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FROM DAVID MAUDE
IN BIRMINGHAM

personnel office to tell them of the tribunal's decision at about 10 a.m. today.

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Compulsion to join was not in the rule book of any union, he claimed. 'If they would drop the closed shop policy I would be prepared to look on it with reasonable respect.'

Earlier he told the tribunal chairman Robert E. Chapman that his terms for settling the dispute between himself and the union were:

- That he should be allowed to return to his old job.
- That his case is taken through the works committee, negotiating procedure.
- That the Ryton convenors and the AUEW executive state their position in writing on 'the operation of the closed shop in the offices, shops and work places of this our country'.

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The welder's first application to the Industrial Tribunal was submitted on July 26. This named Chrysler (UK), all its management executives and every single trade unionist in the factory.

It was returned on the grounds that he had no grounds for complaint against the company itself and that it would be impossible to serve writs on all 3,000 Ryton workers.

On August 24 he submitted another application, but this failed to specify the union Langston was complaining against and he was asked to amend it.

Advice

Mr Chapman, a barrister, told Langston that it had been on his advice that he had been asked to amend the application, rather than put in a fresh one. 'We were trying to get you to put yourself within our scope,' Mr Chapman said.

None of the union men named in the amended application appeared at yesterday's hearing. These were Jim Conway, AUEW general secretary, Ken Walton, the works convenor, and George Park, former convenor and now leader of the ruling Labour group on Coventry City Council.

The two-and-a-half-hour hearing was conducted at the tribunal office in the Phoenix Assurance Building in the city centre.

Following the judgement, Langston told reporters that he was 'very much obliged' to the tribunal. 'It was not possible to decide a definite course of action. It all depends on the action taken by the people at work,' he added.

'Paper gold' illusion hits the dust

BY JOHN SPENCER

RUNAWAY inflation is undermining any prospect of international agreement to tackle the monetary and trade crisis of the capitalist world.

This is sharply demonstrated by the dispute which has broken out on the International Monetary Fund over the issue of special drawing rights for 1973.

The basic reason for the disagreement is that the wealthy metropolitan capitalist countries have more paper money than they can cope with, while former colonies and semi-colonies are virtually bankrupt.

The big powers want no more SDRs issued for at least two years, while the poor countries want a full quota of \$3,000m-worth issued on January 1. They need them to pay their debts to the imperialist powers.

The imperialists, however, are against the creation of new inflationary paper credits simply to allow their debtors to pay off some of their obligations.

Like Nixon in Vietnam they want to extract their debts in blood from the colonial workers and peasants. The savage and barbaric bombing of North Vietnam is an indication of the fate awaiting any people which dares to defy imperialism.

The failure to agree on the issue of new SDRs is a crippling blow to this new monetary unit. SDRs are less than five years old. They were conceived only in 1968 in the aftermath of the sterling devaluation and the run on the US gold reserves.

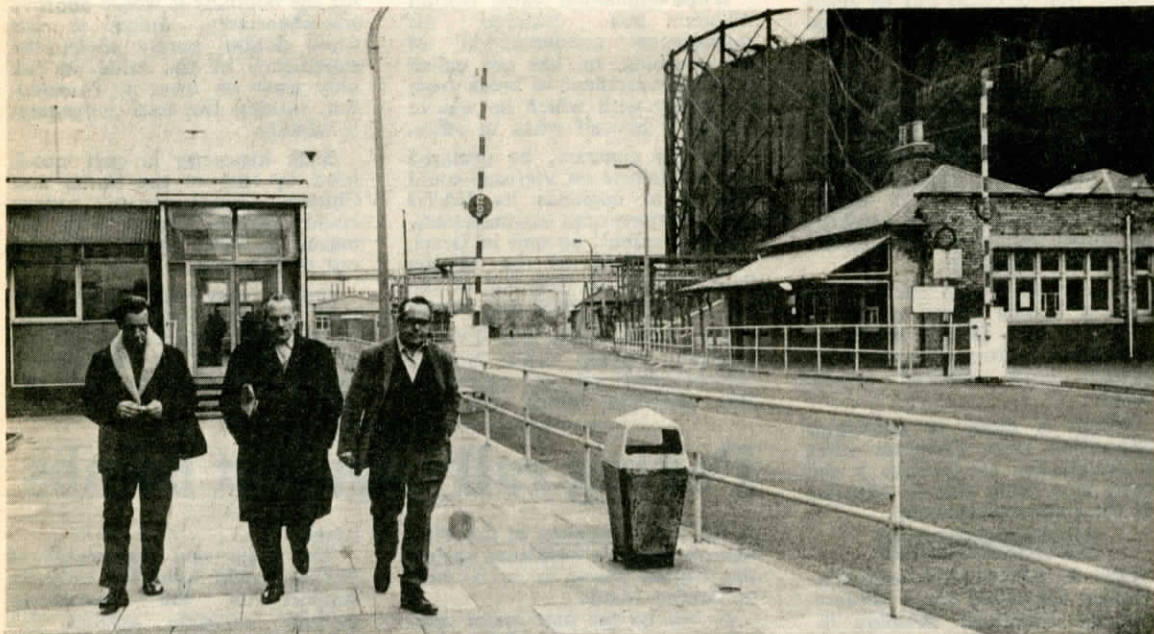
They were supposed to replace gold, which was regarded by liberal pundits as a relic of barbarism which could only cause crises and conflict and ought to be phased out.

The geniuses who organized this inflationary scheme, however, were unable to foresee what would happen to their new system.

According to the 'Financial Times', the authors of the SDR scheme provided for various contingencies, allowing member-countries to opt for fresh creation of SDRs, zero creation or even cancellation of some of the units they had issued.

TURN TO BACK PAGE

Gas overtime ban may spread



Workers leave the early shift at Europe's biggest gas plant

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This warning to the Tories came from leaders of the 600 men at the East Greenwich plant, the largest gas-producing works in Europe.

Over 200 men at the Croydon plant, south London's other main works, were supporting the Greenwich action.

The East Greenwich men are also involved in another major battle against the threat of 200

redundancies in the spring. Last year the South East Gas Board sacked 200 men at the plant.

Gasworkers have reacted angrily to the letter sent by Edward Heath to the unions and the Gas Council on December 15 arrogantly informing them that there was no point in carrying pay negotiations to the point of an offer while the pay laws were in operation.

'There is a 100-per cent resentment to Heath's letter in here,' a spokesman for the Greenwich shop stewards' committee told

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'This action has been pushed on us,' he added. 'We've not got a history of militancy.

But if Heath can un-settle us it shows you what it's coming to. Now this move of ours will spread throughout the country I think.'

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WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY DECEMBER 29, 1972 ● No. 957 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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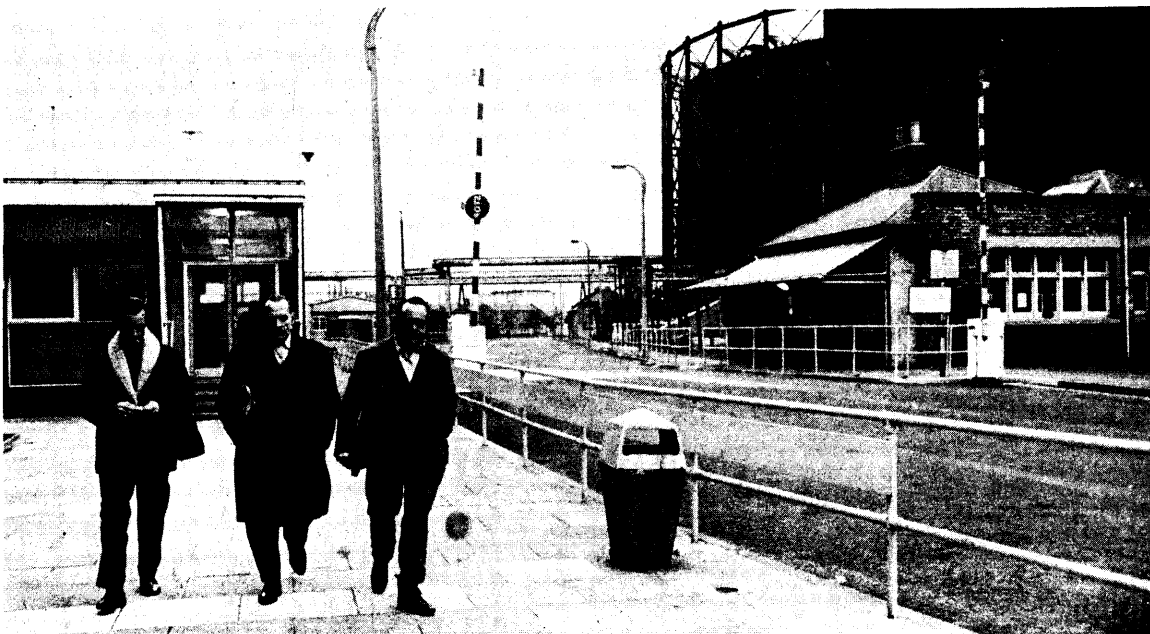
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What we think



Moneybags

HOWARD HUGHES, the multi-millionaire hermit, has taken up residence in Park Lane. His own suite is costing £49 a night. That is more than gas workers earn in two weeks. It's peanuts to Mr Hughes—he's estimated to be worth between £800m to £1,000m.

Mr Hughes is a most unimpressive individual. His attempt at a political career was a shambles, his efforts at film direction were laughable and the majority of his business interventions ended in misfortune.

But Mr Hughes surrounded himself with men who had finer financial brains than his own. Whenever Hughes boomed, they were there to pick up the pieces. True Mr Hughes became a billionaire and his closest advisers became humble millionaires.

Since 1956 the eccentric Mr Hughes has been living in complete seclusion while the money has continued to roll in. Today, whenever he travels, he takes his circus of armed security

men and medical and scientific advisers. (Hughes is terrified of germs—'They're everywhere' (!)—and he also believes the world is under the constant threat of an Armageddon.)

Shortly after midnight on Tuesday this individual arrived at Gatwick Airport. It is normal custom that overseas visitors pass through the health and immigration procedures. (Health seemed particularly important as Hughes had flown from Nicaragua where the earthquake had presented the possibility of a typhoid outbreak.)

Not so for Mr Hughes. His visit here has been marked by the most obscene bowing and scraping by all the agencies of the state. The Special Branch met him at the airport and chaperoned him to his hotel. The stiff immigration ritual—which hours earlier had detained Hughes's compatriot Tom Hayden for almost three hours—was waived.

Hayden had a US passport, Hughes doesn't possess any passport at all. It was then revealed that the Home Office and immigration authorities had been forewarned of Hughes's arrival and had 'agreed to co-operate in giving maximum secrecy'.

The capitalist Press began flocking to the Inn on the Park to worship the Great Man living on the ninth floor. The fire brigade rushed to the scene to make sure that all the safety equipment was in good operational order.

The merchant bankers, N. M. Rothschild and Sons, who handle Hughes's British affairs made the bookings and asked the hotel staff for the utmost co-operation in looking after their client. When a cleaning woman went to the vicinity of Suite 901 she found herself being accompanied up and down the carpet by two well-heeled security men.

(These Hughes 'heavies' also appear to have entered Britain without

normal immigration procedure being followed.)

The vast security arrangements and the gigantic fawning to Hughes are nothing more than an obscene exhibition of worship of wealth.

When Hughes moves from one secret destination to the next one sees the power of this wealth expressing itself. Government departments make special exemptions, the police offer extra precautions, the banking fraternity make all their facilities available.

The liberals are bleating in the Press that if Hughes can enter the country so freely, why can't coloured citizens. They've missed the point. If Hughes was black he would get precisely the same armchair service he got two days ago.

It is not a racial question. We are simply watching on a grand scale what money can buy in a capitalist society.

Zionist bomb blew up PLO man

FRENCH police believe that the bomb attack on the Paris representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization on December 8 was the work of Israeli intelligence.

Mahmoud Hamchari, who has recovered from his wounds, told how a bomb went off after he had answered a mysterious telephone call from 'an Italian journalist'.

The previous day the same voice had arranged a meeting but no one turned up. It is presumed that the explosive device was fixed while Hamchari had left his home.

The bomb was of a special type which could only have been made and installed by professionals. It went off when a certain note was received by the telephone.

The attempt on Hamchari's life is believed to have been one of a series carried out by the Israelis in revenge for the Munich killings.

US bomb genocide takes its toll

Vietnam: Nixon sends every available plane

THE PENTAGON is sending every available plane into the terror-bombing of North Vietnamese cities despite heavy losses.

The US command in Saigon admitted seven servicemen were killed last week and another 73 missing, captured or interned. Most of them were plane crews.

Hanoi claims 31 B52s shot

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

down as well as 40 other planes while the US admits only 12 of the big bombers lost and six smaller planes.

After eight days of pattern-bombing, a US spokesman claimed that the raids had been aimed at exclusively military targets. With typical hypocrisy he added that it could not be ruled out that they had resulted accidentally in some civilian casualties.

Details of damage and casualties published in Hanoi show thousands of civilians killed and wounded and deliberate attacks on hospitals, schools and workers' suburbs. Every expert agrees the high-altitude bombing by formation-flying B52s makes precision impossible.

In any case, with over 20,000 tons of bombs rained on North Vietnam since December 18, all important military targets have already been attacked several times.

Nixon is likely to encounter opposition from Congress when it reconvenes on January 3 and there is a rising tide of criticism of the renewed bombing.

THE AUSTRALIAN Seamen's Union has called for a boycott of all American shipping in protest against renewed US bombing of North Vietnam. Its secretary, E. V. Elliott, said his members were incensed by the bombing and that other waterfront unions were contemplating action. The boycott means that no tugs will be available for US ships and that in some ports there will be no facilities for them to take pilots aboard.

In Europe the only strong criticism from a government has come from Sweden, whose prime minister, Olaf Palme, condemned the raids as an outrage and compared them with the massacres perpetrated by the Nazis and with such atrocities as Guernica, Oradour, Babi Yar, Katyn, Lidice, Sharpeville and Treblinka.

The guilty men in Washington responded to these words with

a protest to Stockholm and are not sending back their Charge d'affaires to Sweden.

The silence of the Heath government shows its solidarity with the butcher Nixon. No word of criticism has come from the other NATO allies of the US imperialists.

While opposition leader Harold Wilson has declared his 'unequivocal condemnation' of the bombing, he has not called on the government to break from US policy with which he was in solidarity himself when in office.

On the contrary, he declared that US failure on Vietnam could lead it to maintain its NATO and Mediterranean commitments. 'To that extent' he said in Israel, 'in the setting of the Middle East, it may be that out of the evil of Vietnam, good may come.'

The Press, radio and TV are carefully playing down Nixon's cold-blooded act of aggression and genocide which has few

parallels in history. They scarcely go beyond a few restrained comments like that of 'The Times':

'The resumption of the heavy bombing of North Vietnam has caused so deep a revulsion of feeling across the world that many people will wonder what possible justification, if any at all, there can be for it in strictly military terms.'

It appears that if 'The Times' could find a military justification for the bombing it would approve wholeheartedly. Since it has some doubts purely about the expediency of the raids, it can only place its trust in Washington, leaving the final judgement to history.

Such hypocrisy is only paralleled by that of the Soviet and Chinese bureaucracies which could provide Hanoi with the means to blast every US plane out of the skies.

Instead they treat North Vietnam as a pawn in their attempt to do a deal with US imperialism at the expense of the revolutionary movement in south-east Asia.

Peking rally against bombs

A RALLY in support of the Vietnamese people's resistance against the United States is to be held in Peking today.

It will be the first major anti-US demonstration in China since President Nixon's visit last February.

The radio said the people of Peking would hold the rally 'in support of the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression and for national salvation'.

Israel's Bangkok embassy ringed by police

MEMBERS of the Black September organization took control of the Israeli embassy in Bangkok yesterday and are holding five hostages.

They are demanding the release of 36 guerrillas held prisoner in Israel, the bodies of the two Japanese commandos killed in the attack on Lydda airport and their own safe conduct out of the country.

They threatened to kill the hostages if these demands are not met. The building is ringed by troops and police and the

Israeli cabinet has held an emergency session.

A Palestinian was remanded in custody yesterday on charges of being in illegal possession of a Browning automatic pistol and 51 rounds of ammunition.

Mohammed Abdul Karim Fuheid, aged 24, was detained at London airport on Christmas Eve. Police took extraordinary security precautions inside and outside the Uxbridge courtroom. After a brief appearance Fuheid was taken to a police van with a blanket over his head.

Socialist Labour League North West Rally

FORCE THE TORY GOVERNMENT TO RESIGN!

BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY!

SUNDAY JANUARY 14, 7 p.m.
The Everyman, Hope Street,
LIVERPOOL

'RIGHT TO WORK' FILM

A film made by ACTT showing the five Right-to-Work marches from Glasgow, Liverpool, Swansea, Deal and Southampton to London ending with a huge Rally at Empire Pool, Wembley on March 12, 1972. Speakers:

G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)
CHRISTINE SMITH (Young Socialists)
In a personal capacity:
CONNIE FAHEY (Manchester Tenants)
ALAN STANLEY (Vauxhall Shop. Stewards)
BRIAN GEENEY (U.P.W.)
WALLY FOUCHS (CAV Occupation Committee)

Fighting the Tory rent Act

CAMDEN MOUNTS CAMPAIGN TO DEFEND REBEL COUNCILLORS

THE CAMDEN Action Committee Against the Housing Finance Act—comprising representatives of all the labour movement organizations in the north London borough—is working for the biggest demonstration yet seen against the Tory rent Act on Sunday, January 7.

The demonstration—**assembling at 2 p.m. at**

Camden Town Hall (opposite St Pancras Station) and proceeding to Parliament Fields—is in support of the Camden Labour council's refusal to implement the Act and for a socialist policy for housing and rents.

The Committee is appealing for support from private and council ten-

ants, trade unionists and Labour Parties from all over Britain.

The London Co-operative Society has agreed to administer a campaign to support this and follow-up demonstrations.

The National Union of Railwaymen and the Post Office Engineering Union are to organize a picket of

the town hall which will start as soon as the district auditor enters the building (which could be any day now) and will continue while he remains there.

Cavalcades with the London Co-operative Society loudspeaker van will tour Camden from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. tomorrow and on Saturday January 6, and

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. this Sunday.

The Action Committee is campaigning for the implementation of the Labour Party National and London conference decisions to refuse to implement the rent Act and to commit a future Labour government to reimburse all Labour councillors surcharged by the Tories.

The Committee also aims to ensure that these decisions are confirmed at the London Labour Party conference in February and included in the manifesto for the Greater London Council elections on April 12.

The Political Committee of the London Co-operative Society has written to the London district committees of all unions affiliated to the London Labour Party, particularly those having council employees in membership, urging support for the campaign.

Era of cheap food is over

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

A WARNING that the era of cheap food is over for good was issued yesterday by the chief of Britain's second biggest food group.

Workers want a share of record Ford sales

FORD of Britain broke all its existing production and sales records in 1972—750,000 vehicles were produced and more than a million engines.

Half a million vehicles were sold in the United Kingdom and over £300m was earned in export revenue.

The main comparisons were 540,000 cars, 144,000 commercial vehicles and 63,000 tractors produced this year while in 1969—the previous best manufacturing year—the company produced 524,000 cars, 134,000 commercial vehicles and 61,000 tractors.

Engine production this year totalled 1.2 million—or an engine every 15 seconds. Car, van and truck sales in Britain topped 500,000 for the first time and the final figure of car sales will reach 400,000, beating 1968—previously the peak year for car sales in the home market—by at least 30 per cent.

Ford's two best selling models—the Cortina and the Escort—took 20 per cent of car sales in the UK market. The Transit medium van took more than 37 per cent of the commercial vehicle market while the Escort van was a clear leader among light commercials.

However, Ford's 50,000 car-workers are now demanding a bigger share of the value they produce.

They want substantial pay increases, shorter hours, longer holidays and other benefits. No figure has been put on the pay claim, but militant shop stewards are talking in terms of an extra £10 a week.

The present two-year agreement expires at the end of February—the same time as the first phase of the Tory government's wage-control legislation. Ford company negotiators are due to have a routine meeting with union representatives in January.

In the latest edition of the Ford Workers' Bulletin, the shop stewards' committees at Dagenham promised a 'sharp reaction from Ford workers' if the government extended its wage-control period.

Lord Watkinson, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes told a conference of businessmen in Blackpool that 1973 would see big price rises.

'The era of cheap food is over. Countries are no longer willing to export primary products at unremunerative prices,' said Lord Watkinson. He added that the Common Market would boost prices even more.

He said the list of prices sensitive to this sort of change was a long one and went on to urge the industry to concentrate more on quality and value for money.

The warning comes after figures which show record increases in fresh food prices and a steady rise in the cost of processed foods—despite the so-called prices freeze.

The Common Market will mean, as Watkinson suggests, that a whole range of food will be beyond the income range of the working class. This will include commodities like good meat and fresh fruit.

But the Watkinson statement also illustrates a strongly emerging policy of big food bosses. They realize that the next 12 months will see big protests against the rocketing cost of food—still the major item in the household budget.

Big margins

They will try to persuade the housewife that the extra cost is worth it because the commodities involved are 'quality' goods.

In fact the image of quality—and therefore higher price—is usually built up by 'saturation' advertising on the television and by packaging. The basic commodity beneath the wrappings remains largely the same.

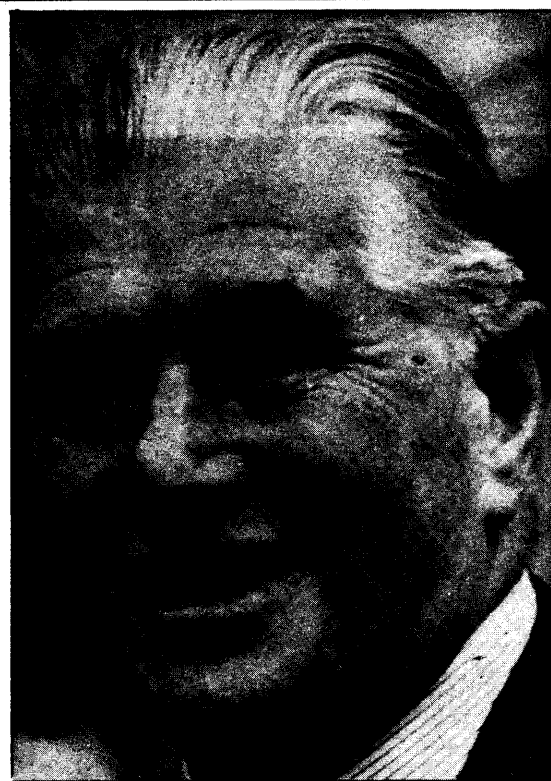
Watkinson told the conference that the manufacturers should demonstrate that their margins were not excessive.

This will be difficult. The margins on some common commodities are enormous. A Prices and Incomes Board report recently found that the profit margin on margarine produced by Unilever (Stork, Blue Band, Echo, etc.) was between 20 and 25 per cent of cost.

These conditions are reflected in the profits of the food giants. While many other sectors of British industry have been suffering a decline, they have been turning in a record performance.

Cadbury Schweppes, which apart from its confection and drinks empire owns Hartley jam, Chivers preserves, 'Smash' instant potatoes and Typhoo Tea, made £10.5m profit in 1971.

Cadbury Schweppes warning



WILLIAMS . . . In 1963 just after he became Party secretary.

No successes against 'Keep Left'

As Labour Party general secretary Len Williams fought desperately and unsuccessfully to prevent the Trotskyists from winning the adherence of the overwhelming majority of the Labour Party Young Socialists.

He was a party to the banning of the youth paper 'Keep Left' in 1962—only to see its circulation rapidly shoot up to 10,000.

This later climbed to over 21,000 for a monthly publication. 'Keep Left' is now the weekly paper of the Young Socialists—the only socialist weekly youth paper in Britain.

Transport House is unable to produce a youth paper at all.

Williams also had a major responsibility for the refusal of Transport House to allow the

Young Socialists National Committee to function after their 1964 conference had overwhelmingly carried the 'Keep Left' programme.

That year police were called to the Labour Party's headquarters to eject members of the Young Socialists' National Committee.

A wave of witch-hunts was launched to drive the youth out of the Labour Party. They replied by forming the Independent Young Socialists as the mass youth movement of the Socialist Labour League.

This movement has gone from strength to strength, as it proved in this year's Right-to-Work campaign, while the Labour Party Young Socialists has remained an ineffective rump organization.

Shotton closure could cost 13,000 jobs—MP

LABOUR MP for East Flintshire, Mr Barry Jones, predicted yesterday there would be another 7,000 steel jobs lost in north Wales and the north west by the decision to close the Shotton steelworks.

The decision to close Shotton itself will mean 6,500 steel jobs axed, while the other 7,000 will be in finishing plants.

Mr Jones said: 'If steelmaking is taken from Shotton it will only be a matter of time before the finishing section is also scheduled for closure.'

'The finishing section cannot continue indefinitely after the closure of the steelmaking department because of increased

cost of transporting steel.'

He said the Shotton closure would mean 'a revival of the spectre of the 1930s. The plan gives a whole community cause for considerable alarm and dismay'.

Lord Melchett, chairman of British Steel Corporation, and Sir Raymond Brookes, chairman of Guest Keen and Nettlefold, will meet in Cardiff today to discuss the threatened closure of the city's East Moors steelworks.

One possibility being discussed is that GKN, owners of East Moors before nationalization, might buy it back.

Death of a witch-hunter

SIR LEONARD WILLIAMS, Governor-General of Mauritius since 1968 and a former general secretary of the Labour Party, died on Wednesday aged 68.

From being a loyal servant of the right wing of British social democracy, Williams experienced no difficulty in making the transition to enthusiastic administration for British imperialism.

He became secretary of the Leeds Labour Party in 1936 and Yorkshire organizer from 1942-1946. He fought bitterly in those early years to drive Trotskyists and left-wingers out of the Labour Party.

Following this he moved to London as assistant national agent and became national agent in 1951.

In 1962 he succeeded Morgan Phillips as general secretary of the Labour Party.

He was, in effect, holding that post (deputizing for the sick Phillips) at the time of the 1960 Labour Party conference which carried a resolution demanding unilateral nuclear disarmament by Britain, in the teeth of bitter opposition from leader Hugh Gaitskell and the right wing.

It was Williams who, following that left-wing victory, laid down the principle that the Parliamentary Labour Party was not subject to decisions of Labour Party conferences.

As Governor General of Mauritius, Williams presided over a regime of terror. Less than three years after he took up the post, a state of emergency was declared and 13 large trade unions banned.

The ruling coalition government of the Labour Party and the Parti Mauricien Social Democrat (PMSD) has been racked by financial scandals and corruption.

Faced with the growing strength of the left wing Militant Mauritian Movement (MMM), this government simply called off the elections due this year and put them back until 1976.

During the bitter Mauritian dock strike of 1971, the government—following talks with the British Tories—rushed through the Trades Dispute Ordinance outlawing the strike and imposing a minimum sentence of six months for participating in it.

HARRY S. TRUMAN—

'... AND I'VE NEVER LOST ANY SLEEP OVER IT'

Part one of a series by Jack Gale on Harry S. Truman, the US President who made the decision to drop the first Atomic bomb.

On April 12, 1945, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, architect of the New Deal fraud, enemy of the working class and idol of Stalinists and labour fakers the world over, suffered a cerebral haemorrhage and died instantly.

The same day, Harry S. Truman, a man almost unknown outside the immediate circle of the Democratic Party, was sworn in as the United States President.

Three months later—on July 16—American scientists and military men gathered before dawn on the New Mexico desert, their eyes covered with dark glasses, to watch the first detonation of an Atomic bomb.

As the fireball erupted to a height of 41,000 feet, one scientist present, Robert Oppenheimer, was reminded of a passage from the 'Bhagavad-Gita': 'I am become Death, the shatterer of worlds.'

Truman's committee of top officials and atomic scientists recommended that Atomic bombs be exploded over Japan at once and without warning. On July 25, the President issued the necessary order to prepare to drop the bombs at the first favourable moment after August 3 if Japan had not accepted surrender.

At the Potsdam conference surrender terms had been offered to the Japanese which required only a guarantee that the emperor would retain his position to be accepted.

Without this guarantee, the Japanese would not surrender. Accordingly, at 9.15 a.m. on August 6 a B29 US aircraft called 'Enola Gay' dropped the Atom bomb from a height of 31,600 feet over Hiroshima.

Four square miles were razed to the ground and 60,175 people were killed instantly.

Almost all the city's doctors were killed or too seriously injured to work, as were 1,654 out of 1,780 nurses.

That afternoon people who seemed to have escaped unhurt began to die, the first signs of the effects of radiation.

At noon on August 9, a few hours after Russia declared war on Japan, the second Atomic bomb exploded over Nagasaki, killing 36,000 more.

People are still dying as a direct result of these two bombs—the total now being over 200,000.

Truman was on his way home from the Potsdam conference when news of the Hiroshima bomb was flashed to him on the warship 'Augusta'. He told officers at the mess table: 'This is the greatest thing in history.' A formal statement, issued from Washington with his approval, declared: 'What has been done is the greatest achievement of organized science in history.'

On leaving the White House in 1952 this 'Mr Democrat' was still of the same opinion—although the full devastating effect of the bombings was well known by then.

'The final decision of where and when to use the bomb was up to me,' he declared. 'Let there be no mistake about that. I regarded the bomb as a military weapon and never had any doubt that it should be used.'

'I did not hesitate a minute and I've never lost any sleep over it since.'

Although the final decision

was indeed his, the American president's responsibility was shared by others. At the Potsdam conference Churchill unhesitatingly told him that he favoured the use of the Atomic bomb as a means of ending the war.

By the time the bombs were dropped, the British workers had unceremoniously ejected this leader of British imperialism, but his successor, Labour premier Clement Attlee, was fully informed of the Americans' intention to use atomic bombs. And he raised no objections.

Stalin, too, was aware of the existence of the weapon and—by declaring war on Japan between the bombing of Hiroshima and that of Nagasaki—gave tacit approval to its use.

Certainly, Stalinist newspapers the world over—not least the British 'Daily Worker'—hailed the dropping of these bombs as gigantic blows for world peace.

On September 2, 1945, the Japanese signed surrender documents on the deck of the battleship 'Missouri'. The Americans had given the required undertaking that the Imperial family could remain. Had that undertaking been given before August 6, the Japanese would undoubtedly have surrendered then. There was no other difference between the terms offered before the atomic bombings and those accepted afterwards.

American stories that the Atomic bomb was justified to prevent another year of war and to 'save 500,000 American lives' are a pack of lies. So are the Stalinist arguments of the time which faithfully backed up the American 'self-justification'.

The atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki served no direct military purpose whatever. They did not shorten the war by a single day.

But there were two very real reasons for unleashing this rain of death. One was simply to find out what effect the weapon would have on human beings. It was a cold, brutal 'scientific' experiment infinitely more horrible than anything perpetrated by Hitler's concentration camp doctors.

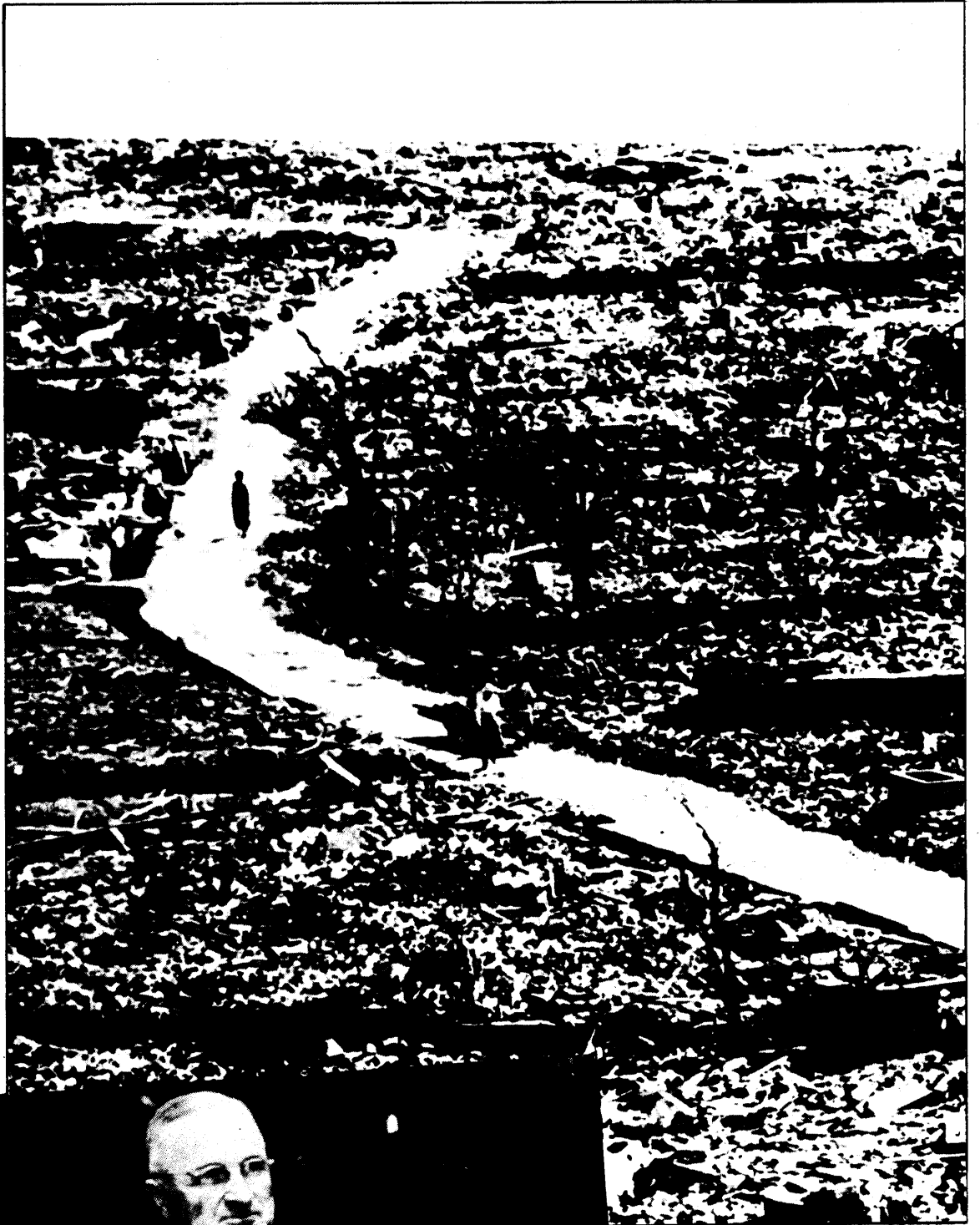
The second reason was to display America's lead in military potential as World War II came to its close. Truman and his advisers intended this as a warning to the Soviet Union, the colonial revolution and the workers of western Europe—all of whom they considered a threat to the continuance of capitalism.

That Stalin went along with this should cause no surprise. He retained as much faith in the leaders of world imperialism as he had had in Adolf Hitler until the actual invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941.

Moreover, Stalin feared the colonial revolution and the upsurge of the European working class as much as Truman did.

American imperialism was able to 'stabilize' western European capitalism only with the assistance of the Stalinists who rushed into coalition governments with bourgeois parties in both France and Italy and preached restraint to the working class which was prepared to go forward to challenge for power.

Without this treachery by



Truman at Potsdam. Above: Nagasaki on August 9, 1945.

the Stalinists, United States imperialism would have been unable to sustain capitalism in the old world, to occupy parts of Germany and Austria, to defend reaction in Greece, to re-arm the Turkish bourgeoisie and to establish air and naval bases throughout the world.

All of this was carried out under the presidency of Harry S. Truman.

Truman was in on the launching of the Cold War. In January 1946, he declared that Russia must be 'faced with an iron fist and strong language . . . only one thing do they understand "How many divisions have you?" . . . I'm tired of babying the Soviets.'

In March 1946, Truman accompanied Churchill to Fulton, Missouri, where the latter made his notorious 'iron curtain' speech.

In March 1947, the American President enunciated the 'Truman Doctrine'. 'One of the primary objectives of the foreign policy of the United States,' he declared, 'is the

creation of conditions in which we and other nations will be able to work out a way of life free from coercion. We shall not realize our objectives unless we are willing to help free peoples to maintain their free institutions and their national integrity against aggressive movements that seek to impose on them totalitarian regimes . . . I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures.'

In plain English this meant the commitment of enormous sums of money to prop up the ailing economies of the old imperialist powers and to take over their military responsibilities in the colonial world.

It was, indeed, a very close thing. In May 1947, when the Marshall Plan was launched, bread rations in Italy and France were down to half a pound a day. In Britain terrible fuel shortages produced crip-

pling power cuts.

The Financial Editor of 'Reuter' wrote 'The biggest crash since the fall of Constantinople—the collapse of the heart of an Empire—impends.'

And Winston Churchill was describing Europe as 'a rubble heap, a charnel house, a breeding ground of pestilence and hate'.

In March 1948, in response to Truman's appeal to 'halt the advance of communism', Congress passed the Foreign Assistance Act. This involved an immediate grant of \$5,300m to Europe, \$463m for China and \$275m for Greece and Turkey.

After prolonged fighting—with neither the Soviet Union nor Yugoslavia lifting a finger to help them—the Greek guerrillas were beaten.

Turkish capitalism was restored and the situation in the Mediterranean 'stabilized'.

Altogether the United States dished out \$12,000m under the Marshall Plan, including \$700m to take over from the British in the Near East.

But world imperialism could not be saved by economic aid alone, despite the willing collaboration of the Stalinists. More and more the United States was committed to military expenditure. At the outset of Marshall Aid, Congress expressly stipulated that none of it was to be used for military purposes.

But within less than three years, the Americans were insisting that every cent should be allotted so as to contribute to western 'defences'.

CONTINUED TOMORROW



BULGARIAN WORKERS POSE SOME PROBLEMS

Bulgaria is renowned as the most conservative and orthodox of the East European countries with a leadership closely tied to the Kremlin.

Rapid industrialization, forced through on the Stalinist pattern, has brought about a considerable transformation of the country. Still a backward agrarian country at the end of World War II, Bulgaria now has modern industries and a large working class.

The bureaucracy has been able to keep down wages by a combination of repression and ideological pressure. Until the early 1960s the former predominated, but since the dismissal of Vylko Chervenkov, a Stalinist of the old school, in 1962 more emphasis has been placed on the latter.

His place is now occupied by a colourless apparatusman of the Brezhnev stamp, the more flexible Todor Zhivkov, backed up by a youngish team of ministers and an ageing Politburo. While the pragmatists go to it, seeking trade with western businessmen, the orthodox elders steer the Party on a typically Stalinist course.

A whole system of titles, distinctions, medals and awards has been thought up in an effort to boost production. But it doesn't seem to have been enough. Signs that the working class is becoming restless and is demanding a bigger share of the good things of life are evident in the proceedings of the Communist Party Central Committee held in the first part of December.

INGENTIVES

A report of its decisions calls for the setting up of a special commission to deal with problems of the living standards of the working people. The Committee calls for many changes: higher pay for night work, a scientific reform of wage scales, improved bonus scales.

It looks as though the awards and medals and the appeals to 'moral incentives' are not having the desired effect. It is also evident that many Bulgarian workers and housewives have not been afraid to criticize the bureaucracy and its mismanagement. The Central Committee

solemnly decreed that 'the quality of baby foods and goods should be greatly improved'. Longer maternity leave, increased pensions and disability payments were also suggested.

It is necessary to overcome rapidly the shortage of goods which are important to the population and to ensure a better satisfaction of the demand for consumer goods', the Committee resolution demanded. Better supplies of everything would sum it up fairly.

The Committee calls for better housing and new technological and organizational methods in the building trade. Centralized heating should be adopted. Efforts should be made to stop high labour turnover.

SORE POINT

Judging from this resolution, very little has been right with the Bulgarian economy up to now and the bureaucracy is now seriously worried. A desperate effort is being made to throw a sop to the working class.

Housing seems to be an especially sore point, which is to be expected in a country where industrial towns have been growing rapidly. Evidently the bureaucracy has been taking more than its fair share and corruption in high places has been causing an outcry.

On this point the resolution says: 'Those living in state-owned apartments should not be allowed to build country houses and to buy private cars, unless they have purchased these apartments from their own resources or have built their own apartments.' So it seems that some have acquired country houses and private cars at the state's expense!

And the resolution goes on: 'Greater social justice should be applied in the distribution of rented apartments. Citizens who engage in speculative dealings in housing should be punished by various sanctions, including confiscation of their property and expulsion from the city or settlement in which they committed the offence.'

Can it be that in the Peoples Democracy of Bulgaria, under the rule of the Communist Party for a quarter of a century, speculators and queue-jumpers have been operating with impunity and that it is

Above: Bulgarian party leader of the past, Georghi Dimitrov (left) and of the present, Todor Zhivkov are portrayed on posters in a parade through Sofia.

only now that it has come to the notice of the Central Committee?

The Central Committee, which was presided over by Party boss Zhivkov, called for a review of all programmes for enhancing the people's living standards in the sixth Five-Year Plan.

Some of these proposals were immediately adopted by the National Assembly at its session which opened on December 18. The national minimum wage was raised to a miserly 80 leva* a month. The retired Stalinist dictator, Vylko Chervenkov, receives a state pension of 600 leva a month and lives in his own villa on the outskirts of Sofia.

Many workers have been taking home no more than 100 leva a month, giving a standard of living lower than that in neighbouring countries. The increased flow of commodities into the shops noted by visitors in recent years have been very inequitably distributed.

CORRUPTION

The privileges of the bureaucracy, and the illicit gains of its corrupt members, stood out all the more glaringly. Bulgarian workers have been getting increasingly impatient.

The question of whether it will be possible to fulfil these promises of higher wages and improved supplies of goods and put a brake on speculation and corruption remains in doubt.

Bulgaria will have to increase its trade not only with the other COMECON (East European EEC) countries but even more with the outside world if there is to be any hope of improving the supply of consumer goods. It can count on little or no help from the Soviet Union which is embroiled in its own economic crisis.

So far Bulgaria has been the quietest of the East European countries. The Central Committee resolution suggests that underneath the surface explosive forces have been building up. The coming year may see unprecedented events in the most Stalinist of the People's Democracies.

* About 2.63 leva to the £.

GRIM FUTURE FOR THE EX-VIETNAM GI

The US White House estimates that about 25,000 Vietnam war veterans have returned home suffering from drug addiction. And the number is increasing all the time.

Last year Pentagon sources estimated that 10 to 15 per cent of US personnel then in Vietnam were heroin users—between 26,000 and 40,000 men.

Some medical authorities in America claim that even this estimate is too low. The official figures are based on urine samples conducted on the soldiers before they were repatriated from the war theatre.

But many addicts, claim these authorities, were able to abstain from using heroin for up to a week so that they would pass the tests and avoid being held in Vietnam.

These American soldiers became drug addicts with supplies provided by the allies they were fighting to 'save from communism'.

The Golden Triangle—the district near the borders of Burma, Thailand and Laos—is one of the world's major producers of illegal opium.

Enterprising Vietnamese businessmen quickly established laboratories in this region to produce the high-grade opium required by the Americans.

But it is not only the Vietnamese who are making money out of the GI drug addicts. American drug-pushers have organized large-scale imports

from the Golden Triangle into the States.

This supply has replaced the former main source—the Turkish opium poppy fields. And this has rendered largely ineffectual the American government's much-publicized subsidy to the Turkish campaign to reduce poppy production.

A heroin addict requires up to \$100 a day to finance his habit. It is therefore good business for international dope rings to provide Vietnam soldiers with cheap opium—and then cash in on the market when the hooked victims get back home.

There is also substantial evidence to show that soldiers who start out on marijuana in Vietnam rapidly move on to opium—contrary to the rubbish peddled by the so-called 'progressives' who advocate its use.

There is now—in conditions of growing unemployment in the United States—a particular problem of unemployment among Vietnam veterans.

Drug addicts are unable to hold a job and many employers won't take on an ex-soldier at all.

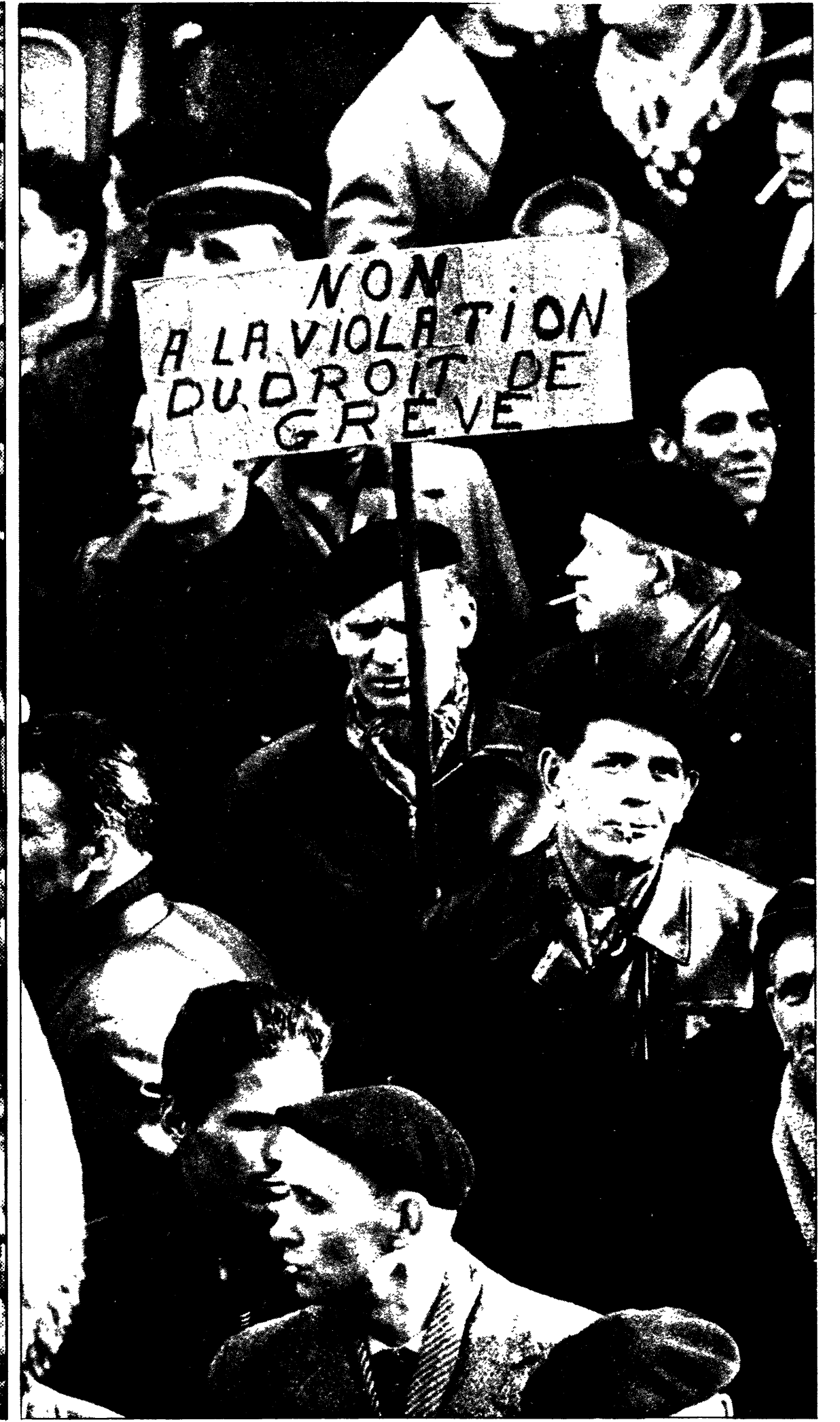
In New York subway and bus posters implore employers to give the ex-soldier a chance. 'He is back home with maturity and experience, give him a job,' they plead.

But with a surplus of labour on the market, many employers won't take a chance.

Meanwhile the drug traffic continues to grow. Business is business, after all—and drugs are big business.

Below: US soldiers in Vietnam— at home prospects are grim.





FOR THE UNITED SOCIALIST STATES OF EUROPE!

Statement by the International Committee of the Fourth International.

The enlargement of the Common Market with the entry of Britain, Ireland and Denmark on January 1 is a desperate attempt by the European employers to band together to meet world capitalism's economic crisis.

This is their response to the breakdown of the international monetary system and the development of trade and economic warfare between the major capitalist powers.

This is the only basis on which they can hope to combat their rivals in the United

States and Japan for an increased share of the shrinking world market and to gain outlets for capital investment.

The monopolists who dominate the Common Market and determine its policies have to grind more surplus value out of their workers by slashing the labour force and intensifying exploitation.

The biggest obstacle to their reactionary plans is the working class of Europe, which is undefeated and determined to preserve its hard-won conditions and basic rights.

The monopolists and their political mouthpieces in the Common Market governments want a single, unified market in Western Europe for their

own benefit while at the same time erecting tariff walls and other trade barriers to keep out their competitors' goods.

This does not mean that the European employers have been able to overcome their national conflicts and rivalries with the EEC. The collapse after only eight months of the latest monetary union plan demonstrates that the national interests of the EEC members cannot be peacefully harmonized.

The adoption of protectionist policies reveals that European capitalism has arrived in a historical cul-de-sac and become an absolute obstacle to the further development of the productive forces,

and above all of the working class itself.

The crude protectionist policy of the EEC is accompanied by the concentration of capital into fewer and fewer hands through mergers and formation of cartels encouraged and fostered by the Common Market commission in Brussels.

The parasitic character of much of this capital is revealed in the feverish speculation in property on the currency markets and above all in the existence of the vast pool of 60,000m surplus dollars not secured by gold cover which constitutes the Euro-dollar market.

Under the slogan of regional

development the EEC is encouraging the flow of capital from the old industrial centres in Britain and elsewhere to low-wage areas of Europe like fascist Spain where unions are banned and strikes are savagely punished.

This is accompanied by a ruthless rationalization of basic industry to improve the European employers' chances of competing with the US and Japan and to bring down the prices of EEC exports.

In the steel industry, for example, closures and sackings are taking place right across Europe. In the Ruhr, Lorraine and in Northern France workers are being flung onto the dole to make way for the con-



Police move in and attack demonstrating workers and students in Milan, Italy.

struction of automated modern steel plants built with government aid.

In Britain, the Steel Corporation plans to concentrate production at five modern plants with a systematic programme of closures and sackings throughout the industry. Driving forward this process is a flood of cheap steel from Japanese industry which comfortably undercuts European prices even after transporting its product half way round the world.

Shipbuilding is another basic industry faced with virtual extinction as part of the Common Market's industrial rationalization plans. The parasitic shipbuilding employers have for years restricted new investment to a minimum and are now unable to compete with their Japanese rivals.

The object of this strategy is to create unemployment which can be used to assist the member governments in smashing the trade unions and bringing down wages. That is the purpose of the anti-inflation declarations adopted at the Paris summit in October. These attacks are being

mounted against a background of price inflation, running at an average of over 10 per cent within the EEC. The adoption of value-added tax in April and the very sharp rise in food prices resulting from 'harmonization' of British food prices under the common agricultural policy will create an additional crushing burden for workers whose wages are being held down by law.

The Stalinists of the French and Italian Communist Parties as well as the Social Democrats fraudulently claim that the Common Market can be 'democratized' and advocate the participation of the labour movement in such institutions as the European parliament.

They are simply clearing the road for the eventual corporatist onslaught on the working class, in accordance with the Kremlin's counter-revolutionary policy of peaceful co-existence and the preparation for the European security conference.

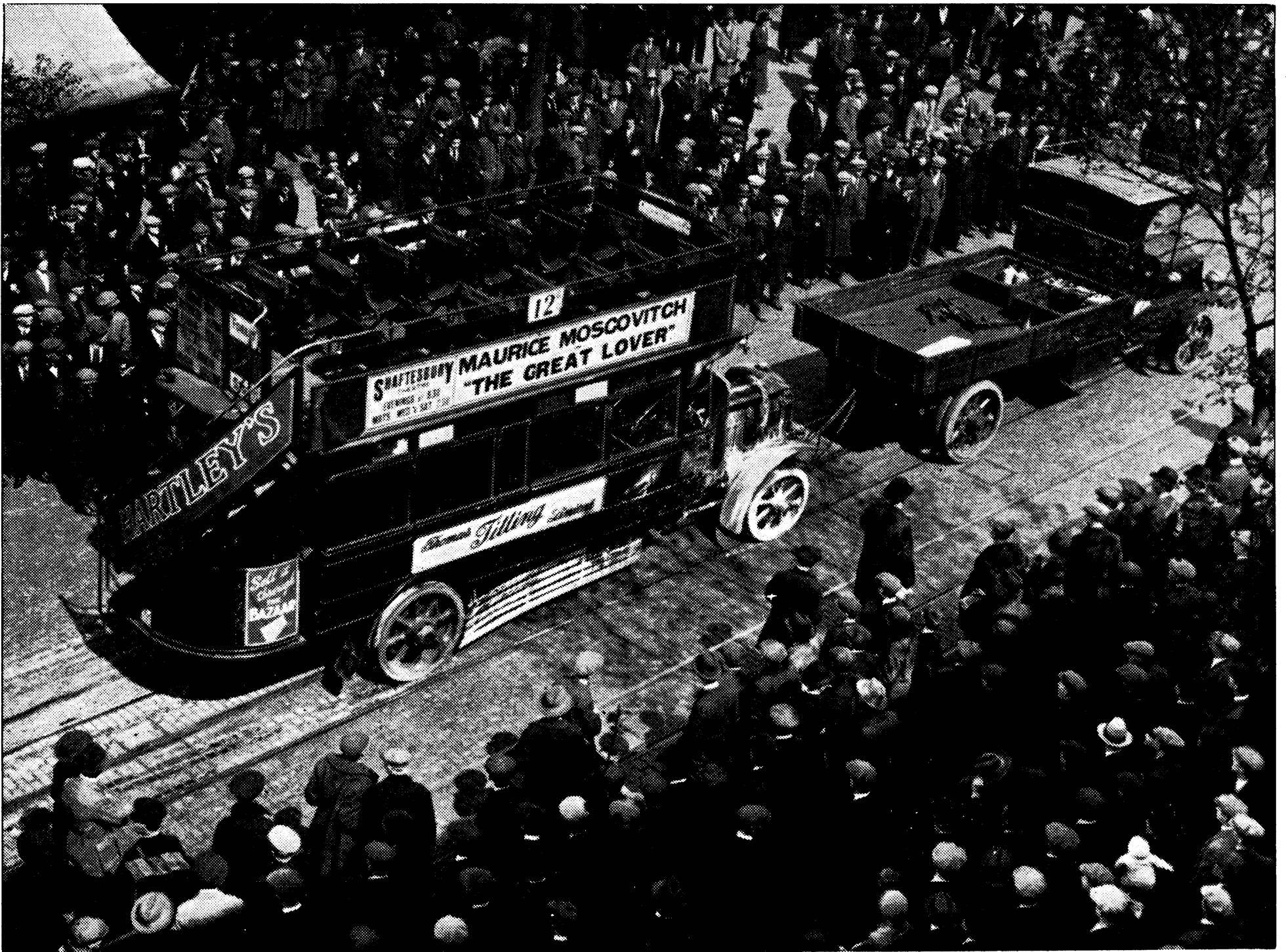
The International Committee denounces the Stalinist policy as an attempt to disarm the working class in the face of great dangers. The Common

Market has nothing to offer the workers of Europe except unemployment, wage cuts, the destruction of their organizations and the drive towards the corporate state. If left unchallenged the plans of the European monopolies will result in the creation of fascist states and inevitable plunge to atomic war.

Against the Common Market of the monopolists and their agents within the labour movement, the working class must fight for the Socialist United States of Europe based on expropriation of the employers in the west and the Stalinist bureaucracy in the east.

To carry through this task today means the construction of sections of the International Committee of the Fourth International in every European country and an uncompromising struggle against counter-revolutionary Stalinism.

These attacks are being



The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers is today in the forefront of the struggle against the Tory government's Industrial Relations Act. Here a special correspondent highlights important and significant episodes in the history of the engineers' fight to build their union against the employers, their governments and their courts.

HOW THE ENGINEERS BUILT THEIR UNION

Part six: The General Strike to the fight against the Tory government today.

In May 1924 the engineers proposed the formation of an Industrial Alliance which included transport workers, locomotive men, foundry workers, steel workers, engineers, miners and the Workers' Union.

Afraid of its potential power for overthrowing the government, Thomas and the TUC right wing rendered the Industrial Alliance stillborn on the eve of the General Strike.

During the General Strike, large numbers of engineers came out in support of the beleaguered miners, despite the TUC order to limit their role to that of auxiliaries—whom they never intended to mobilize.

From its formation in 1924, a section of the engineers played a major part in the

National Minority Movement. The NMM inherited many of the personnel and the syndicalist ideas of the shop stewards' movement. Its main influence was in centres like London, Glasgow and Sheffield where the older movement had penetrated most.

From the onset the Communist Party became the main political driving force inside the NMM. But the CP soon degenerated under Stalin's leadership into providing cover for 'left' trade union bureaucrats inside the TUC. This prevented the NMM from developing any alternative, revolutionary leadership inside the unions.

With the defeat of the General Strike, the CP's policy not to resist the TUC General Council's ultimatum to trades councils to disaffiliate from the NMM virtually killed the movement.

In two-and-a-half years of Tory rule, working-class mili-

tancy has now reached a peak unparalleled since the early 1920s. But mere militancy today is not enough to defeat the Tory government.

The trade union 'neutrality' in the political arena, as epitomized by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers (ASE) in the mid-Victorian heyday of British capitalism, served a progressive function at a time when the material basis existed for granting concessions on wages after a deputation from the workmen had been received by the master.

Since the onset of cut-throat imperialist rivalry for the division and redivision of world markets and the permanence of the world crisis of capitalism, it has been impossible for the working class to hold on to its gains in wages and conditions without encountering the fundamental requirements of the ruling class to take back all historical gains made by workers.

In the course of their history engineering workers have faced many severe defeats but they were still able to recover and add to their living and working standards. The end of the post-war boom has sig-

nalled the end of an era when such recovery was possible.

The mortal crisis of the British economy finds one of its reflections in the hopelessly uncompetitive nature of both the traditional heavy industries and the modern light engineering sector. Under Common Market conditions the increasing outflow of capitalist investment from Britain into Europe threatens to turn many engineering plants into scrap yards.

Because of the depth of the crisis of value, the political tasks before the employers to use the machinery of the Industrial Relations Act and other dictatorial measures to undermine the workers' organizations and the tasks facing the working class to secure and defend all trade union and basic rights means total victory or total defeat for one class.

On crucial occasions in their history the engineers—out of necessity—have taken the political road in defence of their rights.

In the second half of the 19th century they participated in agitation votes for the working class. They contributed to the formation of

The General Strike, 1926. A bus, immobilized by strikers, is towed away. Large numbers of engineers came out, despite the TUC order to limit their role to that of auxiliaries—whom they never intended to mobilize.

the Labour Party.

And during the 1914-1918 war, engineers in areas like the Clyde fought a bitter struggle against the Tory-Liberal coalition and their trade union leaders who had sold their basic right to strike during the war period.

The most decisive political struggle for the engineers and the working class is straight ahead.

The principal question facing the engineers is that of leadership. The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' official leadership, Scanlon and company, vacillate over the full mobilization of the industrial strength of the union to serve notice on the Industrial Relations Act and the Tory government.

The consequences of any failure to act decisively against the government will be far greater than the treachery of past betrayals like that of South Wales, the Amalgamated Engineering Union (AEU) leaders and TUC General Council members during the General Strike of 1926.

As the engineering workers last week took industrial action against the Industrial Relations Act, the best traditions of the historic struggles of the engineers for basic rights must be consciously absorbed into the task of building revolutionary leadership in the AUEW and in the working class as a whole.

Engineers can take a significant step forward in the fight to remove the Tory government from office and re-elect a Labour government committed to socialist policies. It is only on the foundations of a socialist planned economy that trade unions and all basic rights can be lastingly secured.

CONCLUDED



Union leaders, Herbert Smith, A. J. Cook and W. P. Richardson arriving at 10 Downing Street, prior to the defeat of the General Strike.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

DEBATE



This item appeared in 'The Times' the other day: 'BBC television is launching a new type of debate in depth on social and moral issues. "The Sunday Debate" will run for 12 weeks from January 7 and will feature four debates, each taking up three programmes. Viewers will state their responses. The two assessors will be Mr Reginald Maudling and the Rev D. Cupitt, Dean of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.' No comment!

WEALTH

Answering a parliamentary question on November 15, Mr John Nott, Minister of State at the Treasury, gave estimates of the amounts that would be raised by a wealth tax at various rates. One of these was that wealth tax which exempted the first £20,000, applied at 1 per cent between £20,000 and £30,000 and progressed at an additional 1 per cent for each successive £10,000 to a maximum of 10 per cent on wealth in excess of £110,000, would yield about £1,000m, about 700,000 people would be liable to pay the tax.

The cost of increasing retirement pensions to £10 for a single person and £16 for a married couple would be about £1,000m.

ROUGH TIME

Remember Mr and Mrs Sibley of Luton? They were presented as real 'freedom fighters' in the Tory Press after they kept their two daughters away from school for two years rather than send them to a comprehensive.

Two months ago virtue found its own reward, we were told, when a wealthy businessman Mr L. de Wirtz put up the money to send the girls to an expensive public school.

BOOKS



Moscow Trials Anthology
Paperback, 62p
MAX SHACHTMAN:
Behind The Moscow Trial
Paperback 75p
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Stalinism in Britain
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LEON TROTSKY:
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US COURTS BECOME ARMED CAMPS

US ROUND UP

Since Judge Harold Haley was taken hostage and killed during the Marin County shoot-out two years ago, security in San Francisco courts has become more elaborate and bewildering every day.

Gone is the once-austere atmosphere of the courtroom. It has been replaced by the paraphernalia of an armed camp.

Bulletproof glass partitions to separate spectators from the defendants and attorneys have been erected in many courtrooms. Closed-circuit TV systems have been installed to allow defendants who disrupt proceedings to view their trials from a separate room.

At a current Hell's Angels motorcycle gang murder trial, up to 20 deputy sheriffs are assigned to security duty every day. Many of the deputies display loaded shotguns.

Spectators and Press must pass through two checkpoints before being admitted. They must record their names and display some identification and are then subjected to a very thorough personal search.

Reporters have had bottles of aspirin, nail files, pocket knives and even hair combs taken from them.

All reporters are searched four or five times a day—each time they enter the courtroom—no matter how well-known they are to the police.

Even the men's room is kept locked, with a deputy stationed on guard nearby.

At the murder trial of Ruchell Magee, security has been even more stringent. Magee is the man accused of killing Judge Haley. He has watched most of his trial so far on closed-circuit TV because of his habit at taking swings at attorneys. He enters court handcuffed.

In August 1971 Magee was one of three San Quentin prisoners who were brought to Judge Haley's courtroom to face charges of stabbing a prison guard.

Suddenly a young man—

TELEVISION WHIPPED INTO LINE

The White House has drafted tough new legislation that will hold individual television stations accountable, at the risk of losing their licences, for the content of all network material they broadcast.

This constitutes a determined effort by the Nixon administration to keep broadcasters in line ideologically.

The existence of the draft legislation and the intention of the administration to introduce it in Congress early in 1973, were revealed last week by Mr Clay Whitehead, director of the White House Office of Telecommunications Policy.

In a speech to the Indianapolis chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, the professional journalism fraternity, Mr Whitehead attacked 'ideological plugola' in network news reporting and



The shoot-out at Marin County courthouse, two years ago. Above: hostages in the corridor. Top: Judge Haley being led outside.

later identified as 17-year-old Jonathan Jackson—stood up in a public seat and cried: 'All right this is it. Everybody freeze.'

Armed with a shotgun, he took the judge, the prisoners and other hostages outside to a van. There was a shootout and the judge, Jackson and a prisoner were killed.

Since then, security has dominated the area's courtrooms.

Police officers carrying loaded sub-machine guns stand at the rear of the court outside, ten other officers in light blue jumpsuits carrying tear gas, long nightsticks, hand

guns and two-way radios patrol the corridors of the hall of justice.

The entire proceedings are monitored on TV screens by members of the crime prevention bureau.

Before being admitted to the courtroom, members of the public and the Press must be searched, have their pictures taken, and be issued with passes with specific seat numbers. They are then personally escorted to their seats by uniformed deputies.

'The defendant can go to the toilet easier than I can,' commented one disgusted reporter.

This outburst is reminiscent of vice-president Spiro Agnew's violent attack on the news media made in 1970.

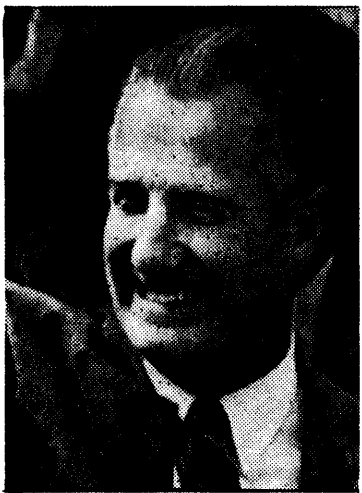
Whitehead's announcement brought widespread protests from broadcasters throughout America. Mr Tom Chaucey, president of the television station KOOL in Phoenix, said: 'If Whitehead really means this . . . (it) could mean censorship of news and entertainment, the government telling us what to broadcast and telling the people what they should see or hear.'

Along with this attempt to gag broadcasters went an intensified attack by President Nixon on the 'Washington Post'.

Nixon was enraged when two young 'Post' reporters dug up a mass of evidence to show that highly-placed members of his staff had been involved in political sabotage, spying and crude forging of documents in order to discredit leading Democrats in an election year.

Reports from America say that White House aides are openly boasting of how the 'Post' is going to be 'screwed' by starving it of news and blocking its access to sources in the know.

One step in this has been to bar the 'Post' from the White House over the Christmas period.



Spiro Agnew, who in 1970 began the attack on the news media with several violent outbursts.

said local stations would have to bear responsibility for such matter carried over their facilities.

'Station managers and network officials who fail to act to correct imbalance or consistent bias in the networks—or who acquiesce by silence—can only be considered willing participants, to be held fully accountable at licence renewal time,' he declared.

'Who else but management can or should correct so-called professionals who confuse sensationalism with sense and who dispense élitist gossip in the guise of news analysis?'

All Trades Unions Alliance MEETINGS

Fight Rising Prices
Force the Tories to Resign
Support the Engineers

CENTRAL LONDON (Press and Entertainments branch): Sunday December 31, 3 p.m. Inns of Court Mission, Drury Lane/Broad Court. 'The Common Market'. Speaker: John Spencer (Workers Press).

EAST LONDON: Tuesday January 2, 8 p.m. 'Festival Inn', Crisp Street Market, E14.

WEST LONDON: Tuesday January 2, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Road, King's Cross.

BRACKNELL: Tuesday January 2, 8 p.m. Priestwood Community Centre.

HARROW AND WEALDSTONE: Tuesday January 2, 8 p.m. Labour Hall, Railway Approach, Station Road, Harrow.

CLAPHAM: Tuesday January 2, 8 p.m. Clapham Baths, Clapham Manor Street. 'Transform the SLL into a revolutionary party'.

TOTTENHAM: Wednesday January 3, 8 p.m. 'Bricklayer's Arms', Tottenham High Road.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday January 4, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road. 'Build Councils of Action! Defend the engineers!'

LETCHWORTH: Thursday January 4, 8 p.m. Trades Hall. (please note changed date.)

WATFORD: Monday January 8, 8 p.m. Watford Trade Union Hall (upstairs), Woodford Road, opposite Watford Junction station.

WOOLWICH: Tuesday January 9, 8 p.m. 'Queen's Arms', Burrage Road.

HARROW AND WEALDSTONE: Tuesday January 9, 8 p.m. Labour Hall, Railway Approach, Station Road, Harrow.

ROCHESTER: Tuesday January 9, 8 p.m. 'The Greyhound', Rochester Avenue.

HULL: Wednesday January 10, 8 p.m. White Hart Hotel, Alfred Gelder Street (near Drypool Bridge).

TONBRIDGE: Thursday January 11, 8 p.m. 'The Foresters', Quarry Hill Road.

SLOUGH: Thursday, January 11, 7.30 p.m. Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road.

KINGSTON: Thursday January 11, 8 p.m. 'The Liverpool Arms', corner of Cambridge Road and London Road.

BBC 1

9.45 Sky at night. 10.05 Desert crusader. 10.25 Before the event. 10.50 Huckleberry hound. 11.00

Tom and Jerry. 11.10 Tomorrow's world. 11.35 Everest 1924. 12.25 The week we caught sea fever. The log of the tall ships' race 1972. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Joe. 1.45 Film: 'The Story of Ruth'. Stuart Whitman, Tom Tryon, Peggy Wood, Viveca Lindfors, Jeff Morrow, Elana Eden. Bible story.

3.50 Droopy. 4.00 Clangers. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Crystal Tipps. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Help! 5.15 The record breakers. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.50 MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW. The Five Minute Dress.

7.15 THE VIRGINIAN: MEN FROM SHILOH. Hannah.

8.30 DAD'S ARMY. Time on My Hands.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.

9.15 OPERA: 'THE GONDOLIERS'. Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera. With Michael Langdon, Thomas Allen, John Brecknock, Laureen Livingstone, Delia Wallis.

11.05 CANNON. To Kill a Guinea Pig.

11.55 Weather.

ITV

9.30 Out of school. 11.25 Homes of history. 11.35 Galloping gourmet. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Happy house. 12.40 First report.

1.00 Time was. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Junkin. 3.25 Marcus Welby MD. 4.20 Elephant boy. 4.50 Kids in the country. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 News.

6.00 DOCUMENTARY: 'WE WAS ALL ONE'. Film about people who live near the Old Kent Road in south east London.

7.00 THE PROTECTORS. One and One Makes One.

7.30 HAWAII FIVE-O.

8.30 THE COMEDIANS.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Let's face it. 3.00 Film: 'But I Don't Want to Get Married'. 4.25 Puffin. 4.30 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 FBI. 8.30 London. 10.35 Film: 'Weekend at Dunkirk'. 12.20 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.30 London. 11.05 Cartoon. 11.10 Jackson five. 11.35 Katie

Stewart. 12.05 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sports desk. 10.32 News. 12.20 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 11.05 Gilbert and Sullivan. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 Galloping gourmet. 3.25 Saint. 4.20 Weekend. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.35 Survival. 7.05 Sale of the century. 7.35 Film: 'The Re-

luctant Heroes of Hill 656'. 9.00 London. 10.35 Film: 'The Shake-down'. 12.30 News. 12.40 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.30-11.02 London. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 London. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Bonanza. 7.30 Film: 'Murder Ahoy'. 9.00 New Scotland Yard. 10.00 London. 10.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 11.00 Press call. 11.30 Game for three losers. 12.30 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except: 4.25-4.50 Stesio cantamil. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 10.30 Outlook. 11.00 Sports arena. 11.30 UFO. 12.30 Weather.

HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Report West.

ANGLIA: 11.05 Mr Piper. 11.30 Cartoons. 11.50 Winter of enchantment. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 3.30 Dick Van Dyke. 3.55 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Merrie melodies. 4.50 London. 5.20 Elephant boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 O'Hara. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Shuttered Room'.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 11.25 Cartoon. 11.30 Joe 90. 12.00 Today. 12.05 London. 3.30 Danger man. 4.20 Forest rangers. 4.50 London. 5.20 Flintstones. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Protectors. 8.00 Adventurer. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 New Scotland Yard. 10.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Hawaii'. Weather.

ULSTER: 9.30-11.04 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.00 Women today. 2.30 Cartoon. 2.40 Romper room 3.00 London. 3.25 Randall and Hopkirk. 4.23 News. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 UFO. 8.30 London. 9.00 New Scotland Yard. 10.00 London. 10.30 Food of love. 11.00 Film: 'The Eyes of Charles Sand'.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 11.04 Felix the cat. 11.15 Cowboy in Africa. 12.05 London. 3.30 Danger man. 4.25 Merrie melodies. 4.50 London. 5.20 Jimmy Stewart show. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Nanny and the professor. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.35 London. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Sergeant Rutledge'. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 11.05 Space flight. 12.05 London. 3.25 Smith family. 3.50 Cartoon. 4.00 Crossroads. 4.25 TV funnies. 4.50 London. 5.15 Elephant boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.25 Crown court. 6.55 Film: 'Wagon Train'. 8.20 Comedians. 8.50 Sylvester. 9.00 London. 10.30 Kick off. 10.55 Film: 'House of Menace'.

BORDER: 12.05 London. 3.25 Danger man. 4.25 Jackson five. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Protectors. 8.00 Adventurer. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The St Valentine's Day Massacre'.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 11.20 Katie Stewart cooks. 11.45 Merrie melodies. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 3.30 It takes a thief. 4.25 Nanny and the professor. 4.50 London. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Protectors. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 London. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30 Friday night. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Cimarron strip.

GRAMPIAN: 9.30-11.02 London. 12.20 News. 12.05 London. 2.00 Dick Van Dyke. 2.30 London. 3.25 Shirley's world. 4.00 And mother makes three. 4.20 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Thompson at teatime. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Cade's county. 8.30 London. 10.30 Partners. 11.00 Job look. 11.10 Film: 'The Wild One'. 12.30 Meditation.



'Vivre Pour Vivre' is tonight's World Cinema presentation on BBC 2. Yves Montand and Candice Bergen (above) are in this Claude Lelouch film at 9.00. On independent channels tonight and tomorrow night, Miss Bouverie (Claire Neilson) tangles with the law (below) in 'Upstairs, Downstairs'.

- 9.00 UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS. A Special Mischief.
- 10.00 NEWS AT TEN.
- 10.30 POLICE FIVE.
- 10.45 COLUMBO. The Greenhouse Jungle. Peter Falk.
- 12.05 RECONCILIATION.
- 12.10 SPYFORCE. The Assassin.

TV



BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.

7.05 SEARCH FOR THE IDEAL. Reflections on Neo-Classicism.

7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.

8.00 MONEY AT WORK. For Better or Worse.

9.00 FILM: 'VIVRE POUR VIVRE'. Second of two films directed by Claude Lelouch. With Yves Montand, Candice Bergen, Annie Girardot.

11.05 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

11.10 FILM NIGHT QUIZ.

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SLL LECTURES

TODMORDEN

Monday January 8 'The economic crisis'

Monday January 22 'Stalinism'

Monday February 5 'Trotskyism'

THE WEAVERS' INSTITUTE, Burnley Road, 7.30 p.m.

SHEFFIELD

Monday January 8

Marxism and the revolutionary party

FORRESTERS HALL Trippett Lane, 7.30 p.m.

HULL

Wednesday January 17 Stalinism and Trotskyism

Wednesday January 24 Marxist theory and the revolutionary party

WHITE HART HOTEL Alfred Gelder Street (near Drypool Bridge) 8 p.m.

NEWS DESK

01-720 2000

CIRCULATION

01-622 7029

Stalinists not a revolutionary force, Commons told

Hollow ring to Heffer's praise for 'Star'

THE 'MORNING STAR', the daily organ of the Communist Party, has been flooding the countryside with leaflets attempting to boost its flagging circulation. The leaflet is an inspired piece of political propaganda which has backfired.

It contains endorsements for the 'Star' written by Labour MPs and trade union leaders under the emblazoned headline: 'Labour movement leaders recommend the "Star".'

One of the personages chosen to speak out for the 'Star' is Mr Eric Heffer, the MP for Walton, Liverpool, who is a member of the 'Tribune' group of 'lefts'.

Heffer's tribute to the 'Star' knows no bounds: 'I read the "Morning Star" because it is one of the best-informed papers on industrial issues. The coverage on strikes and industrial disputes is unequalled.'

'It is necessary and essential to get a united struggle against the Tories and it is an additional reason why I read the "Morning Star" and urge others to do likewise.'

The ebullient Mr Heffer is so warm with his praise of the Stalinists that it came as no surprise to learn that when Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French CP, visited Britain last month, he came to the House of Commons to see Heffer.

The CP's friendly liaison with these 'lefts' rests on the theory of the 'peaceful road to socialism'.

This is a strategy for taking power through parliament by an

BY OUR OWN
REPORTER

alliance of Communist Party MPs and 'progressive lefts' in the Labour Party.

(During the 1950s Heffer belonged to a group which completely shunned parliament and the Labour Party. Today he is a member of both!)

But if Heffer is a 'friend' of the Communist Party, who are its enemies?

Listen to Heffer during last week's witch-hunting debate initiated by reactionaries from the Tory Party.

Fuddy-duddy

'The assertion that communists are always trying to stir up trouble in industry is not borne out by the historical facts. It has been suggested that the communists are today the great revolutionary force. In fact, in the eyes of most young people of the left, the Communist Party is composed of the most old-fashioned bunch of fuddy-duddies one could find.'

'Communist Party shop stewards tend nowadays to be the most conservative ones. Most of our lads in the Labour Party are much more to the left in the industrial struggle.'

Heffer's statement is a scandalous insult to sincere CP



HEFFER . . . CP stewards most conservative

stewards and workers who want to fight against the Tories.

They are obliged to give out leaflets which carry his remarks in support of their paper while at the same time Heffer makes

derisory references to them in parliament—to the delight of the smirking Tories and right-wing Labourites.

His Commons side-swipes are the fruits of the CP leadership's

opportunist policy of cuddling up to the 'lefts'.

It is 100 per cent correct to state that the British Stalinist leadership is counter-revolutionary and—in the service of Moscow—will try might and main to head off the revolutionary developments of the working class in Britain. We saw this treacherously illustrated on the upper Clyde.

The debate in which Heffer made his intervention was a vicious anti-communist affair. It was stage-managed by the Tory Party—the MP who put down the motion was Sir Edward Brown, a former chairman of the Conservatives—as part of a witch-hunting campaign against the trade unions.

Well-prepared

Every Tory who spoke rattled off well-prepared information trying to link militant trade unionists with 'violence' and 'subversion'. It is a crushing indictment of the 'lefts' like Heffer that the Labour Party's 'defence' was so pathetically limp.

Instead of slandering stewards from the Communist Party—he also made a scathing reference to the Socialist Labour League and the International Marxist Group—Heffer should have been witch-hunting the real enemy: the Tory Party and its backers in big business, the police and the army.

Plans for a 'people's car' are abandoned

THE UNRELIABILITY of planning under the bureaucratic regimes of East Europe has produced one of its most spectacular setbacks so far. East Germany and Czechoslovakia have suddenly dropped without any official explanation their long-standing plans for joint mass production of a new 'people's car'.

The car, with a new four-stroke engine, was to have been produced at East Germany's Wartburg factory at Eisenach, and the Trabant works at Zwickau, and at the Skoda factory at Mlada Boleslav, Czechoslovakia.

Production was expected to reach over 400,000 annually by 1975 and electrical components were to be supplied from Hungary. At least 300,000 cars a year were needed for the project to become economical.

Reuter reports that the reasons for the decision to scrap the entire plan remain a mystery. But there have been several warning signs that all is not well with this grandiose project, which was meant to go some way to meet the huge unsatisfied demand in East Europe for consumer goods like motor cars.

At the Leipzig trade fair in September, it was announced that production of the existing Wartburg and Trabant models would not only continue after 1975, but would be expanded.

BY A WORKERS PRESS
CORRESPONDENT

In December, East German sources were saying that the development of a new anti-pollution device meant that their existing two-stroke engine production plants were no longer obsolete.

On top of that, the East Germans announced that they had purchased from West Germany's Auto-Union company a licence to manufacture a 60-horsepower two-stroke engine in the GDR.

No confidence

At the same time, it was disclosed that deliveries of Polish- and Soviet-built Fiats had considerably exceeded original expectations; and that Skoda had a heavily-committed production schedule supplying lorries to Comecon (the East European EEC).

What seems to have happened is that the business-like East Germans have eventually decided to place more faith in a smaller-scale joint production venture with a western capitalist concern than in large-scale joint planning with their fellow East European bureaucrats.

Presumably, they know a thing or two about such projects. Certainly they show the same lack of confidence in their own ability to deliver the goods as their colleagues in the USSR do when tackling major new enterprises, despite

all the advantages of nationalized property relations and planned production.

The bureaucracies are caught up in a web of their own making. By abandoning the world revolution and artificially trying to build socialism in just one corner of the globe, they have to resort more and more to bureaucratic expedients to sort out their economic difficulties, with consequent disastrous effects on planning.

Another reason said to be a cause of the plan's abandonment is East German resentment at the potential disappearance of their own 100-per-cent, home-produced models.

Such economic nationalism is the entirely predictable outcome of the rule of the bureaucracies. Unable to build socialism, but unwilling to complete the world revolution, they merely hang on to power as best they can and try to patch things up.

White-collar branch calls for fight against 'freeze'

MEMBERS of the Scottish Divisional Council of the white-collar union ASTMS have unanimously endorsed a resolution calling for the resignation of the Tory government as an integral part of the campaign against the state pay law.

The motion states: 'That the No. 12 Divisional Council totally opposes the wage freeze recently decreed by the Tory government. This action constitutes a major attack upon the interests and living standards of the working class as a whole and clearly provides the basis for the formation of a corporate state in this country.'

'We consider that such an attack can only be answered by the mass mobilization of the labour and trade union movement against the employing classes in order to force the Tory government to resign.'

'We therefore call upon the National Executive Council to demand the immediate recall of the TUC and Labour Party conferences in order to unite the workers' movement in this struggle and to plan a campaign

BY A WORKERS PRESS
CORRESPONDENT

directed towards forcing the Tory government from office and the election of a Labour government pledged to a socialist programme.'

The resolution, forwarded from the union's Edinburgh General branch, has now been directed to the National Executive Council for its consideration.

An appeal on behalf of the Fine Tubes strikers of Plymouth

This is the third Christmas that the Plymouth Fine Tubes strikers, their wives and their 53 children, have spent on strike with very little money.

These men have waged a bitter struggle for the most basic right a worker can possess—the right to belong to a trade union.

Strike committee members have travelled over 100,000 miles to sustain their fight.

This Christmas is the hardest of all. It has imposed a great financial burden. Now the 37 strikers face the rest of the winter with a depleted strike fund. January is always a difficult month to raise money to further their fight.

Yet they are determined to fight on. This is a struggle the working class cannot afford to lose. That is why the Socialist Labour League and the Work-

ers Press wishes to make a special appeal to all trade unionists to take collections in their factories and branches for the Fine Tubes men in order that their heroic and determined action can be carried forward. All money should be sent to:

Fine Tubes Treasurer
c/o 65 Bretonside
Plymouth, Devon.

Workers Press MONTHLY APPEAL FUND

DECEMBER FUND NOW
£2,118.95

CAN WE reach £2,500? We are well on the way and it would certainly be a magnificent achievement. Let's go all out in these next few days and do it.

We are sure you can. Never before has there been such support for Workers Press. The fiercer the attacks of the Tory government, the more thousands of workers fight back. As desperately, American imperialism tries to crush the heroic Vietnamese forces, the more determined become these revolutionary fighters to succeed.

It is this great struggle of the international working class that is behind your warm support for our paper. We are confident you will raise as much as possible to help us reach this great final amount. We still have three more days and we need £381.05. Rush your donations immediately to:

Workers Press
December Appeal Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG.

MP slams Wilson's pro-Zionist statements

HAROLD WILSON'S fulsome support for the expansion of Zionist rule in the Middle East was attacked yesterday by one of his own MPs.

Christopher Mayhew, Labour MP for Woolwich East, said Wilson's remarks during his visit to Israel were 'very surprising and conflict with Labour policies and principles on several points'.

Wilson had told the central committee of the ruling Israeli Labour Party that a 1967 United Nations resolution sponsored by his own government did not envisage total Israeli evacuation of occupied Arab territory.

He told the Zionists: 'If our government had meant "all" we



WILSON . . . Colonization policy

would have said "all". We would never have wanted to say it anyway.'

This is an endorsement of recent Israeli government statements favouring the colonization of lands forcibly snatched from the Arabs in 1967.

Wilson is a fanatically pro-Zionist social-democrat, who has repeatedly attacked the Palestinian revolution. He called recently for the expulsion of the Palestinian Liberation Organization representative in London and for the formation of a special armed squad for so-called anti-terrorist functions.

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

PAY: Actors, plumbers, electricians etc.

Tory orders stop agreed pay awards

TALKS TO AVERT a possible crisis over the Tory laws banning wage rises continued yesterday between government officials and West End theatre managers.

The government have warned the managers that they will face an order forbidding them to pay a £5 increase to West End actors if they do not withdraw the rise voluntarily.

But I understand another proposal to take a £7 increase paid from November 13 off the actors is also under discussion. This would cause widespread unrest throughout the profession.

The pay deal involved was agreed on October 20 and provided for phased increases of the minimum weekly rate. The first £7 was paid seven days after the 'freeze'.

The actors were to have received the increase, which would have taken their basic rate from £25 to £30 from Sunday. The order, if issued, will also apply to extra money for rehearsal time.

It is not the government's intention to reclaim all the £7 increments spent, saved or invested by actors since November 13.

One difficulty highlighted by theatre managers is that many actors are employed on a contract basis. If their salaries increased after the freeze, is this due to the rise in minimum rates or due to a better or more exacting part won by the individual performer?

OTHER orders are likely to be issued today banning a £2.20 to £3.80 wage increase for 70,000 electrical contracting workers agreed on June 25, 1971. The Joint Board for the industry have refused to stop the increase, so an order compelling them to do so was issued. A similar order has been issued to cover 30,000 plumbers who got a £3 pay rise in August with a promise of an extra £1 at the end of this year.

Frank Chapple, president of the electricians' and plumbers' union has said he does not intend to fight these Tory attacks. He said the union did not want to run foul of the law.

Firms who disobey the orders, or those who encourage workers to fight against a wage ban, are subject to large fines and imprisonment.



ALAN PIKE . . . Young docker to appeal

Briant pickets: Police drop assault charges

BY IAN YEATS

POLICE yesterday withdrew all but one charge of assault against six men who took part in a picket at Robert Horne's Old Kent Road, London, paper mill last July.

Four of the men, Robert Grant, driver; Peter Wilson, docker; Barry Holmes, tally clerk; and Edward Davidson, printer, were each fined £10 with £10 costs for obstruction during picketing on the afternoon of Friday, July 28, 1972.

Two others, Thomas Cottrell, haulage contractor and Alan Pike, docker, were each fined £25 plus £10 costs.

Cottrell was fined £15 for throwing two cardboard cups of lukewarm tea at police and a further £10 for obstructing them in the course of their duty.

Police withdrew assault charges against five of the six men because of lack of evidence and although Mr Pike was found guilty of the offence, he is looking into the possibility of appeal.

Trouble first flared on July 27 when about 40 police arrived in transit vans and squad cars to break up a Briant Colour

printers' picket at Horne's.

Work-in leader Mr Bill Freeman appealed for support at a mass meeting of dockers at Tower Hill the following morning and in the afternoon 500 men marched to the Old Kent Road. They were attacked by police and several pickets injured.

Mr Freeman yesterday described the attacks as 'premeditated' and said they were part of a considered Tory campaign to intimidate trade unionists.

He added: 'We appeal to the labour movement to send in donations to help these lads pay £150 in fines and costs.'

Grant, Wilson and Holmes were given 28 days to pay, Davidson two months and Cottrell and Pike three months.

Summing up, magistrate Mr K. Cook said he had no wish to impose fines which the men would find it difficult to pay.

He added: 'In the interests of preventive justice I could bind you over to keep the peace, but if I did, it might give the impression that I was trying to prevent you carrying out your legitimate rights in the matter of trade disputes and I do not wish to give that impression.'

Choice of nine forms of action by hospital workers

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

HOSPITAL ancillary workers are being asked to decide what industrial action should be taken to press their claim. Negotiations on the claim have been held up by the pay 'freeze'.

Many of the workers have already staged demonstrations, which in most cases resulted in a half-day stoppage of work. Now they are being asked to vote for or against nine forms of further industrial action.

These are: total strike of all ancillary workers in all hospitals; hit selected hospitals; one-day strikes each week; a total strike of selected key groups of workers; token stoppages and demonstrations; a ban on overtime and rest day working; an organized go-slow; withdrawal of facilities to private patients at all hospitals, and withdrawal of catering and ancillary services to staffs at hospitals.

Each branch will receive a form setting out the nine choices and members attending branch meetings will be asked to vote.

Their votes will be recorded and returned by the branch secretary to head office by January 15. There will be no individual ballot of members.

In the north-west of England, where voting papers were received yesterday, Mr Colin Barnett, north-west divisional officer of the National Union of Public Employees said:

'Clearly some of the branches will be making a multiple choice, but the union will decide what form of action will be taken if the Prime Minister has not declared his intent to deal satisfactorily with low paid workers.'

Hospital workers felt increasing desperation at not being able to make ends meet when costs were rising, he said.

'Agreement broken'

A SLASHING attack on the government policy of outlawing wage increases has been made by William McCall leader of the 70,000-strong Institute of Professional Civil Servants, who recently had their pay increase 'frozen'.

Writing in his union journal Mr McCall says:

'Every government, strongly supported by the Press, never wearies of preaching to the trade union movement that agreements must be observed. And every government has, in fact, broken the agreement to which it is solemnly bound for the determination of pay in the Civil Service.'

'In accordance with these agreements there should have been pay increases for the whole of the Civil Service with effect from January 1, 1973. These increases will not now be implemented before the end of the standstill, if then.'

He said the government would be guilty of another violation of agreements if the full increase was not allowed by the end of the total freeze.

Powell ousts PM in poll

ENOCH POWELL has ousted the Prime Minister as 'Man of the Year' in a poll among listeners to a radio programme. Powell received 554 votes, more than twice as many as Edward Heath, winner of the 'World of One' popularity poll for the last two years, who scored 259. Opposition leader Harold Wilson gained 18 in preliminary voting.

'Paper gold' illusion

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'What was not foreseen, however, was a straightforward disagreement over what to do next,' the paper says.

For the last 16 months every attempt to achieve currency stability between the main capitalist powers has foundered. The multilateral trade negotiations, on which hopes were pinned, will not now get underway seriously until 1974, if at all.

The US Congress has yet to ratify the trade Bill without which no hard negotiation can take place. The Bill will still be on its way through Congress when the preliminary talks open in the summer next year.

Meanwhile the US balance of trade continued to worsen, reaching \$5,835m for the period from January to November this year. This compares with a deficit of only \$1,929m for the whole of 1971.

One of the main targets the Nixon administration has set itself in the forthcoming trade talks is to put America back into the black by forcing other countries to accept more US imports and cut their own exports to the US.

Where does this leave the liberals who believed that capitalism could be stripped of its barbaric features and made to operate as a humane system of mutual co-operation?