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BY ALEX MITCHELL

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Other regulations deal with 'maintaining law and order' and offenders face £100 fines or imprisonment for three months, or both.

The regulations came into power after a Privy Council meeting chaired by the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, wife of photographer Lord Snowdon.

While the regulations were receiving royal assent, Tory Employment Secretary Robert Carr was seeing miners' leaders and representatives from the National Coal Board. Now entering its 32nd day, the strike is at its most crucial stage.

Two features of the strike are clearly emerging:

● The strike is maintaining the support of the broad mass of workers in Britain.

● Picketing, despite all the difficulties, is successful and beginning to bite.

Therefore, yesterday's declaration of a state of emergency is not a sign of Tory strength, but a sign of their weakness.

The desperation in high Tory circles is mirrored in yesterday's capitalist press.

'The Times', for example, has an untypical appeal for the miners to be treated as 'a special case'. The editorial yes-

terday says: 'Obviously they will not return to work without an improved offer or a further period of battle... the union leaders cannot expect the government simply to sell out.'

'They must certainly be ready to make the most of anything which the NCB can offer with the government's blessing, and if they reach agreement, they must persuade men worked up by the experience of the strike to accept it.'

## Biggest danger

Embodied in this piece of 'Times' advice, is one of the biggest dangers facing miners—the possibility of the NUM leadership winning the wage battle against the government, but being fobbed off with only a few bob more than Ezra is offering now.

The miners should stand on their claim, the full claim and nothing but the claim.

'The Guardian' also limped into action yesterday with a main editorial on the strike.

Also arguing for 'special-case' treatment, it said that the government and the TUC 'must realize that the country expects a way out of this frightening and socially divisive dispute to be found this week'.

Such hysterical language. Of course, what frightens 'The Guardian' (and the Tory government) is the real threat of mass class action in support of the miners.

Because, in spite of the cowardice of the TUC, then the retreat on wages by the engineers' leaders and this week the power workers' leaders, the working class has not experienced such class solidarity and militancy for decades.

Carr and company can bring in their emergency laws. But if one British soldier tries to break a picket line, it could well be the last episode in the brief and hated history of this government.

● SEE MINERS' INTERVIEWS (p. 10) and news (p. 12).

## POWER STATION 'TICKING OVER' SAY PICKETS

ONE of central London's main power stations, Battersea, will have to cease operations within two or three days, according to men from Bettshanger colliery, Kent, who have been picketing there for the last few days. They claim that two chimneys are already shut down and that the other two are just 'ticking over'. A spokesman for the pickets said: 'We have had no trouble from the drivers bringing hydrogen and oil. They have all turned back. The coal normally comes up by boat, but our picket boats have put a stop to that.'



## 6,000 SHOW SOLIDARITY AT PICKET'S FUNERAL

FROM JOHN SPENCER IN YORKSHIRE

MINERS from all over Britain came to Duns-croft near Doncaster, Yorkshire, yesterday to pay their last respects to Fred Matthews, the picket who was killed at Scunthorpe last week.

They marched 6,000-strong in a cortege behind the coffin to the Stainforth cemetery where he was buried.

The funeral procession, headed by the banner of Hatfield Main NUM branch, to which Fred Matthews belonged, was one of the largest miner's funerals ever seen in Yorkshire. Busloads of mourners came

from each of the 80 Yorkshire branches and there were delegations from Kent, Wales, Scotland, Durham, E Midlands and Derbyshire.

The 1,500 men at Hatfield pit lined the streets as the procession went by. Fred Matthews was a Hatfield miner for 20 years before he was killed. He leaves six children.

Tom Mullany, Hatfield colliery delegate, said: 'This is a tremendous expression of solidarity from the other coalfields and pits. The miners' determination to fight to the finish has been strengthened by Freddie's tragic death.'

● SEE SATURDAY'S WORKERS PRESS FOR SPECIAL FEATURE WITH PICTURES

ANNOUNCING the emergency regulations in the House, Home Secretary Reginald Maudling said the armed forces would only be used 'if it became absolutely essential to maintain the vital services for the nation'.

A miner MP, Tom Swain (Lab, Derbyshire NE), thought it would be wise, as discussions were taking place, to withdraw the state of emergency because of the effect, or suspicion which would be aroused in mining areas that the state of emergency was intended to break the strike.

## Disruption damp squib

THE civil rights D (for disruption) Day staged in Ulster yesterday turned out to be a damp squib.

A correspondent in Londonderry told Workers Press the local community was particularly incensed by the ineffectiveness of the demonstration staged by John Hume, and other Social Democratic Labour Party MPs. They went on a 24-hour hunger fast at Derry Corner.

Elsewhere, civil rights went to local government departments asking such questions as 'Do you need a licence to grow a gooseberry?' and 'Do you need a licence to keep a billy goat?'

These activities were described as 'disruption tactics'.

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# workers press

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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## AROUND THE WORLD

# Nixon threatens World War III

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

**IMPERIALIST war preparations will continue whatever talks may be held with the Soviet or Chinese leaders, US President Richard Nixon made clear yesterday.**

His foreign-policy report to Congress described 1971 as 'the watershed year', in which the US had made a dramatic opening to Peking and started a new relationship with Moscow.

But the two cornerstones of the 95,000-word report were:

● No change;

● The arms build-up goes on.

There is to be no change in US imperialist policy in Indo-China, the Middle East, Africa and W Europe.

In Vietnam, Nixon said, Hanoi's rejection of his phoney peace plan posed one fundamental



NIXON

question—'will we collude with our enemies to overturn our friends?'

The answer was obvious: 'This we shall never do.'

Nixon tells Congress in his report that Soviet bases and arms supplies to Egypt could have

serious implications for the balance of power on a world scale as well as in the Middle East itself.

In Africa, he made plain that the US will go on backing to the hilt the racist dictatorships of S Africa and Rhodesia. It would resist those who took the path of 'violent change' there.

In Europe, he said, the 300,000-strong US military force would not be reduced without what he described as 'matching'—not just equal-percentage—cuts from the Warsaw Pact countries.

Since the Soviet Union could reinforce its troops much quicker than the US, an equal-percentage agreement would be unfavourable to NATO, Nixon claimed. Any such agreement would have to be 'more comprehensive'.

Having already made very clear his ruthless determination to prosecute the trade war, the US President went on to threaten: 'If the Soviet Union continues to expand strategic armed forces, compensating US programmes will be mandatory.'

'The preferable alternative would be a combination of mutual restraint and an agreement in SALT [the strategic arms limitation talks]. But under no circumstances will I permit the further erosion of the strategic balance with the USSR.' Behind the acres of White House double-talk, in other words, doomed US imperialism continues to prepare its bloody answer to the forward march of the working class at home and overseas.

Nixon regretted that some US decisions in the past year—his trip to Peking and the August 15, 1971, dollar policy—had put the Japanese government in a difficult position.

He promised that during his trip to Peking he would not discuss with Chinese officials any bi-lateral arrangements which could adversely affect the interests of US allies.

'We have no interest in arrangements which would sacrifice our friendship with a long-standing ally to the need for better communication with a long-standing adversary,' he said.

## LIBERATION FRONT REPLIES . . .

### DA NANG UNDER HEAVY ATTACK

LIBERATION forces launched their biggest rocket attack for at least a year on Da Nang city and its sprawling military base early yesterday. Four people were killed and another 17 wounded with a barrage of 39 big missiles.

Military spokesman said two district towns, two other airfields and two outposts were also hit in a flurry of raids, nearly all of them beginning between one or two hours after midnight.

At the huge coastal airbase at Da Nang, S Vietnam's second largest city, 27 rockets slammed into the billeting area wounding ten US servicemen and a parking area damaging one aircraft.

Vietnamese military sources said one S Vietnamese non-commissioned officer was killed in the hour-long barrage of rockets.

The city has not been bombarded since January 3, when four rockets wounded one serviceman and damaged three aircraft.

In Binh Dinh province, about 150 miles S along the coast, five more rockets hit the Phu Cat airfield yesterday.

Lane army office, in the same province, was attacked with small arms during the night.

In Phu Yen province, immediately S of Binh Dinh, 15 mortar bombs hit military and official civilian buildings.

● Four Cambodian soldiers were killed and several wounded when Vietcong attacked the hard-pressed NW town of Siem Reap in Laos.

A military command spokesman said the fighting occurred on Monday night as a government patrol tried to push towards Angkor Wat, about 150 miles from Phnom Penh.

## SUHARTO SHOUTED DOWN IN SYDNEY

DEMONSTRATORS shouted 'Go home butcher' at Indonesian President Suharto when he arrived at Sydney's town hall for a civic reception yesterday.

Nearly 200 demonstrators, many of them carrying anti-Suharto placards, were out-

numbered by a strong police guard. One young woman was arrested on the town hall steps.

Suharto, who is on an official visit to Australia, gave a short speech at the reception, but most of his words could not be heard above the chants of the demonstrators who denounced political imprisonments in Indonesia.

But the President and his wife received a more cordial welcome from a small group of Indonesians when they arrived earlier at Sydney airport in the Royal Australian air force jet which brought them from Melbourne.

After the civic reception, President Suharto travelled along a heavily-guarded route to a Sydney hotel where he addressed a group of Australian businessmen at a luncheon.

Ample opportunity was being given for foreign investment in his country and several attractive privileges were being offered to attract outside help to develop the country, he said.

A report from Wellington, the New Zealand capital, where he arrives today, said Suharto will have talks with New Zealand Prime Minister John Marshall and Cabinet Ministers during his four-day visit.

The Campaign Against Repression in Indonesia has threatened demonstrations during his visit.

It was Suharto and his military backers who murdered a million communists during the downfall of the previous President, Sukarno.

## Consul threat and Sydney slogans

BRITISH Consul General to America Alastair Maitland was guarded by police in Boston yesterday following threats to assassinate him in connection with N Ireland's 'Bloody Sunday'. An armed guard was placed on Maitland.

ANTI-BRITISH slogans, such as

'British murderers out of Ireland' were daubed on the outside of the British Overseas Airways Corporation offices in Sydney early yesterday. Police said at least three bricks were thrown at the front of the BOAC building, but they did little damage.

## URUGUAY NEAR A PRESIDENT

FORMER agriculture minister Juan Maria Bordaberry appeared assured of a five-year term as Uruguay's president yesterday, as latest unofficial figures in a long drawn-out election recount showed him holding on to a narrow lead.

If confirmed the winner, he is expected to continue his predecessor's hard line against the Tupamaros guerrillas.

Bordaberry, hand picked candidate of incumbent Colorado Party President Jorge Pacheco Areco, had a 10,000-vote lead over Blanco Party Senator Wil-

son Ferreira Aldunate with only 40,000 ballots to be checked, sources close to the electoral court revealed.

This is roughly the margin in the preliminary vote count after the polls closed on November 28.

The Blanco Party has alleged fraud in the vote-counting, saying that in some districts there were more votes than registered voters and that sacks of ballot papers were mysteriously sent away from Montevideo to be pulped or burned.

The final official result is now expected at the end of this week.

## GOVT BILL TO END US DOCK STRIKE

HOURS AFTER a tentative agreement to end the 124-day-old W coast docks' strike was announced yesterday, the American Senate voted overwhelmingly in favour of compulsory arbitration to end the strike.

The Senate's Bill was then sent to the House of Representatives.

This Bill gives the port employers their long-sought opportunity to free themselves from the stranglehold of held-up grain shipments.

It also means that both capitalist parties (Republicans and Democrats) have gained their desperately-needed breathing space from the threat of a joint national docks' strike.

The settlement now has to be ratified by 15,000 rank-and-file members of the International Longshore Warehousemen's Union, as well as by President

Nixon's Pay Board in Washington.

A special ILWU committee, meeting in San Francisco on Saturday, will decide when the ratification vote will be taken and whether the workers will return to the docks pending the vote.

Even then a settlement is not certain. During previous negotiations between the ILWU and the shipping company, the Pacific Maritime Association, which broke off on January 17, contract proposals included a \$1.12 (43p) an hour increase over two years.

This constitutes a 25-per-cent increase—much higher than the majority of contracts already approved by the Pay Board, which has the power to veto wage settlements under Nixon's economic reform policy.

No details of the latest pay agreement have been made public.

## EUROPE'S JOBLESS 2 MILLION UP

THE NUMBER of unemployed in the Common Market area rose to more than 2 million in the last half year—and there are no signs of improvement, a senior EEC official warned yesterday.

M Albert Coppe, Commissioner in Charge of Employment and Social Affairs, told a session of the EEC's parliament meeting in Strasbourg that the number of jobless was 2.1 million compared with 1.7 million in the corresponding period of 1970.

Moreover the growth of the community's gross national pro-

duct in 1972 was expected to be lower than registered last year and this would further increase unemployment.

In W Germany unemployment rose by 106,000 last month alone and experts say it would have risen a great deal more had it not been for exceptionally mild weather.

Total number of unemployed at the end of the month stood at 375,600 or 1.7 per cent of the labour force, an increase of 0.5 per cent from the end of December.

## WHAT WE THINK REFORMISTS FEAR WORKING CLASS

YESTERDAY'S 'Times' reports general secretary of the electricians' and plumbers' union Frank Chapple's 'short but powerful speech' to the 13-man negotiating team on the power men's pay claim.

In this speech he is reported to have said: 'To bring down the government by industrial action would only lead to a General Election in which the Conservatives would be returned with a landslide majority.'

Like all reformists, Chapple is dedicated to the defence of the capitalist system and its parliamentary state. He walks in the footsteps of his social democratic predecessors in Germany before Hitler came to power.

Chapple talks about General Elections as though they were divorced from the economic crisis which now grips the capitalist world. It is the outcome of this crisis which now grips the capitalist world. It is the outcome of this crisis which will be decisive and not whether or not Labour is returned in the next General Election.

German social democrats were fairly successful with their election work until the economic crisis of 1929 provided a powerful impetus to the rise of fascism and the break up of the bourgeois democratic Weimar state.

All major issues of politics today are now being directly influenced by the insoluble nature of the world capitalist crisis. As in 1929, the writing is on the wall for Labourite reformism.

The Wilson government 1964-1970 was absolutely bankrupt and unable to make the slightest inroads into the capitalist system.

The greatest and most impres-

sive force today is the strength of the working class. The more this strength is exercised against the system and its state machine, the more it will be able to defeat the ultra-right threat of dictatorship at a later date.

It may well be that if the Tory government was overthrown by the strength of the working class over the miners' strike that it may creep back to power with the support of a frightened middle class. Such a government would still have to face the growing consciousness of a militant working class and possibilities for the development of revolutionary leadership would be considerable.

On the other hand a Labour government like the last government of Wilson would prove a disaster and could only demoralize the working class. It is this kind of government which the reformists want back.

The Socialist Labour League fights to build up the strength of the working class to make the Tory government resign. Following this, if a Labour government is elected, then it would be more and more dominated by the militancy of the working class. A working class that can force the Tory master to resign can certainly deal with his Labour servant.

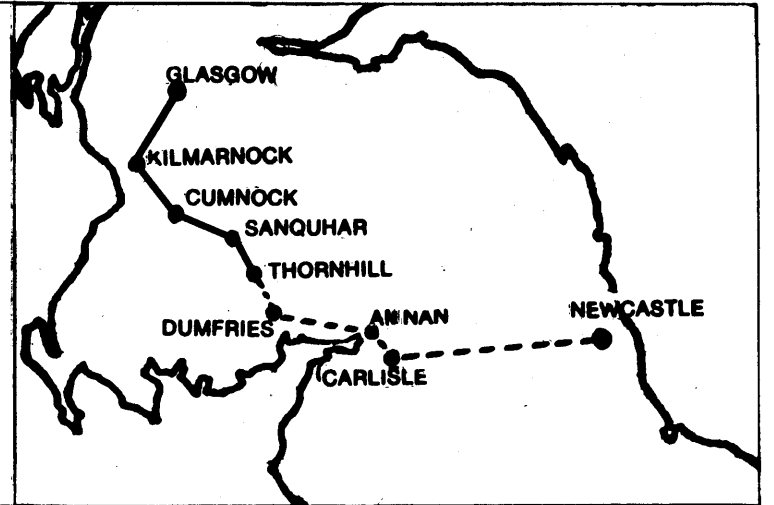
The reformists are more frightened of the strength of the working class than they are of the Tories. They are prepared to capitulate to the Tory government rather than allow the working class to exercise its strength in order to build up and develop its political consciousness.

Right-to-Work

# DIARY

By Stephen Johns

WE DEMAND  
THE  
RIGHT  
TO  
WORK



## OUR FIGHT IS THE SAME—MINERS TELL MARCHERS

DAY FOUR—Kirkconnel

**THIS IS** a tough part of the march. We're in Kirkconnel, which is just a high street trapped between the hills of the S Scottish Uplands.

There's a dirty drizzle falling outside the school hall where we're billeted for the night. I had to laugh on the way in, despite the weather and the aching feet. We were passing the local graveyard—'this is the dead centre of the town', said one of the Renton boys. It just about sums up Kirkconnel, which has an astonishing 35 per cent male unemployment rate.

We are all learning one political lesson—the people who have least always give. The miners in their fifth week of strike welcome the marchers the most. It's the local bureaucrats who give us the most jaundiced reception.

Just now the marchers are rallying round and rustling up some hot grub. Cooking is a problem because we have been denied facilities. But there's one bonus, the local football club (miners' influence again) have thrown open their shower room and, believe me, after four days on the road (54 miles from Glasgow) you need one.

But don't get the wrong impression. We're all in great spirits. Two young Cumnock miners joined the march today and the news of support building up down the route makes us hit that road all the harder.

So keep it going comrades, we can't wait to reach the NE and the Yorkshire coalfield. The way the strike is going I imagine the march will have a profound effect when we reach these areas.

Today's most dramatic moment came in New Cumnock. We were in the Working Men's Welfare Club there—guests of the local strike committee who shared out their food (soup, sandwiches and rice pudding) when the Tory declaration of a state of emergency came over the TV.

There was immediate reaction from the miners. If they send the troops into Ayrshire they are in for a battle. But there was anger too.

Miners at Cumnock cursed the leaders of the power workers for selling out their own members, rattling on the strike and accepting Tory wages policy into the bargain. The gap between the rank and file and the leadership is truly enormous.

The leaders are considered part of the Tory establishment by all the miners we met.

Here are some comments I jotted down last night when I had a chat with the Cumnock strike committee, who gave us such encouragement when we were in their town.

IAN YOUNG, an engineer at Barrony pit:

'I think your march is a good one because it has a political aim against the Tory government. It's quite clear that if the miners lose, then every trade unionist in this country will lose.'

'This fact demands an initiative from the trade union movement—I'm talking in terms of a General Strike—this is what we need.'

'I think you are trying to put this view over throughout the country to all the trade unionists you meet. We have got to stick

**THE CENTRAL** London branch of the National Union of Journalists has agreed to support the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign.

The branch, which covers members employed on all Fleet St newspapers decided to support the march unanimously.

The branch resolution stated: 'Believing that the government's economic policies are leading to large-scale unemployment and consequently to depressed conditions for all industries including the newspaper industry, this branch resolves to support the Right-to-Work marches currently being

## FLEET ST JOURNALISTS FULLY BEHIND MARCH

organized around the country with the backing of the trade union movement.'

It was proposed by the Workers Press chapel.

ICI SHOP stewards, HUDDERSFIELD, have also decided to support the march and are considering ways of raising finance. Ideas include a collection, stage a football match, a raffle, sponsorship of marchers and a

scheme to sponsor local stewards to march part of the journey to London.

Next Tuesday the stewards will take a final decision on the form of the financial aid.

WITNEY and District Trades Council is supporting the campaign and has offered to help with overnight accommodation and food.

Local union branches will also be circulated. Witney and district Labour Party which is supporting the march will urge its members to give all possible help.

LEEDS 507 branch of ASTMS has supported the march and agreed to put up £15 to sponsor a march from Leeds. Leeds Polytechnic has agreed to organize a collection and put on a concert to raise money for the marchers when they arrive in the town.

THE joint shop stewards committee at the Rover factory in Solihull, Birmingham, has decided to send ten delegates to the Empire Pool rally. The AUEW shop stewards' committee at the Lucas Shaftmoor Lane factory in Birmingham has donated £20, and organized a collection on the night and day shifts. So far they have collected about £50.

THE Transport and General Workers' Union branch at SU Carburettor, BIRMINGHAM, has donated £10. The Birmingham No. 27 AUEW branch has passed a resolution of support and called on the district committee to provide accommodation in Birmingham.

The Acocks Green AUEW branch has passed a similar resolution and donated £4.60. The Washwood Heath branch AUEW has passed a similar resolution, as has the Solihull AUEW branch which has also donated 50p.



up here and man the pickets, but we will be with you in spirit. Our fight is the same.'

BILLY CRAWFORD, face worker at Lochlea mine. He was talking a day before the state of emergency decision, but he anticipated it:

'I think they will use the troops and I think this will be the biggest upset in the country. The working class are not the same people they were in 1926 when Churchill tried it on. They have already used rough stuff against us at Kilmarnock. They put the police in on us, about 250 of them against 400 miners. We call them Heath's army.'

'I feel very strongly about Feather and the TUC. They have done nothing to help us.'

JOHN HAMPSON, Killoch pit: 'We are out for the full £9. Now I have my reservations

about the executive's determination to get the full amount. I am weary about this talk of a "satisfactory offer". To me that's £9 and a living wage.'

'I will tell them one thing. They will never get the miners back for less. If we get ordered back, I know the men will stay out; that's the feeling up here anyway and what I hear from England it's the same down there as well. The longer this government holds out on our claim, the more we will want—that's the mood on the coalfields.'

'If they bring the troops in it will be like N Ireland over here.' It's great to get the backing of these men because every one of them is worth ten bureaucrats, and we can do without their support so long as ordinary workers give us a hand when we pass through their area.

It's Thornhill tomorrow, more than half way to Carlisle.

## HISTORIC OCCASION—PILKINGTON MEN

THE PILKINGTON rank-and-file committee in St Helens, Lancashire, has expressed its complete support for the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign.

In August 1970, 600 Pilkington workers were sacked for defending the right to work and strike.

On July 10, 1971, the Young Socialists' National Committee organized a Summer Fair to raise money for the Pilkington men and their families. It collected over £1,000.

Today 250 men are still outside the gates.

A statement from leading committee member Jim Crosby to the Young Socialists on the jobs march reads:

'Every endeavour is being made by the committee to unite employed and unemployed workers in St. Helens. We are optimistic that a large section of unemployed, especially the youth, will take the opportunity to join the march to London.'

'We regard the march as a historic occasion. Rest assured the Pilkington rank-and-file banner will be prominent among the marchers.'

## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Make the Tory government resign!

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

SW LONDON: Tuesday February 15, 8 p.m. Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4. 'Support miners and Ulster workers.'

ACTON: Wednesday February 16, 8 p.m. 'Mechanics Arms', Churchfield Rd, W3. 'Support miners and Ulster workers.'

LUTON: Thursday February 17, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Rd. World economic crisis.

SE LONDON: Thursday February 17, 8 p.m. Room 2, Deptford Engineers' Club (opp New Cross Stn). 'Support miners and Ulster workers.'

N LONDON: Thursday February 17, 8 p.m. Town Hall, Edmonton. Reformism and trade unions.

WILLESDEN: Monday February 14, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Rd, NW10. Unemployment and the capitalist crisis.

SOUTHALL: Tuesday February 15, 8 p.m. Indian Workers Association, 18 Featherstone Rd 'Victory to the miners'.

W LONDON: Tuesday February 15, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Rd, off York Way, Kings Cross. 'Support miners and Ulster workers.'

Socialist Labour League  
Special lecture  
Common Hall, Hackn's Hay  
(off Dale St)

LIVERPOOL, 8 p.m.

Tuesday February 15

given by  
C. Slaughter (SLL Central Committee)

## THE FIGHT AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT

# THE FIRST JOBLESS MARCHES

### PART 2

The Communist Party had been in the vanguard of the unemployed workers' struggles in the early 1920s. Communists had led the 'National Unemployed Workers' Committee Movement' which organized the 1922 Hunger march and a mounting campaign of demonstrations around the Unemployed Workers' Charter.

After the General Strike of 1926, however the Stalinists began to play down the role of the local committees of the NUWM.

From 1925 on the British Communist Party, increasingly under the dominance of Stalin, had played down its struggle against the official trade union leaders.

Stalinism placed the emphasis on friendship with the trade union bureaucracy rather than on building and developing revolutionary consciousness in the working class. Hence the slogan during the General Strike, 'All Power to the General Council of the TUC'.

For the same reason, the Stalinists leading the unemployed movement rapidly moved away from the earlier demand for a General Strike against unemployment, passed at the Third National Congress of the NUWCM in 1923.

The emphasis of the Stalinists was on better conditions for the unemployed rather than against unemployment itself. This was clearly more palatable to the trade union and Labour Party bureaucracies.

Moreover, in the period immediately prior to the General Strike, the activities of the NUWM virtually ceased on a national scale.

The Stalinist Wal Hannington blithely reports:

'No outstanding activities in unemployment occurred in 1926.'

But this was precisely the period when the closest relations should have been built up between the unemployed and the employed, to transform the strike into a unifying struggle of both sections of workers against capitalism.

But this, of course, would have frightened the TUC General Council. So, the resolution passed at the first National Congress of the NUWCM in 1921 'never to cease from strife until capitalism is abolished' was quietly pushed into the background.

It must be emphasized that if 'no outstanding activities' of the unemployed took place in the months before the General Strike, it is because the Stalinists, with all their experience and skill in organizing such activities, chose not to organize any.

That the unemployed did not scab in 1926 is due to their own feeling of class solidarity and not to any leadership forthcoming from Hannington and the other Stalinists.

It was this Stalinist line which enabled the TUC to turn its back on the unemployed after the strike and join with Lord Mond and other leading industrialists on a joint committee for the 'rationalization' of industry—in other words, to join with the employers to plan more unemployment.

By the end of 1926, the registered figure of unemployment was 1,357,000. There were, of course, many thousands of others out of work who were not included in the figures because they did not qualify for



Top: Unemployed men on Waterloo Bridge. Bottom: Scratching for unwanted coal on slag heaps near Newcastle

unemployment pay.

In January 1927 the Blanesburgh Committee of Investigation into the Unemployment Insurance Scheme recommended savage cuts in benefits. Sitting on the Committee and signing the recommendations along with the employers' representatives were trade union leaders Frank Hodges, Margaret Bondfield and A. E. Holmes.

There were mass demonstrations of opposition to the report and in the winter of 1927 a march of unemployed miners walked from S Wales to London. This forced some small improvements in benefits but, significantly, it was opposed by the TUC and Labour Party leaders.

In December the Tories' new Unemployment Bill incorporated the main recommendations of the Blanesburgh Committee. These involved:

For men 21 to 65 years a reduction of 1s a week to 17s.  
Men 20 but under 21 years a reduction of 4s a week to 14s.  
Men 19 but under 20 years a reduction of 6s a week to 12s.  
Men 18 but under 19 years a reduction of 8s a week to 10s.  
Boys 16 but under 18 years a reduction of 1s 6d to 6s.  
Women aged 21 to 65 remained at 15s a week.  
Women 20 but under 21 years a reduction of 3s to 12s a week.  
Women 19 but under 20 years a reduction of 5s to 10s a week.  
Women 18 but under 19 years a reduction of 7s to 8s a week.  
Girls over 16 but under 18 years a reduction of 1s to 5s a week.

In addition to this, every claim had to come up for review after 11 weeks and further benefit could be refused even if the applicant could satisfy the 30 stamps statutory condition. The

clause under which benefit could be refused was the one which has been burned into working-class consciousness—the 'not genuinely seeking work' clause.

In the first four months of the operation of the Act, 204,511 claims for benefit were turned down under the 'not genuinely seeking work' clause.

And the onus of proof was on the applicant. Often he had to produce documentary evidence from employers or foremen that he had applied to them for work.

This forced unemployed men, often cold and hungry, to tramp many miles in all kinds of weather to places where there was no hope of a job simply in order to get documentary evidence that he had tried. And frequently the boss could not be bothered to write out a statement to that effect. Men spent days in this futile, soul-destroy-

ing tramp.

With every month that passed, the anger of the unemployed increased. In September, 1928, contingents of hunger marchers from all the Scottish coalfields and shipyards converged on Edinburgh. The following year, in January, another national march on London demanded higher benefit scales and the abolition of the 'not genuinely seeking work' clause.

This forced a modification of the clause—the transitional benefit period was extended for another 12 months.

The marchers left London on March 5, 1929, and six weeks later the Tory government resigned and the General Election resulted in the formation of the second Labour government in May, 1929.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

<sup>1</sup> Wal Hannington 'A Short History of the Unemployed', p. 44.

# BUILDING THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

## DISCUSSION ON THE ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE DRAFT MANIFESTO

On November 6 last year a national conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance decided to adopt a draft manifesto to transform the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party. Since the conference a country-wide discussion has been initiated in League branches, in the ATUA, in the Young Socialists and among Workers Press supporters. Until the Right-to-Work rally at Empire Pool, Wembley on March 12, we intend to carry a full page each day devoted to your comments on the Draft Manifesto. We have received more than 100 contributions to this vital discussion. Now we want at least another 100.

Workers and their families, youth, students and the unemployed are all invited to join in this discussion. If you haven't got a copy of the Draft Manifesto write to Workers Press or contact your local ATUA branch.

### GEORGE COLLIER

Member of the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers, Coppermiths, and Heating and Domestic Engineers, Aberdeen. Unemployed.

I have to support my family now on £16.40 a week which isn't much but I know that it's more than many others get.

Not that it will last. I think the Tories are planning big attacks on unemployment pay, as part of their cutbacks in the social services.

If the Tories stay in power things can only get worse.

After the war they made concessions. Now they're trying to take them all back. They want to increase their own at our expense. People thought that the Welfare State was a stable thing and now the Tories are taking it away.

We've got to get rid of the Tories, but there must be a fight to get rid of Wilson, Castle and Jenkins as well. I think the ATUA Manifesto and the Workers Press should make this even clearer than it does. Wilson has no solutions—he began the high unemployment.

There's no leadership in the Labour party and the sharper the Tory attacks the more clear this is. Everything that has happened since November—a million unemployed, now the miners strike, and so on—only makes the Manifesto more urgent.

The need is for people to become active and not just accept Wilson's leadership. Surely after the last Labour government people know where these people stand. But it's only if people are active that we can begin to see what can be done about it.

The Draft Manifesto provides revolutionary leadership. Many people are afraid of taking such a leap, but the Manifesto points the road to a revolutionary policy. There will have to be a big turn round of thought in the working class against the present leaders.

### STEVE COLLING

Further Education student, Hemel Hempstead

I think in this period the building of the revolutionary party is decisive to the future of the working class because this present Tory government is attacking the worker in every field possible.

If the working class is to maintain its standard of living and go forward, the capitalist system has got to go, and the rise of socialism is the only alternative to fascism.

The present leadership within the trade union movement and student union is completely betraying the people they represent.

The student leadership confines itself to demonstrations and sells out to the Tories. Students cannot win this fight on their own. They must fight alongside the rest of the working class.

'Divide and rule' is the oldest way of defeating the working class, as can be seen in N Ireland.

The leadership of the workers must be replaced by one willing to fight, and the SLL is the only organization that is going to do this. Every worker who wants to defend gains made over the last 25 years must turn to revolutionary politics to turf out this illegal government.

### BILL AND COLENE PARK

Bill is T&GWU member. Colene is a housewife, Birmingham

I felt disgust last year when the Tories were returned, but I haven't been surprised at what they've done.

I never believed what they said about cutting prices, and you can't trust either Labour or Tory.

But if Wilson were in, things would not be so bad. He would not be doing to the unions what the Tories are: he got into too big a fight last time.

I think the Tories are frightened of the unions, and I don't think the Tories will last three years—a few things could happen. The unions are not defeated and the Coventry tool-room agreement, for example, was not a defeat so long as the men stuck together. An upheaval has to come, though I feel rather fatalistic about it myself.

Colene Park housewife:

Most people have had a shock at what the Tories have done. They tricked the country with their election promises, and it looks as if they planned the attacks on wages, welfare benefits, the rise in prices.

The Tories seem to be more frightened of the working class now than in the 1930s, because they aren't prepared to be trodden on. If Wilson was in now he'd do his best to make it better for the working class; but they should have taken the Common Market to the country's vote.

Jenkins has no right to stay in the Labour Party, neither have the others who voted to join the Market. There will have to be a General Strike and there is a need for a revolutionary leadership to fight both the Tories and the Labour leaders.

We need to prepare a leadership now—not enough people in the working class realize what's going on, and if they did they would see the urgency of the situation.

### BARRY BARNES

Worker at Bird's Eye factory in Hull

The rights you are talking about in the Charter haven't been given. They have been won over the years by the working class and the unions. If the Tories take away these things, they take away the right of the working class, the power to organize and strike.

There is a world trade war now in action. I think the Tories are trying to make up their loss in profits by wage cuts, knocking down the standard of living.

This Tory government is definitely illegal. The people were not consulted about the Com-



'Students cannot win on their own. They must fight alongside the rest of the working class'.

mon Market. The Industrial Relations Act is to stem the activities of the unions. Since the Tory government came in, aggression against the working class has been stepped up. In N Ireland in particular, it's been stepped up 100 per cent. People are being shot and interned without trial. It's against the laws even the bourgeois laid down.

On wages, no one, so far as I know, has got the full 7½ per cent this year. One of the biggest struggles will be with the miners. They have always been in front in the history of the working class. If the ATUA gets

a big following there, it will be a big step forward.

A Labour government to replace the Tories must be different from the past. The last Labour government put the same laws in as the Tories, but they are not as straightforward.

So the alternative must be revolutionary. This is the only movement that can help us, which is why I have decided to join.

This government will head towards fascism. It's only just showing its face in N Ireland. The trade war will step up and make it grimmer for the tycoons. They will repress us, including

the use of troops.

The biggest problem facing the working class is ejecting this government. The working class needs to get out of its old traditions. Workers have been taught by their parents to turn their back on anything connected with communism.

I think it will be soon. But a lot of workers are still not willing to look to the revolutionary situation and form a party. I've had that difficulty in my factory. Another thing, a lot of Stalinists preach to workers to back down. In the past I've noticed this myself, but I've not known what to do about it.



Top: Unemployed on hunger march 40 years ago. Below: Unemployed and homeless in Glasgow

# RIGHT TO WORK MARCH

## WHEN I'M SIXTY FOUR

Claude Currie re-lived his youth when he stood on the bleak outskirts of Glasgow and watched the Right-to-Work march set out for Kilmarnock on Sunday.

He was the man who organized the first Hunger March from Clydeside back in 1929. He told me with calm irony that the day before, he was fired from the building site where he acted as shop steward.

'But I've been sacked thousands of times—I'm 64, you get used to it, or rather you get objective about it.'

'It makes me think about those times. If I was 20 years younger I would be down the road with those boys and girls. I hope they succeed where we, in a way, failed.'

When the men walked in Claude's days it was through sheer desperation.

'You could only describe Glasgow in one word then—and that was foul. Poverty and unemployment made men feel they were nothing, and meant nothing on the face of this earth.'

'I was young when I started too—20. I began because I always asked the question why—why did I have to go to school with no shoes, why was life for me a graduation from the classroom to the street corners of

Glasgow, why, above all, did that mysterious class of rulers deprive me of human dignity.

'Take this phrase dignity. It was a concept that few workers realized. But they knew it was something they never possessed and yearned for above everything. The right to work was the embodiment of that precious commodity—dignity, dignity as a working man.'

'We tramped the country, right across the land to London—the same route as the Young Socialists are taking. We had nothing but boots and blankets to cover our shoulders and lied down upon at night.'

'The hardship was very great. I remember once getting the boots off an older worker. I dipped the razor blade in hot water to cut out the blisters—just to show it was hygienic. His feet were a terrible mess—I said you had better go back. "You're not getting me back into that town, he said. Cut away".'

'We stayed in halls, town halls and the poor house. In the Warwick area once we knocked on the door of the poor house and the master came. He didn't like the look of us wild-looking youth at all. But he let us in then tried to give us poor-house food. Eventually we got him to open his larder and we had a decent meal. At Warwick itself I remember they put us up in the jail—we slept on a cart load of straw.'

'But there were the good times that made the great journey worth every mile. One little town I will never forget—Tam-

worth near Coventry. They sent the band out to greet us and played us into the town. We got a pint of beer each and an allocation of cigarettes and then a good meal at night and one for breakfast.'

'You could keep going for the next hundred miles on the spirit it gave you. It was the ordinary working class coming to your side you see.'

'The men who came on these marches were ordinary working blokes. They did not have much political consciousness, but as the march went on you became something—a living thing not just a nonentity on the dole.'

'At night we would have meetings and go over the day's events. Always the youth section would be the most energetic, going out in the towns holding meetings and raising money. It was only in the snob shires we got a bad reception.'

'But for all that they were marches of desperation. There was already mass unemployment. The right to work was already gone—they were begging bowl protests in many ways.'

'It's not like this march. From the meeting in Glasgow you can see the political level is far higher. These youth are anticipating and fighting for the right to work before it's robbed off them.'

'With all my heart I wish I could go down that road with them. My heart and my political strength is behind them anyway. I don't think the Tories will beat this generation.'



Top: Marchers leave Glasgow. Bottom: Half way between Glasgow and Kilmarnock Noel Robertson and Martin McDonald

## DERRY FIGHTS FOR JOBS

Noel Robertson and Martin McDonald have left a battle field to join the march for work on London.

Other youth from Scotland's dole queues call them 'The boys from Derry' and they march out at the head of the procession giving the clenched fist salute at friendly lorry drivers who roar by.

'They both witnessed the Lerry slaughter—lads who ran around the streets of this besieged town with Noel and Martin are now deep underground in the city cemetery by the Creggan estate.'

What brings these two unemployed teenagers from occupied Derry to march to London for the right to work with their British brothers?

'Because,' said Noel, 'this is the only way we can solve unemployment. The British and the Irish workers must do it together and fight to bring down the Tory government.'

Noel (17) has had five or six jobs since he left school—he left all of them the same way—'paid off', because trade was bad.

'The most I ever earned was 99 before tax. This is the other aspect of unemployment—they keep your wages down because they know there's a hundred other kids hanging around out-

side to step into your place. 'Unemployment has a terrible lot to do with the troubles. The lads on the Creggan all know there is no future for them under the Tories and Stormont. There's never any money in your pocket to treat the girls and do all the normal things. And if you do get work it's a cheap labour job.'

It's the first time in Britain for Noel and Martin. Their impressions have already made a vivid mark on their attitude to the British working class.

'I am surprised at the fantastic reception and welcome we have got. At first I thought they might be against us because we were from Northern Ireland. There's a lot of feeling about the things we saw in Derry. I suppose it's because working-class people are the same all over the world,' said Noel.

'If we get the same reception from the English workers it will prove that if we can come together the troops can be driven out.'

Martin's been out of school for three years. His story is the same—many jobs, low pay and then the sack.

'Really unemployment was the start of the troubles. The main demand on the Derry Civil Rights march was for jobs—that was back in 1968. Now the situation is far worse. For the Catholic youth in particular there is just no work now.'

'This march can be used to our great advantage and that's why I left Derry to join it. There can be nothing unless there is

unity between British and Irish workers to get the Tories out. That's what I carry over from Ireland.'

'Look at this—in my town the soldiers slaughter the people—but how far are we from it today over here. We marched through a mining area today and the men came out to help us. How long is it before they face the guns?'

Both of them defend the IRA's right to hit back at the army and protect the people of Creggan and the Bogside where they live.

'This fighting back is right but the policies are not enough. There is socialism—this has got to come into it—it's the only future for North and South Ireland, and Britain too. This is what the march means to me,' said Martin.

They both met an old mate in Glasgow—Lexy Lynch another Creggan boy who's walking to London.

'He's been in Britain for four months. I think the Irish troubles are going to start over here. Every day you read in the papers about how the Tory government are out to beat down the miners.'

'But I don't think they will beat this strike—not if the miners have their way. They are needing a General Strike and if the leaders won't give them one then the workers will have to go out and make one themselves. I know British workers will fight with Irish workers, this is what I have learned over here. That's why we're all on this march together.'

Several readers of our recent series on Irish working-class history have asked what became of Jim Larkin. It is fairly common knowledge that Larkin went to America after the defeat of the 1913 Dublin lock-out but his fate after that is not so well known.

# LARKIN THE WAR AGAINST CAPITAL

BY JACK GALE

In fact the decline of this great workers' leader is a salutary warning that militancy and courage alone are not enough. A refusal to struggle for revolutionary theory, and in particular to take up the fight against Stalinism, destroyed Larkin. He ended his life less than a shadow of his former self.

The sole cause of the defeat of the Dublin workers in 1913 was the treachery of the British trade union leaders, who refused to support them. These same leaders then went on to prove their subservience to capital by wholeheartedly supporting the 1914 war.

Larkin resolutely opposed the war, declaring that 'England's need is Ireland's opportunity'. He organized anti-war demonstrations and vehemently opposed Redmond's efforts to get recruits for the British army. In fact Larkin went to enormous lengths to get arms that the working class could use in revolutionary struggle. Here is one account of how this was done:

'Some time before he went to America, Jim had sent me an address in Liverpool where I was to call for six guns and ship them to Ireland. Being by now in a small tombstone business, I took a crate to the place and packed the guns carefully in the case, which I addressed on my business cards showing a tombstone printed on them, and labelled the crate "Tombstone, with care". In the bottom of the crate was laid a slab of stone one inch thick. This crate was handled at the Dublin docks by the men of Jim's union.'

But Larkin had not got over the 1913 sell-out, followed as it was by the capitulation of the Second International at the outbreak of war. Late in 1914 he left Ireland for a speaking tour of America to raise money for the Irish Transport Union. It was not necessary for a leader of his stature to carry out such a task and his comrades in the union and in the Irish Citizen Army appealed to him not to go. But Larkin was determined. And the 'lecture tour' grew into a stay of eight and a half years.

In America, Larkin continued his opposition to the war. It was, he declared, 'the outcome of capitalistic aggression and the desire to capture home and foreign markets.'

## SOCIALISTS

Again, he insisted: 'We socialists are against this war. We are also against a more brutal war, the war of capital against the men who are oppressed and who have only their labour power to sell. We socialists want more than a dollar increase for the workers. We want the earth.'

He was accused of being pro-German. He replied:

'I am not for the Kaiser any more than I am for George of England. I am for the working classes of every country. The English working class is as dear to me as that of my own country or any other land, but the government of England is the vilest thing on the face of the earth.'

Larkin was, in fact, approached by the Germans, but he turned down an offer of \$200 a week to organize sabotage in America. He formed an organization called the Four Winds Fellowship,



Above: Larkin in 1907. Below: arrested on Bloody Sunday.

open only to trade unionists, and this organization did lead strikes during the war years. Larkin's position was that if these strikes impeded America's entry into the war, then that would assist Germany against Britain, but his purpose was to assist the American and also the Irish working class.

In these years Larkin's outlook was that of syndicalism and he established connections with the most militant wing of the Industrial Workers of the World—men like 'Big Bill' Haywood, one-time organizer of the Western Federation of Miners, and the legendary Joe Hill. For this, he incurred the hostility of the right wing of the American socialist movement as well as that of the 'respectable' wing of the Irish-American movement, which was already becoming closely involved with the Democratic Party.

The Sinn Fein denounced Larkin and he, in turn, called them 'super-fine patriots and the most consummate tricksters of politicians'.

Larkin joined the Socialist Party and became a close associate of John Reed when the

latter returned to America with his eye-witness account of the October Revolution.

Fear of the Russian Revolution led to a massive witch-hunt against socialists and militants in the United States, with charges ranging from obstructing the draft to treason. Reed was indicted on three charges and the mass trial of 100 IWWs in Chicago was typical of the attacks against this workers' organization.<sup>5</sup>

Larkin became an enthusiastic supporter of the Third International and worked in the Russian Soviet Recognition League which published a paper called 'The Revolutionary Age'.

Throughout the world, the ruling class was shaking with fear. One of their most far-sighted representatives, Lloyd George, expressed this when he wrote: 'The whole of Europe is filled with the spirit of Revolution. There is a deep sense not only of discontent but of anger and revolt amongst the workmen against pre-war conditions. The whole existing order in its political, social and economic aspects is questioned by the masses of the population from one end of Europe to the other.'<sup>6</sup>

Larkin broke with the right wing of the Socialist Party, but subsequent splits led to the formation of the American Communist Party, claiming 60,000 members, the Communist Labour Party (which Larkin joined) claiming 10,000, leaving the Socialist Party with 40,000.

## ANARCHY

The 'red scare' was intensified by the 1919 strike wave. Larkin was arrested on a charge of criminal anarchy. Bail was set at \$15,000 and the magistrate ruled that membership of a communist organization amounted to criminal anarchy.

On May 3, 1920, Larkin was sentenced for five to ten years' imprisonment and was sent to Sing Sing. Later, he was transferred to Clinton Prison in Dannemora, known as one of the cruelest jails in the States.

He was pardoned and released in January 1923, and returned to Ireland in April that year.

After the end of World War I in November 1918, Sinn Fein had declared for an Irish Republic. Guerrilla war raged until October 1921, when Ireland was granted 'Dominion' status. This was accepted by the Irish parliament, but was followed by civil war.

By the time of Larkin's return, the Republican Army could no longer maintain the unequal struggle. Unarmed, they were arrested in large numbers and interned in prison camps without trial.

This was the background to Larkin's fight with the right wing of the Transport Union and the Irish Labour Party.

After the British employers had called the union leaders' bluff on Black Friday and broken



Lenin

the miners' resistance in June 1922, they forced wage cuts on the British working class to the tune of £10m a week.<sup>7</sup>

The Irish employers were quick to follow suit. Before Larkin's return the Transport Workers' Union executive had capitulated to the farmers in the Waterford area and accepted wage cuts for the farm workers.

In July 1923, the Dublin employers announced a cut of 2s per day in the wages of the dockers, whose average earnings were then 16s a day. Larkin led the ensuing strike of 15,000 men. After three months the transport union executive accepted a government mediator and a cut of 1s a day.

This decision not only went against Larkin's wishes, it ran counter to a ballot of the men which decided by a vote of 687 to 443 to continue the strike.

Immediately following this retreat, the cut was extended to all portworkers—carters, coalheavers, grainmen, seamen and firemen, as well as dockers. From then on, the Irish employers imposed wage cuts throughout industry.

Meanwhile, Larkin was invited by the Communist International to represent Ireland at its 5th Congress to take place in June 1924. (In 1922, while still in Sing Sing, Larkin had been elected to the Moscow Soviet by a group of Russian tailors who had returned to the Soviet Union from America.)

Larkin had developed beyond syndicalism.

He had always been one of its best representatives, the kind of man Trotsky had in mind when he declared: 'We can enter into a tranquil and friendly discussion with our syndicalist comrades.'

But Trotsky's warning also applied to Larkin: 'It would be wrong to pay for a rapprochement with a confusion of ideas.'<sup>8</sup>

Lenin had seen Larkin's potential during the 1913 struggle:

'The Irish proletariat that is awakening to class consciousness has found a talented leader in the person of Comrade Larkin, the Secretary of the Irish Transport Workers' Union. Possessing remarkable oratorical talent, a man of seething Irish energy, Larkin has performed miracles among the unskilled workers—that mass of the British proletariat which in England is so often cut off from the advanced workers by that cursed petty-bourgeois, liberal, aristocratic spirit of the British skilled worker.'<sup>9</sup>

CONTINUED TOMORROW

<sup>1</sup> Fred Bower 'Rolling Stonemason' (1936), p. 218.

<sup>2</sup> Emmet Larkin 'Jim Larkin', p. 189 (The author is no relation to Jim Larkin).

<sup>3</sup> Emmet Larkin op. cit., p. 190.

<sup>4</sup> Emmet Larkin op. cit., p. 192.

<sup>5</sup> For Larkin's work with Reed see Ray Ginger 'The Bending Cross', p. 359ff.

<sup>6</sup> E. H. Carr 'The Bolshevik Revolution', Vol. 3, p. 128.

<sup>7</sup> K. Hutchinson 'Decline & Fall of British Capitalism', p. 214.

<sup>8</sup> Trotsky 'Marxism and the Trade Unions', p. 19.

<sup>9</sup> Lenin 'On Britain', p. 128.





The appointment of Lord Chief Justice Widgery to undertake an inquiry into the Londonderry massacre has one very valuable outcome as far as the Tories are concerned.

His inquiry has High Court status, which bars the press from exposing what actually happened until he produces his report.

As far as most of Fleet St is concerned, the Tories need not have bothered. The millionaire newspaper proprietors and their hired pens were ready to go to any lengths to whitewash the government and its troops and slander the Irish workers.

This was how the 'Telegraph' editorial writer greeted the news of the 13 deaths:

'Yesterday's civil rights march in Londonderry and its horrifying consequences (which included the deaths of at the very least 13 people) ought, one would think, to remove some of the glamour which still surrounds the idea of "peaceful civil protest".'

The marchers were violating the law, he said, and 'the resulting chaos supplies perfect conditions for IRA snipers; but what the viewing public and visiting sentimentalists like Lord Brockway . . . see is British troops quelling a peaceful demonstration'.

But the 'Telegraph' managed to shift the 'moral' responsibility for the 13 deaths onto the Civil Rights movement. For the Tories who run the 'Telegraph,' taking part in a demonstration clearly justifies the death penalty. The writer went on:

'Where then is the moral difference between the IRA murderers and the civil rights movement? Ostensibly these marches are directed against internment; they have nothing whatever to do with the proposition, already embodied in law, that Roman Catholics and Protestants in N Ireland should enjoy equal citizenship. In fact, the movement aims, just like the IRA, at imposing on the people of N Ireland a revolution utterly repugnant to most of them. It does not murder; it simply creates conditions favourable to the murders attempted by others and leaves the army in the last resort with no alternative but to fire.'

Note the venomous and completely groundless sneer of cowardice aimed at the marchers. Unlike the anonymous editorialist they were only facing hundreds of armed and hostile troops without anything to defend themselves with.

But in the 'Telegraph's' book that is crime enough, and justifies their shooting. And if the 'Telegraph's' readers grew a little concerned later in the week about the revulsion internationally over the Derry massacre, they could always draw comfort from their class brothers across the Atlantic, the heroes of My Lai and Attica.

On Wednesday, the 'Telegraph' carried the following item to boost sagging Tory morale: 'Apart from the actions of such Americans of Irish ancestry as those who tried (unsuccessfully) to burn the Union Jack outside the British Consulate in New

## TORY PRESS BOOSTING 'OUR BOYS' IN ULSTER

BY JOHN SPENCER

York, reaction to the events in Londonderry has been extraordinarily under-standing. [sic]

"The brief clips [scenes] of the Catholic demonstration shown on American television prove beyond doubt," writes the "New York Times", "that the provocation for the troops was deliberate and great."

'The demonstration itself was a self-advertised exercise in civil disobedience, a calculated violation of the ban on all parades ordered two weeks ago by the Stormont Government.'

"Having barred the Orange parade in advance in a courageous move to head off a worse crisis, Prime Minister Faulkner was bound to bar the Catholics. The parade organizers thus deliberately embarked on provocation."

And if the Tories still weren't reassured by this farrago they could always open their 'Daily Mail' and read how most of the victims were either carrying guns or were wanted by the police:

'If the troops did panic—unlikely for such an experienced unit—it is remarkable that no women and children were shot . . . remarkable too that so many of those who were shot were armed or wanted men.'

'But even an authoritative report from Mr Maudling's inquiry can only hope to diminish the legend of a massacre of the innocents.'

'That legend is already taking hold of the feverish Irish imagination. It is not the facts but what people believe that counts in Ireland.'

The next day the 'Mail' carried the even more ominous headline 'Paras ready to act again over a story that the same troops would be out again at Newry on Sunday when the Civil Rights marchers came through.'

The story quoted Tory Defence Minister Lord Carrington to the effect that 'any unauthorized march would be halted and dispersed "however difficult the task might be"'. The paras would



# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## WHO

Who is Hubert Schrubber?

In 1934 a German miner, Karl Ringle, donated 20 pfennig (a few pennies) towards the cause of freeing political prisoners. In 1941, seven years later, he was sentenced to a Nazi labour camp for this 'crime'.

Who sent him? A man called Hubert Schrubber.

Building worker Joseph Eifeler was thrown into the workhouse because he had expressed the opinion that the Soviet Union might win the war.

Who was responsible? Hubert Schrubber.

Who is the president of the W German Commission for the defence of the Constitution? Hubert Schrubber.

## SURREAL

A short-lived cable fault the other day imparted a weird, almost surreal quality to a Press Association report of a House of Lords debate. Not PA's fault, just one of those infrequent flocks.

Because of the alarming 'yise' in the incidence of venereal diseases, we were told, Baroness Gaitskell had asked for warnings against them to be printed on all packets of 'contraceptives tie'.

If you could beat off visions of a rather alarming new method of birth control, you could just about see what she meant. But there was worse to come.

'Lady Summerskill', the telex bumbled, 'said that new cases were being noticed at a terrible rate, mostly among zounf people.'

The zounf people? Wherever they are, it's obviously really jumpy.

## NAKED

Peking gave President Bhutto of Pakistan an enthusiastic welcome on his brief visit last week. He had a detailed exchange of views with Chou En-lai and in a final communiqué the two leaders condemned 'the naked aggression committed by India against Pakistan'. The Pakistan leader also met Mao Tse-tung.

The Chinese government has agreed to make four loans to Pakistan into grants and to

defer repayment of the 1970 loan for 20 years. Chinese comment refuses to admit the right of the people of Bangla Desh to self-determination and says not one word in condemnation of the bloody work carried out by Yahya Khan's forces in Bangla Desh.

China agreed that 'future relations between the two parts of Pakistan should be established through negotiations between the elected leaders of the people without foreign intervention or influence'.

Although not admitting that Bangla Desh is no longer part of Pakistan, this formula is flexible enough to leave the way open for recognition in the future.

While hypocritically repeating that 'countries want independence, nations want liberation and the people want revolution', Peking gives its full support to reaction in Pakistan, the Sudan and other countries for reasons of national interest.

## ONE CURE

Dr H. A. Lyons, a psychiatrist at the Purdysburn hospital in Belfast claims that the violence there is helping to cure depressions.

Depression, the worthy doctor declares, is the result of 'inhibition of aggressive responses to frustration'.

No wonder the place is full of jolly paratroopers and happy policemen!

It doesn't seem to occur to this brilliant medico that people who normally attend for treatment are not following their routine in the abnormal conditions that now apply in Belfast.

Nor that so many people have been driven into psychiatric illness since Wilson sent the troops in 1969 (to the applause of the International Socialist group), that it has become a commonplace not worth seeing the doctor about.

It could also be the case, of course, that many people in Belfast consider that the hospitals have enough on their hands coping with the victims of police and army brutality.

And yet, there are some people who may have been depressed, but who are not depressed any more.

They're dead.

## BOOKS



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# PICKETING

## Stormy scenes at 'timid' pit

PENRHIWCEIBER colliery has been the scene of the most violent picketing in S Wales. Last Friday miners and even some of their wives from traditionally one of the more conservative pits on the coalfield fought what amounted to a pitched battle with police sent in to guard safety men.

When two lorries carrying 20 NACODS (overmen, deputies and shotfirers) officials tried to leave the pit on Friday miners stormed reinforced police lines and physically forced the vehicles back. Miners' wives threw themselves against the lorries.

It was only after union leaders warned they might start a riot that the vehicles were reluctantly allowed out—chased down the High Street by pickets banging on the windows and doors.

While the lorries were being pushed back, miner Derek Francis (46), of Mountain Ash, collapsed with a heart attack and was rushed to the intensive care unit of St Tydfils hospital, Merthyr. But the pickets won their point and the chairman of the Mountain Ash lodge of NACODS said their officials would not cross the lines again.

The capitalist press were given a rough ride when they tried to photograph the picketing and camera equipment was smashed by jostling pickets.

On Friday night as I drove through the rows of old and grey terrace houses it could have been Mount Pottinger or the Flats area of Belfast.

Everybody was at the doors and windows of their houses or out in groups on the sidewalk. At the end of the long narrow main street 350 men and wives with children struggled with an army of police with reinforcements waiting around every corner in their buses and panda cars.

What had turned this grey, rainswept village isolated at the foot of the mountain-locked Aberdare valley into a battleground?

Said lodge secretary Mike Griffin: 'I've never experienced anything like it. The men are completely solid. They're enthusiastic, they want to do things and our meetings are packed.'

'I don't think the men want to go back without the full claim and unless the Tories come out with a new offer they won't go back at all.'

'The ill-founded doctrinaire policy of the Tory government is that the cause of unemployment is large wage increases, but week after week our standard of living is going down.'

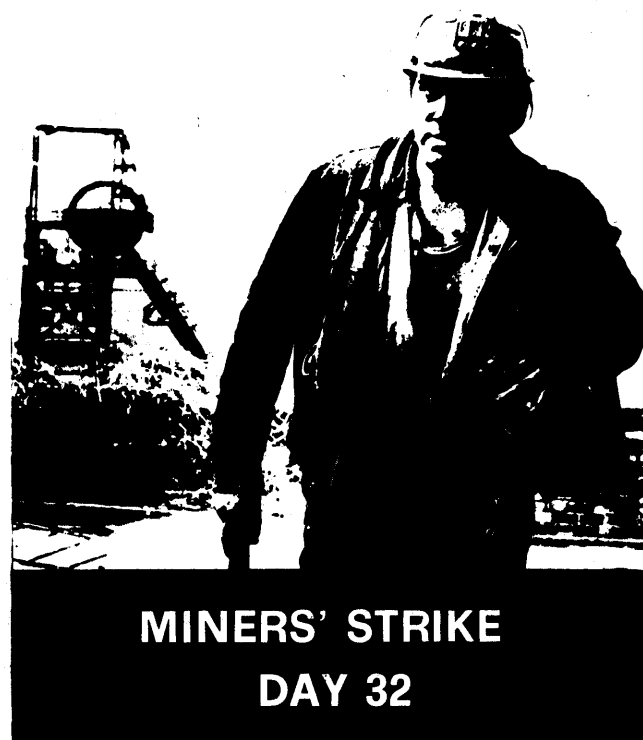
'Even if the government give us the full amount, we'll still be worse off in 12 months than we are today.'

'The effect of Tory policies across the board is to undermine basic rights—such as the right to a job and a living wage.'

'The NUM should be calling for action from other unions. It should point out that this strike is on behalf of all the unions.'

'We've had a semblance of support from some transport workers and dockers, but not all of them. The TUC should

**MINERS**  
Your thoughts on the strike and its relationship with the Tory government are welcome. Any letters should be sent to: The Editor, 186a Clapham High St, London, SW4 7UG.



On Monday, January 24, we carried an article 'Miners and the Tory government' by Wheldale pit worker and Socialist Labour League member Brian Lavery. Since then we have been carrying the comments of other strikers on this article. Today we have an interview from Kent.

## We've been fighting for control for years

RON JONES, back-worker at Snowdown pit in Kent, has been a miner for 47 years.

He began at Cory Brothers, Penrhawceiber at the age of 14 and moved to Snowdown in 1935. He now lives at the mining village of Aylesham, a mile from the pit, but as with all these Kent villages, in sight of the pit.

'I can confirm Brian's opinion about nationalization. It's a question of what miners have been fighting for for years.'

'We were glad to accept nationalization in principle. We were deluded by the fact that it was the old bosses who were left in control.'

'We were under the impression that we would have a say in the running of the pit. At that time and in 1964 we thought the Labour government would do something on behalf of the workers.'

'What we want is a nationalized union. If we can have nationalization of industry, let's have nationalization of unions, with one proviso — that no national executive should hold office for more than a period of five years.'

'The heat and water at Snowdown mean that half the men are crippled. The worst thing of the lot is the dust and the maintenance work being neglected.'

'In this strike I did 28½ hours' picketing at Gravesend at a single scratch and I've just recovered from pneumonia.'

Asked about the question of leadership in relation to the success of the miners' strike, Ron replied with absolute decisiveness:

'Either they toe the line with the workers or they get out.'

'I think the Workers Press has given the true facts as the miners see them today.'

His 23-year-old son Ron, who used to work in the pit, but is now unemployed, added:

'The leadership of the union should be motivated by the men and not the reverse order. I believe when a resolution is put forward by the men the say should be with them. I am for my dad's thinking with regard to the leadership.'

'And look at this compensation business. From 1947 up to this year the NCB has paid out £600m instead of £300m as agreed.'

'We're still paying interest on the sterling balance because of devaluation and inflation.'



be encouraging the unions to take action. There should at least be demonstrations or one-day strikes in support of the miners.'

Asked why Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon, the 'left' leaders of the transport and engineering workers don't call their men out, Mr Griffin said:

'I think they have become unaware of the necessities of life. They're conditioned to meeting the employers representatives in a climate of mutual good will, but the men meet management under different circumstances. They know they are asking for more and they see management won't give it.'

'Unity between the power workers has got to come. We produce it. They transport and burn it. It's obvious—coal, gas, oil, electricity—the energy unions should be fighting together. This call should be raised immediately by the NUM.'

'The miners have clearly associated the Tory government with the NCB. I think everyone takes it for granted that on their

record the Tories have got to get out.'

'But I think the pressures are such now that any Labour government would have to go for a complete change of policies.'

'We want a group of people who understand that the goods we produce are ours. We work to get from the work the value of it and it's simply a question of sharing that value in a reasonable manner.'

'I don't see the point of the profit side. We should all be together producing whatever there's a need for so that people can use it—not for profit.'

'The Coal Board is being bled to death. When it was taken over in 1947, every ramshackle and defunct piece of equipment was put on paper as the owners' assets and a suitably inflated capital sum was agreed.'

'This value was established on equipment the whole of which would have had to be replaced whoever owned the pits.'

'So over the years we've been faced with the burden of interest payments on a fictitious capital

sum, plus the cost of borrowing from the government for new equipment.'

'If you mean by workers' control everybody in it, I agree. It wouldn't be a matter of us consulting management as a separate entity, it would be all of us as mineworkers consulting together equally.'

'We want leaders who recognize that the working people are the only people who matter—they are 90 per cent of the population.'

Besieged by telephone calls and visitors Mr Griffin broke off the interview to iron out problems arising from picketing at Penrhawceiber.

He concluded: 'If we are not going to be given a living wage, we are prepared to say: let the mines flood.'

Last weekend the NUM withdrew its winding men so that from now on even if officials succeed in getting across the picket lines (although they have promised not to try) they will be unable to get down the pit to cope with rising flood waters.

# Telegraphists' face jobs cut deal

BY DAVID MAUDE OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

TELEGRAPHISTS at overseas cable headquarters in London expect to hear details within the next fortnight of a new pay-and-productivity offer from the Post Office . . . but there is some doubt if they will be allowed to reject it. The productivity aspects of the proposed deal are the first stage of a computerization programme which could destroy 40 per cent of jobs in the service by 1973.



OVERSEAS TELEGRAPHISTS ON THE MARCH DURING THE POST WORKERS' 1971 STRIKE

Yet in the teeth of opposition from the headquarters branch of the Union of Post Office Workers, the union executive is allowing engineering work on the first phase of the programme to go ahead.

Kim McKinley, the executive member who negotiates for the telegraphists, told Workers Press yesterday that she had done this on the basis of the 'majority view' among the branches.

'Telegraphists stand to gain a great deal out of this,' she said. 'We were on a knife-edge—if we'd held up the engineering work as Electra House wanted, the Post Office would probably have withdrawn from the whole thing.'

'I've a great deal of sympathy with the view that we should see the money first, but sometimes as an executive officer one has to take a lead.'

Branch-committee members at Electra House, however, say that at a meeting with them last week Miss McKinley admitted she was taking the decision away from the branch because she feared 'the wrong decision' might be made.

An estimated 200 jobs could go immediately when the engineering work—designed to sub-divide Electra House into separate, self-contained units as recommended in a secret Department of Employment report—is completed in mid-June.

When the Post Office finally brings forward its new offer, the UPW branch's options will be severely limited by the executive's action.

Even if they reject the deal, there seems to be little the branch could do to prevent acceptance over their heads. The earliest such a decision could be reversed is the UPW annual conference in May, by which time subdivision will be almost completed.

## OXFORD STEWARDS REJECT 3p.c.OFFER

SHOP STEWARDS at the British-Leyland assembly plant in Oxford yesterday morning rejected a two-year deal for the plant's 4,000 direct workers which would give increases of £1.40 this year and £1.40 next year.

The offer, which has been made on the first annual review since the company imposed Measured-Day Work, was described by the stewards as 'totally unrealistic'.

The 3 per cent offer would represent a substantial wage-cut in relation to the cost-of-living increase over the last year.

It is clear that having given substantial increases in order to get Measured-Day Work in, British-Leyland is now determined to make MDW effectively control wage rates.

# TV

## BBC 1

9.38-12.00 Schools. 12.55 Tresarn. 1.30 The herbs. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 3.45 Conflict at work. 4.15 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Dr Dolittle. 5.44 Sir Prancelot. 5.50 News and weather.  
**6.00 NATIONWIDE.**  
**6.45 TODAY AT THE WINTER OLYMPICS.**  
**7.00 OWEN MD. 'It Never Rains'.**  
**7.25 TODAY AT THE WINTER OLYMPICS.**  
**8.00 SIX OF RIX. 'Will Any Gentleman?' Brian Rix.**  
**8.50 DO YOU REMEMBER? Robert Robinson.**  
**9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather.**  
**9.20 PLAY FOR TODAY. 'Ackerman, Dougall and Harker'. Martin C. Thurley, James Grout.**  
**10.30 24 HOURS.**  
**11.15 PEOPLE LTD. 'How do people grow?'**

## BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.35-6.30 Open University.  
**6.35 ROSLA AND AFTER. 'Resources'.**  
**7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.**  
**7.30 NEWSROOM and weather.**  
**8.00 THE SHADOW OF THE TOWER. 'The White Hart'. James Maxwell.**  
**8.50 EUROPA.**  
**9.20 SHOW OF THE WEEK. Dave Allen at large.**  
**10.05 NEWS ON 2 and weather.**  
**10.10 FILM: THE MIND OF THE CHILD. 'Hugo and Josefin'. Series of films showing the adult world from the child's point of view.**  
**11.30 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.**

## ITV

10.20 Schools. 2.32 All our yesterdays. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.10 Tea break. 3.40 Marcus Welby. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Atom ant. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News.  
**6.00 TODAY. Eamonn Andrews.**  
**6.45 CROSSROADS.**  
**7.10 FILM: 'UNDERWATER'. Jane Russell, Gilbert Roland, Richard Egan. Two friends try to salvage treasure from a sunken galleon.**  
**9.00 SEZ LES. Les Dawson with guests New World.**  
**9.30 THIS WEEK.**  
**10.00 NEWS AT TEN.**  
**10.30 CINEMA.**  
**11.00 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING.**  
**11.30 SCOTLAND YARD MYSTERIES. 'Passage to Tokio'. Edgar Lustgarten.**  
**12.00 THE MEDIUM AND THE MESSAGE.**



Keith Marsh as Les in Don Shaw's Play for Today, BBC 1 at 9.20 'Ackerman, Dougall and Harker'

## REGIONAL TV

**CHANNEL:** 10.20-2.32 London. 3.55 States of Jersey lottery. 4.05 Origami. 4.18 Puffin. 4.22 Nanny and the professor. 4.50 Bush boy. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 What's on where. 6.15 Farming news. 6.20 Sports round up. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Killers of Killmanjaro'. 8.30 This is your life. 9.00 London. 11.02 Life in France. 11.16 British Museum. 11.45 News, weather.  
**WESTWARD:** As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.18 News. 6.00 Diary. 10.30 Format. 11.13 News. 11.45 Faith for life. 11.50 Weather.  
**SOUTHERN:** 10.20-2.32 London. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Tea break. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Heckle and Jeckle. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Superman. 5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film: 'Double Bunk'. 9.00 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 British Museum. 11.40 Weather. The discoverers.  
**HARLECH:** 10.20-2.32 London. 3.50 Holidays abroad. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Huckleberry Finn. 5.20 London. 6.01 Report West 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.10 Film: 'You Must Be Joking!'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Songs for your delight. 11.00 Marcus Welby. 12.00 Weather.  
**HTV West as above except:** 6.18-6.35 Sport West.  
**HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except:** 5.20-5.50 Dibyn dobyn. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd.  
**ANGLIA:** 10.20-2.33 London. 3.40 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Tea break. 4.40 Rupert. 4.55 Bush boy. 5.20 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 London. 7.00 Dick Van Dyke. 7.30 Film: 'Flying Fontaines'. 9.00 London. 11.30 Living and growing.  
**ATV MIDLANDS:** 10.20-2.32 London. 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women. 4.10 Family affair. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 Get this. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Film: 'Zero Hour'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Marcus Welby. Weather.  
**ULSTER:** 10.20-2.32 London. 4.00 Yoga. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.15 Tommy. 6.35 London. 7.00 Dr Simon Locke. 7.30 Film: 'Cash McCall'. 9.00 London. 11.00 What's it all about. 11.20 British Museum.  
**YORKSHIRE:** 10.20 London. 2.33 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 Matinee. 4.35 News. 3.45 Women. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Lone Ranger. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Film: 'Strange Cargo'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Yorksport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive in. 12.00 Weather.  
**GRANADA:** 10.58-2.30 London. 3.40 Another world. 4.05 News. From a bird's eye view. 4.35 Once upon a time. 4.50 Arthur. 5.15 London. 6.00 News. Police file. 6.30 Peyton Place. 7.00 Film: 'A Prize of Arms'. 8.50 Sylvester. 9.00 London. 11.00 On the line. 11.30 British museum.  
**TYNE TEES:** 10.20 London. 2.32 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 British Museum. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Captain Scarlet. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Popeye. 7.05 Film: 'Crisis'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sports-time. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive in. 12.00 News. 12.15 Yours faithfully.  
**SCOTTISH:** 10.20-2.32 London. 3.30 Once upon a time. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 Fireball XL5. 5.20 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.15 Cartoon. 6.30 Who do you do. 7.00 Film: 'Promise Her Anything'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Prisoner.  
**GRAMPIAN:** 11.00-2.32 London. 3.38 News. 3.40 Dick Van Dyke. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Rainbow country. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Lesley Blair. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Johnny Frenchman'. 9.00 London. 11.00 British Museum. 11.30 Golf with Sam Smead. 12.00 Epilogue.

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# UCS JOBS UNDER HAMMER AGAIN

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

**THREE BIG ifs surround the future of the upper Clyde shipyards as shop stewards prepare for a key meeting with Industry Minister John Davies next Monday. After almost seven months of work-in the fate of 8,000 jobs at the four yards again hinges on massive financial aid from the Tory government.**

The policies of the Communist Party-led UCS stewards' co-ordinating committee, which have held back mass action on the Clyde to force the Tories out, are once more threatened with exposure.

Detailed plans for launching Govan Shipbuilders Ltd, the government-sponsored rump company based on Govan, the Lint-house steel yard and possibly Scotstoun, are now before the Cabinet. They will cost at least £25m.

If the Tories decide not to spend the money, the men will be back where they were in August facing a stand-up fight with the government and in urgent need of an alternative leadership to carry it through.

Assuming the cash is forthcoming the orders situation is still grim. Scotstoun is rapidly running out of work and, if present form continues, even Govan itself will be jobless within a year.

Lord Strathalmond, the chairman of the new company, says: 'We cannot even start without the order book being built up.'

The biggest question-mark, however, still hangs over the former John Brown's yard at Clydebank.

Marathon Manufacturing, a Texas oil-rig company, is still 'very interested' in making a takeover bid. But it will be two weeks before it will make a firm decision.

If Marathon pulls out, immediate redundancies are almost certain to be declared, since the liquidator's six-week stay of execution on these runs out at the end of the month.



LORD STRATHALMOND

The fate of the Marathon bid again appears to rest largely with the Heath Cabinet, which has been asked for assurances on relief of import duty on equipment needed from the US.

Even then the company says it will initially need only about 2,000 men. This would mean the sack for 1,200.

James Airlie, CP chairman of the UCS stewards, says the 'kid gloves would be off' if the Tories fail to provide the £25m needed to start Govan. And yesterday's 'Morning Star' muttered darkly that hard-line contingency plans were being prepared.

The CP, however, remains firmly committed to pressuring the Tories and opposing any struggle to force its resignation.



JAMES AIRLIE

## WORST PRICES IN BRITAIN

FOOD prices have risen by 15 per cent since the Tories came to office, Minister of Agriculture James Prior was forced to admit in the Commons.

And when Labour MPs complained about the soaring cost of living, Prior told them to stop 'belly-aching'.

'The Grocer' magazine has just produced a table showing food prices rose by 10.06 per cent in 1971 adding £600m to the nation's food bill.

Major increases were butter up 48 per cent; fresh fish 43 per cent; cheese 38 per cent; fresh fruit 32 per cent; fresh vegetables 15 per cent; canned and powdered milk 15 per cent; frozen fish 11 per cent; fresh milk 10 per cent.

Meanwhile the Washington-based International Monetary Fund has revealed in an annual survey that the cost of living rose faster in Britain last year than in any other non-communist country.

The report showed the rate of consumer price increase in Britain in November was running at 9.2 per cent on an annual basis. This was down slightly from the 10.3 per cent peak in August.

Leaders of Britain's power workers this week accepted a 7½ per cent pay increase for the industry's 110,000 workers.

## FEBRUARY FUND AT £269.16

WE ARE now well on the way. This is the first month with the 12-page tabloid and we need all your support behind us.

The treachery of the powermen's leaders hits out at the miners and all those trade unionists in the fight against the Tories. The government will give nothing to the working class. More than ever the enormous strength of the labour movement must be mobilized to force it to resign.

Make sure Workers Press is right out in front in this fight. If you can, give a bit extra to our Fund this month. Post all your donations immediately to:

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## Bhutto's police on strike

HYDERABAD police in Pakistan are on strike because they claim they do not have enough powers to control breaches of law and order.

All police stations in the city—100 miles NE of Karachi—were closed on Tuesday and in the evening police paraded through the streets shouting slogans in support of their demands.

The policemen later occupied the armoury at their headquarters.

The strike started on the same day that Pakistan's President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto warned senior police officers and local officials about the situation.

## Govt pressure at BAC?

STRIKERS at three British Aircraft Corporation plants in Lancashire are asking how much government pressure there has been not to settle their 12½ per cent, no-strings pay claim.

The 3,500 military-aircraft workers at Preston, Warton and Samlesbury are fighting a management offer of a flat-rate pay system with incentive bonuses tied to work-measurement.

A company leaflet guarantees no redundancies as a direct result of the new wages structure, which has given rise to suspicions about its indirect effects.

# MINERS DEFIANT IN FACE OF EMERGENCY

FROM IAN YEATS IN S WALES

S WALES miners' response to yesterday's declaration of a state of emergency was defiant: 'Let them use troops. But if they're not very careful the way this Tory government is going there will be revolution here,' Ogilvie lodge secretary Evan Jones told me.

'We are heading for a Bloody Sunday. The miners are fighting a just case, which is the same as that of the people of Ulster. We are fighting for the right to live and the right to work.'

Ray Sayce, COSA (miners' union clerical section) colliery representative at Marine pit, Ebbw Vale, told me: 'If they use troops, it's up to the other unions. They will have to come out and support the miners because if we are broken the Tories will break all the unions.'

He added: 'The workmen have got to bring this government to heel or be driven into the ground.'

'The Tories are putting a hell of a lot of pressure on the miners, especially with the police. They've not been allowing pickets to discuss their case with people trying to go to work.'

And Marine NUM lodge chairman John Holloway also criticized the police: 'They are not letting us approach lorries to put our point of view. That's why some of the trouble occurred. The police should back off a little bit.'

Commenting on yesterday's tripartite talks between the NUM, the NCB and the government Mr Holloway said: 'I didn't expect anything to come from the talks.'

'The feeling among our members has hardened. They've come out every year for three years and they think why should we have to do this every year.'

'It's no good Ezra talking in terms of £2. He will have to talk in terms of £4 or £5 at least to get the men back. Pit closures don't worry us. If the government want to sacrifice the

coal industry, that's up to them. 'If they try to use troops under the state of emergency regulations, they would only be inflaming the situation and there could be real trouble.'

'The crunch will come in the next fortnight when the strike has really had a chance to bite. If no one steps in, the TUC will have to start calling on other unions to act.'

'If they don't, it's time to go to the workmen, to the rank and file, for support. Up at Ebbw Vale dozens of men in the steel works have said "We should be out with you" and I think everyone is behind the miners.'

**DENABY MAIN**  
Thursday February 10, 7.30 pm  
(The Drum)  
**DONCASTER**  
Sunday February 13, 7.30 pm  
'The Nelson'  
(near Southern Bus Station)

## Waterloo talks

RAIL UNION representatives yesterday met the British Railways Board in London for talks over the dispute which has cut rail services into London's Waterloo station for the past ten days.

The unofficial work-to-rule by 1,400 drivers in the Southern Region's SW division is over a mileage-bonus dispute.

Representatives of the National Union of Railwaymen and ASLEF, the footplatemen's union, were at the talks.

## SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MEETING

### Londonderry massacre

### A new stage in the struggle of the Irish working class

Thursday February 10  
CONWAY HALL  
RED LION SQUARE, WCI  
8 p.m.

Speaker: G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

Young Socialists  
National Right to Work Campaign

## Right-to-Work MARCH

from Glasgow to London  
arrives in  
CARLISLE  
Saturday February 12  
COME TO OUR RALLY  
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13

City Hall  
Carlisle, 7.00 p.m.

see our documentary play  
'THE ENGLISH REVOLUTION'  
Directed by Corin Redgrave  
Written by Tom Kempinski

followed by a meeting  
Speakers:  
G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)  
VANESSA REDGRAVE  
JOHN BARRIE (YS leader of march from Scotland)

Admission 25p

## LATE NEWS WEATHER

NEWS DESK  
01-720 2000

CIRCULATION  
01-622 7029

ENGINEERS from factories throughout the E Birmingham industrial belt will strike today and march to the Sattley coke depot, scene of three days of clashes with police.

The call was made by E Birmingham branch of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

SCOTLAND will be mainly dry at first, but a belt of rain, perhaps snow on high ground, will reach SW areas during the day, gradually spreading to all areas. Brighter showery weather, with snow on hilltops, will follow. E England will start dry, but cloud with rain, perhaps snow over high ground, will reach this area later. The rest of England, Wales and N Ireland will be cloudy with wintry showers and, on high ground, snow. Temperatures will be generally about normal. Outlook for Friday and Saturday: Rain or showers at times. Bright periods. Temperatures near normal.

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