

'Misguided', Feather claims, but Unemployment is Tory policy

APART FROM verbal protest against the government's 'misguided and dangerous course of action' on wages, the Trades Union Congress General Council meeting in London yesterday produced nothing.

DATA lock-out: Rolls stewards refuse backing

THE joint shop stewards' committee at Rolls-Royce's Coventry factories yesterday rejected a proposal for action in support of the company's 1,000 staff and technical workers who have been locked out since July 14.

Although some of the stewards reportedly were in favour of taking action, the majority of the 150-man committee threw out a proposal for actively supporting the DATA pickets and blacking design material.

DATA members were told of the decision at a meeting in the Coventry precinct after a 700-strong demonstration through the town.

Still no date for London docks

YESTERDAY'S meeting of the London enclosed docks modernization committee was unable to fix the date for the implementation of Phase Two of the Devlin pay and productivity scheme—contrary to what had been anticipated.

One aspect, which an employers' spokesman refused to disclose, was said to have remained in dispute and this had prevented the two sides agreeing on a date.

SHORT NOTICE

The committee may reconvene at short notice to make a final decision.

Liquid waste hazard

TIGHTER controls on the disposal of toxic industrial waste are urged in a report published yesterday.

This paralysis holds the greatest dangers for a working class threatened not just with wage-freezing and rising prices, but also

It is essential, for example, that the whole trade union movement be prepared and mobilized in solidarity with workers in nationalized industries and local government who are threatened with being sorted out for a 'show-down' by the Tory government.

Instead of this preparation, the General Council complains that such an attack would 'jeopardize the formation of a climate of co-operation... and produce a reaction which would exacerbate the overall situation'.

On the eve of the greatest battles, with the jobs of over a million workers at stake, the TUC leaders, apparently unanimously, plead with the government not to disturb the faith of their members in 'conciliation and arbitration'!

'Straight talk'

Next week, Prime Minister Heath meets Feather and then representatives of the Confederation of British Industry.

He is reported as having said that these will be 'straight talks'. Heath and his advisers will have at the front of their considerations a whole number of serious economic warnings: the pound is weaker than at any time since a year ago; output figures in all the principal industries, released on Tuesday, showed a real decline; unemployment figures climb steeply.

Feather and the TUC leaders confine themselves to asking Heath to refate the economy to offset this situation. This proposal does nothing to get near the real problems, as the employers well know. They have to prepare a major attack on the working class.

No secret

For the capitalists, it is the insatiable appetite of the working class to maintain and improve its standard of life that stands at the centre of the crisis.

The government has made no secret that it needs to be there should be a 'show-down' with a section of workers in the public sector—miners, railwaymen, manual workers in local government are all in the firing line—over wages.

All Trades Unions Alliance Conference MINERS

Sunday, September 6 Danum Hotel High St DONCASTER

BY CLIFF SLAUGHTER

yesterday the GKN-Sankey components strike had cost them some £15 million. Chrysler reported they had lost sales of 12,000 Avengers and 3,500 cars from their Linwood plant because of strikes since April.

Overseas manufacturers, they said, were 'having a golden summer at our expense'. Lord Stokes of British-Leyland complained on the BBC yesterday that his company was losing 'millions of pounds a day'.

This is intimately tied up with international developments. British motor firms need to sell in world markets, and to keep competitive they want to keep wage-costs down. But

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Shell steward sacked



Some of the sacked Burmah Oil pickets marching at the head of Monday's 6,000-strong Merseyside demonstration.

Guerrillas on march in Philippines

GUERRILLA struggles in the Philippines against the pro-US regime of President Marcos have increased sharply in recent weeks.

Led by the Maoist Communist Party of the Philippines, they have recorded big victories against government forces at Tarlac, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Zambales, Bulacan, Bataan and Pangasinan.

Guerrilla-controlled zones have now been established in central Luzon in the countryside.

Rents are reduced and landlords evicted in villages under guerrilla control. The growth of the movement is yet another threat to US imperialist domination of SE Asia, already strained to its military capacity by the struggles of workers and peasants in Indo-China.

Stalinists and Zionists welcome Fulbright plan

WHILE Israeli opinion has welcomed many of Senator Fulbright's proposals for a US-Israeli treaty Moscow's Tass press agency has declared its support for his statement—but omitting all reference to the treaty.

Moscow presents Fulbright's plan as if it only called for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. The Soviet leaders are clearly opening the way for a settlement which allows the Zionists to keep control of Palestine.

Moscow Radio has also welcomed the resumption of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Iran which took place last week. The Iraqi news agency, on the

£1,000 August Appeal Fund stands at £579 8s 3d with four days to go

YESTERDAY we received only £39 4s 0d for the fund, which gives us a total of £579 8s 3d.

We have only four days left and £420 11s 9d still to raise. A massive effort has to be made if we are to complete our target this month. Don't leave it too late—send your donations in today to:

Workers Press, Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4.



GKN stewards during a break in yesterday's talks.

'Strings' main danger from London talks on GKN-Sankey strike

NATIONAL officials of four car unions representing workers at GKN-Sankey's Wellington, Shropshire factory held informal talks with management representatives at a London hotel yesterday afternoon.

The talks followed a meeting of the Motor Industry National Joint Council earlier in the day. Shop stewards' convenors and district officials of the unions involved—A.E.F., T&GWU, G&MWU, United Patternmakers and EPTU—were standing by during the talks.

They were seeking a formula to settle the three-week-old strike at the component plant, which has halted production at a number of key motor factories.

Pools picket now on

FIFTY strike pickets manned the gates of one of Littlewood's big football-pool depots in Liverpool yesterday.

About 150 Littlewoods workers—members of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs—have been on strike for 13 days over the firm's refusal to recognize their union and to reinstate two dismissed planning officers.

Carworkers back glassmen's fight

A MASS MEETING of 2,000 motor workers at British-Leyland's Leyland, Lancashire, factory yesterday voted overwhelmingly to support the struggle of the sacked Pilkington glassworkers for reinstatement.

A resolution put to the meeting by convenor Len Brindle stated that Leyland workers 'identify themselves with Pilkington workers in their fight for reinstatement' and agreed to work in the union branches and district committees for similar resolutions to bring pressure to bear on the union leaders.

However, no mention was made of blacking Pilkington glass. Leading members of the St Helens rank-and-file committee were addressing the Leyland night-shift last night and will be speaking at the Chorley factory today.

Trotsky Memorial Lectures

Monday, 14 September 'Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism' Monday, 21 September 'Trotsky's fight against revisionism' BEAVER HALL GARLICK HILL Near Mansion House tube Starts 8 p.m. Admission 2s Both lectures given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

Algerian hostages begin hunger strike

TWO ALGERIAN officials taken off a British plane at Tel Aviv airport on August 14 have now begun a hunger strike.

Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban told delegates of the International Federation of Airline Pilots on Tuesday that there would be no early release of either Major Khatib Djelloul or Ali Balaziz.

It is thought the Israeli government intends to use them as hostages for the release of Israelis held by various Arab countries.

FROZEN

The unions are demanding an all-round increase of £6 10s a week for Sankey's 5,000 workers, whose wages have been frozen for the last 15 months.

The company has offered rises of from 5d to 2s 0d linked to a six-grade wage structure. The structure, which re-

IN IERIM

Top trade union circles are believed to favour an interim pay offer to the Sankey workers which would allow the company to go ahead with a productivity deal aimed at 'rationalizing' the factory's 250,000 piece-work prices.

A.E.F. district secretary Joseph Diaz said yesterday that, if the talks were unsuccessful, productivity negotiations at the factory 'might have to start all over again'.

