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BY PETER JEFFRIES

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But LONDON also felt the backlash. The 'Financial Times' Index dropped nearly nine points in yesterday's early trading as many leading industrial shares took a heavy battering.

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But doubts exist about its ability to raise sufficient cash to carry through such an operation.

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Stewart moots talks with Pact

BY PETER READ

INTRODUCING the Tory General Election manifesto at a London press conference yesterday, Mr Edward Heath stressed that all the 'old friends' were there.

He meant, of course, anti-union laws, measures to strengthen 'law and order', the reduction of immigrants to the status of aliens and all the other attacks on the working class planned by the Tory leaders at February's 'council of war' at Selsdon Park.

It was also indicated that the Tories are going to try to play down their anti-union policies during the run-up to the Election.

They want at all costs to contain the militancy of the working class simply to questions of wages because they fear that raising the issue of attacks on the unions immediately will bring a growing reaction against the Tories and a big anti-Tory vote.

Co-operation

In this manoeuvre the Tories will undoubtedly have the co-operation of Fleet Street.

Compensation

The Tory manifesto pledges to change the law so that a demonstrator (or striker, in due course) who causes damage to property will be obliged to compensate his victim in addition to fines or other punishments imposed by the courts.

Asked about the effect of the Wall St slump, Heath said that he thought it would be a major factor in the campaign.

He followed this up with a fatuous remark about the need for 'building a strong Britain able to deal with an international situation which starts going wrong'. Some hopes!

Fewer homes

SIX THOUSAND fewer homes were completed in the first quarter of this year than during the same period of 1969, according to figures published by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government yesterday.

Between January 1 and the end of April, 107,000 homes were built as against 112,735 in the same four months of 1969.

Czech moves to expel Dubcek

BY A FOREIGN REPORTER

FORMER Czech Communist Party secretary Alexander Dubcek is facing expulsion on the recommendation of a specially constituted Party commission.

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PRESSURE

Holding close relatives hostage was a device often used by Stalin to apply moral pressure to his political opponents and potential victims.

Reversion to this tactic by the Husak regime underlines the gravity of the situation in Czechoslovakia.

British Labour must demand the right to investigate the charges being made against fellow trade unionists and socialists in Czechoslovakia before a new series of Prague 'trials' is set in motion.

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● PAGE FOUR COL. 8 →

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Before leaving the police station's telephones and wireless sets were destroyed.

At the same time, another gang of masked men kidnapped ex-section leader of EOKA, Christakis Tryfonidis, and set another group attempted, unsuccessfully, to arrest Andreas Efthymion, a friend and collaborator of Tryfonidis.

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Finally the same paper rejects the activity of the National Front, declaring that 'a wind of patriotic fervour has begun to agitate the nationalist and unionist [union with Greece] Cypriot people'.

Undoubtedly the rejoicing of 'Estia' reflects the Greek junta's position on Cypriot events.

Imminent

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The development, however, of capitalism's world crisis, which takes a sharp form in the eastern Mediterranean in the attack against the Arab people, has brought the working class and poor peasantry on the scene in a series of sharp struggles.

Unity

The Stalinist AKEL openly condemned every trade union or political mobilization in the name of 'national unity'.

Under these conditions the internal contradictions of the bourgeois groups reached their highest point shattering the alliance between the former capitalist sections and between them and Stalinism.

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The rift between the former partners created a situation of chaos and dislocation for the government machine, a class-

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'Star' screens aid for Greece

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Such a move will merely rubber-stamp the free flow of economic and military aid which the colonels have in practice been able to call upon since they came to power by a coup d'etat in April 1967.

After all, the Greek regime has shown its determination to blot out, with jailings, torture and murders, all resistance of the Greek working class.

US imperialism, together with the rest of European capitalism, is not going to deprive it of the means to do so.

And if the colonels use methods that sometimes seem too brutal, they can always be excluded, for the sake of appearances, from the Council of Europe.

But the Greek colonels need not only look West.

Aid

They are also receiving economic aid and benefiting from trading agreements with the Soviet Union, Hungary, China and Albania.

And last week came the announcement that the E German government has agreed to supply and build three power stations costing over \$1-million.

This was the reason why Monday's headline in the 'Morning Star', piously vituperating against Nixon's decision, positively resounded with what it left unsaid with this.

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This brought a reply in its turn, published in the very Monday issue which reported the NATO meeting, from reader Paul Forth, who insisted on the basic question of the right to exist of the workers' movement in the capitalist country concerned.

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EXPLORATORY talks with Warsaw Pact powers were proposed by Labour Foreign Secretary at yesterday's session of the NATO Ministerial conference in Rome.

The aim of the discussions, said Stewart, would be to see if actual negotiations on East-West relations and 'European Security' could begin, and in what form they should be organized.

● See 'Stalinist moves beyond NATO meeting' — page four.

Israelis raid Lebanon

ISRAELI troops again crossed into the Lebanon yesterday in another action against Arab commando units.

According to Major General Gur, northern area commander of the Israeli army, his troops were operating at his discretion in attempts to keep the guerrillas away from the border with Israel.

The operation had been mounted in the central sector of the 50 mile border.

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12p.c. claim blacks out Granada T.V.

STRIKE action by technicians demanding a 12 per cent pay claim blacked out Granada Television programmes from lunchtime yesterday.

The 300 technicians — members of the Association of Cinematograph and Television Technicians at Granada's Manchester studios — announced their strike plans last week.

Methods of manning for 625-line and colour transmission, they said, should be the basis of a productivity payment which would give

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● PAGE FOUR COL. 6 —

What exactly is piece-work and how is it used?

PIECEWORK is the type of payment-by-results (PBR) system best suited to the production line type of work.

Its principle is payment by the piece resulting in a very low basic rate (in engineering 3s 10d an hour national award) and a very high percentage of wages made up in incentive payment.

The system is simple. A price is established for every operation from the biggest to the smallest by the use of the stop watch and a bargain is struck between the operator and the employer, usually in the person of the rate fixer.

But no price can be introduced until the operator agrees mutuality must apply. Once fixed, the time then stands for good unless a change takes place in the means, method or material involved in the job.

Originally piecework was the employers' idea. In fact they forced it in against the opposition of the unions, but the fact that it now gives an advantage to the worker is not a contradiction of this.

When the employer forced piecework the worker did not have the basic shop-floor organization to take advantage of what piecework had to offer.

What was the use of the right to refuse a price until an acceptable offer was made if the employer had the power to sack the operator and employ someone who was prepared to accept it?

Or if the employer had the power to move men around the factory as he wished there would be no point in fighting for a price anyway, because you might be on a different job the next day.

During the post-war boom period, from the late 1940s until the early 1960s, a massive growth of shop-floor organization took place, for example, in the big assembly plants of the motor industry.

So, with the employers' right to hire and fire, at least without expensive strikes, gone, and with the shop stewards predominantly in control of the movement between jobs, things were very different.

Then every worker had the actual (not theoretical) right to refuse a price and bargain it up until he got something out of it. The result of all this, of course, was rapidly increasing wages with the piecework plants the front runners for everyone else.

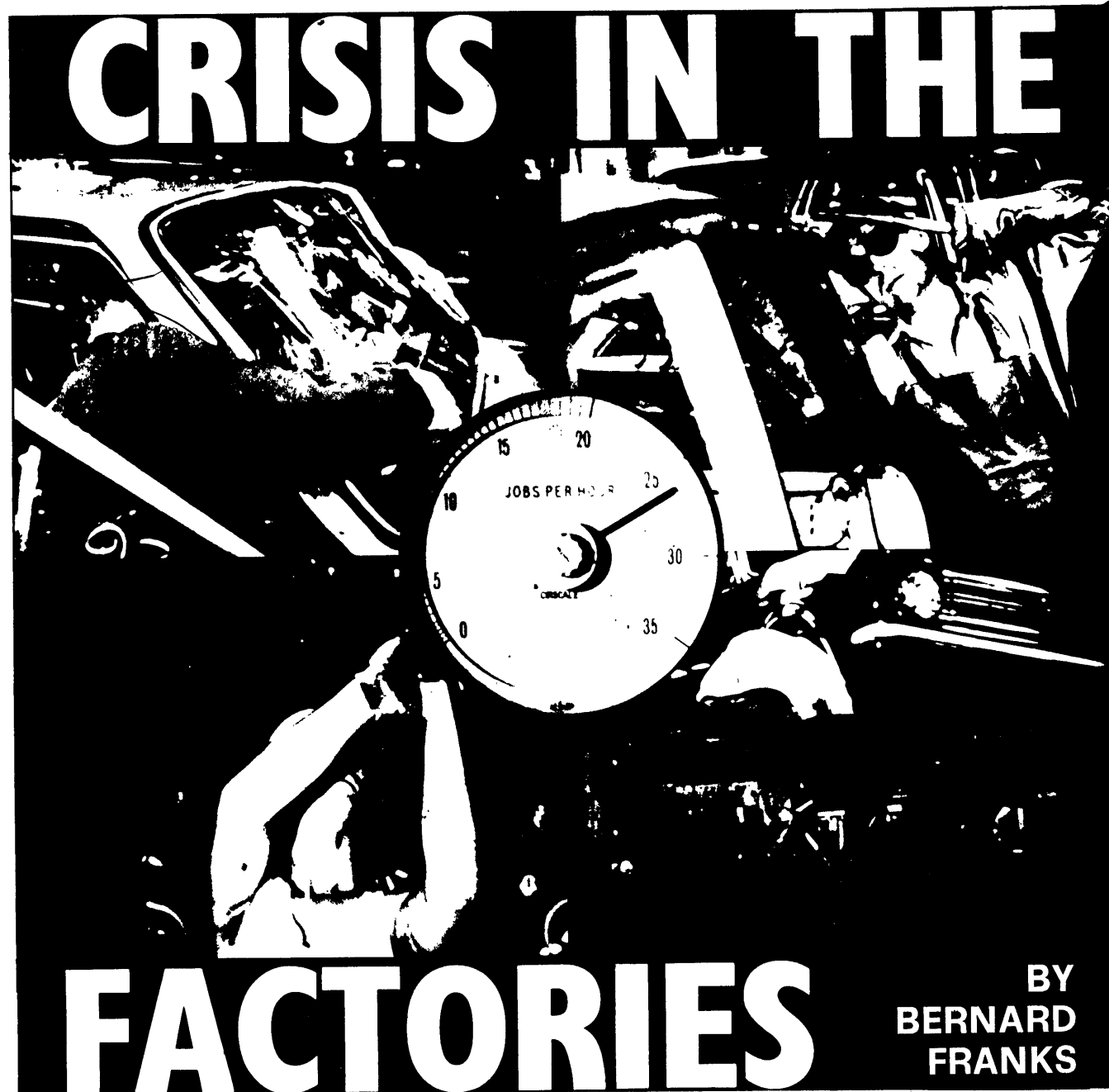
So the employer is faced with a question—what to do. As a first measure he tries to tighten up on his piecework and PBR schemes by more and better rate fixers and time-and-motion men, but this soon fails in most cases because the workers learn new dodges as fast as they do. The employer then faces the big step. The old system must go and a new one which once again gives him the advantage must be introduced. That system is Measured-Day Work.

How does a pieceworker improve his wages?

PIECEWORK payments are in two parts, firstly the payment for the time for the operation itself, and secondly the 'plus-up' or 'percentage' given for effort put in according to the opinion of the rate fixer.

Negotiations for increases can take place on the time for the job whenever a change takes place in the means, method or material involved.

When this happens in the engineering industry the piecework agreement between the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Engineering Employers' Federation gives the advantage to the worker by the operation of clause five:



CRISIS IN THE

FACTORIES

BY
BERNARD
FRANKS

2 Some questions on traditional forms of payment

'Whenever the material, means or method of production is changed and the employer desires a modification in price or basic time, the modification shall in no case be such as to effect a reduction in the earnings of the workers concerned.'

This means that a worker is re-timed under conditions where his previous average becomes his new minimum and mutuality must apply. Another way a pieceworker can increase his earnings is by review of his 'plus-up', this involves a rate fixer re-observing the job.

But by far the most common way by which a pieceworker increases his money is by taking on or 'pulling' more work. Most workers are timed on jobs when they are relatively inexperienced at that particular operation.

After he has been doing the job for a period of time a worker gets so used to it that he creates 'spare' time. When the opportunity arises with, for example, an increase in schedule, he can use up this spare time by taking on more work and increase his earnings.

This is the part of the piecework system which the employers are most hostile to, they call it 'the learning curve'.

Taking all these things together, and given that the employer can sell his commodities and that there are changes in models and programmes, piecework is a system of continually rising wages.

In the motor industry piecework plants generally show, under normal conditions, annual increases in hourly rates of about 1s 3d an hour in addition to any nationally negotiated increases.

What do you mean by mutuality?

THE TERM 'mutual agreement' or 'mutuality' refers primarily to the piecework agreement (in the engineering industry) under which timings cannot be introduced before agreement is reached with the operator.

This is the strength of the piecework agreement and what makes it so important.

Under this agreement, if no mutuality can be reached over a piecework or a bonus price the operator has the right to revert to a 'day-rate effort' (this amounts to work without the bonus content) which automatically restricts his effort to about a third of the former level.

The term mutuality, therefore, cannot simply be applied to anything which happens to result from discussions amongst negotiators.

To apply the term, or to demand mutuality, in the case of a productivity swindle is nonsense. The employers would be happy to agree to this type of 'mutuality'.

The whole essence of productivity, job evaluation, Measured-Day Work, etc., is to get rid of the real mutuality in the piecework agreement.

The fact that heads are nodded around a conference table after every trick described in later sections of this series has been employed, does not mean mutuality, but, more often, compromise and betrayal.

Does this mean that you support piecework as such?

PIECEWORK—as well as Measured-Day Work—is a brutal system of exploitation—and we don't support it for that.

In many factories workers are driven to the limits of

endurance by piecework and the lives of many are shortened as a result.

It is as simple as this; is it better to be subjected to these conditions on low wages or on comparatively high wages, because the employers do not intend MDW to be any better.

It is natural for workers to want an easy tempo of work, good conditions and good wages, but this is only possible ultimately under a socialist mode of production in which production takes place under a planned economy for need and not for profit, not under capitalism.

What is the incentive bonus system of payment?

THE TERM incentive bonus refers to the form of payment-by-results system in which payment is based not on price per piece irrespective of time taken, as in piecework, but on time allowed for the job.

This is then converted into money in various ways which are listed below:

Premium bonus scheme. This is a payment-by-results scheme where payments are based on the time saved which is the difference between the time allowed for the job and the actual time taken. Payment may or may not be directly proportional to results.

Multi-factor scheme. This is a payments-by-results scheme where payments are based on more than one factor e.g. quality, machine utilization, process yield, output, etc. **Standard time scheme.** A payment-by-results scheme where money is based on a rate of payment per unit of work produced, expressed in terms of time.

Straight proportional scheme. A payment-by-results system where earnings are directly proportional to the results achieved, subject to meeting a bonus starting performance. Earnings in this context may exclude overtime premium payments, shift allowances etc.

Geared scheme. A payment-by-results scheme where the rate of change of bonus is constant, and the bonus follows a straight line which, if extended below the bonus starting performance, would not

give zero pay at zero performance.

Bonus plan A payment-by-results scheme where the rate of change in earnings rises as the results achieved rise. Earnings in this context may exclude overtime premium payments, shift allowance, etc. **Stabilized scheme.** A form of geared scheme where the rate of change of bonus is constant, and the bonus follows a straight line which, if extended below the bonus starting performance, would give some pay at zero performance.

Decelerating premium A payment-by-results scheme where the rate of change in earnings falls as the results achieved rise. Earnings in this context may exclude overtime premium payments, shifts allowances, etc.

These are the basic forms of payment (based on the British Standard Institution definitions) of which there are many variations.

But they all rest on the principle of hours allowed from which the hours actually taken are subtracted giving an hours saved figure. This figure is then taken as a percentage of the hours allowed and this gives what is usually called the 'percentage achieved' figure.

This, in turn, is applied to a conversion factor (usually in the form of a weighting scale) which gives an enhanced percentage figure. The enhanced percentage is then applied to the base rate.

Example:
Time Allowed 100 hours
Time Taken 40 hours
Time Saved 60 hours
From this, 'percentage achieved' is 60 per cent. After application to the weighting scale this becomes an enhanced percentage of 125 per cent.

The first thing workers should look for when considering incentive schemes is how directly is effort reflected in earnings?

There are a number of strings the employers can pull in order to keep earnings down. The most usual is on the weighting scale itself, which can either be in a straight line or curve in various degrees (see diagram above).

The most usual of the schemes is obviously the decelerating bonus plan which levels out bonus earnings the higher they go.

For example:
5 per cent increase, from 95-100 per cent=2d (say) but 5 per cent increase, from 115-120 per cent=1d and 5 per cent increase, from 125-130 per cent=.75d.

This is the most usual pit-fall workers should look for. One other form of incentive system is the Performance Indicator (PI) unit of effort.

Could you give some examples of a work-study method being used to fix a price for a job under incentive bonus (PBR)?

YES, ONE example should be enough.

Most forms of work analysis can be used to fix bonus payments based on PI units of effort.

Under this scheme method

study or activity sampling can be used to establish, by negotiation and mutual agreement, the amount of effort embodied in one PI and its conversion into money.

Let's say, for example, that a PI is worth 5s and the amount of PI is based on the output in units of production based on individual workers or groups of workers.

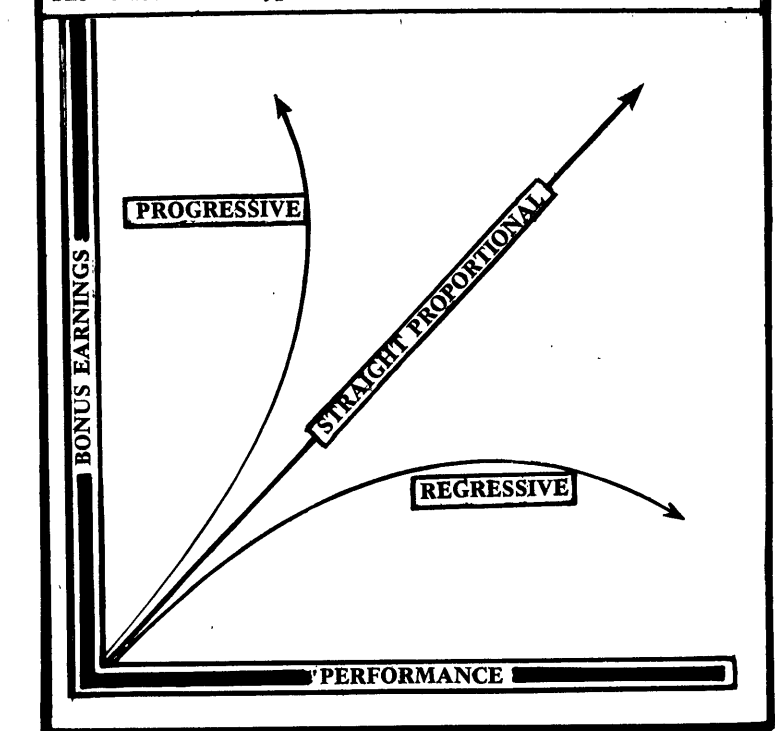
Such a system would form the basis of a direct incentive scheme which would provide the opportunity for continual negotiations over earnings and,

bogus bonus schemes being pushed now by the employers. In fact the words 'incentive scheme' are being used to describe schemes which have nothing more to do with bonus than the man in the moon.

Many job-evaluation systems have bogus bonus clauses offering a very small amount of cash for a very large reduction in manning levels.

Even some Measured-Day Work schemes which set out to get rid of payment-by-results have the worst bonus in them, usually to cover a fixed pay-

The three main types of payment-by-results bonus schemes.



given effective trade union organization, the particular method of analysis used is a secondary consideration.

What are the main advantages of incentive schemes to workers?

FIRST and foremost they retain the right of full collective bargaining at all levels.

As changes take place and anomalies arise, workers can negotiate and renegotiate at shop level over money.

It is precisely this type of continual bargaining which the employers are concerned about. The Prices and Incomes Board calls it wage drift and makes it clear that traditional incentive schemes are responsible for it.

Secondly incentive schemes are subject to the mutuality of the piecework agreement. The time allowed for the job cannot be forced in, it must be 'mutually agreed' with the operator or operators concerned.

Are you saying that all incentive schemes are good things?

NO, YOU must apply the test I have outlined above i.e., is there a direct relationship between bonus earned and effort put in?

There are a number of

ment for achieving any performance at or above a predetermined level, which amounts to the use of the word 'bonus' as a confidence trick.

Are there types of bonus which tie time workers' earnings to pieceworkers' earnings?

YES, THESE systems (sometimes called supplementary lieu bonuses) are often applied to skilled sections.

They are a very good form of payment and provide progressively rising wages providing the ratio of increase is a good one. It needs to be almost 100 per cent.

Are you saying that genuine incentive schemes should be defended?

YES, the main pre-occupation of the employer is to get rid of incentive bonus along with piecework.

These systems should be defended at all costs.

If the employers can replace bonuses with job-evaluated graded systems, they will have gone a long way along the road to effective wage cutting.

The third part in this series will appear next Wednesday.

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BBC 1

12.25-12.50 p.m. Apni hi ghar samajhiye. 1.00 Disc a dawn. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Six blue horses. 5.15 Vision on. 5.44 Parsley. 5.50 News and Weather.

6.00 LONDON-NATIONWIDE. 6.45 THE DOCTORS. 7.05 TOMORROW'S WORLD. 7.30 ALL GAS AND GAITERS. 'The Bishop Takes Up Business'.

8.00 IT'S A KNOCK-OUT! Great Yarmouth v Lowestoft. **8.50 NEWS** and weather.

9.10 ELECTION FORUM. Edward Heath answers viewers' Questions.

9.45 WEDNESDAY PLAY: 'Wind versus Polygamy.' By Obi Egbuna. A gentle play about the changing world of Africa with Earl Cameron, Charles Hyatt, Clifton Jones and Gordon Jackson.

10.30 24 HOURS.

11.05 Richard Hoggart talking about changes in British society. 11.30 Weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. **PLAY SCHOOL.**

7.05 p.m. SQUARE TWO. 7.30 NEWS and weather.

8.00 MAN ALIVE. 'North and South.' A look at the prejudices on either side of the Wash.

8.10 CANVAS. 'Pioneer Art.' A look at the collection of American art in Bath.

9.10 SHOW OF THE WEEK: 'Scott on Superstition.' Terry Scott looks at superstition.

9.55 'UNITED WE FALL.' A look at Leeds United four days before the World Cup.

10.30 NEWS and weather.

10.35 LINE-UP.

REGIONAL

All regions as BBC 1 except:

Midlands and East Anglia: 6.00-6.45 Midlands today. Look East, weather. Nationwide: 11.27 News, weather. North of England: 6.00-6.45 Look North, weather. Nationwide: 11.27 News, weather. Wales: 6.00 Wales today, weather. Nationwide: 6.45-7.05 Heddiw.

Scotland: 6.00-6.15 Reporting Scotland, nationwide. 11.00 General Assembly, 11.30 News, weather. Northern Ireland: 6.00-6.45 Scene around six, weather. Nationwide: 11.27 News, weather. South and West: 6.00-6.45 Points West, weather. Nationwide: 11.27 News, weather.

Wales: 6.00 Wales today, weather. Nationwide: 6.45-7.05 Heddiw.

ITV

3.35 p.m. Charlie Chaplin. 4.17 Tingha and Tucker. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Anything you can do. 5.20 Freewheelers. 5.50 News.

6.03 TODAY. 6.30 GHOST AND MRS MUIR. 7.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE. 7.30 CORONATION STREET. 8.00 IT TAKES A THIEF: 'To Lure A Man'. 9.00 CALLAN: 'Act of Kindness'. 10.00 NEWS. 10.30 SHINE A LIGHT: 'Two's A Crowd'. 11.00 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING: Jeff Portz v Mel Kirk and Jim Ryan v Johnny Kincaid from the Fairfield Halls, Croydon. 11.45 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY. 12 midnight: THE YOUNG APPROACH. Peter Taylor talks to Andy Allan.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL 1: 2.30-3.30 States of Jersey lottery. 4.02 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.14 Zingalong. 4.25 Open House. 4. London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 African patrol. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Treasure hunt. 7.30 London. 8.00 News. 8.00 Baron. 9.00 London. 11.40 Epilogue. News and weather in French, weather.

WESTWARD: As Channel except: 4.00 p.m. News. 4.02 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 7.00 London. 11.45 Faith for life. 11.51 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 London. 6.00 Day by day, Crime desk. 6.30 Doris Day show. 7.00 London. 8.00 Avengers. 9.00 London. 11.45 News. 11.55 Weather. 'Knights of St. Columba'.

HARLECH: 4.25 Mr Piper. 4.55 London. 6.01 Report. 6.10 F trouc. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 8.00 Marcus Welby. 9.00 London. 11.45 Weather. ITV colour channel 41 as above except: 11.45 y dydd. 12.10 Weather. ITV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 6.01 Y dydd. 6.30-6.35 Report-Wales.

ANGLIA: 4.25 Newsroom. 4.35 Romper room. 4.55 Anything you can do. 5.20 Freewheelers. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 8.00 Marcus Welby. 9.00 London. 11.45 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 4.02 Women today. 4.10 Peyton Place. 4.40 Tingha and Tucker. 4.55 London. 6.00 ATV today. Police five. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 8.00 Man in a suitcase. 9.00 London. 11.45 Pulse, weather.

ULSTER: 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 8.00 Marcus Welby. 9.00 London.

GRANADA: 3.45 p.m. Encore—university challenge. 4.15 News. 4.17 London. 4.25 Show story. 4.55 London. 6.00 Newsview. Octopus. 6.30 Gilligan's island. 7.00 London. 8.00 Baron. 9.00 London.

YORKSHIRE: 3.00 Arthur. 3.25 Forest rangers. 3.55 Houseparty. 4.10 Eit-chanted house. 4.20 Matinee. 4.55 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 F trouc. 7.00 London. 8.00 Saint. 9.00 London. 11.45 Weather.

BORDER: 4.00 News. 4.02 Houseparty. 4.15 Freud on food. 4.40 Tingha and Tucker. 4.55 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 8.00 Avengers. 9.00 London. 11.45 News, weather.

SCOTTISH: 4.20 Scotland early. 4.30 London. 6.00 Scotland now. 6.30 Raw deal? 7.00 London. 8.00 Man in a suitcase. 9.00 London. 11.00 Danger man. 11.55 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 4.25 Sincerely Bernadette. 4.55 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Gramplan week. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 8.00 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased). 8.55 Police news. 9.00 London. 11.45 Epilogue.

TV column

By Frank Cartwright

'It may not be the greatest show on earth. But for sheer panache there has been little to rival British League soccer since they closed down music halls . . .'
(Financial Times, April 29, 1970)

THE PICTURE of the British workers so dearly bred and so expensively fostered by the British bourgeoisie and its middle-class stooges is of a good-hearted, rough, ignorant, intellectual-hating, cynical, cheerful, beer-swilling, sports-following lout, with a nagging wife and noisy aggressive children.

But one of the problems in trying to hold a class in bondage with a false consciousness is that the reality won't go away.

It may be possible to promote the fantasy in newspapers, in television and at the cinema, it may even be possible to pervert all institutional education and learning into giant lies, but every day, every hour, millions of workers and their families live the truth. Our task is the consciousness of truth.

At the mass meetings of the Pilkington workers last week, it was impossible to miss the hostility to the reporters and photographers of the capitalist press and television.

If one stood up and blocked the view, he was roundly told to get down—and he got down.

But it was also impossible to miss the lies and distortions which were still published by these men and their masters, and the complete lack of skill in dealing with them at press conference.

Platitudes

They must not be underestimated; they are practiced in their pervasions, they are well paid for their pious platitudes and witch-hunting inanities.

They too are part of the truth of the Tory capitalist class.

And as the class confrontations become sharper and starker, as the election period sees an artificial truth in the reactions of the employers and government, so another great British institution is being fully mobilized for its soothing, quieting and distracting effects—the great god sport.

What a mighty deity it has become! From the playing fields of Eton to the big business of competitive sport is a tiny step.

The sideshow around the now-cancelled S African cricket tour, the enormous competitive expenditures by BBC and ITV in promoting and covering the coming World Cup contest (70 hours on BBC, nearly 60 on ITV), the working man's beer, fags and football; these are all part of the same social order.

They all represent the same interests, the same attempts to continue in control by exploiting any genuine interest or enthusiasm, any real skill or achievement, for the continuation of capitalist hegemony over all sides of life.

The Bishop of Woolwich (ex-



BOBBY CHARLTON: Top player in England's World Cup team demonstrates his skill

chance to win the support of the police by calling off the tour after months of public relations politics.

The whole charade also gave the black nationalist governments of African countries a splendid opportunity to confuse their peoples, a bit by allowing them apparently to 'take a stand' against apartheid in boycotting the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games.

Meanwhile, in the same week, President Banda of Malawi received an official visit from the chief exponent of apartheid, S Africa's Vorster, and had amicable discussions about future collaborations.

Vorster then passed straight on to Ian Smith in Rhodesia and spent some pleasant sporting hours at the Royal Salisbury Golf Club.

Back in Britain the England football team's record made number one in the charts, a Royal Television Gala Performance for the Queen and the Duke was staged in aid of British Isles countries participating in the Commonwealth Games and Heath, Sir Edward Boyle's leader, continued to imply by his silence that one of the first jobs of any new Tory government will be a settlement with the same Mr Smith. It's cricket all right.

Hobby

Mr Heath also appeared on television (BBC-1, May 24) in 'Omnibus', talking about his other hobby, music. We all look forward to Mr Wilson's counter-move in the struggle of the television image-

makers, but the rumour that he is to join with Mrs Wilson, Mr Jenkins and the rest of the Cabinet in a close harmony group has no foundation.

But the preparations for the World Cup in Mexico are well beyond rumour and the vast sums of money spent by both television networks to cover the same events are by now legend. The same features are also clear throughout Europe and S America.

Booming

In previous weeks television has been swamped with football—new games, old games, best goals, best saves, best sportsman, portraits of the England team, a booming sideline in trinkets and clothes and endless slow-motion coverage of this controversial shot, that controversial tackle.

Of course it will all get large audiences; of course the skill of the players and the excitement of the best competitive football, racing, boxing and all the rest. But let's not forget what it's all about.

'It may not be the greatest show on earth. But for sheer panache there has been little to rival British League soccer since they closed down the music halls. Its star system flourishes; its extravaganzas pack them in. But like many other epics, it is hugely overspent.' (Financial Times, April 29, 1970.)

As an industry it shows all the same features of other capitalist enterprises.

As the gulf between the super-rich and the downright broke clubs gets greater, so the pressure for mergers gets stronger.

As the players organized in the Professional Footballers' Association between 1956 and 1961 to break the maximum wage limit, so their productivity was forced up by a vastly increased number of matches in the year.

As top players comfortably earn over £100 a week and others, like Bobby Moore, Geoff

Hurst, Martin Peters and Alan Ball are said to exceed £8,000 a year, so the playing life of most footballers continues to be comparatively short and their wages to go nowhere near their true value.

George Best can run his boutiques and Bobby Moore do his advertising, but that makes no difference to the mass of players who pound away through the season.

Nor to the fact that whilst Allan Clarke is bought for £165,000 and Moore is valued at £250,000, no club includes its players in its balance sheet! They are high risk material. Similarly whilst clubs are being

That way they even get so-called unbuyable time on BBC where the commentators have to speak their names and cameras cannot avoid shots of their banners.

Promotion

The amount of money going into this form of company promotion is estimated to have risen 25 per cent this year and predictions are for trebling it in the next ten years.

Rothman's £50,000 tennis tournament at the Albert Hall, its big interest in motor racing,



VORSTER

BANDA

forced to raise the ticket prices next season they are also turning more and more to capitalist industries for support.

And that suits industry just fine. The exploitation of sport is a splendid means for big business to promote its products, to entertain its customers, to further attempt the maintenance of profit levels for comparatively trivial sums.

Some of the biggest and oldest sponsors of sport are the tobacco companies. They can no longer advertise on television so they spend the money on contests with their names attached.

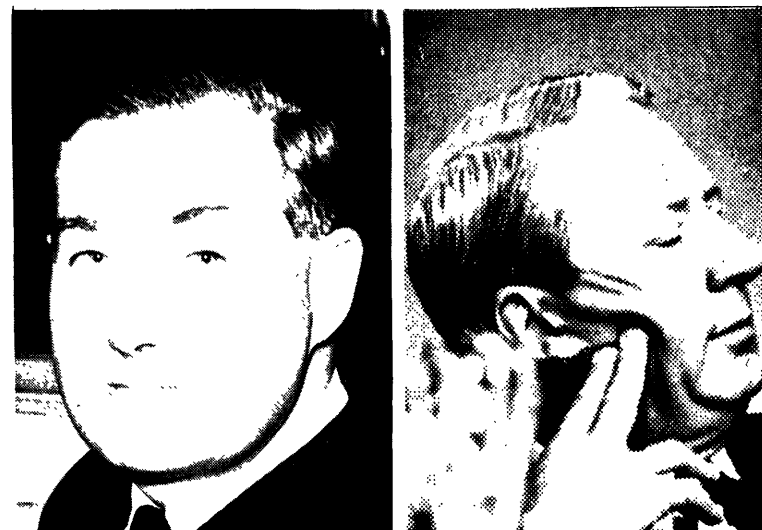
its involvement in golf are examples.

At Wills, they also go for show jumping and horse racing. Players made a big hit with its Sunday cricket and this year it is also getting into golf.

The Midland Bank, with a huge agricultural business, backs the farmers' sport of horse trials, as do Whitbread and Bass-Charrington.

Watney-Mann have made a big advertising killing with their intervention in football. A spokesman there put it in a nutshell:

'Football is a passionate hobby of large numbers of beer-drinking



Top left: CALLAGHAN calling off the tour. Top right: HEATH talking about music. Above: PILKINGTON MASS MEETING—hostility to reporters and photographers of the capitalist press.

customers.' (Financial Times' March 24, 1970.)

It is also the hobby of a large number of car-building, car-buying, boss-hating workers and after Watney's persuaded the Football Association to accept their money, Ford's weren't far behind with its £100,000 prize contest.

A good work-out at the match for its workers has always been a highly-prized safety valve to the capitalist class.

The brighter the match the more steam is let off, so the argument runs.

'Beer, fags and football' are certainly part of the same thing.

CURIOUS FOOTNOTE:

A recent 'tentative analysis'

of football in the 'Black Dwarf' reached some very extraordinary conclusions. One was that football really belongs to the working class, but that sadly it now does face the nasty penetration of big commercialism.

Another revelation was that football is good for the class because it gives experience of street fighting! Revisionism gone crazy, you may say, but no such thing.

Any medicine such middle-class middleheads are serving up for the working class, under the usual guise that it's 'good for us', is bound to have all the usual nasty emetic side effects. And their patronizing 'analysis' is certainly sickening.

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THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE AND REVISIONISM

An article in three parts by CLIFF BRANTON in reply to Henry, Peter and Margaret's pamphlet 'The Socialist Labour League—no strategy' Price 10p



Sir Edward BOYLE

captain of England's cricket team, David Sheppard), Sir Edward Boyle (peddled as the liberal of the new Toryism), both of the Fair Cricket Campaign, and the host of revisionists, radicals and plain reactionaries who surround and support them, have been elevated as the champions of anti-apartheid and racial integration.

Threats

Meanwhile the rest of the Tory Party has made great play out of the threats to 'law and order', out of the 'loss of freedom' of the Cricket Council to play a game with whoever it chooses and over the domination by unruly elements of the sane and reasonable conduct of affairs.

It's all been marvellous fuel to their repressive, punitive, retributive campaign for the election. And make no mistake the retribution are all being prepared not for the Rt Rev David Sheppard, not for the civilized Edward Boyle, but for the working class.

The annual conference of the Police Federation last week made clear its hostility to the enormous extra production of counter-revolution expected of them in protecting the representatives of colonial exploitation whilst they played cricket.

Playing the rotten Tory game to the full, Callaghan took the

Workers Press notebook

Well played sir!

LIKE the MCC committee which appoints the Cricket Council, its members are just a bunch of ordinary chaps.

Mr S. C. (Billy) Griffith, Secretary of the MCC, went to Dulwich College and Pembroke College, Cambridge. Mr G. O. Allen, Treasurer, was at Eton and Trinity.

Another committee member, Lieutenant-General Sir Oliver Leese, was president of the Old Etonians' Association a few years ago.

If anyone tells you that the MCC is run by Old Etonians, you can inform them that Lord Portal, one-time chairman of the British Aircraft Corporation, director of Barclays Bank, was at Winchester. So there!

Sir Cyril Hawker is to be the next president of the MCC and chairman of the Cricket Council. He is also chairman of the Standard Bank, parent company of the Standard Bank of S Africa. The largest bank in S Africa, it has branches also in Rhodesia, Angola and Mozambique.

Mr Aidan Crawley is another sportsman on the Cricket Council. He is also chairman of London Weekend TV.

He used to be a Labour MP—one of the few educated at Harrow—and a favourite of Mr Attlee.

Anyway, he's a Tory now. So the national sport appears to be in the hands of quite a wide cross-section of the population.

Sports Report. Chasing a ball to the boundary last Thursday, Nottinghamshire batsman Brian Bolus stopped it just inside the ropes. At the same time, he became tangled in the barbed wire put up to keep away demonstrators at



Police struck in 1918 for union recognition.

the projected game with S Africa. While he was released by a fellow fieldsman, the batsmen ran four.

When the police went on strike

WHEN A resolution calling for police to have the right to

strike was put to last week's Police Federation conference at Llandudno, it was overwhelmingly defeated.

While vociferously demanding greater powers and equipment to knock people about, and more pay for doing it, the cops were quite clear above their devotion to the state machine.

It wasn't always like that. In 1918, a massive strike of police shook London, and struck fear into the heart of a ruling class already terrified of Bolshevism.

The strike was called by the National Union of Police and Prison Officers, formed before the war, against the delay in raising pay.

Over 6,000 of the Metropolitan Police stopped work on August 30, and nearly all the City of London force.

Sir Nevil Macready, Adjutant-General of the Army, was appointed Commissioner of Police.

As a soldier, he had seen action against the S Wales miners in 1911, when Churchill had sent the troops in. Later, he was in Ireland, fighting the IRA.

Macready forbade any policeman to belong to a union, and a Bill was put through parliament making it illegal. The union replied by calling a strike for August 1, 1919.

But, although the response was good in some provincial towns, especially Liverpool, in London Macready's intimidation had done its work.

Only 1,083 men came out, of a force of 19,000. All of them were dismissed, losing all pension rights.

The union was smashed. Policemen became the passive instruments of the capitalist state they are today.

The chairman of the Llandudno conference last week reflected this when he called for the rejection of the right-to-strike resolution, with the words:

'Parliament will never grant us this, and we should achieve a great lowering of the respect, esteem and affection in which we are held by a great majority of the public.'

Tony follows the banker

NOBODY GOT very excited at the news last week that Anthony Greenwood was to become chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation (salary: £10,500 a year).

One-time glamour-boy of the Labour 'left', Greenwood was a leading Campaigner for Nuclear Disarmament marcher—until the Labour victory of 1964 called him to higher things as Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Colonial Affairs.

He was also once the right-hand man of Fenner (now Baron) Brockway, as the chairman of the Movement for Colonial Freedom.

At the Commonwealth Development Corporation, Greenwood will follow in illustrious footsteps.

Since 1964, the chair has been occupied by Lord Howick of Glendale whose term of office was extended by Wilson in 1967.

The noble Lord was better known as Sir Evelyn Baring, Governor of Kenya during the 'Mau-Mau' emergency.

The name Baring is indeed one well-connected with 'Commonwealth Development'. The merchant bank of Baring Bros has total assets amounting to £122 million—built up from investments in colonial countries.

A former Sir Evelyn Baring, Lord Howick's grandfather, became the first Lord Cromer, and the first Governor-General of Egypt.

Baring Bros had played a leading part in the transactions which entangled the Khedive of Egypt, nominally a servant of the Turkish Empire, in the financial web of the City of London.

Having squeezed the Egyptian peasants dry to pay the interest on his enormous debts, the Khedive had to sell his shares in the Suez Canal to the British government.

'Worker' participation

'WORKER participation', to use one of General de Gaulle's favourite phrases, is going on apace in the British Steel Corporation.

Three more 'workers' were appointed as part-time divisional board directors—salary £1,000 a year—last week.

All three appointments have the Trades Union Congress seal of approval.

They are Mr Jack Leonard, 53, former president of the notoriously right-wing British Iron Steel and Kindred Trades Association, who works at the Shotton BSC plant, Mr Charles Abrahams, a moulder at a Sheffield foundry, and Mr Don Sutherland, 57, who works in a Lancashire plant.

When they take up their appointments the three men will be following in the footsteps of a more famous trade union luminary who decorates the Corporation's boardroom.

This is Mr Ron Smith, the Corporation's £18,000 personnel and social policy director.

Smith was, of course, at one time the general secretary of the Post Office Workers' Union.

Last year he forecast 50,000 redundancies in the steel industry by 1975 and promised to increase output to 35 million tons 'though we may scrap half the industry in the process'.

Not a happy precedent perhaps, for the three budding directors.

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

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More aid for Angolan policy

S AFRICAN businessmen are currently visiting the Portuguese colony of Angola to discuss increased trade between the two countries.

Also visiting is a team of journalists from the five leading W German daily papers.

They are making a tour at the invitation of the fascist Portuguese regime, following a similar tour of Mozambique recently.

While these spokesmen for imperialism inspect pre-selected 'tourist centres' and 'cultural establishments' the liberation war against Portuguese colonialism continues unabated.

'Radio Free Portugal' reports that 'liberation units are advancing towards the regions of northern and central Angola where the economic and industrial power of Portuguese colonialism is located. . . . At present the patriotic forces control a third of the territory of Angola. . . .'

Other 'still' come to the military and economic aid of Portuguese fascism in Africa.

The Tory Party has already made it clear that the defence of 'White Africa' will be one of the main concerns of Tory foreign policy.

British labour must give its full support to those heroically fighting the 'oldest ally' of British Toryism.

WEATHER

London area, SE and central southern England, E and W Midlands: Dry and sunny. Moderate, westerly winds. Warm. Max. 21C (70F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Dry, sunny periods. Moderate, westerly winds. Warm. Max. 18C (64F).

NW England: Cloudy, occasional rain, becoming brighter and mainly dry. Fresh, SW winds. Normal. Max. 15C (59F).

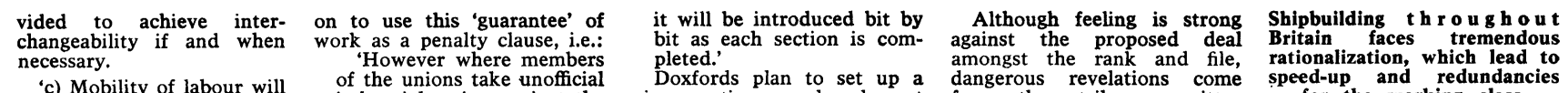
Central northern England: Cloudy, occasional rain, becoming dry with sunny periods. Fresh westerly winds. Warm. Max. 18C (64F).

Edinburgh: Cloudy, occasional rain, becoming brighter with sunny periods. Fresh or strong, W winds. Warm. Max. 16C (61F).

Glasgow area, Northern Ireland: Cloudy, occasional rain, becoming brighter with sunny intervals. Strong, westerly winds. Normal. Max. 15C (59F).

Outlook for Thursday and Friday: Continuing dry and sunny in the SE, changeable with rain at times in the NW. Warm in the S, near normal temperatures in the N.

Wearside shipyard workers fight crisis deal



THE AGREEMENT put forward by the Doxford and Sunderland shipbuilding group on Wearside reflects a real determination of the employers to make the workers pay for the crisis now racking the shipbuilding industry.

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

Involved here is a proposal to boost 'productivity' i.e. profits, by introducing the most up-to-date systems of working yet devised.

Workers would be expected to rush non-stop through every operation and to run from job to job in between. And this is only the beginning!

The section on 'wage rates' indicates that this agreement is to lead to the introduction of methods-time-measurement (MTM) during the next two years.

MOVEMENTS

MTM lays down how a worker should do a job in terms of a number of basic movements — reach, hold, grasp, leg motions, etc.

Each of these has a standard time attached to it which the worker must keep. This system even lays down what

eye movements must be made with any particular task.

There are two types; eye travel and eye focus, and times are issued for both categories.

This is not an exaggeration and can be checked in any work-study manual which includes a section on pre-determined motion time systems (PMTS), which is what work-study methods like MTM are called.

UNNOTICED

The employers hoped that by emphasizing the question of wages the rest of the terms of the agreement would slip by unnoticed.

However, they have not got away with it.

This has been met in Sunderland by the official strike of 500 fitters, plumbers and electricians, which is now in its tenth week and has closed four of Sunderland's shipyards.

The men have rejected the 26 conditions laid down in the deal by the Doxford Group and are demanding a £27 10s minimum weekly wage.

In the preamble to the agreement, Doxfords announce:

'In order for us to remain competitive and obtain orders in the future, it is essential to take steps to increase productivity to a maximum extent.

It is also our intention to establish continuity of employment for a stabilized labour force in the group shipyards.

To achieve this it is essential that the labour force is organized in such a way that it can be used to the maximum advantage of all concerned and that hindrances to optimum production are eliminated.

It is also necessary to re-organize the wages workers so that it will be more readily understood by all concerned and will provide a fair wage for every job done.'

In order to get this 'stabilized' labour force, Doxfords have laid off 3,500 men, have appealed to the government and the TUC to intervene and continue to blatantly ask the workers to agree to a 'charter'.

The entire aim of these agreements is to kill piecework stone dead and to strait-jacket wages while enormous increases in output are achieved on the basis of the speed-up.

Precisely at a time when productivity is being reduced by left struggling to reach work 'norms' and 'standards' set by time-and-motion methods simply to take home a fixed Measured-Day Work rate or a few extra shillings if an 'incentive' scheme is used.

But now let us look at some of the main points listed in the 26 conditions, 6,000-word document.

On 'Changes in Labour Organization', the agreement says:

'(a) Maximum use must be made of flexibility. . . . All members having the necessary skill shall be allowed to do their own servicing, and they shall render assistance to others by lifting, holding, etc., when required, to reduce waiting time and promote efficiency. . . . All members of the above unions (AUEFW and EETU-PTU) will be available to work on production, plant or maintenance jobs anywhere in the yards or aboard ships as necessary and no area of the yard should be regarded as the particular territory of one trade or group or section of a trade.

'(b) Interchangeability will be accepted where appropriate to requirements. . . . This involves a man changing to another trade on a long- or short-term basis according to requirements. . . . Suitable training or re-training will be provided to achieve interchangeability if and when necessary.

'(c) Mobility of labour will be introduced and members of the AEF, PTU and EETU must be willing to transfer from one yard to another in the group as required.

'Wherever possible reasonable notice will be given to any employee who is transferred from one yard to another; if a man is not told that he is to be transferred to another of the group's shipyards before he ceases work on the workday preceding any such transfer, an appropriate compensatory meal payment will be made.'

'(d) In order to improve and increase planning of work, there will be a programme of method study and work measurement covering all members of the above unions. The information thus gained will be used in measuring productivity and will be a major factor in considering wage rates in the future.'

Use of round-the-clock working gives employers an enormous saving on capital investment, using all equipment to the full and cutting production time.

And the break-up of the drive will be made to extend this type of working whenever and wherever possible:

'(h) In order to make the best use of plant, and to provide maximum possible employment, shift work must be introduced wherever and whenever necessary. . . .'

NO ALTERNATIVE

Employers, of course, always reserve the right to create situations where the workers have no alternative but to strike.

However, they expect all manner of assurances that the workers will not use their right to withdraw their own labour:

'(k) It is essential that unofficial stoppages and other forms of unofficial industrial action are eliminated, therefore the National Procedure Agreement will be strictly observed.'

The wage freeze principle is also made clear:

on to use this 'guarantee' of work as a penalty clause, i.e.: 'However where members of the unions take unofficial industrial action against the company, those members shall lose their guarantee and only re-qualify after a further period of six months' employment. This guarantee does not apply where an individual or individuals are guilty of industrial misconduct and they shall be liable to dismissal.'

The clause on the introduction of MTM is as follows: 'It is the company's intention to introduce an incentive scheme using an MTM system as a means for measuring productivity, during the next two years. It is hoped that the scheme will be fully implemented within two years from the start of the agreement, but

it will be introduced bit by bit as each section is completed. Doxfords plan to set up a pipe erection squad and want a relaxation of all demarcation between fitters and plumbers.

'In this section it is intended that "flexibility and interchangeability" will mean that any member of the pipe erection squad can do any work normally carried out by members of either trade. . . . In the event of unconstitutional industrial action, by members of either the AEF or the PTU. . . the members of the union not involved in the dispute shall continue working under the terms of this agreement relating to interchangeability and flexibility. . . .'

This is nothing more than a scabbing clause.

Although feeling is strong against the proposed deal amongst the rank and file, dangerous revelations come from the strike committee and trade union officials.

'We have compromised from A to Y but Doxfords won't budge on the question of the Pipe Erection Squad,' said one strike committee member when interviewed on TV.

The determination of the 500 strikers over the past ten weeks has remained solid. Unanimous votes to reject the attacks on Doxford's men mean just that. Every word, every condition must be rejected.

All MDW and MTM proposals must be completely rejected along with so-called flexibility, interchangeability and mobility of labour.

One striker's sentiments were revealed in what he told the Workers Press:

'They've got a cheek. You'd think it was the 1930s again. No matter what you give them in strings, come the end of the day — as at Palmers in Jarrow — you still get the push.'

The entire labour and trade union movement in the Tyne-side and Wearside areas must be rallied to the defence of the Doxford men to fight this deal.

CAMPAIGN

The All Trades Unions Alliance has consistently campaigned on both the Tyne and the Wear to answer every attack and sell out of the trade union officials in the acceptance of such deals in other trades and yards.

Make the Tories pay for the crisis.

Fight unemployment and productivity deals.

For the basic increase with no strings attached.

Nationalize the shipyards under workers' control without compensation, open the books to show where the money has gone.

Join the All Trades Unions Alliance.

ITALIAN CP

FROM PAGE ONE

Party hand over the notes of Dubcek's conversation with Waldeck Rochet before the Soviet invasion, but that, at the request of the Prague regime, they 'corrected' the notes.

Moreover, the rumour goes on, the Italian Party refused to do likewise with the notes on the meeting of General Secretary Luigi Longo with Dubcek in March 1968.

'Discretion' on the one hand, contradicted by whispers on the other.

Whence the need for this balancing act?

The Italian and French Stalinist leaders are forced to stand shoulder to shoulder in a situation in which the working class all over Europe are shaking up more than two decades of class collaboration.

Policy

Once again Stalinist policy is opening the way to yet another dictatorship.

Once again the road to the construction of revolutionary parties in opposition to Stalinist treachery is revealed in all its dramatic urgency.

Whatever the immediate political developments in Cyprus, the struggle to build a new, revolutionary party of the working class is the only guarantee for the future of the Cypriot working class.

Not wanting to (and not being able to) realize how final and irreversible is the break up of their comfortable alliance, they try desperately to reinstate the political balancing act by launching with Makarios a last-ditch attempt at reconciliation.

Although they are the party with the greatest mass influence they are calling on the bourgeois parties to transform the electoral conflict into a behind-the-scenes settlement and share-out of parliamentary seats.

Anxiety

More than this, in their anxiety to avoid a mobilization of the class, they are prepared to accept less seats than in the last share-out, which itself was unjust to the AKEL strength.

This campaign has already failed as all the other parties have declared that they will enter the election independently.

The chaos continues and the pro-junta gangs terrorize, murder and prepare themselves by disarming the police, which is influenced by the

pro-British EDEK party of the late George Hadjis and Clerides.

Even bourgeois parties call for armed popular bodies.

The Stalinist leadership continue, unabated on the road to betrayal. They refuse to organize the self-defence of the working class, the only force that can smash the right-wing thugs, and call on Makarios to 'stamp out' terrorism.

Dilemma

This dilemma is now posed irrevocably in Cyprus just as it was in Greece during 1961-1967.

In the face of mortal danger for the working class the Cypriot-Stalinist leadership — in no way different from their fellow traitors in Greece — refuse to lead the class in a struggle for power.

Instead they attempt to stave off the dictatorship with means that are destined not to avoid it but to speed its advent.

'Compromise'

He returned to address a second meeting at 2.45 p.m. with what he described as a 'compromise' arising 'from the withdrawal on the part of the management of the words "whilst it is not a condition of employment that all employees join USDAW".'

The strike, for 100 per cent trade union membership in the plant, was caused by the refusal of six workers to join the union — three of them members of the extreme Protestant Close Brethren sect.

Allen, announcing that the demand for a closed shop had been abandoned on the strength of the management's verbal alteration, said that 'the verbal who have said that they will not join the union for conscientious reasons or otherwise will be interviewed on Monday by representatives of management and union with a view to changing their minds.'

Hostility

'I am hopeful they will have the good sense to see the necessity of changing their minds to effect a compromise.'

Yet it was the open hostility of these six men, an attitude not absolutely discouraged by the management, which caused the strike in the first place.

The management last week stepped up their campaign to force the strikers back to work by threatening to close the factory 'in a matter of days' and by laying off some 70 engineers — members of the Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers — who had not been called out by their union in support of the strike.

It was precisely at this point that extension of the strike to everyone in the factory and linking of the forthcoming £4-£5 wage claims directly to the need for a closed shop could have carried the strikers to victory.

Food strikers go back with union deal

SIX HUNDRED workers returned to their jobs at Aberdeenshire's Peterhead Crosse and Blackwell factory yesterday with virtually nothing gained from their seven-week-long strike for a closed shop.

'A compromise settlement' was the formula used by Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers' general secretary Alfred Allen last week to win a majority for a return.

Many strikers, a substantial minority of whom voted against Allen's recommendation, think differently.

Allen, in company with Scottish Trades Union Congress secretary James Milne, went from a 60-minute meeting of the strikers at noon last Thursday to negotiate with the management.

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Stalinist moves behind N.A.T.O. meeting

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

NATO Foreign Ministers began their two-day meeting in Rome yesterday to consider Soviet and East European proposals for a mutual alliance to replace NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

They are expected to put forward their own plan calling for a 'balanced reduction' of military forces in central Europe.

The key to a deal between the two military bodies lies in the present East-West negotiations and the exchange visits recently undertaken by Brandt and Stoph.

Pact

The Bonn Cabinet is meeting today to discuss whether and when talks with Moscow should begin on the signing of a non-aggression pact.

Walter Scheel, W German Foreign Minister, said on Monday that such an agreement could well be achieved by the end of the year.

W Germany, now the major capitalist power in W Europe, more and more calls the tune in determining policy towards the Soviet bureaucracy.

Recent talks between Brandt's Moscow envoy Egon Bahr and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko have laid the groundwork for this new friendship.

Stalinist 'collective security' proposals — used as a wedge to widen differences in the ranks of the imperialist powers — are taken up by Brandt with more enthusiasm than any other W European leader.

Overshadow

Deep-going concern for Nixon's Indo-Chinese policy and the state of the US economy will also overshadow the Rome deliberations.

The 15 member-governments of this anti-communist and counter-revolutionary military alliance are now finding themselves more divided than united on several issues.

These tensions are yet another reflection of the world imperialist crisis.

Stalinism attempts to harness such divisions to further its own policies of peaceful co-existence with the capitalist world as a whole.

It pursues the so-called strategy of the 'balance of power'.

This is the goal of the Warsaw Pact proposal for 'All European Collective Security'.

Played off

The capitalist classes of W Europe, the Kremlin hopes, can be played off against the US imperialists, the reward being closer trade, economic and political links with the Soviet Union, and an even more class collaborationist line in the W European labour movements.

A break from Stalinism by W and E European workers is essential if the present crisis is to be resolved in a revolutionary way.

Down and down plunge share prices

FROM PAGE ONE

spreading throughout Wall St, stimulated by the near-collapse of the three billion conglomerate, LTV.

Ratio

The ratio between the debt and equity capital of the average American corporation has risen from 20 per cent to nearly 40 per cent over the last decade.

While depression is staring American capitalism in the face, inflation continues unabated, further eroding the dollar's value and still further undermining confidence.

On Monday the Nixon Administration, faced with a severe cut in income from corporate taxation, as well as escalating expenditure on the Vietnam and Cambodian war, was forced to ask Congress to allow it to raise its borrowing powers by a huge \$18,000.

Intensity

Not only will a rising budget deficit unmatched by increased taxation mean even greater inflationary pressures; the Administration's growing demands for funds will send interest rates rising still more sharply and intensify the recessionary tendencies.

It is this prospect of a world-wide financial and economic slump that both Heath and Wilson are determined to play down in the election.

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