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By
Stephen
Johns

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These guide-lines, published as a White Paper, and the latest statement from Tory Ministers have made it quite clear that the hospital workers can expect absolutely nothing from the government.

In this light, the Heath-Feather summit talks must be seen as part of the continuing conspiracy between the right wing in the TUC and the government to disarm and defeat workers leading the campaign against the pay laws.

The period of talking and conciliation in fact ended long ago. It is impossible for the Tories to avoid open confrontation with the working class.

The international monetary crisis is now threatening the whole credit structure on which world trade is based. A crisis in this sphere means destitution for the British economy—already suffering from record balance of payment problems. These factors above all others dominate Tory strategy.

Phase Two has already passed into history. The Tory goal now is to bludgeon the unions into accepting the corporate state—where wages will be fixed on a permanent basis by panels appointed and controlled by the Tory government.

In the months immediately ahead the Tories hope to prepare the conditions for such economic dictatorship over the entire working class.

This policy has two sides. On the one hand they speak soft conciliatory words in public about the need to give lower paid workers a 'fair deal'. They offer talks and Feather, as usual, walks right into the trap.

On the other hand the plan for repressive attacks on the working-class are well advanced.

This week the Home Secretary Robert Carr is likely to unveil legislation which will in effect outlaw the right to picket. Large forces of police and possibly troops will be empowered to attack workers who try to make strikes effective.

The forces of law and order will also be on hand to enforce Phase Two under which workers fighting for wage increases can be jailed or heavily fined.

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BY OUR OWN REPORTER

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Coal Board production director Norman Siddall said when he heard the news: 'The chances of anybody being found alive is extremely remote.'

The announcement finally dashed hopes of relatives and miners waiting anxiously at the pit head for news of their loved ones and colleagues.

The question that will be asked now is why were these men sacrificed?

Despite the Coal Board's veto on the circumstances of the disaster, several important facts have emerged.

- ONE is that the S9B face was being driven within 80 yards on a vertical plane of old pit shafts which were mapped.

The NCB claims that the level of S9B was below that of the old workings but measurements taken after the disaster have shown this to be wrong.

- ANOTHER is the admission by the NCB that no test drillings into S9B face were taken to see what lay beyond.

This is despite the knowledge that they were approaching old workings. One Board official, Roland Norman Hollis, admitted that the face was in a critical condition.

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The leader of the CPSA was speaking after seeing the finance and general purposes committee which had been asked to support the civil servants.

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BY ROYSTON BULL

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which the committee had not elaborated.

Jones said his union would do what it could within these terms.

Kendall added that he received no encouragement from anyone on the committee. Both Jones and engineers' leader Hugh Scanlon are members.

No answer was given to Kendall to his previous request for TUC financial assistance and supporting action organized by the TUC.

Meat saved for Sunday forecast

IF the price of meat does not come down housewives might well find themselves reserving real meat for Sunday lunch and buying synthetic meats for midweek meals, a Tory MP said yesterday.

Mr Richard Body, anti-Market Conservative MP for Holland with Boston, was at a Westminster Press conference launching a booklet on the meat situation published by the Open Seas Forum.

Mr Body is the Forum's chairman and a member of the rightwing Monday Club.

He said: 'Farmers ought to be ringing the alarm bell, because once these experiments with synthetic meats show that it is a satisfactory substitute, it will be the usual routine meat for mid-week meals and we will have the roast beef and lamb and pork chops relegated to the Sunday lunch and for eating at functions in restaurants.'

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workers press

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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WHAT WE THINK

BOGUS
SOCIALISM

ALTHOUGH Anthony Wedgwood Benn likes to consider himself a serious socialist, he frequently ends up backing the most reactionary policies. This is due to his refusal or inability to make anything but the most shallow analysis of what is happening to capitalism.

His latest 'progressive' outburst is to say what a good thing are all the controls the Tories are introducing to try to manage the economy because they will prepare the way for Labour to legislate real socialism.

'The whole nature of the mixed economy operating on market forces has been transformed by this quiet revolution. In future, industrialists are bound to turn their minds to what the government thinks should be done, and less and less to market forces as a guide to their corporate planning.

'Thus the Ministry of Technology has been recreated and the whole argument about intervention has passed into history books.' So powerful is the government's control over the economy, Benn believes, that a new parliamentary select committee for trade and industry might be necessary 'as an additional safeguard against the development of a corporate state which is now causing deep anxiety on both sides of the House of Commons'.

The 'planning' Benn refers to of course, is nothing of the sort. Government intervention on behalf of the whole capitalist class has always been a feature of capitalism, especially at times of economic crisis in regulating exchange rates, credit and public spending controls. The extension into the detailed running of individual industries or even companies is only the same thing gone further because the crisis is much deeper this time. But the Tories, no more than any Labour government past or projected in Benn's mind, have not even identified the heart of the anarchy of capitalist production, let alone begun to tackle it. The essence of market forces remains untamed, namely the anarchistic implication of private ownership for profit, comprehensively analysed by Marx.

This dictates, among other things, that capitalists cannot remain capitalists unless they can survive the competition to get their share of surplus value created by productive labour. The constant relative over-supply of capital reaches crisis proportions at the end of an inflationary boom. The conflict between the various capitals then takes the form of take-overs, bankruptcies, dumping, cost-cutting, speculation, closures and a rash of instability impossible to regulate.

Capitalism is spiralling downwards into currency chaos, which in turn threatens the credit superstructure of international trade. But the only way to stabilize currencies is to replace their inflationary content with additional surplus value and thus put real value back into money. This means simply getting workers to work harder for less money. But this intensified exploitation leads directly to intensified class struggle. And this is the position in Britain and every other capitalist country.

Thus, the relentless demand for profit in a world economic system, run necessarily on unplanned, competitive lines, leads inevitably to economic and political crisis whichever party is in government. The 'instruments' the Tories have set up cannot alter this. They can only try to keep the system intact by making sure the working class sacrifices its own living standards to keep profits going. Only when the fundamental driving force of human society is changed from unplanned production for the extraction of surplus value to planned production to meet mankind's requirements will the anarchy of market forces be replaced by conscious socialist controls. The total inability of the capitalist governments to regulate or even fathom out the chaos in the currency exchanges and the gold market is proof of this.

Fascism was born precisely out of the anarchy of capitalist production of the 1920s and 1930s as a bid to 'regulate' the difficulties. The essence of fascism is to tinker with the market forces much as any capitalist or social democratic government does, but to make the anarchic mixture more 'acceptable' by wiping out the opposition to it in the working class.

Quite unwittingly, Benn spelled out the danger of a corporate state being introduced into Britain by the Tory government. But, in his reformist naivety, Benn fails to understand that it is precisely in going along with capitalism's attempts to shore up a decaying system with 'controls' that the danger of fascism arises.

Hong Kong panic will rebound around world
Crystal-gaze collapse

BY JOHN SPENCER OUR FOREIGN EDITOR

THE DOWNWARD plunge of the Hong Kong stock exchange index has already wiped nearly a fifth off the record levels it achieved just over a fortnight ago.

The collapse of the Hong Kong share market has been even more spectacular than its rise. On March 9, the share index prepared by the Hang

Seng Bank reached 1,775. This was more than double the price only two months before, when the index had stood at just over 800.

From January to March it rose steadily and without interruption.

The rush to buy shares reached unparalleled heights of hysteria.

Civil servants neglected

their jobs to buy shares. Businessmen sold their businesses to gamble on the stock market.

Hypnotists and astrologers cashed in with advice to investors.

Then the slump began. Prices which had risen on exaggerated hopes of the China trade and the influx of inflated paper dropped.

The market is falling out

of control and there is a stampede to dispose of shares before they lose all their paper value.

Many of the shares were 'margin purchases' bought on hire purchase.

The collapse of the Hong Kong market is certain to have repercussions outside Asia.

Capital from Britain is involved and the Hong Kong market has also attracted funds from the Euro-currency market.

Zionists
jail Arab
17 years

HAIFA district court yesterday sentenced two Jews and four Israeli Arabs to jail for belonging to a Syrian-sponsored espionage and sabotage network.

The alleged ringleader, Daud Turki, a Haifa bookseller, and Ehud Adiv, a former Israeli paratrooper, were each sentenced to 17 years' jail.

Subhi Na'arani (28) was given a 15-year sentence, while Dan Vered, the second Jew on trial, was given ten years.

Anis Karawi was given 15 years in prison while the only defendant to plead guilty, Simon Hadad, was given a two-year sentence and bound over for three years.

Adiv and Vered are the first Jews born in Israel to have been convicted of conspiring with the Arab states against the Zionist state.

Their arrest shocked many Zionists because it demonstrated that their ideological grip was slipping.

Another 26 people, including four Jews, 17 Arabs and a Druze, are to be tried in batches for alleged membership of the 'ring' over the next few weeks.

One is the son of a Communist Party MP.

An abrupt end to
class peace in
Denmark

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

THE mass strike and lock-out which began in Denmark last Wednesday is a trial of strength between the employers and the highly organized Danish trade union movement.

It is a result of the breakdown of the country's conciliation machinery which has long operated as a mechanism of class-collaboration involving the union chiefs, the employers and the government.

This system of class-compromise, the envy of the British Fabians, has been thoroughly disrupted by the development of the economic crisis and the country's entry into the Common Market.

As one commentator put it last week such a system can exist only on the basis of a certain amount of confidence and permanent consensus between the three parties (union chiefs, employers and government).

This no longer exists: the employers have nothing but hostility and contempt for the timid minority coalition regime of social-democratic

premier Anker Joergensen.

At the same time relations between the employers and the workers have completely deteriorated despite all the union leaders' efforts to maintain class peace and clamp down on workers' militancy.

Once considered a guarantee of 'social peace', the fact that all wage deals are settled over a single six-month period every two years now only increases the size of the clash between the unions and the employers.

This time the collective negotiations began in October last year.

Over 250,000 workers are locked out or on strike and despite the willingness of the union chiefs to compromise the employers are standing firm on their demands.

They have rejected draft proposals put forward by a government-appointed mediator: the employers want the TUC to guarantee against seeking legislation for higher

employee benefits over the next two years.

But this is simply the sticking point in a conflict with much wider implications.

The Danish entry into the Common Market, supported both by the employers and by the Labour government under Anker Joergensen, was opposed by substantial sections of the trade unions.

To get the majority they wanted in the referendum on entry, EEC supporters painted a very rosy picture of benefits which would flow from it.

The union chiefs and the industrialists signed joint press releases describing the future in the Market in glowing terms. In fact, on entry the Danish employers found themselves drawn immediately into the financial and trade crisis of their EEC 'partners'.

They were unable to give the concessions that the unions demanded and found themselves faced with an offensive movement of the working class.

Demands included equal pay, special wage rises for the lower paid, shorter hours for shift workers, higher holiday pay and increases in cost of living allowances.

Joergensen, a former trade union 'left' who now peddles plans for corporatism under the guise of 'economic democracy', is trying desperately to avert the spread of the strike.

Unless he succeeds in this effort the country will grind to an almost total halt on April 3, when the engineers and transport workers, already on strike are joined by workers in distributive, fuel, oil, airport and power industries.

Trawler
take-over

BRITISH UNITED Trawlers, the biggest trawling company in western Europe with 100 vessels, has confirmed it is to buy Ranger Fishing Company from the shipping line, P & O.

The North Shields headquarters of Ranger will be run down and operations will be transferred to the Humber ports of Hull and Grimsby, where British United has a monopoly.

The run down will start immediately and take about three months to complete, costing 60 Tyneside jobs.

Ranger has a fleet of factory freezer vessels, four of which were ordered in 1969 at a cost of £1m each.

April parole for anti-war
campaigner Juan Farinas

BY JACK GALE

JUAN FARINAS, jailed in 1972 for his opposition to the Vietnam war has won parole after serving one year of a two-year sentence. He will be released from the Federal Penitentiary in Danbury, Connecticut, USA, on April 16.

He was sentenced for distributing a leaflet at his induction centre which denounced the Vietnam war. It was being waged against the Vietnamese workers and peasants in the interests of American monopolies, said Farinas' leaflet.

In a statement on his parole, Farinas declared:

I have to thank the thousands of working men, women and youth who made the fight for my release their fight; the trade union, peace, student and political organizations that committed themselves to my defence, and last but not least, my comrades in the Workers' League and the Young Socialists, without whose selfless efforts and drive the massive campaign organized for my defence would never have been possible.

From the very beginning of this fight, even in the very leaflet that I distributed in the induction centre, it has been conducted as a fight of the working class for its defence against a system of wars, racism, exploitation and misery.

It has seen the fight against the imperialist war in Vietnam as indissolubly linked to the fight of the working class against the attacks of the capitalist class and its governments in all countries.

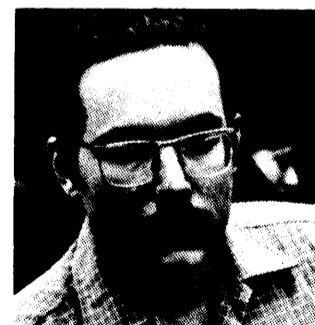
Throughout their fight on behalf of Farinas, the Workers' League and the Young Socialists insisted that the attack on him was more than an infringement of civil liberties.

It attacked the entire working class, an attack necessitated by the crisis of capitalism.

The American Trotskyists won enormous support in the labour and trade union movement for this principled stand.

Unprincipled exceptions to this rule were the American Communist Party and the Socialist Workers' Party revisionists.

Both refused to support a



defence of Farinas based on a class position.

They said they would only join the Juan Farinas Defence Committee if it stopped characterizing the attack on him as an attack on the whole working class.

The Workers' League, the Young Socialists and Farinas himself refused to accept those terms and will now expand their efforts to develop a defence in the labour movement of all those workers singled out for attack by the capitalist rulers.

Only out of struggles of that type can the American working class advance in its understanding of the tasks it now faces, particularly the necessity to construct a political alternative to the United States capitalists and their parties.

Hull demo steps up hospitals pay fight



ANCILLARY workers in Hull step up their pay fight this week following a successful weekend demonstration (left). Called jointly by the local branch of NUPE and the Hull and District Trades Council, the march passed through the city centre to the applause of shoppers. Laundries are closed at the Hull Royal Infirmary and the De La Pole and Castle Hill hospitals.

Trades Council calls for General Strike

HIGH WYCOMBE Trades Council, Buckinghamshire, has passed a resolution calling for a General Strike to defeat the Tory government. The resolution was moved by Mr R. Kalber, on behalf of a Chesham branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union. The resolution, carried by nine votes to four, stated:

the working class have come under attack and many such rights are now illegal.

Therefore we call upon the entire organized labour movement to unite in a General Strike to force the Tories to resign and elect a Labour government committed to scrap all the anti-working class legislation at present on the statute books and nationalize the banks, insurance companies and all the main industries etc, under workers' control and without compensation.

Since the Tory government came to power two and a half years ago all the basic rights and conditions of

The miners have some unfinished business with the Tory government

'WE HAVE been going round listening to the men and the feeling is that it's got to be industrial action. Nothing less than a national strike will do.' This was the verdict from Sid Barker, a miner from Ollerton colliery, Nottinghamshire, on the eve of the big coalfield ballot which starts today and ends tomorrow.

Next Tuesday the National Union of Mineworkers' national executive will announce the result. If the Coal Board's offer—dictated by the Tory government—is rejected, the stage will be set for a showdown between the Tory government and one of the most powerful sections of the working class in the country.

Interviews
by
Stephen Johns



Top: Sid Barker, a faceworker at Ollerton Colliery, Notts. Above: Paul Falkinder, a fitter at Allerton Bywater, Yorkshire.

'Whether the miners like it or not, we will be in the vanguard,' said Sid, a Labour Party member. 'The Tory government will make a strike a big political issue—it's them or us, I don't think there is a miner in the land who has any illusions about that.'

Like Sid Barker, many miners feel there is a lot of unfinished business from last year's strike.

'We slipped up last year in my opinion because we stopped short of complete victory. We were at the point when we could have got the whole Tory government out.'

'Now a lot realize that the Tories were let off the hook and that the wages they have won have been taken back through the vast increase in the cost of living.'

'This is why most men see it as a political strike and not just one over wages. Suppose we did win £10—the government could only come back and snatch it off us.'

'Everyone knows how things have gone since the last strike: Prices up, rents up, fares up, fuel up and all the rights in the trade unions under attack.'

'This would happen again. There is only one way of getting a proper increase—to get shut of this government.'

'I think miners will respond to this if they get the lead. I was pleasantly surprised recently when we went to a school for the union.'

'Some TUC men came down to give us some propaganda. One said that Heath wanted a General Strike and that this would be a bad thing because then he could go to the country and win more powers for breaking up the unions.'

'But one man got up and asked "Who are the public—it's the hospital workers, the gasmen, the railwaymen and the miners all getting hammered by the Tories".'

'In other words he said the public is the working class—and he was quite right.'

'There are about 10 million workers in this country—with their families about 30 million people are in the working class. I think they can overthrow this government. I'm not afraid of a showdown with these forces.'

'The Notts leaders are asking us to vote for industrial action. In my opinion if the miners come out, and I think they will, it will be a long drawn out struggle.'

'So the strike would have to be extended. There are plenty of workers the same as the miners and even worse off—they are suffering under this government.'

'Someone has got to make a stand and stop these Tories driving us into poverty.'

Because let no miner make a mistake: if he doesn't vote for action, he's voting for a rapidly-declining living standard. I will be voting YES and so will all my friends.'

Paul Falkinder (23) is a fitter at the NCB workshop at Allerton Bywater, Yorkshire. He, too, is voting for the union policy.

'People are beginning to realize that a strike on a purely financial basis can only be a temporary answer to the problem.'

'The problem is external because the cost of living and the attack on unions are as important as wages now—or rather the whole thing is tied together.'

'A lot of men finished the last strike with the feeling that they had done very well.'

'In cash terms perhaps they had. But it was an illusion. The Tories survived the struggle when we nearly had

them. So the cost of living went up and your money began to disappear.'

'There is a fairly general recognition of this on the coalfield now I think.'

'The Wilberforce settlement last year also gave another advantage to the Tories and the Board.'

'Under it negotiations could not take place until January, so the Board dragged its feet all through the time that the government was talking with the TUC over inflation.'

'This was all a trick on the part of the Tories. I suspect the Board knew that it would end up in a ban on all wage increases and were just stringing the union along.'

'I must say the union leaders were willing partners—they gave out all that stuff on productivity last autumn and encouraged output to go up instead of preparing for the battle ahead.'

'Now we must make up for lost time. This must be the decisive battle.'

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NIRC BLAMES WORKERS FOR UNFAIR SACKINGS

Any worker harbouring illusions that the Industrial Relations Act could possibly work in his favour would find himself rapidly disabused of the idea if he tried to sue for unfair dismissal under the Act.

For the 'contributory negligence' clause which applies to industrial injuries—under the 1945 Law Reform (Contributory Negligence) Act—has been used as a model in dealing with sackings.

Clause s. 116 (iii) of the Industrial Relations Act states: 'Where the industrial court or industrial tribunal finds that the matters to which the complaint relates were to any extent caused or contributed to by any action of the aggrieved party in connection with those matters (whether that action constituted an unfair industrial practice on his part or not) the court or tribunal shall reduce its assessment of his loss to such extent as, having regard to that finding, the court or tribunal considers just and equitable.'

So a worker can be held responsible not only for his own injuries, but for his own sacking—even when that is held legally to be 'unfair'!

And this means a reduction in the compensation awarded to him.

Clause s. 116 (iii) has already been widely applied and the amount by which compensation can be reduced rests entirely with the tribunal. It has varied from 9 per cent to 90 per cent.

Various reasons have been held to constitute 'contributory negligence'. For instance, a Mr Street had been summarily dismissed by Wrights Insulations for leaving a site at 4.12 p.m. instead of 4.30 p.m.

An NIRC tribunal found the dismissal unfair, but under the 'contributory negligence' clause, Mr Street's compensation was reduced from £70 to £15.

In 'Mellors v Pressac' a



Workers at a London building site on strike over victimization. Cases of unfair sacking have long been the concern of the trade union movement. But under the Tory Industrial Relations Act, workers themselves can be held responsible, even when it is held that the sacking was 'unfair'.

worker had been sacked for swearing at a chargehand.

The tribunal held that the dismissal was unfair because the worker had been given no chance to explain his action and there were mitigating circumstances.

INSOLENT

Nevertheless, Mr Mellors was held to be partly responsible for his own dismissal and his compensation was reduced by 50 per cent.

The ninth district council of the County of Lanark sacked one of its workers, Mr Mc-

Cabe, for 'aggressive and insolent behaviour' at a meeting.

The tribunal held that there were mitigating circumstances for Mr McCabe's behaviour—but it cut his compensation by 25 per cent.

Refusal to obey an order is a frequent cause of dismissal and is used as a powerful argument for cutting compensation. For instance, a Mrs Laraway was sacked by Hewlett-Packard for refusing to hand over to her employers a gift voucher she had received from one of the firm's suppliers.

The dismissal was held to be unfair, but compensation

was cut 50 per cent.

Many firms sack employees on the vague and generalized grounds that they are 'unsuitable'. This also goes down well at NIRC tribunals.

Photo Precision sacked a Mr Fletcher because it 'questioned his capability and loyalty'. The tribunal accepted that Fletcher had shown 'lack of adaptability' and assessed his contribution to his own dismissal at 25 per cent.

A Mr Davies, sacked by Bailey and Mackay, was held to have been unfairly dismissed but to have been 25 per cent responsible himself because, said the tribunal, 'he had contributed to his own misfortune by his failure to adapt himself to changes required by management at times.'

A worker dismissed while absent from work because of injury incurred there might think he had a strong case.

Mr Parrott was sacked by the Yorkshire Electricity Board under such circumstances.

The employers claimed that Mr Parrott—who suffered from bronchitis—had a long record of illness and injuries.

The NIRC tribunal assessed Mr Parrott as 'definitely accident prone' and 'prone to be ill'. Its judgement continued:

'The consequence of this is that we consider that he, himself, very largely contributed to his dismissal and although the actual dismissal took place in unfair circumstances, in our view, nevertheless we feel that it would be just and equitable to reduce the figure that we would otherwise have ordered to merely a nominal figure.'

Mr Parrott's compensation was cut by 90 per cent—from £500 to £50.

Even where an employer has been unable to show a valid reason for sacking a worker, the NIRC tribunals have still found it possible to apply clause s. 116 (iii).

In Hancock versus British

Road Services, the tribunal declared that it was 'left in doubt as to what was the real reason for the dismissal' and that BRS had not discharged their duty under the act. Nevertheless, the worker was held to have contributed to his own sacking to the tune of 60 per cent!

One of the most ominous developments, however, has been that pressurizing an employer for a wage increase has been held to constitute action meriting a reduction for contributory loss.

This happened last year in the case of Dobson, Bryant and Heather versus Morrith. The workers were sacked for their actions in support of a wage claim and the introduction of a sick benefit scheme.

BREACH

The tribunal found that the dismissals were unfair because the actions were not in breach of the workers' contracts of employment.

But it went on to state:

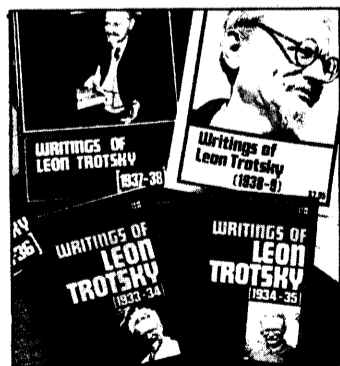
'We do think that Mr Dobson and the other applicants contributed to their loss in pressing for wage increases which on the figures which have been put before us today appeared to be on the unreasonable side... we think they were pressing unduly and unreasonably for more wage increases.'

'We have taken this into account and made a reduction in respect of it.'

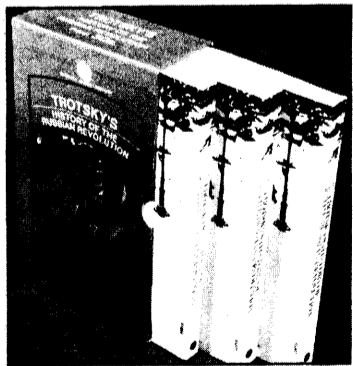
No amount of compensation, of course, can compensate a worker for loss of his livelihood when the Tory government is deliberately driving up prices in order to reduce the standard of living of the working class.

But the only way to fight back is through the workers' own class organizations, the trade unions, and not through the capitalist courts.

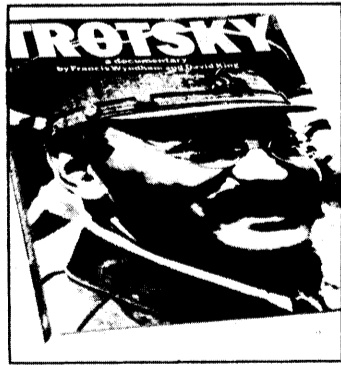
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MAO'S NEW CULT FOR CHINESE YOUTH

BY OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

'Take Lei Feng as our example' is the latest Maoist slogan. The Peking Press carried front-page facsimilies of the inscription 'Learn from Comrade Lei Feng' written by Mao Tse-tung on March 5 ten years ago.

Lei Feng, a young soldier of the Peoples' Liberation Army who died while on duty at the age of 22, is held up as a paragon of all the virtues. The propaganda media are full of stories of his life and good deeds which would put to shame the most dutiful boy scout. Emphasis is laid on his self-sacrifice and dedication.

The Communist Youth Leagues, which have been reformed and strengthened since their dissolution during the 'cultural revolution', are told to take Lei Feng's life of service as an example. Although in his lifetime Feng was devoted to Lin Piao, then the head of the army, he is now held up as a true disciple of Mao.

Lin Piao, who died in a mysterious air crash in September 1971, is alleged to have plotted to kill Mao and take power, but his name is not referred to in public.

Instead, the virtues of Lei Feng are opposed to the villainy of the arch-revisionist Liu Shao-chi, once President of the People's Republic of China. All over China meetings have been held on how to learn from Lei Feng, songs have been composed in his honour and pictures drawn of episodes in his life.

The attack on what is described as 'the revisionist line of swindlers like Liu Shao-chi' must be taken to include denunciation of Lin Piao as well. Mao's one-time designated successor is also regarded as being an 'ultra-rightist' who wanted China to shelter under the Soviet Union's nuclear umbrella and dreamed of restoring capitalism.

Thus a Peoples' Liberation Army unit in Shenyang was told: 'The criminal aim of swindlers like Liu Shao-chi



Mao with Lin Piao, who died in a mysterious air crash in September, 1971.

was to attempt in vain to change the Party's basic line and policies for the historical period of socialism, subvert the dictatorship of the proletariat, and restore capitalism. Their tactics were the counter-revolutionary tactics of refusing to be open and above-board but pursuing exclusively intrigues and conspiracies. . . The so-called true socialism which they wanted to establish was a totally Soviet revisionist-type of social fascism.'

In contrast to these dark deeds, Lei Feng is held up as a shining example and all sections of the population have been called upon to launch 'cherish-the-people' activities in emulation.

Thus it is seriously reported from one area that 'according to incomplete statistics from Harbin, Suihua and Mutanchiang, the broad masses of security cadres and police performed over 2,800 good services for the people during the New Year and

Spring Festival. They also closely worked together with the masses in dealing heavy blows to the class enemies who had engaged in sabotage activities'.

The nature of these activities, and whether or not they were inspired by Liu Shao-chi or Lin Piao, is left to the imagination in the report. But the reference does suggest that a bitter behind-the-scenes struggle is going on which could involve the succession to Mao himself.

MOSCOW PLEADS FOR RESTORED RELATIONS WITH ALBANIA

A plea for the restoration of relations between the Soviet Union and Albania—severed ten years ago—was made in a Moscow broadcast in Albania on March 13.

It said that the Soviet Union had always regarded 'the difficulties in Soviet Albanian relations' as temporary and passing.

Referring to the present state of affairs as 'unnatural and contrary to the norms and principles which regulate relations between the countries of socialism' it looked forward to the restoration of friendly relations.

Albania was the only country in Eastern Europe to take China's side in the schism with the Soviet Union which took place during the Khrushchev period. It continues to pay respects to the Stalin cult and generally acts as Peking's mouthpiece in Europe.

Tirana radio broadcasts bitter denunciations of Soviet policy and statements from



Enva Hoxha, leader of the Albanian Communist Party. He took China's side in the schism with Russia which occurred during the Khrushchev period.

what purport to be Maoist parties in Poland, East Germany and other countries.

By not referring to these questions, Moscow radio made it clear that it was prepared to wipe the slate clean. Its offer of a restoration of good relations with Albania was a clear bid to undermine what remains of Peking's influence in Europe.



STUDENT GETS TWO YEARS JAIL

A military court in Ankara has sentenced 14 Turkish students to between five months and three years in prison for allegedly using guns and resisting security forces during demonstrations in 1971.

Another military court jailed 15 students for boycotting classes in protest against

the execution of guerrilla leader Deniz Gezmiş (pictured above) and two comrades. One student received two years and the others three months.

It has been an offence for students to boycott classes since martial law was introduced nearly two years ago.

ITALIAN BOSSES TOUGHEN UP

A direct challenge to the trade unions was made by the president of the big Italian employers' organization, Confindustria (Italian Confederation of Industry) at that body's annual conference last week. Renato Lombardi called for a national incomes policy, political stability and discipline.

His speech indicated that the Italian bosses are not satisfied that the present government based on the Christian Democrats which was elected last year can provide the political conditions to defend private property.

The time has come, he said to state openly 'whether one wants to continue along the free road of progress and well-being, or whether one wants to destroy the system, nationalize the economy and thus deprive it of those instruments of efficiency, pro-

ductivity and competitiveness whose value is today recognized even by many socialist countries'.

The continued political insecurity and the deterioration of the economy and the competitiveness of Italian industry was, he said, 'steadily undermining the enthusiasm and perseverance of industrial managers'.

Industrialists must defend the existence of private personalized management as a condition for getting the economy back onto its feet, according to Lombardi.

The speech was a sign that the Italian employers intend to toughen up the struggle against the working class and are looking back to the strong corporate state established by Mussolini in the 1920s, in which organizations like Confindustria played a key role and the trade unions were destroyed.

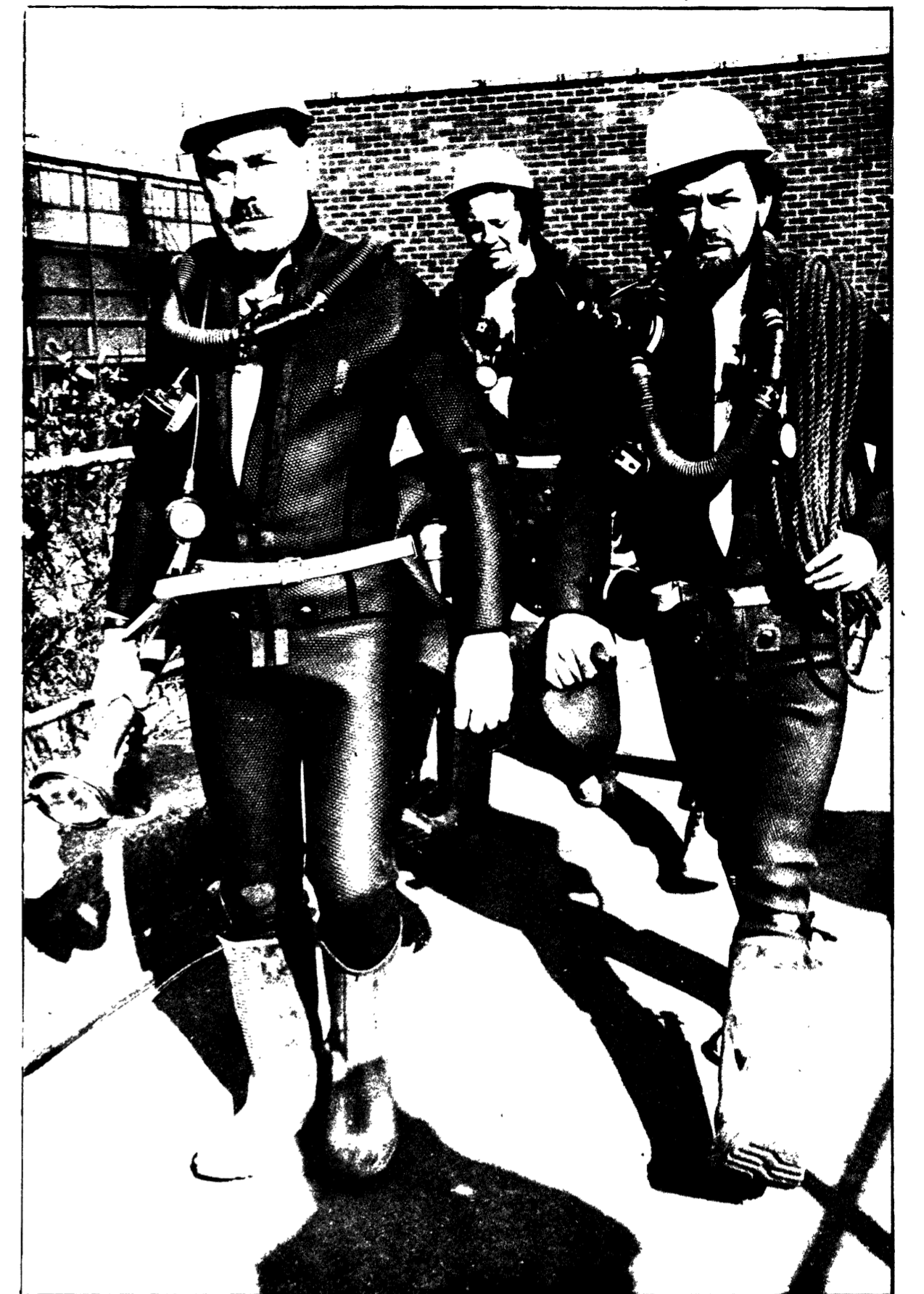
CONDEMNED RHODESIAN FIGHTS BACK

Three Africans have been sentenced to death in Salisbury for guerrilla activity. They were alleged to have planted the mine which caused the death of an army corporal last December.

One of the men told the court: 'Although you are going to sentence me to death, I am not afraid of that. I was trained abroad before I came into this country. I knew that there was death.'

'It is not your first time to kill people in this country. You started it the very first year you came to Rhodesia. I am fighting for my country. I attacked this homestead because I am fighting against the white man.'

He was referring to the attack on a homestead last December by six armed men during which a landmine exploded under an army vehicle.



PIT DISASTER

'The chance of finding anyone alive is extremely remote'. These words spoken shortly before one o'clock yesterday afternoon dashed hopes of saving seven miners entombed 750ft below the Yorkshire countryside.

Edward Finnegan, 40; Charles Cotton, 49; Alan Haigh, 30; Frank Billingham, 48; William Armitage, 41; Sidney Brown, 36; and Colin Barnaby, 36; are the men.

From the start the Lofthouse miners admitted chances of survival were very slim. Most of the seven were at the coal face flat on their bellies working the 2ft 6in seam when the water broke through the face. They got the full blast of the torrent.

Now these questions will be asked. Why were the NCB mining so close to tunnels dug by the ancestors of the Lofthouse colliers? Why, when maps did show the approximate whereabouts of the shafts leading to the old workings, were there no investigations of their condition? Why were there no test drillings taken on S9B face to find out what lay beyond?

Belatedly the old shafts were filled in. The frogmen (above) went down into the inky black flood water. A hole was drilled to carry fresh air into the tunnel where the men might have been trapped (left). Press conferences were held (centre). Heath swooped on the colliery flanked by police and security men (far left). The miners (above left) and their families watched silently. But the men were not saved. The workings near Lofthouse had claimed their last victims.

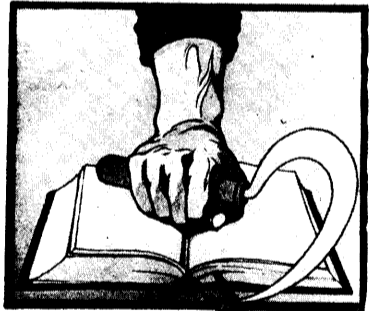




LABOUR'S TAME LEFT WING

BY JACK GALE

BOOK REVIEW



'The Class Struggle in Parliament' by Eric S. Heffer. Victor Gollancz £3.90 350 pp.

The Industrial Relations Act, legislated by the Tory government in 1972, was in fact prepared by the Labour government of 1966-1970—in particular by the attempts of Harold Wilson and Barbara Castle to force through 'In Place of Strife' in the teeth of overwhelming opposition from trade unionists.

As Eric Heffer MP says in his new book, published earlier this month, the Labour government handed the Tories weapons with which to beat both the Labour Party and the unions.

This was obvious to everyone. The leading Tory Iain Macleod admitted as much in the Commons on April 16, 1969, when he said of Barbara Castle:

'I am in warm support of her in this matter. I give her the further assurance that as soon as possible we will build on the foundations which she is laying and, in particular, that agreements entered into shall be enforceable by law.'

Such a position—the Labour leaders carrying out attacks not only on the people who voted them into office, but on the very trade union movement which created the Labour Party—placed an important responsibility on the 'left' Labour MPs.

It was for this reason that during the time of the Labour government the Socialist Labour League waged a consistent campaign to make the 'left' MPs fight Wilson. In fact, they did not conduct such a fight, and in his book, 'The Class Struggle in Parliament', Heffer is very much on the defensive about this.

He says: 'Too often there are those in the Labour movement who underestimate the role of the left and, even worse, give the impression that Labour's left during this period (i.e. from the Labour victory of 1964 to the end of 1972) conducted a sham fight' (p. 136).

Yet what is the record? In the period 1964-1966 Heffer himself, along with other Left MPs, excused Wilson's failure to introduce socialist measures on the grounds that a majority of four did not allow it.

In 1966 Wilson got a majority of almost 100. But—as Heffer now admits—Wilson sought a larger majority, not to legislate socialism, but to railroad through anti-union legislation in the face of any opposition there might be in the Parliamentary Labour Party.

The 'left' did argue against this in the PLP but it remained at the level of argument.

It is true that 56 Labour MPs voted against Barbara Castle's White Paper on March 3, 1969, but it was known at that time that the Tories were not going to vote against, and that therefore the government was not at risk.

Heffer's argument is that it would have been wrong to bring down the government—indeed, that it was the central task to preserve the Labour government.

But would the working class have been in a more dangerous position today if the 'lefts' had fought Wilson to the extent of bringing down his government?

On the contrary, it would have been better to bring the government down and then fight again for a Labour government based on socialist policies, than to permit Wilson to open the door to power for the Tories, with all the resultant attacks on the basic rights of the working class.

Heffer recognizes that this is what the Labour government did.

He also admits: 'I do agree that the Labour government did not advance us one step towards a real and fundamental transformation of capitalist society' (p. 269).

DISARMED

In these circumstances to be 'critical of the acts of folly' committed by the Wilson government and to 'push hard to change wrong policies' (p. 269) was, and is, inadequate.

The 'left' at no time armed and prepared the working class to fight Wilson's anti-socialist measures.

Heffer says that in 1964-1966 there was 'a great deal of rumour that legislation that could send trade unionists to prison was to be introduced' (p. 53).

There was more than rumour, there was certain knowledge—yet Heffer and his 'Tribune' colleagues con-

sistently denied at that time that such legislation could be introduced by a Labour government.

In so doing they disarmed the working class and facilitated Wilson's attacks on the unions.

The Labour leadership—and following them the Tories—were undoubtedly encouraged by the outcome of a confrontation with the unions deliberately contrived by Wilson after the 1966 election.

Such a confrontation was required by the Labour premier in order to create the conditions for putting his prices and incomes policy on a statutory basis. His opportunity occurred with the seamen's strike of June 1966.

It was during this strike that Wilson made his notorious witch-hunting speech about 'tightly-knit groups of politically motivated men'. On television he warned that the strike was 'against the state and against the community'.

The leadership of the National Union of Seamen buckled before this offensive. But this was also one of the most discreditable episodes in the history of the Labour 'left'.

When Wilson invoked the Emergency Powers Act against the seamen, left-wing MPs like Foot, Mikardo and Heffer spoke against it.

But they did not force a division and Wilson's measures went through unopposed.

Heffer now says: 'I regret that we did not vote against the introduction of the Emergency Powers Act. Whilst our opposition was sincere, our failure to vote was not entirely understood in the country.'

Many trade unionists wondered why we had not voted. I too wonder at this and have no explanation for it' (p. 59). It is not a question of 'sin-

Above: Labour leaders sing 'Auld Lang Syne' on the platform of last year's conference. Barbara Castle who formulated 'In Place of Strife' (obscured by microphone) is beside Wilson.

cerity' but of political outlook. Heffer, though a 'left', remains a reformist. He spells this out:

'The question arises: can socialism be introduced by democratic parliamentary means? The answer is surely: in some countries, no; in Britain, yes' (p. 272).

It is this reformist political position which has prevented Heffer and those like him from really fighting the right wing.

These 'lefts' see themselves, not as an alternative leadership, but as some kind of guardians of socialist morality:

'The Labour Party has been a coalition. Within its ranks have been people of the left, the centre and the right.'

'The left are always very concerned about keeping the Party true to its basic principles. At times they have sought real power within the Party and at other periods when that has appeared impossible they have acted as the Party's conscience' (p. 263).

Thus the guiding line for the 'lefts' actions is always to seek a basis of unity with the whole spectrum of views within the Labour Party, including its most extreme right wing. This is what Heffer means when he says:

'The task of the left wing of the Party is clearly to win the whole party for a genuine socialist policy... Naturally, we "Tribunites" would like the Party as a whole to adopt the platform of the left' (p. 267).

At the time Heffer wrote those words, the PLP included not only Roy Jenkins but Dick Taverne. What emerges here,

then, is that the left will always seek to stop short of a complete break with the right.

Heffer says: 'The left is an integral part of the Labour Party and therefore must work to preserve the unity of the Party' (p. 274).

The 'Tribune' MPs did oppose 'In Place of Strike'. But it was not their role which was decisive.

The real force which made Wilson and Castle retreat was the power of the working class, expressed through its unions, which forced Chief Whip Bob Mellish to inform Wilson that he could not guarantee a parliamentary majority.

But Heffer draws a dangerously wrong conclusion from this.

'At the last moment' he says, 'commonsense prevailed' (p. 89). It was not 'commonsense' which prevailed, but the class power of the unions.

What is more the 'solemn and binding' TUC undertaking to stop strikes, on which the proposed legislation was withdrawn, remained in force under the Tories and formed the basis for the union chiefs' talks with the Heath government.

Despite Heffer's claim that 'the role of the left during the six years of the Labour government was an honourable one' (p. 267), the 'left' sat back and permitted the onslaught on the unions to be prepared. Their opposition to Wilson was always too little and too late.

When the Donovan report, which laid the basis for the anti-union plans of both Wilson and Heath, was published, Heffer's reaction was favourable.



Trade unionists demonstrate against Labour's anti-union bill, 'In Place of Strife.'

TOO LATE

When 'In Place of Strife' was published on January 17, 1969, it included proposals for a government-imposed 'cooling-off' period, ballots for national strikes and the deduction of fines from wages. Yet Heffer described it as '80 per cent acceptable—possibly more' (p. 118).

The bad bits, he said, 'made it a barrel of honey spoilt by a spoonful of tar' and this, he repeats, 'is essentially my view today' (p. 103).

Then, when it became clear that the 'spoonful of tar' involved binding the unions to the state and removing basic rights which the working class had won over 200 years of struggle, Heffer could not see beyond the confines of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

When Wilson and Castle ignored the opposition of the TUC, the decisions of the Labour Party conference, the PLP (including its trade union group) and a 16-5 vote against the document on the national executive committee, the parliamentary 'left' could not turn to the organized working class, the force which in fact pushed back the Labour leaders.

Instead, Heffer tells us, he and Michael Foot MP were 'in a mood of black despair, we could see only disaster ahead' (p. 138).

Now he is dangerously complacent. He says: 'The party is reasonably united now, despite the problems of the Common Market' (p. 89).

These 'problems of the Common Market' involved 69 Labour MPs voting openly with the Tories, 20 more abstaining in defiance of a three-line whip, and a further 20 expressing various degrees of agreement with the pro-Tory rebels! Out of these 109 members of the PLP, only one—Dick Taverne—is not still there.

On what basis, then, is the party 'reasonably united'?

The right wing is even more

aggressive than before. Several of them openly support the renegade Taverne. One (Peter Doig) even spoke in favour of Emergency Powers being used by the Tories against the miners.

Wilson advised Heath on the best way to use the state pay laws against the working class without even waiting for them to go through parliament. The PLP did not lift a finger to assist the thousands of Labour voters who were prepared to fight the Tory 'fair rents' Act.



Eric Heffer

If there is more unity, then, it is only because the 'left' has abandoned the fight against the right precisely at a time when millions of workers are moving into struggle against the Tory government and the state in defence of basic rights.

These struggles raise the question of power because they bring workers into conflict with the government and the state.

Heffer seeks to avoid this. He writes: "'Tribune' MPs were in the vanguard of the struggle against 'In Place of Strife'. They also played a prominent role in the fight against the Industrial Relations Act. They will be equally prominent when the Act is repealed' (p. 278).

The operative clause here is 'when the act is repealed'.

But what happens now, when the Act is in operation? Heffer has no perspective for smashing the Act in the only way possible, by mobilizing the full strength of the working class to force the Tory

government to resign.

It was the same parliamentary reformist limitations which made the 'Tribunites' confine their opposition to the Bill to left-wing speeches without ever basing themselves on the large numbers of workers, such as the dockers, who came into direct conflict with the Tories' corporatist-style measure.

Now, as the Tories accelerate their drive towards the corporate state (Heffer invents a new form of society called 'the democratic corporate state', the Parliamentary Labour Party moves to the right.

The root cause of this is the raging economic crisis of capitalism which hardly rates a mention in Heffer's book.

DANGERS

Writing of 'In Place of Strife', Heffer says: 'Those responsible were "Old Left" leaders like Barbara Castle and Harold Wilson.

'In the past Harold and Barbara had given hope to millions that a new era would be forthcoming from a new Labour government. In fact, what we were getting was the old conservatism writ large.'

But the author can give us no explanation of why the 'Old Left' should move over to the right, nor, for that matter, any reason for believing that the 'New Left' would not take the same course.

The process is now much more advanced.

What we are getting today is not just conservatism, but the politics of coalition. This is what lies behind the talk of a new 'centre' alignment.

It is the preparation for open collaboration with the Tories in seeking to impose a Bonapartist dictatorship on the working class.

Heffer is blind to these dangers. He writes: 'The 1971 conference decisions prove that the Party is moving to the left. It is only a matter of time before the views of the left become accepted as Party policy' (p. 273).

Within less than three weeks of the 1971 conference, Jenkins was to lead his right-wing clique into the Tory lobby and get away with it!

Is it necessary to remind Eric Heffer of what happened in 1960-1961?

In 1960 the Labour Party conference 'moved to the "left" and called for unilateral nuclear disarmament'. The Party had accepted 'the political ideas of the "left"'. Yet the right wing conspired to overturn the Scarborough decision. And the organizer of the right wing Campaign for Democratic Socialism in 1961 was William Rogers, who ten years later organized the right-wing rebels for the EEC vote.

The right wing will destroy the Labour Party unless they are driven out. They would take the working class back 70 years to the days when they had no separate party from the employers.

The working class must settle with all the Dick Tavernes who still hold Labour seats in parliament. They must be removed and replaced by other candidates who will be pledged to socialist policies.

It is sheer nonsense for Eric Heffer to say 'there has been a recent liberalization of the PLP' (p. 226). The PLP—which as Heffer correctly points out is becoming increasingly middle class in composition—is moving rapidly to the right. The 'liberalization' consists of permitting the right-wing to do as they like.

'"Tribune"', Heffer confesses, 'was too optimistic in 1966. Socialism was not on the agenda, as "Tribune" believed' (p. 278). Today, 'Tribune' remains silent on the main danger.

It is not socialism but coalition and dictatorship which the right wing is putting on the agenda. Heffer writes: 'If ever the trade unions desert the Labour Party, that would be the time when the left would have to consider its position'.

It is not a matter of the trade unions deserting the La-

bour Party but of the right wing severing the links with the unions in order to forge an alliance with the Tories against the working class.

Heffer's book is basically a record of valuable time being wasted when a determined fight should have been waged to defeat the heirs of Ramsay MacDonald and kick them out of the Party.

The Socialist Labour League has called for an emergency conference of the Labour Party which must put an end to this time-wasting.

Such a conference should clear out the Jenkins traitors, mobilize the whole working class to make the Tory government resign and adopt socialist policies to dispossess the capitalist class of its power and its property.

This task cannot be left to the Labour 'lefts'.

Speaking of the Labour Party of MacDonald, Trotsky explained why the right succeeded in defeating the left within the Party, even though events outside were pushing workers to the left:

'The extreme right continues to control the party. This can be explained by the fact that a party cannot confine itself to isolated left campaigns but is compelled to have an overall system of policy. The "lefts" have no such system, nor by their very essence can they.'

'But the rights do: with them stands tradition, experience and routine and, most important, with them stands bourgeois society as a whole' ('Problems of the British Revolution', New Park Publications, pages 12-13).

To defeat the right-wing Labour traitors requires the building of a revolutionary party which will increasingly expose and fight against every single act of treachery.

To quote Trotsky again: 'If you wish for victory over MacDonaldism, over organized betrayal and over treachery elevated into a system, then you must operate not in the spirit of the "lefts" but in the spirit of the Bolsheviks' (op. cit. p. 6).

BBC 1

9.38 Schools. 12.30 Croeso'n ol. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill. 1.30 Andy Pandy. 1.45 Ask the family. 2.05 Schools. 2.50 Animal design. 3.15 Gardeners' world. 3.40 French chef. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Lizzie Dripping. 5.10 John Craven's newsround. 5.15 Vision on. 5.40 Sir Prancelot. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE. 6.50 BUGS BUNNY.

7.00 FILM: 'Father Came Too'. James Robertson Justice, Leslie Phillips, Stanley Baxter, Sally Smith. British comedy.

8.30 WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE LIKELY LADS? Boys' Night In.

9.00 NEWS. Weather.

9.25 FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC. Special inquiry into medical misconduct.

11.00 HOLLYWOOD: THE DREAM FACTORY.

11.50 NEWS. 11.55 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 1.15-1.40 Medicine today. 5.25 Open University.

6.40 TAKE ANOTHER LOOK. Meals with a difference.

7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWS. Weather.

7.35 COLLECTORS' WORLD.

8.10 INTERNATIONAL GOLF CHALLENGE. Tony Jacklin v

ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.30 This week (London only). 11.00 Schools. 12.05 Hickory house. 12.25 Hasty town. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Lunchtime with Wogan.

1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 Harriet's back in town. 2.30 Good afternoon.

2.50 Racing from Kempton Park. 4.25 Junior showtime. 4.50 Maggie. 5.20 I dream of Jeannie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY. 6.40 CROSSROADS.

7.05 IT'S TARBUCK. Jimmy Tarbuck with guest Gilbert O'Sullivan.

7.35 BANACEK. A Million the Hard Way. George Peppard.

9.00 SO IT GOES. Fire Ball.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 DOCUMENTARY: 'WARHOL'. Andy Warhol, genius or joker?

11.25 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING.

12.10 THE DO-GOODERS. Angus Stewart talks to Norman Ingram Smith.

Gary Player v Tom Weiskopf.

9.00 POT BLACK. Snooker competition. Fred Davis v Jack Rea.

9.25 W O R L D TELEVISION THEATRE. 'Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme' by Moliere.

11.30 NEWS. Weather.

12.00 THE OLD GREY WHISTLE TEST.

TODAY'S TV

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women. 2.50 London. 5.20 Partridge family. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Film: 'The Comedy Man'. 9.00 London. 12.10 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.20 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 12.07 News. 1.00 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 2.50 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.35 Junkin. 7.05 London. 12.10 News. 12.20 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 2.50 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Try for ten. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Film: 'The Hills Run Red'. 9.00 London. 12.10 Looking at. 12.40 Weather.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 2.50 London. 5.20 Cartoons. 5.35 Wind in the willows. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Cool million 9.00 London. 12.10 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 2.30 Women. 2.50 London. 5.20 Osmonds. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 McCloud. 9.00 London. 12.10 Ian Phelps reports. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.32 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 2.55



Gilbert O'Sullivan (left) guests on Jimmy Tarbuck's new programme and—at last—David Bailey's film profile on Andy Warhol (right), both on Independent channels tonight.

London. 4.23 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Columbo. 8.50 Cartoon. 9.00 London.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 12.25 Hammy hamster. 12.40 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 2.45 London. 5.20 Lucy. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 McCloud. 9.00 London. 12.10 Scales of justice. 12.40 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 2.30 Harmony abroad. 2.50 London. 5.15 Primus. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Police file. 6.35 Smith family. 7.05

London. 7.35 Film: 'The Deadly Dream'. 9.00 London.

TYNE TEES: 9.20 Memorable meals. 9.30 London. 12.25 Hammy hamster. 12.40 London. 5.20 Jackson five. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 McCloud. 9.00 London. 12.10 News. 12.25 Lectern.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 12.25 Hammy hamster. 12.40 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.40 News. 2.50 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Country focus. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Tarbuck. 7.30 Cartoon. 7.35 McCloud. 9.00 London. 12.10 Meditation.

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Monday dossier

MONDAY CLUB members in north London are preparing a detailed dossier on left-wing groups. They will pass it to the Special Branch if Scotland Yard asks for it.

The dossier is on 'all facets of subversion in this area, ranging from infiltration into the teaching profession of extreme left-wingers to the groups of violent anarchists who live here'.

The north London club's secretary, Mr Richard Devonald-Lewis, said a special 'counter-subversion sub-committee' has been set up 'hard at work collecting files and information'.

Speaking at the club's annual meeting Devonald-Lewis said there was much to be done. He said the survey of 'violent anarchists' was 'a terrifying and fascinating exercise to watch this jig-saw puzzle grow and see the interlink between the various groups and the umbrellas of apparent respectability under which they flourish'.

List of left wing to be passed on to Special Branch

'I place sufficient importance on this work that I have directed that our papers be kept in an extremely safe place. It is our intention to make information available to the National Club and, should they request it, to Special Branch at Scotland Yard.'

Devonald-Lewis's statement ended with the extraordinary statement that Hampstead was a seething hotbed of revolutionaries.

This will come as something of a surprise to the well-heeled trendies, Fleet Street editors, armchair academics and 'New Statesman' contributors who inhabit this luxurious neck of the woods.

'It is regrettable but true,' he said, 'that this area contains more than its fair share of subversive groups and it came as no surprise to us that the majority of the defendants in the recent anarchist trial were locals.' (Untrue.)

The meeting also heard some astonishing comments from club president, Mr Victor Montague. He attacked those in the club who preferred a 'slide towards consensus'. 'It is a hopeless doctrine,' he said.

'What Conservatives led by the Monday Club must assert is that if a certain type of government does not foster the cause of the individual's life on this planet as the individual believes he is brought here by God to live it, then that type of government will be swept away, by votes if possible, by revolution ultimately and inevitably.' (1)

Neap House cop wins promotion

DOCKERS who experienced police brutality at Neap House Wharf last year will remember that the man in charge of the £70,000 operation was Sir Laurence Byford.

He has now been promoted to Chief Constable for Lincolnshire, said to be one of the most efficient police forces in the country.

In an interview on Radio Humberside on Sunday, he said the Neap House Wharf operation was very useful because it helped the police develop their tactics for future occasions.

It also showed the public that 'mob violence' did not always win, he added.

'There are times when the police must be autocratic, not democratic,' says Sir Laurence.

'I am not opposed to men going on strike so long as they keep within the law.' This does not strain his democracy much, since the Tories are doing their best to make strikes illegal.

He entirely agreed with proposals of the Criminal Law Commission to abolish the police caution and the right of the accused to silence.



Police in action against Neap House Wharf pickets.

White-collar holiday sit-in at Fort Dunlop

WHITE-COLLAR workers staged a sit-in strike for an extra week's holiday at the Dunlop headquarters in Birmingham yesterday.

The workers—1,500 members

of the clerical unions ASTMS, APEX, and TASS—were following up a four-week overtime ban at Fort Dunlop.

Overtime bans have also been imposed at other plants, belong-

ing to the company, which has refused the claim for a fifth week.

Yesterday's 24-hour action at Birmingham may now be echoed at some of these other plants.

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Narrow ACTT vote to lift black on Boultings Danger stage at Shepperton studio

BY IAN YEATS

THE FIGHT for Shepperton film studios has now entered its most dangerous stage.

At the point where asset-stripper John Bentley looked set to scuttle himself on the rocks of workers' opposition to his plans, J. H. Vavasour Ltd moved in.

Company officials have told union representatives that they are prepared to wait 'a year or so' to realize a return on their newly-acquired assets at Shepperton.

Simultaneously the Boulting Brothers, who were major owners in the old British Lion, have announced they will make a new film, 'Soft Beds, Hard Battles', at the studios.

Witch-hunt

Vavasour has removed the immediate threat of a studio rundown and the Boultings are offering the prospect of work adding extra sugar to the pill, with the hint of yet more films in the pipeline.

But before the Boultings make a start on 'Soft Beds, Hard Battles' they want the unions to lift a black imposed on them last summer.

Shepperton workers backed by three unions—ACTT, NATKE and FFU—imposed the black last August to prevent any of the British Lion directors, including the Boultings, making films anywhere but at Shepperton.

Last week the Boultings followed up their threat not to make films at Shepperton unless the black was lifted with a vicious anti-'reds' campaign.

John Boulting accused a 'little cabal of communists who are ideologically motivated' of preventing the black being lifted.

He and his brother would not accept any qualification to their position as 'free producers in a free society'.

He claimed the people who put up money for films did so for a 'programme' and

would not be placed in a position where they had to do business with only one studio which could then make terms which were not commercial.

In the face of these offers and attacks from Vavasour and the Boultings on Friday, March 16 a meeting of the ACTT executive, which has led the fight at Shepperton, narrowly passed a resolution offering to lift the black.

It added the proviso that the Boultings give Shepperton first consideration for any future films.

The wrangle continues. The Boultings are reluctant to give any guarantees whatever and the executive continues to insist on the proviso.

Both the unions and the workforce are mistrustful that the Boultings will make further films at Shepperton after 'Soft Beds' Hard Battles'.

If the present disagreement is solved the Boultings will be free to make films wherever they please and with labour from any source.

But even if they give the ACTT the promise it wants, giving Shepperton first consideration falls far short of a cast-iron guarantee that more films will be made.

Deadline

In the combination of the time extension given by Vavasour and the lifting of the black on Boulting Brothers' films, workers see a new danger—that their numbers will be reduced and their solidarity undermined.

Among the magnates and bankers of the film industry the opinion has long been held that Shepperton should be closed and work concentrated at Pinewood—a view recently reiterated by Lord Rank.

If the Boultings starve Shepperton of films, up to a third of the 380 workers might accept offers of permanent employment already being made from Pinewood. Others on no-work pay could drift away.



If in a year's time—Vavasour's deadline—it turns out that there is little or no new film work in sight for the studio and the workforce has been depleted, workers fear the new owners would then seize the chance to implement the original Bentley plan for carving up Shepperton.

Under it 60 prime acres are to be sold for building development and the studio stages, workshops and cutting rooms drastically truncated.

Counting

Three weeks ago a mass meeting of the studio workers formally rejected the Bentley deal—including its offer of 50 per cent of the shares in the new company.

Vavasour are almost certainly counting on how much this rejection will be worth in a year's time, possibly under very different circumstances.

John Boulting of the Boulting Brothers team which is to make 'Soft Beds, Hard Battles' at Shepperton. They are not bound in any way to use the studio for any future work, especially since the film union ACTT lifted its black on any move.

Shock closure expected at Ilford plant

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

ILFORD Limited, the photographic equipment firm, has announced shock plans to close down part of its Essex plant.

A company spokesman said that the 1975 closure date would not mean 'mass redundancies' among its 800 Ilford workers. There is alternative work at their Brentwood and Basildon sites, he said.

'Some reduction in the total number employed is expected,' he added.

The company has been established in the town of Ilford for more than 90 years. Ilford Limited was founded by Alfred Harman who started making glass photographic plates at his home in Cranbrook Road.

Now 150 production workers, 70 engineers, 125 research experts, 233 sales and marketing staff, 109 finance workers and 150 other administrative employees work there.

John Green, General and Municipal Workers' Union shop steward, said it was too early to comment on the rundown. A meeting of his members will be held tomorrow to discuss the closure threat.

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Franco raises minimum pay: Now £7 for 48-hour week

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

THE COUNCIL of Ministers presided over by General Franco decided at the week-end to increase the minimum wage by 30 pesetas to 186 pesetas a day.

This minimum—the maximum for many workers—will be paid as from April 1 and works out at a weekly wage of £7 for the basic 48 hours.

The fascist Press has begun a round of propaganda in praise of the 'great social justice' of this measure which will convince no worker, though it will attract even more investment from Europe and the United States.

It will certainly not deter the

steady flow of Stalinists to fascist Spain.

On Sunday, the official bulletin of state published the final ratification of the protocol for trade between Spain and the Soviet Union, signed by Franco in February.

Two of the basic points in the protocol are:

- The buildings considered as necessary for the use of delegations will have diplomatic immunity.

- The members of respective delegations will enjoy freedom of movement in the country, but will not be able to carry out any commercial or professional business for personal gain.

As Franco himself sealed the rapprochement, between Moscow

and Madrid publicly, the president of the Soviet firm 'Mashino-export', Borontsov, arrived in Madrid.

He is to attend the inauguration of a new factory in Alcala de Henares devoted to building pre-fabricated houses. It is equipped entirely with Soviet machinery.

Borontsov and his entourage of bureaucrats will then go to Barcelona for talks with Catalan employers and will visit the 'Carbones de Berga' mines shortly to be fitted with Russian machinery.

In Vigo, Ol Tuski, technical chief of the Cuban fishing fleet, has been discussing orders for several ships to be built in the yards where police have clashed violently with strikers.

SLL LECTURE SERIES
The Socialist Revolution in Britain
Middleton (nr Manchester)
Langley Community Centre Middleton 4 p.m.
Sundays: April 1 and 8
Lectures given by Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee)
The Socialist Revolution in Britain:
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.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS
'Forward to the Revolutionary Party.'
DUNDEE: Tuesday March 27, 7.30 p.m. YMCA, Constitution Road.
LEICESTER: Wednesday, March 28, 8 p.m. Pineapple, St Margaret's bus station.
LINCOLN: Thursday, March 29, 8 p.m. Albion Hotel, St Mary Street.

Socialist Labour League
PUBLIC MEETINGS
The Road to Workers' Power
Build the revolutionary party
SALFORD
Wednesday March 28, 8 p.m.
The Angel, Chapel Street.

ATUA
Central London branch
Censorship, the media and the Tory government.
Chairman: Royston Bull
Speakers: Stuart Hood, David Maude and other speakers from Fleet Street and ITV to be announced.
London Film School, Langley St., Covent Garden.
Sunday April 1, 7 p.m.

North London Council of Action
Don't Let Hospital Workers, Teachers, Railwaymen, Gasmen, Fight Alone!
Force the TUC to call a General Strike!
Make the Tory Government Resign!
DEMONSTRATE!
SATURDAY MARCH 31
Assemble: 2pm Civic Centre, Wood Green
March through Wood Green

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Provos put out a feeler

COMMENT BY MICHAEL BANDA

DESPITE a categoric rebuff to Whitelaw a few days ago it now appears that some of the big fish of the Provisional IRA are preparing to nibble the bait contained in the White Paper.

This is what emerges from an interview given to Press Association staff reporter, John Shaw by David O'Connell, leader of the Provisional Sinn Fein, in Monaghan on Sunday night.

Mr O'Connell, who has been associated with the 'political action' wing of the IRA, made it clear the IRA would be prepared to conclude a temporary bilateral truce if the ban on political activity by Provisional Sinn Fein is lifted.

Such a truce would have to be accompanied by 'cast-iron guarantees'. Truce terms would have to be in writing and an effective liaison system should exist to investigate flashpoint areas such as Lenadoon Estate, cause of the truce breakdown last July.

But for any permanent cessation of hostilities the British government would have to (a) grant the right of self-determination to the Irish people; (b) set a date for the eventual withdrawal of troops and (c) declare a general amnesty for political prisoners in the North.

Mr O'Connell indicated that the ban

on the Provisional Sinn Fein may be annulled when the Special Powers Act (1956) is repealed under the White Paper proposals but, at the same time, he did not envisage an immediate truce because of the government's hard line attitude.

Thus in view of the present situation, he said: 'All we would welcome is that this war would be ended.' Until then the IRA had no option but to continue its military campaign.

O'Connell, who is wanted by the Irish police, asserted that continued hauls by the British army had not significantly altered the flow of arms and ammunition to the IRA.

They had bought arms from many quarters and volunteers had now been trained to use rocket launchers which would soon be used against the British.

In contrast to his frankness about the conditions of a 'truce', O'Connell was extremely reserved about the future of Sean MacStiofain who will soon be released from jail and is known to favour a continuation of armed struggle.

The Provo leader laconically remarked that MacStiofain would report back to the Republican movement 'the same as any prisoner who has been discharged

from prison'. This is a curious phrase in view of the fact that MacStiofain is no ordinary Republican prisoner but a well-known Provisional leader.

'One does not discuss personalities, one cannot prejudge any situation,' was the only comment O'Connell would make. He denied any split in the movement and insisted that a 'truce' was periodically under examination.

The bankruptcy of Republican policy in relation to the Protestants was clearly revealed by O'Connell when he suggested that the Loyalists were articulating their own desire for self-determination. 'Basically this whole struggle has been on the issue of self-determination.'

Nothing could be further from the truth. The Loyalists do not want self-determination—no matter how much they might talk about it.

They want the protection of the Crown, that's why they voted in the border poll against unity with the south and for the British connection.

The Loyalists are able to con Protestant workers only because the middle-class Republicans have nothing to offer them apart from a corrupt Vatican-dominated state not unlike that which exists in the South.

Provisional policy is not to unify Ireland but to perpetuate the division by pandering to the reactionary Loyalist leaders through the creation of a nine-county Provisional Assembly. That is why O'Connell remained equivocal on the question of whether IRA Provisionals would put up candidates for Whitelaw's Northern Ireland Assembly elections.

To make a commitment before the dates and rules of the election were known would be unrealistic was O'Connell's position.

O'Connell's refusal to condemn the Assembly as a continuation of direct rule in a new guise is tantamount to acceptance of Whitelaw's Bonapartist instrument.

It must, sooner or later, open the door to further capitulations and widen the rift inside the IRA. No matter how much the Provisional leaders denounce the White Paper as being the continuation of 1921, they are in grave danger of perpetuating another 1921.

There can be no 'truce' with British imperialism. Until the British troops have been forced to leave Ireland and imperialism has been buried by the combined efforts of British and Irish workers—the struggle must go on.

Republicanism—despite the heroism—cannot do this. Only a revolutionary Marxist party based on the Irish working class can.



Two-hour victimization strike at St James'

ST JAMES'S Hospital, South London, was hit by a two-hour reinstatement strike yesterday.

Ancillary workers just returned from a fortnight-long stoppage over pay defeated the apparent victimization of a young trade unionist.

Following a mid-morning mass meeting, porters, canteen staff, technicians and domestics walked out and massed at the main gate demanding that the worker involved, Helen Rose, be given her job back.

Helen, formerly a student nurse, had transferred to the

HOSPITAL WORKERS

domestic staff during the strike.

The hospital management claimed yesterday morning that she had been taken on as a domestic by a supervisor acting outside her authority.

But after a meeting with the strike committee they were forced to agree to her reinstatement.

Ancillary staff at St Mary's vote to strike on

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

A MASS meeting of ancillary workers at St Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, Paddington, voted overwhelmingly yesterday to continue their all-out strike.

But another meeting will be held at 6 a.m. today to confirm whether the 300 workers will stay out until Friday.

NUPE branch secretary, Mr Don Steadman, one of the two men arrested last week, said after the meeting:

'We've got to the point now where the union leaders must call everybody out.'

Commenting on yesterday's talks between Tory leader Heath and TUC general secretary, Victor Feather, he told me: 'I don't expect anything at all from the talks. Nothing will happen until all hospitals take action together.'

St Mary's ancillary workers were in a militant mood yesterday and during the vote pickets shouted: 'What is the point of going back until we have won.'

NUPE steward Mr Dennis Molloney said he thought today's meeting would vote to continue the strike indefinitely.

MARCH FUND NEEDS £859.97 IN FIVE DAYS

IT must be an all-out, last-minute spurt to complete our fund. We know that you, dear readers, will do everything you can but there is not a moment to waste. Our target is £1,750 and we have five days left.

It is at this time that Workers Press is most important. The TUC tries every day to avoid a showdown with the Tory government. But as the miners start balloting for strike action, the whole trade union movement must come to their support.

In this political situation, our paper is more than vital. It must be used to build a revolutionary leadership throughout the working class. A confrontation with the Tory government cannot be avoided.

Keep Workers Press right out in front. Do everything possible, therefore, before this weekend to complete our Fund. It is a tough fight. Let's make sure we do it. Rush all your donations immediately to:

Workers Press
March Appeal Fund
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ACCEPT CORPORATISM OR FIGHT!

FROM PAGE ONE

reformists, the Stalinists in the Communist Party and the centrist groups like the International Socialists, seek desperately to keep this stark reality from the working class.

LINE-UP

They all line up behind the politics of protest—the biggest event of all being the one-day General Strike on May Day.

This strike will solve

nothing on its own. The Tory government must be removed. Every trade unionist knows this.

But it can only be removed by a General Strike of indefinite length, as Joe Gormley miners' leader has already stated.

Such action is long overdue. The Tory government will provoke a massive industrial conflict anyway.

The only question to be asked is, are the working class to anticipate this by organizing their own cam-

paign of political and industrial action to force the government to resign?

Workers Press and the Socialist Labour League have always answered YES to this question.

SHOWDOWN

There is no way out for the working class.

They either fight the decisive showdown on Tory terms or fight it on terms most favourable to the labour movement.

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

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

FOR DETAILS
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TRAINEE miner Ian Morgan (15), of Woodland Road, Tynant, Beddau, was killed at Cwm Colliery, Glamorgan, yesterday while working on a conveyor belt on the surface.