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Statement by the SLL Central Committee

BEHIND

THE CHRYSLER PERKINS STRIKES

1 THE ECONOMIC measures announced by President Nixon last week mean the intensification of the conflict between America and Europe. Nixon's inability immediately to pursue a deflationary policy against the American working class means that the administration has been forced to export its crisis more directly to Europe, a continuation and intensification of the policy started on August 15, 1971.

Nixon's measures have thus prepared the ground for a new series of economic and political convulsions throughout the capitalist world, but above all in Europe.

2 AUGUST 15 when the Nixon administration ended the convertibility of the dollar, was the beginning of forcing Europe to pay for the crisis. From that point onwards, world economics and politics have been dominated by the ever-sharpening collision being prepared between Europe and America.

But in order to retain some slight footing in world trade and preserve any semblance of stability in their monetary arrangements, the Europeans were forced to come to some parity alignments between their currencies. These were decided upon at the Washington currency realignment talks at the end of 1971. But such arrangements could have no lasting effects.

By June of last year the Tory and Italian governments violated the agreements and 'floated' the pound and the lira.

3 THE CRISIS has now reached a newer and higher stage. The 'official' gold price established in only February of this year (at \$42 to an ounce of gold) is hopelessly out of line with its 'unofficial' price which last week again reached \$120 an ounce in several European markets.

The official gold price could be observed, in the short run even, only if the parity of the dollar was stabilized. But far from being stabilized it has fallen as much as 20 per cent over the last six months.

4 THE POSITION facing European capitalism deteriorates rapidly. Every dollar devaluation gives the American monopolies yet another advantage in world markets in the European-American-Japanese trade war. At the same time, dollar devaluation raises the price of all exports entering the United States from those countries.

Devaluation is thus a double-edged weapon, more effective in this sense than the tariff barriers with which a section of the Senate has long threatened America's competitors.

5 THE RULING class of Europe is faced more and more urgently with two further choices. It must either allow its currencies to float collectively against the dollar, or it must raise the official price of gold from its quite archaic \$42. In the first case all-out trade and financial war would be unleashed requiring full-scale deflationary

attacks against the working class in order to answer the American trade onslaught against Europe.

In the second case it means precipitating an unprecedented crisis in the Euro-dollar market. A decision to 'float' would not only herald the arrival of an open trade war and the immediate and most brutal attacks on working-class living standards. It would also create conditions for the rapid break up of the EEC.

Already, since August 15, 1971, each change in currency alignments within Europe has threatened to disrupt completely the Common Market agricultural policy. A general float would almost certainly destroy these arrangements and the political stability which their continuation demands in countries such as France.

On the other hand a sharp increase in the 'official' gold price would have equally disastrous implications. While there was an 'official' gold price there was at least some basis for the hope among sections of the capitalist class that some form of dollar convertibility might one day be restored.

A sharp increase in the 'official' gold price would now wipe out that hope for ever. It would at the same time plunge the entire Euro-dollar market into crisis. For an increase in the price of gold to anything above its present 'official' level would by the same measure slash the value of the Euro-dollar market.

It is this market which has provided

the funds for many of the investment plans of the so-called multi-nationals (in effect the branches of the American monopolies operating in Europe). A highly unstable situation has arisen over the past months whereby they have borrowed short-term from this pool in order to make long-term loans and investments.

These conflicting choices facing the ruling class are the product of the irreconcilable struggle between US imperialism and the European capitalists as well as the determination of the European and US working classes to defend their conquests.

The conflicts within each capitalist power are likewise intensified. Whichever road is taken, the consequences must be the break-up of the credit structure and destruction of capital values involving large-scale bankruptcies, runaway inflation and massive unemployment.

In this situation what is posed throughout the capitalist world is the question of working-class power which means the revolutionary preparations of the working class through the construction of parties affiliated to the International Committee of the Fourth International.

6 ITALY REVEALS clearly for every worker in Britain the political shape of things to come. The lira last week was devalued almost daily and the 'right-centre' coalition, unable to deal

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The second part of the ATUA miners' section statement Centre pages

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WORKERS PRESS

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Lira sinks following govt crisis

BY JOHN SPENCER

A MAJOR financial crisis has erupted in Italy following the fall of the centre-right government led by Giulio Andreotti. On Thursday, the lira, which has been sinking against other currencies for weeks, slumped a full 4 per cent.

There was a rush to change lire for other currencies—according to foreign exchange operators the amount that was changed ran into hundreds of thousands of millions of lire.

The situation was made even more tense by rumours that Guido Carli, governor of the Bank of Italy, was on the verge of resignation. The Bank hotly denied the rumours.

After several years of government instability and with no sound government in-sight, Carli plays a very important role in holding together the Italian economy, functioning virtually as a second government.

As one American banker put it, referring to Italy: 'A country can carry on without a government—so long as it has a good central banker.'

Andreotti's government was forced out of office by a decision of his own Christian Democratic Party, which voted at its congress a week ago to return to a centre-left coalition with the Socialist Party.

Andreotti was billed a strongman when he took office just over a year ago, but he has proved unable to resolve the political and economic crisis which grows more acute daily.

Meanwhile Communist Party leaders are systematically spreading illusions in the centre-left government which is being cobbled together. Their paper 'L'Unita' is calling for 'prompt and clear' intervention by the authorities to put an end to inflation and speculation.

'L'Unita' describes the economic crisis as the legacy of the 'catastrophic' centre-right leadership.

'It confirms,' the paper says, 'that an anti-popular economic and social policy is essentially an anti-national policy, contrary to the general interests of the country.'

Arrests during Pamplona strike

OVER 150 people have been arrested after a wave of strikes at the north Spanish town of Pamplona in sympathy with workers suspended from the nearby Iberica car components factory.

Trouble first flared in May when the carmen walked out in protest against the company's wage policies. Since then 180 workers have not been allowed to resume their jobs.

Factories, shops and bars were shut at the weekend as an estimated 20,000 people stopped work in support of the suspended men.

The Navarre provincial government has called the stoppages a 'general strike' and warned that the police would 'stamp out with maximum energy any further disorders'.

20th anniversary of East German uprising

TWENTY YEARS ago yesterday the workers of East Germany struck the first blow against the Stalinist bureaucracy as the advance guard of the coming political revolution.

The uprising started as a protest strike against increased piecework norms in the factories. The workers went onto the streets in East Berlin and other industrial towns and the bureaucracy responded with troops and tanks.

The state of seige was proclaimed on June 17 and panic-stricken officials of the Socialist Unity Party tried to control the movement by arresting its leaders and rushing extra supplies of food to the affected towns.

Workers throughout East Germany demanded an end to the new norms, improved living conditions and free elections. Although Soviet tanks were necessary to keep the discredited regime of Prime Minister Grotewohl in power, it was forced to make some concessions to the strength of the working class.

In addition, workers were invited to put forward their criticisms. For some time after the events the ferment continued.

Workers demanded to know why their comrades had been arrested on June 17 and why they did not have the right to strike.

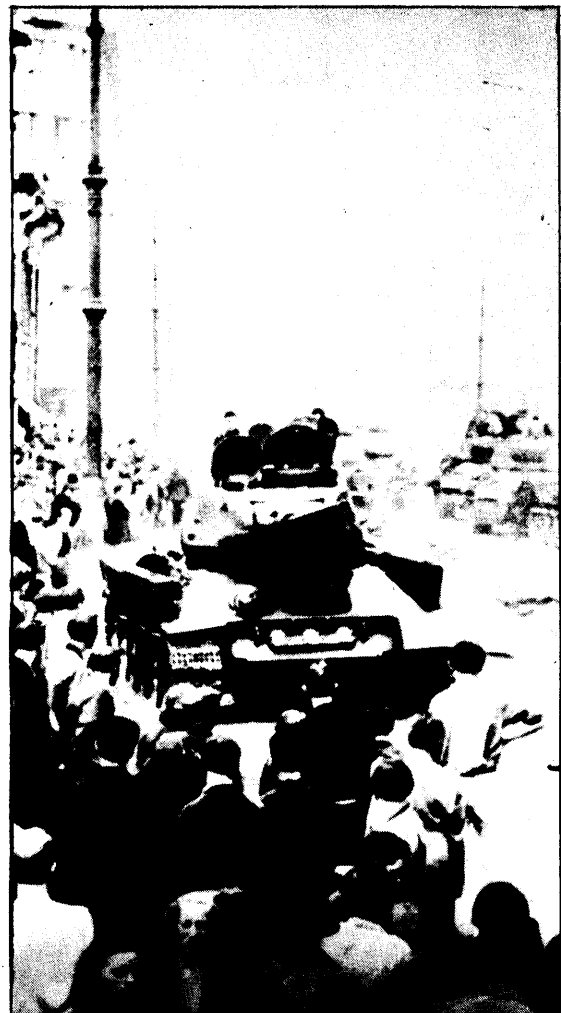
This period of concessions came to an abrupt end in 1955 and was followed by the construction of the Berlin wall and Dra-

East Berlin workers lit the torch

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

conian measures to prevent the flight to West Germany.

In the absence of a revolutionary party and support from other countries the movement in East Germany was unable to overthrow the bureaucracy. It was a harbinger of things to come.



Russian T-34 tanks move in to clear East Berlin Streets.

Three years later the Polish workers rose up in Poznan and other towns and a few weeks later a full-scale revolution broke out in Hungary, to be smashed by Soviet tanks. After a lull of some years there came the events in Czechoslovakia in 1968 and the big strikes

in the Polish Baltic ports at the end of 1970. The torch which was lit by the Berlin workers 20 years ago is being carried on today. The bureaucracy throughout eastern Europe lives in daily apprehension of a new explosion of uncontrollable dimensions.

Peking supports the 'Guardian of the Gulf'

CHINESE Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei has expressed his government's full support for the Shah of Iran's Gulf policy, which makes him 'guardian and protector' of the oil-rich region.

Chi was speaking at a banquet given for him by Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Ali Khalat. The Chinese leader is in Iran for a three-day visit. He said that increased expansionist activities by some big powers have 'seriously endan-

gered peace and security' in the Gulf region.

Iran and some of the Gulf states wanted the area's affairs to be handled by the states themselves without foreign interference, Chi said. This was 'a just and rightful demand and [we] strongly support it,' he said.

He expressed support for what he termed Iran's 'defensive measures' and for the build-up of the armed forces on which the Shah is spending more than \$2,000m. This, Chi said, was 'essential, necessary and understandable'.

In a recent interview with 'Newsweek', the Shah boasted that his army was being supplied with 'anything and everything non-atomic that the US has'. America, he said, was backing him 'to the hilt' as the new gendarme of the area.

The Shah added that he could not tolerate subversive activities. He could tolerate radical regimes taking over any of the Arab sheikdoms on the other side of the Gulf. The Shah's troops are fighting alongside British mercenaries in Dhofar to maintain the reactionary Sultanate. So much for the so-called prin-

ciple of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states!

In his banquet speech, Chi not only endorsed the Shah's military build-up but advocated bringing the whole Indian Ocean under a similar regime.

He said China endorsed making the Indian Ocean a 'peace zone' as proposed by Iran and Sri Lanka, adding that this reflected the desire of the countries of the region to maintain their national independence and their determination to fight the big powers' predominance and their plans for establishing influence zones.

BEHIND THE CHRYSLER AND PERKINS STRIKES

FROM PAGE 1

with the offensive struggles of the Italian working class, collapsed. Meanwhile the fascists and military wait in the wings, while the Stalinists and social democrats are utterly paralyzed.

But immediately behind Italy stands Britain. Last week's balance-of-payments figure were the worst ever on record. The position has only been held because of the huge influx of dollars into London. This reflects not the strength of British capitalism, but its profound and insoluble historical weakness. It now relies on the inflow of dollars, a currency already devalued by 20 per cent during the last six months.

In this situation Enoch Powell makes increasingly open plans for the formation of an ultra-right wing political movement to smash the resistance of the working class. He already enjoys considerable and growing support from a section of the employers. Now desperately engaged in winning a base from backward sections of the working class, he is given tacit and open support from sections of the trade union and labour bureaucracy such as Peter Shore and platforms by 'lefts' such as Michael Foot and Hugh Scanlon.

7 IT IS NO accident that American-owned firms in Europe, such as Chrysler and Perkins, should now

spearhead the struggle against the working class. For it is firms such as this which have borrowed most heavily from the Euro-dollar market. They are determined that their capital will not be the first to go in the coming crisis.

Every worker must take their threats as deadly serious: they will certainly now be prepared to close operations and shift their capital entirely to fascist countries such as Spain. And their lead will be followed by every employer in Britain.

This is the meaning of CBI director general Campbell Adamson's statement at the end of last week that the employers would accept no further restrictions upon their profits as part of a deal with the TUC.

'If agreement cannot be reached or if government and parliament do not approve the terms of any agreement, it is their duty to step in and lay down the guide-lines themselves, if necessary by statutory means,' he said.

8 IT IS IN this crisis that the decision of the Socialist Labour League to transform itself into the revolutionary party has proved completely vindicated. In this policy the League has based itself entirely on the great strength of the working class and its ability to resolve this crisis through the taking of power and the establishment of socialism.

The fighting spirit and determination of the working class is being demonstrated daily; in the refusal of the Chrysler and Perkins workers to be intimidated by the threats of the employers and in the speeches of the building workers on trial in Shrewsbury in defence of the basic democratic right to picket.

The hour of decision for the working class is struck!

Is it to be bloody dictatorship and the restoration of capitalist 'stability' through unemployment, poverty and war?

Or are the working class, under the leadership of the revolutionary party now being built, to prepare to take power and put an end to capitalist anarchy? There is no middle road! There is no 'third' choice!

Only the Socialist Labour League has fought for a policy of the nationalization of all basic industries and centres of finance under workers' control and without compensation. We alone, against the Stalinists and revisionists, have fought for and demanded a Labour government pledged to such a policy. It is only such a programme and policy which can now unite the working class in struggle against the class enemy, the Tory government.

We now call upon every single worker who agrees with such a programme, as a matter of the greatest urgency, to join

with us in the preparations now well under way to transform the Socialist Labour League into a powerful revolutionary party. Join us in the campaign to create the industrial and political conditions to force the Tory government to resign.

In its place must be elected a Labour government which is pledged by the mass action of the working class to implement socialist policies.

We say 'pledged to socialist policies' knowing that the present leaders of the labour movement have no intention of introducing such policies. Indeed, in the last analysis some of them will be prepared to join a coalition government with the Tories to head off the working class.

But if the working class is strong enough to force the Tories out, it is strong enough to deal with the traitors in its own midst. This can only be achieved by exposing them in the fight for an alternative socialist policy.

The Central Committee of the Socialist Labour League calls upon all its members, supporters and readers of the Workers Press to go into action immediately and make the All Trades Unions Alliance rally on July 1 at Belle Vue Manchester a major milestone in the building of alternative revolutionary leadership within the trade union movement.

June 16, 1973.

The spectre of a military intrusion into politics is being raised again in France as the working class shows its militancy and the health of President Georges Pompidou deteriorates.

It was the army revolt in Algeria which enabled General de Gaulle to establish his Bonapartist regime in June 1958. When the state was threatened by revolution in 1968 by the great General Strike, de Gaulle called on his generals for support.

At that time a reconciliation took place between de Gaulle and the rebel generals who had tried to seize power in 1961 to prevent the granting of independence to Algeria.

The Gaullists today, with an ailing president, know that they may have to call in the army if their rule is threatened again by a General Strike. This problem worries the Communist Party leaders as well because they are wedded to the 'peaceful road' to socialism and are constantly emphasizing that they stand for national independence, including strong armed forces.

In April and May this year the mass campaign of secondary school and university students against the ending of call-up deferments threatened to erupt into a general attack on military service and the armed forces. The Stalinists strove might and main to keep the movement under control and to prevent a link-up with the strikes which were taking place in a number of big car factories and other industries.

Last recourse

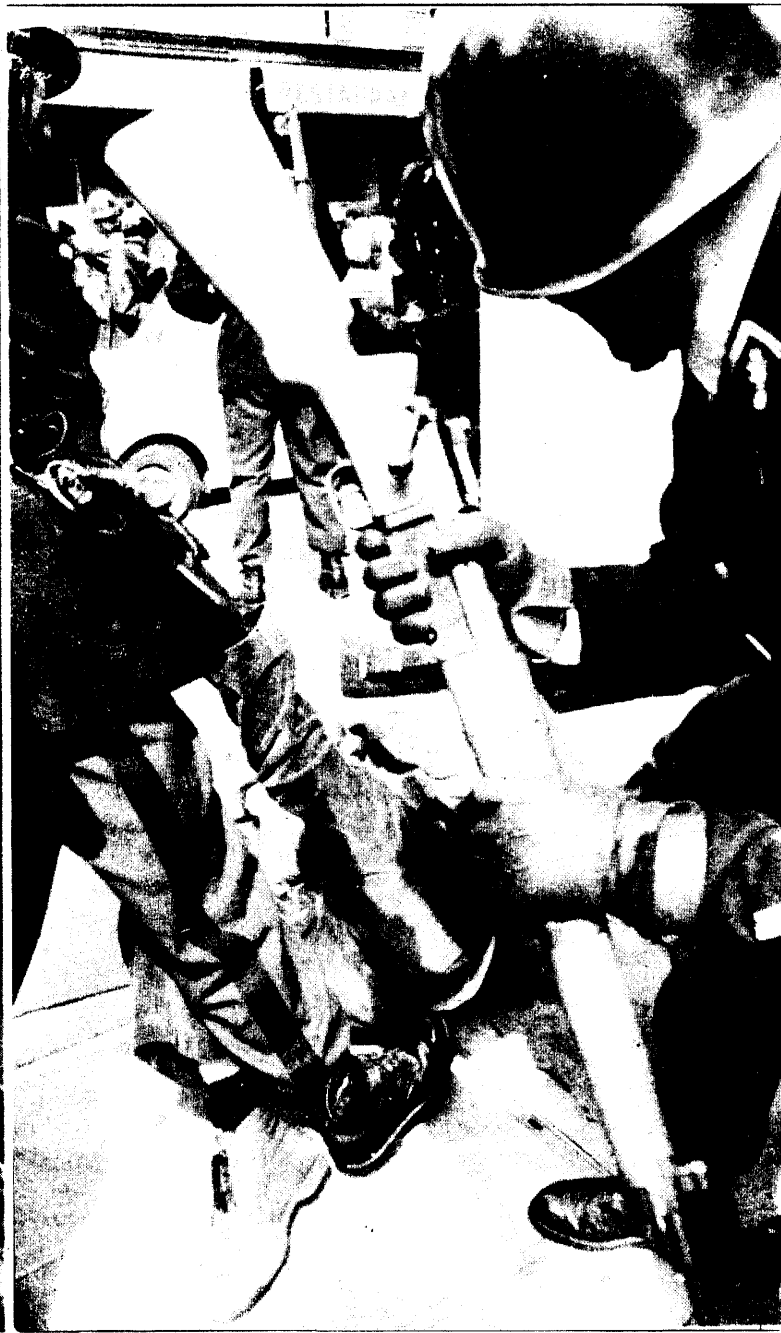
Undoubtedly these events, awakening memories of May-June 1968, jolted both the officer corps and the Communist Party into taking note of the role of the armed forces.

An article in the Stalinist daily paper 'L'Humanité' on June 7 gave a series of examples of the intervention of army and navy chiefs in the political arena.

The Gaullist minister of the armed forces, Robert Galley, has demanded that the 'criminal denigration' of the army should be stopped, for, he says, 'it remains the last recourse of our liberal society'. He could not have said more clearly that the maintenance of capitalist society depends upon 'bodies of armed men'. The point is spelled out more clearly in an article in the official journal of the air force, 'Forces aériennes françaises' for November 1971, written by a Commander Palmade:

'The maintenance of public order in these days, imposes particularly pressing demands. To assure order and respect of the law, the state disposes of courts, the police and the

WHEN THE FRENCH CALL IN THE ARMY



Left: Georges Pompidou, the ailing President. Right: The army 'intervening' in May 1968 in Paris.

army. But of these bodies of functionaries who directly contribute to public order and legality, there is one—the army—whose vocation it is to intervene in times of crisis.'

The army intervenes in strikes in the public services, taking over transport, the post office, etc. and also when a state of siege is declared.

Palmade says that in exceptional crises, the military authorities take over civil administration, carry out house searches by night or day, remove people from areas under siege, suppress publications and prevent meetings which they consider are contrary to the maintenance

of public order.

'Finally,' he adds, 'in a trial of strength which calls into question the very existence of the institutions [of the state] the army is the last resort of the government. And it cannot be otherwise. . . .'

Repressive role

Marxists cannot quarrel with the Commander. He has accurately depicted the role of the army and the state in bourgeois society and we may echo his words—it cannot be otherwise.

But the Stalinists, who quote his words, think it can. They

think that the government has accentuated the repressive role of the army, but that somehow, within the bourgeois state, some means can be found of keeping it in check and harnessing it exclusively to the task 'of defending the national territory'.

Such a belief is necessary if their theory of the peaceful road is to retain any credibility. But Palmade's remarks, which represent the thinking not of a few army extremists, but of the whole officer corps and the bourgeoisie, make nonsense of it.

'L'Humanité' clings desperately to the idea of the armed forces at the service of

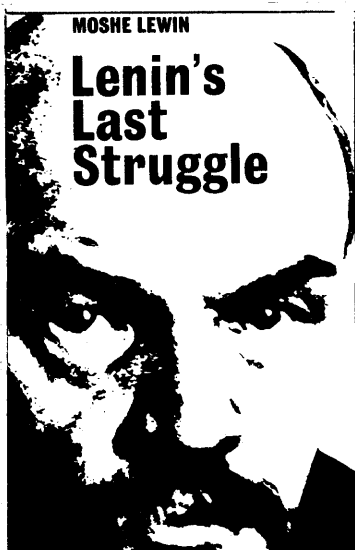
'democracy'. Speaking of the armed services chiefs it says: 'Cannot they see that the army itself is not outside the general evolution of society towards greater democracy and liberty?'

It calls for the right of soldiers to read the CP's paper in their barracks—where it is now forbidden!

'L'Humanité' throws out the Marxist view of the state and speaks as though there can be a state, and an army which stands above classes.

That is why CP deputies vote military credits, and even voted the law ending deferments against which French youth revolted in the spring.

INDISPENSABLE READING!



A study of the critical period of the consolidation of the Soviet state. The book examines Lenin's irreconcilable struggle against the growing threat of bureaucracy led by Stalin, and Lenin's collaboration with Trotsky in this task. Despite certain weaknesses the book is a powerful corroboration of Trotsky's defence of Soviet democracy and his criticisms of the oppressive policies of Stalin against the national minorities. Indispensable reading for all socialists.

LENIN'S LAST STRUGGLE
By Moshe Lewin.

Published by Faber and Faber. Hardback, 193 pages. Available (see below) at reduced price of £1.50.

Available from the Paperbacks Centre, 28 Charlotte St., London, W1 Or New Park Publications, 186a Clapham High St., London SW4 7UG

WHERE DOES THE FRENCH PHONE-TAP-MONEY COME FROM?

Everybody knows that the French telephone-tapping service operates from a house in the Avenue de Tourville in the Paris 7th district. It is headed by a general of one of the espionage agencies.

The premises and the techniques employed were taken over from the Gestapo and

enable any phones attached to the Paris exchanges to be tapped. Tapping is authorized by government Ministers.

When this is done, specially employed technicians wire up the phone so that whenever the receiver is lifted a tape recording of the conversation is made and the number which is being called, or made the call, is deciphered.

These recordings are centralized in the house in the Avenue de Tourville where they are transcribed and distributed to the Ministry concerned. In addition, useful information is sifted out and forms part of a daily report sent to the government.

It is believed that money is being made available from secret government funds to expand the telephone-tapping organization, despite the fact that the practice is nominally illegal. Use is now being made of more sophisticated electronic devices for collecting

information.

Government-approved spying and bugging is mainly directed against left-wing militants and organizations, but even the Gaullists themselves are not spared from surveillance. Public accusations have been made that extensive use was made of telephone-tapping during the last election campaign.

A Gaullist deputy and ex-Minister, Albin Chalandon, has proposed that telephone-tapping should be put on a regular basis by setting up an independent committee to give permission in special cases where 'security' is involved or in such cases as drug trafficking.

The Communist Party, through veteran parliamentarian Jacques Duclos, are to raise the matter in the Senate tomorrow with a request that the government should set up a commission to investigate the matter.

WE'RE COMING TO BELLE VUE

A discussion around the policies which will be debated at the All Trades Unions Alliance conference at Belle Vue, Manchester, Sunday July 1st—3 p.m.

THE NATIONAL Committee of the All Trades Unions Alliance has called a national rally of trade unionists at Belle Vue, Manchester, for July 1, as a further step in the preparations for building the Revolutionary Party.

This follows on the very successful ATUA conference of 2,200 workers at Birmingham on October 22, 1972, which launched the campaign.

The founding conference of the Party will be held in London at the end of October 1973. The basis of the draft perspectives and programme for the Party, which are currently being discussed in the pages of the Workers Press, was the ATUA National Committee's statement adopted at Birmingham last year.

In a statement adopted on May 13 by the ATUA in preparation for the July 1 conference, the National Committee declared:

«The further turn in the grave economic crisis caused by the political and economic effects of the Nixon scandal will have a profound influence on the inflationary boom in Britain and the policies of the Tory and Labour leaders.

The Tories have laid plans for a corporate state, but the sharpening class struggle resulting from the intensification of the crisis

will more and more disrupt these plans and expose Phase Three of the state pay laws.

It is this massive class basis for the launching of struggle which forms the Revolutionary Party.

Therefore it is vitally urgent that these new developments, which greatly assist the launching of the Revolutionary Party, should be discussed by the largest possible number of delegates and visitors to the July 1 conference.

Arrangements are in hand to provide appropriate facilities for such a discussion at the Belle Vue, Manchester, one of the largest assembly halls in the north of England. Invitations to delegations have already gone out.

The ATUA calls upon all those workers, who want to end the state pay laws and restore free negotiations for wages between trade unions and employers, to join the demand for breaking off all talks with the government on Phase Three.

The fight for the defence of basic democratic rights is now inseparable from the struggle to build the Revolutionary Party.

We believe that the July 1 rally can be an important landmark in the struggle to unite the working class on the basis of socialist policies to create the necessary industrial and political conditions for forcing the Tory government to resign.



Peter King (25) is one of the many Liverpool engineers making the trip from Merseyside to the ATUA conference at Belle Vue, Manchester, on July 1. He works for the CAV Lucas combine at Fazakerly.

Do you think it is possible to get rid of the state pay laws without getting rid of the Tory government?

It is quite clear to me now that mere militancy in industry is not enough. This is the kind of thing that leaders like Jones and Scanlon got by on for years, but those days are over.

Everything on the shop floor is political now. I think given a lead most workers would be prepared to have a go at getting rid of the government—but of course there is no lead forthcoming. On the contrary I would say most of the top union men are helping the government.

Do you think the present Labour and trade union leaders want to make the government resign?

I think they are just hoping we will accept the Tory government for what it is for the rest of its term. As I have said, they are quite willing to collaborate with the government. I think really they are more frightened of the strength of the working class than they are of the Tories.

If they lead the working class to overthrow the government, the movement would rapidly go beyond reformism and the reformist policies they have—it would really be the end for them.

Therefore they are quite content to carry on the way they are doing now, hoping the government is going to come across with something to give them some credibility.

What experience have you had which make you believe that getting rid of the Tory government is an urgent task?

Acceptance of the wage freeze and the trips to Downing Street for the talks I think really brought it home to me that we had to change the

situation radically or go under for a long time.

This was a complete betrayal of all the principles of trade unionism. To carry on talking or doing nothing when the Tories are blatantly cutting the living standards of the working class is the most treacherous thing I can imagine. It's more than just putting back wages.

What do you think of Jack Jones' and Hugh Scanlon's support for the talks with the Tories?

In one way it surprised me and in another way it didn't. Really going to collaborate with the Tories is only an extension of the policies that Jones and Scanlon have anyway.

But their role did open my eyes. I never thought they would be quite so blatant about it. It really exposed them as men who talk big and left all the time but do nothing to back it up.

When it came down to it they went to Heath for talks. Scanlon still has a following among some workers, but it's mainly because they don't want to face up to the point that the leadership is no good and they will have to do something about it. I think a lot of workers are frightened and clutching at straws.

But I think this has got to change. I think the crisis in America is going to hit us directly. Nixon is going to sort out the US working class by deflation and attacking wages. This will rebound directly on us through a far worse exporting position. This is bound to shake people up. I think sooner or later people will have to fight.

The big squeeze has started already in the car industry. The management are cracking down and provoking disputes. I think this will spread throughout the whole industry.

The basis democratic rights of the working class are under attack. How can these rights be defended? Is it enough to make protests and one-day strikes?

Even at the time of the protests I had no illusions. I didn't think they would get anywhere. We could have a one-day strike every week for the next two years and it would make no impact on this



Peter King. Above: Chrysler workers. 'The big squeeze has started already in the car industry . . . I think this will spread . . .'

government. On the contrary they often turn it to their advantage to whip up the middle class.

The effect of protest has also been bad on the working class. It leaves many of them demoralized. They feel dejected when they realize that the results of their actions have been very little.

Are you in favour of building a leadership which will make the Tory government resign?

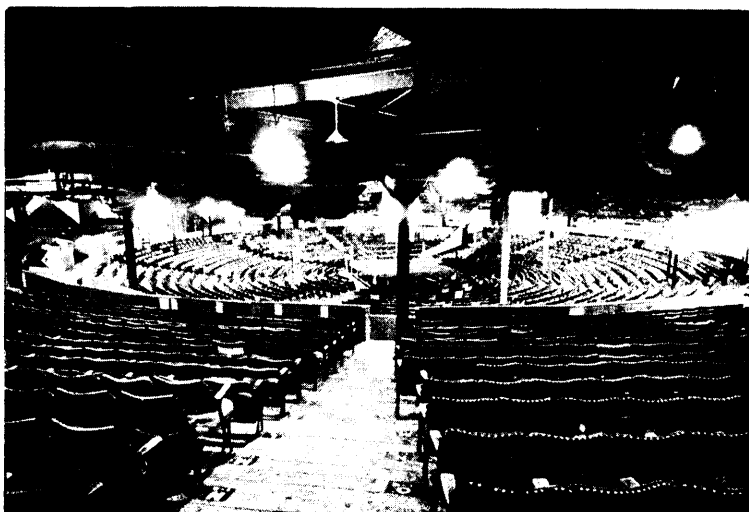
Yes I am. I first came into contact with the SLL through a member years ago at work. At first I used to take him seriously because he was a genuine militant and fought hard for our conditions, but some of the political things he said did not make a great impact at the time.

But gradually these really came into their own. You can see now without doubt that the political questions are the decisive ones for us in industry. This is more than militancy; it poses the issue of the new party.

Are you in favour of calling a mass rally of trade unionists to launch the campaign to build this leadership?

I think this is a very good idea. It will show the strength of the League and that its membership is really growing—I think it will put the League on the map in this area.

I think the League will grow because it is the only organization capable of meeting the challenge and standing firm for true socialist principles.



Sid Ledward (26) is one of the many workers from the car industry—now the focus of the class struggle in Britain—who will be coming to Belle Vue. He will be part of a strong contingent of workers from the American owned Vauxhall plant at Ellesmere Port, Merseyside.

Sid, a shop steward, and the other Vauxhall militants are now feeling the first wave of the employers' drive to speed up and boost productivity in the plant.

Do you think that it is possible to get rid of the state pay laws without getting rid of the Tory government?

Obviously not. There is no chance of budging this government from its intention to increase the rate of exploitation of the working class. A lot of people in Vauxhalls are in the same mind. There are a lot, however, who look upon the Tory pay laws as some kind of wage freeze.

But of course they are much more than this. Wage freeze suggests a temporary measure—a pause of some kind—and then things go back to normal. The Tories had done something very different; they want to erect a permanent system of wage control—it's the corporate state that they are after—the pay laws epitomise the corporate state.

As people wake up to this fact—and of course it needs leadership to make them see the situation—I think they will become political very rapidly.

You can see the change already by the sales of the Workers Press. A lot of men read it in Vauxhalls now, they can't get hold of enough of them. There is also the realization that you cannot fight this government as an individual or as an isolated individual group of workers.



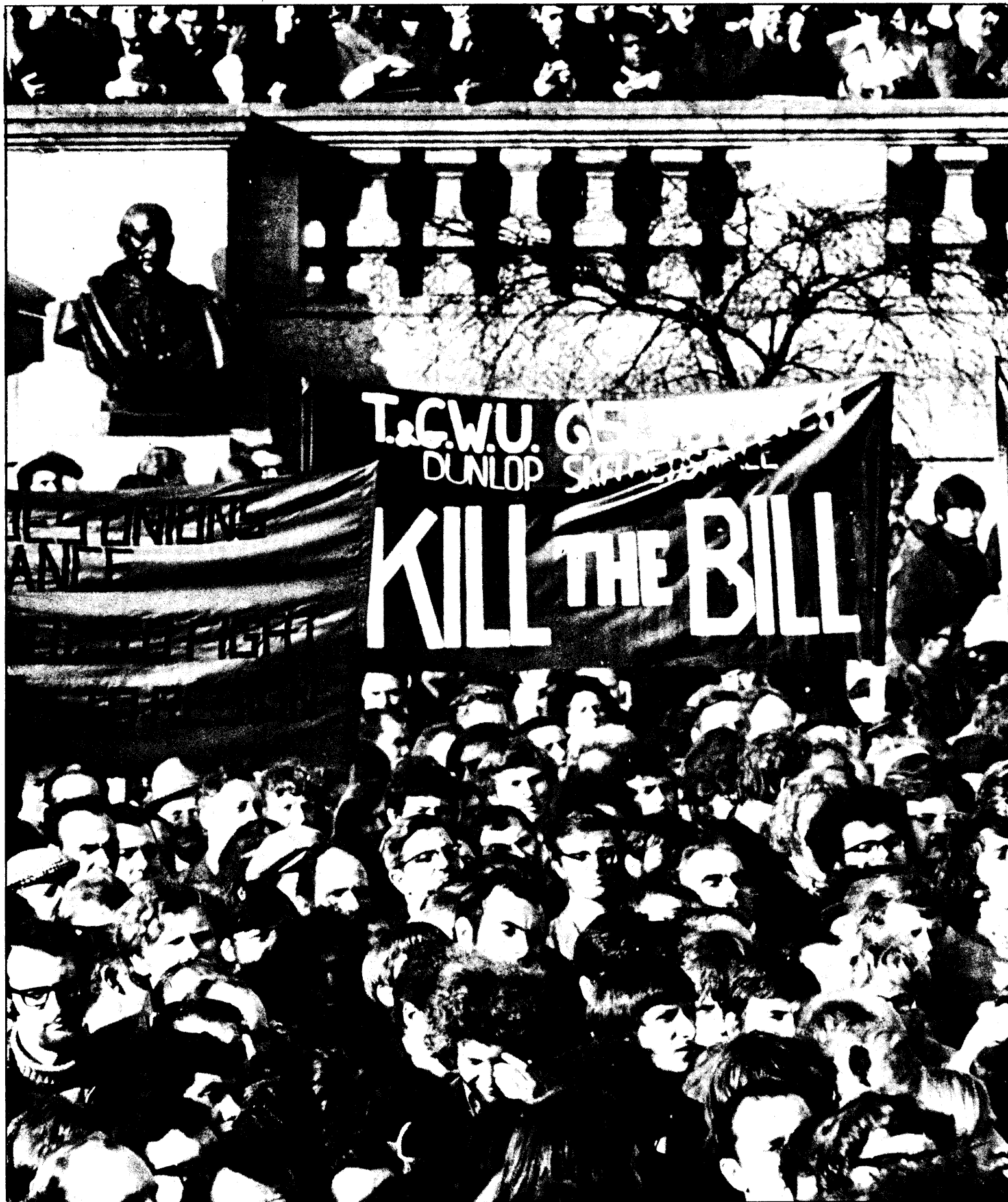
Sid Ledward, steward at Vauxhall's Ellesmere Port plant.

Do you think the present Labour and trade union leaders want to make the government resign?

No. By their sheer lack of leadership they illustrate their position. The situation is quite fantastic really. They just refuse to warn the members what is taking place. We have a situation where the government in its methods on fascism, it's determined to destroy the trade union movement and the strength of the working class—destroy the working class itself for that matter.

What experience have you had which makes you think that getting rid of the Tory government is an urgent necessity?

There has been no one experience. This government has unfolded as one concentrated



'Protest is defunct . . . The "Kill the Bill" campaign (above) was a typical example . . . At Vauxhall's we came out during the first one day affair—but we could not get the men out after this. The protest has a bad effect because it demoralizes people.'

attack on the working class and the rights of working men and women throughout the country. The standard of living is now declining. We have had the onslaught through the courts with the Industrial Relations Act, now we have Phase Two and even worse Phase Three. These acts do not represent individual laws or acts of repression by this government, they all come together as part of its general strategy to deprive the working class of the means of protecting itself against capitalism.

You do not have any basic rights if you do not have any means of fighting back against this government. There is a growing realization of this.

The people I mix with have been fighting all their lives on the shop floor. But most of them are beginning to realize that militancy is just not enough. They are being hit all over the place by this government.

The realization is dawning that these laws can only be repealed by getting rid of the government that passed them. It will need a politically-led General Strike to do this—we all know the days of protest and one-day strikes are over.

What do you think of the TUC's collaboration with the state pay laws and Phase Three?

If you like they are the fifth

column—they are fighting under a working-class banner, but they are doing the employers' work.

They say the working class must resist, then they call a one-day strike and refuse to make it an instruction, knowing full well this will split the working class and encourage the weakest sections. This is deliberate.

What do you think of Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon's support for talks with the Tories?

Most of the people I work with are agreed that the likes of Jones and Scanlon cannot really be distinguished from Feather. That is, in words they are different—these two talk left—but in action they are much the same as the right wing.

You could never really look upon these men as fighters. They have never really advocated taking this government on, really clearing the decks and the issue for a struggle. It's always been the aggressive words and discussion formula.

But there comes a time when negotiation is not possible any more and the Tories have called the shots on this one. What is posed now is not just a few more crumbs from the Tories, but survival itself for our class.

A lot of workers are waking up to the role of these people. Among the rank and file Jones

does not get his own way now. They gave him a very rough reception at the Pier Head on May Day. This talk doesn't wash any more.

The basic democratic rights of the working class are under attack. How can the working class defend these rights? Is it enough to have protests and one-day strikes?

Protest is defunct. People on the shop floor are not fools. They know you can get nothing under this Tory regime by striking for one day or going on demonstrations and shouting.

The 'Kill the Bill' campaign was a typical example. It did not stop the bill. At Vauxhalls we came out during the first one-day affair—but we could not get the men out after this. The protest has a bad effect because it confuses and demoralizes people. Then we have had the example of the miners—they clearly rejected the proposition of fighting out a strike battle on their own against the government. They saw that a collective stand was needed.

Are you in favour of building a revolutionary leadership in the working class and

holding a mass rally of trade unionists to launch this struggle?

This leadership, if it is an alternative leadership, must develop along revolutionary lines because there really is no possibility for the working class to live with the capitalist system any more.

To maintain the rate of profit, wages must be driven down and the only way to do this beyond a certain point is to break up the strength of the working class. This is exactly what the Tories are engaged in at the present time.

The leadership we build must be prepared to take over the whole shebang. If this leadership is not built, the working class will be run down to the position it was in 100 years ago. There can be no doubt about this.

The importance of Belle Vue is enormous. For every trade unionist who goes there will be ten or 11 men who will hear about it through him.

I don't like the word rally—this will be a national conference. It is vital for everyone connected in any way with the ATUA and the SLL to make the conference the real basis for the building of the party.

I think we have slid down so far, but it's only a check. We have to go forward with a Marxist leadership, to a Marxist state and a Marxist Europe.

WHAT NEXT FOR THE MINERS?

Part two of a statement by the All Trades Unions Alliance.

The vote by Britain's miners against national strike action to win their pay claim has to be understood in the context of events occurring at that time.

When the special TUC met on March 5, it was 'left'-wingers, Jones, Scanlon, and the Stalinists, who put forward the motion for a one-day protest on May 1. Only five days earlier they had all voted to restrict the agenda to Feather's policy document and allow no motions even on protest or strike actions.

Feather had spoken in Huddersfield on the Saturday before (March 3) the special TUC appealing to Heath to modify the Industrial Relations Act and 'get round the table for talks once again'.

But the rapid worsening of the economic crisis that same week, in which Heath visited Brandt and the world money markets closed, forced the Cabinet into crisis meetings the whole weekend and produced great nervousness in the trade union bureaucracy. A show of action was necessary. Jones and Scanlon provided the formula.

Gas workers and hospital workers were left isolated to be sold out by their leaders in Phase Two settlements. Scanlon, on the second day of the miners' ballot, made his statement offering renewal of talks with the government if they would make very slight modifications in the Industrial Relations Act. He also, like Gormley, went over to support for participation in the Common Market.

It was in this situation that the miners voted. Was it possible to see any prospect of the necessary unity to defeat the Tory enemy? Was it not clear that the 'left' had been led only reluctantly to the point of a ballot? Had not the TUC confirmed its unwillingness to fight?

For many miners, therefore, the vote not to strike was a vote of no confidence in the leadership of the NUM and the TUC.

The memory of 1926 dies hard in the pits. In that year, from the General Strike in May until the autumn, the miners stayed out on their own, betrayed by the TUC, and went back whipped, starving and with their wages cut. The miners will avenge 1926, nothing is more certain, but the road had not been opened for them in March 1973.

But what comes next? This time, the miners have decided along the old-fashioned line of English trade union 'compromise' to take what they can get, not risk a long strike and loss of earnings, and see if they have a better time to fight later, if necessary.

Some things need to be said plainly. The struggle can be postponed only for a very short time and every day's delay is dangerous. The inflationary price and rent increases will get worse because they come from the insoluble world economic crisis. The Tories, encouraged by the retreats of the union leaders, will press home the attack.

This means that the same basic financial problems which affect the miners affect the whole of the working class. All sections will be forced to fight. And all sections of workers will be forced up against



the questions faced by the miners. The great questions raised by the ballot are the questions of leadership in the working class.

It is true that the trade union leaders cannot and will not lead a successful struggle against the Tory government, the Tory class as a whole and its state machine. But this means that a leadership must be built which will lead such a struggle, a political leadership with the aim of defeating the Tory government and capitalism, not collaborating with it.

RISES ILLEGAL

No miner and no miner's wife can wash their hands of this problem. It was possible to 'answer' inflation in the past by trade union action, official or unofficial, to raise wages. But the Tory government has made this illegal.

The standards of living of our children and ourselves can no longer be protected except by a struggle to defeat the government. Capitalism in crisis can no longer provide the conditions for such wage increases and free trade unions.

That is the meaning of the government's Industrial Relations Act and counter-inflation laws.

It is true that the Tory government has stepped up its arming of the police, the Territorials and the regular army to deal with pickets and demonstrators. For this reason miners, if they are to fight for their rights and living standards, must urgently discuss the problems of building alternative leadership for the whole working class. No section of workers must be left to fight alone.

What is necessary is for the whole working-class movement to be mobilized in a struggle against the common enemy, the Tory government. Not a single section of workers can find a solution to its problems within this Tory regime and the capitalist system which it represents.

At every opportunity, the Tories will seek to turn the nationalized industries back to 'private enterprise'. Already outside contractors are employed in many NCB areas.

In the last six months the NCB has completed plans to 'hive off' assets worth £79m to two holding companies. And everyone knows the investigation being carried out into allegations of 'over-ordering' to private companies from NCB areas, to the tune of tens of millions of pounds.

The capitalist class of this country needs coal supplies for a long time yet. But they want mines and miners disciplined, speeded-up and com-



The Socialist Labour League puts forward its policies on May Day this year. Above left: At the March 5, Special Congress of the TUC, the All Trades Unions Alliance mounted a lobby calling for a General Strike to force the Tories out. Right: Jones at the Special Congress. Along with Scanlon and the Stalinists he put forward the diversion of a one-day protest.

pletely subordinated to a ruthless system of exploitation, a system in mortal crisis which threatens the lives of all workers and their families.

The NUM and TUC leaders are 'co-operating' with these moves—and not only in Britain.

Gormley has insisted that the NUM collaborates in the Common Market institutions. He has also made an agreement with the German Miners' Federation for only German and British coal to be supplied within the EEC.

Is the NUM to be a willing tool in all these Tory plans or will the miners take their rightful place in the struggle to get the government out?

What is to replace the Tory government? It must be a Labour government, but it will be completely different from the 1964-1970 administration, whose policies paved the way back for the Tories.

Because there is no solution for the working class under capitalism, only the destruction of its basic rights and living standards, there must be a government which breaks from capitalism, nationalizes big business and the banks and runs them under workers' control. Without a struggle for alternative leadership, the present Labour leaders will not carry out such a socialist programme.

However, the working class can only be united behind



such a socialist programme. We must undertake the task of building the alternative leadership to implement this programme.

When we call for a Labour government pledged to socialist policies, we do so to bring the whole working-class movement face to face with the need to throw out its treacherous leaders. They will be exposed by the fight to elect a Labour government on socialist policies.

In every mining community, it is essential that this struggle is carried forward, not only in the NUM, but also in tenants' movements, and in support of all sections of the working class who come into struggle.

The miners' wives who are confronted every week with the increasingly difficult task of making ends meet must be drawn into the discussion and into the struggle.

COUNCILS OF ACTION

The Socialist Labour League has put forward the policy of forming Councils of Action in every town. In these Councils are represented all working-class organizations in struggle against the common enemy, the Tory government: union branches, district committees

and trades councils, shop stewards' committees, tenants' associations, unemployed committees, housewives' committees, and the political parties of the working class (Labour Party, SLL, Communist Party, International Socialists, International Marxist Group, etc.). Here united action can be planned to get the Tories out and fight for socialist policies.

Correct policies and the means to achieve them can be thrashed out; the solidarity and defence of all workers in struggle can be organized here.

Certainly the miners' ballot made it plain that we have entered a new situation. Trade union action, and militant strikes alone have reached a dead end. There will be many more strikes, even bigger than the ones we have seen, but industrial action alone cannot solve the political problem of a fight to make the government resign.

Where will the political leadership come from for this political struggle?

From Gormley on the extreme right to the Communist Party on the left there has been a capitulation to the policies of the Tory government. The trade union leaders who have accepted the idea that they will return to talks with the government are only

the trade union reflection of the reformism of the Labour Party and the Stalinism of the Communist Party.

Small groups like the International Socialists and the International Marxist Group have only tailed along behind the Stalinists and 'lefts'.

Only the SLL (with its trade union organization, the All Trades Unions Alliance, and its youth movement, the Young Socialists) has fought consistently for the TUC to call a General Strike to force the Tory government to resign.

Only the SLL warned and fought against the policies of the last Labour government to try and prevent them preparing the way for the return of the Tories.

Most important of all, only the SLL has prepared its members and supporters for the political struggle, and pointed out that eventually the restriction of the workers to trade union and strike struggles would be a dead end.

Was the miners' ballot a 'dead end', or must we not make it the beginning of a new stage in the struggle of the working class? To do that we must learn the lesson brought out in this pamphlet.

For two years the Socialist Labour League, through all its activities and in the Workers Press, has been fighting to politically transform itself into

the Marxist revolutionary party which the working class so urgently needs.

We call upon all miners and all workers to discuss with us the programme we have put forward in this pamphlet and in our draft policy for transforming the Socialist Labour League. This is the most important preparation of all for the next stage of the miners' fight.

CONCLUDED TWO IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS FROM THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

'Draft Perspectives for the Transformation of the SLL into a Revolutionary Party.' Price 5p.

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Order from: SLL, 186a Clapham High St, London SW4 7UG. Postage 3p for both

NO AMOUNT OF TREATIES CAN SECURE PEACE!

BY JOHN SPENCER

The European Security Conference — long a major goal of Soviet foreign policy—will open in Helsinki, Finland, on July 3.

The agenda and details of the conference were finalized at a series of meetings in the Finnish capital which have lasted more than six months.

The 34 participating countries, which include Spain, Portugal, Greece and Monaco, but not Albania, have decided to hold the talks in three stages.

The opening sessions will be attended by the countries' foreign ministers who will then delegate the detailed work to commissions of experts whose reports could take up to eight months to prepare.

The agenda covers four main points, the main one being security.

The agenda details ten 'principles' to form the basis of this discussion.

These are: equality and sovereignty; non-recourse to threats or the use of force; inviolability of frontiers; territorial integrity; peaceful settlement of differences; non-intervention in the internal affairs of other countries; respect for the rights of man and basic freedoms 'including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion and opinion'; equality of the rights of peoples and the right of self-determination; co-operation between states; carrying out 'with goodwill' of obligations under international law.

This list of good intentions, like the Biblical Ten Commandments, is a cover for the most heinous violations. Not for nothing is the forthcoming conference being compared with the Congress of Vienna in 1815 and the Versailles Conference of 1919 which imposed a predatory peace on Europe.

These were the two previous occasions on which all the European states were around the table together.

Both led to counter-revolutionary settlements.

At Vienna, following the defeat of Napoleon's armies, Metternich (the Old Fox) cemented the Holy Alliance of Tsarist Russia, Austria-Hungary and Prussia.

According to Trevelyan the result was 'that nationality and popular liberty were disregarded on the continent, outside the boundaries of France itself. Except England, the Great Powers who triumphed were Powers of reaction and despotism and even Castlereagh cared nothing for Parliaments outside England. The rulers of Russia, Prussia and Austria divided up Poland, Germany and Italy as if inhabitants were so many head of population to be bartered among royal hagglers.'

The avowed purpose was to maintain the *status quo* of monarchy and reaction and prevent any resurgence of the revolutionary struggles sparked by the French revolution.

At Versailles, just over 100 years later, the Allies got together to grab as much territory as they could from the defeated Central Powers and impose monstrous reparations to be paid off by the defeated countries.

Versailles was conducted under the 'humanitarian' precepts of US President Wilson, known as the 14 points.

Today the fraud is conducted behind the façade of 'peaceful co-existence' which in reality means counter-revolutionary



collaboration between the Stalinist bureaucracy and the capitalists against revolution.

The difference today is that instead of taking place after a major war, the conference is allegedly designed to make such a war more difficult.

In the words of Mr Bill Simpson, the Labour Party chairman who headed a delegation of Labour MPs to the Soviet capital, the conference 'offers the opportunity for Europe to construct a framework for co-operation which will remove Europe for ever from the list of the regions which can be deemed a threat to peace'.

Nothing could be further from the truth than this pious reformism. In reality the development of the economic and political crisis within the capitalist countries is systematically laying the foundations for a new war.

The European employers whose export trade is increasingly threatened by US protectionism and by the persistent under-cutting of their currencies must turn east to resolve the mountainous problems they face.

They need the Stalinist bureaucracy to help them maintain capitalism in the west—as the May-June events in France demonstrated conclusively.

But the bureaucracy's value to the employing class is only conditional and limited. The experience of the 1930s demonstrated this. The Stalinists' policies in Germany allowed Hitler to come to power, but once in power he began to prepare ruthlessly for war with the USSR.

No amount of 'collective security' nor even the treacherous 'non-aggression' pact Molotov signed with Ribbentrop in 1939 deterred the Nazis from their goal of conquest in the east.

Hitler simply expressed in the most consistent and ruthless manner the ambitions of all the capitalists of the world, who hate the Soviet Union and dream of restoring capitalism there.



Versailles, 1919—Clemenceau, Woodrow Wilson and Lloyd George. Centre: Vienna, 1815—a counter-revolutionary settlement. Top: Brandt and Kosygin signing a previous treaty while Brezhnev and Soviet bureaucrats look on.

No amount of treaties, conferences, and talk of peaceful co-existence can obscure the basic drive of the capitalist class who correctly see the nationalized property relations in the Soviet Union as a conquest of the international working class.

The phraseology of the Stalinists is a crude deception

of the European working class designed to turn it from the struggle against capitalism and line it up behind the foreign policy requirements of the Soviet bureaucracy, which demands 'pressure' on the Tory government and other reactionary regimes... to make them more 'friendly' to the Moscow bureaucrats.



FRANCO'S TOP MAN

Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco (70), the former submarine commander who has taken over the post of Spanish Prime Minister from General Franco, had been tipped for the post for many years.

He is one of the longest-standing fascist functionaries described as 'deeply conservative with an ingrained loathing of demagogues of either the right or the left'. His anti-Semitism is equally ingrained.

He is, above all, a faithful disciple of the Caudillo. In one of his rare interviews Carrero Blanco said: 'I am a man totally identified with the work of the Caudillo, doctrinally formed in the principles of his national movement and in the fundamental laws of the Kingdom.'

'MY LOYALTY'

'My loyalty to his person and to his work is total, clear and clean, without a shadow of any personal conditions, or a trace of mental reserve.' Carrero Blanco is one of the main backers of Prince Juan Carlos of Bourbon, officially designated to become King when Franco dies, or retires.

He regarded Juan Carlos' father, the Count of Barcelona and the main Carlist pretender to the throne, as a 'dangerous liberal'!

Born in Santander province in 1903, Carrero Blanco entered the Spanish Naval Academy at the age of 15 and saw service with the navy in the colonial war in Morocco in the 1920s as a young officer.

He then trained in the Spanish submarine school, spent some time commanding a gunboat in the Spanish West African colony of Equatorial Guinea and later became a professor at the Naval Warfare School in Madrid.

He was in Madrid when the Spanish civil war broke out in 1936 and took refuge in the French and Mexican embassies. In 1937 he made his way across Spain and joined the fascist armies.

ANTI-SEMITIC

He commanded a destroyer and a submarine in the civil war and ended it as chief of operations to General Franco's naval staff. The next year, 1940, he entered the administration as under-secretary in the presidency, becoming a Minister in 1951.

In 1967 Franco appointed him vice-President. He is one of the dictator's closest associates and has acted as patron to some of the younger fascist 'technocrats' who have entered the cabinet in recent years.

Carrero Blanco's fascist philosophy was set out in 1940 in his book 'Spain and the Sea'. In it he wrote justifying the savagery of the Inquisition against the assimilated Jews.

This was, he said, 'a fight to the death which was part of the war between darkness and light'. The Jews, he said, had set out 'to destroy, to annihilate and debase everything that Christian civilization represents in order to build on its ruins the Utopian Zionist empire of the Chosen People'.



RETURN OF ROBERT MAXWELL

'Midweek' introduced by Ludovic Kennedy. BBC 1. 'Sam'. By John Finch. Part I 'A Way of Life'. Producer Michael Cox. Granada Television.

'Are you coming back?' the interviewer asked Robert Maxwell, MC, publishing millionaire and ex-Labour MP.

'I was never away,' Maxwell replied dogmatically.

'Midweek', the poor man's '24 Hours', turned in a dazzling documentary on Mr Maxwell who will today attempt to make a rebid for power at Pergamon Press, the group he brought to fame and fortune.

If nothing else, the programme convinced us that Maxwell, the man in the wilderness, is on the road again.

As each indictment of his past was read out, the ebullient Mr Maxwell drowned it with counter-charges.

Curiously, there was only one question that seemed to

unhorse him. Reporter Max Hastings asked 'if it was true that he only joined the Labour Party weeks before the 1959 General Election when he first tried to enter parliament.

Maxwell hesitated. 'It was long before that,' he mumbled.

Hastings asked again. The



Tiny Rowland confirmed as chief executive of Lonrho.

eyes blinked and shifted around the room.

'It could have been, I don't know, it's a long time ago... I had been with the Fabians since the end of the war.'

It was an unconvincing moment.

Three years ago Maxwell was a defeated and humiliated man. He had been ousted from the chairmanship of Pergamon, he lost the North Bucks seat in the General Election, the Department of Trade and Industry was investigating his financial conduct and his company's shares were suspended from trading (and so they remain to this day).

'Midweek' set out to answer whether Maxwell would ride again. Is it conceivable that this brazen speculator, this buccaneer of the book industry can regain control of his empire whose shares have dropped from a peak of £2 to 25p?

Under the putrid economic atmosphere created by Heath's Toryism—Lonrho and Tiny

Left: Robert Maxwell, publishing millionaire and ex-Labour MP, was 'unfit to exercise stewardship of a publicly-owned company'. Now he is about to stage a comeback made possible by the atmosphere of Heath's Toryism.

Rowland, Lord Polwarth, the Lambton-Jellicoe affair and Poulson—anything is possible.

The man who was pronounced by the DTI investigators as 'unfit to exercise stewardship of a publicly-owned company' is rallying support from dissatisfied investors who are tired of the hidebound procedures of the caretaker management under Sir Charles Courtts.

When Rowland was confirmed as chief executive of Lonrho, the shareholders from Perth and Eastbourne gave a massive mandate for the ugly and 'unacceptable face of capitalism'.

Why not with Maxwell?

Maxwell, formerly Jan Ludwig Foch, was born in Czechoslovakia, fled from the Nazis in 1939, fought with the free Czech army in France and received the Military Cross from Montgomery for his 'patriotism'; married Elizabeth, a devoted Frenchwoman ('he has been the victim of a cruel attack') and began his publishing career while with the British military government in Berlin.

As the allies roved the devastated ruins, they uncovered many a piece of booty.

Maxwell's sharp eye fell on huge libraries of scientific and medical books, many of them written and published behind the walls of the Third Reich. To get these volumes out and translated for the world's scientific community would be a great service to mankind, not to say Maxwell's bank account!

His rise was sarcastically charted in a ten-minute section of the film called 'The men who made news'. Using old newsreels and stills, the 'Midweek' team created an amusing pastiche of Maxwell as the war hero, the business tycoon, the Labour MP in Wilson's white-hot technological revolution.

In the interview with Maxwell, intercut with comments from some of his adversaries in the City, the Press and politics, he emerges as a self-generating publicity machine.

His contempt for the traditions and practices of the business world leave one breathless. It's no wonder they call him the 'bouncing Czech'!

Maxwell came unstuck when he attempted to sell his business to Leasco chairman, Saul Steinberg, of New York. When the deal was almost clinched, Steinberg and his brace of lawyers and auditors discovered that the books of Maxwell's company had been overvalued; instead of buying steak he was getting dressed up horse meat.

The take-over collapsed, the shares were suspended, the

City establishment moved in along with the DTI inquiry team.

For Steinberg it was a near thing: 'He introduced me to dukes, statesmen, politicians and Press tycoons.'

To a young Jewish boy from Brooklyn it must have seemed impressive stuff.

Much has been said of Maxwell: his commanding officer gave him this testimonial: 'He has a driving desire to kill Huns which is of immense value'; 'a loner, a fighter, a man of the jungle', said the programme portentously; 'Recklessly trying to bash his way to fame', said Richard Crossman, MP; 'The most sincere liar I've ever met', from one of his former henchmen.

Maxwell rejects all criticism, past and present, as 'sour grapes'. He says he has learnt a lesson and now talks embarrassingly about being modest.

'I've no time for property,' he says strolling the lawns between the fountains on his magnificent estate.

'All those people who attack me do so for selfish motivations. They won't get me down.'

If he wins his boardroom battle today, the ugly face of capitalism will have triumphed for the second time in a month.

If he loses, we will have lost a glaring example of ferocious capitalism in a larger-than-life form.

THE DESPAIRING WORLD OF THE 1930'S

The opening episode of John Finch's worthy epic 'Sam' set in a Yorkshire mining community of the 1930s set the stage for another picture of working-class defeat and gloom.

However, there are some good moments and the script is sharp and lively.

Some of the performances ring a bit hollow and the production is over self-conscious, but an attempt is made to give an authentic feel of the times, the depression and the men out of work for five and seven years at a time, the disillusion with government and the fighting spirit of the defeated working class of the period.

The piece is built around the boy Sam, gradually becoming aware of the harsh adult world in which his father has run off and left his mother and there is little time for him in the bitter anxieties of poverty and hardship in his grandparents' home.

There's more to the working class than despair these days, but then there's more of 'Sam' to come: we can hope for something better.

tearful parting. The girl went back to her job in Switzerland and was bitter about not hearing from the British business-man.

Last year she came to London to see friends. One night they were watching the television news when suddenly her companion appeared on the little screen.

'That's Bobby,' she exclaimed.

'No it's not,' her friend said, 'that's the Minister for...'

Man of principle

Richard Lamb, editor of 'City Press': 'Some people have asked me why, as a Liberal, I recommend South African shares. I am strongly opposed to apartheid, but I am a full-blooded free trader and the one way to harm the coloured people in South Africa is to withhold capital.'

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The following firms have been granted permission to increase prices (thus fuelling inflation, incidentally):

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Meat products 8½ to 9 per cent; Strand Hotels 7½ per cent; Metal Box 9 per cent; Dunlop and Carrington Viyella 6 to 6½ per cent; printing and transport firms 7½ per cent.

These increases are sanctioned by the Heath government on top of the extra charges allowed by VAT.

The day after these latest price rises were announced, the news leaked out that the Phase Three 'norm' will be even lower than the present one.

Stories of the third man

Stories of the third man... continued. A couple of years ago a girl working at a resort in France for the Club Mediteranee met a romantic holiday-maker from Britain.

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SAO PAULO- CITY OF GROWTH AND DEATH

The Brazilian city of Sao Paulo, which has become a sprawling industrial metropolis in recent years, growing faster than any other in the world, also has a high and rising death rate.

Between 1960 and 1970 the rate rose from 8.23 to 8.66 per cent. This is because of the terrible living conditions of the masses of the people who provide a cheap labour force for the city's factories or eke out a precarious existence in its slums and shanty towns.

The semi-official paper 'Jornal do Brasil' ascribes the

high mortality in the city to malnutrition, tuberculosis, yellow fever, parasites and a welter of epidemic diseases. Child mortality is the second highest in Latin America, being exceeded only in Haiti.

Yet while children die for lack of medical care, the military clique which rules the country with its standing army of 30,000 well-fed and highly-equipped troops squanders millions on weapons of war. In many towns there are simply no doctors and even where hospitals and clinics exist, they cannot function for lack of staff, equipment and drugs.

Out of a population of some 100 million people, 6 million suffer from TB, 10 million have Schistosomiasis, 8 million have Chagas disease and there are 250,000 lepers.

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Peronist President of Brazil, Hector Campora. He has alerted the army on Argentine border.

ARMS MONEY

The arms build up by the military regime in Brazil is continuing at break-neck speed with US support.

Washington sees Brazil both as a main field for investment and as the policeman of Latin America. The country is teeming with American technicians and advisers.

A major portion of the budget of General Emelio Garrastazu Medici's government goes on armaments. Their share of expenditure in 1972 was 18.7 per cent.

Forty-eight F5E fighter-bombers are to be added to the air force at a cost of over \$100m. Fighters are also being manufactured under licence from the Italian Agusta Company. Last year 16 Mirage 111E jets were bought from France and four Hawker HS125s from Britain.

The army has recently bought a large number of self-propelled guns from the US for use in border areas. Many of its needs are now supplied by Brazilian factories manufacturing weapons under foreign patents; more sophisticated equipment, such as radar systems, guided missiles, tanks and armoured cars are purchased abroad.

Three modern submarines have been brought from Britain recently to add to a navy which has mine-sweepers, destroyers and cruisers. The next step for Brazil's military is to have its own nuclear weapons.

This has been confirmed by Walt Rostow, formerly adviser to President Lyndon Johnson and now at the University of Texas, who said recently: 'Brazil is on the way to becoming a nuclear power and thus is a potential danger to its neighbours.'

The political purpose behind the strengthening of the Brazilian armed forces is to enable revolutionary movements in Latin America to be suppressed without direct US intervention.

In 1965 Brazil sent artillery to back up the landing of US marines in the Dominican Republic. In 1971 it aided the military coup of Juan José Torres in Bolivia. It backed Uruguayan reaction against the Broad Front and may well have intervened had there been a left-wing election victory.

The army on the border with Argentina is on the alert since the coming to power of the Peronist President Hector Campora. It has jet helicopters, observation planes and bombers, tanks and artillery at the ready.

USSR TRADE WITH BRAZIL

The Soviet Union is hoping to increase its business with Brazil's military regime during the coming year.

It has already supplied part of the equipment for the new Capivara 652,000 KW power station and has signed a contract to purchase 75,000 tons of Brazilian coffee.

By these deals the Soviet bureaucracy is making it easier for the Brazilian military oligarchy to overcome problems resulting from the country's dependence on imperialism. This means that credits have to be earned to pay profits to foreign enterprise and to service the debt held abroad.

By opening up a market for Brazilian goods, the Soviet bureaucracy also helps to shield this satellite of US imperialism from the effects of the trade war. It holds out attractive prospects to Brazilian businessmen and strengthens a regime which murders and represses all its opponents.

A Moscow radio commentator spoke approvingly of the mission for the development of trade which Brazilian capitalists are opening in Moscow.

Brazil is to organize a trade fair in a number of east European countries, including the Soviet Union, later this year. In return the Soviet Union will open a trade and industrial exhibition in Sao Paulo in two or three months time.

A new English edition of the 'First Five Years of the Communist International' incorporating hitherto unpublished material from Volume XIII of Trotsky's 'Works'

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TODAY'S TV

BBC 1

9.38-11.25 Schools. 12.55 Llwybrau'r wlad. 1.25 News. Weather. 1.30 Joe. 2.20 Schools. 4.00 Huckleberry hound. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jack-anory. 4.50 Blue Peter. 5.15 Man dog. 5.45 Wombles. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.50 TOP OF THE FORM.
7.15 Z CARS. Co-operation.
8.00 PANORAMA.
9.00 NEWS. Weather.
9.25 PLAY FOR TODAY: 'Bloom-ing Youth'. Three men and a woman share a flat in London. Devised and directed by Leslie Blair. Produced by Tony Garnett.
10.40 THE MOVIE QUIZ.
117.10 THE SINGING TRAIN. Journey along the Ffestiniog Railway in Wales.
11.35 LATE NIGHT NEWS.
11.40 HOMES AND THE HOME-LESS. The House and the City.
12.05 Weather.

ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.06 Friend of the blind. 10.25 Barbican regained. 10.45 World War I. 11.10 Wild life theatre. 11.35 Galloping gourmet. 12.00 Car-toon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Up and down, in and out, roundabout man. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Melody inn. 1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 Jokers wild. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Do-ing things. 3.25 A family at war. 4.25 Clapperboard. 4.50 Tomorrow people. 5.20 Thirty minutes Worth. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.
6.40 DAVID NIXON SHOW.
7.30 CORONATION STREET.
8.00 MY GOOD WOMAN.
8.30 WORLD IN ACTION.
9.00 HUNTER'S WALK. Outcast.
10.00 NEWS AT TEN.
10.30 WILD, WILD WEST. The Night of the Avaricious Actuary.
11.30 ART OF THE CRAFT. China Restoration.
12.00 WORLD WAR I.
12.25 Periscope.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open University.

7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.
7.35 INSIDE MEDICINE.
8.00 THE HIGH CHAPARRAL. For the Love of Carlos.

8.50 FACE THE MUSIC.
9.25 THE TWO RONNIES. Guests Georgie Fame and Alan Price.
10.10 FOR LOVE OR MONEY?
11.00 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.
11.30 OPEN DOOR. Street Farmers, The Council for Academic Freedom and Democracy, Teachers in Dentistry.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.00 Schools. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Survival. 6.45 London. 10.33 Stanley Baxter. 11.00 Towards the year 2000. 11.23 Protec-tors. 11.50 News. weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.30 London. 10.05 Rovers. 10.30 Port of Hong Kong. 10.40 Danger man. 11.30 Whicker. 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.20 Sports desk. 6.35 Date with Danton. 11.03 Happiness business. 11.50 Epilogue.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 10.05 Hammy Hamster. 10.05 Yoga. 10.40 Galloping gourmet. 11.05 Splendour falls. 11.35 Man of the South. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.00 Dick Van Dyke. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 London. 10.30 Afloat. 11.00 News. 11.05 Streets of San Francisco. 12.00 Farming. 12.25 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 4.25 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.22 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 10.30 Film: 'Corridors of Blood'. 12.05 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 2.30-3.00 Hamdden. 6.01-6.22 Y dydd. 8.30 Yr wythnos.

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

ANGLIA: 11.00 Cartoon. 11.10 Galloping gourmet. 11.35 Dr Simon Locke. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 House-

party. 3.00 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.45 London. 10.30 Gardening. 11.00 Film: 'Miami Expose'. 12.20 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 12.00 Guide. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 London. 6.00 Today. 6.45 London. 10.30 Romantic versus classic art. 11.00 Man in a suitcase. 12.00 Epilogue. Weather.

ULSTER: 12.05 London. 1.28 News. 1.30 London. 2.00 Let's face it. 2.30 Cartoon. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Please don't eat the daisies. 6.35 Cartoon. 6.45 London. 10.30 Assembly platform. 11.30 Monday night. 11.40 Theatre.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 10.06 Katie Stewart cooks. 10.30 Ed Allen time. 10.55 Manfred. 11.05 Pretenders. 11.35 Primus. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 London. 4.25 Osmonds. 4.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.45 London. 10.30 Emmerdale farm. 11.05 Commentary. 11.55 Streets of San Francisco. 12.50 Weather.

SCOTTISH: 10.55 Yoga. 11.20 Bell-bird. 11.35 Last stand. 12.00 Babar. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Cartoons. 6.45 London. 10.30 Late call. 10.35 Upstairs, down-stairs. 11.35 Songs for your delight.

GRAMPIAN: 11.15 Jason King. 12.00 Mid-day roundup. 12.05 London. 2.00 Ed Allen. 2.30 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Strictly Scottish. 6.45 London. 10.30 Romantic versus classic art. 11.00 University Challenge. 11.30 Odd couple. 12.00 Meditation.

£6 bonus promise at Gardner's

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS

OVER 2,000 Manchester engineers return to work today at L. Gardner's and Son, the diesel engine manufacturers.

After a 13-week dispute they have not won a pay increase because of the state wage controls, but management has agreed to increase their bonus by £6 as soon as Phase Two ends.

'They have told us regard-less of what Phase Three brings, we are going to get £6 in October', convenor Eddie Ankers said.

'This pledge has been made even realizing they risk being subpoenaed for breaking the pay laws.

He added: 'Some men are afraid that management may renege on their word, but if they do they will face another dispute.'

Another important concession claimed by shop stewards is a pledge by management to in-crease the bonus of approxi-mately one-quarter of the piece-workers, who at present earn the basic rate of £24 a week.

Again, the new system is due to come in in October, but stewards will be pressing for immediate negotiations.

Despite this agreement the Gardner's workers realize they have been trapped by the Tory pay policy.

Said Eddie Ankers: 'The hos-pital workers and the gasworkers came up against this govern-ment and they collapsed. The miners backed off.

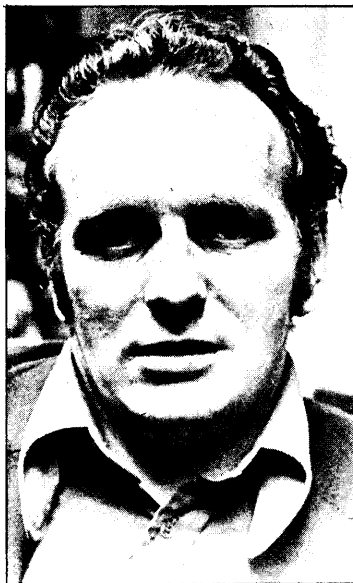
'We either had to sign this agreement or stick out until October. Then we would have been taking on the government —and you can't take on the gov-ernment as one factory, only as a nation.'

The bitter dispute, which in-cluded an occupation, has radi-cally altered attitudes in the factory.

Gardner's workers refused to join in the wave of Manchester sit-ins over the engineers' pay claim last year.

Instead they accepted a £2 'Gardner's' award. This was only paid if men put in a 100 per cent weekly attendance.

Stewards hope the militancy shown during the latest dispute will remain. Today they will go into an immediate session to



Convenor Eddie Ankers

press management on the re-structuring of the piecework arrangement.

However, the Gardner's dis-pute reveals once more a dan-gerous tendency, throughout the engineering union, to accept the pay laws in practice.

JUNE FUND ONLY £435.51

WE ARE still a very long way from reaching our £1,750 target and we are now very concerned. Time is rapidly slipping by leaving us only 13 days to the end of June.

We appeal to all of you, dear readers, step up the fight now before it is too late. We know we can do it if we fight now.

Workers Press is needed more than ever to prepare for the great changes in this politi-cal situation. Never before has the capitalist class faced such a huge economic crisis.

Our paper must be used to warn thousands of workers everywhere of the deflationary attacks ahead. Go into action now. Raise as much as you can for our June Fund. Take special collections at work, where possible, give something extra your-self. Post all donations im-me-diate-ly to:

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OUR fund has now reached £51,313.92. Saturday's post brought in £25. Tooting £5; Willesden £10; Watford £10. Post all donations to:

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given by Peter Jeffries

Sunday June 24

Trade Unions and political struggle in Britain

Sunday July 8

Chartism, yesterday and today

Sunday July 15

The Revolutionary Party and the British working class

at

Stanley Halls

Upper Parliament Street
3 p.m.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Manchester

given by Peter Jeffries

Sunday June 24

Trade Unions and political struggle in Britain

Sunday July 8

Chartism, yesterday and today

Sunday July 15

The Revolutionary Party and the British working class

at

Black Lion

Blackfriars St/Chapel St
near Salford Bus Station
7.30 p.m.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Barnsley

Given by Gerry Healy

National Secretary

of the

Socialist Labour League

Sunday June 24

Dialectical Materialism—a Marxist theory of knowledge

Sunday July 8

Theory and Practise of Marxism

Sunday July 15

Role of the Revolutionary Party

at

The Red Lion

Worsborough

Near Barnsley

7.30 p.m.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Leicester

lectures given by

Cliff Slaughter

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The Socialist Revolution in Britain:

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3. The state and revolution. Reformism and revolution in Britain. The fight for democratic rights today means preparing for working-class power.

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Perspectives for transforming the SLL into a revolutionary party.

Marxist Analysis of the Crisis. Problems of the British Revolution (Trotsky).

Sundays June 24, July 8
Stockingfarm Community Centre, Stockingfarm
7.30 p.m.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

ACTON: Monday June 18, 8 p.m. 'Six Bells', High Street, W.3. 'Build the revolutionary party. Defend democratic rights'.

LEWISHAM: Monday June 18, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road. 'TUC must break off Phase Three talks'.

CRAWLEY: Monday June 18, 8 p.m. Council for Social Services Hall, 19 Station Road. 'Force the Tories to resign. A Labour government must nationalize major industries'.

MEDWAY: Monday June 18, 8 p.m. 'The York', next to Chat-ham Station. 'Forward to the All Trades Unions Alliance con-ference'.

WIGAN: Tuesday June 19, 7.30 p.m. Market Hotel. 'Defend democratic rights. Come to Belle Vue'.

BATTERSEA: Tuesday June 19, 8 p.m. 'Nag's Head', Wandsworth Road. 'Force the Tories to re-sign. Return a Labour govern-ment pledged to socialist policies'.

BRIXTON: Tuesday June 19, 8 p.m. Training Centre, Control Room. 'Force the Tories to re-sign. Return a Labour govern-ment pledged to socialist policies'.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday June 19, 8 p.m. Barking Co-op Hall, Fan-shawe Avenue. 'Force the Tories to resign. A Labour government must nationalize major indus-tries'.

CLYDEBANK: Tuesday June 19, 7.30 p.m. Co-op Hall, Hume Street, Clydebank. 'Fight the rent Act. Throw the Tories out.'

BACUP: Wednesday, June 20, 8.00 p.m. Mechanics Hall (side door). 'Fight Rising Prices, Force the Tories to Resign.'

DEWSBURY: Wednesday June 20, 7.30 p.m. Textile Hall. 'Forward to the All Trades Unions Alliance conference.'

HACKNEY: Wednesday June 20, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, Mare Street. 'Labour must nationalize major industries'.

LIVERPOOL: Wednesday, June 20, 7.30 p.m. 'The Westminster Inn', Westminster Road, Walton. 'Defend democratic rights! Forward to the ATUA conference!'

SOUTHAMPTON: Wednesday June 20, 7.30 p.m. Temperance Institute, Carlton Crescent, nr T&GWU headquarters.

SWINDON: Wednesday June 20, 7.30 p.m. Co-op Hall, East Street. 'Down with the pay laws. TUC must break off Phase Three talks.'

LANCASTER: Thursday June 21, 7.30 p.m. The Trades Hall, Fenton Street, near the Post Office.

CORBY: Thursday, June 21, 8 p.m. 'The Corby Candle'. 'Force the Tories to Resign.'

FULHAM: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Fulham Broad-way. 'Trade unions and the Tory government'.

GOOLE: Thursday, June 21, 8 p.m. The Station Hotel. 'The Revolutionary Party and the Fight against the Tories'.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'Inflation and the crisis of capitalism'.

KINGSTON: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Norbiton Hotel, Clifton Road. 'Force the Tories to resign. Labour must nationalize the major industries'.

LEEDS: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Peel Hotel, Boar Lane. 'Defence of Trade Unions and democratic rights. Forward to the ATUA conference.' Speaker: Cliff Slaughter.

LANCASTER: Thursday June 28, 7.30 p.m. The Trades Hall, Fenton Street, near the Post Office.

Chrysler 'secret talks' end in deadlock

SECRET TALKS between Chrysler convenors and management have ended with no prospect of a compromise, negotiated settlement.

The talks, arranged after contacts between Jack Jones, Transport and General Workers' Union secretary, and the company, produced no change in Chrysler's position.

Picketing, therefore, continued strongly over the weekend with strikers from the Ryton assembly plant maintaining their blockade of the company's second Coventry works, the engine plant at Stoke.

BY DAVID MAUDE

Pat Powell, sheet metal workers' union convenor from Ryton, accused the company of attempting to weaken the trade union movement with its hard-line stance.

He said: 'The trade union position is that we have found no basis whatsoever for a return to work.'

'The strike goes on and is as strong as ever. We are determined to prevent the company having the right to take people off the clock arbitrarily.'

'We are also determined to

make the company compensate all the workers for all their loss of earnings related to the lay-off agreement, plus the holiday pay due for the spring holiday.

'I think the whole issue behind Chrysler's attitude is their attempt to weaken the trade union movement.'

Meanwhile Chrysler's, which was last week accused of 'M15 tactics' by shop stewards, admitted to using a photographer to take pictures of the picket lines.

A spokesman, Peter Vey, said

it was true photographs of the picket lines had been taken on the company's behalf. He claimed this was because the company wanted to establish if people not employed by it were involved in the picketing.

In other words, Chrysler's is openly attempting to build up a new witch-hunt against the strikers.

Its claims of 'shoddy work' have been thoroughly discredited as a crude provocation. Now it is seeking new propaganda backing for its decision to break workers' resistance to arbitrary lay-off and speed-up or shut down.

TONIGHT

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETING

Issues facing Chrysler workers

Monday June 18 7.30 p.m.

THE ELASTIC INN COX STREET COVENTRY

Parity lock-out goes on at Peterborough No compromise at Perkins

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

MANAGEMENT of Perkins Diesel, the Peterborough factory where 5,700 workers are locked out, have refused to compromise in their opposition to wage parity with the parent Massey Ferguson plant in Coventry.

Perkins



WRIGHT . . . Dispute goes on

In nearly 12 hours of talks in London on Saturday they rejected union leaders' proposals for a compromise to end the lock-out which began on Wednesday last week.

Bob Wright, executive council member of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, who led the union side at the talks, said: 'It is quite clear the company is not willing to make any positive commitment. The dispute goes on.'

The average wage differential between Peterborough and Coventry plants is about £20. The company says it is paying the 'market rate' for the East Anglian area.

It was the demand for parity with the Coventry factory which sparked the present dispute. When their last wage agreement ran out at the beginning of April, the Peterborough workers began an overtime ban in support of parity.

After 11 weeks, management claimed that production had fallen to 30 per cent of full output and closed the factory. The men



EVANS . . . Joined talks

could return, they said, only when the ban was lifted.

Wright said after Saturday's meeting that the men were not prepared to 'return in dribs and drabs'.

He expected support from the Perkins workers for the union's position. 'They have taken a stand on an issue which is a burning issue,' he said.

Because of the government's Phase Two policies, the union had not been in a good position to negotiate a wage rise. 'I think the company have exploited this position,' Wright said.

The lengthy meeting in London was arranged by the

Department of Employment which tried to mediate between the two sides.

Wright was accompanied on the union side by Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' district secretary Dick Shaw and Transport and General Workers' Union national officer Moss Evans.

The shop stewards' committee was not represented at the talks.

Management representatives were Terry Jayne, industrial relations director, Massey Ferguson; Bill Mearns, personnel and industrial relations director, Perkins Peterborough; and Gerry Yates, industrial relations manager of Perkins.

PICKETS maintained their round-the-clock vigil at the Peterborough factories throughout the weekend, and Perkins' chairman and managing director, Sir Monty Prichard, remained adamant. The company's 3,200 white-collar workers, who have so far been unaffected by the dispute, have now been told to carry union cards so that they can identify themselves to pickets.

Prichard insisted that the shutdown has been 'necessary'.

Cowley plant stays at a standstill

WORKERS at British-Leyland's Cowley, Oxford, car factories begin their third full week laid off today with the company maintaining its hard-line refusal to upgrade 80 plant attendants.

Talks involving top union officials and management representatives on Friday folded up after Leyland insisted it would make no improvement in its latest offer.

So 12,000 workers will remain laid off.

The plant attendants, who struck on June 1 after exhausting procedure and giving two weeks' notice of industrial action, want a declaration that they will be moved into the lower of two skilled grades when the Tory pay laws allow.

The company has turned this demand down flat. It has offered 2p on the men's present semi-skilled rate, at the time of the next annual pay review, plus a joint union-management investigation of whether a further 2p should be paid.

At their meeting last week this was rejected by the strikers, despite favourable attitude of union officials at national level—the engineers' Reg Birch and Moss Evans of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

On Friday Birch and Evans travelled to Oxford, apparently with the intention of recommending acceptance of the already-rejected offer at a meeting with the plant attendants in the Cowley factory.

Letters announcing the meeting, signed by the company's industrial relations manager, had been delivered to the strikers the previous day.

But the men had agreed at their meeting last week not to meet again until this coming Wednesday, and that they would be notified of any change in these arrangements by the shop stewards' committee. All but a handful disregarded the management's letters and no meeting with Birch and Evans took place.

In later talks the company, led by industrial relations director Pat Lowry, stood firm on its 2p offer.

Leyland later issued a statement accusing shop stewards of taking 'deliberate steps to sabotage the meeting [with Birch and Evans] by putting pressure on the men to stay away'.

Dougie Hobbs, secretary of the joint shop stewards' committee, told the 'Oxford Mail' there had been no consultation with the stewards about the management letters calling the meeting.

He dismissed the company's allegations of sabotage. There was no ill feeling between the shop stewards and the national officials, he said.

LP and miners' chiefs create confusion

THE YORKSHIRE miners' gala brought out more evidence of the crisis of leadership within the labour and trade union movement.

Bill Simpson, this year's Labour Party chairman and foundry workers' leader, spoke for the trade union faction on the Labour NEC in defending the 25-company nationalization proposal against Wilson and the right wing.

'As Party chairman I stand by the decision taken by the NEC and will fight for that decision'. Transport House should mount

FROM ROYSTON BULL IN WAKEFIELD

a campaign in support of the proposals, regardless of the leading Party members.

Simpson said this was a very critical time in the policy making of the next Labour government; that the failures of the previous Labour government must not be repeated; and that Conference in October must decide the necessary new policies.

But neither he nor Anthony Wedgwood Benn, speaking in Nottingham, would name Wilson, nor say what should be done about the right wing. Both

called for a 'debate' without rancour.

The role of the unions in the economic crisis was touched on by both Arthur Scargill, newly-elected Yorkshire NUM president, and National president Joe Gormley. They added to the confusion by failing to denounce the TUC-Heath talks or to call for a campaign to bring down the Tory government.

Scargill described how the Tories were ruthlessly attacking the very existence of democracy and trade union rights, but then

called on the same government to repeal the rent Act, the pay laws and the Industrial Relations Act, and bring in a planned fuel policy including coal expansion.

He said: 'It must be clearly understood that we will not tolerate any further reduction in our standards of living. We will not stand idly by and see the hard-won gains of 1972 whittled away by legislation of the Tory government.'

But he did not say how the Tory government's attack was to be thrown back, and his remark 'We do not want a conflict' completely disarms the working class in the face of this onslaught.

In the same way, his call on the next Labour government for a better deal for coal is useless without the demand for workers' control of the industry.

Gormley warned the government about interfering with free negotiations, but said nothing about taking the political offensive to force the Tories to resign.

He ended by justifying his own role—'we have the same objectives as you'—and blaming the working class for electing a Tory government.

DOCKS shop stewards' meet in three weeks' time to discuss their attitude to the increasing use of 'casual', supplementary labour in several ports. A Tilbury mass meeting has demanded a national campaign against the threat to job-security.

Paras plan revenge killings-Ulster MP

BRITISH army paratroopers shortly to be pulled out of South Armagh, Northern Ireland, plan a series of 'revenge' killings before they leave.

This was alleged at the weekend by the Social Democratic and Labour Party MP for the area, Paddy O'Hanlon, in a statement issued in Newry.

O'Hanlon said that according to information he has received during the past few days, at least seven civilian may be killed

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

before the paratroopers are withdrawn from South Armagh in just over a month's time.

'I have positive knowledge that a number of paratroopers have vowed to shoot people in the area before they leave', he added.

A memorandum on the alleged killings plans, which is said to have been conceived following the deaths of soldiers in booby traps and mine explosions, is being sent to the Tories' Ulster Secretary, William Whitelaw.

The document also claims that paratroopers planted explosives at a house in Beleek so as to justify arrests of the people who lived there.

Meanwhile, as the Provisional IRA formally denied responsibility for the killing of Michael Wilson, brother-in-law of Ulster Defence Association leader Tommy Herron, new information emerged about the UDA's involvement in protection activities.

Herron has admitted that public houses do pay the UDA for protection, but denies this is a 'protection racket'.

He also continues to claim that the Provisionals are responsible for Wilson's death.

On Saturday the far right 'Ulster Freedom Fighters' kidnapped and murdered a young Catholic from Andersonstown, claiming that the killing was a reprisal for Wilson's death.

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SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MEETING

BLACKBURN

'The Peel Hotel' (Town Centre)

Monday - June 25, 8 p.m. (Please note date change)

'Build the Revolutionary Party'