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BY ALEX MITCHELL

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It is the third time in a week that Feather has launched a 'fresh initiative'.

As his manoeuvres become more desperate, Britain's miners—now in the 18th day of their strike—must be warned of the dangers that could confront them.

WHY IS it that Feather, head of the country's all-powerful trade union movement, refuses to summon every union to fight the Tory government alongside the miners?

WHY HAS he consistently refused to call together even the transport unions to work out a common policy on halting coal, coke and oil supplies?

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In return for not using the Act against the miners and other unions, the Tories, it is believed, want Feather to get a return-to-work as quickly as possible.

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Although a number of the large unions have agreed not to register, a sizeable minority has, or is about to, register.

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But as was shown at Monday's meeting of the TUC Finance and General Purposes Committee, Feather is frantically trying to postpone any action against the rebel unions.

He is hoping that if the Tories give the TUC an unofficial assurance that they will not use the Act, the TUC policy on registration may well be reversed later this year when the full TUC meets.

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LEONARD NEAL, chairman of the Commission on Industrial Relations, enters the Park Lane Hotel yesterday to talk to building bosses. Neal, one-time Smithfield meat market porter and Transport and General Workers' Union official devised Britain's first real productivity deal for the Esso plant at Fawley, when he was working as an industrial consultant for the petrol giant.

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PORT employers yesterday attacked today's unofficial one-day docks strike as 'of no benefit to anyone, least of all the men'.

He denies his organization has called for a government inquiry into the system of statutory guarantees for dock jobs. But he participated in secret talks with union leaders about the scheme's abolition.

HIGH COURT judge granted University of Essex possession order forthwith against miners, saying they were occupying University without consent. Counsel said it was anticipated the order would have desired effect. If not, writ of possession would be handed to the sheriff who would eject any unauthorized occupant.



FEATHER

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If there's anyone in town who's against the occupation, they keep it very quiet indeed.

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'Yes, I think they've done right,' said Mrs Hales, 'because it draws attention to what is happening here.'

'I think the government should step in, but they don't care. They are ignoring everything that's going on here. They're making their money, so they're not concerned at all. I think we should throw the government out.'

One thing very much puzzled Mrs Hales. 'What I just don't understand, is that ALL people are against this government, yet the newspapers keep saying that the Tories are high up on those popularity things.'

A local telephonist knew the bitterness of defeat—she was involved in the long 1970 Post Office strike.

'I'd think twice now about striking because we didn't benefit any when we went back. I think next time we should have a go-slow. Very slow.'

But the woman, who declined to give her name, fully supported the Fisher-Bendix action.

Then she added: 'But no one can really win with Heath in.'

Derry clash is feared

A MAJOR clash seems likely in Londonderry, N Ireland, next Sunday following threats from the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Association yesterday that if the government did not stop a Civil Rights Association march through the city 'we are determined to take those steps ourselves'.

At the Liverpool teaching hospital site in London Road, the shop stewards' committee has donated £15 to the campaign.

In Bootle on the Inland Revenue site, £20 has been donated towards the £30,000 needed to support unemployed marchers starting out from Glasgow on February 5 and from Liverpool and Swansea on February 19.

In London, warehouse workers at Sainsbury's

Summed up briefly the workhouse message of premier Edward Heath and Employment Secretary Robert Carr was: if you agree to work harder, faster and for less wages we may consider finding you some kind of job.

The jigsaw which emerged from behind their words was of desolate dormitory towns for the workless with the only alternative bleak training camps feeding men and women in handfuls into a few big low-paid, ultra-productive factories.

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And in almost the same breath he called for firms to be given more taxpayers' money for investment, and for new talks on wage restraint.

Quickly seizing this opening, Heath attacked the Labour government's abandonment of both incomes policy and anti-union legislation and called on the TUC 'to give considerations to dealing with the wage problems concerned with inflation'.

Today's one-day strikes on Merseyside and on the docks will reject this crude blackmail — and the Heath-Carr blandishments about 'a massive development in training'.

They will recognize that the Labour leaders' treacherous policies are no answer to this workhouse philosophy.

They must join the growing tide of support for the Young Socialists' 'Right-to-Work' campaign and its twin slogans: Force the Tories to resign, elect a Labour government with socialist policies pledged to nationalize industry under workers' control without compensation.

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HELP THE YS JOBS CAMPAIGN



and the Weinstock formula

IN THE private sector of British industry, no company has wielded the jobs axe more brutally than Sir Arnold Weinstock's General Electric group.

Since the GEC-AEI merger four years ago, a total of 35,000 jobs have been cut throughout the £580m combine.

The massive sackings have been done in the sacred name of 'rationalisation' and 'corporate restructuring'. Every time the GEC giant devours another offshoot in the electrical industry, the capitalist press praises Weinstock's business genius.

Profitability

Of course, the Tory scribes are only concerned about seeing GEC maintain its high profitability. When the annual figures were announced a few months ago, they were not disappointed. GEC made a profit last financial year of £81.8m, a rise of more than £10m on the previous year.

In that same financial year 8,347 workers were made redundant.

So Weinstock's acumen boils down to a simple formula: cut the work force and drive up productivity with those who remain.

The redundancies are widespread throughout the group. They include cutbacks at factories in Manchester, Liverpool, E Kilbride, Woolwich, Sydenham, Blackheath, Walthamstow, Willesden, Chertsey, Wembley, St Mary Cray, Sittingbourne, Beeston, Harlow, Haverhill, Slough, Chesham, Rugby, W Bromwich, Witton, Aldridge, Crossheath, Winsford, Wythenshawe, Ashton-Under-Lyme, Middleton, Hirwaun, Colne, Bangor, Liverpool and Newton-Le-Willows.

Merger

The combine's jobs policy came into operation within months of the Labour government's approval of the merger between the two electrical giants, GEC and AEI. The figures for the past four years are:

1968... 12,635 redundancies
1969... 12,590 "
1971... 8,347 "

And already, in the opening weeks of 1972, the company has announced 3,074 redundancies.

As the preliminary figures

Where the shutdowns hit

1964

Atomic Research Establishment
REME Workshops
APV at Point Pleasant
Brabys Charlton
Castor & Barber
Dorman Long, Battersea
Down Brothers
Edward High Vacuum
Kenworthy Engineering
LTE Charlton Repair Depot
Gaston, Marbax, Battersea
Martell Press
Oakley & Co.
Parkinson Cowan
Sykes International Signals
Weatherley Oilgear

1965

British Railways at SE 1
Hoovers, Streatham
Otis Elevators
Richmond Sausages
UGB, Charlton
Wax Papers

1966

Aldous & Campbell Hypower
B.R. Points & Crossings
Hearsons

SE London has been hit by a phenomenal number of closures in the past eight years. Among the most serious have been the three GEC shutdowns at Woolwich, Sydenham and Blackheath. The closures have led to about 100,000 redundancies.

Heinke
Jones Tate & Co.
W. Mackle
Projectile Engineering, Battersea
F. T. Pillivant, Brixton
Vari Electric

1967

Avos, Vauxhall
Brand & Co, Vauxhall
T. W. Beach, London
Crosby, Engineering
Cornwall Press
Johnson & Phillips, Charlton
Johnson & Phillips, New Cross
Lampson Paragon
RAF Kidbrooke

1968

AEI factories at Woolwich,
Blackheath, Sydenham
J. Bibby, Wandsworth
Dewrance
J. Feaver

Falkner Green
A. H. Gadsby
Irwin & Partners
London Spinning Co.
Research & Industrial
Spectro Research
Trafalgar Engineering
Temple Press

1969

Hilger & Watts
G. Mason
Mobil Oil Co.
Cementone
Dawnays
Blue Bird Laundry
Castle Laundry
Lovibonds Brewers
Rank Flour Mills
GA Harvey, Heavy Construction
SE Gas, Carbonizing Plant
Freemans Mail Order Co.
Fremains
South London Plasters

Gabriel Wade
Cathkin Laundry
British Oil and Cake Mills, Erith
Parsons, Erith
Gaskell & Chambers
Dairy Produce Packers
Hunter Group
Mildwater & Sons
AEI Woolwich (final closure 1,000)
SE Gas Sydenham Domestic Coal Dept.
AEI Super Tension Cable Dept.

1970

Associated Motor Cycles
RACS Commonwealth Buildings
A number of departments have closed—Talloring, Butter Packing, Tea Blending, Bacon Stoving, Flour Packing, Shoe Repairs, Milk Distribution, with consequential redundancies 1968-1970

1971

J. Sainsbury
SE Gas Greenwich, Phoenix Wharf and other depts.
LTE Greenwich Power Station redundancies
Hoe Crabtree—redundancies due to transfer to another area

ably diligent in its research, but it is abysmally short on politics. It proposes to fight the massive redundancies in the area with the mildest of protests.

Pressure

A leaflet just issued by the group says: 'We must all now press our Members of Parliament to seek a meeting with the Minister of Trade and Industry and the Minister of Employment for government action on jobs and employment.'

And the central theme of the committee is 'industrial expansion for SE London.'

This is dangerous nonsense. The fight for the right to work is the political task of the

WHOLE working class. It must be mounted as a national campaign. That is why the Young Socialists have organized three national marches throughout the country aimed at mobilizing support from the entire working class.

Right to work

The first contingents will leave Glasgow on February 5 and further groups will set off from Liverpool and Swansea on February 19. At Wembley Pool on March 12 a mass rally will be staged in support of the right to work.

Only this form of political action can challenge the source of the massive unemployment—the Tory government.



Young Socialists at the 'Keep Left' Annual General Meeting prepare for the 'Right-to-Work' campaign.

The pitfalls of reform put Allende on the brink

CHILE'S right wing has taken heart from its recent by-election successes to prepare a 'legal coup' to bring down President Salvador Allende's government.

The Christian Democratic and National parties which have a majority in the Congress and the Senate have already forced one minister to resign. They are now expected to use the same tactics against other ministers and even against Allende himself.

Legality

The anti-Allende front has been stiffened by the return to Chilean politics of the Christian Democrat former President, Eduardo Frei. Supported by the Central Intelligence Agency, which is rumoured to have 1,500 agents in the country, a big offensive is being prepared to take advantage of the government's weakness.

The opposition's tactic at present is to entangle the government more and more in the details of bourgeois legality which its character and policy oblige it to respect. It uses the law to limit the possibility of further measures of nationalization and to embarrass the government politically through its control of Congress.

The same respect for legality prevents the Allende Popular Unity coalition from holding the confidence of the working class and winning further support. The right, through its control of the press and other media, has been able to make serious propaganda gains, impressing especially women, middle-class people and sections of the peasantry.

Afflicted, like all the Latin American countries, with a growing economic crisis resulting from the fall in demand for exports, Chile is in the grip of inflation. Wage gains are outstripped by rises in prices and



some necessities disappear altogether from the shops from time to time.

Nothing has been done for the most oppressed layers of the population, the landless poor in the rural areas and the dwellers in slums and shanty-towns in the urban areas. A large part of the working class, which voted for Allende, is not prepared to come out in the streets and fight for a regime which has brought it no tangible benefits and has struck no blows against the big capitalists, the landed oligarchy and the bourgeois office-holders in the state and the army.

The regime hung on the election results in areas where, in any case, the left has never had a majority, because it is reformist to the core and does not intend to lead a revolution. The state and the army still remain in the hands of the bourgeoisie. The bourgeois parties have a majority in both houses of parliament.

Acting within the law, Allende has managed to carry through some reforms, including the nationalization of the copper mines, which, for nationalist

reasons, was undoubtedly popular with many people who do not otherwise support the Popular Unity government.

The possibilities for further advance along the peaceful road have now been closed. The right is now preparing to use its legality to block Allende and if possible to force him to resign. If this fails, the Chilean bourgeoisie, like any other, will have no hesitation in infringing its own legality in order to safeguard its property and power.

In the next few weeks Allende will, in addition, have to face enormous pressures from world imperialism. These come partly in a falling off in demand for copper. But Chile also has a huge foreign debt and requires additional credit to keep the economy going. Negotiations will take place in February with the USA and 12 European creditors of Chile.

The foreign debt issue provides a means for putting pressure on Allende or bringing about a situation which either enables the right to get rid of him by legal means or opens the way for a military take-over.

Who are the Tories' friends?

Big employers did not forget their friends in Westminster last year as the table below shows. This list includes only companies donating £5,000 or more to the Tory Party or its allies. Several of the management names will be grimly familiar to many workers recently thrown on the dole or emerging out of protracted wage battles. Industry and the Economic League are employers' propaganda organizations. British United Industrialists passes a major portion of its funds to the Tory Party:

COMPANY	DONATION
Plessey	£10,000 to British United Industrialists; £756 to Tory Party.
Decca	£5,000 to BUI.
British Electric Traction	£5,000 to BUI; £300 to Alms of Industry.
Brooke Bond Liebig	£4,000 to BUI; £1,000 to Economic League.
Spark Holdings	£5,000 to Tory Party.
Acrow (Engineers)	£5,000 to Tory Party; £250 to Monday Club.
Rugby Portland Cement	£15,000 to BUI.
Joseph Lucas (Industries)	£12,000 to Tory Party; £500 to Alms of Industry.

'If a man's told he's 100 per cent—he knows he's finished'

HAROLD BEVERLEY was secretary of Hemsforth NUM branch in Yorkshire from 1951 until the pit closed in 1971. In that time he reckons that well over 100 men were classified as pneumoconiosis—that's between 2 per cent to 3 per cent of the manual workers there.

'And there's a boat-load trailing about that hasn't been certified,' says Harold.

Even when a man's got pneumoconiosis he can have some of it 'offset'.

'I knew one man', Harold Beverley told me, 'he was classed 80 per cent to 100 per cent disabled, but he got 60 per cent off-set'.

That means that some clever doctor had been able to separate pneumoconiosis from bronchitis and bronchial emphysema. Although it feels just the same, the latter diseases—'are natural'. It's just coincidence that so many miners manage to catch them.

And it's just unfortunate that if 60 per cent of your trouble is 'natural', then your disability money is cut by 60 per cent.

But once a man's got pneumoconiosis it can accelerate rapidly.

'I knew one man', said Harold 'who was passed at 20 per cent disability. In 18 months, he was up to 80 per cent. They probably left him at 80 per cent to give him something to live for. It's not too bad if you think only 4/5 of your lungs have gone!'

'They frequently do that, because if a man's told he's

100 per cent, he knows he's finished. When this man died, the pathologist said his lungs were solid and stuck to his ribs and they had to be chiselled away from his rib cage.'

Harold took me to see a man who was a classified pneumoconiosis sufferer. This man is in his 40s and works at S Kirkby colliery.

We are unable to publish his name, since he has lodged a legal claim for damages against the Coal Board.

'In February, 1967, I went for a local chest X-ray because I had chest pains. The report was positive, so I went to Pinderfields Hospital and was off work 20 weeks. They told me I'd got pneumoconiosis. So I filled in a Social Security form and they sent me to Sheffield for another X-ray. The word came back—no dust.'

'I was still bad and kept going to the hospital and in March, 1969, I was sent to Sheffield for another X-ray.

'This time I was classed as 10 per cent disabled with pneumoconiosis—and it was back-dated to February, 1967. So, in 1967 they told me I hadn't got it and in 1969 they told me I'd had it for two years.'

This man was tested again in March, 1970, and classed as 20 per cent disabled. The pneumoconiosis had doubled in one year.

In 1971 he was told his X-ray was worse but he got no increase in disability rating. He goes again this year.

What sort of reaction do these men get?

'I went to one doctor and she told me "I work for the government. I don't care whether it's Tory or Labour,

I just do my job. I knew what the risks were in my profession when I chose it, just as you know the risks when you choose yours'.

'I said: "Wait a minute. I didn't know, because I was only a lad. And I didn't have a choice"—the pit was all there was'.

'You get chest pains like a steel band. Hobbies are out, if they're at all active. And even in a pub or club, if it's smoky you find it hard to breathe and you have to go home. People don't like to see you like that.'

'And there's always some worry. I've been put on a lower-grade job. The wages are made up by the disability pension, but when I've finished, my superannuation will be less.'

'And how long can I go on working? I've been told I should work in a "dust-free atmosphere"—in the pit! And after more than 30 years in mining, who's going to give me a job anywhere else?'

'I'll be in my 50s, in a few years and 1/5 of my lungs are gone now—so what's left?'

'But you have to stop worrying. At first, you lie awake, but then you decide you've got it and that's all there is to it.'

'There's always somebody worse. When I went to lodge my claim against the Board, I had to swear an oath before a magistrate.'

'There was a man I'd never seen before, but he had 100 per cent disability and he could hardly gasp out the 20 words from the card. I thought there was something wrong with me, but there's always someone worse.'

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Name
Address

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

DISS

Your National Insurance Number

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Medical Board which examined you on 19 March 1971 in connection with your claim for disablement benefit under the Industrial Injuries Act has decided that:

(1) a loss of faculty has resulted from the prescribed disease known as pneumoconiosis

(2) the extent of the disablement resulting from the loss of faculty is to be assessed at 20 per cent for the period from 17 March 1971 to 14 March 1972

This is a provisional assessment.

The findings of the Medical Board are summarised as follows:

Conditions taken into account by the assessment—

Pneumoconiosis

Effect of above conditions—

Undue breathlessness on exertion

Conditions neither due to nor made worse by the accident or prescribed disease are taken into account by the assessment—

Before this assessment expires you will be invited to attend a further medical examination to assess the extent of the disablement for the period following the present assessment.

The Insurance Officer has taken into account the decision of the Medical Board and the award of benefit should be made:

Disablement Pension of £1.70 is payable a week from 17.3.71 to 14.3.72.

Information about payment of benefit can be obtained from the Social Security Office or the Trade Union or Association to which you belong. Details can be sent to you.

To

Complaints of US 'armtwisting' from India

A BIG CUT in foreign aid to India which will aggravate an already tense economic situation has emerged as a major consequence of the Indo-Pakistan war.

As the Anderson Papers show, President Nixon was determined from the start to punish the Indian bourgeoisie for its temerity in going to war with Yahya Khan by ending all aid. This includes the food surpluses provided under Public Law 480, which have been a lifeline in periods of bad harvests.

The high-level discussions minuted in the documents leaked by columnist Anderson showed the Administration was sensitive to the fact that such 'aid' was good for the American economy by removing surpluses which would otherwise have depressed prices and lowered profits on the domestic market.

However, this is of small comfort to the Indian government which, making a virtue of necessity, is now saying that in future it will get along with less aid. As with other underdeveloped countries, much so-called 'aid' was on a strictly commercial basis, taking the form of loans of interest, which, in some cases, are now falling due for repayment.

In fact, in India's case about one-third of new loans went to pay off old debts so that the



Mrs Gandhi

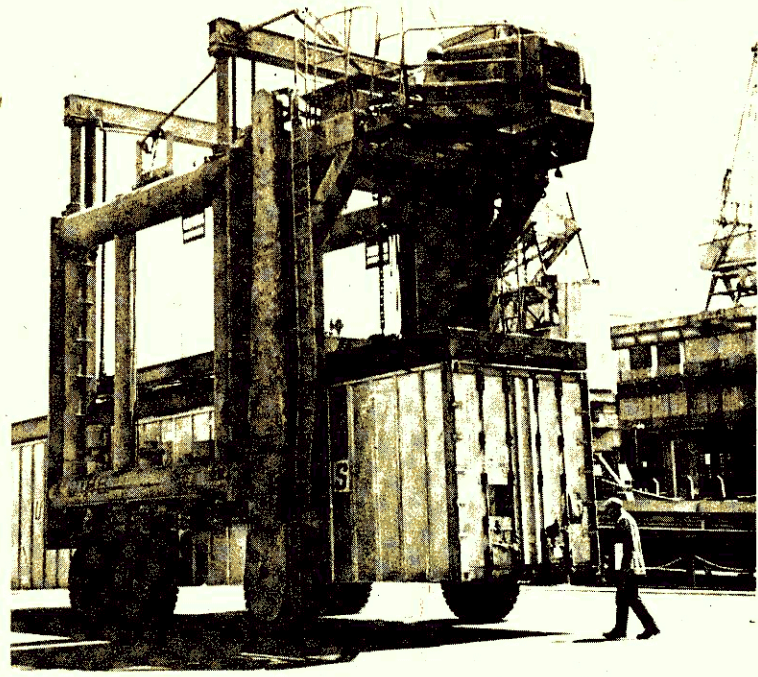
day could be foreseen when repayments would actually exceed new credits. So much for 'independence' from imperialism which the national bourgeoisie claimed to have achieved.

Although some Indian spokesmen claim that aid is less necessary than before, the state of the economy hardly bears this out. In fact it is not so long ago that the Indian Finance Minister, Y. B. Chavan was so disturbed by the situation created by Nixon's August 15 measures that he flew to Washington to plead with the International Monetary Fund for more aid for India and other underdeveloped countries.

The cost of maintaining 3 million refugees from Bangla Desh and returning them home, together with the expense of the war with Pakistan can only have aggravated the problems since then. Dependent upon the sale of primary products, whose prices are falling because of the world slump, the Indian economy is in no state to do without foreign aid.

The Indian bourgeoisie is now complaining about 'arm-twisting' by the United States, but it has never complained in the past. The luxury living and corruption for which it is notorious, in the midst of indescribable mass poverty, owes a lot to foreign aid, including especially, American aid.

The cutting off of this source of aid hastens the day of reckoning in the Indian sub-continent as a whole, of which the mass upsurge in Bangla Desh gives only a foretaste.



See how the jobs go: a handful of men loaded this 20-ton container in a few seconds at Gladstone dock, Liverpool...

TODAY AT LEAST 30,000 dockers will strike against the threat to jobs in Britain's six key ports. Although they will be back in work tomorrow, none of them can now be certain that the future holds. Shop stewards estimate that 5,000 to 6,000 men—10 per cent of the total docks force—could be 'surplus to requirements' by mid-year. '1972', declared an editorial last Wednesday in 'The Times', 'is going to be a watershed in the docks'. No one argued. Yet when Workers Press warned that the crisis was on the way—in January 1971! — we were accused by the Transport and General Workers' Union 'Record' of inspiring 'rumours designed to create feelings of unrest'. Here DAVID MAUDE, our industrial correspondent reviews the background to this accusation and to today's stoppage.



... while at London's Royal group of docks each meat-carcase has to be manhandled individually both off and on conventional cargo-ships.

THREE WEEKS after his appointment as Minister of Transport on June 23, 1970, the Honourable Member for Yeovil, John Peyton, found himself closeted with one of the most powerful figures in British shipping.

Sir John Nicholson, at that time president of the Chamber of Shipping, is not known for beating around the bush. He quickly told Peyton what he and his friends wanted from the new Tory government.

What Nicholson meant by this was that port employers should be given powers of hire and fire in order to whip the dockers into line and maintain their profits.

Within a month of the meeting with Peyton, Nicholson and two other leading port employers had started secret talks with Jack Jones and Tim O'Leary, general secretary and docks officer of the main portworkers' union, the Transport and General Workers Union.

The other participants were George Tonge, chairman of the National Association of Port Employers and a director of Hay's Wharf, and Sir Andrew Crichton of Overseas Containers Ltd and P&O.

In an interview with Workers Press on February 23 last year, O'Leary, who is the union's national docks officer, claimed that the purpose of these talks was 'to get some line on where the employers were going, and to see how we should defend ourselves'.

This was not the employers' impression, however.

In the year Peyton was to be told that Jones was quite prepared to discuss the employers' ideas, as long as nothing was said about them in public before Phase Two of Lord Devlin's docks modernization scheme had 'bedded down'.

Briefly, the ideas under discussion were these:

1 Establishment of a go-between body between individual port authorities and the government charged with drawing up and implementing a strategy for the industry's development.

2 Steady reduction in the number of port employers—provided there was no suggestion that businesses might be bought up compulsorily.

3 Replacement of the 1947 dock labour scheme, with its statutory guarantee of docks jobs, by 'normal industrial agreements' policed by the industry's joint negotiating committee.

Jones' warning about public discussion of these proposals, which by the end of October 1970 were in Peyton's

Dock bosses struggle to turn the clock back

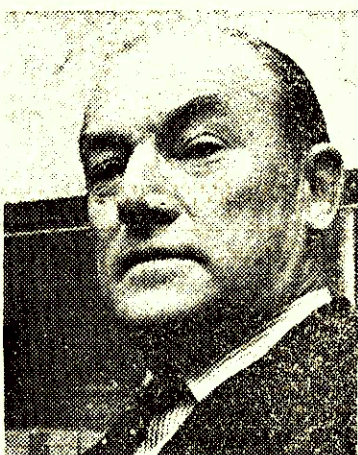
I want to thank you all for your help and co-operation in 1971 which has made possible the achievements I have described, and to give you encouragement for the future. You know my belief that it is most important for everyone who works for the PLA to know what is likely to happen and why. Only in this way can each of us contribute our best to the PLA's success. I therefore hope you will study this letter carefully and give it much thought.

The PLA management will, as always, consult the trade unions, port users and other port employers on precise measures to be taken.

John Leach

Director-General

From the PLA circular to 8,700 dockers telling them that 2,000 of them will be sacked by the end of the year—despite phase two of the Devlin plan.



Sir Andrew Crichton, chairman of Overseas Containers Ltd, managing director of P&O took part in secret talks with the T&GWU leaders...



... which were reported to Eton-educated John Leach, the man the Tories chose to run the Transport Ministry. He met the port employers' chiefs at least twice in 1970 to discuss their plans.



The men the employers met: T&GWU secretary Jack Jones, 'left' leader of Britain's biggest union...



... the union's leading docks official, Tim O'Leary. Told the Pearson inquiry he was known as 'the most right-wing bloke on the docks'.

hands in a fairly polished form, was appreciated by the employers.

The 1947 scheme — as amended at the time of decasualization in 1967—does give the National Dock Labour Board powers to adjust the number of registered dockers up or down. 'But', as a spokesman for the London employers said last week, 'it doesn't say how you carry this through'.

Half the NDLB are union men—and, as today's strike will show, they are under big rank-and-file pressure whatever their private intentions.

There are, nevertheless, considerable dangers in the present situation.

Of Britain's 43,500 registered dockers, 563, mainly in London, are in the un-

attached pool at present.

But the London figure alone is expected to have risen to at least 2,500 by June. Only last week the Port of London Authority announced that its labour force is to be cut by 2,000—and not 1,200 as previously expected—by the end of the year.

Similar moves are in the wind at Liverpool, Hull, Southampton, Manchester and Preston—fueling fears that by June the national total of men 'surplus to requirements' will be in the 5,000 to 6,000 region.

After attacking today's stoppage at a meeting last week of the T&GWU national docks committee, O'Leary spelled out the official union attitude.

'We shall approach the

employers to examine ways of absorbing surplus labour', he said.

The employers, of course, have no intention of absorbing this labour. They are using the trade slump quite deliberately to create the conditions for implementing the policies discussed with Peyton.

And from his private conversations with them, he must know that elimination of the dock labour scheme is, as an NDLB official put it recently, 'always at the back of the employers' minds'.

Indeed O'Leary himself told us in February that 'the employers have been saying get rid of the dock labour scheme since 1947'.

The real point is that they

are now preparing to carry the job through.

Nicholson, Tonge and Crichton began their talks with the T&GWU men the month after the union leaders had sent their members back to work in return for the Pearson inquiry into their basic pay.

London was at that time in the first throes of a new phase of Devlin 'modernization'. A month later the financial crisis of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board broke.

With Devlin Phase Two came pressure for ruthless speed-up; with the MD&HB crisis, the Tories began implementing their 'lame - duck' philosophy on the docks with a vengeance.

By January 1971, Cmdr

Dermod Jewitt, chairman of London's ocean trades employers was calling for 'some form of compulsory severance of dockers who were considered unfit'.

Through the year labour forces were whittled down all over the country by various means and the number of employers was being reduced in line with the Nicholson plan.

In Bristol, for instance, it was announced in February that there were now four main firms where there had been 30. Four hundred of the port's 2,000 dockers had left the industry.

Towards the end of that month, the Chamber of Shipping came out in the open with the employers' proposal of an intermediate body between the government and individual ports 'able to shape a broad and detached view of what needs to be done and to achieve a rationalization of the facilities and services'.

Desperate

Meanwhile the London employers were conducting a desperate campaign to claw back some of their losses on Devlin Phase Two.

After seven months of the scheme, P&O chairman Sir Donald Anderson complained that productivity was down 20 per cent on the export side and 33 per cent on imports. Crichton, Anderson's managing director, was one of the participants in the talks with Jones.

By September, Joel Payne, the chairman of the employers in the port's enclosed docks, had come forward with an ultimatum to the unions: either help us get rid of 800 light-duty men or you get no pay rise this year.

At the end of the month Peyton produced a White Paper called 'Financial Policy for the Ports', the basis of the Harbours (Loans) Bill which is soon to enter its House of Commons committee stage.

This incorporates into simple 'lame-duckism' an important prong of Nicholson's suggested attack.

Watershed

It proposes to strengthen the National Ports Council, an influential but toothless planning body comprising both employers and union men, by giving it the power to police the conditions on loans made to port authorities. Peyton cautiously agreed at a press conference that labour might at some stage be brought within the purview of the NPC.

But immediately after publication of the White Paper, 'The Times' let the cat out of the bag: it called for abolition of the 'increasingly anomalous' dock labour scheme.

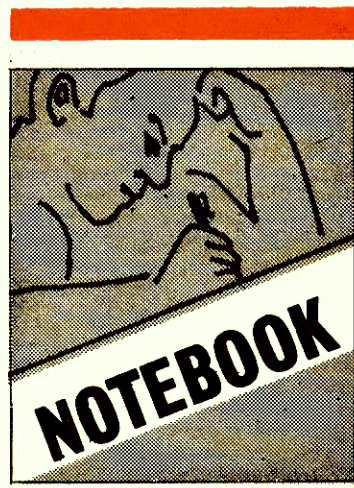
These are just a few of the reasons why 1972 is a watershed year for the docks.

Last week, national employers' chairman George Tonge, another participant in the secret talks with Jones, denied that he had asked the government for an inquiry into the running of the dock labour scheme.

Such a demand must come sooner or later, however. The groundwork has been as well prepared by the employers as it ever can be.

But like the Coal Board's attack on the miners—calling into question all the post-war gains of workers in the industry—this attempt to turn the clock back must call forth a massive and determined response from all sections of workers on the docks.

Today's strikers are in the first skirmish of a historic battle; they are fighting not only their employers, but their union leaders as well.



Very odd meeting

CITY Hall, Sheffield, was the scene of a curious meeting last weekend.

It was convened by the Communist-controlled district committee of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. Speakers included James Airle of UCS, Ernie Roberts of the AUEW executive and Jock Kane, CP miner.

The theme was the right to work. As the meeting got under way a speaker from the floor asked about the engineers' national pay claim. Why had it been abandoned, thus isolating the miners?

George Caborn, another CP'er and chairman of the meeting, came down with a heavy hand. These questions were out of order, he declared, and anyone interrupting with such queries would be put out by the stewards.

Definitely an odd way to conduct a meeting on the right to work, don't you think?

The great escape farce

YOU'VE heard the great Long Kesh 'escape' story? Well, here are a few more facts the British press has not yet revealed.

At 5 a.m. on the morning of Thursday, January 13, internees at Long Kesh were awoken rudely and each man was dragged between two soldiers across the slippery ice-bound compound to the dining quarters.

Mindful of other mass swoops on the camp, the men feared the worst and decided that another 'riot' was about to begin.

The soldiers, however, seemed to have other things on their minds that particular day and left the men sitting quietly in the hall.

Late in the men were allowed to return to their huts and found that some of their hobby works had been 'borrowed'.

Next day they were somewhat surprised to hear that they had apparently been preparing to launch just about the biggest 'escape' in the history of escapo-logy.

'Tunnels', 'replicas of Thompson sub-machine guns', 'spades', the press screamed, had been found.

Internees' relatives say firmly that the manufacture of toy guns had taken place quite openly in the camp over Christmas as presents for internees' children. Many had been taken out of the camp under the noses of the guards without exciting any comment.

Said one woman: 'When we go up to visit, it's difficult enough to get in. I can hardly see anyone getting out. The press under the so-called 'seven' escapers from the 'Maidstone' somehow multiplied in their swim across the estuary. At least 16 turned up in Belfast afterwards!

Prize joker

THE MAN who awarded Edward Heath his £38,000 European statesmanship prize was Herr Alfred Toepler.

Herr Toepler is generally known to be one of the richest men in W Germany, with an income in the region of five million Deutschmarks a year in profits from his many business and banking interests.

Toepler has three large properties North and South of Paris in addition to places in Germany. He also has offices and houses in London, Paris and New York.

After the prize-giving ceremony last Friday, Toepler invited 250 guests to a banquet in Heath's honour.

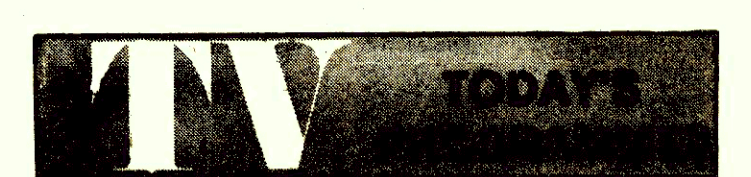
Apparently during the feast, he humourously (?) confided to Heath that if he wanted to send half-a-million of his unemployed to Germany, they would be very welcome.

READERS LETTERS WELCOME

The Editor, Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St, London, SW4.



BBC-2, 8.10, Man Alive: The Foreign Legion



BBC 2
 11.00 Play School. 5.35 Open University.
 7.05 MAN IN HIS PLACE.
 7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather.
 8.00 TIMES REMEMBERED. Esther Rantzen talks to Professor Hyman Levy. 3. War.
 8.10 MAN ALIVE. The Foreign Legion: Beau Geste—and since.
 9.00 LOOK STRANGER. I'm a Kind of Mechanized Tramp.
 9.20 VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD: 'CLEOPATRA'. Claudette Colbert, Warren William, Henry Wilcoxon.
 10.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. Labour Party.
 10.10 CLEOPATRA Part 2.
 11.05 NEWS, weather.
 11.10 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV
 10.20 For Schools. 2.32 Garden Indoors. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.10 Tea Break. 3.40 Edgar Wallace. 4.40 Paulus. 4.55 Get This! 5.20 Tightrope. 5.50 News.
 6.00 TODAY.
 6.35 CROSSROADS.
 7.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE.
 7.30 CORONATION STREET.
 8.00 PATRICK, DEAR PATRICK. Music and comedy with Patrick Cargill and guests.
 9.00 A FAMILY AT WAR. A Faint Refrain.
 10.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. Labour Party.
 10.10 NEWS.
 10.40 ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL. League Cup semi-final.
 11.35 TREASURES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM. The Library.
 12.05 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.
 12.20 THE POLARIZED SOCIETY.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 10.20 Schools. 4.05 Paulus. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 Tea break. 4.35 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Link up. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Treasure hunt. 7.30 London. 10.00 Life in France. 10.10 London. 10.47 Football. 11.40 Wrestling. 12.05 Epilogue, News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.20 News. 6.00 Diary. 12.05 News. 12.08 Faith for life. 12.13 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Tea break. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Cartoon. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 London. 10.45 Football. 11.40 Wrestling. 12.10 News. 12.10 Weather.

HARLECH: 10.20 Schools. 3.50 Katie cooks. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 London. 10.45 Football. 11.40 Wrestling. 12.10 Weather.

HTV West as above except: 6.01-6.30 Report West.

HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 3.50-4.15 Hamdden. 6.01-6.15 Y Dydd.

ANGLIA: 3.55 News. 4.00 Romper room. 4.25 Tea break. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 11.10 Football. 12.05 Music at night.

ATV MIDLANDS: 3.10 Yora. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Mrs Muir. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Skippy. 5.20 Tightrope. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 11.40 Wrestling.

ULSTER: 10.20 Schools. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 London. 6.00 LTV Reports. 6.15 What's on. 6.35 London. 11.35 Wrestling.

YORKSHIRE: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 European Journey. 3.00 Pied Piper. 3.05 House and garden. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 Newsday. What's on. 6.25 Peyton Place. 7.00 London. 10.45 Football. 11.30 Wrestling. 12.05 What the papers say.

GRANADA: 10.18 Schools. 3.40 Yoga. 4.05 News. Here's Lucy. 4.35 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 Newsday. What's on. 6.25 Peyton Place. 7.00 London. 10.45 Football. 11.30 Wrestling. 12.05 What the papers say.

SCOTTISH: 10.20 Schools. 3.30 Winter of enchantment. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.30 University challenge. 6.55 London. 7.00 London. 10.45 Football. 11.10 Scotsport. 11.40 Late call. 11.45 Wrestling.

TYNE TEES: 10.20 London. 2.32 European Journey. 3.05 Pied Piper. 3.10 House and garden. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Grasshopper island. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 London. 11.35 Wrestling. 12.05 News. 12.20 Epilogue.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00 Schools. 3.38 News. 3.40 Smith family. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Tuktuk. 4.55 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Grampiand Week. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.45 Journey to the unknown. 11.40 Wrestling. 12.10 Epilogue.

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Mrs Gandhi

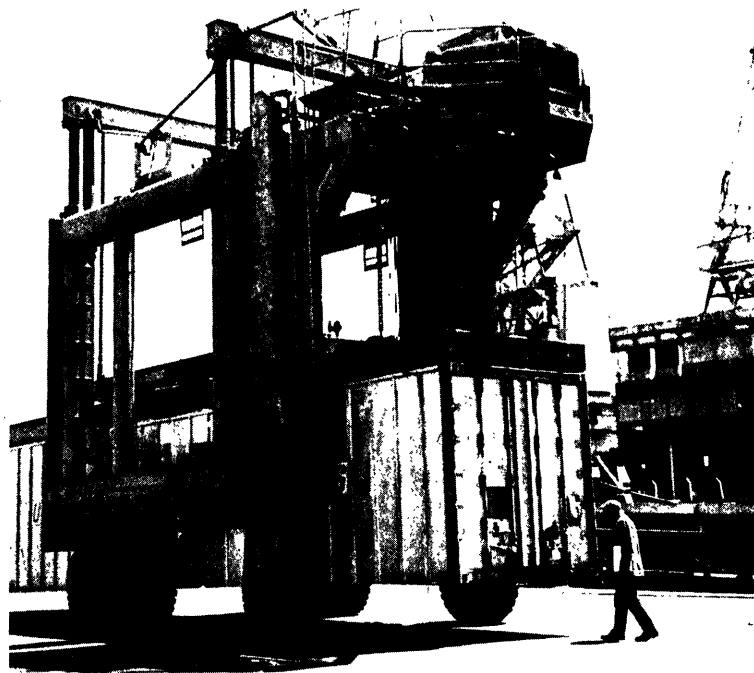
day could be foreseen when repayments would actually exceed new credits. So much for 'independence' from imperialism which the national bourgeoisie claimed to have achieved.

Although some Indian spokesmen claim that aid is less necessary than before, the state of the economy hardly bears this out. In fact it is not so long ago that the Indian Finance Minister, Y. B. Chavan was so disturbed by the situation created by Nixon's August 15 measures that he flew to Washington to plead with the International Monetary Fund for more aid for India and other underdeveloped countries.

The cost of maintaining 3 million refugees from Bangladesh and returning them home, together with the expense of the war with Pakistan can only have aggravated the problems since then. Dependent upon the sale of primary products, whose prices are falling because of the world slump, the Indian economy is in no state to do without foreign aid.

The Indian bourgeoisie is now complaining about 'arm-twisting' by the United States, but it has never complained in the past. The luxury living and corruption for which it is notorious, in the midst of indescribable mass poverty, owes a lot to foreign, including especially, American aid.

The cutting off of this source of aid hastens the day of reckoning in the Indian sub-continent as a whole, of which the mass upsurge in Bangla Desh gives only a foretaste.



See how the jobs go: a handful of men loaded this 20-ton container in a few seconds at Gladstone dock, Liverpool . . .

TODAY AT LEAST 30,000 dockers will strike against the threat to jobs in Britain's six key ports. Although they will be back in work tomorrow, none of them can now be certain what the future holds. Shop stewards estimate that 5,000 to 6,000 men—10 per cent of the total docks force—could be 'surplus to requirements' by mid-year. '1972', declared an editorial last Wednesday in 'The Times', 'is going to be a watershed in the docks'. No one argued. Yet when Workers Press warned that the crisis was on the way—in January 1971—we were accused of inspiring 'rumours designed to create feelings of unrest'. Here DAVID MAUDE, our industrial correspondent reviews the background to this accusation and to today's stoppage.



. . . while at London's Royal group of docks each meat-carriage has to be manhandled individually both off and on conventional cargo-ships.

THREE WEEKS after his appointment as Minister of Transport on June 23, 1970, the Honourable Member for Yeovil, John Peyton, found himself closeted with one of the most powerful figures in British shipping.

Sir John Nicholson, at that time president of the Chamber of Shipping, is not known for beating around the bush. He quickly told Peyton what he and his friends wanted from the new Tory government.

What Nicholson meant by this was that port employers should be given powers of hire and fire in order to whip the dockers into line and maintain their profits.

Within a month of the meeting with Peyton, Nicholson and two other leading port employers had started secret talks with Jack Jones and Tim O'Leary, general secretary and docks officer of the main portworkers' union, the Transport and General Workers Union.

The other participants were George Tonge, chairman of the National Association of Port Employers and a director of Hay's Wharf, and Sir Andrew Crichton of Overseas Containers Ltd and P&O.

In an interview with Workers Press on February 23 last year, O'Leary, who is the union's national docks officer, claimed that the purpose of these talks was 'to get some line on where the employers were going, and to see how we should defend ourselves'.

This was not the employers' impression, however.

Later in the year Peyton was to be told that Jones was quite prepared to discuss the employers' ideas, as long as nothing was said about them in public before Phase Two of Lord Devlin's docks modernization scheme had 'bedded down'.

Briefly, the ideas under discussion were these:

1 Establishment of a go-between body between individual port authorities and the government charged with drawing up and implementing a strategy for the industry's development.

2 Steady reduction in the number of port employers—provided there was no suggestion that businesses might be bought up compulsorily.

3 Replacement of the 1947 dock labour scheme, with its statutory guarantee of docks jobs, by 'normal industrial agreements' policed by the industry's joint negotiating committee.

Jones' warning about public discussion of these proposals, which by the end of October 1970 were in Peyton's

Dock bosses struggle to turn the clock back

I want to thank you all for your help and co-operation in 1971 which has made possible the achievements I have described, and to give you encouragement for the future. You know my belief that it is most important for everyone who works for the PLA to know what is likely to happen and why. Only in this way can each of us contribute our best to the PLA's success. I therefore hope you will study this letter carefully and give it much thought.

The PLA management will, as always, consult the trade unions, port users and other port employers on precise measures to be taken.

John Lench

Director-General

From the PLA circular to 8,700 dockers telling them that 2,000 of them will be sacked by the end of the year—despite phase two of the Devlin plan.



Sir Andrew Crichton, chairman of Overseas Containers Ltd, managing director of P&O took part in secret talks with the T&GWU leaders . . .



. . . which were reported to Eton-educated John Peyton, the man the Tories chose to run the Transport Ministry. He met the port employers' chiefs at least twice in 1970 to discuss their plans.



The men the employers met: T&GWU secretary Jack Jones, 'left' leader of Britain's biggest union . . .



. . . the union's leading docks official, Tim O'Leary. Told the Pearson inquiry he was known as 'the most right-wing bloke on the docks'.

hands in a fairly polished form, was appreciated by the employers.

The 1947 scheme — as amended at the time of de-casualization in 1967—does give the National Dock Labour Board powers to adjust the number of registered dockers up or down. 'But', as a spokesman for the London employers said last week, 'it doesn't say how you carry this through'.

Half the NDLB are union men—and, as today's strike will show, they are under big rank-and-file pressure whatever their private intentions.

There are, nevertheless, considerable dangers in the present situation.

Of Britain's 43,500 registered dockers, 563, mainly in London, are in the un-

attached pool at present.

But the London figure alone is expected to have risen to at least 2,500 by June. Only last week the Port of London Authority announced that its labour force is to be cut by 2,000—and not 1,200 as previously expected—by the end of the year.

Similar moves are in the wind at Liverpool, Hull, Southampton, Manchester and Preston—fueling fears that by June the national total of men 'surplus to requirements' will be in the 5,000 to 6,000 region.

After attacking today's stoppage at a meeting last week of the T&GWU national docks committee, O'Leary spelled out the official union attitude.

'We shall approach the

employers to examine ways of absorbing surplus labour', he said.

The employers, of course, have no intention of absorbing this labour. They are using the trade slump quite deliberately to create the conditions for implementing the policies discussed with Peyton.

And from his private conversations with them, he must know that elimination of the dock labour scheme is, as an NDLB official put it recently, 'always at the back of the employers' minds'.

Indeed O'Leary himself told us in February that 'the employers have been saying get rid of the dock labour scheme since 1947'.

The real point is that they

Dermot Jewitt, chairman of London's ocean trades employers was calling for 'some form of compulsory severance of dockers who were considered unfit'.

Through the year labour forces were whittled down all over the country by various means and the number of employers was being reduced in line with the Nicholson plan.

In Bristol, for instance, it was announced in February that there were now four main firms where there had been 30. Four hundred of the port's 2,000 dockers had left the industry.

Towards the end of that month, the Chamber of Shipping came out in the open with the employers' proposal of an intermediate body between the government and individual ports 'able to shape a broad and detached view of what needs to be done and to achieve a rationalization of the facilities and services'.

Desperate

Meanwhile the London employers were conducting a desperate campaign to claw back some of their losses on Devlin Phase Two.

After seven months of the scheme, P&O chairman Sir Donald Anderson complained that productivity was down 20 per cent on the export side and 33 per cent on imports. Crichton, Anderson's managing director, was one of the participants in the talks with Jones.

By September, Joel Payne, the chairman of the employers in the port's enclosed docks, had come forward with an ultimatum to the unions: either help us get rid of 800 light-duty men or you get no pay rise this year.

At the end of the month Peyton produced a White Paper called 'Financial Policy for the Ports', the basis of the Harbours (Loans) Bill which is soon to enter its House of Commons committee stage.

This incorporates into simple 'lame-duckism' an important prong of Nicholson's suggested attack.

Watershed

It proposes to strengthen the National Ports Council, an influential but toothless planning body comprising both employers and union men, by giving it the power to police the conditions on loans made to port authorities. Peyton

cautiously agreed at a press conference that labour might at some stage be brought within the purview of the NPC.

But immediately after publication of the White Paper, 'The Times' let the cat out of the bag: it called for abolition of the 'increasingly anomalous' dock labour scheme.

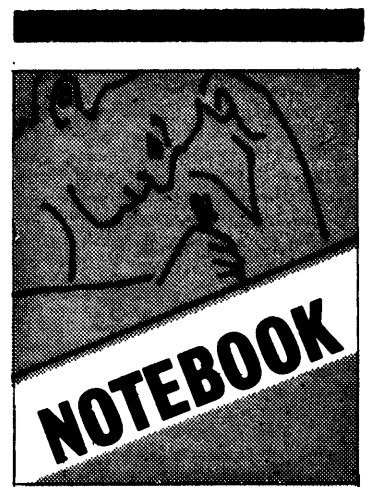
These are just a few of the reasons why 1972 is a watershed year for the docks.

Last week, national employers' chairman George Tonge, another participant in the secret talks with Jones, denied that he had asked the government for an inquiry into the running of the dock labour scheme.

Such a demand must come sooner or later, however. The groundwork has been well prepared by the employers as it ever can be.

But like the Coal Board's attack on the miners—calling into question all the post-war gains of workers in the industry—this attempt to turn the clock back must call forth a massive and determined response from all sections of workers on the docks.

Today's strikers are in the first skirmish of a historic battle; they are fighting not only their employers, but their union leaders as well.



Very odd meeting

CITY Hall, Sheffield, was the scene of a curious meeting last weekend.

It was convened by the Communist-controlled district committee of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. Speakers included James Airlie of UCS, Ernie Roberts of the AUEW executive and Jack Kane, CP miner.

The theme was the right to work. As the meeting got under way a speaker from the floor asked about the engineers' national pay claim. Why had it been abandoned, thus isolating the miners?

George Laborn, another CP-er and chairman of the meeting, came down with a heavy hand. These questions were out of order, he declared, and anyone interrupting with such queries would be put out by the stewards.

Definitely an odd way to conduct a meeting on the right to work, don't you think?

The great escape farce

YOU'VE heard the great Long Kesh 'escape' story? Well, here are a few more facts the British press has not yet revealed.

At 5 a.m. on the morning of Thursday, January 13, internees at Long Kesh were awoken rudely and each man was dragged between two soldiers across the slippery ice-bound compound to the dining quarters.

Mindful of other mass swoops on the camp, the men feared the worst and decided that another 'riot' was about to begin.

The soldiers, however, seemed to have other things on their minds that particular day and left the men sitting quietly in the hall.

Later the men were allowed to return to their huts and found that some of their hobby works had been 'borrowed'.

Next day they were somewhat surprised to hear that they had apparently been preparing to launch just about the biggest 'escape' in the history of escapeology.

'Tunnels', replicas of Thompson sub-machine guns, 'spades', the press screamed, had been found.

Internees' relatives say firmly that the manufacture of toy guns had taken place quite openly in the camp over Christmas as presents for internees' children. Many had been taken out of the camp under the noses of the guards without exciting any comment.

Said one woman: 'When we go up to visit, it's difficult enough to get in. I can hardly see anyone getting out. The press were shown big holes in the concrete in front of the huts. They have nothing to break concrete with, let alone the noise it would make anyway'.

One other point. It would seem that the so-called 'seven' escapees from the 'Maidstone' somehow multiplied in their swim across the estuary. At least 16 turned up in Belfast afterwards!

Prize joker

THE MAN who awarded Edward Heath his £38,000 European statesmanship prize was Herr Alfred Toepfer.

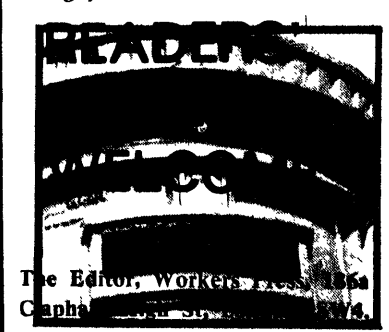
Herr Toepfer is generally known to be one of the richest men in W Germany, with an income in the region of five million Deutschmark a year in profits from his many business and banking interests.

Toepfer has three large properties North and South of Paris in addition to places in Germany. He also has offices and houses in London, Paris and New York.

After the prize-giving ceremony last Friday, Toepfer invited 250 guests to a banquet in Heath's honour.

Apparently during the feast, he humorously (?) confided to Heath that if he wanted to send half-a-million of his unemployed to Germany, they would be very welcome.

Big joke.



The Editor, WORKERS PRESS, CAPTAIN

REGIONAL ITV

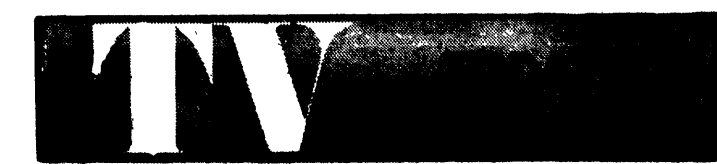
- CHANNEL:** 10.20 Schools, 4.05 Paulus, 4.20 Puffin, 4.25 Tea break, 4.35 London, 6.00 News, weather, 6.10 Link up, 6.35 Crossroads, 7.00 Treasure hunt, 7.30 London, 10.00 Life in France, 10.10 London, 10.47 Football, 11.40 Wrestling, 12.05 Epilogue, News, weather.
- WESTWARD:** As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun, 4.20 News, 6.00 Diary, 12.05 News, 12.08 Faith for life, 12.13 Weather.
- SOUTHERN:** 3.35 Horoscope, 3.40 Tea break, 4.10 Houseparty, 4.23 Cartoon, 4.30 Crossroads, 4.55 London, 6.00 Day by day, 6.30 University challenge, 7.00 London, 10.45 Football, 11.40 Wrestling, 12.10 News, 12.10 Weather.
- HARLECH:** 10.20 Schools, 3.50 Katie cooks, 4.15 Tinkerentment, 4.30 Crossroads, 4.55 London, 6.01 Report West, 6.15 Report Wales, 6.30 Smith family, 7.00 London, 10.45 Football, 11.40 Wrestling, 12.10 Weather.
- HTV West as above except:** 6.01-6.30 Report West.
- HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except:** 3.50-4.15 Hamdden, 6.01-6.15 Y Dyd.
- ANGLIA:** 3.55 News, 4.00 Romper room, 4.25 Tea break, 4.55 London, 6.00 About Anglia, 6.35 London, 10.40 British museum, 11.10 Football, 12.05 Music at night.
- ATV MIDLANDS:** 3.10 Yoga, 3.35 Horoscope, 3.45 Women today, 4.10 Mrs Muir, 4.40 Enchanted house, 4.55 Skippy, 5.20 Tightrope, 5.50 News, 6.00 Today, 6.35 London, 11.40 Wrestling.
- ULSTER:** 10.20 Schools, 4.30 Romper room, 4.50 News, 4.55 London, 6.00 UTV Reports, 6.13 What's on, 6.35 News, 11.35 Wrestling, 12.05 Weather.
- YORKSHIRE:** 10.20 Schools, 2.33 European journey, 3.00 Pled piper, 3.05 House and garden, 3.35 News, 3.45 Women today, 4.15 Crossroads, 4.40 Rupert Bear, 4.55 London, 6.00 Calendar, weather, 6.30 University challenge, 7.00 London, 11.35 Wrestling, 12.05 Weather.
- GRANADA:** 10.18 Schools, 3.40 Yoga, 4.05 News, Here's Lucy, 4.35 Rupert Bear, 4.55 London, 6.00 Newsday, What's on, 6.25 Peyton Place, 7.00 London, 10.45 Football, 11.30 Wrestling, 12.05 What the papers say.
- SCOTTISH:** 10.20 Schools, 3.30 Winter of enchantment, 3.45 Crossroads, 4.10 Tuktuk, 4.25 London, 6.20 Popeye, 6.30 University challenge, 6.55 London, 7.00 University challenge, 7.00 London, 11.35 Wrestling, 12.05 News, 12.20 Epilogue.
- TYNE TEES:** 10.20 London, 2.32 European journey, 3.05 Pled piper, 3.10 House and garden, 3.35 News, 3.45 Women today, 4.15 Crossroads, 4.40 Grasshopper Island, 4.55 London, 6.00 Today, 6.30 University challenge, 7.00 London, 11.35 Wrestling, 12.05 News, 12.20 Epilogue.
- GRAMPIAN:** 11.00 Schools, 3.38 News, 3.40 Smith family, 4.10 Yoga, 4.40 Tuktuk, 4.55 London, 6.00 News, weather, 6.10 Grampian Week, 6.35 Crossroads, 7.00 London, 10.45 Journey to the unknown, 11.40 Wrestling, 12.10 Epilogue.



BBC-2, 8.10, Man Alive: The Foreign Legion

BBC 1

- 9.15 Schools, 10.45 Boomh with Becker, 11.05 Schools, 12.25 Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan, 12.55 Disc a Dawn, 1.30 Chigley, 1.45 News, weather, 2.05 Schools, 4.15 Play school, 4.40 Jackanory, 4.55 Tinderbox, 5.20 Soper at Large, 5.44 Sir Prancelot, 5.50 National News, weather.
- 6.00 NATIONWIDE. Your region tonight.
- 6.50 TOM AND JERRY.
- 7.00 OWEN MD, God's Acre: Part 1.
- 7.25 STAR TREK, Menagerie: Part 1.
- 8.10 WORLD, SOFTLY: TASK FORCE. Anywhere in the Wide World.
- 9.00 NEWS, Weather.
- 9.20 SPORTSNIGHT. British and Commonwealth Bantamweight Championships. Alan Rudkin v Johnny Clark.
- 10.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. Labour Party.
- 10.10 TALKBACK.
- 10.40 24 HOURS.
- 11.15 LAST MINUTE TO CHOOSE.



BBC 2

- 11.00 Play School, 5.35 Open University, 7.05 MAN IN HIS PLACE.
- 7.50 NEWSROOM, Weather.
- 8.00 TIMES REMEMBERED. Esther Rantzen talks to Professor Hyman Levy, 3. War.
- 8.10 MAN ALIVE. The Foreign Legion: Beau Geste—and since.
- 9.00 LOOK STRANGER, I'm a Kind of Mechanized Tramp.
- 9.20 VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD: 'CLEOPATRA'. Claudette Colbert, Warren William, Henry Wilcoxon.
- 10.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. Labour Party.
- 10.10 CLEOPATRA Part 2.
- 11.05 NEWS, weather.
- 11.10 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV

- 10.20 For Schools, 2.32 Garden Indoors, 3.00 Houseparty, 3.10 Tea Break, 3.40 Edgar Wallace, 4.40 Paulus, 4.55 Get This! 5.20 Tightrope, 5.50 News.
- 6.00 TODAY.
- 6.35 CROSSROADS.
- 7.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE.
- 7.30 CORONATION STREET.
- 8.00 PATRICK, DEAR PATRICK. Music and comedy with Patrick Cargill and guests.
- 9.00 A FAMILY AT WAR. A Faint Refrain.
- 10.00 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST. Labour Party.
- 10.10 NEWS.
- 10.40 ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL. League Cup semi-final.
- 11.35 TREASURES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM. The Library.
- 12.05 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.
- 12.20 THE POLARIZED SOCIETY.

Chiefs in Pearce charade

THE PEARCE Commission yesterday held secret talks with Rhodesia's traditional tribal chiefs over the proposed Smith-Home settlement.

Smith's breakaway regime is relying heavily on the 26-man council of chiefs to agree to the settlement guaranteeing in a definite white minority rule.

Smith claims fraudulently that the chiefs represent the great majority of Africans who live in the rural areas.

The chiefs, some elderly and leaning on sticks, declined to comment after leaving yesterday morning's talks.

In many areas chiefs have been forced by mass pressure to refuse private consultations and to say 'No' to the settlement in public meetings with the Commissioners.

Yesterday's charade was therefore a key part of Smith's plans to present a front of consent.

Urban Africans have already shown unmistakably their opposition to the settlement in continued strikes and demonstrations.

The eight tribally-elected Africans in the House of Assembly have rejected the settlement and called for the suspension of the Commission's inquiry.

A two-man British parliamentary team has arrived in Rhodesia presumably to bring back reassurances about the Commission's 'fair play'.

The team comprises Maurice Foley, a former Labour Foreign Office junior minister, and Tory MP Nigel Fisher.

KREMLIN

FROM PAGE ONE

Shortly after the message was released, four Bengali members of the Pakistan embassy in Moscow declared their loyalty to Bangla Desh.

The now-legalised Communist Party of Bangla Desh is eagerly following the Kremlin line of uncritical support to Rahman's Awami League government.

'Together with the mass progressive Awami League Party, the National People's Party and other progressive organizations, the Communist Party is incorporated into the wide front of democratic forces whose struggle has been crowned with success,' says a 'Pravda' report from Dacca.

A call for co-operation in the rebuilding of Bangla Desh has come from Maulana Bhashani, head of the National Awami Party of Bengal, who arrived in the country last weekend.

There are further reports from Tangail, where the self-styled guerrilla Gen Khader Siddiqui has surrendered to the government by his unit to the new government on Monday.

After taking Rahman past a display of 2,000 guns, Siddiqui knelt before him like a feudal lord pledging allegiance to the king, as the International Herald-Tribune put it.

He left his rifle at Rahman's feet. The premier then picked it up and passed it on to a body guard.

Meanwhile thousands of weapons remain in the hands of left-wing guerrilla bands throughout the rest of the country.

Reuter's Fred Bridgland, in a delayed report on the ceremony from Tangail, writes: 'Several questions remain unanswered after the weapons surrender.'

There appeared to be no central government or Indian force present in Tangail to take in the arms cache. The government has not yet indicated how the surrendered arms will be collected, or where they will be stored.

Neither was it clear whether the Khader Bahini had surrendered all their arms, or whether other guerrilla units would follow suit.

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS ON CLYDESIDE

THE MOMENT of political truth is only days away for the embattled workers of Upper Clyde Shipbuilders—now in the eighth month of their fight for the right to work.

Towards the end of this week the feasibility study which will decide the future of Govan Shipbuilders and its bid to start operations at the Govan, Linthouse and possibly Scotstoun divisions of the consortium, will be published.

Then the executives of the company will demand negotiations with the unions and UCS shop stewards.

Govan's new chief, Lord Strathalmond, has pledged that proposals will be laid before the government in two weeks. These, as Tory Trade Secretary John Davies never tires of pointing out, must include possible orders and wages and conditions.

It was this prospect that brought boiler-makers' chief Danny McGarvey to the Clyde last Thursday where he finally declared an open breach with the shop stewards' policy of 'four yards' or no talks.

Throughout UCS history he has always made his standard 'half-a-loaf-is-better-than-none' speech and pushed through more cuts in the labour force.

This time, however, the ex-Clydeside boiler-maker came unstocked.

He told a packed meeting of stewards in Clydebank Town Hall on Thursday that the speeches of six months ago were not appropriate to the current situation. UCS workers would have to be 'men' and face up to redundancy and recognize Strathalmond's company without a guarantee for the Clydebank yard.

He found himself in a minority of one. That same day's newspaper headlines spelt out the reason why—they proclaimed a 154,000 unemployment total in Scotland, the highest for 32 years. In the very shipbuilding town McGarvey was speaking in, the male unemployment rate had risen to above 12 per cent.

'Dan, Dan the redundancy man found he couldn't do it. We told him "you're not on"', one shop steward neatly summed up the confrontation. The upshot was a weak compromise designed to buy time for the union officials.

A further operation was suggested from the floor. If McGarvey could persuade the liquidator or the government to relieve the men at Scotstoun and Clydebank due for the dole until a firm buyer of the Clydebank yard was found, then talks with Govan would be considered.

McGarvey went to the liquidator and came back with his proverbial half a loaf.

No men would be sacked at Scotstoun for six weeks, but after that the axe would have to fall.

Commented Bob Dickie, convenor of the key Clydebank yard: 'Naturally we were looking for a freezing of redundancies until the American position is made clear. But it does not alter our insistence

You're not on Dan — yard workers We say no to sackings



SPLIT WIDENS BETWEEN (l. to r.) AIRLIE, REID AND MCGARVEY

of saving the four yards. Once there is a definite American bidder for Clydebank, there will be no problem in recognizing Govan Shipbuilders or anyone else.'

The question now is: will the Communist Party members who lead the UCS struggle use the moratorium on redundancies to begin talks with Govan whilst the search for an American buyer goes on?

This is a possibility because of the confusion generated over the exact meaning of the McGarvey compromise.

At the Linthouse mass meeting which followed the Town Hall confrontation leading CP Stalinists Jimmy Reid and James Airlie reiterated their determination to fight for the four yards. But they have not yet made

it clear whether the concession from the liquidator means that Govan will be recognized by the stewards. This is what McGarvey would like to see.

The most revealing comment so far has come from Airlie—after the meeting he told 'The Times' correspondent: 'Providing we get a holding position—with no further redundancies—discussion will continue with Govan Shipbuilders.'

He added, however, that there would be no recognition of agreements without proposals that cover the four yards.

This is a little less firm than the standing policy of the co-ordinating committee of no 'meaningful discussions' until Clydebank and Scotstoun are secure.

It harks back to the early days of Govan Shipbuilders, then under the late Hugh Stenhouse, when Airlie expounded a similar formula. He said then that stewards would talk but not agree to a new management structure before proposals covering four divisions emerged.

These verbal acrobatics between the Stalinists and the officials, however, are rapidly being overtaken by the grim forward sweep of the depression that has already put one Scottish male worker in ten on the dole.

This has critically affected shipbuilding. Govan is a puny affair. With a grand total of two paid-up £1 privately-held shares, no orders, nor any prospect of orders, its chances of survival are bleak.

Even the normally optimistic 'Glasgow Herald' glimpsed into the abyss on Friday, when it commented: 'Companies report little enthusiasm for placing new orders against a background of 40,000 Scots on strike for higher wages. The future of Govan Shipbuilders—the successor to UCS—looks gloomy because of lack of orders, low productivity, and uncertain labour relations.'

Orders for 70 ships totalling 1,027,000 tons gross were booked last year. But during 1970 orders were taken for 202 ships amounting to 1,760,000 tons.

Confirming exhaustion of work in the industry's yards, the report adds that the year's total intake of work was 'substantially below output. In the case of the smaller yards new contracts will be required soon if their facilities are to remain fully engaged.'

Although building work in hand internationally was a record at the end of last year, the sequence of record orders in world shipbuilding which began in 1966 has ended.

The world order book shrank in the last quarter of 1971, the first decrease for two years.

There is now a significant tonnage of shipping laid up through lack of work.

The Shipbuilders' Association says that coupled with uncertainties in international trade, this makes the prospects for an upturn extremely gloomy.

Japan tops the shipbuilding league with a total order book of 34 million tons, while Britain and Ireland are fifth, with nearly 5 million tons.

Theoretically, the report comments, revaluation of the Japanese yen should strengthen the competitive position of British yards. But this will be of little help when demand continues to fall.

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UCS WORKERS STATED THEIR BASIC DEMANDS WHEN THEY LOBBIED THE TORY PARTY CONFERENCE IN BRIGHTON.

Orders for ships slump

ORDERS placed with British shipyards plummeted downwards by more than a third last year.

This dramatic slump is revealed in the report published today by the Shipbuilders and Repairers' Association.

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The world order book shrank in the last quarter of 1971, the first decrease for two years.

There is now a significant tonnage of shipping laid up through lack of work.

The Shipbuilders' Association says that coupled with uncertainties in international trade, this makes the prospects for an upturn extremely gloomy.

Japan tops the shipbuilding league with a total order book of 34 million tons, while Britain and Ireland are fifth, with nearly 5 million tons.

Theoretically, the report comments, revaluation of the Japanese yen should strengthen the competitive position of British yards. But this will be of little help when demand continues to fall.

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Orders for ships slump

ORDERS placed with British shipyards plummeted downwards by more than a third last year.

This dramatic slump is revealed in the report published today by the Shipbuilders and Repairers' Association.

Orders for 70 ships totalling 1,027,000 tons gross were booked last year. But during 1970 orders were taken for 202 ships amounting to 1,760,000 tons.

Confirming exhaustion of work in the industry's yards, the report adds that the year's total intake of work was 'substantially below output. In the case of the smaller yards new contracts will be required soon if their facilities are to remain fully engaged.'

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Cairo the scene of student clashes

CAIRO'S main streets near Liberation Square were the scene of pitched battles between Egyptian police and stone-throwing students again yesterday.

The students have been agitating at the sit-in for the past week for renewed war with Israel and the abolition of press censorship.

The fighting started after riot police had driven 2,000 protesting students out of Cairo's main square.

Police ordered students who regrouped in side streets arrested and dispersed, but they refused to go and police then waded into them with truncheons.

About 500 students throwing stones were cordoned off by police and some arrests were made.

Earlier, in a pre-dawn swoop, police drove students out of the square with tear gas. On Monday night the government banned all demonstrations and urged students to disperse quietly.

The students had been huddling around a monument in the centre of the square since Monday afternoon after police broke up street demonstrations demanding the release of 1,500 students arrested in police raids on their university sit-in at 3 a.m. that morning.

Riot police with sticks and shields blocked all entrances to Abdin Palace yesterday where talks were being held between Egypt's president, Anwar Sadat, and leaders of student and professional bodies on the internal situation.

A delegation from the general students' union along with representatives of the press, trade unions, judiciary, farmers, traders and teachers are taking part.

RULER of the Gulf state of Sharjah was found shot dead inside his palace yesterday after his cousin, an 18-year-old, staged an attempted coup. When troops searched the palace following the surrender of the rebel group, the ruler, Sheikh Khalid Bin Mohamed, was found dead with four other people.

His cousin, former ruler Sheikh Saqr Bin Sultan, with an armed party overpowered the guard and seized the palace in a surprise attack on Monday afternoon.

Controllers are government employees. They have been on strike since last Monday, halting most non-military flights in Canada.

Negotiators for the union and government agreed to a 27-month contract which would have raised salaries by 17 per cent and cut working hours to 34 a week from 36 but ratification by the union's rank and file was necessary to end the strike.

workers press READERS' MEETINGS

Meet speakers from the Editorial Board. Discuss your ideas for the expanded paper

8 LONDON
Wednesday January 26
8 p.m.
Lower Hall
Brixton Town Hall
Brixton SW2

Make the Tory government resign!

Return a Labour government pledged to restore full employment and repeal all laws against the unions!

ABERDEEN: Wednesday January 26, 8 p.m. Trades Hall, 24 Adelphi. The 'Right-to-Work' campaign.

DAGENHAM: Wednesday January 26, 8 p.m. Room 11, East Ham Town Hall, East Ham. 'Right-to-Work' campaign.

LUTON: Thursday January 27, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Rd, Luton. 'Right-to-Work' campaign.

N LONDON: (Please note change of date.) Thursday January 27, 8 p.m. Town Hall, Edmonton. 'Support the miners'.

SE LONDON: Thursday January 27, 8 p.m. Room 2, Deptford Engineers' Club, opp New Cross Stn. 'The Right-to-Work campaign.'

SLOUGH: Thursday January 27, 8 p.m. 'The Merry-makers', Langley. 'Right-to-Work' campaign.'

LANCASTER: Monday January 31, 7.30 p.m. Yorkshire House, Parliament St. (at bus stn). 'Right-to-Work' campaign.'

SW LONDON: Tuesday February 1, 8 p.m. Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St. SW4. 'The General Strike.'

W LONDON: Tuesday February 1, 8 p.m. Prince Albert, Warfield Rd. off York Way, King's Cross. 'Right-to-Work' campaign.'

CROYDON: Thursday February 3, 8 p.m. Ruskin Hall, Coombe Rd. 'Stalinism and Trotskyism'.

Socialist Labour League
Special course of lectures
in line with the decision of the ATUA November 6 conference to build the revolutionary party.

Lecture Room 1
Digbeth Hall, Digbeth
BIRMINGHAM, 8 p.m.
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 1
Historical Materialism today
Mid-Hall
Woodside Hall, St George's Cross
GLASGOW, 3 p.m.
SUNDAY JANUARY 30
Economics and Politics
given by
G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

LATE NEWS

NEWS DESK
01-720 2000
CIRCULATION
01-622 7020

MINERS' ATUA MEETINGS

OLLERTON: Thursday, January 27, 8 p.m. 'The Angel', Forrest Rd, Ollerton, Notts.

NUMEATON: Thursday, January 27, 8 p.m. 'The Angel', Atherstone, near Nuneaton.

COVENTRY: Sunday, January 31, 11 a.m. 'Golden Eagle', Howatt Rd, Keresley.

WEATHER

N ENGLAND, N Ireland and Scotland will have sunny periods and showers. The showers will be mainly in the W and heavy at times. They will fall as snow over high ground. Wales, S and SW England will be rather cloudy with rain at times with hill fog. E districts will be bright at first but cloud and rain will spread E later. Temperatures will be slightly above normal in S England and near normal elsewhere.

A joint communiqué was issued yesterday following one-day talks in Ankara on developments in the Asian sub-continent and bilateral relations.

Before his Turkey visit, Bhutto extended the deadline on businessmen who did not voluntarily declare foreign-exchange holdings from January 15 to February 15.

Milk fiddle claims Nader

AMERICAN consumer protectionist Ralph Nader has accused the Nixon administration of approving higher milk subsidies shortly after dairy producers made large campaign contributions for Nixon's re-election.

Nader's consumer group, Public Citizen, has filed suit against the Agriculture Department to withdraw a price support increase. This was issued last March 25—just two days after Nixon met with milk producers at the White House and 13 days after the Agriculture Department had said there would be no such increase.

Three major milk cooperatives have contributed more than £120,000 to the Republican party and to Nixon re-election committees, according to Nader.

He is seeking to overturn an 'arbitrary and capricious' decision dictated by political considerations.

Bhutto moves on

THE president of Pakistan, Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and his wife, left Turkey by air yesterday for Rabat after one-day talks with the country's president Mr Cevdet Sunay.

Bhutto and Sunay of Turkey have called for restraint by foreign powers to avoid precipitating new complications in relations between Pakistan and the Republic of Bangla Desh.

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Jury selection in 'Harrisburg' trial

FORTY SIX prospective jurors in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania faced questioning yesterday by a judge and lawyers in the trial of a Roman Catholic priest and six other anti-war activists accused of planning to kidnap a White House aide.

The 12 jurors finally chosen are likely to be locked up for the duration of the trial, which Federal Judge R. Dixon Herman said yesterday could last several months.

As the trial opened supporters of Father Philip Berrigan and the other defendants marched outside the courthouse carrying a crudely made coffin filled with mutilated draft records.

Government prosecutors contend that the Harrisburg Seven plotted to kidnap President Adviser Dr Henry Kissinger and to plant explosives in the heating systems of various Washington buildings.

The defendants are also charged with destroying military draft records in federal offices in nine states as part of their demand that the US government end the war in Indo-China and stop military conscription.

Forty-nine-year-old Father Berrigan is already serving a six-year jail term for destroying draft records in Catonsville and Baltimore.