No electrical work has been done on the site since the strike began. Now the Yorkshire Electricity Board has been called in to put in mains.

Said Mr Peyton: 'We've tried to stop them putting in mains because once the mains are in sub-contractors usually take over. We're on strike, so, once they're in, the management may try to start bringing in scabs.'

He added: The union officials are totally opposed to the strike. We are on our own. They won't do anything for us and they have instructed us to go back to work.

"CHANGED LINE"

'The police singled me out as the shop steward and bundled me to the station. They charged me with standing in front of a vehicle.'

'They changed their argument that we couldn't picket. They said we could go back and picket peacefully.'

'We've been peacefully picketing for eight months so what they did was to tell us we couldn't, lock us up and then tell us we could.'

He said: 'We want to identify with the electricians at St Thomas's Hospital site. We shall be back on the gate tomorrow morning.'

BANKRUPT architect John Poulson said yesterday he was 'sick of being hounded by weighty claims'.

Poulson, whose bankruptcy hearing resumes in June, said that a Leeds Corporation claim against him for more than £278,500 was 'ridiculous'.

The Leeds claim concerns the building of the £1m international swimming pool in the city.

It alleges design defects, as well as delays in building the pool.

Poulson (62), said at his home: 'The whole claim is obviously ridiculous. It is a case of the corporation jumping on the bandwagon with other claimants. It is a farce.'

He thought he was now becoming the subject of a witch-hunt, although a lot of people seemed to be jumping off the bandwagon because they realised their claims could not be substantiated.

'I am sick of being hounded by weighty claims. My solicitor has the matter in hand.'

Teachers' leaders accused of witch-hunting

BY IAN YEATS

PUTNEY teachers called for extended strike action to win an increase in their special London allowance on the eve of today's one-day strike.

In the third and final stage of the National Union of Teachers' campaign 36,000 London teachers at 3,000 schools will take industrial action today.

Elliot School teacher Jean Howkins told me yesterday: 'The odd day's strike here and there is going to have no effect at all on the government.'

Like many of the 150 teachers at the school Miss Howkins was present at the Central Hall, Westminster, meeting where the NUT executive were forced to abandon the platform to militants.

She explained: 'The executive's resolution was very mild. We wanted further action. We didn't want it to end there.'

The 4,000 strong North London Association at their meeting on Monday overwhelmingly passed a resolution calling on the executive to drop expulsion proceedings against three militants.

Three teachers from Wandsworth Association are accused of defying the executive by reading out a resolution calling for extended strike action.



Jill Quiggin



Alan Jackson

Car plants stop

TRIUMPH and Chrysler factories in Coventry were both hit by strikes yesterday.

At Triumph all car assembly work was halted when 200 clerical workers walked out demanding a 'compensatory payment' to make up for wage increases frozen under the Tory pay laws. At Chrysler UK, Ryton, the

night shift of over 2,000 men were being laid off because of a strike in Scotland.

The stoppage is at the firm's Linwood works, which supplies components to the Coventry factory.

● Oxford car men fight speed-up, page 3.



Jean Howkins

The North London resolution accuses Communist Party members of the NUT executive of leading a witch-hunt of militants.

Many of the Putney teachers who were at the meeting said they voted to hear the Wandsworth resolution partly because the executive's high-handed action threatened democracy within the union.

As their campaign draws to an end large numbers of teachers are asking whether NUT leaders were right to concentrate on winning a higher London allowance rather than insisting on a review of salaries as a whole.

Alan Jackson said: 'We're fighting on a London claim and it is very difficult to get

support throughout the country.'

He added: 'The problem is that the main salary claim has been settled. It was imposed on us through arbitration.'

Jill Quiggin told me there should be an overall review of teachers' pay.

She said: 'You need at least £2,000 a year to live but a young teacher earns about £1,000 plus the London allowance.'

'An increase in the London allowance would be a help but it is nowhere near enough. What difference is £118 going to make to whether you can afford £16 a week rent or a £3,000 mortgage?'

British Oxygen profits soar

UP, UP and away went the profits of the British Oxygen Co. in the first quarter of its current year.

The gases-to-metal group's pre-tax profits soared £5,777,000 for the three months ended December 31, 1972, compared with £4,471,000 in the same

period the year before.

Sales are flying high at a record £69,811,000, compared with £59,714,000 in the first quarter of the last financial year.

Shares, however, were left unchanged at 72½p on the Stock Exchange.

Cables giant boosts profits

BRITAIN's cables giant, British Insulated Callender's Cables yesterday reported a jump of more than £6,500,000 in pre-tax profits for last year.

The total was £34,321,000 against £27,789,000.

Just over £2m of this came from foreign exchange rate benefits comparing currency values at the end of the year with those ruling a year earlier.

Exchange rate differences also accounted for the rise in sales to £461m from £443m the previous year.

Shareholders get their dividend total increased from 7.75p a share to 8.125p.

On Monday BICC was named in a list of 26 companies said by Anti-Apartheid to be the worst British employers in South Africa.

**13th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
YOUNG SOCIALISTS
BLACKPOOL APRIL 14/15 1973**

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, APRIL 14 & 15, WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL

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