

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 1972 ● No. 869 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

ANGRY LOBBY AS UNION LEADERS DISCUSS TWO-YEAR DEAL



BUILDERS SAY NO TO SELL-OUT

BY PHILIP WADE

TWO thousand building workers from all over Britain lobbied pay talks yesterday in London demanding 'no sell-out' of their claim for £30 for a 35-hour week.

They were unanimous in their determination not to return to work until the claim was met in full.

Over 300,000 builders are now locked in bitter strike action, which sees the end of its 12th week today.

Building union leaders arrived early yesterday morning at the employers' New Cavendish St offices, central London.

Lobbyers arriving at midday were surprised and angry to find talks had already begun. Many had been told they would not begin until the afternoon.

The proposed offer, thought to give an immediate basic rate of only £26 a week, no reduction in hours and which lasts for 26 months, was fixed up at last week's TUC Congress.

Rank-and-file builders had travelled down overnight from Wigan, Edinburgh, Liverpool, South Wales, Bristol, Birmingham and all other major strike areas.

They stood outside shouting the clear message of '£30, 35 hours now'.

Many speakers from the platform outside the talks called for an all-out national strike, no company deals and for support from other workers.

Other builders told Workers Press they would stay out no matter what the leadership decided and demanded the resignation of George Smith, general secretary of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians who leads the pay talks.

Said Gordon Carruthers UCATT militant from Swansea: 'We have rapidly lost confidence in our union leaders who have failed to fight from the beginning. The union has never been as strong and could go from

Naval dockyard strikes are spreading



strength to strength. The next move must be a national strike including all local council workers.'

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'We know from our experience what these union leaders will do, but we're not going to let ourselves be sold out. No one has any confidence in this executive', said Mike Abbott a member of the T&GWU and the Action Committee.

Robert Blanchard from the Hull Action Committee said they were completely opposed to a two-year deal.

ENGINEERS' union leaders are close to signing a new dispute procedure with the employers. At York yesterday Jack Service, general secretary of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, said: 'I would bet that we shall have a new agreement by the end of the year.'

'We've got the Common Market coming up and our rents go up £1 on October 2. I'm not going back until we get the full claim. We've not been out 12 weeks for nothing.

'This leadership's been left in for too long and it wants a complete clear-out, a complete change. We have to stick it out, it can't get worse. If the builders go down now, they will never get up again.'

At one stage, when the lobby appeared to be getting out of control I saw a Chief Inspector signal to four Special Branch men to join the police outside the talks.

The CSEU executive agreed to discuss a new agreement with the Engineering Employers' Federation at a meeting next month or in early November. Service said this was likely to follow the pattern of the agreement recently reached with British-Leyland to replace the 50-year-old York deal.

Part of the mass picket mounted at Deptford, south-east London, yesterday

BY SARAH HANNIGAN

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And men from the Deptford, south east London naval storage base, on strike since Tuesday, are today picketing men at the government's Chatham, Kent, naval depot to persuade them to take strike action as well.

In Scotland, the 4,000 men at the Rosyth yard have been out for a month in protest against the government's insulting £1.50 reply to their claim for a 16-per-cent increase.

Last Monday over 90 shop stewards representing government workers throughout the country unanimously decided to escalate this strike against the government's offer.

Socialist Labour League

LECTURES

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MARXISM

given by
G. HEALY

(SLL national secretary)

London

Marxism as the theory of knowledge

Sunday September 17

Development of Marxism through working-class struggle

Sunday September 24

Nature of the capitalist crisis

Sunday October 1

Historical materialism today

Sunday October 8

**EAST HAM
TOWN HALL**

Lister Room

Barking Rd, 7 p.m.

Liverpool

Nature of the capitalist crisis

Tuesday September 19

Historical materialism today

Tuesday September 26

AEU HOUSE

Mount Pleasant

Liverpool 1, 7.30 p.m.

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Two kinds of treatment Spanish CP by the Kremlin

given the brush off

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

SOVIET LEADERS snubbed a high-level Spanish Communist Party delegation which recently visited the USSR to plead for an intensification of international solidarity in the face of increasing fascist repression.

The delegation, including three members of the Spanish CP Central Committee, was shunted round provincial party organizations in Moscow, Leningrad and Siberia.

The Central Committee members who spent three weeks in the USSR were Javier Ramirez, Federico Melchor and J. Izcaray. In the latest edition of the Party's paper 'Mundo Obrero', Izcaray's report on the trip reveals the Moscow Stalinists' priorities:

'The level of exchanges that took place is indicative of the attention given to our delegation. We had talks with the regional committees of the Soviet CP in Moscow, Leningrad, the Siberian regions of Novosibirsk and Irkutsk, with the urban committees of the majority of these towns, the central council of the trade unions, those responsible for the scientific centre in Academgorod and the Union of Journalists in Irkutsk and, surely, in this list, we have forgotten one or two exchanges.'

In other words, the delegation did not meet one member of the Soviet Communist Party leadership. These same leaders will meet Nixon and capitalist leaders of all countries, but they will not meet members of the Spanish CP, many of whose members are in Franco's jail.

Compare the welcome given to representatives of workers fighting against fascism with the garlands and receptions which greeted Castro and Angela Davis!

There can be no doubt that the Moscow Stalinists have long since abandoned the Spanish CP and the Spanish working class in their pursuit of diplomatic and commercial ties with the Franco regime and peaceful co-existence in Europe.

At the same time as the Spanish CP's were emphasizing to the lower echelons of the Soviet CP and Siberian journalists 'the absolute necessity in the present situation in Spain for an intensification of international solidarity with the working class and other revolutionary and progressive forces in our country which are advancing continuously despite extremely intense repression', Soviet officials were drawing up a trade agreement with fascist Ministers in Paris and President Nixon's envoy Kissinger in Moscow.

The repression referred to by Izcaray has led recently to the murder of two Basque terrorists and new decrees on education which meant not only the witch-hunting of militant students, but also that secondary-school teachers will have to get a certificate of 'good conduct' from the police before they can be employed.

The Spanish authorities are particularly worried about the situation in the northern province of Galicia, in the towns of El Ferrol and Vigo, scene of the strike of shipyard workers in February during which two workers were shot by the police.

After a period of comparative quiet in the area, the workers of the Citroën-Hispania factory in Vigo have come out on strike because the employers have refused to give them the rest day on Saturdays which was agreed on in the last round of collective negotiations.

Already workers in the Vulcan shipyards in Vigo have staged one strike of solidarity.

These strikes come on the eve of the military tribunal in El Ferrol which will try eight shipyard workers who were arrested in the February strike and have been in jail ever since.

The Spanish news agency announced yesterday that in the Paris talks the Soviet Union has expressed interest in buying, among other things, Spanish-built ships for its merchant fleet and in return Spain would buy Soviet coastal launches.



Brezhnev (l) deals with Kissinger (r) but refuses to meet a Spanish CP delegation

Trade
pact
signed

'Peace'



strings attached to US-Soviet deal?

BY JOHN SPENCER

AMERICA and the Soviet Union are expected to announce their biggest-ever trade deal following Dr Henry Kissinger's visit to Moscow earlier this week. Kissinger, President Nixon's foreign affairs trouble-shooter, spent three days in secret talks at the Kremlin. Prospects for the £2,000m US-Soviet trade pact were high on the agenda.

Full details of whatever has been agreed are unlikely to be made public before Kissinger reports to Nixon on his return to the United States this weekend.

Victor Louis, the 'Evening News' Moscow correspondent, who has close contacts with the Kremlin and the KGB, filed a story on Wednesday saying the two countries were on the verge of a 'mammoth trade deal' which would be worth £2,000m by 1977.

He wrote that Kissinger's extension of his stay by one day underlined that negotiations had reached a significant stage. 'It was obvious that the big obstacle to an agreement—Russia's repayment of war debts to the United States—had been cleared,' he said.

With the lend-lease question settled, Congress could quickly legislate most-favoured nation status for the Soviet Union on its dealings with the United States.

The 40-year-old tariff barriers against Soviet goods, which it must sell if it is to buy more in the US, would be sliced by something like three-quarters.

The Soviet need for a trade deal with the US is underlined by a recent report in the Moscow 'Economic Gazette'. The paper said there were shortfalls in production of textiles, clothes, shoes, TV sets and washing machines.

The current five-year plan, unveiled last year, promised to 'saturate' the market with consumer goods. Leonid Brezhnev, the Communist Party chief, singled out consumer goods for 'appreciable' production increases.

Increased production of these items, according to Brezhnev, depends on a rapid rise in productivity. The current plan envisages a rise of up to 40 per cent by 1975.

This is obstructed not only by the bureaucratic disorganization of production, but also by the absence of sufficient modern machinery and the lack of adequate service and ancillary industry.

This position is most acutely visible in agriculture, where bad weather and low crop yields have combined with mismanagement to produce the worst harvest for some years, making necessary

large-scale imports of US food. The five-year plan, described as the one which would give 'a substantial rise in living standards as the main task', represents the Kremlin's fear of the workers' growing demands for a better life.

The trade deal with the US will no doubt allow the bureaucracy to import more consumer goods in return for heavy industrial products and minerals, such as petroleum and ores.

But it is bought at a heavy political price. According to Washington journalist I. F. Stone: 'Nixon's trade and credit negotiations with Moscow have bought him a free hand in the Middle East.'

Stone says this is the real explanation for the expulsion of Soviet military advisers from Egypt. He quotes from sources close to the White House to show that the talks on trade have been closely linked with political questions notably the Middle East and Vietnam.

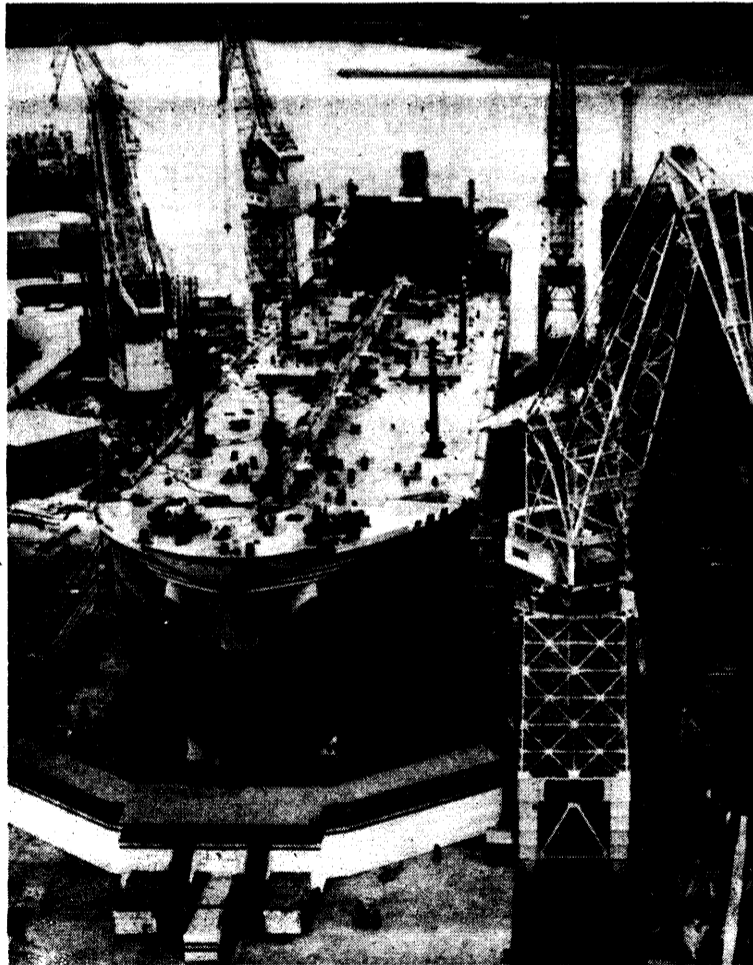
And he cites the opinion of 'US News and World Report' Moscow correspondent that: 'Soviet determination to escape a collision with the US has been reinforced by the Moscow-Washington relations evolving from President Nixon's visit to the Soviet capital.'

'The Soviets have too much at stake in this relationship to allow it to be jeopardized by what Soviet leaders believe to be Egypt's reckless and futile strategy against Israel.'

He also points out ominously that the Peterson trade mission which visited Moscow after Nixon was accompanied by Helmut Sonnenfeldt, a key member of Kissinger's staff who has taken part in some of his secret negotiations on Vietnam.

Sonnenfeldt, Stone says, 'would hardly be needed in a commercial negotiation unless it was indeed linked with political questions like the Vietnam war'.

Nixon is certain to want as high a price as he can get for aiding the Soviet Stalinists to ease their economic problems. The price he wants is the support of the Kremlin against the Arab and Vietnamese revolution.



The El Ferrol shipyard where trouble is brewing again

Warsaw Pact armies flex muscles again

WARSAW Pact army manoeuvres in Czechoslovakia under the code name 'Shield 72' are being treated as an important political event by the East European bureaucracies.

Leading Czech CP member Josef Lenart has welcomed military dignitaries for the exercises.

Emphasis in his Bratislava speech last Monday was laid on the necessity for intervention of the Warsaw Pact armies in August 1968.

Their forceful presence in Czechoslovakia once again is obviously intended as a warning that the bureaucracy is ready to use every means to maintain its rule.

It is also directed at Yugoslav workers who have criticized the manoeuvres.

A main military objective of the exercises will be to test the ability of the Warsaw Pact forces to fight under conditions in which tactical nuclear weapons would be used.

MORE FOREIGN NEWS p. 11

Talks fail to end Basingstoke occupation

TALKS between British-Leyland and six unions on Wednesday night failed to end the month-long occupation by workers fighting the plan to sell the Thornycroft factory at Basingstoke, Hants.

British-Leyland intends to run down the 900-strong labour force by a third and sell the plant to the American Eaton Corporation for £2.5m.

The factory makes gear-boxes for heavy goods vehicles.

British-Leyland's industrial director Pat Lowry said no details of the talks were being made public. 'If the sit-in continues, it will inevitably affect other factories within the British-Leyland Motor Corporation,' he declared.

Dubious sources for Neal's claims

COMMISSION on Industrial Relations chairman Leonard Neal has admitted that he had no direct evidence at all to back up his recent statement that money from 'dubious sources' was financing flying pickets.

But that did not stop him from calling pickets 'bully-boys' and urging leaders to 'clamp down' on them.

Speaking at Nottingham on Wednesday, Neal—an ex-T&GWU official—said: 'This manifestation of violence, mass picketing and, indeed, training for these tasks begins to cause people like me—who have for many years rejected the reds-under-the-bed theory—to wonder whether this is any longer valid.'

Needless to say, the CIR chairman produced no more evidence for his 'special training' allegation than he did for his 'dubious money' story.

But his second outburst within a week indicates a growing desire on the part of the Tory government and its state officials to lay the basis for more attacks on the right to strike and the right to picket.

Kirkby plant wins 35-hour week

SIX HUNDRED engineering workers at the former Fisher-Bendix factory, Kirkby, Liverpool, have won a new 35-hour-week pay deal.

The workers—now employed by Clohurst Engineering, a subsidiary of the International Property Development group—make radiators, night-storage heaters and some components for the motor industry.

New rates agreed under the deal give women workers £27.50 a week, labourers £30, semi-skilled workers £35 and skilled men £41.30.

Convenor Jack Spriggs told Workers Press yesterday that shop stewards were very happy with the terms.

'This is not a productivity deal and there are no work-measurement "strings" or anything like that,' he said.

The workers' original claim was based on the demands submitted nationally by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Another work-in goes sour

No buyer for Briant's

Brave and selfless struggle of 150 in danger

BY IAN YEATS

THERE IS virtually no chance of a buyer for Briant Colour Printing, Peckham, a spokesman for the liquidator said yesterday.

Since the work-in began 11 weeks ago, 60 firms have responded to adverts for the factory placed by the liquidator.

But only eight or ten materialized as serious offers and now there is not even one firm buyer in sight.

Liquidator's spokesman H. B. Blandford Baker told me yesterday turnover at the works was so low that no employer could afford to take on the existing labour force at current pay rates.

He said the five-year-old factory needed an annual turnover of £1m a year, but in the previous 12 months had only notched up £66,000.

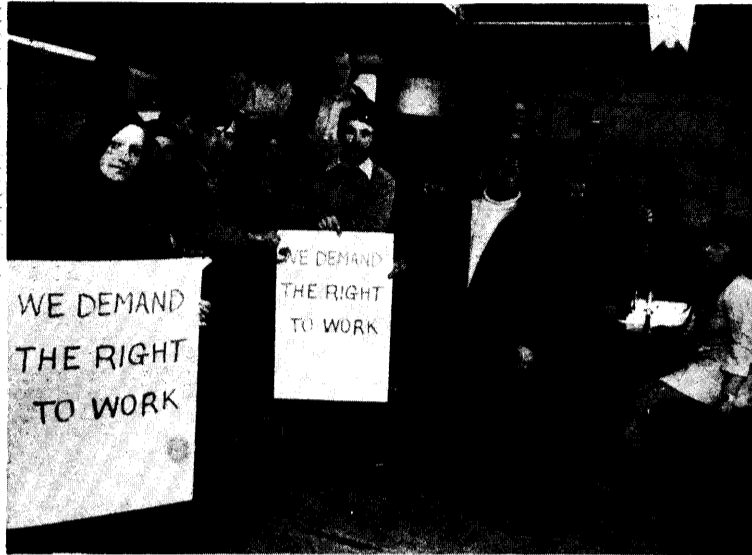
As turnover dipped over the past four years because of market conditions, the proportion taken up by wages rose from 31 to 51 per cent.

Yesterday's bleak news was that any new employer would be forced either to reduce the work-force or slash wages—neither of which has ever been acceptable to the work-in.

With hundreds of printers unemployed in London, the 120 men and 30 women felt they had everything to gain from taking over their factory.

Factory occupations will, without doubt, be central to the fight against the blanket sackings which will follow Britain's entry into the Common Market.

But Workers Press and the Socialist Labour League have



Workers seen inside the printing plant

always insisted that unless these take-overs were linked to the political perspective of mobilizing the trade union and labour movement in the struggle to force the Tories to resign and elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies, they would be ineffective.

We warned from the outset that work-ins could not save what even the employers had given up as a bad job. This has not been more bitterly illustrated than at the upper Clyde ship-builders' yards, where thousands of jobs have been lost.

Until at least the end of July cash for paper and electricity to operate the Briant printing

machines was provided by the liquidator to clear £20,000 worth of business half finished when the company collapsed.

This more than anything else allowed the fiction of a successful work-in to be maintained.

But since that time the work-in committee has been responsible for the wages of people employed at the plant and the total cost of all materials and electricity.

Now the liquidator, P. Granville White, has warned work-in leader Bill Freeman that the workers will be liable and he has sought to impress upon him that if no-one can be found to buy the plant as a going concern the workers will have to leave, even

if it means a High Court order, so that the assets can be sold off to the highest bidder.

Blandford Baker told me there was no chance of the work-in making the business pay.

He revealed for the first time that the real cause of Briant's downfall was that management borrowed too much money from finance houses in their efforts to modernize and had then been prevented by the slump from recovering the cash from turnover.

Bill Freeman refused to discuss the liquidator's bleak predictions yesterday. Recently he admitted that many of the offers to buy the plant had been bracketed with demands for redundancies or wage-cutting.

Now he will either have to give in to these demands or wait until he and the other 150 workers are thrown out into the road by police armed with a court order.

Either course will mean that the brave and selfless struggle of the men and women who have loyally followed the work-in leadership over more than two long months will have been in vain.

We repeat again: The closure of Briant Colour Printing is a direct result of the trade slump and the drastic fall in employers' rate of profit.

It is part of a phenomenon common not only throughout the print trade, where hundreds of small firms have been axed in the past year, but also throughout British industry.

The fight for the right to work can only be brought about by mobilizing the trade union and labour movement in a General Strike to force the government to resign and return a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

These would include the nationalization of the printing industry without compensation and under workers' control.

Prices up!

That's what the EEC means

A FURTHER big leap in prices can be forecast from figures just released by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The figures show that home sales of manufactured products rose by nearly 1 per cent in August alone, following increases of a ½ per cent in each of the preceding months.

And this trend shows every sign of accelerating even further as British entry into the Common Market next year looms closer.

In November the British Steel Corporation is expected to introduce substantial price increases so as to bring its prices in line with the European Steel and Coal Community before the entry date of January 1.

This move, which will probably be accompanied by a number of other big rises when the CBI's present price-restraint policy runs out in November, will, in its turn, jack up prices throughout the manufacturing industry once again.

In other words, yesterday's TUC-CBI-government talks took place in a context where the employers and the Tories had already laid the basis quite deliberately for a further attack on workers' living standards.

The DTI figures themselves expose the poney and cynical basis of yesterday's talks.

The annual rate of increase in wholesale prices was 5.4 per cent in the three months to May, 6.2 per cent between March and June and 6.4 per cent from April to July.

In the latest three-monthly period the annual rate of increase has risen to 7.8 per cent. The steel price rise, which could approach 15 per cent, could eventually double this rate of increase.

The electricity-supply industry is also pressing for increases in its prices.

In the immediate period, this could hit the domestic consumer first with an increase of 15 per cent in his charges from November 1.

Even more serious in the slightly longer term, however, would be the sought-after 2 per cent increase in industrial charges.

The effect of this and the steel increases, together with the existing trend threatens to tear wage packets to shreds.

Let left press print demand to unions

PAINTERS in the UCATT Wimbledon, south London, branch have unanimously supported a call for special dispensation for Workers Press and other papers in the labour movement in the event of a stoppage of the national press.

Their resolution to the Merton Trades Council calls on all its affiliated branches to demand of the executive of the printing unions — NATSOPA, SOGAT

and NGA—to grant special dispensation to Workers Press, 'Morning Star' and all labour press to print during any future strikes against the Tory government.

'This is vital in a situation such as the jailing of the five dockers under the Industrial Relations Act, where all the printworkers immediately came to the support of trade unionists fighting for their basic rights.

'As a consequence,' it continues, 'the press of the workers' movement was also interrupted while the Tory propaganda machine continued its function through other channels.'

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WHEN THE MILITARY, THEN THE FASCISTS STEP IN

Part 15 of a series on Picketing by Bernard Franks

Police and Army

Chiefs of police and army are increasingly asserting the ability of their forces, as the essential arms of the capitalist state, to play a more direct and more political part in measures against the working class.

The power, prestige and position given to Brigadier Frank Kitson—the 'counter-insurgent' theorist who developed his ideas during action against peasants, workers, trade unionists and socialists in Kenya, Muscat and Oman, Malaya, Cyprus and Northern Ireland—reflects the army's special preoccupation with methods for combating the power of the working class in Britain.

Kitson has been put in charge of the army's School of Infantry at Warminster through which a majority of army officers pass in training.

Both army and police officers have put their views into words more than once. For example, a 'Times' reporter,

writing from the headquarters of the United Kingdom Land Force, Wilton, Wiltshire, in May this year stated:

'Events such as the miners' strike were scrutinized closely here, with the possibility always at the back of the soldiers' minds that the army might be called on to deal with the breaking-up of pickets. Brigadier Watkins told me: "The whole period of the miners' strike made us realize that the present size of the police force is too small. It is based on the fundamental philosophy that we are a law-abiding country, but things have now got to the state where there are not enough resources to deal with the increasing numbers who are not prepared to respect the law".'

According to an article in 'The Sunday Times', Kitson too is 'interested in the idea that the army might take part in the monitoring of people suspected as political subversives'. In fact, in December 1971, Workers Press detailed Kitson's theories in a series of articles current with his book 'Low-Intensity Operations'.

These showed that he is in no sense concerned with just 'monitoring' activities, but is

'keen to promote an active repression'. He advocates a Supreme Command under control of the army, with various committees for 'stability operations', 'populace and resources control', 'tactical operations', and 'Intelligence'. This would carry out in strictest secrecy what amounts to a search-and-destroy operation against anyone the army or government considers to be 'subversive'.

Kitson is a firm believer in 'psychological warfare' and the use of infiltration by trained bands of informers and provocateurs into the ranks of the enemy.

It was systems like these which directly contributed to the deaths of 10,000 Kenyans in the army's offensive against the Mau Mau.

There is no doubt that Kitson considers it timely to orientate these methods to Britain to prepare for the civil war threatened by premier Edward Heath in his 1970 speech to the United Nations.

Police chiefs also are calling for more political action and closer ties between police and army.

At the Scottish Police Federation Conference in May this year, the right to picket was attacked and tighter laws were called for:

'Why should the laws governing such an emotional and volcanic situation be so loosely defined... Let's at least place some of the onus on the democratically-elected office bearers of the strikers; they are persons who call their members out on strike. It is they who call on their members to carry out picket duty.'

Reference to the miners' strike was made recently also by the former Chief Superintendent of Warwickshire and Coventry Constabulary. Calling for closer links between police and military he said:

'The inability of the police to contain the miners' hastily-mobilized pickets, which occasioned public dismay, revealed a structural weakness in that

otherwise formidable instrument of the criminal law whose role is to provide the very shield under which society may go about its lawful business in safety.

'Dangers of internal subversion and civil anarchy begin to justify consideration of closer police-military ties...'

He concluded that the police-military link would stop the army 'duplicating, still less usurping the role of the Special Branch in monitoring people suspected of political subversion'. (Workers Press report, June 26, 1972.)

The Fascists

For all its impressive-sounding array of state and allied organizations for repressing the working class, capitalism has found many of these forces, especially in times of deep economic crisis and political upsurge of workers, to be singularly ineffectual.

The fact is, that the decline and rot which pervades the entire capitalist system at such a time inevitably permeates these organs also. Demoralization, disaffection and discouragement set in and weaken what on the surface appears a formidable assemblage of armour and manpower. Even sections of the police and army, the most strictly controlled and disciplined of all the forces, cannot be unaffected.

In Italy and France units of the most vicious riot police have broken under the strain of the continuous consummate hatred and opposition of the working class.

It is at such times that the frightened capitalist class turns to the totally reactionary forces of fascism which preach and practice—with clubs, knives and firearms—outright physical destruction of all the workers' own trade union and political organizations.

This dependence on fascism may be undertaken with some reluctance, not quite what the business community had in

Under the fascists, Social Democrat Carl von Ossietzky who died in 1938 from mistreatment in Esterwegen concentration camp.

mind. Leon Trotsky commented in the 1930s: 'The big bourgeoisie likes fascism as little as a man with aching molars likes to have his teeth pulled.'

However, when the only alternative appears to be a takeover by the working class, then the capitalists decide that out-and-out reaction, if somewhat painful, is a thousand times more preferable.

By 1944 in fascist Germany some 7.5 million slaves—workers rounded up in occupied countries—were being made ruthless use of by German employers.

Krupp employed thousands, in one plant kept in dog kennels for six months. Hanging was the special treatment for dissent. On the land, the fundamental law for all workers was a directive which said:

'The farmworkers have to labour as long as demanded by the employer.' Every boss had the right to beat his workers.

One factor which immeasurably strengthens all the most reactionary forces of capital and allows an undecided middle class to be pulled into the fascist camp is a working-class leadership, which is not equal to its task, which is weak or downright treacherous. In 1934, Trotsky wrote of previous defects of the working class:

'The reformist parties of Germany, Austria and Spain did not prepare the revolution, did not lead it, but suffered it. Frightened by the power which had come into their hands against their own will, they benevolently handed it over to the bourgeoisie. In this way they undermined the confidence of the proletariat. They prepared the conditions for the growth of fascist reaction and fell victim to it.' ('Whither France?')

CONTINUED TOMORROW

TRUDEAU - TAKING ON LABOUR



Twenty-four hours after Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau recalled parliament to deal with the British Columbian dock strike, the state government fell and the New Democratic Party (labour) was overwhelmingly returned to power.

By throwing out the Social Credit government of W. A. C. Bennett, British Columbian workers took the lead for the labour movement throughout Canada.

The Social Credit Party has ruled the province for 20 years and as the world recession intensified it led the attacks on workers' rights and living standards.

Bennett's government imposed a pay-ceiling on teachers, doctors and civil servants.

It also brought in an order to enforce compulsory arbitration and in June the legislation was used against the construction workers' strike.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police carried out 52 raids on construction union offices with the full approval of Trudeau's Liberal government in Ottawa.

Bennett's actions in British Columbia are what every worker in Canada will face in the next period.

Trudeau has announced federal elections for October 30 and with only three months to go, all the major class questions facing Canadian workers are being fought out.

The intervention of the Trudeau government in the British Columbian dock strike makes this clear. The dockers were not simply answering Bennett when they voted his government out, but taking on the federal government as well.

The NDP victory gives the lead to all Canadian workers to throw out the Trudeau government and return an NDP administration pledged to socialist policies.

The greatest obstacle is the Labour Party's own leaders. Party chief David Lewis said of the Bill against the dockworkers: 'My colleagues and I will support any Bill that gives a justifiable solution.'

British Columbian NDP leader David Barat promised the repeal of two Bills clamping on a wage freeze and making arbitration compulsory. But he also held out a carrot to the middle class by talking about the problem of foreign domination of Canadian industry.

He made it plain that the NDP were not going to be tied to the apron-strings of the unions saying: 'The business community has nothing to fear from us.'

The working class in British Columbia has shown its determination to fight both in the dockers' strike and now by electing an NDP provincial government.

The election will have a big impact on the federal voting in October. It also gives a lead to American workers in their struggle to break from the democrats and republicans and build a Labour Party.

But American workers looking to the NDP, for example, will have to go a lot further themselves. And the task facing Canadian workers is the fight to force the NDP's reformist leaders to adopt and implement genuinely socialist policies.

Such a reformist party is quite inadequate for the tasks facing Canadian and American workers and would pose no solutions to the big economic and political problems ahead.

S. AFRICA WOOS EUROPEAN STEEL

The apartheid regime in South Africa is gloating over its successful wooing of European steel producers.

Over the past several months executives from the British Steel Corporation and two West German groups have visited South Africa to discuss a joint plan to produce semi-processed ore and semi-finished steel products.

In euphoric language the South African press is proclaiming the various advantages of their racist system.

They have been pointing to the fact that labour costs are much lower. This is certainly the case. The miners of South Africa are almost exclusively black and they are paid slave wages while working under the most wretched and dangerous conditions.

They are also barred from belonging to trade unions.

The racist press is also boasting that South Africa is uninhibited by pollution legislation. In other words the establishment of steel production plants is not subject to laws covering smoke and other industrial pollution. This considerably reduces production costs.

The South African Iron and



Lord Melchett, Proposing to abandon Britain's steel-producing industry

Steel Industrial Corporation has confirmed that negotiations have commenced between the BSC and West Germany's Thyssen and Kloeckner groups. A BSC team has already visited the site of the proposed export harbour at Saldanha on the western seaboard.

'They apparently liked what they saw', one South African newspaper reported, 'and detailed negotiations have since been taking place.'

'The idea of investing in a South African plant is that semi-finished products would be imported by Britain for

final processing in the corporation's plants.

'The output of the plant in South Africa would be around 8 million tons a year.'

'The scheme would make it unnecessary for the corporation to replace many of its old steelmaking units which are earmarked for closure.'

Thus the Tory-controlled BSC and its multi-millionaire chairman Lord Melchett is proposing to abandon Britain's traditional steel-producing industry by importing cheaper materials produced off the backs of shockingly oppressed South Africans.

THE COCOA WRANGLE

Some 60 countries, including all the world's major producers and consumers of cocoa, are to meet in Geneva in yet another bid to draw up an international cocoa agreement, a task which has eluded them for the last 15 years.

Cocoa is the world's fifth largest commodity after coffee, sugar, cotton and rubber. World exports last year totalled \$850m (£350m), but the market for it is subject to sharp price fluctuations and intense speculation.

This severely affects the economically under-developed countries which are heavily dependent on cocoa exports for their foreign-exchange earnings.

EARNINGS

For instance, in 1970, cocoa exports accounted for 79 per cent of Ghana's foreign exchange earnings. Other countries whose economies are heavily dependent on cocoa include Cameroon, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Togo, Ecuador and Brazil.

One of the major problems

is to introduce some stability into cocoa prices, but the last United Nations Cocoa Conference, held in Geneva last March, failed to make any headway, despite dragging on three weeks.

PRICE

The main stumbling block to a world agreement is the fixing of a minimum price for cocoa. No real progress towards a quota system can be achieved without this being done. A concluded agreement to assign export quotas to all member-countries with an annual production above 10,000 tons is unworkable if a minimum price is not fixed.

The forthcoming conference, which is expected to last for about five weeks, will also wrestle with the thorny problem of reconciling the need of cocoa of their own with the interests of the processing industries of the traditional importing countries.

Behind this prolonged wrangling lies the fact that the national bourgeoisies of the under-developed countries are demanding higher prices for their basic products and the monopolists to whom they sell, and who thereby control the lies of millions of people, are reluctant to pay.

FRELIMO VICTORIES IN WAR WITH PORTUGAL



The liberation movement in Mozambique (FRELIMO) has moved south below the Zambesi river to undertake operations not far from the port of Beira, according to a British supporter who recently visited the Portuguese colony.

Until recently, Frelimo was confined to the northern banks of the Zambesi which the colonial authorities have used as a natural barrier to prevent the expansion of guerrilla operations against them.

The Portuguese made determined efforts to seal off the part of the colony south of the river, which is bounded on the west by Rhodesia and South Africa, both white supremacist countries which actively assist Portugal with arms and men to fight the guerrillas.

The Portuguese use fast, armed patrol boats on the Zambesi to prevent the Frelimo forces from crossing the river and have destroyed most of the boats used by the black farmers and fishermen who live along the river's banks. These measures, however, have apparently failed and the

Frelimo's break into the southern provinces is a decisive step forward for the liberation struggle against Portuguese rule.

The guerrillas' success in crossing the Zambesi is attested to from the other side by Wilf Nussey, a South African journalist writing in the 'Rhodesia Herald' earlier this year.

LOCAL SUPPORT

Nussey said the Frelimo guerrillas were crossing the river in Tete province (near the Rhodesian border) with

'disturbing rapidity' and had penetrated along hundreds of miles of Rhodesia's borders.

Nussey added that the strong local support for Frelimo was shown by the sparse information given by Africans to the Portuguese. He said the South African and Rhodesian authorities were suddenly feeling real anxiety over the course of the Mozambique war.

Both the racist powers have a lot to lose if Portugal is flung out of the colony. They would lose one of the two great pillars which protect them from the independent black African states further north.

The fall of Mozambique would expose the South Africans and the Rhodesians to hostile guerrilla incursions over their frontiers along hundreds of miles of open country.

RHODESIA'S INTEREST

The two countries also have a major economic interest, symbolized above all by the Cabora Bassa dam. This multi-million pound undertaking, financed by British, West German and US capital, to supply power largely to the industries of Rhodesia and South Africa, is now very close to the guer-

rilla's front line of action.

Access to the dam is becoming increasingly difficult, despite heavy patrols along the roads linking the project with Rhodesia and the presence of many Portuguese troops in the area.

Anxiety over the dam explains the increasing participation of Rhodesian and South African troops in the Portuguese colonial war.

Lord Gifford, chairman of the committee for freedom in Angola, Mozambique and Guine, who recently visited the liberated areas, said Rhodesian troops and planes were taking part in the war.

He said they had been allocated a sphere of operations in Tete province, where the dam is sited. They had made several incursions over the border, including a major land and air offensive four months ago. A Rhodesian army sergeant deserter had told him the Rhodesians had given training in counter-insurgency warfare.

Gifford said the Frelimo guerrillas now had 10,000 men under arms, mainly with weapons from eastern Europe. The movement is making a major drive for support from the west, campaigning on a liberal basis against British capitalism's ties with the move-

ment's racist opponents.

Portugal, a NATO member, acquires many of the arms it needs for its colonial wars from its allies. But its main backing in Mozambique and in Angola on the other side of the continent comes from South Africa.

FRELIMO GAINS

Of the social and political organization built up by Frelimo in the liberated areas, Gifford said: 'It far surpasses everything we had imagined. It was quite evident the people were freely and joyfully sup-

porting Frelimo from their enthusiasm at the public meetings and their warm and friendly attitude towards the soldiers.

'They were not only supporting them but also positively determined to work with the movement that was changing their lives and to hold onto the freedom Frelimo had won for them.'

Frelimo's gains against the Portuguese regime in Mozambique are an important step forward for the struggle in southern Africa against white supremacy and colonialism. The increasing crisis of the white supremacists in southern

Africa was shown not only by the massive reaction of Rhodesian workers to the Smith-Home deal, but also by the big strikes in South West Africa at the beginning of the year, which spread to other parts of the country.

Frelimo's victories will undoubtedly play a part in advancing these struggles, bringing nearer the downfall of Smith and Vorster and the defeat of Portugal's brutal colonial dictatorship.

Left: the people of Mozambique show their support for the Frelimo, sharing their crops with the guerrillas. Above: women liberation fighters undergoing training.

A three part series by Juan García, our Spanish correspondent on how the depression of the 1930s hit the Spanish province of Catalonia, and the resulting struggles of workers against unemployment while the armed forces of the state prepared for Civil War.

THE JOBLESS REPUBLIC

PART ONE

The struggle of the Spanish working-class against the wide-scale unemployment brought on by the impact of world recession on the Spanish economy holds many lessons for workers the world over.

During the Second Republic, begun in 1931, anarchists and centrists led many militant strikes against unemployment with a programme identical to that of the centrists today—a reduction in the working week and work-sharing.

After five years of struggle for a six-hour day, in 1936, these centrists faced civil-war. Because of them, the Spanish working class was unprepared for this revolutionary situation.

The centrists were unable to grasp that the growth of unemployment was an essential aspect of the world economic crisis which was pushing the capitalist class towards fascist dictatorship and a second World War.

Their programme up to and after the beginning of the Civil War did not go beyond the reformist solutions of the International Labour Organization in Geneva and that expressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labour in October 1931:

'If the machine gets rid of manual labour, there is no reason why the worker should not be compensated with better working conditions and more opportunity for useful leisure.'

As workers soon discovered, the capitalist class was not interested in good reason: what was reasonable for them was what was profitable—so it was reasonable to have millions of unemployed workers since this brought down labour costs and helped the fight against trades unions.

In Catalonia, the election of the Republican government in 1931 aroused hopes that extensive public works and social-welfare programmes would be started to alleviate the lot of the unemployed. By the end of 1930, there were 17,250 workers unemployed in the Barcelona province alone.

Many workers in the anarchist National Confederation of Labour (CNT) voted for the Republic. In May 1931, a committee of unemployed workers visited Francisco Macia, president of the Generalidad, the Catalan extension of the Madrid parliament.

Macia promised to put pressure on Madrid to create jobs in the port and create a fund for unemployed who had lived in Barcelona for at least five years.

Many workers in Catalonia were immigrants from the rural areas in the south and the employers' immediate ploy was to split workers on a regional basis.

The Presidents of the Chambers of Trade issued this statement in May:

'They agreed that unemployment had not yet reached alarming proportions and was limited to labourers and did not affect skilled workers. They all agreed that it was not a good idea to give out subsidies without providing work and that it was also expedient to send back to the towns where they come from workers who are unemployed.'

Catalan businessmen had



Top: workers enthusiastically greet the proclamation of the Republic on April 14, 1931. They thought the Republic was the solution to unemployment, low wages and poor living conditions. Above: social democrat, Indaleco Prieto.

good reason to prepare for the crisis with ruthless measures. On July 7, 1931, the main Bank of Catalonia had to suspend payments. After the election of the Republic 300 million pesetas were withdrawn from current accounts. The value of Spanish exports slumped by 40 per cent in one year: from 2,456.8 million pesetas worth at the end of 1930 to 990.3 millions in 1931.

Unemployment spread rapidly in the building and engineering industries. By the end of 1932, over half of all

building workers in Barcelona were out of work. In the same city there were over 16,000 houses and flats standing empty, despite the fact that workers still lived in crowded slums.

Restriction and deflation

Under the Primo de Rivera dictatorship, there had been a vast scheme of public works, some of which had been carried

out in the period of relative stability in the late 1920s.

This policy was sharply reversed by the Republican government and its Socialist Party Minister of the Exchequer. This policy of restriction and deflation was the opposite of what the masses expected from the left-wing republicans and social-democrats in power.

Engineering and steel workers did not receive much support either from the social-democrat Indalecio Prieto, whose sole ambition was to make capitalism work by rationalizing it and disciplining the working class.

The rail industry, which had been developed with massive state aid, soon entered into crisis. Many of the new lines which had been built were not paying their way and Spanish coal was much more expensive than foreign coal. This meant that the deficit increased and fares could not be cut.

Prieto's solution came, short and sharp in June 1931:

'Not a peseta more for building new railways.' Within a year the budget was cut by a third and within two years 26,572 workers in the Basque steel industry were unemployed.

In the city and province of Barcelona 94 workshops had to reduce the working-week by 30 per cent. By 1933 more than 4,000 engineering workers were unemployed.

By 1933, 35,000 or 6 per cent of the labour force in Barcelona was unemployed. In Spain, the total was over 500,000.

The Republican government kept faithfully to the needs of the bourgeoisie. There was no increase in the payment of benefit to the unemployed, which in part had to be paid by the employers. The government felt it would be wrong to put the pressure on the employers in a period of economic crisis when they already had enough financial problems.

Less than 6,000 workers got any help from the government.

This type of payment was, according to the Republicans, an encouragement for people to be lazy.

While Ministers could not find resources to help the unemployed, increased finance was no problem when it was a question of hand-outs to the police and the armed forces.

Terrorism and strikes

Their budget increased by 38 per cent from 1929 to 1933 and most of this money was spent on equipping the police force to deal with anarchist terrorism, or workers' demonstrations and strikes.

This was the real role of the Republican government: the preparation of civil war against the working-class through the strengthening of the armed forces and the weakening of the working class through unemployment and impoverishment.

The CNT split into two: the Iberian Anarchist Federation (FAI) favoured terrorist activity while the CNT-Treintistas preferred strikes as a method of forcing reforms from the bourgeoisie.

During the first three years of the Republic, the FAI, which organized many unemployed workers and immigrants from the south, attempted no less than three futile attempts at insurrection.

The General Workers' Union (UGT) obediently followed the parent-body, the Spanish Socialist Party, which, as we have seen, led the fight against jobs in the first period of the Second Republic.

The UGT collaborated in the government's 'Jurados mixtos', joint-committees of employers and trade-unionists which were convened by the government whenever there was a dispute. These were the continuation of the hated 'comités paritarios' set up by Primo de Rivera as an imitation of Mussolini's corporatist bodies.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

MAKING A GIMMICK OF RACIALISM

It's been a good week for racism on television. Alf Garnett is back and so is the nauseous series 'Love Thy Neighbour'.

Indeed, since the docks strike, anti-immigrant sentiment has dominated the headlines in the bourgeois media.

It was in this politically-charged atmosphere that Granada's 'World in Action' presented on Monday night the first of its new series.

This programme and its imitators on Thames Television and the BBC is best characterized by its rank opportunism. It was not surprising, therefore, that the editors chose the Ugandan Asian story to start their autumn ratings campaign.

The basic concept was this. They went to the Smithfield markets where the National Front has been vigorously operating during the past few weeks with its anti-immigrants campaign. They pointed their cameras at various workers and asked: 'What do you think of the arrival of Ugandan Asians in Britain?'

Not unexpectedly, if you ask a loaded question, you get loaded answers. One of the most outspoken opponents of the resettlement of the expelled Asians was Wally Murrell, a steward in the Transport and General Workers' Union.



Now comes the 'World in Action' gimmick. The team invited Murrell to go to Uganda to 'see for himself'. We then see the meat porter at Heathrow, entering his jet airliner, chatting to the air hostess, etc, etc.



He arrived at his hotel—it looked familiarly like the Apolo where you can get a decent bed and breakfast for about £5 a night!—and, in his first interview, he said that the local natives were living in 'shacks', 'mud huts' and 'squalor'. Which is rather like going to the North Pole and being shocked to find that the inhabitants live in igloos.



He then became tourist and interviewer in downtown Kampala. What a miserable business this was. The black Ugandans were clearly hostile

or afraid. And who can blame them living under a bloody military dictatorship like Amin's. It is already a matter of public record that hundreds of people have been butchered by the 18-month-old regime.

Many of the Asians were simply furtive. They gave him nothing. Certainly no sense of how they felt about the regime and their abrupt expulsion.



Those he did contact for fuller interviews were like the Sikh who owned a square mile of property and drove around in a Mercedes Benz.



The most revealing interview was with the bishop who admitted that he was more or less doing a Pontius Pilate as far as his Asian flock was concerned.



Then the team was kicked out by the regime for undisclosed reasons.

We catch up with them in Kenya where Murrell gives an interview in which he appears to have altered his position. From being a 'keep-them-out' campaigner, he now says the British government has no alternative but to take them in. He also says he would do anything to help the Asians if he could.



To summarize, therefore, anti-immigrant Smithfield worker is taken by TV trendies to Uganda, talks to local inhabitants, changes mind, racialism is thus vanquished, humanity is restored. This went out last Monday night at 8 p.m. at peak viewing time after 'Coronation Street'.

One could picture the sort of self-satisfaction which enveloped the producers of this programme as it beamed out to the masses. They had done 'their liberal thing'.

It won't do, however. Even in liberal terms in a bourgeois society racialism cannot be treated with such gimmickry.

If the programme-makers had been serious with their subject, they could have at least subjected Murrell's arguments to the rigours of some further interrogation—perhaps by a Kenyan Asian now settled in this country.

Preferably an Asian who is in the Transport and General Workers' Union. One could have surely been found in the ranks of this giant union, one who, perhaps, is on strike for the building workers' claim. Then we could have had a more even confrontation—because confrontation, as you know, makes 'good telly'—in which class issues must necessarily have arisen.

But Murrell was given total licence; the game was loaded completely in his favour. The programme opened with an unbridled opportunity for the Smithfield racists to put their point of view.

Everything subsequent in the programme was the experiences of a man goaded by the media into treating racialism as a single, emotional issue. Behind this style of media presentation is the rank opportunism of people who want to skate on the surface of events, who simply want to sensationalize news and current events.

Precisely the same thing happened during the Chobham Farm 'confrontation'. 'World in Action' invited Bernie Steer and Vic Turner for the dockers and two depot workers into their studio. And they staged a punch-up. Workers, all from the same union, were pitched into a bear pit to tear themselves apart to confuse trade unionists and engender smugness in the middle class.

For the 'World in Action' people these two cases of 'confrontation' television don't occur by accident. It is conscious policy to cast trade unionists and working-class people in the most reactionary light.

This television formula springs from a contempt for the working class; workers are to be brought onto the screen under prearranged and stage-managed circumstances in which their entirely progressive and revolutionary capacity is obscured by the ugliness of situations forced on them by the ruling class itself.

It is the container employers who are obliterating docks jobs; it is the military dictatorship of General Amin, backed by the Tory government, and the National Front, which is stirring racialism.

When 'World in Action' has intervened in both these important issues in the working class it has served the Tory master with a refined and splendid veneer of being 'democratic' and pretending to hand over communication to workers themselves.

No one is fooled by this cynical technique. As someone remarked the other day: 'The Free Communications Group was never revolutionary.'

BY ALEX MITCHELL

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

PRICELESS

The Port of London Authority continues to shed its most valuable land to property speculators while at the same time slashing its work force by 2,000 this year.

Having hived off its historic headquarters, the PLA is now contemplating a 'mini-Barbican' on the site of the Cutler Street warehouses near the famous Petticoat Lane.

It is expected that the redevelopment of the 4½-acre site will contain hugely-expensive new homes, shops, office space and other amenities.

Advertisements have been placed for the sale or lease of the warehouses.

The old properties date from the days of the sailing ships. Because of the shutdowns in the upper Pool of London, these buildings are rendered more or less useless for modern trading. But if planning permission is granted for their demolition, they become almost priceless on the property market.

According to a spokesman for City of London surveyors Gooch and Wagstaff, the warehouse complex is almost impossible to value. One estimate is

that the site could be worth about £10m.

The PLA, chaired by Tory merchant banker Lord Aldington has a property portfolio estimated worth £66m.

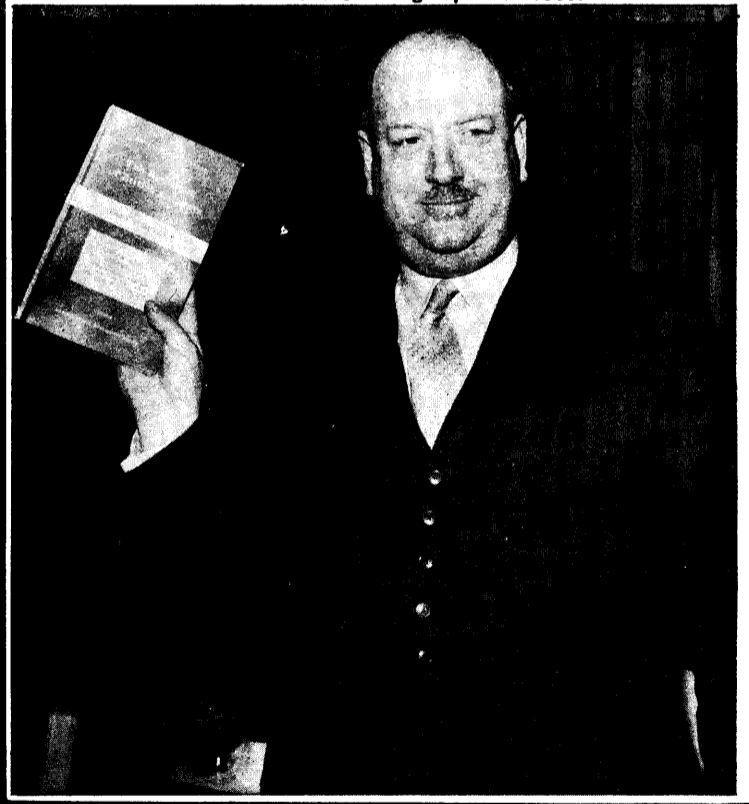
Last year the PLA's Trinity Square headquarters was sold at a profit of £7m. It was generally regarded that the sale price was 'more than reasonable'.

WONDER-BOY

It was Lord Beeching who 'reviewed' the British railway system and thus ended the livelihoods of thousands of railway workers.

He was one of the 'technocrats' of the Wilson era. With 'genius' like that it's no wonder Beeching is a blue-eyed boy in the City of London. Take his company, Redland Limited. It has just given details of its 89-per-cent increase in post-tax profit. Shareholders and directors have £4.7m profits to carve up as opposed to £2.5m for the same period last year.

Below: Beeching with BR reshaping report in 1963.



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SPECIAL ATUA MEETINGS

CENTRAL LONDON :

Inaugural meeting of the entertainments and press unions.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 7 p.m.

'The crisis of technology and unemployment.'

SHAFTESBURY HOTEL
MONMOUTH STREET,
WC2.

Speakers: Roy Battersby (ACTT. In a personal capacity).
A London docker.

LIVERPOOL :

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 10.30 a.m.

'Crisis in the car industry. Fight for the right to work.'

STORK HOTEL QUEEN'S SQUARE

Speakers: Alan Thornett (deputy senior steward Morris Motors, Oxford, in a personal capacity).

Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee).

SWINDON:

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 7.30 p.m.

'Join the fight to force the Tories to resign'

LOCOMOTIVE INN, FLEET STREET

Speakers: Tim O'Sullivan (senior night steward, Morris Motors, Oxford, in a personal capacity). Member of the Swindon building strike committee. Representative from the Thornycroft (Basingstoke) occupation.

TV

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 4.10 Professional golf.

6.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.

8.00 MONEY AT WORK. Capitalism with a Human Face. Was Karl Marx right?

9.00 GARDENERS' WORLD.

9.25 DOCUMENTARY: 'THE SHOALS OF HERRING'. Film based on 'Singing the Fishing' by Ewan MacColl, Peggy Seeger and Charles Parker.

10.30 SPORT TWO. I Love Leeds. Colin Welland and Ian Woolridge.

11.10 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

11.15 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP. Johnny Speight.



Maggie Smith as Epifania in Bernard Shaw's 'The Millionaire' in BBC 1's new 'Play of the Month' series on Friday nights.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 1.45-3.20 Racing from Ayr. 3.30 Jimmy Stewart. 4.00 Puffin. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 4.50 London. 5.20 Alexander the greatest. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.15 Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 FBI. 8.30 London. 10.35 Film: 'Term of Trial'. 12.45 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.28 News. 4.00 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sports desk. 10.32 News. 12.45 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 12.55 News. 1.00 Let's face it. 1.25 Beverly hillbillies. 1.50 Freud on food. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.30 London. 3.00 Danger man. 3.55 Houseparty. 4.10 Paulus. 4.25 Stingray. 4.50 London. 5.20 Sylvester. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.30 Out of town. 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Comedians. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.30 Weekend. 10.35 Film: 'Too Hot to Handle'. 12.30 News. 12.40 Weather. Guideline.

ANGLIA: 1.45 Racing. 2.30 London. 3.00 Racing. 3.55 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 London. 5.20 Primus. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Glamour 72. 7.30 O'Hara. 8.00 Combat. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Boys'.

ATV MIDLANDS: 1.45 Racing from Ayr. 3.25 Pinpoint. 3.40 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Forest Ranger. 4.50 London. 5.20 Flintstones. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 Persuaders. 8.30 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Victors'. Weather.

ULSTER: 1.45 Racing from Ayr. 4.00 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 London. 5.20 Shirley's world. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 Jason King. 8.30 London. 10.30 Spectrum. 11.00 Film: 'Run Simon Run'.

YORKSHIRE: 1.45 Jake's scene.

BBC 1

9.45-10.00 Camberwick green. 11.00 Professional golf. 1.00-1.25 Frenhines yr Eira. 1.30 Fingerbobs. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.00 Golf and show jumping. 4.00 Clangers. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Parsley. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.50 Deputy dawg. 4.55 Help! 5.15 Michael Bentine time. 5.45 News and weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.30 THE VIRGINIAN. Sins of the Fathers.

7.45 IT'S A KNOCK OUT!

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.

9.25 PLAY: 'THE MILLIONAIRESS'. By Bernard Shaw. Maggie Smith, Avril Angers, Tom Baker, Peter Barkworth, John Garrie, Charles Gray, Priscilla Morgan, Donald Pickering, James Villiers.

11.05 THE NDO SHOW. Northern Dance Orchestra.

11.35 LATE NIGHT NEWS.

11.40 A MAN CALLED IRONSIDE. Ransom.

12.30 Weather.

ITV

11.55 Sydney. 12.25 Women today. 12.50 Freud on food. 1.15 Bellbird. 1.25 Dan. 1.40 Bush boy. 2.05 Castle Haven. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Cartoon. 3.10 Delta. 4.05 Happy house. 4.20 Adventures of Gulliver. 4.50 Magpie. 5.20 Nanny and the professor. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.

6.30 CROSSROADS.

7.00 THE PROTECTORS. 2000 ft. to Die.

7.30 HAWAII FIVE-O. Death is a Company Policy.

8.30 SHUT THAT DOOR! Larry Grayson with guests Leslie Crowther, Margaret Powell.

9.00 HOLLY. Episode three.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 POLICE FIVE.

10.40 VILLAINS. Knocker. Bob Hoskins.

11.40 OVERCOMING LONELINESS.

11.45 FILM: 'WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION'. Tyrone Power, Marlene Dietrich, Charles Laughton. Agatha Christie whodunnit.

2.15 Bellbird. 2.30 London. 3.00 Dangerman. 4.00 Cartoon. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Merrie melodies show. 4.50 London. 5.20 Elephant boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Please sir. 7.30 Cade's county. 8.30 London. 10.30 Film: 'Mister Moses'. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 12.20 Grasshopper island. 12.35 Galloping gourmet. 1.05 Stingray. 1.30 Pippi longstocking. 1.55 Racing from Ayr. 3.20 Rocket Robin Hood. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 News. Happy house. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 5.15 Peyton Place. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.20 Bugs Bunny. 6.35 Kick off. 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Protectors. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.30 Band of the year. 11.00 Film: 'Secret People'.

TYNE TEES: 1.45 Funny face. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.30 Yoga. 2.59 News. 3.00 Dangerman. 4.00 Car-

toon. 4.10 Make a wish. 4.25 Merry melodies show. 4.50 London. 5.20 Elephant boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Please sir. 7.30 Cade's county. 8.30 London. 10.30 Film: 'Too Hot to Handle'. 12.30 News. 12.45 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 1.45 Racing from Ayr. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Scotland today. 6.30 Who do you do? 7.00 Please sir. 7.30 Hawaii five-o. 8.30 London. 10.30 Late call. 10.35 Film: 'Dracula'.

GRAMPIAN: 1.45-2.15 Racing from Ayr. 2.30 London. 3.00 News. 3.03 Racing from Ayr. 3.55 Cartoon. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Pippi longstocking. 4.50 London. 5.20 Ivanhoe. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Thompson at teatime. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Jesse James. 7.30 Jason King. 8.30 London. 10.30 Partners. 11.00 Job look. 11.05 Film: 'The Mummy'. 12.40 Meditation.

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Trawlermen demand 50 p.c.

A BASIC pay increase of more than 50 per cent is being sought for Fleetwood trawlermen by the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Trawler owners in the port have been asked for an extra £10.50 a week which would take a deckhand's basic pay to £29.50. Trawlermen have not had a pay increase for two years.

BICC plant in Portugal

BRITISH Insulated Callender's Cables (BICC) is to build a £1.6m factory for making telephone cables at Morelena, near Lisbon. The factory, occupying a 25-acre site, will make paper-insulated and plastic-insulated cables of the latest design.

BALPA talks of strike

BOAC pilots' leaders met yesterday to discuss strike action after what the British Airline Pilots' Association (BALPA) described as a 'ludicrous' pay offer from the company.

BOAC had offered 0.8 per cent for a cost-of-living increase. The pilots have asked for 10 per cent.

BALPA chairman Captain Robert Smith said: 'BOAC management must be deliberately provoking further unrest and jeopardizing the future of BOAC when they offer us 0.8 per cent and have the effrontery to attach conditions to such an offer.'

Recognition for steward

A BIRMINGHAM car components firm has recognized the workers' right to choose their own shop stewards after a strike which stopped Rover production for two days.

Members of the Transport and General Workers' Union at the Excelsior Motor Co at Tyseley

struck, claiming that the management was refusing to recognize Mrs Annie Howes as their steward.

The firm makes steering-column locks for the Rover plant at Solihull. Shortage of these led to 1,000 Rover workers being laid off.

Yesterday both the Excelsior and Rover factories were back at work.

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Wilson fails to find talks 'formula'

WEDNESDAY'S talks between Harold Wilson and Northern Ireland's Social Democratic and Labour Party leaders failed to produce a formula which would enable the SDLP to attend the Whitelaw 'all-party' talks due to begin on September 25.

This would mean that Whitelaw would receive only schemes drafted by Ulster's pro-Unionist parties.

Though absolutely no concessions were gained from their earlier talks with Heath, the SDLP leaders were said to be 'impressed' with the way the Tory Prime Minister heard them out.

One of the MPs commented: 'We are not totally dissatisfied—though naturally we would like to have heard the Long Kesh camp was finally going to be cleared.'

The SDLP meeting with Wilson was also attended by Merlyn Rees, opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, and Mrs Shirley Williams, Shadow Home Secretary.

A Labour Party statement issued after the talks, declared:

'It was agreed to hold further discussions on ideas which were put forward by the Labour Party and which would lead to the repeal of the Special Powers Act. It was further agreed to meet again with the SDLP prior to the Whitelaw Conference.'

This further meeting has obviously been arranged in order to make a further effort to find a formula under which the SDLP can attend the Whitelaw conference.

Meanwhile, Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party has said that it, too, will boycott the Whitelaw talks unless the government announces a public inquiry into the deaths of two civilians in the Shankill Road last week.

Whitelaw, who told the SDLP leaders that the talks would go ahead whether they attended or not, was far more conciliatory towards Paisley.

'I hope that on reflection you will attend the conference and make known your views,' he replied.

'To do so must be in the interests of your party and the people you represent.'

'Pioneer against piecework' heads group Labour Party's new link with industry

BY ALEX MITCHELL

AN ORGANIZATION calling itself the 1972 Industry Group was founded in London yesterday comprising managers and business executives who are Labour Party members. Its main purpose is to act in an advisory capacity to the Labour Party on industrial and economic questions.

Heading the organization is Lord Wilfred Brown, Minister of State at the Board of Trade during the Wilson government, and a former chief executive in industry.

From 1939 to 1965 he was managing director and chairman of the Glacier Metal Company and in 1964 he was appointed a director of Associated Engineering.

At yesterday's press conference to launch the 1972 Industry Group, Lord Brown said the Labour Party lacked communication with management. He said about 20 per cent of managers and business executives were sympathetic to the Labour Party.

Many executives were afraid to declare they were party members because they might be labelled as 'red' and therefore lose promotion chances.

Brown, a notorious right-winger, said he did not think the trade unions would resent the formation of the group. He went on to explain that he had met TUC's Victor Feather who had 'welcomed' the group's formation.

A biography handed out to the press showed that Brown had written a work entitled 'Piecework Abandoned'. When questioned by Workers Press if he was in favour of Measured-Day Work and other productivity schemes, he said:

'I can claim to be the pioneer against piecework.'

He said he first started fighting piecework 20 years ago 'before anybody else'. Other businessmen would not listen to his proposals and now, today, 'they are paying through the nose to get rid of it'.

If other managers had listened to him they would have saved themselves a lot of money.

Brown is a figure of some contention in the labour movement because of his association with the docks. He was chairman of the Docks Modernization Committee from 1965 to 1967. This was the notorious body which implemented the initial stages of the Devlin Report which slashed jobs in dockland.

Other 'Labour' men in the group are vice-chairman, Derek Page, who was MP for Norfolk, Kings Lynn until the 1970 General Election. He was founder of the Cambridge Chemical Company and is a director of Buckmaster and Page, a firm engaged in 'industrial security'.

The other vice-chairman is Wilson's close friend, Sir Joseph Kagan, chairman of the Gannex Company. Kagan received a knighthood in 1970.

Honorary secretary is Arnold Gregory, director of Intas Technical Services and a consultant to Courtaulds Limited. Courtaulds has other connections with the Labour Party: the senior director in charge of personnel and industrial questions is Lord George Brown, former Foreign Secretary and Labour's deputy leader.

Honorary treasurer is Norman J. Hart, joint managing director of Gwynne Hart and Associates, public relations consultants. He is a determined member of the pro-European right-wing clique in the Labour Party. He is president of the Young European Management Association and deputy chairman of the Labour Committee for Europe.

The inaugural meeting of the group will be held on September 23 at which Labour leader Harold Wilson will be guest speaker.

Yesterday's meeting of this Labour Party group was held in a citadel of big business, the CBI building. Brown described the Labourites' presence as 'a nice bit of British liberality'.



Lord Wilfred Brown: Anti-piecework philosophy

Eire right wing for Ulster talks

LIAM COSGROVE, leader of the right-wing Fine Gael—Ireland's main opposition party—is to talk to Ulster political leaders in Belfast soon. He will be accompanied by the party's spokesman on foreign affairs, Richie Ryan.

The decisions, announced yesterday, follow a Shadow Cabinet meeting which studied the various policy documents submitted by the Ulster parties.

Fine Gael said yesterday that

Ulster talks

there was in Ulster 'an impressive body of opinion favouring sensible co-operation between the people of Ireland'.

Mr Gerry Fitt, leader of the Northern Ireland Social Democratic and Labour Party, has given a guarded welcome to Cosgrove's intended visit.

Polish miners demand democracy

POLISH miners are pressing for more democracy in the pits and an end to managerial arrogance and arbitrary decisions.

The miners, numbering 420,000, the biggest single workforce in the country, are increasingly taking court action against managers as well as complaining through the trade unions, the Communist Party and the press.

As the rising in the Baltic ports at the end of 1970 showed, there is plenty for workers to complain about in Poland. Although the upheaval led to a change in the leadership with Edward Gierek, himself an examiner, taking over, he has obviously not been able to solve the basic problem.

Since the 1970 uprising workers' opposition to the bureaucracy has become stronger and more self-confident than before. Although this hostility often takes the form of court actions against particular officials or opposition to arbitrary work orders it shows a growing class feeling which bodes ill for Gierek and the Polish bureaucracy.

What's your poison?

THE latest issue of the Peking theoretical journal 'Red Star' accuses the Soviet bureaucracy of trying to 'poison the will' of the Russian people who are resisting its attempts to restore the capitalist system.

It linked alcoholism in the Soviet Union with drug addiction in the United States and claims that the campaign recently launched against excessive drinking was camouflage.

Excessive drinking reflected the fact that the Soviet people were discontented with their way of life. At the same time the bureaucracy drew revenue from the production and sale of alcoholic drinks.

Mao's regime has apparently stamped out the traditional addiction of many Chinese to opium in the past. While strong drink flows freely at official receptions, public drunkenness is not tolerated.

CHINA has bought half a million tons of wheat from the US in the first deal of its kind for 20 years. It is believed to mark a further expansion of trade between the two countries.

'Indiscriminate killings' by state troopers at Attica

ACTION taken to put down the Attica Prison riot in New York State in September last year, which resulted in the deaths of 43 prisoners and guards, has been strongly condemned by a special investigating commission.

The report does not spare Governor Rockefeller himself, who set up the commission. It criticizes his refusal to come to the scene after appeals from an observers' committee and from his prison commissioner, Russell G. Oswald.

When the decision was made to re-take the prison, 300 State Troopers went in firing indiscriminately and in a completely chaotic way. The report says:

'Troopers shot into tents, trenches and barricades without looking first... the use of shot-guns loaded with buckshot in the heavily-populated spaces led to the killing and wounding of hostages and of inmates who were not engaged in any hostile activity.'

The commission found that most of the prisoners' grievances were legitimate and that they had tried to work within the system to correct them. It de-

scribed jail conditions as 'dehumanizing, debasing and volatile almost to the point of inevitable warfare'.

The commission found no evidence of any plot for a take-over of the prison. The demonstration took place spontaneously and was badly organized by the inmates.

The authorities' action was based upon the need to make 'a decisive reassertion of the state and of its sovereignty and power.'

'While all state officials were concerned about the safety of hostages, they had finally reached the conclusion that, after four days of negotiation, the need to reassert the authority of the state over the rebels outweighed the risks of an assault.'

The commission found that the fact that the revolt took place at Attica was a question of chance, 'the elements of a replication are all around us. Attica is every prison; and every prison is Attica.'

Wage-cut warning to Rumanians

CEAUSESCU'S government has warned Rumanian workers that they face wage-cuts if targets are not fulfilled or if they slack on the job. As much as one third of the pay packet might be docked.

The Rumanian bureaucracy is trying to place the entire burden for its own mismanagement and economic difficulties onto the working class. The projected new law may

include extra pay where targets have been over-fulfilled.

Wages in Rumania rank among the lowest in Europe. They have been kept down deliberately to make possible an ambitious investment programme.

Ceausescu, an adherent of the Stalinist policy of 'socialism in one country', is now facing a growing economic crisis.

He is trying to overcome the difficulties by a so-called drive against bureaucracy and turning the Communist Party towards tighter control of industry.

Ceausescu has ordered new efforts for nationalization, better distribution of skilled labour and the supply of spare parts. All party units have been told that they must get closer to work-bench problems.

In planning his ultimatum Ceausescu may have picked up some tips from the Greek colonels' Minister of Culture and Sciences, Panayiotakis, who spent five days in Bucharest earlier this week.

Panayiotakis had talks during his visit with Ion Maurer, the Rumanian premier, and with Justinian, the patriarch of the Rumanian Orthodox Church.

PEKING has established such friendly relations with the anti-communist semi-feudal regime of the Shah of Persia that next week it is to welcome not only Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveida, but Queen Farah as well. The Shah is expected to visit Moscow next month.

TURKISH intellectuals are on trial accused of attempting to set up an underground Communist Party. The military prosecutor has demanded heavy sentences for the 37 leftwingers. Fourteen guerrillas alleged to have been trained in an Arab country face death sentences before another military court.

LONDON STEWARDS ARE OVERRULED

DOCKS OVERTIME BAN GOES ON

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

SHOP STEWARDS yesterday failed to persuade men from the Royal group of docks, London, to end an overtime ban. The attempt to lift the ban followed pleas from the Port of London Authority, the New Zealand Meat Board, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Amalgamated Stevedores' and Dockers' Union.

Cynical comment on 1,000 Clyde jobs

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

UPPER CLYDE shop stewards will meet again today to discuss the threat of 1,000 redundancies at the Clydebank yard now taken over by the Texan oil-rig firm, Marathon Manufacturing.

After a two-hour meeting of the co-ordinating committee yesterday, Clydebank convenor and Communist Party member James Reid, said the redundancies were 'totally unacceptable'.

'Our position is quite clear,' he said, 'that there must be continuity of employment for the four divisions of the old UCS.'

Reid's statement amounts to the most wretched hypocrisy. He and fellow Stalinist James Airlie are chiefly responsible for the disastrous policy which has led to the break-up of the yards and to the introduction of agreements which include no-strike clauses.

Marathon has made clear that it can only take on 900 men by the end of the year, leaving 1,000 without jobs. A mass meeting of all UCS shop stewards is likely to be held next week.

THE EXECUTIVE of the Boilermakers' Society has summoned Swan Hunter shop stewards who are leading an unofficial strike on Tyneside to a meeting today.

The executive will tell the stewards that there can be no negotiations until they return to work. The 3,800 boilermakers walked out nine days ago in support of a claim for 17 per cent, cost of living rise.

Since the strike began the management has laid off 1,100 general workers but 7,000 other employees are still at work.

WEATHER

MOST PARTS of the British Isles will be dry with variable cloud and sunny intervals, but mist or fog patches may occur inland early in the day. Northern and western Scotland will be mostly cloudy and there may be a little rain or drizzle in the Orkneys. Temperatures generally will be near the season normal.

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All had threatened that if the ban continued New Zealand meat ships would be diverted to other ports with a resulting loss of hundreds of jobs in the Royals.

Today T&GWU officials will make another bid to get the ban lifted.

The men are operating the ban to bring about greater work-sharing and to reduce the number of men returned to the temporarily unattached register (TUR), which is due to close in two weeks' time.

But yesterday's mass meeting at the Royals was split on the proposal from the London docks shop stewards to return to seven-day working as has already been agreed at West India and Tilbury.

Stewards' committee member Teddy Gates said the overtime ban was not being honoured throughout the port and 'we are not going to allow anyone to roast' when others were carrying on normal working.

He went on to say that picketing and blacking of the container depots and cold stores must not only be maintained but stepped up.

Steward Colin Ross called first for the stepping-up of the fight against the container depots. This was carried unanimously.

But when it came to accepting the end of the overtime ban the stewards could not get agreement. After two votes — with abstainers as scrutineers — Ross abandoned any attempt at a decision and said the ban would remain.

Docker Brian Callaghan said afterwards: 'I think this proposal was terrible. It just isn't good enough.'

'No man should be entitled to work weekends when there are men not at work during the week who are on the unattached pool.'

'I'm glad it got beat. The shop stewards will have to go back and think again.'

Said a picket from the Midland Cold Store depot: 'I think we shouldn't lift the overtime ban. We took a vote that no one should work overtime until everyone was regularly at work, and that's got to stand.'

Another member of the Midland picket team told us: 'You should have a four-day week—the week should be split in half so that the people who are on the unattached can get their basic wage.'

'I don't agree with lifting the overtime ban unless they're sharing it with the people who are not at work.'

● The New Zealand Meat Board claims that the ban has meant refrigerated meat ships staying so long in London that they are able to make only one trip during the season instead of the customary two.

Already two ships are being switched to the Kent port of Sheerness.

In a letter to each of the port's dockers, the two companies who handle the New Zealand meat trade in London, Scrutton's Maltby and Thames Stevedoring, threaten that 'negotiations are at present in progress which will decide the port in which next season's New Zealand meat trade will be handled.'

The employers' letter demands 'an immediate increase in the tonnage handled per shift' and 'an improvement of at least 50 per cent in the output per gang.'



Dockers vote against lifting the ban

Oxford Council of Action is launched

FORTY delegates representing 22 organizations attended the inaugural meeting of the Oxford Council of Action on Wednesday.

These included delegates from the key 5/55 and 5/60 branches of the Transport and General Workers' Union which cover car workers in Pressed

Steel and Morris Motors and several AUEW delegates.

The meeting pledged to build the Council of Action as part of the campaign to force the Tory government to resign and to elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies—including repeal of the Industrial Relations Act.

A BLACK LIST of local education authorities who are failing to help schools cope with raising the leaving age to 16 may be published by the National Union of Teachers, general secretary Edward Britton, warned at a press conference on an NUT survey published today.

The survey is on the state of preparations made by local education authorities in England and Wales in terms of buildings, curriculum, staffing and in-service education for teachers.

Prisoner 'severely beaten' after sit-down protests

FRANKIE FRASER, serving a 20-year sentence at Gartree Prison, Leicestershire, is believed to have been savagely beaten following the recent sit-down strike there.

One of Mr Fraser's relatives told Workers Press that a prison doctor had filed a report showing that he was suffering from severe bruising.

The injuries are consistent with having been kicked and assaulted.

Fraser is loathed by prison warders. Last year a warder at Wakefield was given a two-year suspended jail sentence and removed from the prison for sending abusive letters to one of Fraser's relatives and misusing official documents.

When the wave of strikes swept through prisons, Fraser was immediately accused by the capitalist press and the warders as being one of the 'ringleaders'. Prisoners at Gartree have since denied this.

'We were all involved. It just happened spontaneously,' one said.

The same people also claimed

Fraser was the 'ringleader' of the Parkhurst prison riot in 1969. This is also untrue. The jury acquitted Fraser of being a major member of the rioters—but he was still given an addi-

tional five years' jail.

Now, since the Gartree sit-down, Fraser has again been victimized by the prison authorities. He has lost 56 days' remission on his current sentence.

Recession hits BP

BRITISH Petroleum, the oil giant, has turned in disastrous profits for the first six months of this year. Profits have crashed by just over £65m—from £86.2m to £21m.

Announcing the figures yesterday the BP board of directors cut the interim dividend to shareholders from 5.67p a share to 5p.

The second quarter figures were also included in yesterday's statement. The company made a net profit of £6m for the second quarter of this year which compares with £37.3m in the same period last year.

Chairman Sir Eric Drake said: 'The unforeseen severity of the

price recession since the autumn of 1971 is basically responsible for the continuing poor group results.'

An indication of the way rising costs and poor selling prices have bitten into BP's profits is given by the disclosure that in the six months period, crude oil sales increased by just over 6 per cent, and sales of oil products and chemicals by just over 8 per cent—but net income per share was down from 23.94p to 5.41p.

The company's shares, already down from a high point this year of 616p, lost only another 5p to 547½p after the announcement.