

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • THURSDAY APRIL 19, 1973 • No 1052 • 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

MAJOR TRADE DEFICIT SHOCK

BY DAVID MAUDE

A CRUSHING trade deficit was admitted by the Tory government yesterday—proving that British capitalism is losing out increasingly in the international trade war and heralding a sharp, new attack on the living standard of the working class.

Figures released by the Department of Trade and Industry showed that rising world prices and the falling value of the pound had produced a £197m visible trade deficit last month.

This was much higher than forecast and put the British economy well on the way to an unbearable £1,500m-£2,000m deficit this year.

The figures show that imports last month soared to a record £1,071m—the first time ever that they have topped the £1,000m mark. At the same time exports slumped.

Imports were up £94m on the previous month while exports, at £874m, were £26m down.

These extremely bad figures, which should have been published on local election day last week, mean that fresh attempts by the Tory government to make workers pay for capitalism's crisis must be imminent.

While fiercely curbing home demand for imported goods the Tories must urgently attempt to cheapen their exports by slashing the real wages of the working class and enforcing ruthless speed-up.

THE POUND took a knock yesterday as dealers marked it down on news of the worse-than-expected trade figures.

The new rate of 2.4816 was a drop of 18½ points on the overnight dollar and over a quarter of a cent down on the spot sterling rate before the trade figures were published.

Bankers said the news brought a dull foreign exchange market to life, although the pound's fall was not as bad as expected.

A further drop is likely when the New York market starts to trade.

But the figures show more than that.

They prove, as Workers Press warned yesterday, that British capitalism is on its back and feeling the sharpest effects of the inflationary crisis which is sweeping the capitalist world.

This must bring enormous pressure on the pound and demands from the international bankers for rapid deflation.

Such a deflation would to a huge rise in unemployment, swingeing cuts in social services, and continued, but even more

TURN TO BACK PAGE



Workers Press news editor in Japan

WORKERS PRESS news editor Alex Mitchell is in Japan for three weeks collecting material on the crisis—both economic and political—in the Far East.

His investigation will cover industry, the unions, the Japanese Stalinist movement, the revolutionary forces and the military—an ever more powerful voice in

Japanese ruling circles.

These articles will be of vital importance for trade unionists everywhere. They will analyse in depth the wages and working conditions of the Japanese and draw a comparison with the British scene.

DO NOT MISS THIS VITAL SERIES.

Steelmen lobby union congress



Welsh steelworkers yesterday lobbied the first Iron and Steel Confederation congress since World War II at Congress House, London, yesterday. See back page.

£100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

ON THE DOT came the cheque for £2,000 from reader S.L. to double our fund together with £1 from Coventry and £1 from Holloway branch of the Socialist Labour League.

The fund now stands at £4,103.78. We are a long, long way from completing the first leg of the £50,000 needed by May 31.

Can we have another big push over Easter? Post all donations to:

Party Building Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG

New hospital pay claim

HOSPITAL ancillary workers will make new pay demands next month when the National Union of Public Employees meets at Eastbourne for its national conference.

Oldham Health Service Branch has submitted a resolution calling for a minimum wage of £27

a week while the Castleford Normington and District Hospital Branch seeks a £30-a-week minimum.

Swansea and District Hospitals Branch also wants a built-in cost-of-living regulator as a safeguard against price increases.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE PUBLIC MEETING

Grimethorpe (Yorks)

What next after the miners' ballot
The fight against the Tory government

THURSDAY APRIL 19 8 p.m.

Manor Hotel, Grimethorpe

Speaker Cliff Slaughter

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • THURSDAY APRIL 19, 1973 • No 1052 • 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

MAJOR TRADE DEFICIT SHOCK

BY DAVID MAUDE

A CRUSHING trade deficit was admitted by the Tory government yesterday—proving that British capitalism is losing out increasingly in the international trade war and heralding a sharp, new attack on the living standard of the working class.

Figures released by the Department of Trade and Industry showed that rising world prices and the falling value of the pound had produced a £197m visible trade deficit last month.

This was much higher than forecast and put the British economy well on the way to an unbearable £1,500m-£2,000m deficit this year.

The figures show that imports last month soared to a record £1,071m—the first time ever that they have topped the £1,000m mark. At the same time exports slumped.

Imports were up £94m on the previous month while exports, at £874m, were £26m down.

These extremely bad figures, which should have been published on local election day last week, mean that fresh attempts by the Tory government to make workers pay for capitalism's crisis must be imminent.

While fiercely curbing home demand for imported goods the Tories must urgently attempt to cheapen their exports by slashing the real wages of the working class and enforcing ruthless speed-up.

THE POUND took a knock yesterday as dealers marked it down on news of the worse-than-expected trade figures.

The new rate of 2.4816 was a drop of 18½ points on the overnight dollar and over a quarter of a cent down on the spot sterling rate before the trade figures were published.

Bankers said the news brought a dull foreign exchange market to life, although the pound's fall was not as bad as expected.

A further drop is likely when the New York market starts to trade.

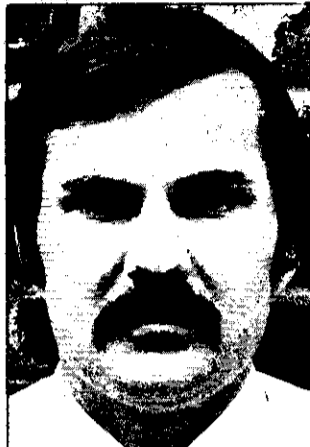
But the figures show more than that.

They prove, as Workers Press warned yesterday, that British capitalism is on its back and feeling the sharpest effects of the inflationary crisis which is sweeping the capitalist world.

This must bring enormous pressure on the pound and demands from the international bankers for rapid deflation.

Such a deflation would to a huge rise in unemployment, swingeing cuts in social services, and continued, but even more

TURN TO BACK PAGE



Workers Press news editor in Japan

WORKERS PRESS news editor Alex Mitchell is in Japan for three weeks collecting material on the crisis—both economic and political—in the Far East.

His investigation will cover industry, the unions, the Japanese Stalinist movement, the revolutionary forces and the military—an ever more powerful voice in

Japanese ruling circles.

These articles will be of vital importance for trade unionists everywhere. They will analyse in depth the wages and working conditions of the Japanese and draw a comparison with the British scene.

DO NOT MISS THIS VITAL SERIES.

Steelmen lobby union congress



Welsh steelworkers yesterday lobbied the first Iron and Steel Confederation congress since World War II at Congress House, London, yesterday. See back page.

£100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

ON THE DOT came the cheque for £2,000 from reader S.L. to double our fund together with £1 from Coventry and £1 from Holloway branch of the Socialist Labour League.

The fund now stands at £4,103.78. We are a long, long way from completing the first leg of the £50,000 needed by May 31.

Can we have another big push over Easter? Post all donations to:

Party Building Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG

New hospital pay claim

HOSPITAL ancillary workers will make new pay demands next month when the National Union of Public Employees meets at Eastbourne for its national conference.

Oldham Health Service Branch has submitted a resolution calling for a minimum wage of £27

a week while the Castleford Normington and District Hospital Branch seeks a £30-a-week minimum.

Swansea and District Hospitals Branch also wants a built-in cost-of-living regulator as a safeguard against price increases.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE PUBLIC MEETING

Grimethorpe (Yorks)

What next after the miners' ballot.
The fight against the Tory government

THURSDAY APRIL 19 8 p.m.

Manor Hotel, Grimethorpe

Speaker Cliff Slaughter

What we think

Stalinism in France, USSR and Britain

TWO SIGNIFICANT events yesterday fill out the background to the open support now being given by the British Communist Party to a corporatist deal between the union chiefs and the Tory government.

The first took place in Paris, the second in Moscow. Together they completely expose and strip away the 'left' verbiage with which the Stalinists are now trying to cover up their counter-revolutionary policies.

In Paris leaders of the CGT, France's big, Stalinist-led trade union federation, met the new Minister of Labour to ask for government intervention to end a month-long strike at Boulogne-Billancourt, the giant headquarters factory in south-west Paris of the state-owned Renault motor combine.

The CGT Stalinists have twice attempted to stem the tide of militancy which has rolled through the factory following the walkout of 400 assembly-line workers, mostly immigrants, last month demanding higher job classifications and increased pay.

Now they are desperately afraid that, barely a month since Pompidou was returned to power at the polls, the strike movement will engulf all 100,000 Renault workers and place them at the head of a major confrontation with the new regime.

Meanwhile in Moscow yesterday, Stalinist premier Alexei Kosygin was locked in cordial discussion with the British Tories' emissary, Trade Minister Peter Walker, before signing an agreed protocol on the results of two days' trade talks between representatives of the two governments.

Bourgeois commentators saw the signing as evidence of a new warmth in relations between the Soviet leaders and the Tory government, while the talks have been celebrated in the British Communist Party's 'Morning Star' with a prominent front-page picture of Walker getting together with the Stalinist chieftains.

Yesterday's protocol will give British big business direct access to the new Soviet 'industrials'—vertically-integrated trusts or groups of industries which have been set up in a bid to streamline Soviet industry. It is also designed to encourage mutual trade.

The Stalinists' treacherous policy of peaceful co-existence with imperialism means that in France, Britain and everywhere else the movement of the working class must be sacrificed to the foreign-policy requirements of the Soviet bureaucracy.

And since imperialism is in its deepest-ever crisis, so much deeper must be the treachery and so much greater the sacrifice. This is why, at the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' conference, where the Communist Party had its biggest-ever faction, the Stalinists' support for a deal with the Tories had to be so open and so craven.

Facing a growing crisis of confidence in its own ranks, the 'Morning Star' is now desperately attempting to put a 'left' face on this conference.

But no amount of votes to support the 'left Press' (the 'Star', 'Labour Weekly' and 'Tribune') or side-swipes at the 'ultra-left' can obscure the fact that the Stalinist faction in the AUEW is in absolute solidarity with the proposals of union president Hugh Scanlon for a deal with the Tories.

In other words there is complete political unity between the policies of the Stalinists in the British trade union movement and their actions yesterday in France.

On the one hand they provide Scanlon—and through him the entire TUC General Council—with a completely blank cheque for continued talks with the Tories. On the other they appeal to the repressive Pompidou regime for action to end their own members' entirely-justified demands for increased wages and lay-off pay.

In both cases this amounts to calling 'Cop!' to the capitalist state in a desperate bid to prevent the working class tackling the main question which is now before it: the construction of the alternative, revolutionary leadership which will lead it to expropriate its oppressors and take the power.

After their performance at the AUEW national committee, can there any longer be any doubt that this is the sole aim and object of Stalinist policy?

The 'Star's' cover-up job on the committee last week claimed: 'While it can be argued that it would have been better to decide to refuse any talks with the government in which questions of pay were involved, the terms of reference laid down by the engineers rule out any talks concerning any form of wage freeze.'

Yet despite these 'terms of reference', Scanlon was able to return that very same day to talk of 'a 12-month agreement [with the Tories] which would have given a breathing space "for putting our respective houses in order"'. These words were reported in the same issue as the 'Star's' cover-up!

At the Renault factory in Boulogne-Billancourt, the Stalinists are simply demonstrating how their support for these policies works out in practice.



Renault workers in Paris.

End Renault strike—CP plea

LEADERS of the CGT, France's largest trade union confederation yesterday made a call for government intervention in the dispute at the Renault motor company.

A delegation from the union visited Georges Gorse, Minister of Labour under the new Messmer cabinet, and pleaded for action by the authorities to end the Renault dispute.

The Stalinists' intervention reflects their fear that the dispute will get out of control.

Since unrest began at the state-owned combine's Boulogne Billancourt factory a month ago they have made strenuous efforts to get a return to work.

They thought they had finally succeeded last week when the press-shop operators, who were at the core of the strike in the Boulogne factory, reluctantly voted at a poorly attended meeting to go back to work.

The week before, the press-shop workers had rejected a management offer recommended by the CGT.

The return to work was short-lived, however, for management refused to pay lay-off benefits to the workers who had been affected by the press-shop strike.

Some 7,000 workers at the main factory walked out in protest.

Solidarity strikes at two other factories, Flins, near Paris, and Sandouville in Normandy, were met by management with the immediate closure of the plants.

About 30,000 workers are now involved in the dispute and the whole combine could be completely shut down in the next few days.

The union chiefs' appeal

to the new Labour Minister, who is also mayor of the Paris suburb where the Renault plant is situated, is a blatant act of class collaboration.

The Stalinists' entire policy at Renault ever since May-June 1968 has been to restrict all struggles within the narrowest possible confines.

They fear the explosive consequences of a big strike there at a time of growing labour unrest throughout the motor industry and in the steel, engineering, textile and other sections of industry.

Last week at the Peugeot car factory, near Lyons, management sent squads of armed thugs to oust sit-in strikers.

There have been major strikes in the last week at the Lorraine steelworks of Wendel-Sidelor, where large-scale closures are scheduled over the next three years.

● See What We Think.

Walker's 'friendly talks' with Kosygin

BRITAIN and the Soviet Union have agreed on concluding a ten-year pact on economic, scientific-technical and industrial co-operation.

This was announced in Moscow yesterday following

one hour and 40 minutes of talks between premier Alexei Kosygin and Tory Trade Minister Peter Walker.

Soviet sources said the talks were 'friendly and interesting'.

Walker's meeting with Kosygin was the first such meeting at cabinet level for several years.

Walker said the proposed ten-year agreement would exert a considerable effect on British-Soviet trade.

Cambodia: Guerrillas seize town

SUPPORTERS of the exiled Prince Norodom Sihanouk have seized the Cambodian coastal city of Kep after a two-week siege, marking a new stage in the military debacle of the Phnom Penh regime.

Kep, a seaside town 85 miles south-west of Phnom Penh, is the first municipality with the status of city to fall to the liberation forces since the war in Cambodia began three years ago.

Word of the fall came as the puppet dictator Lon Nol announced in a radio broadcast the resignation of premier Hang Thun Hak to make way for the formation of a new government.

The president gave no reason for the premier's resignation, though it may well be an attempt to make Hak a scapegoat for the regime's losses over the last few weeks.

Lon Nol is believed to be seeking a new more 'broadly-based' government to conceal his own abject reliance on the American Air Force to stay in power.

US B52 bombers renewed their raids against liberation armies around the Cambodian capital. They bombed positions along the Bassac river, ten to 20 miles from Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh has been encircled by road for weeks and only by saturation bombing were the Americans able to clear a way for the passage of part of a convoy up the Mekong

river last week.

The Nixon government has ordered resumption of air raids on Laos and raised its attacks on the Cambodian liberation armies to a new pitch of air-borne savagery.

According to military sources in Phnom Penh, the US bombing is running at a level of 60 sorties a day in Cambodia—more than in the whole of Indo-China in 1971.

Strike sorties by lighter tactical aircraft have also multiplied several times over to about 200 a day.

The US is also airlifting ammunition and other supplies to the besieged southern cities and bringing emergency supplies of aviation fuel to Phnom Penh.

The command said at the provincial capital of Tram

Second trial ordeal for Magee

RUCHELL MAGEE is to be retried over the killing of a judge in the 1970 Marin County shoot-out. The first trial lasted 11 weeks, cost over \$1m and ended in a mistrial when the jury failed to agree.

Edward Heinz, chief assistant attorney-general of California, ended speculation about whether the black militant would face retrial when he told reporters:

'The decision has been made. We will be retrying Magee.'

Ruchell Magee's trial was originally linked with the case of Angela Davis, who was eventually tried separately and acquitted.

But Magee, who already faces a life sentence for kidnap and robbery in Los Angeles in 1965, was singled out for the full vindictiveness of Californian 'justice'.



Ruchell Magee . . . at back.

Robert Carrow, Magee's attorney, said the decision to retry his client was 'an unbelievable waste of taxpayers' money . . .

'Even if the state secures a conviction, Magee can't get a bigger sentence than the one he has already.'

The huge cost of Magee's first trial arose because the jury was sequestered throughout and because of so-called security measures, including a bullet-proof screen in the courtroom.

Nearly 50 lawmen with submachine guns and riot gear stood guard.

Magee himself was transported by helicopter every day to the San Francisco courtroom from San Quentin state prison 15 miles away.

But if these measures were intended to produce a panic conviction they failed.

Now the state intends to drag Magee through the same ordeal for a second time.

Khmar, 24 miles from Phnom Penh, government troops had retaken the devastated central market place, but the situation was still regarded as critical.

The Americans hope they can persuade the USSR, China and North Vietnam to put pressure on the Sihanouk leadership to reach a compromise with Lon Nol.

Sihanouk is closely linked with the Peking government and Washington has high hopes that the Chinese Stalinists can once again be persuaded to betray the revolutionary struggle in Indo-China.

The Soviet Union can play only a minor role in this betrayal because it has never recognized the Sihanouk government-in-exile.

Hope hospital drivers walk out

A NATIONAL Union of Public Employees (NUPE) official yesterday claimed that all action in the ancillary workers' pay dispute had ceased. But at Hope hospital, Salford, drivers again walked out.

They claimed that the management had used non-hospital drivers on their vehicles and had refused to give an undertaking that this practice would cease.

These men were on strike for the full seven weeks of the pay dispute.

In the course of the strike, police were used against them and this led to a mass picket at the hospital.

Officials from NUPE and COHSE have said that the drivers' action has official backing.

A striker told Workers Press that one management representative had threatened them by saying:

'How would you like it if we did away with your jobs altogether and brought in outside contractors?'



May 1 stoppage upsets the Press barons

THE NEWSPAPER Publishers' Association, publishers of national and London evening newspapers, registered the 'strongest possible protest' over printing union decisions which would prevent publication of newspapers on May 1.

An Association statement said:

'The council of the Newspaper Publishers' Association met today [Tuesday] to discuss the decision of several printing unions to take industrial action which will prevent publication of the national daily papers and London evening papers dated May 1.

'The publishers decided to register the strongest possible protest with the unions concerned and to point out that the repeated interference with the production of national newspapers for political purposes is damaging to the long-term interests of their members as well as to the economics of the industry.'

Stewards seek Pay Board approval

Scanlon weakens toolroom wage fight

ENGINEERS' union president Hugh Scanlon's speech offering support to the Tory state pay laws in the form of an 'amended' Industrial Relations Act is having dangerous repercussions in the Coventry area.

Toolroom shop stewards throughout the district are to meet to plan support for 211 toolroom workers on strike at the GEC Stoke and Helen Street plants.

The strikers' request for such a meeting has been endorsed by the Coventry district committee of the AUEW.

The men are demanding that a £2.88-a-week wage offer be spread over 12 months by monthly increments.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

But a dangerous diversion has been created by stewards who visited Department of Employment officials and—last Tuesday—a Pay Board official and attempted to get a statement that their demand is 'legal' under the Tory state pay laws.

This thinking, which refuses to see that all wage struggles must confront the government, is reflected in the right wing-dominated district committee.



Scanlon . . . Collaboration.

Rejection

Recently that body rejected a resolution to instruct all convenors not to go to the Pay Board under any circumstances.

Instead, an amendment to ask the union's executive council whether stewards could approach the Pay Board was carried by 17 votes to ten.

It was a strong Scanlon supporter who moved the amendment so eagerly seized upon by the right wing.

It was the Coventry AUEW district committee which led the move at the national committee to allow the union to go into

the Industrial Relations Court. That move was lost, but the retreat continues.

The GEC strikers must make sure that the Coventry toolroom stewards take action with them against the Tory government and its corporatist-style attacks on the whole working class.

Poverty leads to 'classroom atrocities'

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

A REPORT attacking teachers who humiliate school-children because they are poor has been published by the Child Poverty Action Group.

One schoolgirl whose parents could not afford to buy her a regulation sports kit for school games was made to walk round the playing field picking up litter while the rest of the class enjoyed hockey and netball.

Then she was made to write an essay on the importance of physical education.

This is one of the classroom 'atrocities' published in the current issue of the Child Poverty Action magazine 'Poverty'. The article is based on a report on

uniforms, by the Bristol chief education officer.

'While the grants provided for a blazer, hat, badge and tie, schools were insisting that such garments as jerseys, skirts, blouses and shirts be distinctive and all manner of sports kit was being demanded,' the article says.

Other scandals included the story of a 12-year-old boy who was told he must have cricket whites.

His mother had to bleach a pair of jeans until they were 'almost white' and he wore an oversized sweater.

There was a 15-year-old boy who stayed at home on games day rather than face a beating with a plimsol. The article says the Bristol experience is unlikely to be unique.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS AND SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

MAY DAY

DEMONSTRATE TUES. MAY 1ST



DEFEND BASIC DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS
BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

- LONDON: Assembly 6 p.m. Speakers Corner, Hyde Park. Meeting 8 p.m. St Pancras Assembly Rooms. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
- MIDLANDS: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Assembly Hall, Digbeth, Birmingham.
- NORTH-WEST: Assembly 10 a.m. Islington, Liverpool. Meeting 7.30 p.m. Central Hall, Liverpool. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
- NORTHEAST: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Civic Centre, Jarrow. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
- SCOTLAND: Assembly 10 a.m. Blythswood Square, Glasgow. Meeting 7.30 p.m. Woodside Hall, St George's Cross, Glasgow. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
- WALES: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Caedraw School, Mynydd Tydfil. Premiere showing of Pageant film.
- YORKSHIRE: Meeting 7.30 p.m. Guildford Hotel, Headrow, Leeds.

IT'S WAR SAY ENGINEER'S BOSSES

Victor Feather, Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon never cease talking about the need for a new spirit of co-operation and harmony to prevail in industry and replace the politics of confrontation.

The three are always appearing on joint platforms with big businessmen at lunches organized by the Industrial Society, the Industrial Participation Association and other corporatist, co-partnership bodies.

What is the real face of the employers' organizations which these agents of collaboration wish to suck up to?

The viciousness of the British ruling class is legendary after hundreds of years of persecution of Ireland and other colonies, as well as the metropolitan working class.

The exploitation of slave labour by British capital in South Africa and elsewhere still goes on, as well as military support for feudalism in the Arabian peninsula and other places.

Nearer home, the ruling class has embarked on a determined campaign to solve the problems of inflation by creating more surplus value from the backs of the working class. It wants to restore value to the flood of depreciated paper currency which the capitalist system injected into the economy to 'cure' previous political crises.

The Tories have raised rents, slashed social services and introduced laws to abolish free collective-bargaining in order to force down working-class living standards and extract this additional surplus value.

In short, the ruling class requires the working class to live less comfortably in order that the capitalist system should survive the world-wide economic crisis. In other words, the working class must eat less.

The Engineering Employers' Federation is the largest single employers' organization in the country and very influential in Tory circles.

Members of the EEF participate in all of the corporatist bodies which Jones, Feather and Scanlon are ever urging workers to co-operate with.

For sheer viciousness, the EEF takes some beating.

The front page article in the latest issue of its journal reads as follows:

Some 24 million working days were lost as a result of industrial disputes last year



Jack Jones, Hugh Scanlon, Victor Feather three union chiefs who repeatedly speak on platforms with leading employers and big businessmen.

and strikers and their families received in direct state aid a total of around £8m.

That such a sizeable slice of the taxpayers' money should be diverted to this purpose is, as the Secretary of State for Social Services acknowledged in parliament a few weeks ago, a matter for urgent public concern. All the more so because to some extent this money comes from relatively poor people by means of indirect taxation.

The government is reviewing the payment of supplementary benefit in industrial disputes. It is to be hoped that the review, when it has been completed, will result in effective measures to plug this gap in the social security payments system. It is as illogical as it is unsound.

The state, in the matter of strikes, is generous to a fault.

One of the oddest phenomena in a major industrial stoppage, such as the mineworkers' strike last year, is that an emergency operation is promptly mounted to dispense State funds which are intended to provide for the needy. It is hard to see how those who voluntarily deprive themselves of a pay-packet fit into that category.

Against the background of statutory regulation of pay settlements, it is all the more irrational that the state should cushion strikers against the consequences of their own action.

The strike still carries the mantle of old struggles for social justice. 'Men fighting for their democratic rights' is how one Member of Parliament recently described strikers generally. But the fact of the matter is that strikes today are seldom any-

thing more romantic than a means of pushing up wage rates by force.

In any changes that follow the government's review of the situation there will be a need for flexibility to protect the families of strikers from hardship. Wives and families, not strikers, are the recipients of benefit. This is a point that is much laboured by those who oppose any change in the existing arrangements, but it is no more than a technicality. There would seem to be a strong case for imposing an obligation upon strikers whose families receive benefits to repay them.

Tightening up the existing arrangements will not stop strikes, but it will make industrial action look less attractive than it does now. In the long run, with state bounty curtailed, union officials could be looking

harder for solutions to problems, thereby avoiding the seriously damaging effects of strikes. This process might well have its impact on the incidence of strikes.

Put very simply, the engineering employers are proposing that strikers be driven back to work by starving their wives and children.

The EEF is typical of the ruling class. It is determined to hang on to the privileges and wealth which the capitalist system brings, whatever cruelty is required to keep the working class in its place.

Jones, Scanlon and Feather want the working class to give up fighting the ruling class and to turn the other cheek instead. They only do so because they themselves are part of the privileged system.

Asbestos slaves

Cape Asbestos Company has announced record pre-tax profits for 1972. Profits have advanced to £4.14m while turnover reached a colossal £55.6m.

Cape is Britain's second largest asbestos company—it mines the material in South Africa, transports it to the UK and has a series of factories making asbestos parts for the engineering and building industry.

The full extent of the Cape profiteering will be made clear today when the annual report and accounts will be released.

As the preliminary figures have indicated, some of the biggest profit gains have occurred in the company's mining operations.

Bigger profits

And after all, if you can mine the stuff cheaply, you stand an excellent chance of making bigger profits when you start to use it in manufacture.

How does Cape go about mining this most dangerous of minerals, which has already cost the lives of hundreds of British workers through asbestosis?

Adam Payne, the 'Rand Daily Mail' mining editor,

visited Cape's Penge mine in the Northern Transvaal two weeks ago. In a special report he said that the 'single worker compounds' were outdated and overcrowded while the married workers were housed in 'cell-like' houses without furniture, lights and other amenities.

Overcrowding

He said that overcrowding led to 200 men sleeping on floors. Payne went on: 'Last time I visited Cape Asbestos and wrote about the housing which shocked me, the mining man said to me: "You visit the largest and richest amosite asbestos deposit in the world.

"The royalties on mining it lone amount to R1,297,000 a year [about £700,000] yet you write about the kaffirs compounds. You need your head read!"

Payne said the conditions at the mine would shock British shareholders in the company.

On the contrary, when Cape chairman, Mr R. H. Dent, learnt of the report he simply said:

'With hindsight we could have done things faster.' The company has a plan to build some new quarters for both single and married men.

THE WHITEHOUSE PATROL

Leeds police have taken a turn towards puritanism. They have raided a bookshop in Woodhouse Lane and removed a vast quantity of literature under the Obscene Publications Act.

Six uniformed officers entered the shop on April 11 armed with warrants. They waited for a lawyer to arrive before taking away six boxes of books and newspapers.

Three people in the shop were cautioned and the proprietor was told that the books were being sent post haste to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Included among the seized publications were: Wilhelm Reich: 'Mysteries of the Organism'.

Boswell's 'Life of Johnson' (Signet edition).

Henry Miller: 'Quiet Days in Clichy'.

Wm. Burroughs: 'The Naked Lunch'.

Henry Miller: 'Sexus'.

McCaffery: 'The Homosexual Dialectic' (a recognized text book on this subject).

Richard Amory: 'Song of the Loon'.

Walter: 'My Secret Life'. (The Victorian Classic—all three volumes.)

M's 'The Sensuous' Man' (Corgi).

Simons: 'Does Sex Make you Feel Guilty'.

'He who is the Greatest is the Servant of the Other'.

I am Curious (Yellow): Grove Press.

'Lenny Bruce: Vol One'. (Published by Macmillan.)

Ed Badajos: 'Filipino Food'. (Published by Tandem.)

'Theatre and Drama Review'.

Hundreds of the following periodicals were also removed: 'Gay News', 'OZ', 'International Times', 'Forum', 'Follow Up', 'Cosmic Comics', 'Nasty Tales', 'Robert Crumbs Comics', 'Corridor', 'Ecstasy', paper of the Gay Revolution Party USA, and copies of various underground comics.

Owner of Books, Mr Bob Gregory, told Workers Press this was the first time his shop had been subjected to police harassment since it was opened 12 months ago.

'Of course,' he said, 'we've had the usual police cruising around. A bit of heavy breathing and that sort of thing.'

He said an invoice would be sent to the Leeds police for the books. 'We'll have to charge them,' he said. 'All books seized have been re-ordered and will be on sale as usual as soon as possible.'

He said that recently there had been a definite move in the direction of the Whitehouse brigade in Leeds. The Stanley Kubrick film 'Clockwork Orange' had been banned by the local authority.

Whether the Leeds police and the DPP are corrupted by Boswell's 'Life of Johnson' will be known in a few weeks' time. Mr Gregory said he had instructed his lawyers to fight any prosecution.

TITO'S FARM CRISIS

A 'grave situation' is admitted to have arisen in Yugoslav agriculture, which is lagging badly behind the targets set for the 1971-1975 Plan.

It was intended to push up production by 3 per cent per year on the privately-owned farms and by 6 per cent on the state farms to give an overall yearly increase in production of 3.5 per cent.

Actual production has fallen far short of this. In the first two years of the Plan, the private farms only increased their output by 0.8 per cent and the overall increase was 2.5 per cent.

Coupled with this poor performance there was what a Zagreb radio commentator called 'the astounding fact that the plan to bring about rapid structural changes in agriculture with a view to boosting stockbreeding was not only not implemented, but the situation grew worse, especially in state-owned estates which ought to have been the driving force of the entire agricultural production'.

Unlike the Soviet bureaucracy, the Yugoslavs do not blame climatic conditions for the shortfall in agricultural production. The season of 1971 was exceptionally favourable, but the gains were cancelled out by 'the lack of appropriate measures'.

The situation in 1972 turned out to be catastrophic. The wheat yield was short by 20 per cent and much of the maize crop was of inferior quality and unfit to be used as fodder. The sugar beet quality was also down.

The failure of agriculture to meet the targets set for it in the plan undermines plan fulfilment as a whole. It also means that Yugoslav workers will go short or have to pay ever higher prices for essential foods. The hope of earning foreign exchange by the export of agricultural surpluses has also been frustrated.

The policy of concessions to the peasants and reliance on individual incentives has not paid off. The mismanagement and inefficiency of the agrarian sector has weakened the entire economy, which is now in the throes of a crisis.

The Tito regime, already becoming increasingly dependent on world capitalism, is now in a position where it may have to join the Soviet Union in buying food on the world market in order to stave off a shortage.



Soviet Union WORTHLESS MATERIALS

Large quantities of fertilizer are being wasted on Soviet collective farms through lack of proper storage facilities. In Turkomenia, 32 collective farm chairmen and chief agronomists have recently been punished for violation of rules on the storage of fertilizers.

It is not known what punishment was meted out, but the abuse continues and is widespread. In the same republic a check made at a super-phosphate works showed that the active ingredient in the fertilizers produced amounted to only 16 per cent.

An official report comments: 'This results in the transport over long distances of tens of thousands of tons of worthless material. At the same time, hundreds of thousands of roubles worth of equipment, not yet installed, lies in the open air and deteriorates.'

Checks are now being carried out on the organization of loading, transportation, unloading and storage of fertilizers throughout the country in an effort to put a stop to the waste already revealed.

GRAIN SALES

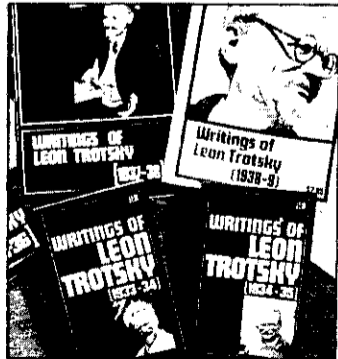
The Soviet Union is expected to make large grain purchases in the world market again this year to make good harvest deficiencies.

Last year about 28 million tons was purchased, 18 million of them from the United States. In the meantime, as a result partly of the Soviet demand, world prices are a good deal higher.

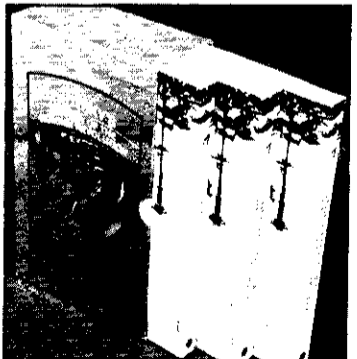
If the Soviet Union only buys half as much as last year, the cost is likely to exceed \$1,000m, about half of which will probably be spent in the United States. Last year this much was spent in the US alone, helping to drive up the general level of food prices.

Although this year's harvest is expected to be better than last year's, the Soviet bureaucracy has apparently little confidence that sufficient grain can be produced to meet the national requirements. A large number of ships has already been chartered suitable to carry grain.

STILL AVAILABLE...



Six volumes of Trotsky's writings during the years 1933-1940
£8.00 including postage



History of Russian Revolution—special gift pack of three volumes
£1.70 including postage



Trotsky—a documentary by Francis Wyndham and David King
£1.65 including postage

Please tick those you require. Amount enclosed £.....

Name

Address

Complete form and post to:
New Park Publications, 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG
A New Park Publications Booklist is available, free, on request.

WRITER JAILED

A leading Ukrainian oppositionist who wrote a vigorous attack on Stalinist nationalities policy has been jailed for five months after a trial in Kiev.

He is Ivan Dzyuba, whose book, 'Internationalism or Russification', was circulated in 'Samizdat' (underground documents) form in the Soviet Union. He shows that current policies follow on from those of the Stalin era which ran directly contrary to the nationality policy of Lenin and the Bolsheviks after 1917.

He shows that Stalin's policy represented a return to the Great Russian chauvinism against which Lenin had fought in the last years of his life.

The bureaucracy tried to answer Dzyuba in a book put out in Ukrainian and English called 'What I. Dzyuba Stands For and How He Does It'.

Dzyuba had been harassed

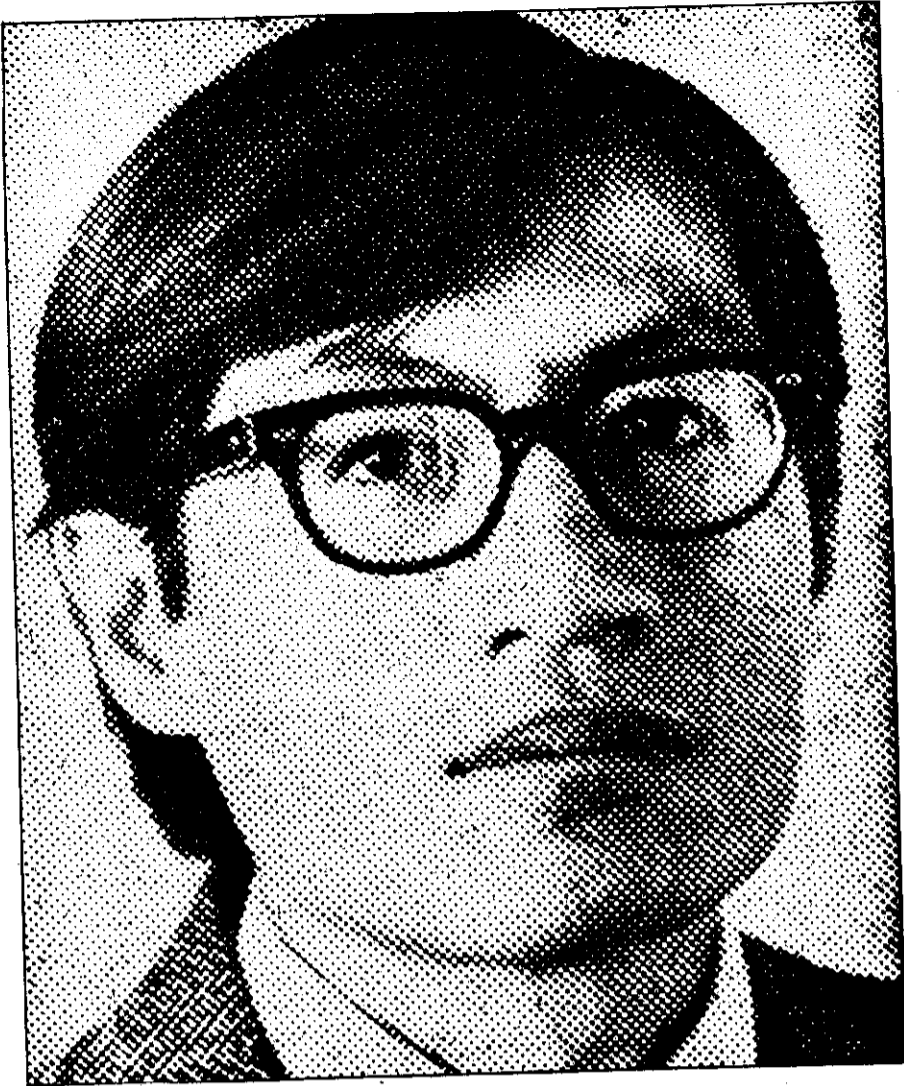


Oppositionist, General Grigorenko—feared by the bureaucracy.

for many years because of his opposition to Stalinism. He made a number of public protests against repression in the Ukraine and the Kremlin's drive against Jewish culture. He was arrested in April 1972 and charged with 'anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda'.

The Kremlin bureaucracy fears Dzyuba as it does those other oppositionists, like General Grigorenko and Pyotr Yakir, it holds in jails and 'psychiatric' wards.

The working-class movement should demand the release of all those oppositionists whose only crime is to raise their voice against Stalinism.



CHENG

32 years or death. By Jack Gale

Tzu Tsai-cheng, a native Taiwanese, is now lying in Pentonville prison awaiting extradition following the failure of his appeal to the House of Lords against being sent to the United States.

In May 1971, Cheng was found guilty in an American court of complicity in an attempt on the life of Chiang Kai-shek's son, but he left America before sentence was passed.

If he is extradited — and he now awaits the outcome of a direct appeal to the Home Secretary Robert Carr—Cheng faces up to 32 years' imprisonment followed by further extradition to Taiwan, where he will certainly be killed.

He went to the United States as a student in 1962 and two years later joined the Formosa Independence Movement. The Taiwan regime then removed his passport.

In April, 1970, Chiang Kai-shek's son — Chiang Ching-kuo — visited the US to ask for more American arms to crush the growing opposition in Taiwan.

During this visit, the World United Formosans for Independence organized demonstrations against him. One took place in front of the White House, one on his arrival at the Andrews Air Force base, and one in front of the Hotel Plaza in New York City, where Chiang was meeting American businessmen.

It was during this visit that one shot was fired at the son of the Taiwan dictator.

Chiang Ching-kuo is, in fact, hated almost as much as his father, whom he hopes to succeed one day.

He is head of the Taiwan secret police force, which is estimated to be a million strong out of a population of 15 million. This force has been responsible for the arrest of 1,500 political oppo-

nents and hundreds of executions each year.

When Cheng's trial started, another Taiwanese, Peter Huang, pleaded guilty to firing the shot. Cheng has always maintained that he had no connection with the assassination attempt and at the time of his arrest, when he was brutally clubbed by police, he had only a few leaflets in his possession.

Nevertheless, an all-white jury found him guilty of attempted murder and illegal possession of a gun. Under New York state law, the maximum sentence for attempted murder is 25 years and for illegal possession of a gun, seven years.

In July 1971, Cheng fled to Sweden and applied for political asylum. The Swedish government granted him an alien passport and permits to stay and work. He was joined by his wife and two children. Ever since Cheng left New York, the Taiwanese military regime has been demanding that the Americans get him back. Yet it was not until Cheng had been in Sweden for nearly a year that the US demanded his extradition.

The reason for this is clear. President Nixon wants to use Cheng as a sop to Chiang-Kai-shek, who was extremely disturbed at Nixon's visit to Peking.

Cheng was arrested in Sweden on June 30, 1972, and a deportation order against him was granted on August 31.

On September 4, Cheng was taken on board an American plane, which was forced to land at Copenhagen when he was taken seriously ill.

Some hours later he was carried from hospital and flown to London where his condition was so serious that he was placed in the emergency department of the airport.

In Britain Cheng appealed not to be sent back to the States. After being remanded in custody many times his case was finally heard at the Bow

Street magistrates court on November 23 and 24, 1972.

There the magistrates ruled that the assassination attempt was not an act of a political character, since it was an isolated act. They also ruled that Cheng should be sent back to the United States since the act took place there and Cheng's organization was not in conflict with the American government, only with the Taiwanese. The extradition stood.

Cheng appealed to a Divisional Court on January 24. There, it was decided that the assassination attempt was a political act, supported by an organization whose actions were purely political.

However, the second part of the magistrates' ruling was upheld. Cheng was told that he would not have been extradited to Taiwan but, since his organization was not in conflict with the American government, he would be extradited there.

Meanwhile, the Chiang Kai-shek regime has approached the American government demanding that when Cheng is returned to the States he should be handed over to them.

On March 5, Cheng appealed to the House of Lords.

That appeal was turned down on a two to one majority decision by Law Lords on Monday. The Cheng Defence Committee says now it will ask the Home Secretary to change the extradition order to one of deportation, which would allow him to live outside the United States and avoid the long arm of the Chiang military regime.

But Cheng must not be left at the mercy of the Tories who, of course, wholeheartedly support Chiang Kai-shek.

The entire labour movement must demand immediately that Cheng be granted full political asylum. There is no time to be wasted.

Resolutions should be sent from trade union branches immediately to The Home Office, Whitehall, London, SW1.



Chiang Kai-shek's son, Chiang Ching-kuo. He was on a visit to America when the attempt to kill him took place. Right: Taiwan's president, Chiang Kai-shek. Above: Mrs Cheng, who joined her husband in Britain. Top left: Tzu Tsai-cheng, who is appealing against the extradition order which could mean 32 years' jail or death.





A 'HOT' POLITICAL CASE

Representatives of the Chiang Kai-shek regime sat through all the preliminary hearings as well as the trial of Tzu Tsai-cheng.

They made the trial a hot political issue and made it clear to the American authorities that they were 'out for blood'. It was this pressure which prevented Cheng being sentenced on a lighter charge and clearly influenced the judge and prosecution throughout the case.

The political pressures operating in the Cheng case were made clear in a sworn deposition by Victor Rabinowitz who defended Cheng at his trial in the United States.

Mr Rabinowitz's statement, sworn on November 16, 1972, declares:

I made numerous appearances before the Supreme Court of the State of New York in connection with this matter. Several of the appearances were in connection with motions to dismiss the indict-

ment and related relief

At most of them the procedure followed was the same. There was first an open calendar call and this was followed by an off-the-record discussion between the judge, the assistant District Attorney in charge of the case (Stephen Fallis), Mr Scoppetta (Peter Huang's lawyer) and myself.

Some of these conferences took place at the judge's bench out of earshot of spectators in the courtroom; most of them took place in the judge's chambers. The general tenor of these conversations was an effort to dispose of the cases without trial.

The procedure followed is one which is customary in the New York criminal courts—indeed, it is the procedure followed in probably 95 per cent of all cases. Counsel meet for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is some offence, less than that charged in the indictment, to which a defendant may plead guilty with an agreement by the judge that if a guilty plea is entered and if the probation report justifies it, an agreed-upon sentence will be imposed.

I suggested that Mr Cheng be permitted to plead guilty to a charge of unlawful possession of a gun or of assault and

that the judge agree to sentence him to a term of no more than about 18 months or two years.

Mr Fallis refused to accept such a disposition of the matter and gave as reason for his refusal, a number of arguments. Prominent among these arguments was that this was a 'hot' political case, that the Nationalist Chinese government was very much interested in the outcome, that a light sentence would result in a vigorous protest from the Nationalist Chinese representatives, who were, in Mr Fallis' words, 'out for blood'.

He pointed out what I had already noticed, namely, that at every single court hearing since the beginning of this case, several representatives of the Nationalist Chinese government were present in the courtroom.

He told me that representatives of the Nationalist Chinese government had expressed some dissatisfaction with the fact that there had been delay in trying the case and stated that his superior, the District Attorney of New York County, was not going to permit him to make any disposition of the case which might result in bad relations between the Nationalist Chinese government and

the government of the United States.

Judge Harold Baer's attitude was that he would give consideration to any disposition of the matter which was satisfactory to the District Attorney, but that he would not attempt to persuade either the District Attorney or counsel for the defendant to accept any disposition.

He, like Mr Fallis, expressed his understanding that the crime was politically motivated and was not to be analogised to a street fight or a felony committed during the course of some crime intended for private gain, but he did not feel that he was in any position to urge upon the District Attorney any disposition of the case which might prove politically embarrassing either to New York State or to the United States Department of State.

I am not, at this late date, in a position to give the precise dates on which such conversations took place. I would estimate that there were at least six of such conferences which took place in the chambers of Judge Baer, and that all of such conversations took place between the third week in April and the beginning of the trial in May 1971.

THE MILITARY REGIME OF CHIANG KAI-SHEK

Taiwan and the Pon-Hu islands were ceded to Japan as part of the war reparations after the defeat of the Ching dynasty in 1895.

After World War II, Chiang Kai-shek was ordered by the allied commander in the Pacific area, General Douglas MacArthur, to occupy Taiwan and Pon-Hu.

At the same time, America occupied Japan and Okinawa.

The occupational government of Chiang was so brutal and corrupt that the people of Taiwan rose against it in 1947.

Chiang Kai-shek declared martial law and 20,000 people were shot down in the streets. In 1949, after Chiang's total defeat by the revolutionary forces in China, his forces were carried to Taiwan in American planes and warships.

Chiang Kai-shek and his Kuomintang regime still claim to govern the whole of China, despite having been ejected by the Chinese people a quarter of a century ago. Accordingly, there is a double structure of government in Taiwan.

First, there is the 'central government' which is supposed to administer the whole of China. All decisions on the national level are decided by various ministries in the 'central government'.

Secondly, there is the Taiwan 'provincial government', which in the main executes the policies handed down by the 'central government'.

The Governor of Taiwan has always been appointed by the 'central government'.

Although, there are 13 million Taiwanese (86 per cent) and 2 million Kuomintang Chinese (14 per cent) on Taiwan, the Taiwanese representation in the 'central government' is merely 3 per cent.

The National Assembly is empowered to 'elect' a President and vice-President every six years.

Members of this Assembly were elected on the Chinese mainland in 1947 and 1948 for a three-year or six-year term. About one-fifth of them are still in office in Taiwan. The rest have either died of old age or are living in the United States.

Chiang Kai-shek himself retains the title 'President of China'. The Prime Minister and ministers are appointed by the 'President'. The Prime Minister is Chiang Kai-shek's son, Chiang Ching-kuo. The Governor of Taiwan is appointed by the Prime Minister.

Thus, there are no elections at all at 'national' and 'provincial' levels. The people of Taiwan can elect only mayors and county magistrates. Even at this level only one party — the Kuomintang, financed by the government — is allowed.

There is no freedom of speech, assembly, movement or publication. Demonstrations and strikes are illegal. Criticisms of the regime, whether verbal or in writing, are a criminal offence and are punishable by up to ten years' imprisonment.

The mass media is rigidly censored and all newspapers are owned and published by the Kuomintang or by the government.

The wartime emergency martial law has remained in force ever since 1947. This law empowers the regime and its garrison command force to search, arrest, torture, try by military court, sentence and execute people without any due process of law supposedly guaranteed by the 'constitution'.

There are tens of thousands of political prisoners in Taiwan, and between 600 and 1,000 of these are executed every year.

The regime, of course, has no popular support whatever. It is maintained solely by American money and American weapons. It was to obtain more such 'aid' that Chiang Ching-kuo visited the United States in 1970.

US President Nixon's visit to Peking last year and his warmer relations with the Chinese Stalinists have thrown Chiang Kai-shek and his band of thugs into a panic. The United States has clearly decided to sacrifice Tzu Tsai-cheng as a sop to their Taiwanese allies.

Today we begin a four-part series on one of the greatest fighters in the history of the Scottish, and indeed the British working class—John McLean, the fearless leader of Clydeside during the first decade of this century. McLean's attempt to develop a revolutionary consciousness among the working class was his outstanding contribution to the labour movement. He stands in sharp contrast to the Stalinist leaders of Clydeside today like James Reid. In this introduction we reprint extracts from McLean's speech to an Edinburgh court which sentenced him to hard labour for his anti-World War I agitation on Clydeside.

THE TRIAL OF JOHN MCLEAN

The High Court of Justiciary in Edinburgh is the temple of bourgeois 'justice' in Scotland. It is the headquarters of some of the most class-conscious judges in the world.

On May 9, 1918, with the first imperialist war still raging, this was where they brought John McLean, consul in Glasgow to the first workers' government in the world, the Bolshevik regime established in Russia by the revolution of October, 1917.

He was charged on 11 counts under the Draconian Defence of the Realm Act of making statements prejudicial to recruitment and discipline in HM Forces, of attempting to cause mutiny, sedition and disaffection amongst the civilian population, and to impede the production of munitions.

Forty workers marched through the night from Glasgow—40 miles away—to be present at the trial. McLean preferred to rely on the support of the working class symbolized by their presence, than on the manoeuvrings of bourgeois lawyers, of which he had already had considerable experience. He chose to conduct his own defence.

After a farcical trial in which McLean revealed all sorts of inconsistencies in the testimony of Crown witnesses, most of whom had taken no notes at his meetings for fear of attracting attention, the Lord Advocate mustered all the hypocrisy of British Liberalism in demanding a verdict of guilty. He voiced the fear of the capitalist class of the October Revolution.

There was no law against talking about socialism, he said, but at a certain point such talk became an attempt to implant the seeds of sedition. 'We must protect ourselves against that kind of thing, or face at once in this country the same catastrophe as overtook Russia.'

McLean made an hour-long speech in reply, from which the following is extracted:

MCLEAN'S SPEECH

For the full period of my active life I have been a teacher of economics to the working classes, and my contention has always been that capitalism is rotten to its foundations, and must give place to a new society . . . I consider capitalism the most infamous, bloody and evil

system that mankind has ever witnessed. My language is regarded as extravagant language, but the events of the past four years have proved my contention . . .

I wish no harm to any human being, but I, as one man am going to exercise my freedom of speech. No human being on the face of this earth, no government is going to take from me my right to speak, my right to protest against wrong, my right to do everything that is for the benefit of mankind. I am not here then, as the accused; I am here as the accuser—of capitalism dripping with blood from head to foot . . .

So far as Russian freedom and British slavery are concerned, I wish to draw attention to the fact that an article appeared in the 'Scotsman' the other day about Bolshevism, and I have a feeling that that article was written especially for this trial to create a feeling against Bolshevism. The statements in that article are a travesty.

Inside Russia, since Lenin and Trotsky and the Bolsheviks came to power, there have been fewer deaths than for the same period under any Tsar for 300 years. Capitalists have been killed perhaps, officers have been killed perhaps, because they have not submitted to those who have come to the top—the majority of the people—in the name of Bolshevism . . .

The Lord Advocate pointed out here that I probably was a more dangerous enemy that you had to face than in the Germans. The working class, when they rise for their own, are more dangerous to capitalists than even the German armies at your gates . . . I am glad that you have made this statement at this the most historic trial that has ever been held in Scotland, when the working class and the capitalist class meet face to face . . .

It was not the workers who instigated the war. The workers have no economic interest to serve as a consequence of the war, and because of that, it is my appeal to my class that makes me a patriot as far as my class is concerned, and when I stand true to my class, the working class, in which I was born, it is because my people were swept out of the Highlands . . . I have remained true to . . . the working class . . . I am no traitor to my country. I stand loyal to my country because I stand loyal to the class which creates the wealth throughout the whole of the world . . .

In view of the fact that the great powers are not prepared to stop the war until one side or the other is broken down, it is our business as members



Above: A detachment of armed revolutionary workers in Petrograd, November 1917. The events in Russia lurked in the background of McLean's trial. 'We must protect ourselves against that kind of thing, or face at once the same catastrophe as overtook Russia,' the Lord Advocate said about the charges on McLean.

of the working class to see that this war ceases today, not only to save the lives of the young men at the present, but also to stave off the next great war. That has been my attitude and justifies my conduct in recent times. I am out for an absolute reconstruction of society on a Co-operative basis, throughout all the world; when we stop the need for armies and navies we stop the need for wars . . .

I am a socialist . . . I am proud of my conduct. I have squared my conduct with my intellect . . . I act square and clean for my principles. I have nothing to retract . . . Your class position is against my class position. There are two classes of morality. There is the working-class morality and there is the capitalist-class morality . . . My appeal is to the working class. I appeal exclusively to them because they and they only can bring about the time when the whole world will be in one brotherhood, on a sound economic foundation. That, and that alone, can be the means of bringing about a reorganization of society. That can only be obtained when the people of the world get the world and retain the world . . .

When Lord Strathclyde, the Lord Justice General, announced the sentence of five years' penal servitude, McLean turned to the workers in the gallery and said, 'Keep it going, boys; keep it going!'

McLean's confidence was well placed. The campaign for his release stretched throughout the working class of Britain and indeed the world. It was the revolutionary

strength of the working class that forced the British government to release McLean after serving only seven months of his sentence, in time to stand as Labour candidate in the General Election of December 1918.

Speaking at a conference of Moscow trade union and factory committees, in June 1918, Lenin hailed McLean's stand:

HAILED BY LENIN

The British government prosecuted McLean . . . not only as a Scottish school-teacher, but also as a Consul of the Federative Soviet Republic. McLean is in prison because he came out openly as a representative of our government, yet we have never seen this man, he has never belonged to our Party. He is the beloved leader of the Scottish workers, but we joined with him, the Russian and Scottish workers united against the British government.

And when McLean was released, Lenin said:

This shows that the British labour movement with its revolutionary demands is becoming stronger and stronger. The British government has been compelled to free McLean, its bitterest enemy, a man who calls himself a British Bolshevik.

It is now 50 years since the death of John McLean, on November 30, 1923. He was

then only 44, but his death had been destroyed by his brutal experiences in HM prisons in 1916-1917, 1918, and several times in the early 1920s.

The world working-class revolution [wrote Lenin] began with the action of individuals, whose boundless courage represented everything honest that remained of that decayed official 'socialism' which is in reality social-chauvinism. Liebknecht in Germany, Adler in Austria, McLean in Britain—these are the best-known names of the isolated heroes who have taken upon themselves the arduous role of forerunners of the world revolution.

Today the descendants of the decayed official socialism of the social democrats who sided with their 'own' bourgeois governments on the outbreak of war in August 1914, stand more nakedly exposed as traitors than ever, before a working class which has suffered no major defeat since World War II.

It is the task of all those who reject decay and respond to the living spirit of McLean, to unite that spirit with the science of Marxism as developed by Lenin and Trotsky in the Russian Revolution and the struggle against Stalinism, and to take advantage of the enormous crisis of capitalism to construct the revolutionary party to lead the working class to power. There is no other way to celebrate the heritage of John McLean.

Saturday—McLean's early life—the making of a socialist.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

'PENTAGON PAPERS' TRIAL



Daniel Ellsberg—case continues.

Without much fanfare the case against the authors of the 'Pentagon Papers' is going on. There has been some remarkable testimony. Co-defendant with Daniel Ellsberg is Anthony J. Russo, junior.

Last week he explained under oath to a Los Angeles court why he photo-copied the secret Pentagon documents on the Vietnam war.

Russo, a researcher for the Rand Corporation, was on a project to analyse the 'motivation and morale' of the communist soldiers.

He recalled a conversation with an elderly liberation army prisoner at the 'National Interrogation Centre' in Saigon in 1965: 'He was the strongest man I've ever met in my life,' Russo told the court, 'an education cadre who had joined the movement in 1948.'

He recalled the man was 'very committed and sincere... We talked for two days in his jail cell. He explained a great deal to me about the Americans in Vietnam, about what the people in the villages thought.'

'He said he would never give up, no matter how much he was tortured—and he had already been badly tortured.'

'He told me how the French had once wiped out his whole village.'

On the second day of the interview the two men had developed a 'good rapport'. The prisoner 'recited poetry and sang a song to me. He said the poem was one that he always recited when he was downhearted.'

Suddenly, Russo's voice broke. The courtroom fell into silence. Russo buried his face in his hands and sobbed.

Russo and Ellsberg are charged with conspiracy, espionage and theft of government property. They face life jail sentences.

DYNAMIC

It had to happen. Now people are making money out of the state pay laws by advising big business how to handle them.

The 'Sunday Times' has just published an expensive advertisement from Bentley Associates of Old Bond Street in Mayfair.

The advertisement says: 'Phase Three and the future—Dynamic wage and industrial relations policies.'

SAY CHEESE

Viscount and Lady Mountgarret, of Stainley House, South Stainley, near Ripon, have denied that they are mean. But their ex-butler and cook—sacked after refusing to serve breakfast because of dissatisfaction with their own food—claim that they got fish fingers while the nobility got pheasant and grouse.

Lady Mountgarret said: 'I am not a mean person. The food is kept in a deep freeze and has to be carefully labelled so I can tell what it is.'

But the sacked butler, Mr George Kelly (48), said: 'The last straw came when Lord Mountgarret, when served with stilton, asked where the crust was.'

'I rescued it from the dustbin and served it on a silver salver.'

POLITICAL PROFILES

By LEON TROTSKY
Paperback. £1.00 Illustrated

Sharp pen-portraits of leading figures of the Second International in Russia and Europe, for the first time published in an English edition. The translations were first commissioned by the Young Socialists' paper 'Keep Left'. Their enormous success has led to the completion of the translation of the whole book, which is the first part of Volume 8 of Leon Trotsky's 'Works' published in the Soviet Union in 1926. It provides the most vivid picture available of the historic figures of the Second International, their strengths and weaknesses, written by an observer who was also a participant in the daily struggle of the European and Russian working class.

Now available from New Park Publications
186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG

TODAY'S TV

BBC 1

10.00 Magic roundabout. 10.05 Banana splits. 10.35 Starsport. 10.50 Captain Pugwash. 11.00 Film '73. 11.30 Film: 'The Sundowners'. Robert Sterling, John Barrymore Jr. 12.35 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Mr Benn. 1.45 Fanny Craddock invites. . . 2.05 Show jumping. 4.00 Huckleberry hound. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Blue Peter. 5.15 Brady kids. 5.40 Sir Prancelot. 5.45 News. Weather.
6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.45 TOP OF THE POPS.
7.15 Z CARS. The Lady and the Gentleman.
8.00 CHAPLIN SUPERCLOWN: 'EASY STREET'. Charlie Chaplin in a moral tale.
8.30 BURKE SPECIAL. James Burke.
9.00 NEWS. Weather.
9.25 MENACE: 'Valentine'. With Norman Rodway, Mary Peach.
10.40 MIDWEEK. 11.25 NEWS.
11.30 BEFORE THE ARK. Birth of a Science. Faith, fantasy or palaeontology?
11.55 BEYOND PERSONALITY. Let's Pretend.
12.00 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.
6.40 WORKING WITH YOUTH. Making Contact.
7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.
7.35 THEIR WORLD. Between the Tides.
8.00 EUROPA. Enthusiasts? Dreamers? Nuts? Hobbies.
8.30 CHERI. By Colette. With Yvonne Mitchell, Scott Antony, Brenda Bruce.
9.15 BELOW STAIRS. Times remembered by Mary Bayman, housemaid to Queen Victoria.
9.25 HORIZON. Out of Volcanoes.
10.10 MARTIN MULL. In concert.
10.40 CROUST. By Dave Humphries. With Bryan Pringle, Michael Brennan, Charles Lamb, Jimmy Gardner.
11.05 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.
11.35 REAL TIME.

ITV

9.30 Season of Gilbert and Sullivan. 10.20 Cartoon. 10.30 At your service. 11.00 Wild life theatre. 11.25 Galloping gourmet. 11.50 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Magic fountain. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Indoor league. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Film: 'A Ticket to Tomahawk'. Dan Dailey, Anne Baxter, Rory Calhoun, Walter Brennan. 4.25 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 5.20 Barkleys. 5.50 News. 6.00 TODAY. 6.30 CROSSROADS. 6.55 FILM: 'War of the Worlds'. Gene Barry, Ann Robinson. A Martian machine crashes in California.
8.30 THIS WEEK.
9.00 SYKES WITH THE LID OFF. Eric Sykes.
10.00 NEWS AT TEN.
10.30 A EUROPEAN JOURNEY. From the Baltic to the Adriatic.
11.00 CHILDREN TO CHILDREN. A Place in the World.
11.30 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.
11.45 SCOTLAND YARD MYSTERIES. The Missing Man.
12.15 PRAYER.

FRIDAY'S TV

BBC 1

9.45 Chigley. 10.00 Magic roundabout. 10.05 Banana splits. 10.35 Starsport. 10.50 Captain Pugwash. 11.00 Grandstand. 11.05 International show jumping. 12.40 Football preview. 12.55 News. 1.00 Laurel and Hardy. 2.00 The last hour. 3.00 Grandstand. 3.05-4.30 International show jumping. BBC TV Grandstand trophy. 3.45 Rugby league. Widnes v Warrington. 4.45 Final score. 5.00 Crackerjack 73. 5.35 News. Weather. 5.40 Today's sport. 5.45 Champions all. International Gymnastics.
6.30 FILM: 'Song of Bernadette'. Jennifer Jones. The eldest daughter of a French peasant has visions of the Virgin Mary.
7.00 THE REGIMENT. Women.
9.00 NEWS. Weather.
9.50 NEWS. Weather.
10.00 GALA PERFORMANCE. Michael Flanders introduces Rita Hunter, Merle Park, David Wall, Julian Bream, Kyung-Wha Chung, Derek Rencher, Orpheus Singers, Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, New Philharmonia Orchestra.
11.05 ACCORDING TO THE RULES. A Doctor in Auschwitz. Account of the Auschwitz libel suit of 1964—one of the longest libel actions in English legal history.
12.35 BEYOND PERSONALITY. Nice People or New Men.
12.40 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 2.50 Tymancha's friend. 3.45 Play school. 4.10 Film: 'The First of the Few'. Leslie Howard, David Niven, Rosamund John. Story of aircraft designer R. J. Mitchell who gave Britain the Spitfire.
6.05 MISTRESS OF HARDWICK. Honest Sweet Chatsworth.
6.30 MONEY GAME. 7.20 NEWS. Weather.
7.25 GARDENERS' WORLD.
7.55 KOREA ENTERTAINS. The Mansudai Dance Company.
8.35 THE LIFE AND DEATH OF SIMONE WEIL. Pilgrim of the Absolute. Told by Malcolm Muggeridge.
9.50 FILM: 'The Sandpiper'. Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, Eva Marie Saint, Charles Bronson, Robert Webber. The respected principal of a high school has a passionate affair with a beautiful woman.
11.55 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.



Scott Anthony as Cheri, Lorna Heilbron as Edmee in Episode 1 of the dramatized novel 'Cheri' BBC2, 8.30 p.m.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Film: 'A Breath of Scandal'. 4.10 Cartoon. 4.20 Lottery. 4.25 Rainbow country. 4.55 Tomfoolery. 5.20 News. 6.10 Lucy show. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'City of Bad Men'. 8.30 London. 10.30 Towards the year 2000. 11.02 Scales of justice. 11.35 European journey. 12.00 News. Weather.
WESTWARD. As Channel except: 10.15 East 1, West 1. 10.40 Danger man. 11.35 Dr Simon Locke. 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 10.30 Report. 10.59 News. 12.00 Song.
SOUTHERN: 10.00 Paulus. 10.15 Yoga. 10.40 Film: 'Partners'. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 Film: 'Hello London'. 4.25 Weekend. 5.20 London. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.35 Doctor in charge. 7.05 Film: 'Along Came a Spider'. 8.30 London. 9.00 Hawaii five-o. 10.00 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Guideline. 11.15 Name of the game. 12.35 Weather.
HARLECH: Film: 'In the Doghouse'. 11.35 Not so much a theatre—more a way of life. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 Film: 'The Astronaut'. 4.25 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.05 Film: 'Timetable'. 8.30 London. 9.00 Hawaii five-o. 10.00 London. 10.30 Festival 73. 11.00 Spyforce. 12.00 Weather.
HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.25 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50 Cantamil. 4.50-5.20 Rovers. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 10.30 See it while you can. 11.00 Spyforce. 12.00 Weather.
HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Sport West.
ANGLIA: 9.45 And think of that while you're swinging. 10.10 Paulus. 10.20 Animated classics. 11.05 Galloping gourmet. 11.35 Joe 90. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Let's face it. 3.00 Marcus Welby MD. 3.55 Bygones. 4.20 News. 4.25 Romper room. 4.50 Merrie melodies. 5.20 Lucy. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Conquest of Space'. 8.30 London.

10.30 Bygones. 11.05 European journey. 11.35 Baron. 12.30 Reading. ATV MIDLANDS: 11.10 Acres for profit. 11.30 Survival. 12.00 Guide. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 Film: 'Sword of Sherwood Forest'. 4.25 London. 5.20 Elephant boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.05 Columbo. 8.30 London. 9.00 Bob Monkhouse. 10.00 London. 11.00 Gardening. 11.30 Spyforce. Weather.
ULSTER: 11.35 Not so much a theatre—more a way of life. 12.05 London. 1.29 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Romper room. 2.40 Film: 'Portrait of Clare'. 4.23 News. 4.25 Primus. 4.50 Joe 90. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Cottage to Let'. 8.30 London. 11.00 What's it all about. 11.20 Avengers. 12.15 Maundy Thursday.
YORKSHIRE: 10.00 Play better tennis. 10.25 Special brain of Karl Kroyer. 11.05 Cartoon. 11.15 We need each other. 12.05 London. 3.00 Film: 'The Astonished Heart'. 4.25 Houndcats. 4.50 Skippy. 5.20 Doris Day. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The River's Edge'. 8.30 London. 11.00 Sport. 11.35 Streets of San Francisco. 12.30 Weather.
GRANADA: 9.30 Enchanted house. 9.40 Audubon wildlife theatre. 10.05 Film: 'Underwater'. 11.40 Pete Smith. 11.50 Hammy Hamster. 12.05 London. 3.00 Name of the game. 4.25 Thunderbirds. 5.15 Nature's window. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Put it in writing. 6.15 Kick off. 6.30 Partridge family. 7.00 Film: 'Devil's Doorway'. 8.30 London. 11.00 What the papers say. 11.20 FBI. SCOTTISH: 10.00 Seven seas. 10.50 Primus. 11.15 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 11.35 Not so much a theatre—more a way of life. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 Film: 'Astonished Heart'. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Partners. 7.00 Film: 'Rivers Edge'. 8.30 London. 11.00 Gardening. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 STUC. 12.00 Frankie Howerd in Ulster. GRAMPIAN: 11.15 Strange report. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 3.00 Film: 'Half Angel'. 4.25 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Conference report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 8.30 London. 11.00 Police news. 11.05 Name of the game. 12.30 Meditation.



Rita Hunter sings arias from 'Aida', BBC1, 10 p.m.

ITV

9.30 A season of Gilbert and Sullivan. 10.15 The prince and the pauper. 11.05 The Alistair MacLean story. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Happy house. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Were you there. . . 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Film: 'The Nutty Professor'. Jerry Lewis, Stella Stevens. Comedy. 4.20 Magpie. 4.50 The big top. 5.50 News. 6.00 KONTAKION. A Song of Praise.
6.30 CROSSROADS.
7.00 THE SKY'S THE LIMIT.
7.30 THE FBI.
8.30 WHO DO YOU DO?
9.00 JUSTICE. Nobody's That Good.
10.00 NEWS AT TEN.
10.30 MAHLER — SONG OF THE EARTH. Leonard Bernstein and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra play Gustav Mahler's symphony.
12.00 PRAYER.
12.05 SCALES OF JUSTICE. Infamous Conduct.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 1.00 London. 2.30 Yoga. 2.55 Film: 'The Black Knight'. 4.20 London. 6.00 Exeter. 6.35 London. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Kontakion. 11.00 Film: 'The Fantastic Disappearing Man'. 11.25 Weather.
WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.40 Danger man. 10.35 Dr Simon Locke. 11.05 London. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 6.00 News. 12.25 Song of glory.
SOUTHERN: 10.00 Paulus. 10.10 Yoga. 10.35 Dr Simon Locke. 11.05 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Galloping gourmet. 3.00 Film: 'Let George Do It'. 4.20 London. 6.00 Kontakion. 6.30 Upper crusts. 7.00 Kontakion. 7.05 Sky's the limit. 7.35

Banacek. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Dear Wife'. 12.10 Weather. Guideline. HARLECH: 10.15 Woobinda. 10.40 Seaspray. 11.05 London. 12.00 Chuckleheads. 12.05 London. 2.30 Junkin. 3.00 Film 'Bonnie Scotland'. 4.20 London. 6.00 Kontakion. 6.30 Doctor in charge. 7.00 Bugs Bunny. 7.15 Film: 'Last of the Renegades'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Comedians. 11.00 Profile. 11.30 Our kid. 12.00 Dr Simon Locke. 12.30 Weather.
HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 10.15 Stryon cantamil. 10.30 Sports arena. 11.00-11.30 World of icons. ANGLIA: 9.30 A Green hill far away. 9.45 Animated classics. 11.00 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Junkin. 3.00 Documentary. 3.30 Dick Van Dyke. 3.55 Romper room. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 Hawaii five-o. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Probe special. 11.00 Film: 'I Married a Monster From Outer Space'. 12.30 Reading.
ATV MIDLANDS: 10.40 Acres for profit. 11.05 London. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 London. 2.30 Junkin. 3.00 Film: 'Great Guns'. 4.20 London. 6.00 Kontakion. 6.30 Cartoon. 6.35 London. 7.30 Comedians. 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 10.30 Police surgeon. 11.00 Film: 'The Shattered Room'. Weather.
ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.29 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 Kontakion. 3.30 Romper room. 3.50 Rainbow country. 4.18 News. 4.20 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 7.30 Pathfinders. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Henry Andy. 11.00 Good Friday. 12.00 Look up.
YORKSHIRE: 9.40 Religion. 10.10 Gilbert and Sullivan. 11.00 London. 3.00 Me and the chimp. 3.30 Danger man. 4.25 London. 6.00 Kontakion. 6.30 Cartoon. 6.35 London. 7.30 Who do you do? 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Young Savages'. 12.25 Weather.
GRANADA: 9.30 Enchanted house. 9.40 Gilbert and Sullivan. 10.35 Cartoon. 10.40 Galloping gourmet. 11.05 London. 11.55 Bugs Bunny. 12.05 London. 2.30 Junkin. 3.00 Dick Van Dyke. 3.25 Danger man. 4.20 London. 6.00 Kontakion. 6.30 Sky's the limit. 7.00 Film: 'Three Young Texans'. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Decision Before Dawn'. 12.45 Spyforce.
SCOTTISH: 9.50 No easy answer. 10.35 Batman. 11.05 London. 12.00 Gustavus. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 Junkin. 3.30 It takes a thief. 4.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Who do you do? 7.00 London. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Friday night. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 STUC. 11.20 Film: 'Vicki'.
GRAMPIAN: 11.05 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Junkin. 3.00 Kontakion. 3.25 Let's face it. 3.55 Merrie melodies. 4.20 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Grampian week. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The Man With a Cloak'. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Conference report. 10.50 Job look. 10.55 Frankie Howerd. 11.20 Theatre of staffs. 12.15 Meditation.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

CENTRAL LONDON (Press and Entertainments Branch): Thursday April 19, 7.30 p.m. 'The Roebuck', corner of Tottenham Court Road and Maple Street (near Warren Street tube). 'Fight for Democratic Rights. The need for an alternative leadership'. Speaker: Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee).

FULHAM: Thursday April 19, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Fulham Broadway, S.W.6. 'No collaboration with the Pay Board'.

LEEDS: Thursday, April 19, 8 p.m. Cobourg Tavern, Woodhouse Lane. Speakers from hospital workers and clothing industry.

MIDDLETON, Thursday April 19, 8 p.m. 'Assheton Arms', near the Middleton Gardens.

TODMORDEN: Thursday, April 19, 8 p.m. The Weavers' Institute, Burnley Road. 'The Questions of May Day, 1973'.

FELTHAM: Thursday April 19, 8 p.m. 'Three Horse Shoes', High Street. 'TUC must call a General Strike to make the Tories resign'.

SLOUGH: Wednesday April 25, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Farnham Road. 'TUC must call a General Strike to make the Tories resign'.

HACKNEY: Wednesday April 25, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, Mare Street. 'Economic Crisis and the Rising Cost of Living'.

CROYDON: Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road. 'Marxism and the trade unions'.

WILLESDEN: Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. Brent Labour and Trades Hall, Willesden High Road, N.W.10. 'Build Councils of Action'.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday April 26, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD: Monday April 30, 8 p.m. Room 2, Adeyfield Hall, Queens Square. 'Defend Basic Democratic Rights'.

EAST LONDON: Monday April 30, 8 p.m. Bromley Public Hall, Bow Road, E.3. All out May 1! Force the TUC to call a General Strike!

WANDSWORTH: Monday April 30, 8 p.m. 'Kings Arms', High Street, S.W.18. 'Trotskyism and Stalinism'.

SOUTHALL: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. Southall Library, Osterley Park Road. 'Report back from May Day'.

WALTHAMSTOW: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. 'The Bell', Hoe Street. 'Report back from May Day'.

WEMBLEY: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. Copland School, High Road. 'Report Back from May Day'.

WOOLWICH: Wednesday May 2, 8 p.m. 'The Castle', Powis Street, S.E.18. 'Report back from May Day'.

BRIXTON: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Control Room, Brixton Training Centre. 'Report back from May Day'.

LEWISHAM: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, opp. New Cross Station. 'The role of the TUC in the fight against the Tories'.

BATTERSEA: Tuesday May 8, 8 p.m. 'Nags Head', cnr. Wandsworth Road and North Street. 'Report back from May Day'.

MDW confrontation is inevitable at Massey's

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

A CONFRONTATION at Massey Ferguson, Coventry, on Measured-Day Work is now inevitable. During earlier conferences, a union claim for a substantial increase in earnings had been replied to with MDW proposals.

These had been rejected by the shop stewards' committee and union officials had been instructed to negotiate the wage claim. As a result, the company had intimated it would make an offer, based on the Phase Two pay laws, of £2.86 across the board.

But this would have meant that 31 outstanding claims from sections of workers within the factory would have been ignored.

Then, at the last conference, the company stated that no such offer was ever made, and that outside of MDW there was no offer on the table whatsoever.

The union side of the negotiating committee had no option but to register a failure to agree. AUEW officials have to carry out national committee policy, which

states there can be no negotiations on MDW and productivity deals.

The Massey Ferguson proposals involve redundancies in the assembly shop of 182 men. This department has been laid off for three weeks by the Rubery Owen strike. Some workers now suspect that the management will say 'you come back on new terms'.

NEWS DESK

01-720 2000

CIRCULATION

01-622 7029



Subscribe now!

Do you get **WORKERS PRESS** regularly? If not, why not take out a subscription now?

£20.28 for 12 months (312 issues)

£10.14 for 6 months (156 issues)

£5.07 for 3 months (78 issues)

If you want to take Workers Press twice a week the rates are:

£1.56 for 3 months (24 issues)

£6.24 for 12 months (96 issues)

Fill in the form below **NOW** and send to:

Circulation Dept., Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St., London SW4 7UG.

I would like to take out a subscription to Workers Press.

Days required (Please tick)	MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY
-----------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------

Or Full subscription (six days) formonths.

Name

Address

Amount enclosed £

I would like information about

THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Fill in the form below and send to NATIONAL SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE, 186a CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON SW4 7UG.

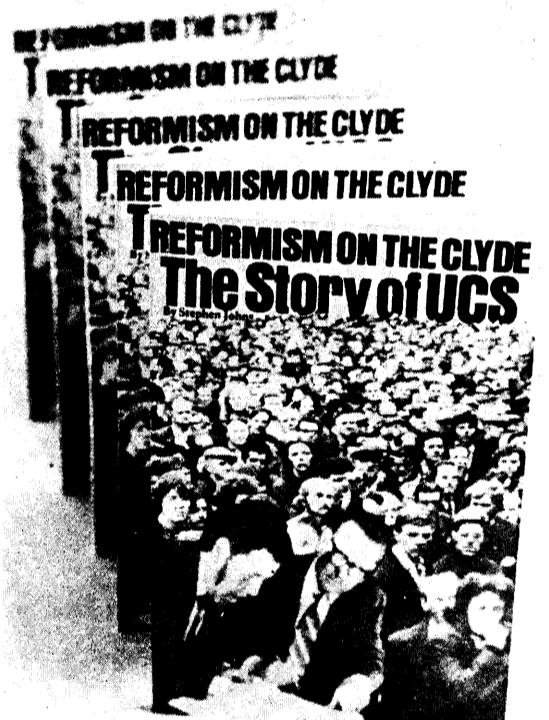
Name

Address

Two new books NOW AVAILABLE

No journalist could have followed the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders' saga closer than Workers Press reporter Stephen Johns. There have been several books written on the work-in and carve-up of the yards, but their authors only look at events in retrospect. Our reporter followed them day by day, from the very murmurings of a government 'butchering' job, through the work-in, to the eventual selling of thousands of jobs by the so-called leadership in the yards. 'Reformism on the Clyde' is the first exposure of Communist Party tactics at the UCS. It shows how a powerful challenge to the Tory government degenerated into a reformist protest. It examines the record of the men who led the struggle — James Reid, James Airlie and Sammy Barr — many of them CP members. No book could ever be closer to the events or to the working class who watched and took part in 'The Story of UCS'. Don't miss this essential reading.

Price 30p, 128 pages, illustrated.



This first volume of Trotsky's writings and speeches for the Communist International covers the period of its first three Congresses when the post-war revolutionary upsurge reached its peak and then began to recede. It establishes, without fear of contradiction, the important role which he played in the foundation of this, the Third workers' International, and in the formation and early development of the French, German and Italian Communist Parties. At this time, the theory of 'socialism in one country' had not been invented and Joseph Stalin was still a second-line Bolshevik leader who played no part in the international movement which he was later to pervert and eventually destroy. Price £1.50. 421 pages. Illustrated.

THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL



THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL

By Leon Trotsky, Volume One

Available from New Park Publications, 186a, Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG or the Paperbacks Centre, 28 Charlotte Street, London W.1. (Enclose 10p for postage)

Pickets at Watney Mann plants Brewery fuel drying up

PICKETS were still operating at three major production plants of the Watney Mann brewery chain in the London area yesterday.

Workers were confident that all production at the Isleworth bottling plant would shortly come to an end because they have stopped supplies of CO2 (Carbon Dioxide) thanks to the co-operation of lorry drivers. Other essential supplies, such as fuel for fork lift trucks, is also not getting through.

Over 100 engineers and transport workers are on strike and picketing 24 hours a day at Isleworth, but the 700 production workers are not being called out at the moment. There is now little for them to do anyway and there is full co-operation between the different unions. As soon as any piece of machinery or transport equipment receives some maintenance from a foreman in the absences of the engineers on strike, the machinery is blacked.

Nearly all of the workers at Whitechapel are on strike and at the famous Mortlake brewery the first production workers have come out on strike in sympathy with the engineering section, who are picketing.

BROKEN DEAL

Pickets are being maintained round the clock at all three plants manned by members of the engineering union, electricians, vehicle builders, sheet metal workers, and T&GWU members.

The dispute is over the refusal by Watney's to implement a £2.40 pay agreement in return for productivity concessions, new shift agreements, and other changes in working arrangements.

The men say that the concessions they have made will be withdrawn if the £2.40 deal is blocked under Phase Two.

They claim Watney's have broken a signed agreement to pay the money for the concessions which have already been handed over.

Watney's say that Phase Two forbids them to pay

the money. Alternatively, the men can have the money, but will forfeit their annual pay agreement due in July.

Denis Roberts, electricians' shop steward, said:

'There has been a steady deterioration in industrial relations since Maxwell Joseph took over Watney's.

'He bought out the company with paper money, but now he needs to turn his capital into a profit and repay loans.

'The only way he can get the return he needs is to squeeze extra profit out of the workers here.'

None of the stewards thought it would be possible to continue the strike against the government and force the payment of the £2.40 as well as their annual pay agreement in July.

They are striking to force the men to hand back the productivity concessions which they had handed over.

What happens if the Pay Board makes an order forbidding the strike has yet to be discussed.

The stewards at the moment think that the state pay laws cannot forbid them to go on strike to force a return to previous working conditions.

Police false evidence case 'must be heard'

THE TRIAL of five policemen, including the former operations chief of Scotland Yard's drugs squad, accused of conspiring to pervert the course of justice by giving false evidence, must begin by September at the latest.

Ruling this yesterday, the recorder, Sir Carl Aarvold, said:

'This is a case which the public interest requires should be brought on for trial at the earliest possible moment.

'And, from all I have heard today, it would seem

that the earliest possible moment is "never".

Sir Carl listed the case for June 5. He might not actually hold to that date, but the trial could not wait beyond September.

The accused police officers are: Det Chief Insp Victor Kelaher, Det Sgt George Pritchard, Det Constable Nigel Patrick Lilley, and Woman Det Constable Morag McDonald McGibbon.

A former drugs squad detective, Norman Clemence Pilcher, is also accused.

All are on bail and all except Kelaher face perjury charges.



Kelaher . . . headed drugs squad.

Nixon gives Press statement on Watergate affair

A NERVOUS President Nixon has been forced to break his official silence on the Watergate affair which has become a first-class political scandal in the United States.

In a statement to Press men he said that there had been a major development in the bugging case and that if any member of the administration is indicted by the Grand Jury probing the affair he will be suspended immediately.

The affair goes back to the arrest, during the election campaign, of five men with burglars' tools and bugging equipment in the Watergate building where the Democratic Party had its offices.

Two other men were later arrested. At their trial earlier this year no evidence was given about who was behind the bugging attempt but two of the accused were former White House aides.

One of them, a former CIA man, James McCord, after being convicted, said he was ready to tell all to the Senate investigating Committee and Grand Jury probing the case. He claimed that others were involved, that perjury was committed and that political pressure had been put on the defendants to plead guilty.

Among those suspected of having a hand in the affair are John Mitchell, former Attorney-General, and President Nixon's legal counsel, John Dean. The 'Washington Post' reported that money for the bugging had come from a 'secret fund' of the Republican Party.

The finger of suspicion has moved rapidly towards the White House since the trial of the seven men; and Nixon, reversing his previous position, is looking for sacrificial lambs.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MEETINGS
Make Scanlon retract!
No collaboration with the Industrial Relations Act!
No acceptance of Phase Two!
Force the Tories to resign!
Build the revolutionary party!

South London
TUESDAY APRIL 24,
8 p.m.
Clapham Manor Baths,
Clapham Manor Street,
SW4

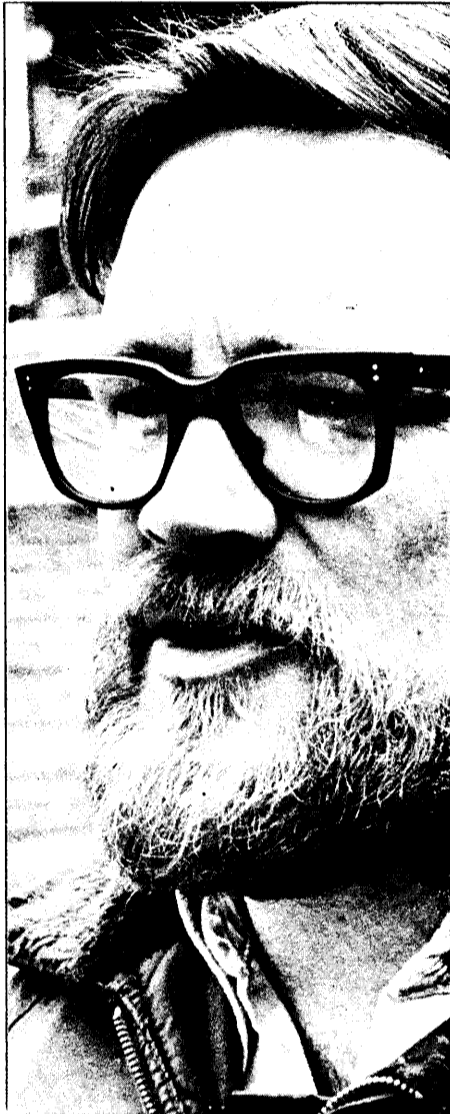
North London
WEDNESDAY APRIL 25
8 p.m.
Woodlands Hall,
Crown Street,
Acton, W.3.

East London
SUNDAY APRIL 29
7.30 p.m.
Abbey Hall, Axe Street

Luton
FRIDAY APRIL 27
8 p.m.
Recreation Centre,
Old Bedford Road

Liverpool
Transform the SLL into the revolutionary party
MONDAY APRIL 23,
7.30 p.m.
'The Mona', James St
(Entrance at back in Moor St)

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Newsdesk: 01-720 2000. Circulation: 01-622 7029.



Denis Roberts, EEPTU shop steward, Isleworth. 'Maxwell Joseph wants to get his money back by making more profits out of us.'

No Common Market accord over food prices

THE BITTER dispute over food prices is threatening to tear the European Common Market apart.

A meeting of agricultural ministers in Luxemburg broke up without reaching agreement yesterday morning after an all-night marathon session and will not meet again for two weeks.

Over 25 hours of arguing sharpened differences to breaking point. Germany's Minister of Agriculture, Joseph Ertl,

came out fuming: 'Those people who invented the mad Common Market farm policy have immobilized the Council of Ministers.'

Germany has been strongly critical of the policy for several years and the revaluation of the mark as a result of the monetary crises of the past year has hardened opposition.

Herr Ertl rejected a compromise proposal that the price increases, averaging 2.76 per cent, should not apply to countries

whose currencies had been revalued. He said that Germany was opposed to the whole principle of linking reunification of the market with the price proposals.

The British Minister of Agriculture, Joseph Godber, opposed the increase of 10.76 per cent proposed for beef and the immediate rise of 5 per cent for milk put forward by the Agricultural Commission as a compromise.

He clashed with his French opposite number, Jacques Chirac, who is under pressure to secure big, immediate increases for French producers.

Consumers in Britain and other countries are in fact being called on to pay much more for food in order to keep inefficient farmers and peasants in business. At the same time, the producers are up in arms because the proposed increases are not sufficient to maintain their living standards.

The only workable compromise between the continental countries will be one which requires big increases in farm prices. Godber will be forced to accept what is decided in order to keep Britain in the Market.



German Food Minister Ertl

Near settlement—Vauxhall

VAUXHALL management claimed yesterday that they were approaching a settlement with the unions over a government dictated wage offer.

Talks between the two sides were broken off after three hours yesterday before final agreement had been reached.

But a company spokesman said that it was believed they were now approaching a settlement. The company has offered £2.40 a week with fringe benefits for

their workers at Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port and have also proposed two extra days' holiday giving an 11-day break through Christmas and New Year.

Over 6,000 workers at the Ellesmere Port plant have already voted to accept the offer. Vauxhall said that with the company's £4m an offer in a free bargaining situation would have had to be matched by increased productivity.

Criticisms leak from secret congress Steel union is slammed on jobs

THE FIRST Iron and Steel congress since World War II met yesterday at TUC headquarters to plan the fight against the 50,000 redundancies the Tories want to create in the industry.

BY
IAN
YEATS

More than 100 delegates from all over Britain met behind locked doors. Proceedings were veiled with strict secrecy. Only delegates were admitted and no announcements were made to the Press.

A mass lobby of the special conference by steelmen was expected, but only 27 arrived from East Moors Works, Cardiff and four from Newport Tube plant.

The steelmen later lobbied Labour MPs, but many accounted for the small turnout by saying that the time for banner-waving was over.

During a conference break at lunchtime delegates told lobbyists that the union executive had been criticized persistently throughout the morning.

There was only one resolution before delegates calling on the union to send special teams of investigators into threatened works to assess whether closure was justified.

The Tories are to be told that alternative jobs must be provided before any shutdowns take place.

There was no indication at lunchtime yesterday whether the executive would support a call for industry-wide action to halt closures.

THE footplaters' union, ASLEF, decided yesterday to call its members out on a 24-hour strike on May Day in protest against the government's pay policies.

Soon afterwards, it and the other two rail unions agreed at a joint meeting to accept 'with reluctance' British Rail's new wage offer.

THOUSANDS of South Wales workers—among them miners—taking part in the one-day protest demonstrations on May 1 over the government's pay and prices policy, will march through Cardiff to a meeting.



Combined shop stewards picketing at Watney's Isleworth plant. Supplies of carbon dioxide, essential for beer bottling, are not getting through. See full story p.11. Dockers at London's Royal Group are to refuse to handle bulk shipments of Swedish lager which they say is distributed by Watney's. In another dispute, involving drivers at Truman's in Stepney, beer deliveries are being delayed. The dispute is over bonus payments.

Jones and Wilson ignore crisis

IN THE MIDDLE of the new storm of severe economic crisis, all the reformist leaders of the labour movement could do was repeat more of their pathetic quack cures for a situation which they plainly do not understand.

Scottish trade unionists at the STUC annual congress got a double dose of this shoddy medicine.

Harold Wilson, opposition leader, totally refused to launch a bid for power to get out the discredited Tory government. His only challenge to Heath was another bout of rude word-swapping.

Wilson said he had repeatedly challenged Heath and did so again. 'Does he now admit the fundamental unfairness of the standstill period when prices rose far more than incomes?'

In the middle of the collapse of Britain's balance of payments situation, Wilson is asking Heath if he does not now think, looking back, that something Heath

did six months ago was a little unfair!

Then Wilson went in for the kill. 'Will the Prime Minister tell us whether he intends that in Phase Two from now till next November, incomes are to rise faster than prices and other living costs? Or will prices continue to outstrip the pay packet?'

As if the answer was not already crystal clear.

Another figure in the reformist establishment, Jack Jones, also addressed the STUC delegates. Again, no call for an end to the capitalist system rotting all around him.

Instead, Jones called for a campaign to bring in a law to prevent indiscriminate factory closures and lay-offs.

MAJOR TRADE DEFICIT SHOCK

FROM PAGE 1

stringent, attempts to hold down wages by law.

The Tories' only other alternative would be to let the pound float downwards—bringing in its train unprecedented rises in import prices and an intolerable increase in the cost of food.

At the same time the employers' present difficulties in finding sufficient supplies of raw materials at the right price would be greatly intensified.

On top of this, a round of competitive devaluations would be sparked off which would greatly step up the trade war.

The Department of Trade and Industry blames the increasing value of imports this year on rising world prices for goods like wheat, wool and copper, and on the falling value of the pound against many currencies.

In a bid to put a brave face on the figures, it declared that the volume of imports reflects 'increasing activity in the economy' and claimed 'strong growth' in exports this year.

But the continuing inflationary crisis which this 'increasing activity' and 'growth' reflect poses huge

problems for the Tories and is causing grave concern in big business circles.

The powerful Engineering Employers' Federation, in its annual review published yesterday, insisted that 1973 must be considered 'make-or-break' year for the industry in the fight against inflation.

The EEF's first responsibility, the review stated, was to hold down rises in wages and salaries.

If it failed to do this, 'the present decline of the industry will not be arrested'.

Yesterday's trade deficit must be a sharp warning to the working-class movement.

There must be no 'deals' with the Tory government, as the 'left' trade union leaders and their hangers-on in the Communist Party suggest.

The capitalist crisis is spiralling rapidly into a situation where the attempt must be made to institute a police military dictatorship and deprive the working class of all its democratic rights.

The building of the revolutionary party to meet this challenge is the task of the hour. Yesterday's trade deficit proves we have not much time.

'Back-door methods' accusation at AUEW national committee

COMMON Market supporters were accused of using back-door methods in trying to

overturn union policy, at the annual meeting of the AUEW engineering section's national

committee at Torquay yesterday.

The accusation came from Bob Wright, executive member, when delegates were asked to support a call for the trade union movement to play its full part in all trade union bodies and committees connected with Britain's entry into the EEC.

Mr Wright said it would conflict with Labour Party and TUC policies.

'This would make the union stand on its head and place it in the same camp as those rebels who voted at Lincoln and those who have left the Party in order to co-operate in the Common Market,' he said.

The committee defeated the proposal by 35 votes to 17, leaving delegates, representing the union's engineering section, unmandated when the union's attitude towards the Market is debated by all four sections of the union at its combined conference at Eastbourne in June.

Yesterday's vote foreshadows a major row there.

20p.c. white-collar claim goes in

UNIONS representing over 300,000 local government white-collar workers submitted a claim for a 15-20 per cent salary increase yesterday.

The claim is based on the continual fall in relative earnings of non-manual groups and the unions demand that the government recognize their case 'despite the present statutory restrictions'.

Present local government earnings range from £522 a year at 16 years old to over £5,000 for a principal officer.

Local government workers claim that the differentials be-

tween them and their Civil Service counterparts has widened by as much as £15 a week.

A further comparison of weekly earnings of white-collar workers in 25 different industries shows that local government staffs had fallen to the bottom of the list by 1972.

Cost of living estimates, says NALGO, predict a price rise of 8 per cent from June 1972 to June 1973 and this means that the fall in real earnings of local government staff will be continued in 1973-1974 if the government's pay limits are applied.

APRIL FUND STANDS AT £447.37 ONLY 12 DAYS ARE LEFT

WHILST our Party Development Fund pushes ahead, the situation regarding our monthly Appeal Fund remains very serious. If we continue at this slow pace, we face for the first time since the start of Workers Press, the possibility of not raising our monthly target.

We must change the situation immediately. We know it is possible if we step up the fight right away. It is certainly necessary. More than ever Workers Press must give a lead in this political situation.

The complete capitulation by the trade union leaders to the Tories' legislation against the

working class, is outright treachery.

Thousands of workers in every industry are more determined than ever to fight back against this Tory government. In this situation our paper is needed to build a revolutionary alternative and show the way forward in this fight.

It is up to us all. Don't let our Fund for Workers Press slip behind. It can and must be changed—so let's go into action immediately. Post all your donations to:

Workers Press April Appeal Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG

SHIPYARD union chiefs yesterday saw Northern Ireland Minister of State, Mr David Howell in a move to settle the Harland and Wolff shipyard dispute threatening 10,000 jobs. The ten-week long dispute is between the management and 2,500 steelworkers over bonus payments.

Leaders of the Confederation

of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions saw Mr Howell at their request at Stormont.

Later a government spokesman said:

'They expressed their concern about the situation and made suggestions which they felt would be helpful in resolving the present circumstances.'