

What we think Pilkington experience a warning to councilmen

LEADERS of Britain's 770,000 council workers no doubt think that they are cleverly avoiding a nasty trap set by the capitalist mass-media when they say—as they did yesterday—that they would have no objection to Trades Union Congress general secretary Victor Feather stepping into their dispute with the local-authority employers as a mediator.

In fact they are merely taking their opportunist policy a dangerous step further. The experience with TUC-style mediation of the sacked Pilkington glass-workers at St Helens and Pontypool is a warning. What is even more serious, however, is the stifling effect this policy can have on the all-important fight against the Tories' anti-union legislation plans.

There is no public-relations mileage to be gained in the present extremely sharp struggle between the class struggle lights under bushes of conciliatory words. For Transport and General Workers' Union's Birmingham regional organizer George Wright, commenting on the SU Carburettor's walk-out, to say he is 'holding back the floodgates'... our members are not asking us if we are going to demonstrate, they are asking when is the most damning admission.

Everyone, from those shadowy leader-writers for 'The Times' to yesterday's meeting of Beckett building workers (reported on this page), is perfectly clear that if the councilmen—and now the miners—win, it will become more and more impossible for the Tories to see their proposed Industrial Relations Bill onto the statute book.

That is why there is a consistent and increasingly vicious witch-hunt against them. Alderman D. H. Bridgehouse, leader of the Tory-controlled Hackney council, was splashed all over several Fleet St front pages yesterday with his completely unsubstantiated claim that:

'I said to someone connected with the strike "What happens if an elderly person had to walk around rubbish dumped on the pavement and was killed by a car?"

'He replied: "That's not my problem, mate. My problem is getting 55s". That is blackmail.'

The old and the sick, who have already to face the Tory mini-budget's direct physical attack, will soon be subjected to the indignity of being trotted out as pawns in a witch-hunt against the miners.

Only one response is possible from the trade union movement here: the widest and most open support possible for the council workers and the miners in their struggle to win their demands—linked to a campaign to force Heath and Carr into retreat.

This is not simply a question of local action committees to mobilize the militants, which is what the shop stewards from Rover's apparently intend to urge at today's British-Leyland shop stewards' combine executive meeting.

British-Leyland, as today's report from Morris Motors at Oxford indicates, are hell-bent on undermining every gain of trade unionism to solve their profits crisis.

Only a policy containing within it the determination to break your enemy before he breaks you can suffice here. The same applies in the local-authority strike.

Whatever the outcome of tomorrow's Scamp inquiry report, the council workers will stand or fall by what forces they can bring to bear in struggle.

And to rout the Tories' anti-union plans requires building up the maximum possible unity of the working-class movement through a campaign to force through a union leaders to fight.

The Feathers, the Wrights and the rest of union officialdom must be told in no uncertain terms: no mediation!

It is war to the end and the workers' movement is ready and determined to win!

Strike-breakers' sinister overtures

Polish Stalinists praise the Tory govt

BY JOHN SPENCER

THE POLISH Stalinists have lost no time in following up last week's London talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko and the Tory government.

Their official newspaper 'Zycie Warszawy' ('Warsaw Life') comments that the visit was one of the signs that Tory Prime Minister Heath is looking for ways to normalize relations with the Soviet Union and to make good certain most glaring errors of the Wilson government!

Paradoxical as it may sound, the paper adds, the Labour government had allowed Anglo-Soviet tension to increase. Every worker in Britain knows how the Tories are going about rectifying the 'errors' of the Wilson government.

Strike-breaking, unemployment and slashing of social services are only the first round in an onslaught designed to culminate in anti-union laws and the abolition of the most basic working-class rights.

Sinister

Their amicable comments about the Tories have a sinister ring in the light of the Spanish and Irish precedents. And the Polish Stalinists are not alone. No sooner had the Tory government won the election than Moscow Radio declared: "The Times" is evidently right in saying that the future government will scarcely be able to evade a revision of the country's pro-American foreign policy."

The radio added that the "lack of an independent stand in assessing the actions of US imperialism in various parts of the world has caused Britain to lose her prestige as a great power... When Mr Heath rebelled Labour for permitting Britain to be regarded as a second-rate power was that just election verbiage or was it the expression of a serious intention to steer Britain out of this fix? The answer can only be supplied by what Mr Heath's government does."

Answers

Clearly, the Tories are supplying answers to Moscow's "Times" is evidently right in saying that the future government will scarcely be able to evade a revision of the country's pro-American foreign policy."

The arming of the S African racialists and the military suppression of colonial revolution is simply an 'unfortunate aberration'!

The waning of the counter-

Answer Nixon's laws with labour party

ALMOST 60 million Americans went to the polls yesterday after one of the most bitterly-fought mid-term election campaigns in United States history—dominated by the law-and-order witch-hunt stirred up by President Nixon's Republican Party.

MDW ultimatum at Oxford

BRITISH-LEYLAND yesterday issued an implied threat at its Morris Motors plant at Cowley near Oxford that redundancies will follow if the factory refuses to accept Measured-Day Work on production of a new model.

A statement was given to all stewards to the effect that the company could not see its way clear to producing the new model—

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AEU national committee recalled next year! 'Union leaders must fight' demands grow

DEMANDS that union leaders act now against the Tories' anti-union legislation plans have been made by union branches in Scotland, the Midlands and the South-East.

The Amalgamated Engineers' executive has so far received over 100 requests from branches and district committees for action—including token strikes—against the law.

Its only response yesterday, however, was to recall the union's policy-making national committee... sometime between January and March of next year!

Glasgow's Woodside branch of the Amalgamated Engineers and Foundry-workers is urging the union's executive 'to conduct a campaign for a one-day strike on December 8 as the first step towards defeating the Tory plans'. It also calls on the execu-

tive to instruct AEF-sponsored MPs to campaign in support of such action both inside the Parliamentary Labour Party and in parliament itself.

The Transport and General Workers' Union branch at the Ibrox bus garage, Glasgow, has backed calls for a one-day strike action against unemployment and the Tory attacks on the unions.

The branch believes that the action should be part of the preparation for a general strike if necessary to force the Tory government to resign.

Similarly, Mitcham's AEF 58ME branch calls on the union's executive to press the TUC leadership to 'organize a one-day strike against the proposed anti-union laws' and 'organize the strength of the whole trade union movement to force the Tories to resign'.



Women residents from Whiston Rd, Hackney, in full support of the council workers, bar the way to contractors intending to move the rubbish 'barricade'.

Dockers back councilmen

A section of Monday's successful march through Southampton by councilmen. They were backed by dockers and busmen who swelled the ranks to 1,500. About 100 university students also joined the march.



Hackney strike made official

HACKNEY councilmen's strike was made official yesterday as the first private contractors moved in to shift rubbish in the borough.

A public meeting of strikers cheered officials who brought the news of union backing for all of Hackney's 1,750 council workers, most of whom walked out last week.

While they met, contractors began tackling the unofficial street rubbish dump at Hoxton Square and Whiston Rd where housewives barred their way. (See picture this page.)

After the meeting stewards drew up lists of pickets who will begin guarding the street dumps that the council say they will clear.

Overwhelming support has been given to the Hackney strikers by residents on the big council estates where the main dumps are.

"We don't mind the rubbish," said Mrs Emily Simpson, who lives adjacent to the Whiston Road dump.

"We support the men. They deserve to get the increase, especially as the Tories have already pushed up the cost of living."

"I know how they feel—I'm an old-age pensioner myself."

Hackney's example was praised by E London district officials at yesterday's meeting, but they were careful to point out that this did not set a precedent and the national strike would still remain selective.

They also warned not to expect too much from the Scamp inquiry, whose report is due tomorrow.

"I don't think Scamp will give us the 55s, so don't start saying it's all over. Keep out and get ready to stay out next week," said the Municipal Workers' official Dave Ryland.

Tory leader of the Hackney council, Alderman Don Bridgehouse, has attacked the strikers and their supporters.

He claimed that recent demonstrations by house-holders seeking to break down pay negotiations and said that until the outcome of the Scamp inquiry was known, Hackney Council would continue to bring in contractors to clear refuse.

• See LATE NEWS.

STUDENTS' CASH FOR COUNCILMEN

SHEFFIELD University students are to make a £20 donation from their union funds to the National Union of Public Employees' strike funds.

The students have also voted at a union general meeting to dissociate the union from the Rag Committee members who tried to use the council workers' strike as the basis for a stunt outside the Reading sewage works.

The motion carried by the meeting emphasizes 'support for the council workers' strike and strongly disapproves of the actions of the Rag Committee which gave rise to publicity giving a misleading impression of union policy and undermining our support for the strikers'.

Birmingham

Car stewards and women join council lobby

BRITISH-LEYLAND shop stewards yesterday turned out in solidarity with council workers' stewards to brave the cold during a lobby of Birmingham's Tory-controlled council.

T&GWU shop stewards representing workers on strike at the city's public works department and salvage section were joined on the steps of the Council House by housewives, a delegation of women engineering workers and the British-Leyland stewards.

Convener of the company's Washwood Heath transmissions plant, Mr Arthur Harper said that as well as his own works the Austin Longbridge and the closure-threatened Pressed-Steel Fisher plants were represented.

ANGRY

The councillors attending the meeting were confronted by the angry council workers who demanded that the 55s demand be paid.

At the forefront of many of the lobbyists' minds were the recent attacks on social services launched by Chancellor Mr Anthony Barber.

"Where is the 55s now?", asked Mr Stanley Greethead, T&GWU convener, public works.

"I don't fancy paying four or eight bob every time for a prescription. The 55s is gone."

"I am very pleased with these car industry chaps, in giving us their support," he added.

ACTION

"I would certainly be in favour, personally, of factory action to support the council men," Mr Harper told the Workers Press.

"I think it will come to this in the end."

"If we get support from the car industry that will help our cause a great deal," Peter Kendall, a T&GWU steward told us.

A small delegation representing an engineering factory employing over 300 women was also present.

"All the women employed there say, give these men the money," said one of the delegation, Mrs Carter of Sparkbrook.

PAY 55s

"We believe in the strike. They should get 55s," Mrs Robbins, another of the delegation told us.

Also present was Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour MP for Sparkbrook.

"I have no doubt the council men's cause is just, and they should be paid the 55s," he told our reporter.

"There is no question at all that Heath and Robert Carr are behind the councils' refusal to pay. My only hope is that pressure from the government does not stop the Birmingham council paying the 55s."

Beckton builders back councilmen

CONSTRUCTION site workers at London's Beckton works yesterday struck work for the day in a token stoppage in support of the councilmen and against all anti-trade union legislation.

The 200 Beckton men took their lead from Monday's surprise one-day stoppage by workers at the Birmingham SU Carburettor plant against the Tory government's anti-union legislation plans.

The chairman of yesterday's Beckton mass meeting, which passed the resolution for strike action, read out from Workers Press the story of the SU Carburettor stoppage.

Miners dig in for strike on Monday

COAL PRODUCTION in several areas is now almost certain to come to a halt on Monday over last week's £2 7s 6d to £3 National Coal Board pay offer.

Steel, gas and electricity supply boards yesterday began hurried reviews of their stocks as it became increasingly clear that the miners—unlike their union leaders—are determined to fight for their full £5 claim. Well over 20,000 miners were on strike yesterday in S Wales, Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire and Scotland.

Scurrying

Their action closed 46 pits, restricted work at several others and sent the Coal Board scurrying to check on its homework.

Last available figures showed industry in general with enough coal to last four-and-a-half weeks.

But the NCB's estimated 8.9 million tons of stocked coal has certainly been considerably whittled down since October 17, when the estimate was made.

Some 171,000 tons of new production has already been lost by the strike, and most miners—despite yesterday's Durham decision to accept the NCB offer—are digging in for a long battle.

Even the National Union of Mineworkers' 12-man SOUTH WALES executive was forced to admit, after a three-hour meeting in Cardiff yesterday, that a strike of the coalfield's 40,000 miners now seems inevitable.

Strike

Area president Glyn Williams, who voted against strike action at last week's meeting of the union's national executive, said it appeared 'from reports we have received' that there was a 'coincided strike next Monday'.

"We looked today at the problems arising from the decision," he said.

"We have to wait, of course, for the vote at the delegate conference in Porthcawl tomorrow to be certain that there will be a strike."

Some 15,000 miners at 22 S Wales pits remained on strike yesterday.

In NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, Thoresby colliery—one of the biggest pits in Europe—remained out on strike.

Some 30,000 miners, who comprise almost half the country's labour force, were out in YORKSHIRE; their strike closing 24 pits and a coal-preparation plant completely and seven collieries and a workshop partially.

Bans

Overtime bans were being operated at three more pits. Among the pits closed were the 1,500-strong Kellingly 'super' pit and six collieries in the S Yorkshire panel—relatively inactive up to now.

Spain: Workers strike & march

FIFTEEN hundred shipbuilding workers yesterday staged an hour strike near Bilbao in N Spain and massed near the factory entrance shouting 'Amnesty and Liberty'.

Another 500 workers in Asua, near Bilbao, staged a one-hour strike, but did not demonstrate.

About 150 Madrid university students marched for a short distance down a main road in central Madrid, clapping and calling for a general amnesty before rapidly dispersing when police arrived.

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What we think

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There is no public-relations mileage to be gained in the present extremely sharp situation in the class struggle from hiding your political lights under bushels of conciliatory words.

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Typical

Warsaw Radio itself, just a couple of days previously, described Chancellor Barber's cuts as 'a typical move of the "guns before butter" sort'.

But the Polish Stalinists have already made themselves notorious for breaking the Asturian miners' strike on behalf of General Franco's 'guns before butter' fascism.

And only a few months ago, it was Polish Stalinists who applied through official government agencies—that went to break the Irish cement strike.

Now, as Workers Press warned at the time, the strike-breaking Polish regime is turning its attention towards Britain.

Sinister

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And the Polish Stalinists are not alone. No sooner had the Tory government won the election than Moscow Radio declared: "The Times" is evidently right in saying that the future government will scarcely be able to evade a revision of the country's pro-American foreign policy."

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Answers

Clearly, the Tories are supplying answers to Moscow's liking.

There are, of course, still a few snags: "Unfortunately," 'Zycie Warszawy' adds, 'nothing positive can be said about other Tory initiatives' like arms for S Africa and the East of Suez military presence.

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Answer Nixon's laws with labour party

ALMOST 60 million Americans went to the polls yesterday after one of the most bitterly-fought mid-term election campaigns in United States history—dominated by the law-and-order witch-hunt stirred up by President Nixon's Republican Party.

All 435 members of the House of Representatives, 35 of the 100 senators and 35 of the 50 state governors are up for election and state legislatures are being selected in 45 out of 50 states.

Nixon himself voted early—for a member of the John Birch Society and two extreme right-wing film actors. He left his house in San Clemente, California, to endorse governor Ronald Reagan, Senator George Murphy and Birchite congressman John G. Schmitz.

This gesture was given the maximum publicity in order to underline Nixon's support for a crack-down on the left.

Two press reports from leading US newspapers yesterday suggested that the White House had deliberately exaggerated the danger to

the country from the left.

They hope to draw other sections of workers—and a demonstration through Nottingham.

T&GWU No. 1/714 branch members from the Middlesex factory of Westland Helicopters at Hayes have echoed the Beeston call.

The branch believes that the action should be part of the preparation for a general strike if necessary to force the Tory government to resign.

Similarly, Mitcham's AEF 58ME branch calls on the union's executive to press the TUC leadership to 'organize a one-day strike against the proposed anti-union laws' and 'organize the strength of the whole trade union movement to force the Tories to resign'.

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'We looked today at the problems arising from the decision,' he said.

'We have to wait, of course, for the vote at the delegate conference at Porthcawl tomorrow to support the councilmen, but there will be a strike-hour meeting in Cardiff next Monday.'

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See LATE NEWS.

Politics and Productivity

Cliff Slaughter analyses the real nature of productivity deals

care of 'voluntary' redundancy of older men who take their redundancy payments. Initially then, the fight against productivity bargaining has been an uphill fight.

Union collaboration

But the situation cannot and does not remain the same. Many deals are being introduced with the unions' collaboration, but already important sections of workers have been able to insist on large increases without productivity strings (British-Leyland at Oxford, Plesseys at Swindon) and the same type of demand is coming up every day in the factories.

Especially since June 1969, when the anti-union laws of Barbara Castle and Harold Wilson were defeated by trade unionists, the wages offensive of the working class has continued to gain strength, and has actually laid the basis of a new situation.

Now, more than ever before, the productivity and wages issue becomes directly political. It involves the question of political power.

The Tories promised tax cuts and prosperity to the middle-class voters. But they also promised to 'deal with' the working class. Until they do this they cannot carry out any of their promises to the middle class ('No tax cuts till we cure inflation', says Employment Minister Robert Carr.)

What is the alternative? Principled socialist leadership can unite the forces of the working class, not just behind a wages offensive, but behind a policy of nationalization without compensation and under workers' control.

Only such a basic and resolute policy to resolve the economic crisis will win the best elements in the middle class to the side of the workers.

The wages offensive brings this question to a head, but cannot, by itself, resolve it.

A political preparation is necessary to proceed to the struggle for power, as the class enemy is forced by its crisis (above all the demands of the working class) to consider how to put an end to the state of affairs where militant trade unionism can win its demands.

The mouthpieces of the ruling class express highly moral sympathy for the plight of the low-paid, the pensioners, and those on fixed incomes, because of the 'unreasonable' demands of the highly-organized workers who want increases well above their 'productivity' increases.

But this is only the preparation for trying to convince the middle class and any backward workers who may be deluded, that a national firm hand against the working class is necessary.

This is the seed of Bonapartist dictatorship. It can be effectively answered, and in time, by the building of a Marxist leadership in the trade unions and the youth, through the development of the Socialist Labour League.

'PRODUCTIVITY', according to the employers' and their agents, including those in the Labour Party and trade unions, is what every worker and every manager must strive for.

The 'national interest' can only be defended through increased productivity. The worker can expect future increases in his standard of living only if the total product of all workers is increased and that means increased productivity.

Increases in wages, we are told, will only be cancelled out by rising prices, unless productivity increases. Therefore we need government-sponsored 'income policies' to make sure wage increases are not allowed except if productivity increases.

Trade union leaders have accepted the idea that they cannot ask for wage increases without guarantees of increased productivity.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers through Scanlon and the engineering union leaders actually introduced clauses about productivity into the 1968 negotiations for the engineers' wage demands.

These productivity deals make the union leaders' jobs easier because they can come out of the employers' office with a wage increase without having had to fight the employer.

The employer knows he has got much more in return. But for the worker on the shop floor, the result of the deal is that he works harder. The full-time negotiator will continue to operate in his own way from his office chair; he is not required to increase his 'productivity'!

The employer does not want productivity deals in order to produce more goods, as they would have us believe, which implied promise of more of the good things of life to go round for everybody.

By productivity they mean producing more profit for them. They would not have the slightest interest in introducing a new machine or a new method of work to produce more shirts or more cars for everybody if their profit on the number produced went down.

The capitalists like to boast that their system brings a constant stream of improved and more efficient methods of production, but they introduce these only if and when they can be used to increase profit, not to increase the number of goods at humanity's disposal.

Millions starving

For example, a proportion of the crops of US and European agriculture is destroyed every year, and areas of land are left idle, despite the death through starvation of millions of people every year. Why?

Because to release this production would lower prices and destroy the rate of profit.

Another example: employers do not, in a period of unemployment, rush to bring the jobless into factories to produce (despite the existence of great need) because the market conditions do not allow them to sell at a profit.

When the capitalist presses for a productivity deal he is aiming at intensifying the workers' labour, and that means intensifying exploitation, in order to increase profits.

In 'exchange' for an initial increase in wages, the employer gets the right to impose these conditions of more intensive exploitation; they are called mobility of labour, interchangeability, job evaluation and Measured-Day Work.

They all mean one thing: workers abandon all control over the working of the job and their bodies and brains become just pieces of new material to be divided up and used at the will of management; and they abandon all control over the level of payment for jobs (through shop steward representation on timing and re-timing of piecework jobs) because productivity deals aim at the abolition of payment by results (PSR).

The myth behind this re-organization of work and payment is that it represents a scientific method of establishing work norms and wages.

'Up-to-date' shop stewards and union officials will explain what they are told at management-sponsored schools: these methods are part of scientific and technological progress, and we don't want to oppose progress, do we?

So, they go on, the thing is to let the progress in, let the stop watch in, let the productivity deal in, but to get the highest price, get what we can out of it.

This is dangerous rubbish, from start to finish.

The new methods are scientific ways of intensifying labour and increasing profit.

But they are a complete fraud when it comes to the measurement of wages; and they are a danger to the life and health of the worker because they subordinate him to the ruthless drive for profit.

Wages are not the worker's reward or the worker's 'share' of the product of the factory. That is the oldest lie in the capitalist book.

According to the employers, the capitalist takes a share because of the money he put in, and a worker takes a share according to the work he puts in. It follows that scientific measurement of work will assure the 'correct' wages. But does it?

Wages are the price of a worker's labour power or capacity for work (i.e. his physical strength, nervous energy and mental concentration used up in the working day). The value of this commodity—labour-power—(price is based on this value) is determined by the amount of socially necessary labour-time involved in producing it. This is not as complicated as it sounds.

It means that the level of wages depends on the amount of money required to buy all the goods (food, clothes, housing, etc.) necessary for the worker (and his successors, his children) to keep on coming back to work with his muscle, his nerves, and his mental concentration restored.

Strength to fight

When the working class is unorganized, suffering from defeats and repressions, or weakened by unemployment, it is unable to demand more than a mere subsistence or starvation level of wages.

But where it has long-established unions with the strength to back up high expectations, and has a young generation at work which has never experienced a major defeat (like most of the working class in America and Europe today), then it is able to insist on a standard of living higher than subsistence.

The strongest sections will fight and win (during a boom) enough to get holidays, televisions, plenty of food, perhaps a car and the ability to keep their children at school or university.

The working class's struggle for a standard of living, its organized struggle for wages, must therefore constantly battle against rises in the cost of living—food and clothing, prices, rents, fares, and rates.

But if workers accept that their wages are tied to the scientific measurement of productivity in the factory where they work, how can they combat the increased cost of living? How can they defend their standard of living from attack?

A basic principle is involved. The working class fights to place the highest value on the only commodity it can sell, its labour power.

That means it needs the right, historically fought for since the 18th century, to organize in unions and fight for wage increases.

The employers want that right abolished. They want the workers in every trade broken up into factory units, and if possible into sections within each factory, with separately negotiated



Important sections of workers have been able to insist on large increases without productivity strings: as in Plesseys, Swindon.

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PUBLIC LECTURES

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Lecture by G. HEALY
(National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League)

OXFORD
Thursday November 5
Northgate Hall
Oxford 8 p.m.

Lectures by M. BANDA
(Editor of Workers Press)

ACTON Thursday November 5
Thursday November 12
'King's Head', High St
Acton. 8 p.m.

BLACKFRIARS Monday November 9
Friars Hall
Blackfriars Road
SE1. 8 p.m.

Lectures by G. Healy and M. Banda

NEWCASTLE
Hotspur Hotel Sunday, November 15
Haymarket 7.30 p.m.

Three lectures by C. SLAUGHTER
(Central Committee of Socialist Labour League)

BIRMINGHAM Monday November 9
Monday November 16
Digbeth Hall Birmingham. 7.30 p.m.

SHEFFIELD Sunday November 15
Sunday November 22
Crooksmoor Vestry Hall
Crooksmoor Rd, Sheffield 6.
7.30 p.m.

LIVERPOOL Wednesday November 4
Wednesday November 11
Wednesday November 25
Royal Institution, Colquitt St
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BBC 1

9.15 a.m. Schools. 12.25-12.55 p.m. Nal zindagi-naya jeevan. 1.00-1.25 Iris. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.50 Schools. 3.45-4.15 Representing the union. 'Productivity Bargaining'. 4.20 Play schools. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 'The Snow Queen'. Russian version of the fairytale. 5.15 Tom Tom. 5.44 Magic roundabout. 5.50 News and weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE. London.

6.15 THE DOCTORS.

7.10 TOM AND JERRY.

7.20 STAR TREK.

8.10 SOFTLY, SOFTLY—TASK FORCE. 'Never Hit A Lady'.

9.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. On behalf of the Labour Party.

9.10 THE MAIN NEWS and weather.

9.30 SPORTSIGHT WITH COLEMAN. The fastest football in the world. 'Daily Express' national five-a-side. International heavyweight boxing: Joe Bugner v George Johnson. European Soccer Tournament.

10.25 24 HOURS.

11.00 INAUGURATION OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

11.15 Weather.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as above except:

Midlands, E. Anglia: 6.00-6.45 Nationwide. Midlands today. Look East, weather. 11.17 News, weather.

North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland: 6.00-6.45 Nationwide. Look North, weather. 11.17 News, weather.

Wales: 6.00 Wales today, weather. Nationwide. 6.45-7.10 Heddiw. 7.40 Ask the family. 7.40-8.10 Maes a mor. 11.15 Late call. 11.40 Weather.

Scotland: 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland. Nationwide. 9.30-10.25 Sportsnight with Coleman. 11.17 News, weather.

N Ireland: 6.00-6.45 Scene around six, weather. Nationwide. 11.00-11.30 On the boards. News, weather.

SW, South, West: 6.00-6.45 Nationwide. Points West. South today. Spotlight SW, weather. 11.17 News, weather.

BBC 2

9.35 a.m. Inauguration of the General Synod of the Church of England. 11.45-12.45 p.m. Play school.

7.05 SQUARE TWO.

7.30 NEWSROOM and weather.

8.00 TIMES REMEMBERED.

8.10 'MAN ALIVE.' 'It at first... try, try and try again'. Report on Haverhill Brian, composer, Oriol Clair, singer, Miriam Hargrave, learner driver.

9.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. On behalf of the Labour Party.

9.10 PETS AND VETS. 'Skin, Coat and Feathers'.

9.30 BIOGRAPHY. 'I Measured the Skies'. Dramatized biography of astronomer Johannes Kepler.

10.55 NEWS ON 2 and weather.

11.00 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV

11.00 a.m.-2.59 p.m. Schools. 4.17 Rupert Bear. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Lift off. 5.20 Wreckers at dead-eye. 5.50 News.

6.02 TODAY.

6.35 THE SAINT.

7.30 CORONATION STREET.

8.00 THE CHAMPIONS.

9.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. On behalf of the Labour Party.

9.10 SPECIAL BRANCH. 'Fool's Mate'.

10.10 NEWS FROM ITN.

10.40 FOOTBALL.

11.35 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING. From Huddersfield Town Hall.

12.05 a.m. WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

12.20 A QUAKER IN FLEET STREET. Suzanne Baker talks to Kenneth Baily of 'The People'.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.00 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.10 Wind in the willows. 4.25 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Airline pilot. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Treasure hunt. 7.30

London: 8.00 It takes a thief. 9.00 Life in France. 9.10 London. 12.00 night Epilogue. News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except:

TV

3.58 News. 4.00 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 Wind in the willows. 4.30 London. 6.00 Day by day. Crime desk. 6.30 M. three sons. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 Benny Hill show. 9.00 London. 12.05 News. 12.15 Weather. Action 70.

HARLECH: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.25 And gladly teach. 4.35 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 B. TV today. Wales. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 Bold ones. 9.00 London.

HTV (West) colour channel 61 as above except: 4.23-4.25. 6.01-6.35 Report West.

HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 and HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 6.01-6.18 Y dydd.

ANGLIA: 10.58-3.00 London. 4.25 News. 4.35 Romper room. 4.55 London. 6.00 About Angels. Mrs Muir. 7.30 London. 8.00 FO. 9.00 London. 12.08 Your music at night.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-3.00 London. 3.49 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today. 4.10 Peyton Place. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 ATV today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Branded. 7.30 London. 8.00 UFO. 9.00 London.

ULSTER: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 London. 6.00 TV reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 Bracken's world. 9.00 London.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 Rupert Bear. 4.30 Rutland. 4.53 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.30 Hogan's heroes. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 Big valley. 9.00 London. 12.05 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.10 News. Peyton Place. 4.40 Paulus. 4.55 London. 6.02 Six-o-one. 6.25 Police file. 6.35 Avengers. 7.30 London. 8.00 Marcus Welby. 9.00 London.

TYNE TEES: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.10 News. 4.15 Wally. Whyton style. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.30 Survival. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 UFO. 9.00 London. 12.05 News. 12.20 Epilogue.

BORDER: 1.38-3.00 London. 4.10 News. 4.12 Ghos. Mrs Muir. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 UFO. 9.00 London. 12.08 News, weather.

SCOTTISH: 11.00-3.00 London. 3.40 Dateline. 3.50 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today. 4.15 Rupert Bear. 4.30 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.50 Father, dear father. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 Bonanza. 9.00 London. 10.40 Sportsport. 11.35 Wrestling. 12.05 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58-3.00 London. 3.52 Women today. 4.10 Cartoon. 4.25 Freud on food. 4.55 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Week. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 8.55 Police news. 9.00 London. 10.40 Sportsport. 11.35 London.

Say goodnight to Duke



Author of the play Colin Welland in a scene from 'Say Goodnight to your Grandma'.

FRANK CARTWRIGHT

TV

COLUMN

ONE OF the only decent series of plays done by commercial television since the Armchair Theatre of the late 1950s was the collection produced by Kenith Trodd for London Weekend.

Spread over two years the series came to an end with the resignation of Trodd and other executives from LWT over the sacking of Michael Peacock last year.

One of the first plays done though was a script by Colin Welland, called 'Bangelstein's Boys'.

Directed by John Mackenzie this was Welland's first script for television.

It concerned a northern amateur rugby club and its annual trip to London for a match and a night on the town and the beer. The film was a good hard account of the tension and sublimated misery within the club, where so much of what passes for fun reflects only the need to forget the realities of lives outside.

It also caught some of the humour, strength and real power of the players and therefore the class of which they are a part.

Last week (in the series still called Armchair Theatre) Welland's third play was transmitted. I missed the second, but last Tuesday's, 'Say Goodnight to Your Grandma' (Thames) was another script which stood head and shoulders above most of what passes for television drama.

It concerned a visit home to the North by a young couple with their new baby.

They arrive at his mother's house, semi-detached and immaculate, to find her mother there waiting too. Some preliminary skirmishes between the two grannies leads to the retreat in pained anguish of the girl's mother.

She has been defeated in the ruthless struggle for possession of the new family and its youth by a well-aimed blow at her religious convictions on birth control.

The young husband is the prize now, in a battle between his mother and his wife. The battle rages over tea and into his being manoeuvred into a carefully prepared spontaneous booze-up at home with his old mates—just like they used to do five or ten years ago.

During this the mother fights for supremacy, for Oedipal dominance, but above all competitively for the love of her son.

She fights by laying on beer and sandwiches in vastly excit-

ing amounts as though from nowhere—just like mums are supposed to do and wives never can.

WEAPON

The wife fights back with the weapons of youth. Frank sexuality and a young body completely win the empty hearts and full desires of the 'boys' away from mum and her beer and sandwiches.

Mother is defeated, forced to let go of her son, forced to become grandmother to the baby, forced to give up any illusions of youth, forced to accept what she can get.

The 'boys' too are made to give up any dreams they are harbouring about being young and free.

The bird, after all, is their mate's wife; they too are married and weighed down with the load or lonely as bachelors. Welland's play was precise in its blows, but always compassionate. The way relationships are forced into sterile and twisted moulds, the artificial forms taken by deep human conflicts and needs in this society, were all there.

FUNNY

The longing for friendship, for filial closeness, for contact, are so often perverted into crippling pantomimes. Much of this came through the play, often implicitly, behind very funny dialogue.

The performances were all very good, especially by Susan Jameson and the author as the wife and husband. A serious attempt had been made too to catch the claustrophobic atmosphere and enclosed space of the house; occasionally, though, it was difficult to catch key lines because of the loose shooting.

But an excellent piece. THERE WAS another event of the television week though.

'The Country We Are Making' (BBC-2 October 26) was ostensibly concerned with the destruction of the environment.

It turned out, with the Duke of Edinburgh at the helm, to be a plea for the protection of the huntin', shootin' and fishin' facilities of old England, under the guise of democratic concern, of course.

BLAME

'We' were blamed for fouling everything up, and when it wasn't 'us' who did it, it was 'our' fathers.

The sewage workers now on strike were blamed for polluting the rivers (tactfully, 200 years of destruction by capitalist production was forgotten) and the climax of the show came with jolly references to the Tory Prime Minister's new boat getting some oil on it.

For me, the real highlight, though, was the sight of the Duke advocating the need for more central control to deal with the 'problem' against an old fashioned *laissez-faire* director of the Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation.

Marvellous television too... reaction and distraction disguised as enlightened concern.

There's a Feiffer cartoon which was issued for the Earth Day celebrations held in New York earlier this year.

A hard-faced business man faces a young and naive chap.

The faces remain the same, the dialogue changes.

Business Man: Vietnam is dead as an issue. The real issue, is ecology.

Young Man: But what can we do about it?

B.M.: We have to control the environment.

Y.M.: But how can we do that?

B.M.: We have to control pollution.

Y.M.: But how can we do that?

B.M.: We have to control industrial waste.

Y.M.: But how can we do that?

B.M.: We have to control industry.

Y.M.: Oh, you mean social-ism.

B.M.: Ecology is dead as an issue.

PROTEST strikes staged throughout Spain yesterday by the clandestine trade union organizations underline the phoney character of the Trade Union Law now before Franco's puppet parliament.

Even the Catholic bishops have been forced to condemn the Bill. When all the elaborate Fascist phraseology is chipped away it gives nothing in the way of concessions to the working class.

Genuine trade unions are illegal in Spain. After the civil war they were dissolved and replaced by 'sindicatos' in which all workers were compulsorily enrolled.

Some of the key clauses in the 'consultative document' put out Carr-style by the Franco regime after four years brooding over the Bill give an indication of its real meaning.

Defining the bodies which come within the law, Article three states: 'Professional organizations are Unions and Councils having as their object to represent social and economic interests, and the Associations and Groups of employers, technicians and workers who belong to them.'

'They shall be represented at all levels by freely elected representatives and will recognize the right to hold meetings and act within the limits laid down by law.'

Now you see it, now you don't.

Since the law effectively forbids all conspiracies to raise wages or fight for better conditions, outlaws strikes and

Franco 'democratizes' the unions...

forces workers into the same 'unions' as their employers, freedom within the law is simply an empty phrase.

Nor is Franco going to get the sindicatos free from government control.

The Minister for Sindical Affairs, a government nominee, will have the absolute right to sack any functionary or dissolve any organization he sees fit.

He is specifically enjoined by the law to make sure that the sindicatos conform to the 'basic principles which inspire the Spanish Sindical Organization'—namely, the principles of the Fascist corporate state.

Armed with these wide powers, the Minister will vet the sindicatos' rules and regulations (Article 23), nominate the

presidents of the various 'unions' and preside over the Sindical Organization and the National Congress (Articles 26 and 31).

Just to ensure that only outright Fascists get to the top, nobody who has been deprived of civil rights, been in jail or been declared 'incompatible with the principles of the Movimiento Nacional' (Franco's Fascist party) can become president of the Sindicato Nacional.

This rules out representatives of all genuine working-class parties, all of which are illegal in Spain.

And to add insult to injury, 'The members of the Executive Committee, the presidents of the sindicatos and national federations, the Directors of Works and Services and the Provincial Delegates of the Sindical Organization' must 'swear allegiance to the Head of State, to the Principles of the Movimiento Nacional and the Fundamental Laws of the Realm'. (Article 49).

No wonder the Spanish workers are up in arms about Franco's proposals.

This outright Fascist law is only another indication that the Stalinist and social-democratic perspective of democratic reform has no future in Spain and that the overthrow of Fascism can be carried through effectively only by proletarian revolution.

...while Carr boosts judges' pay

LABOUR'S House of Commons front bench is rapidly transforming itself into a kind of unsolicited — and unheeded — advice bureau for the Tories.

Wagging her finger at Employment Secretary Robert Carr after his announcement that the Prices and Incomes Board is to be replaced by a new Office of Manpower Economics, Shadow Minister Barbara Castle warned:

'This is bound to toughen the determination of workers to

press for higher pay increases, particularly where those workers are low-paid.'

Perish the thought!

Presumably it is fear of this dreadful determination which in the last five weeks has held back not only Mrs Castle but every other leading member of her party from lifting a finger to encourage Labour councils to settle the council workers' claim for higher pay.

Offspring

Her indignation is of course a convenient cover for not discussing the real implications of

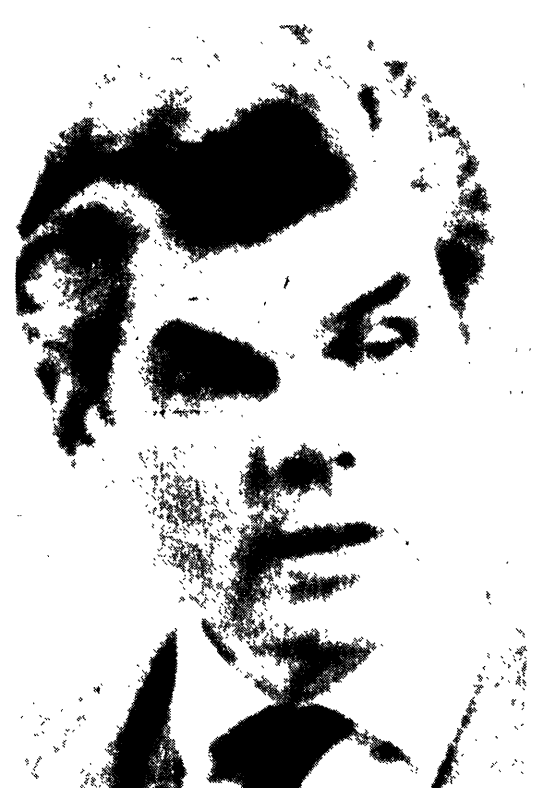
Carr's proposed office — the bastard offspring of her own Manpower and Productivity Service.

Besides helping Carr produce favourable pay reviews for judges, senior civil servants, army top brass, and other similarly low-paid workers, it will in fact carry on the PIB's propaganda work for speed-up and redundancies in industry—without any hypocritical nonsense about keeping down prices.

'We have made clear', Carr says, 'the best protection for the consumer both as to prices and wages is to be found... in the processes of competition.'

Workers Press notebook

Mad Mitch spills the beans



INTERVIEWED about the decision to expand the Territorial Auxiliary and Voluntary Reserve on BBC radio's 'Today' programme last Thursday, Lt. Col. Colin 'Mad Mitch' Mitchell was wildly enthusiastic.

He mentioned the TA's 'civil duties' and elaborated to the extent of referring to their ability to 'back up the police'.

'In these violent times,' he said, 'this is very useful for internal security.'

Now, what do you think he had in mind? Protection of Aberdeen cattle against rustlers? Anti-poacher patrols on the grouse moors? Traffic duty on the road to Inverness?

Mitchell's activities in Aden led to the conclusion that he was thinking of more directly political action for the TA&VR, which, incidentally, is to have an armoured car division.

He was only revealing a little of what Heath implied in his UN reference to 'civil war'. The Mad Mitches of Britain see their role more and more involved with preparation for action against the working class.

Let's hope he speaks up more often.

Meanwhile back in the cabinet

CABINET PAPERS recently made available show that gathering between the union chiefs and the government during the stormy years of 1920-1921—referred to in the articles by Jack Gale—were always polite and often cordial affairs.

Ministers were particularly sympathetic with the difficulties of the treacherous Jimmy Thomas, leader of the railwaymen and spokesman for the Triple Alliance.

'We quite understand that you were overruled by the NUR conference which decided on strike action,' they told him.

But even the lefts like Robert Williams were treated with true English courtesy. He never saw the secret reports on 'revolutionary organization' circulated to the Cabinet once a fortnight, in which his speeches often featured.

While the meetings were proceeding on the Sankey Commission — the trick by which Lloyd George helped the union leaders to betray the miners—quite different kinds of discussion were going on inside the Cabinet.

These not only involved preparation for strike-breaking activities, including military action in the event of a Triple Alliance strike. They also in-



Churchill

It's a man's life in the Regular Army

ACTION in Northern Ireland has made men more likely to sign on for long service in the Regular Army, says the Ministry of Defence. According to army officers, policing duties in Belfast and Londonderry have been good for morale.

'The Times' quotes one officer as saying: 'Soldiers traditionally love a roughhouse. After all, they

came into the Army to see some action and in Ulster they are seeing it.'

Using CS gas on children and beating up old men is certainly in the best tradition of the forces of British imperialism all over the world.

Whether it is as appealing to the men who have to do it, as the Army suggests, is another matter.



Who is Len Wincott?

INVERGORDON mutineer Len Wincott wrote on the famous 1931 event in last Friday's 'Morning Star', the Communist Party's daily paper.

Not surprisingly, the 'Star' didn't preface the article with a biographical sketch.

Wincott, discharged from the Navy after the mutiny, fought in the International Brigade in Spain.

Like other International Brigadiers, he went to Russia in 1938 and was arrested in the massive purges that par-

ticularly hit foreign communists in Moscow. While he spent the next 19 years in Stalin's prisons, British CP 'comrades' said absolutely nothing about him and never once lifted a finger to help him.

The same applies to Rose Cohen, once in charge of the CP's King St, London, office, and wife of the Comintern agent Petrovsky.

But while Rose Cohen died in the purges, Wincott survived and was released—with an apology—in 1957. He still lives in Moscow as a Soviet citizen.

The 'Star's' failure to comment on the authorship of Friday's article is in line with the CP leaders' evasion of their complicity in the 1930s purges of communists by their master, Stalin.

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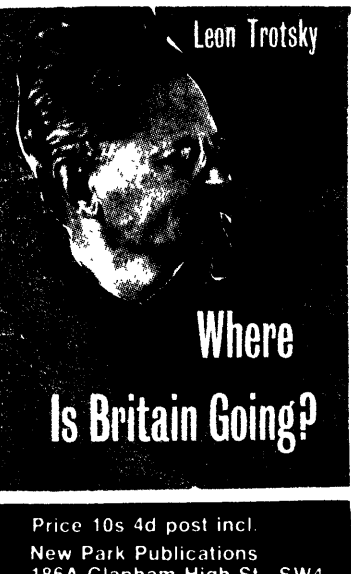
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Nixon

FROM PAGE ONE

Nixon during a violent demonstration against him at San Jose, California, last week.

The 'Washington Post' quoted an unnamed San Jose police official as saying:

'If you want my professional opinion, this wasn't half as bad as some of the things I've seen around here. The White House really played it up.'

The 'New York Times' said there was no evidence that the incident was 'arranged' for the President's benefit in line with reported White House policy of allowing demonstrators near so Nixon could use them as a foil for his law-and-order speeches.

But the paper added that the President did not seem to be in any danger because most of the debris was thrown after he entered his car.

The main question about the President's behaviour concerns his decision to jump on the hood of his car after the first few eggs were thrown and give his campaign victory salute to the demonstrators, the 'Times' added.

The phoney basis for Nixon's final campaign speeches detracts not a whit from his urgent desire to get tighter laws aimed at the working class in the United States.

This makes all the more dangerous the recent pro-Nixon moves by the leaders of the US trade unions.

George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO (US equivalent of the TUC) stated just a month ago that 'The Democrats are more and more losing favour with our lads.'

But with unemployment at nearly 6 per cent, working-class voters who might previously have voted for Nixon's policies are growing alarmed. And they are not satisfied with Nixon's and Agnew's demagoguery.

But the US working class lacks a mass political party which can defend its basic rights.

The building of a Labour Party to answer Nixon's reactionary campaign for repressive laws is now the most urgent issue facing American workers.

Vauxhall to sack 300

White-collar march to defend jobs

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

DRAUGHTSMEN and other salaried staff at Vauxhall's Luton plant yesterday struck for the day and marched 1,000-strong along the factory's boundary road.

The stoppage was the second one-day strike in protest at the company's announcement that 300 white-collar workers are to be made redundant at the Luton and Dunstable plants by the end of the year.

Bus crews plan curfew

EDINBURGH corporation bus crews have decided to stop all bus services in the city on Friday and Saturday nights from about 9 p.m. because of assaults, intimidation and abuse to conductors and drivers.

Marchers carried placards 'Vauxhalls say go. DATA say no'.

Many of those threatened with sacking are members of the Draughtsmen's and Allied Technicians' Association.

Before the march Vauxhall's DATA branch secretary Tony Clarke told a mass meeting:

'If Vauxhalls can get away with these redundancies, they can get away with anything.'

The meeting carried a resolution from the floor for guerrilla tactics and lightning strikes to put pressure on the management to negotiate.

Not budging

Last week a DATA spokesman said:

'We have approached the management again and they will not budge from their decision.'

But token action and disruptive tactics will not be sufficient to roll back Vauxhall's attacks.

The company has made this clear. A spokesman said:

'These redundancies cannot be avoided. One has only to recall the loss Vauxhall made during the first part of this year [a seven figure loss] to appreciate that some cut-back was necessary.'

Polish praise

FROM PAGE ONE

revolutionary Tories by Polish Stalinism is an integral, and essential, part of Soviet Stalinism's strategy to subordinate European working-class interests to the exploitation of inter-imperialist rivalries between Europe and America.

Under the slogan of European collective security, the Stalinists — the British ones included — are preparing to collaborate in the most chauvinistic manner with their own ruling classes and stab the European socialist revolution in the back.

We should therefore not be surprised if, for example, the British Stalinists, like the Italians, were to change their attitude to the Common Market in the near future.

The 'Morning Star' and the British Communist Party remain criminally silent about the reactionary alliance between Stalinism and the Tories.

Strike-breaking

In just the same way, they kept their mouths shut while Polish coal and Polish cement were breaking strikes for Franco and the 'green Tories' in Dublin.

Communist Party members are calling for strike action on December 8 against the Tory anti-union laws.

The 'Morning Star' also claims to oppose the Tories.

When it keeps silent about these developments, it is preparing a rod for British workers' backs, just as it tolerated scabbing in Spain and Eire.

Foreign policy, to paraphrase Clausewitz, is the continuation of home policy.

Hackney strike made official



Hackney councilworkers hear at a meeting yesterday that their strike has been made official.

UN team exposes Israeli tortures

WITH CHARACTERISTIC Zionist cynicism, the Israeli government, for the umpteenth time, flatly denied charges of torture and depopulation made on this occasion by a three-man UN team appointed by the vice-president of the General Assembly.

The team's report, after lengthy and detailed investigation of the treatment of Palestinians, concluded that the Israeli regime 'is pursuing a conscious and deliberate policy

who have been allowed within the occupied areas.

Patrick Brogan, staff writer on 'The Times' reported last year, after a visit to Israel, that:

'The occupation is now much harsher than it was a year ago. More people are being arrested, more houses are being demolished, the atmosphere in Gaza is even worse, and the atmosphere in Hebron is almost as bad . . .'

Israeli sources have predictably condemned the UN team as a tool of Arab propaganda and boast that the 'Israeli administration is as humane, equitable and constructive as can be conceived in that situation'.

The denials of the Israelis and their arrogant counter claims, however, cannot obliterate the mass of evidence—of which the UN report is only a small part—which has been gathered over the last three years.

The committee found indelible evidence that the Israelis were determined to depopulate the Arab-occupied areas by mass deportation, blowing up of houses and streets, harsh collective punishments, prolonged detention, torture and the exacerbation of economic life.

Despite official denials, it also found that Israel was establishing its semi-military Nahal settlements along the new borders; on the Golan Heights of Syria, the West Bank of Jordan and Old Jerusalem.

This policy of settlement and land-grabbing (see Workers Press, October 21, 1970) gives the lie to Israel pretensions to carry out a withdrawal from 'occupied territories' if Egypt withdraws its missiles from around Suez.

The committee found indelible evidence that the Israelis were determined to depopulate the Arab-occupied areas by mass deportation, blowing up of houses and streets, harsh collective punishments, prolonged detention, torture and the exacerbation of economic life.

And, of course, during the recent Vietnam Moratorium, police ensured that marchers would not become violent or damage property, by beating them up on the streets and arresting them.

Perhaps the reason for police failure to bring any Yugoslav terrorists to justice is that they are afraid of them. After all these terrorists, unlike left-wing students, have a solid core of members who are used to fighting.

Their tradition goes back to the Second World War when a group in Yugoslavia known as Ustashi supported Nazi Germany and fought hard for fascism. The group had concentration camps and was responsible for the death of 70,000 Serbs and 60,000 Jews. They fled the country when

Metalworkers' union chiefs accept 12p.c.

METALWORKERS' leaders in Baden-Wurttemberg, W Germany, have accepted an employers' offer of a 12.2 per cent pay rise in an attempt to avert strike action by their 500,000 members.

Last minute negotiations before the strike—scheduled for Thursday—were joined by state premier Dr Hans Filbinger.

Last week the workers voted overwhelmingly for strike action and turned down a 12 per cent pay rise. The union's original demand was for 15 per cent.

The rank and file of the union—IG-Metall—have still to approve the agreement reached yesterday. Employers have threatened a lock-out throughout the metal industry in the state if agreement is not finalized.

Free Spanish prisoners demand

Illegal strikes called by underground trade unions

A MEETING of 1,000 students at the School of Industrial Engineers in Madrid was broken up by police on the eve of yesterday's 24-hour strike action called throughout Spain by the underground workers' commissions against the Franco regime.

The meeting was called in favour of an amnesty for political prisoners—one of the key demands of the strike.

Several students were beaten about the head and body and had to get medical attention later.

Strong forces of police were out in Madrid and other centres yesterday in preparation for the strike.

The workers' commissions asked for strikes 'wherever possible' and public demonstrations in Madrid and other large towns.

STRIKE CALL

The strike call was issued after a meeting of illegal organizers held during the summer in a convent near Madrid.

Some of the leaders were arrested by the police, but the actual participants got away.

The workers' strike is the beginning of a systematic struggle to obtain an amnesty for political prisoners and to unite the opposition to the infamous 'Trade Union Law' now on its way through the Cortes (parliament).

(An analysis of this law appears on page 3 of this issue.)

FIRST TIME

Yesterday's strike is the first time the workers' commissions have called strike action throughout Spain.

In the conditions of fascist illegality, they cannot rely on the support of all workers, but have a large following especially in the metalworking and building trades.

WEATHER

IT WILL be dry with sunny periods over most of England and E Scotland but cloudy with rain over N Ireland and western districts of Wales and Scotland at first.

This rain will move quickly eastwards and give way to showers and sunny periods in western districts. Winds will be strong to gale force in many areas. Temperatures will be near normal.

Outlook for Thursday and Friday: Continuing changeable with periods of rain and strong winds, but also some sunny periods. Temperatures near or rather below normal.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

'No anti-union laws' 'Force the Tories to resign'

BRISTOL: Wednesday, November 4, 8 p.m. Old England public house, Gloucester Road. A.C. C. strike and the Tories offensive.

HULL: Wednesday, November 4, 7.30 p.m. Co-op Institute Hall, Room 1, Kingston Square Admision 1s.

E LONDON: Wednesday, November 4, 8 p.m. Festival Inn, Kennerly St (near Chisip St Market), E14.

SWINDON: Sunday, November 8, 7.30 p.m. Eastcott Hotel, Manchester Road.

FIFTY women locked themselves in a church outside Bilbao in protest against six death sentences demanded by the military prosecutor in the trial of Basque Nationalist militants in Burgos.

The trial of 16 Nationalists was due to open there yesterday, but may have been postponed for another week.

It is to be held behind closed doors because two of the accused are priests. The secrecy is a condition of Franco's concordat with the Vatican.

Heath's 'civil war' a reality in Ulster

'MUCH HOTTER operations' by the British Army in N Ireland were predicted by commanding officer Major-General Anthony Farrar-Hockley yesterday.

His remarks followed further outbreaks of fighting in Belfast in which a police station was stoned, a number of demonstrators arrested and huge traffic jams built up in the city centre.

Fighting broke out at the City Hall after the Unionist council decided not to allow a delegation from the People's Democracy organization into the building to protest against the 50 per cent rise in bus fares.

These came into effect yesterday.

Five people were arrested after a heavy book had been hurled at the Lord Mayor.

The fare rises underline the plight of workers in this city of heavy unemployment, slum housing and low wages.

British imperialism's Army is certainly defending its own as it threatens brutal retaliation against Belfast's embattled working class.

The Tory press has made a great deal of the 'naïf bombs', which are supposed to have blown the toe off a soldier's boot earlier this week.

There are thousands of British troops in the six counties armed with the latest death-dealing equipment.

Yet when they are faced with home-made bombs, a machine gun, and a few workers armed with back-yard weapons, they raise the roof about 'brutality'.

The fine, British art of hypocrisy has never been stretched to greater lengths.

The rapid escalation of the fighting in N Ireland brings home what Heath really meant

Reign of terror on Naxalites

A REIGN of uncontrolled terror has been unleashed by Indira Gandhi's Congress government in W Bengal in order to stamp out the Maoist Naxalite movement.

In September Mrs Gandhi declared total war on the Naxalites who have been conducting an armed struggle against the landlords and moneylenders in many provinces and paralysed industrial districts with strikes and sit-ins.

In August the strategic North East Frontier Railway was struck for 11 days by workers demanding the release of a Naxalite arrested by the W Bengal police.

If the Naxalites gain control of this railway the Indian capitalists fear that they will be able to paralyse supplies to considerable army of Indian troops on the Chinese border.

In August it was reported that the Indian security forces were intensifying their repression of the Naxalites after the capture of Kanu Sanyal, co-leader with Chanan Mazumdar of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), the Naxalite movement.

In the district of Har, in W Bengal, local leaders of the Naxalites were shot dead. In Patna too dozens more were killed by police firing after a right-wing political leader was allegedly killed by Naxalites.

W Bengal, which is the stronghold of the Naxalites, is also the storm centre of India's brewing social revolution. It is not surprising that the list of capitalist state repression should fall hardest on this part of the country.

BY A CORRESPONDENT

when he spoke at the United Nations about civil war.

It is already a reality in the six counties.

British workers must continue the campaign for the immediate and complete withdrawal of British troops from Ireland as part of the fight to force the Tory government to resign.

MDW

dubbed the ADO 28—while disagreement on the pay system to operate still existed.

In what one leading trade unionist told Workers Press was 'a complete breach of the return-to-work agreement' reached for the recent pieceworkers' strike at the plant, Leyland threatened to create a transitional labour pool if ADO 28 production fails to start.

Stewards describe this as an ultimatum to accept either MDW or 400 eventual redundancies.

Opposition

Workers at the Morris assembly plant have conducted a long and consistent campaign of opposition to Leyland's plans to replace piecework with MDW.

The Transport and General Workers' branch covering the union's members at the linked Press-Steel Fisher body plant met at the weekend and endorsed their stewards' unanimous rejection of a similar scheme.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCES

Support Pilkington glassworkers and their right to strike!

Defeat the proposed Tory anti-union laws

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8

COVENTRY: Keith's Club, Cox Street, 3.30 p.m.

NEWCASTLE: Royal Turk's Head Hotel, Grey Street, 3 p.m.

SHEFFIELD: Crooks Moor Vestry Hall, Crooks Moor Road, 2.30 p.m.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15

GLASGOW: Partick Burgh Lesser Hall, near Merkland Street underground, 7.30 p.m.

LONDON: Woodlands Hall, Crown Street, Acton, 7.00 p.m.

Speakers will be from the Pilkington Rank and File Committee

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LATE NEWS

COUNCIL STRIKE (See page one)

Sir Jack Scamp's inquiry committee recommendations on the council workers' pay claim are likely to be ready for disclosure to the two sides late tomorrow.

It was thus no surprise that chairman of the GLC establishment committee, Mr Leslie Freeman, rejected the Labour opposition leader's appeal to open direct negotiations with the unions.

A National Union of Public Employees spokesman said that TUC general secretary Victor Feather's offer of TUC mediation in the strike was 'hypothetical'.

'But, if the TUC did step in,' he said, 'we would have no objection.'

NUPE said yesterday that it could maintain the strike until Christmas if necessary, without any financial difficulties.

If more money was needed there were 300,000 members not on strike who would help.

RENT CONTROL TO END

Rent controls in the private sector are to end under a Tory government plan to introduce the so-called 'fair rent' system throughout private and council housing.

'The government,' Environment Minister Peter Walker told the Commons to Labour protests yesterday, 'will remove the present artificial distinction and inequalities between private and public rented sectors and within each of them.'

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Petrol prices up again

SHELL-MEX, BP and Texaco yesterday announced an immediate 1d a gallon increase in the wholesale price of their petrol following the same move by Esso on Monday.

Shell-Mex and BP said that the increase would apply not only to all grades of motor spirit and DERV, but to gas, fuel and burning oil.

The increases will cost the road haulage industry alone an extra £4 million to £5 million a year and will add to the rising cost of living.

This is the second time this year that petrol prices have risen.

Torture

The report also cites evidence of torture and mutilation practised by the Zionist security forces on Arabs.

These sadistic practices which include blinding, castration, pulling out fingernails and hanging by the wrists, show that the Israelis have no qualms about learning from their British predecessors in the notorious Palestine Police Force under the Mandate.

The jailers have changed—the methods and the victims are the same.

The committee was denied access to the occupied areas and was denied information by the Red Cross and UN relief organization, but its statements corroborate the evidence of western observers

Australian LETTER

BY AIR MAIL PAR AVION

30

ings as 'reprehensible'. But when questioned about the Quebec Liberation Front in the House at the same time said he did not believe there were organized movements of this kind in Australia, and gave assurance that necessary steps would be taken to keep in check any if they ever did become established.

The pattern is becoming increasingly clear as more and more politicians warn of the dangers in this country of adventurist actions similar to those taken by the Quebec Liberation Front, while no effective action is taken to stop fascist terrorists.

The group, which among other things wants the separation of Croatia from Yugoslavia, was held mainly responsible for an earlier attack by 600 Yugoslavs on the consulate in Sydney.

As I said, it could be that the police are afraid of these rather fierce men.

But then it could be that Australian police and the government don't like communists either.

Yugoslav Consul-General Dr Stanisa Cvetkovic claims: 'We have had no indication that appropriate measures have been taken over the past two years to prevent these terrible acts.'

Prime Minister Mr John Gorton described the bomb-