

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● THURSDAY JANUARY 4, 1973 ● No. 962 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

TUC MUST END TALKS WITH TORIES—RECALL CONGRESS PERMANENT PAY LAW UNVEILED

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

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The proposals—dubbed as phase two of the anti-inflation campaign—mark the most serious step towards the corporate state so far. They will formalize, in law, the edicts issued by the Prime Minister banning free wage negotiation.

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But today's meeting with a 13-man TUC delegation,

led by general secretary Victor Feather is the most important.

On the surface the meeting has been arranged to hear TUC protests over the law banning wage increases and Heath's decision not to allow wage negotiations.

But government officials said yesterday that the discussion would quickly 'broaden' out to cover the phase two proposals.

A TUC spokesman admitted that the delegation was prepared to hear the Heath plan.

'We will see what happens,' he said. 'They [the delegation] will have to decide whether it is worth negotiating. Before you talk you have to have something to talk about.'

These moves represent the opening stages of a new round of class-collaboration.

On the agenda this time is the legal abolition of all the traditional methods of negotiation and conciliation between employers, the government and the unions.

In its place the Tories hope to erect an executive machine, directly under the control of the state to enforce its will on the working class.

If they succeed it will be the most significant step towards the corporate state so far.

But the government faces enormous obstacles in its path.

While the TUC leaders are prepared to deliver themselves up as voluntary

TURN TO BACK PAGE



BOC marchers threaten sit-in over closure

BY PHILIP WADE

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What we said in 1972

Special pull-out pages 3 to 10

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KEEP LEFT

YOUNG SOCIALISTS OFFICIAL WEEKLY PAPER

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

and National Speaking Contest

**BUILD THE WEEKLY KEEP LEFT
BUILD THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS
STOP RISING PRICES
FORCE THE TORIES TO RESIGN**

Next Saturday—January 6, 2.30 p.m.

East India Hall, East India Dock Road, London E14

SPEAKERS:

GARY GURMEET (Editor Keep Left)
GERRY HEALY (SLL national secretary)
BRIAN PRANGLE (YS Student Society)

Dance 8-11 p.m.

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'Kitty Hawk' mutineer fined £180

THE FIRST sailor to be tried for the 'Kitty Hawk' mutiny in October was convicted at a US Naval court-martial in San Diego, California, yesterday.

The sailor, petty officer third-class Hiram Davis, a 21-year-old Negro of Los Angeles, was convicted of 'unlawful apprehension' of a person. He was fined £180 and reduced one pay grade in rank.

The judge, Captain Bobby Bryant, said Davis had already served one month in confinement and that was sufficient. He dismissed charges of assault and rioting.

The rioting broke out on October 12 and 13 while the aircraft carrier was operating off Vietnam. More than 40 men were injured.

Subway strike: Nixon steps in

PRESIDENT Nixon yesterday created a three-men emergency board to investigate a labour dispute that threatened to close the Hudson underground railway carrying commuters between Newark, New Jersey, and New York City.

The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen were due to go on strike against the Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation (PATH) at midnight on Tuesday.

But the presidential order postpones the stoppage for 60 days while new efforts are made to settle the 11-month-old dispute.

PATH's 214 carmen are demanding a 30-per-cent wage increase over two years. The employers have offered them 11.5 per cent.

ENGINEERING employers in the West German province of North Rhine Westphalia have offered to talk with the IG Metall trade union on an increased pay settlement.

Their 5.6 per cent offer was rejected by the union which is demanding an 11 per cent rise. 97 per cent of the union's 210,000 members in the region voted for strike action from January 11. A union spokesman said that any new offer would have to be good to satisfy the militant rank and file.

What we think

America will force Europe to strive for an ever-increasing rationalization and at the same time will leave Europe an ever-decreasing share of the world market. This will entail a steady aggravation of the difficulties in Europe. The competition among European states for a share of the world market will inevitably become aggravated. At the same time, under pressure from America, the European states will endeavour to co-ordinate their forces.

THE ANALYSIS above, made by Trotsky as long ago as 1929, has been fully confirmed by Britain's entry into the Common Market.

Tory premier Heath's speech at Hampton Court on Tuesday night revealed that the only factor uniting the European bourgeoisie was fear of the United States. This was what he meant by urging European collaboration in order to create a 'valid partner' for the US.

At the same time retiring president of the EEC Commission,

Socialist Europe—not Common Market

Dutch social democrat (and vice-president of the 'Socialist' International), Dr Sicco Mansholt, declared that the Common Market had failed to improve conditions generally for the great mass of the population.

There were, he said, 'major social stresses' within Europe as disparities in the standard of living became more marked.

Moreover, there was growing 'dissatisfaction and criticism' as important decisions were made affecting the lives of the people without them knowing who had taken them, nor who would implement them and how.

Mansholt's call for 'an injection' of British democracy, however, is rubbish. A 'democratic' Europe under capitalism is impossible. It is a structure devised in the interests of the monopolists.

Mansholt himself called for a corporatist-type structure—participation of workers in management regulated by law. The two speeches reveal the enormous weakness of European capitalism and its panic in the face of the US and Japanese economic threat.

The Socialist United States of Europe is the only answer to this. Talk of Britain withdrawing or renegotiating terms—so beloved of the Stalinists and social democrats—is dangerously misleading.

Mansholt repeated this week his earlier statement that terms could not be renegotiated or annulled.

'It is a treaty for ever' he declared. If the Labour leaders sought to withdraw from the EEC they could be dragged before a European court.

The only way out of the capitalist Common Market is to smash capitalism in Europe. To campaign on the grounds of 'national independence' and 'the British way of life' is to pander to backwardness and open the door to the extreme right.

Capitalism in Europe is sustained only by the Labour leaders. The two largest communist parties in western Europe—the French and Italian—are in favour of the Common Market. The Italian CP has members sitting in the European parliament.

In Britain the Labour leaders

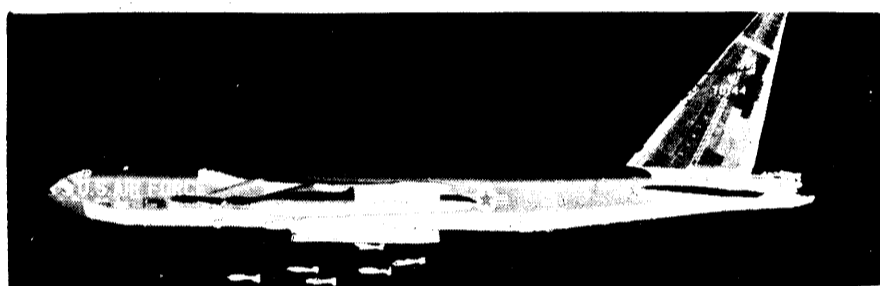
bleat about the terms of entry into Europe, but 69 right-wing Labourites voted with Heath on the Common Market and no action was taken against them.

The trade union leaders at this very moment are again conferring with Heath when the working class has shown time and again it has both the wish and the strength to force this government to resign.

Yet what Lenin wrote in 1915 is still true today: 'From the point of view of the economic conditions of imperialism, i.e. capital export and division of the world between the "progressive" and "civilized" colonial powers, the United States of Europe under capitalism is either impossible or reactionary.' ('The United States of Europe Slogan')

Today the social democrats and Stalinists bolster up this reactionary, capitalist combination. This means that the fight against the labour leaders throughout Europe and the construction of revolutionary parties are integral and indispensable parts of the struggle against this monopolist conspiracy. As Trotsky said in 1929:

'The vanguard of the European proletariat tells its present rulers: "In order to unite Europe it is first of all necessary to wrest power out of your hands. We will do it. We will unite Europe. We will unite it against the hostile capitalist world. We will turn it into a mighty drillground of militant socialism. We will make it the cornerstone of the World Socialist Federation".'



Defeated—by binoculars and a trained eye

By Foreign Editor JOHN SPENCER

DETAILS OF THE DEFEAT suffered by the United States air force over Hanoi and Haiphong during the massive 12-day bombing offensive last month have been published in an authoritative US aviation magazine.

'Aviation Week and Space Technology' blames Nixon's desire to take Hanoi by surprise for the heavy losses of US bombers. The magazine says there were no orders for tactical strikes (i.e. against anti-aircraft posts) before the supposedly invincible B52s were sent in.

The North Vietnamese shot down 34 B52s, five F111s and 41 other planes. The Americans have admitted losing 15 B52s and say another ten were heavily damaged.

The Pentagon claims these losses are 'statistically light'.

The magazine said the ~~Nixon administration hoped~~ to achieve a maximum shock effect as well as surprise against North Vietnam.

For this reason smaller tactical aircraft were not called in to hammer anti-aircraft defences and prepare the way for the B52s.

The B52s make their approach to the target at about 37,000 feet.

This is about the maximum ceiling of the Soviet-supplied SA-2 guideline surface-to-air missiles used by the North Vietnamese.

The B52s also use electronic devices to jam the radar-guiding mechanisms of the missiles.

But the magazine says it believes some of the missiles were fired, despite the jamming, on commands from 'a North Vietnamese observer relying upon binoculars and an experienced eyeball'.

The North Vietnamese were helped in this tech-

nique by the tendency of the three-plane formations of B52s to follow closely upon each other.

The Pentagon has refused to comment on the magazine article, which provides striking confirmation of the North Vietnamese claim to have defeated the US bomber force.

Hanoi Radio said after Nixon had called off the bombing offensive that the liberation forces were in a stronger position than ever, both politically and militarily.

It particularly congratulated the anti-aircraft defenders of the city on their courageous and successful stand.

Plea for aid from Cairo campus

STEEL - HELMETED riot police armed with clubs and shields clashed yesterday with students marching through the streets of Cairo demanding the release of dozens of their comrades held by the authorities.

The students had been sitting in the Cairo University campus for five days, protesting against further arrests by the authorities who say that 45 students have now been detained.

The demonstration started despite an earlier government promise to complete investigations into the arrests—which it said were made under legal warrants—within the next fortnight.

The students have appealed to world youth to stand by Egypt's youth 'against police forces'.

The Beirut newspaper 'Al Nahar', which published the appeal, said it was addressed to the youth of the world from Egyptian students and democratic youth.

The text of the appeal said: 'The Egyptian youth are being thrown into the prisons of the defeated Egyptian authorities which are resorting to terrorism and fascism.'

One of the students' main demands is for a real struggle against Israel which has occupied the Sinai desert and Gaza strip since 1967.

President Anwar Sadat keeps promising to open hostilities, but these never materialize.

Spain's yards on strike

THE BILBAO management of a state-run shipbuilding yard yesterday suspended more than 2,000 workers until next Monday for staging partial strikes last week.

The 3,000 labourers at the Claveaga yard on the outskirts of this northern Spanish port were demanding higher wages.

They refused to accept a 10-per-cent increase worked out by labour represent-

atives and the management, claiming that this did not combat spiralling living costs.

At another shipyard in the Bilbao suburb of Asua, 320 out of 468 employees also staged stoppages yesterday.

In March last year striking dockyard workers at the Bazan naval yard in El Ferrol, north western Spain, clashed with police.

Two labourers were shot dead.

Quake 'looters' special court

NICARAGUAN strongman General Anastasio Somoza has established a special military tribunal to try people accused of disturbing public order in the earthquake disaster areas. His troops have been busy shooting starving 'looters' in the streets of the devastated capital, Managua. Food supplies and aid

sent in from outside have been diverted by corrupt Somoza functionaries.

Troops yesterday began sealing off the centre of the capital with barbed wire. They declared a 600-street area as a contaminated or disaster zone.

The isolation of the city centre, where the December 23 quake killed an estimated

5,000 people, was made in preparation for ditching 5,000 million tons of debris into nearby Lake Managua.

Only members of the armed forces or authorized workmen were allowed into the centre after the work began. Reuters correspondent Agustin Fuentes, who toured the area with officials, described seeing corpses still lying among the debris.

Socialist Labour League North West Rally

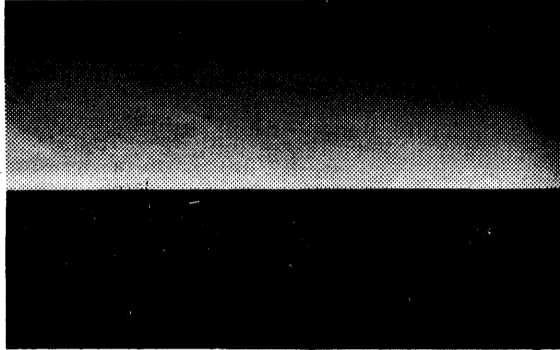
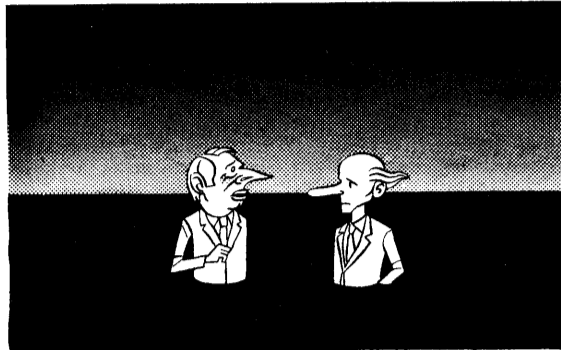
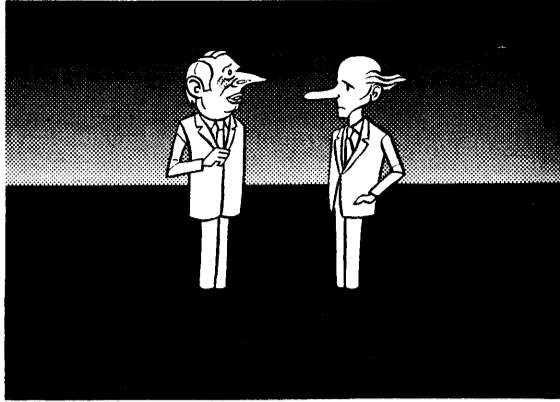
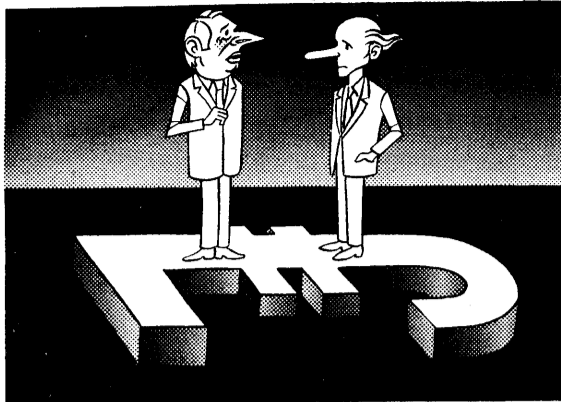
FORCE THE TORY GOVERNMENT TO RESIGN!

BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY!

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

'RIGHT TO WORK' FILM

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)



THE TUC AND THE TORY DEVALUATION

THE DEMAND for the recall of the TUC and for a General Strike to make the Tories resign has received added impetus by the floating of the pound and TUC secretary Victor Feather's implicit support for this reactionary measure.

The decision to float will not solve a single problem for the working class. It will dramatically increase the cost of living, intensify speed-up and soon lead to a huge increase in unemployment as foreign countries take retaliatory measures or slide into financial crisis as the German banking system did in 1929.

Forty-one years ago, British workers were treated to the same reformist bromides by the TUC when Britain first devalued the pound. All that happened then was that 40 odd countries followed Britain, with Japan leading the league at a 29-per-cent devaluation.

Far from leading to 'stability and progress' these measures laid the basis for an unrestrained trade war which culminated in World War II. In essence there is no difference between then and now.

Nixon's August 15, 1971, measures signified that the value of all currencies would be determined strictly by the level of their trade and payment balances. The deterrent for 'unrealistic parities' is ruthless currency speculation which no national currency has been able to prevent or contain.

What this means is that every capitalist nation is impelled to export as much as possible—and as cheaply as possible—and import as little as possible. These are the suicidal 'rules' of every trade war.

In the present case, however, they are being applied in a world market in which the conflict between productive forces and private property, as well as the national state, have grown to an unprecedented extent. The repercussions therefore will be much more rapid and colossal.

For these reasons the treachery of the TUC leaders is far more sinister than even their somersault on 'non-co-operation' with the Industrial Relations Act and their cowardly recognition of the National Industrial Relations Court.

They have now agreed with the Confederation of British Industry to lend their help and prestige—or what's left of it—to a patriotic cost-cutting campaign which will seriously undermine real wages and accelerate the trend towards depression and mass unemployment.

As the 'Scotsman's' leader writer noted:

'The floating of the pound adds urgency to the government's attempts to contain wage and price rises by voluntary means. It was significant that Mr Anthony Barber called in Mr Vic Feather, of the Trades Union Congress, and Mr Campbell Adamson, of the Confederation of British Industry, so soon after the freeing of the pound was announced.

'He impressed upon them the importance of curbing inflation and of using to the maximum national advantage the period while the pound floats.

'The government need the co-operation of both sides of industry in building up confidence in Britain. The attempts to get an independent body to conciliate in industrial disputes will now receive an added impetus.'

Barber's advice was well received by these collaborators. After the meeting the Treasury issued a statement which read in part:

'It was agreed that the action which had been taken to float sterling for the time being was the right action in the circumstances. It would not have been acceptable either to deflate the economy or to let reserves run down . . . to a point at which they would have been inadequate to sustain the faster growth of the economy which both sides of industry believe to be essential.'

According to the 'Scotsman' the Treasury statement also included a paragraph which specifically committed the TUC to a policy of 'good industrial relations and competitive costs' as a basis for reducing inflation.

No worker should be taken in by this cynical piece of deception, which is designed to secure total Labour-TUC collaboration in entering the protectionist racket called the Common Market. The hypocritical concern about the run-down of resources and the necessity for 'growth' is laughable from this standpoint.

The whole purpose in protecting reserves is to cushion British entry into the Common Market and has little to do with creating employment.

While it is true that floating the pound will affect Pompidou's grand strategy of creating a new monetary union against the dollar, it also indicates the urgency of the Tories' desire to get in the Market before the Market itself dissolves in a state of mutual hatred and rivalry.

The 'Scotsman's' diplomatic correspondent John Tilley frankly revealed what the TUC was so concerned to bury beneath Featherisms:

'There is also a feeling in Brussels that if Britain had to devalue, it is better that it should happen before we become formal members on January 1, 1973.

'After that date a devaluation, whether or not it came in the form of a floating period, would seriously disrupt the means of calculating Britain's enormous contributions to the common agricultural fund.'

The story of reformist treachery is not exhausted by the role of Feather alone.

His job of selling Barber's floating pound to the working class is facilitated by the patriotic buy-British flag-wagging of the Stalinists who oppose the Common Market on chauvinist grounds and who recently joined the protectionist bandwagon by supporting an 'anti-Asian goods' motion at the CSEU conference.

They now find themselves in the odious company of the medieval Scottish Nationalist Party which is seeking to control the influx of Japanese companies into Scotland.

Social-chauvinism which is being whipped up by these reformists is the greatest enemy of the working class.

The British working class can and must give a lead to the international working class by implacably opposing all the measures of the Tory government and its reformist agencies in the trade unions and the Labour Party.

No support for trade war! No support for devaluation! Force the Tories to resign! These must be the rallying calls from the recalled TUC.

June 26, 1972

workers press

WHAT WE SAID IN 1972

Economic Crisis

WORKING CLASS RESISTANCE INTENSIFIES MONEY CRISIS

THE MILITANT resistance of the working class, especially in Britain, is at the heart of the international currency crisis which has reached a new and decisive stage.

The decision to 'float' sterling, taken after the foreign exchange reserves had diminished by \$883m to \$6,082m, breached both the December 18 international currency realignment deal and the Common Market's own currency arrangements.

It exposed the impossibility of establishing stable monetary relations between the main capitalist countries without any fixed relationship between gold and paper money.

As a result, the gold price has now been driven for the first time over \$70 an ounce. In London yesterday it fell back somewhat to \$67.75, but nobody is now in any doubt that the price will rise again. The capitalist world is anxiously awaiting the opening of the Group of Ten meeting due to be held in Washington on September 25.



President Nixon

The meeting will face demands for a rise in the 'official' gold price, which governs transactions between central banks under the two-tier system set up four years ago.

In particular the French and Italians are pressing for such a rise because otherwise Italy will be forced to devalue the lira and further disrupt the EEC's currency system.

They have even hinted broadly that unless international agreement can be reached in Washington, the Common Market will go ahead and raise the official price unilaterally, cutting itself adrift from the United States and forming a rival international monetary bloc.

The International Monetary Fund is suggesting an alternative course of action which would equally put an end to the fragile two-tier system. This involves selling gold, either from its own

reserves or from those of other central banks, on the free market in order to bring down the 'unofficial' gold price.

In this way, the Fund hopes to gain a 'breathing space' during which the main capitalist powers could discuss 'calmly' the future of the monetary system.

In reality the IMF proposal is a counsel of despair. The rise in the gold price is not simply due to a shortage of gold, but to the fact that the value of currency is no longer fixed in gold terms.

The demand for gold is the other side of the lack of confidence in paper currency—a lack of confidence which is continually fuelled from the enormous pool of paper dollars held outside the United States.

All attempts to overcome this by issuing further international credits—for example through the Special Drawing Rights scheme—can only intensify the crisis.

This is the 'solution' advanced by the 'New York Times', which says: 'To rely instead on the mining activity and sales of gold-producing countries and on the fears and hopes of gold speculators and hoarders is both irrational and hazardous.'

In reality, the 'Times' is simply bemoaning the operation of the basic law of value, and the anarchism which is inseparable from private ownership of the means of production.

The paper adds: 'An effort by Europe to force a massive gold price increase upon the United States and the rest of the world would be extremely shortsighted and disruptive. It could upset rather than stabilize international money markets and undermine not only faith in the dollar, but in all paper currencies.'

These are not technical questions remote from the class struggle. Value is created by the labour of the working class and it is through an onslaught against the living standards and rights of the working class that the employers are trying to restore value to their currencies.

The Tory government's class-war strategy is dictated by the growth of trade war and recession resulting directly from the breakdown of the international monetary system. In turn the resistance of the working class intensifies the international monetary crisis.

The now-defunct Bretton Woods monetary system—based on the US Treasury's guarantee to sell gold at \$35 an ounce—was in reality a sign of capitalism's weakness faced with the power of the working class.

The relations of classism established in the post-war period are disrupted with the monetary system, producing an intensely revolutionary situation.

Under discussion in Washington next month is the employers' strategy internationally to deal with the revolutionary danger. These preparations can be met only by the building of the Fourth International to lead the working class towards state power and expropriate the self-confessed bankrupts who lead the capitalist world.

August 5, 1972

workers press

WHAT WE SAID IN 1972

Vietnam

NIXON'S PEACE DECEPTION — WHO FELL FOR IT

PRESIDENT NIXON has resumed full-scale bombardment of the towns and cities of North Vietnam, making it abundantly clear that the so-called peace negotiations in Paris were simply the preparation for another, even bloodier round of war.

The background of these negotiations demonstrates that the talks had the sole purpose of hoodwinking the American electorate and allowing Nixon and Kissinger to pose as peace-mongers while the southern puppet regime was strengthened for the next stage of war.

A key role in setting up the talks was played by the Soviet leaders, who made it clear before the presidential election that they favoured Nixon for another term in the White House.

His foreign policy was acclaimed in Moscow as 'realistic and peace-loving'. Three weeks before the election the Soviet leaders signed a mammoth trade deal with the United States.

The Paris talks which made Nixon's re-election a certainty were set up by the Moscow bureaucracy with visiting American officials following Nixon's trip to the Soviet capital at the end of May.

His welcome there indicated to the Americans that they could do just as they liked in Vietnam without fearing the Soviet Union would interfere.

A few days before the visit they had blockaded Haiphong and bombarded Hanoi.

Throughout the secret talks in Paris the Workers Press warned of the dangers posed to the Vietnamese revolution. The paper pointed out again and again that Nixon was planning to intensify the war as soon as the negotiations were over.

We described the elections as a vote-catching manoeuvre in which the Soviet and Chinese Stalinists had played a major part. Behind the scenes they had tried to force Hanoi to the conference table.

By contrast, the 'Morning Star' of the British Communist Party professed to detect peace around the corner, just as did the sinister Dr Kissinger.

As late as November 18, over three weeks after the American refusal to sign the nine-point draft treaty, the paper's diplomatic correspondent Chris Myant wrote from Hanoi:

'The possibility of peace is very close. This will show in the coming talks between the US and the Vietnamese side. This is what I was told when I interviewed Hoang Tung,' etc., etc. . . .

The Stalinists were not the only ones who saw peace round every corner.

THE 'Red Mole', of the International Marxist Group went even further. This pitiful revisionist organ detected an imminent prospect of victory for the Indo-China revolution.

Under the heading 'Victory in Sight', the paper wrote:

'Unfortunately many militants will substitute their own moods and impressions for a clear analysis of the terms of agreement and of the balance of forces in Indo-China.'

This was exactly what the 'Mole' proceeded to do. It pontificated that 'a first analysis of the agreement terms suggests that it is the Americans who have substantially modified their positions and not the Provisional Revolutionary Government'.

The only problem being that the Americans had no intention of actually signing the deal.

The article went on into detailed and arid speculation about the possible form of a coalition government in the south, concluding that there was 'nothing to fear' from such a government provided that 'the smashing of the . . . puppet armies is only temporarily delayed'.

The paper concluded: 'The handling of these problems will decide whether Ho Chi Minh's prophecy comes true and the locust succeeds both in disembodying the revolution and in cleansing Indo-China of the filth it leaves behind.'

THE 'state capitalist' International Socialism group was equally complacent, though its attack of peace fever was tempered with its customary scepticism and anti-communism.

Ian Birchall, writing in 'Socialist Worker' for November 4, proclaimed that 'At long last peace in Vietnam seems to be in sight.'

'The news cannot fail to be welcome to those who have spent the last eight years campaigning against the brutal US war of aggression.'

Unlike the 'Mole' writer, Birchall considered it was the North Vietnamese who had made all the concessions:



North Vietnamese soldiers on a shot-down plane. Above: Brezhnev and Nixon during summit talks in Moscow last May.

'It is clear that in recent weeks the North Vietnamese have made far more concessions than the US.'

He added sceptically: 'It is clear from these concessions that, while North Vietnam could still hold out for years, it has no prospect of winning the war outright.'

The implication is that the North Vietnamese should accept what terms they can get from the imperialists and end their 'hopeless' conflict.

Just so that he can be covered from both sides, Birchall warns: 'Socialists who have been chanting "Victory to the NLF" for the past eight years will have to look very carefully which way the rifles are pointing.'

BEHIND the line of both the 'Red Mole' and the 'Socialist Worker' is the unspoken assumption that the imperialists really desire peace in Vietnam.

Nothing of course could be further from the truth. Nixon wants peace only on his terms with the Indo-China revolution crushed.

The breakdown of the Paris talks indicates that Nixon has been unable to get his way in the negotiations.

But the danger remains acute for the Vietnamese revolution. While the bombs rain on Hanoi and Haiphong the Moscow and Peking bureaucrats will

certainly be striving to get the talks restarted on behalf of the US.

The British Stalinists are still spreading the illusion that the 'peace' talks can be made to come up with a solution.

This is the essence of the 'sign now' campaign which is petitioning the US President to sign the nine-point draft agreement. The revisionists' confusion actually supplements that generated in the workers' movement by the CP campaign.

The latest turn in this cringing and totally fraudulent campaign is a lobby held last weekend by the British Communist Party.

Members gathered outside No 10 Downing Street on Saturday last bearing posters with the message: 'Heath tell Nixon sign now'.

At the time of greatest danger to the Vietnamese revolution, the Stalinists and their hangers-on in the Vietnam protest industry prove to be a transmission-belt for disorientation and illusions which aid the American propaganda campaign to present Nixon as a peace lover.

These 'friends' of the Indo-Chinese revolution are all tailing behind the Stalinists and adapting to the requirements of the bureaucracies which wanted Nixon returned to office and are still fuelling illusions in the US president's love of peace.

December 21, 1972

The Red Mole

Paper of the International Marxist Group No. 54 30th October 1972 Price 5p.

Peace Plan

1. The United States will respect the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political integrity of Vietnam. No one could disagree with that, but we should understand that in Nixon's case very much in concrete terms.

2. Twenty-four hours after the agreement is signed all bombing and mining of North Vietnam will end and a ceasefire will take effect in South Vietnam. All American and allied troops will be withdrawn within 60 days.

3. This represents the most significant advance for the Indo-Chinese revolution as it gives them a badly needed breathing space and enables them to regroup and strengthen the

INDOCHINA VICTORY IN SIGHT

The broadcast by Hanoi radio on 26th October shows that the fate of the October shows that the subject of the

THE STAB IN THE BACK

THE SECRET diplomatic manoeuvres of the Moscow and Peking leaders with the US imperialists over the Vietnam war are the high-point of the counter-revolutionary policies of Stalinism

These contacts behind the scenes are the continuation of the relations established on Nixon's visits to the Chinese and Soviet capitals.

Following Nixon's visit to Moscow in May, the Communist Party's 'Morning Star' commented: 'The agreements reached this week in Moscow during Nixon's visit are important steps for creating new possibilities for finally ending the cold war and helping the world along the difficult road to peaceful coexistence.'

'What has been agreed can benefit the peoples of the two countries and of the world, and damages the interests of none.' (Our emphasis.)

While the British CP was issuing these bland reassurances, the Workers Press warned that a dirty deal was being prepared in Moscow at the expense of the Vietnamese revolution

This was not our view alone. It was shared by the leaders of the Vietnamese Communist Party. While Nixon was banqueting with Stalin's heirs in Moscow they launched a blistering attack on this meeting.

'By ignoring and tolerating the US imperialists' crimes,' they said in their paper 'Quan Doi Nhan Dan', 'one cannot repel their aggression. By showing weakness one cannot punish their aggressiveness.'

And the paper added: 'Communists always consider the revolution in each country as an inseparable part of the world revolution.'

'They never set national interests against the interests of the world revolution, nor place an individual nation's above the common interests of the world revolution, much less serve national selfishness at the expense of the world revolution.'

And last week when the Nixon administration was claiming that the Vietnamese would soon be forced to swallow its terms, they again pointed the finger at Moscow and Peking:

'If out of the narrow interests of one's nation one tries to help the most reactionary forces avert the dangerous blows, just like throwing a life-belt to a drowning pirate, that is a cruel reconciliation beneficial to the enemy and not beneficial to the revolution.'

The grim reality behind these words is that the Moscow and Peking leaders are sacrificing the struggle of the Vietnamese workers and peasants to their own narrow bureaucratic interests.

This is the meaning of their moneyed phrases about peaceful coexistence with imperialism. The reality is counter-revolution and betrayal.

The Vietnamese fighters have waged war continuously for 25 years. Whole generations of their best sons have died on the battlefields of Indo-China. They are subjected to the most relentless and savage bombardment with explosives and chemicals ever known in human history.

And behind their backs the cynical Soviet and Chinese bureaucrats are cordially sitting down with their enemies to negotiate the betrayal of their struggle and the destruction of their gains.

As the Hanoi newspaper 'Nhan Dan' stated last week: 'The evolution of each country is an integral part of the world revolution and the revolutions of all countries have the effect of impelling and assisting one another.'

'The victory of a revolution in a country is not the end but only the beginning of the long travel towards the triumph of socialism on a world scale.'

August 26, 1972

workers press

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • TUESDAY OCTOBER 24, 1971 • NUMBER 191

6 On Monday, about 25 men were arrested at the small Adams nursery of Sharpeville, 34 miles from Johannesburg. The information given at the time was that the men were members of the United Democratic Front, a group of anti-apartheid activists. It is now clear that they are members of the African National Congress, the main anti-apartheid organization in South Africa.

'Sharpeville' in Ulster?

ALEX MITCHELL

ULSTER stands on the brink of a 'Sharpeville' as the British army steps up its murderous strategy of shooting down innocent working people.

Yesterday another woman was shot in Belfast's Andersonstown area by soldiers who were raiding homes.



These men had been arrested following a weekend of anti-apartheid demonstrations in which an innocent person was killed. The British army is now stepping up its strategy of shooting down innocent working people. As the morning passes, the British army is now stepping up its strategy of shooting down innocent working people.

From an SLL 1980 pamphlet



Tory giant a firms

CEYLON'S PM SEES HEATH: 14,000 STILL JAILED

MR GEOFFREY RIPPON, 62, said the Common Market yesterday 'whether we catch up or not' is 'the only way to the future'.

October 26, 1971

workers press

LONDONDERRY-WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 2 DAY OF DEFIANCE

AGAINST THIS



WIDGERY HAS MILITARY PAST

February 3, 1972

FREE SEAN MACSTIOFAIN

THE PROVISIONAL IRA is now paying the heavy but inevitable price of reliance on the bomb and the bullet as the principal means of advancing their political objectives.

Their terror tactics have not only alienated popular support, but created the conditions in which the Heath and Lynch governments have been able to bring in repressive legislation. This will be used against all dissident political groups and against the working class and its organizations.

We are implacably opposed to individual terror as an instrument of policy, but equally we are opposed to the persecution and arrest of members of political organizations, including those who have misguidedly engaged in terror.

We therefore call for the immediate release of Provisional Chief of Staff Sean MacStiofain arrested by Dublin police in the early hours of Sunday morning.

The detention of MacStiofain marks a serious intensification of the Dublin government's collaboration with Heath in harassing the IRA.

MacStiofain's arrest is only the beginning of a large-scale, anti-IRA campaign born of the collaboration between the Tory governments of Leinster House and Westminster.

This campaign will not end with the IRA or even Sinn Fein. The Green and Blue Tories are in the process of setting up a counter-revolutionary partnership which will be used against the working class.

And as social and political unrest grows in Britain the Special Powers Acts through which bourgeois domination of the working class is being maintained will be extended throughout the UK.

As recession deepens the employers' governments on both sides of the Irish Sea are faced with the inescapable task of taking on and defeating a working class determined to fight tooth and nail to defend hard-won rights and living standards.

The defeat of the working class by breaking up its fighting organizations is an indispensable requirement of entry into the Common Market.

In his haste to get into Europe, Lynch has abandoned all pretence of hostility to the border and in collaborating with Westminster has exposed himself as a craven lackey to British imperialism and big business.

The preparations of the ruling class to ride out the slump on workers' backs must be halted. All working-class organizations must demand the release of MacStiofain and all political prisoners in the Republic and the freeing of internees in Ulster.

November 21, 1972

THE MEANING OF DIRECT RULE

THE TOUCHSTONE of British politics today is the 'direct rule' plan of the Tories for Ulster. There are those who welcome direct rule like the Tories, Wilson, Labour 'lefts' and the Social Democratic and Labour MPs in Ulster. There are those who unequivocally oppose direct rule and fight to make the Tories resign, kick out Wilson and elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies. This policy—the only viable socialist alternative to direct rule, the only principled opposition—is confined to the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists.

And then there are those who look both ways; who accept implicitly the continuation of Tory rule and cover up their craven unprincipled submission with loud protests about the excesses of the Tories. This is the position of the middle-class liberal and radical, so succinctly expressed on the front page of the latest 'Socialist Worker', the paper of the 'state capitalist' protesters of International Socialism.

Direct rule, states the 'Socialist Worker' editorial, will not change a thing. 'Nothing that Heath or Whitelaw have done will change this situation . . . The only difference is the way in which British big business controls.'

Nobody suggests that unemployment or bad housing will disappear or be ameliorated because of direct rule, but the revisionists deliberately slur over the real objective of direct rule. To do other wise would mean criticizing their Republican allies in the Anti-Internment League and their friends on the back benches of the House of Commons.

By imposing direct rule the Tories have secured the support of the entire Labour opposition in parliament and the tacit support of a good section of Republican-Nationalist opinion in Ireland. Thanks to this gigantic political manoeuvre, Miss Devlin and Mr McManus found themselves in a small minority in the House. What is even more significant is that this Tory political coup was followed the next day with the unprecedented legal decision against the Transport and General Workers' Union in the Industrial Relations Court.

Contrary to 'Socialist Worker' and IS, some things have changed in Ulster as a result of direct rule. It has provided the framework for a negotiated political settlement with the Catholic middle class and the disengaging of armed forces of the state in preparation for repression in Britain and elsewhere. Whether this policy was forced on the Tories by the armed resistance of the Irish ghettos is important—but not decisive. What is decisive is that the absence of working-class leadership in Ulster, and the reformist policies of People's Democracy (an IS offshoot) and the Stalinist-dominated civil rights movement, as well as the political bankruptcy of Sinn Fein, have enabled British imperialism to preserve its economic interests by sacrificing Stormont. It was a small price to pay.

In the course of this 'readjustment' it has provoked a massive retaliation from the Protestant working class. IS cannot answer the challenge of Craig and the Vanguard because they have capitulated to bourgeois Republicanism. Hence this puerile and reactionary analysis: 'It is Protestant fear that they are being betrayed by their old leaders that explains the massive support this week for William Craig's Vanguard movement.' Protestant working-class fears are partly accounted for by their privileged position—a fear that neither the IRA nor IS can dispel. These fears are also born out of a healthy hatred of Catholic bourgeois domination. Those who ignore this real feeling cannot offer a way out for the Protestant workers, or for that matter the Catholic workers.

We say that the only way to break Protestant workers from the fetishistic cult of Orangeism and lay the basis for lasting unity of Catholic and Protestant workers is to prosecute the anti-Tory struggle in Britain until the Tories are forced to resign. It is only by and through such a struggle that the Protestant workers will realize where their real salvation lies. IS consciously avoids such a policy and struggle by transferring the struggle to Ireland, by calling on Irish workers to institute a '32 Counties' Workers' Republic'.

To confine the struggle to Ireland and to refuse to unite Irish and British workers in a joint struggle to force the Tories to resign is to betray the working class and perpetrate capitalist rule in Britain and in Ireland. The IS reject direct rule in words only in order to accept it in practice.

April 1, 1972

workers press

WHAT WE SAID IN 1972

Ireland

TERRORISM AND MARXISM

FOR over 300 years the British army has killed, tortured and destroyed in Ireland. The real practitioners of terror have always been—and still are—the armed forces of imperialism.

For this reason, Workers Press will not join the outbursts of moral indignation over the Aldershot bombing. We address this editorial to the Irish workers, as a matter of political principle.

We are not concerned about the British press and television which, in the service of the oppressor, will squeeze every drop of sentiment out of the Aldershot events.

WE CONDEMN THE BOMBING, AS MARXISTS, BECAUSE IT CAN ONLY WEAKEN THE STRUGGLE OF THE IRISH WORKING CLASS TO ACHIEVE ITS EMANCIPATION.

Seventy years ago, Lenin condemned the Russian terrorists pointing out that 'their predilection for terrorism is causally most intimately linked with the fact that they have always kept and still keep, aloof from the working class movement, without even attempting to become a party of the revolutionary class which is waging its class struggle'.

Lenin insisted that acts of terrorism did not weaken the oppressor, but strengthened him, that only the masses could defeat him and that acts of terror did not bring the masses forward but held them back. Workers as a class are not roused by 'short-lived sensations'.

'Only new forms of the mass movement or the awakening of new sections of the masses to independent struggle really rouses a spirit of struggle and courage in all.'

The Aldershot bombing holds back this type of development in the working class as a whole.

Last week the Tory government was on the brink of defeat. It had failed to beat the miners. It has failed—despite Derry—to crush the Irish working class. And opposition to growing unemployment and entry into the Common Market forced the Labourites into their first real challenge to Heath.

Above all, it was the miners' strike which, by dealing a body blow to the Tories, provided the greatest assistance yet given by the British working class to their Irish brothers.

The miners' strike and the fight against unemployment, now being crystallized round the Right-to-Work marches, mark an important stage of political development in Britain. Their significance is the support given to them by all layers in the working class, and not only the most conscious elements active in the trade unions.

It is this total class unity which presents the greatest source of danger to the Tories and thus the greatest strength to the Irish workers.

By substituting military action for political action, the Official IRA has not only turned its back on these developments, not only handed a weapon to Faulkner in the North and O'Malley in the South, but has provided the Tory government with the means of driving a wedge into the working class.

Until now, the Official IRA has opposed the reactionary, indiscriminate violence of the Provisionals. Though its leaders were being hurled into jails and internment camps in Ulster, Officials gained support and respect by its rejection of blind terrorism.

Now it has thrown the gains away.

Lenin said that without revolutionary theory, there could be no revolutionary practice. The Russian Revolution—the greatest revolutionary practice in history—was carried to success, not by those who threw bombs, but by those who studied Marxism and the development of the oppressed classes, and through this won their confidence.

The terror of the oppressor cannot be overcome by terror from the oppressed. The Irish workers cannot win the Socialist Republic this way.

We have said this from the beginning and we will go on saying it, without making the slightest concession to the crocodile tears of the British bourgeoisie.

February 24, 1972

workers press

WHAT WE SAID IN 1972

Trade Unions and the working class

ENTER SIR JOHN AND HIS COURT

By Gerry Healy, national secretary of the Socialist Labour League

The determination of the Tory government to utilize the legal provisions of their Industrial Relations Act has fundamentally changed the relationship of class forces in Britain. Even the capitalist press admit that things can never be the same again.

When Sir John Donaldson pronounced judgements on the Transport and General Workers' Union and the railmen's 'go-slow', he shattered for all time the structure of compromise which has dominated the relations between the classes since the days of Chartism.

For the affairs of trade unions are no longer to be decided by their members, but by a High Court presided over by the Tory judiciary wielding enormous legal power in the interest of the capitalist class.

There has been understandable confusion in the rank and file created by the open capitulation to the National Industrial Relations Court by the right-wing Labour and trade union leaders. But this effect can only be temporary.

The thrust forward of the economic and political crisis which motivates the Court's rulings, will quickly act as a forcing house to push the masses into greater battle against the Tory government.

The fight for more wages which embraces millions of trade unionists, as well as the resistance of tenants to the Tory Rent Bill, can no longer be waged in isolation from the main political issues of the day. Central to these is to mobilize the working class to make the Tory government resign. All major struggles ahead will almost immediately be transformed into political trials of strength.

For revolutionary Marxists the decisive test is how to analyse and intervene within the working-class, taking advantage of the considerable changes which are now taking place.

Britain is the home of trade unionism. From the Industrial Revolution workmen have organized together in their craft societies and later in their general unions to protect and improve their wages and working conditions.

'As schools of war', Engels wrote in his 'Conditions of the Working Class in England', 'the unions are unexcelled. In them is developed the peculiar courage of the English.'

This pioneering role of trade unionism has its negative aspects, in that it strengthened the tendency towards individualism within the working class rather than class consciousness. In those countries, where trade unions were founded by social-democratic leaders, the working-class developed a much more pronounced class-consciousness.

The zeal with which they fought against the brutal injustices during the rise of capitalism was inter-mixed with the determination of the Puritan tradition which has imparted cer-



Sir John Donaldson, president of the National Industrial Relations Court. Right: The All Trades Unions Alliance Conference held in Birmingham in October.

tain contradictory characteristics. One of the most important of these is a conception of 'fair play' and social justice. In appearance this takes the form of an aggravating conservatism when contrasting with the revolutionary elan of, say, the French working class.

One can find, even today, pockets of working-class opinion which will talk abstractly about 'fair play' even for employers. But such backwardness needs to be negated with an earlier experience of the small land holders of the 16th and 17th century.

It wasn't that they coveted the land owned by the aristocracy so much, but they fought like tigers when the same aristocrat and his middle-class kinsmen of the towns tried to evict them from their small holdings and the common lands.

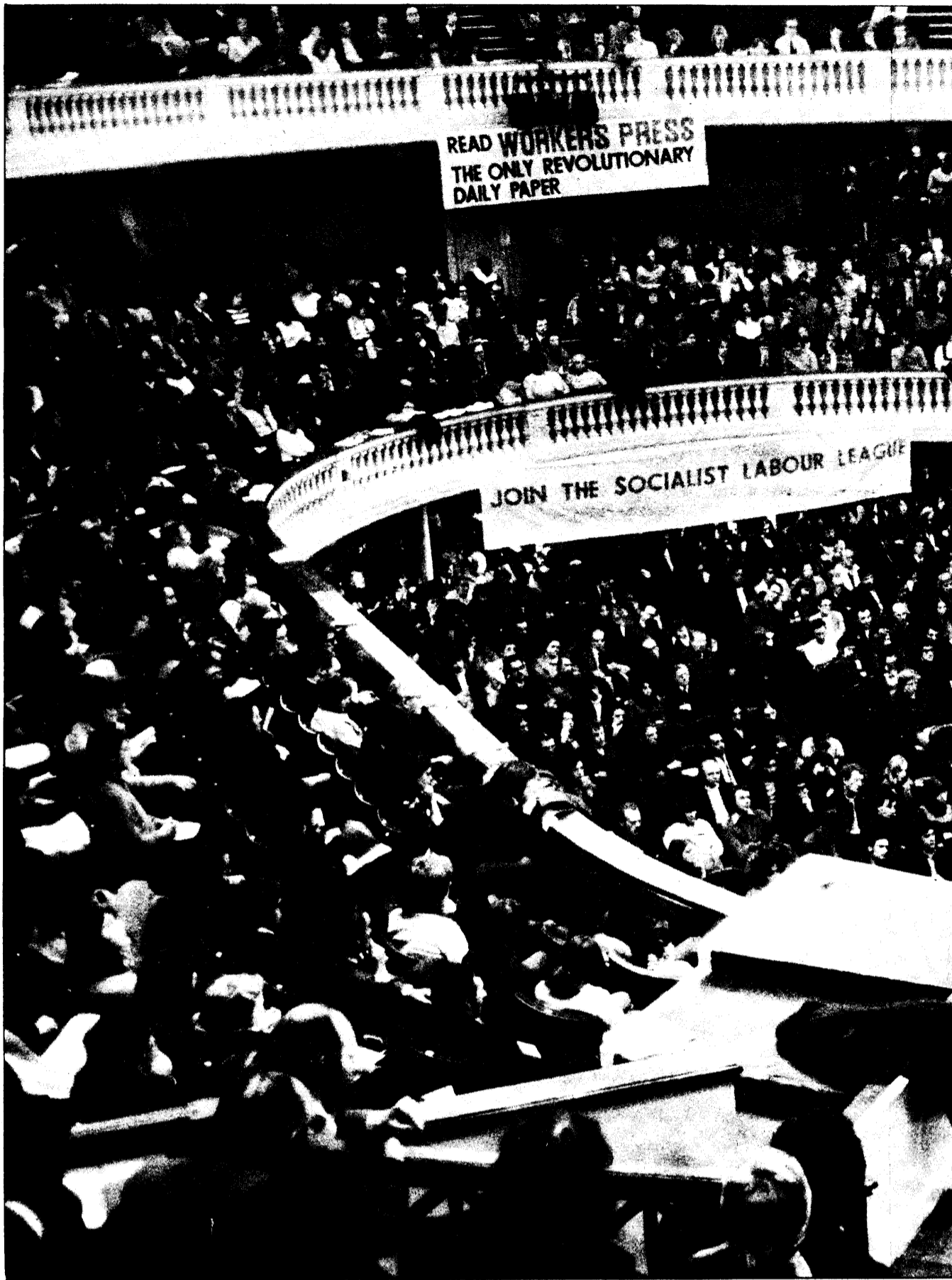
Fair-play and social justice then became the symbols of large-scale peasant uprisings.

Trade unionism is today virtually the working class itself. When they see the role of the NIRC as one which destroys the unions then, like their ancestors, workers will fight tooth and nail to resist the legal bandits of the Tory government and the class it represents.

Of equal importance is an understanding of the historic relationship between the working class and parliament.

Unlike the French working class in the Revolution of 1789, its English counterpart campaigned in the latter part of that century for its representatives to sit in parliament.

Following the Combination Laws (1800-1824) this campaign was renewed in the Chartist Movement (1837-1848). The campaign was not only successful, but the main points of the



Charter itself were eventually legislated by parliament.

The evil fruits of imperialism, which provided the resources for initiating such reforms, now placed what seemed to be the all-powerful obstacle of approximately 122 years of class compromise before the working class.

Here lies the reason for the powerful reformist and parliamentary traditions which constantly aggravate the confusion of impressionists and idealists. Within this reformist tradition, however, is its opposite—the age old conception of rights and social justice.

Now that the Tory government has dropped the parliamentary mask by deciding to legally destroy the trade unions, which the working class have built, those features of reformism and class collaboration which in the past have restrained the working class from taking the revolutionary road, now become transformed into their opposite.

Workers see the Tory government as their main enemy and this destroys the individualism which in the past has characterized the sectionalism of the wages struggle. They see their democratic rights being taken away by parliament and this invokes the revolutionary aspects of fair play and social justice.

So the English worker is well on the way to becoming a politically, class-conscious worker as distinct from his previous trade union, reformist consciousness.

Herein lies the essence of the great change ushered in by the National Industrial Relations Court, sponsored by a Tory Government, itself plunging deeper and deeper into the depths of an insoluble economic crisis.

I.S. BLAMES TH

TROTSKY stressed, in the 'Transitional Programme of the Fourth International', that 'the world political situation as a whole is chiefly characterized by a historical crisis of the leadership of the proletariat'. This has been illustrated once again by the recent dock strike.

Under capitalism new productive techniques, such as containerization, cannot raise the level of material wealth of the working class because of the profit motive. Instead they create insecurity and unemployment for the working class. This means that the only answer to the problems facing dockers is nationalization of the entire docks and transport industries, without compensation and under workers' control.

This involves bringing down the Tory government, which is determined to create large-scale unemployment in order to drive down working conditions. It must be replaced by a Labour government which would be forced by the strength of the working class to nationalize all basic industries without compensation and under workers' control, as a prerequisite for the establishment of a socialist society.

Such a struggle would create a split on the part of the right wing in the Labour Party and politically open the way for a mass revolutionary leadership.

During the entire period of the recent docks strike, the predominant section of shop stewards failed to put forward such a political demand. Yet without a political programme no amount of militancy could bring victory.

The release of the Pentonville Five shows that given political leadership the working class could bring down the Tory government.

But as it was the strike ended with nothing gained. Lord Aldington could boast in the 'Sunday Telegraph': 'The fact is that we have not made any improvement on our original offer.'

Above everything else, this experience poses the question of leadership. And that is the main difference between the Socialist Labour League and the anti-communist 'International Socialism' group.

The current issue of the IS paper 'Socialist Worker' carries a front-page article which blames the dockers for the collapse of the strike. It declares:

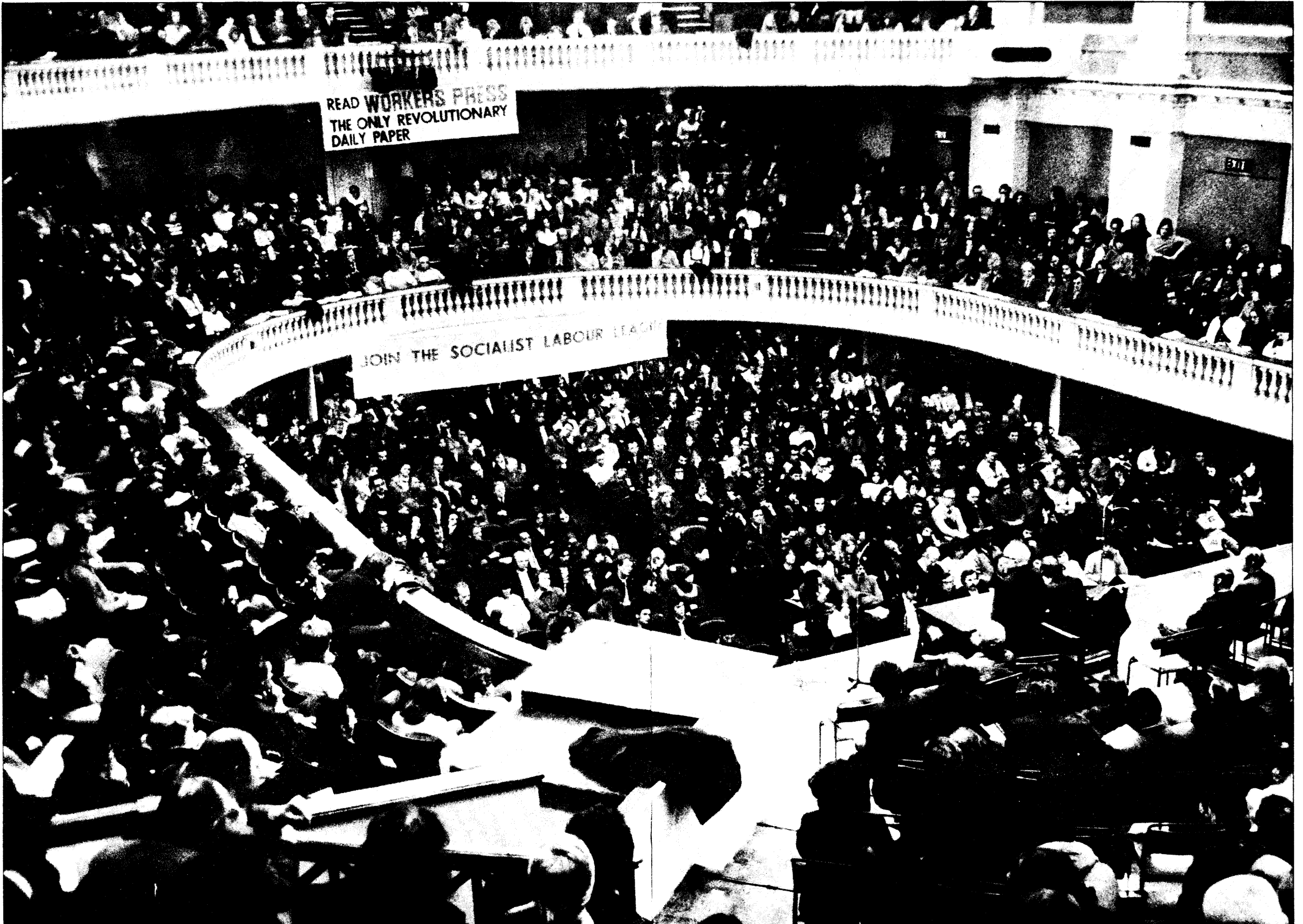
'The national shop stewards' call was outmanoeuvred and fell apart. The attitude of the men is the spirit-level of any struggle and this time the men proved themselves unworthy of their shop stewards.'

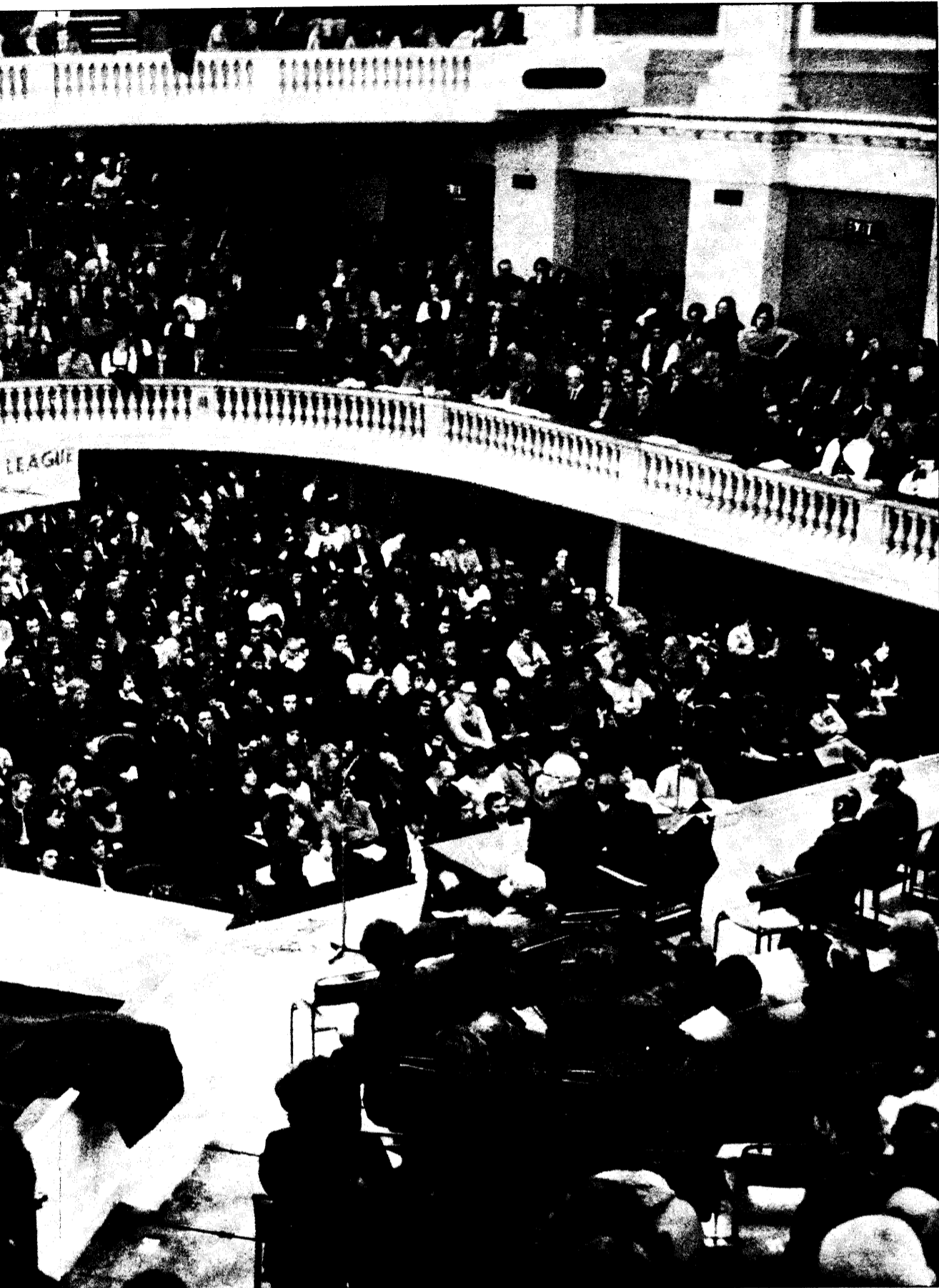
What actually happened, as Workers Press has shown, was that the London stewards, who include several members of

READ WORKERS PRESS
THE ONLY REVOLUTIONARY
DAILY PAPER

JOIN THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

EXIT





THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

FOLLOWING the dockers' and builders' strikes and the splitting of the upper Clyde shipbuilders, the Stalinists who lead the British Communist Party are becoming more and more exposed in the workers' movement.

Stalinism is not the product of political 'confusion', as the revisionists claim. It is a consciously counter-revolutionary force, which represents the reformist peaceful road-to-socialism requirements of the Soviet bureaucracy. It sets out deliberately to smash working-class resistance to the Tory government because the Moscow bureaucrats desire peaceful co-existence with Heath and the Tories.

This government remains in office only because of the support it gets from the Labour and trade union leaders. Yet in conditions of deep economic crisis, every major strike struggle becomes a conflict with the government. This is precisely what Stalinism seeks to obscure. In every strike the Communist Party fights bitterly to prevent the question of making the Tory government resign being raised.

In the recent dock strike, the Stalinists supported the Jones-Aldington talks. And the Communist Party members among the London stewards avoided a clear call to continue the strike after the Transport and General Workers' Union docks delegates had voted to end it.

The Stalinist stewards were determined not to mobilize the working class politically to challenge the union leadership and the Tory government.

In the builders' strike the Stalinists mouthed left phrases as long as the strike was strong. But at no point did

they fight the union leadership or demand an all-out national strike. And when the leadership's betrayal confused the rank and file, it was the Stalinists in key areas in London, Leeds and Liverpool who led the call for a return to work.

At Upper Clyde Shipbuilders the Stalinist stewards' committee leaders, Reid and Airlie, imposed the reformist 'work-in' strategy which has resulted in thousands of jobs being lost. The Ridley 'butcher' plan and the Industrial Relations Act have been accepted by the Stalinists in deals which do not guarantee a single job. The yards have been split and the men confused.

At this point, the Stalinists blame the workers, calling them 'rat-racers' pursuing 'sectional interests' and wanting the stewards to carry out 'dirty work'.

And in blaming the workers, the Stalinists are supported by the revisionists. The International Socialists' 'Socialist Worker' declared on August 26 that the London dockers were 'unworthy of their stewards'.

Yet 1972 has seen tremendous demonstrations of working-class militancy involving miners, railwaymen, dockers, builders, shipyard workers and others. The economic crisis gives such battles the character of a step in the struggle for political power.

At the same time—as is demonstrated in Ulster—the ruling class prepares for counter-revolutionary dictatorship and therefore every betrayal leaves the working class open to serious dangers.

Reformist trade unionism, however militant, must inevitably compromise with the Tory government. Without revolutionary leadership, trade union struggles cannot win. The central task in the unions today is to replace Stalinist and reformist leadership with revolutionary leadership.

That is why the basis of Trotskyism is the insistence of the Socialist Labour League on the continual training of cadres to understand Stalinism as an international counter-revolutionary force.

Stalinism slaughtered the leadership of the Russian Revolution in the Moscow Trials. It betrayed the Chinese Revolution to Chiang Kai-shek in 1927. It subordinated the General Strike to the Anglo-Russian Trade Union Committee in 1926. It delivered the German working class to Hitler in 1933 and the Spanish workers and peasants to Franco in 1937.

Stalinism has not changed. Those who pay lip-service to condemning the crimes of Stalin but who refuse to examine the Moscow Trials and the historical record of Stalinism in order to fight it and defeat it today are little more than liberals.

This is the role of the anti-communist, centrist International Socialism group. By refusing to fight Stalinism, in particular by refusing to raise the question of bringing down the Tory government, they align themselves with the Stalinists in practice in order to keep the working class within the limits of reformism.

It is the task of a revolutionary workers' paper to fight these false policies every day. That is what Workers Press has done and will continue to do.

THE WORKING CLASS

the Communist Party, failed to issue a clear call for the continuation of the strike. This led to a reversal of the unanimous strike-on decision in Liverpool and to the Hull shop stewards' decision not to seek to maintain the strike there. What was involved was not any 'unworthiness' of the dockers but the reformist nature of the leadership, which had not broken from the politics of class-collaboration.

Even if the strike call could not have been carried, it would have been better to put it forward and fight for it as the Hull stewards were prepared to do. That way some lessons could have been learned.

This is the essence of leadership, but the London stewards evaded the issue.

A correct leadership cannot, by itself, guarantee automatic victory. But without a fight for such leadership workers are left confused—as they were last week.

The London stewards Bernie Steer, a Communist Party member, and Vic Turner spread illusions on Jones-Aldington. The 'Daily Telegraph' of August 3 reported that Vic Turner had urged the committee that 'the recommendations should be converted into copper-bottomed guarantees'.

Jack Jones was able to tell the 'Telegraph' — and this was

never refuted — that 'both he and Lord Aldington had told the dockers they were making strenuous efforts to get tangible results and the dockers seemed happy with the progress being made'.

Then, on the decisive Friday, August 18, Steer and Turner did not put before the London dockers the resolution of the national port shop stewards' committee which called unambiguously for a continuation of the strike. Here was an abdication of leadership.

The Communist Party did not want a continuation of the strike because that would have involved a break with Jones and a political struggle against the Tory government. 'Socialist Worker' covers up for this betrayal because it persistently rejects the struggle for a revolutionary leadership in the unions. It advocates instead a blind militancy, and consistently attacks the Socialist Labour League for maintaining a principled struggle for Marxism.

The 'Socialist Worker' editorial calls only for 'a network of militants that can unite workers against the employers' offensive'. And it concludes that 'the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions (LCDTU) again failed to play this role'.

But the role of the LCDTU is not that it failed to build up

such a network. It is dominated by counter-revolutionary Stalinism and is used to hold back the development of revolutionary consciousness in the working class, in particular by opposing the call for the TUC to organize a General Strike to bring down the Tory government.

As we said in yesterday's Workers Press: 'The LCDTU is the instrument through which counter-revolutionary Stalinism seeks to exert its pressure by holding back the working class from revolutionary consciousness.'

The IS group, like the renegade Trotskyists of the International Marxist Group, has consistently supported the Stalinists in the Liaison Committee since its inception.

IS lines up with the Stalinists because they too want to avoid the central question of political leadership.

So today these anti-communists place the responsibility for the docks defeat not on the Stalinists, nor even on Jack Jones but on the dockers themselves, who now face unemployment. This has been the hallmark of every traitor in the working class for the last 150 years.

And the people they blame are the same dockers who stood out for four weeks in the face of an all-out witch-hunt by the capitalist press and television, plus police provocation and violence.

By blaming them 'Socialist Worker' seeks to divert workers' attention from the leadership and the political questions now posed. In the same way IS refused to blame Scanlon and the engineers' leaders for the lack of fight on the engineers' wage claim.

'Socialist Worker' declared, on July 22, that 'the traditional workers' organizations are not yet up to the task of giving the bosses a real fight'. The unions—built up by workers in over 200 years of struggle—are written off as inadequate by these revisionists rather than challenge the nature of the Scanlon leadership.

Yet it was Scanlon who threw the wage claim back to district and plant level because a national strike would have meant a showdown with the Tory government. Once again the anti-communists of IS, however, poured scorn on the working class and its achievements in order to protect the reformist and Stalinist leadership.

The crisis of leadership will be resolved in struggle against the reformist and Stalinist leaders and all those — like International Socialism — who seek to protect them. Workers Press will continue this struggle to the bitter end.

August 25, 1972

September 25, 1972

workers press**WHAT WE SAID IN 1972****UCS/Inflation**

HOW STALINISTS SPLIT JOBS FIGHT AT UCS



McGarvey and Reid with Airlie behind them at talks with Wayne Harbin (right), chairman of Marathon.

THE CAMPAIGN by the Communist Party at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders has now turned the full wheel of betrayal and destroyed almost entirely any chance of further resistance against redundancies.

The 'work-in' policy is in complete ruins with a large section of the labour force refusing to pay out more money to support men who will be fired at Clydebank.

Such is the great Stalinist 'victory' at UCS—by mid-winter their proud record at the yards will be a 30 per cent cut in the labour force from the 8,500 men who worked there last June when the consortium went into liquidation.

The whole abysmal record of the Communist Party shop stewards is impossible to record in the space of one article. But we have some things to say on the issue of the principles by which Reid and Airlie swear faith.

The principle of the right to work

REID and Airlie said this could be defended in Scotland by 'pressuring' the Tory government. They conspired persistently to confine the struggle over jobs to the yards. Meanwhile 23,000 in Scotland lost their jobs during the first seven months of the 'work-in'.

The reason for this policy was quite clear—Reid and Airlie, in line with Communist Party policy, did not want to raise the question of nationalization and the removal of the Tory government. Instead they much preferred months and months of negotiations with every capitalist who sniffed around the Clyde. Tory speculators and scrap merchants were all welcome.

The result of this was predictable. The strength was drained out of the struggle and men began to leave the yards—2,500 have gone already.

Another example of the Stalinists' attitudes came during the Young Socialists' five-week Right-to-Work march from Glasgow to London.

The co-ordinating committee originally backed this campaign with a £100 cheque after a visit from the march leader. He explained the demonstration was being organized by the Young Socialists who supported the policies of the Workers Press.

But when it became clear that the main aim of the march was to build up a campaign in every area to force the Tory government to resign, the Stalinists swung against the unemployed youth.

They launched a campaign of slanders in the yards and through the Communist Party paper, the 'Morning Star', accusing the marchers of 'misleading' the committee.

This was done on instruction from the CP headquarters. The Stalinists were particularly embarrassed by the main policy of the march—that the only way to defend the right to work was to

get rid of the Tory government by a General Strike and return a Labour government pledged to socialist policies. It was a challenge to their own cowardly compromise with the Tory government.

Eventually the youth—after campaigning against the lies the Stalinists were spreading round the Clyde—took the only principled step open to them—they gave the £100 back to the committee.

The principle of fighting the liquidator

THE WORK-IN specifically helped the Tory liquidator. It allowed essential work in the yards to be completed and the company to be wound up.

We all remember the periodic farce over delivery of vessels. Each time Reid or Airlie would swear by their precious principles that this ship would be the last out of the yards.

But each time they broke their promise and ship after ship slipped from the control of the workers who had built it, and, to quote the Stalinists, 'controlled the yards'. Even the liquidator paid tribute to this policy when he said in his report that the co-ordinating committee had a welcome 'negative influence' over the labour force.

The principle of opposition to the Tory government

THE STALINISTS attitude to the government can best be summed up by two remarkable

statements made by Reid and Airlie when the Tories—confident that they would not be further challenged on the Clyde—threw a few scraps to the co-ordinating committee.

Said Reid: 'I can only applaud the government's courage in taking these initiatives. They make economic good sense.'

Said Airlie: 'In our opinion they [the Tories] have lived up to their responsibility for this industry on the upper reaches of the Clyde and so for the community as a whole. Regardless of the differences we had in the past, we have to say the government has taken the correct decision and we welcome it and congratulate them.'

Even the Tory press was moved to amazement that two 'communists' should be moved to such lavish praise for an administration which had devastated the Scottish working class with unemployment and passed laws to jail trade unionists.

The principle of unity

THE QUESTION of unity is a crucial principle—one which Airlie now accused the Govan workers of breaking. But what is the record of the Stalinists?

First they abandoned their earlier stand that the UCS labour force should be kept 'in-tact' under one employer.

Then at Clydebank Reid led the stewards in signing the Marathon deal and agreeing wage rates while the future of the Govan workers was still not secure. This was on August 4. Later, on August 24, at Govan it was made clear by James Airlie that the redundancy crisis at

Clydebank could not be allowed to hinder progress towards their own deal with Govan Shipbuilders.

Airlie said, after meeting Govan Shipbuilders bosses: 'We recognize that Govan Shipbuilders are not responsible for the whole of UCS and the responsibility lies with Marathon.'

His fellow Stalinist at Scotstoun, Sammy Barr, made it clear to a mass meeting that fears over the future of jobs at Clydebank would not stop the Govan men signing.

Apparently the Stalinists are prepared to allow the employers more leeway on the issue of unity than the workers.

The principle of defence of basic rights

THE DEFENCE of basic rights is the most important principle of all. On Friday August 4, James Reid made this statement:

'This is a very good agreement which in no way violates the principles of trade unions.'

Reid was referring to the Marathon settlement which, as boilermakers' leader Danny McGarvey admitted days later, was a deal with a four year no-strike pledge.

Under the new Marathon regime workers will be subject to a procedure of binding arbitration of disputes, will have their six-month bonus confiscated if they go on unofficial strike, and will have to accept fierce productivity concessions connected with interchangeability of labour and flexibility.

This is such a 'good deal' that when Workers Press published it and sold it outside the Clydebank yard the co-ordinating com-

mittee panicked and went into emergency session—they were very upset that the ordinary shipyard workers should be allowed to see it.

At Govan a group of boilermakers dared to insist on a wage increase before they signed their deal—surely the basic right of any workers. Airlie and Reid openly castigated them as villains—another example of fighting for principle.

THIS IS a brief record of some of the outstanding Stalinist betrayals on the Clyde. We ask:

● Is it any wonder shipyard workers now see no more future in the work-in after this chronicle of treachery?

● Who has abandoned principles. The workers or their Stalinist leaders who said they would not accept one redundancy or abandon basic rights?

This article is not written to score points. It is not meant to kick the UCS workers while they are down. Still less is it an exercise in armchair politics.

The Socialist Labour League and Workers Press have fought all the way on the Clyde. We have intervened and encouraged shipyard workers who support our policies to speak out. For this we have earned the hatred of the Stalinist leaders.

These Stalinists are a counter-revolutionary force that want to subordinate the working class to co-operation with the ruling class. They no longer fight for socialism.

These leaders, therefore, must be removed from all political and industrial influence. In no other way can the shipyard workers win their struggle against mass poverty and unemployment.

September 29, 1972

THE POLITICS OF INFLATION

THE FIGHT against inflation is now the main preoccupation of every international capitalist conference and gathering. Like a malignant disease inflation is afflicting every country of the capitalist world.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has expressed 'extreme disquiet' about the question, while on Wednesday the Common Market parliament berated the EEC Finance and Foreign Ministers for failing to produce plans to fight inflation at their recent summit.

Inflation is an inseparable part of the monetary arrangements on which world capitalism is based. It is endemic in the capitalist system. The world monetary system after World War II was based on the dollar which was itself convertible into gold.

The American government's refusal to sell gold since August 15 last year has undermined the whole edifice of paper money and credit erected during the years of boom.

This has removed the last barrier to runaway inflation which is undermining the purchasing power of money in every capitalist country. Inflation has now become a major political question for the ruling class.

There is only one way they can over-

come it and that is by depriving the working class of its basic rights, destroying its organizations and forcing the masses into conditions of starvation, unemployment and war. In short, the solution is political.

But the Common Market governments have not yet created the political conditions to carry out this programme. The workers of Germany, Italy, France and Britain are an undefeated force of enormous power blocking their path.

Under these conditions the employers are unable to agree about what to do. The OECD conference, representing 23 capitalist states, proposed 'expansionary policies to take up economic slack' as one means of combating inflation.

This should be done 'with caution', they said. Caution is certainly required, because the proposal is the economic equivalent of force-feeding an overweight patient as a cure for obesity. There is no cure for inflation in economic juggling of this type.

What is required is war on the working class, and this is the essence of the reactionary alliance of monopolists in the Common Market.

In Britain, the Tory government's Industrial Relations Act has been followed by the imposition of rigor-

ous state control of wages, stripping the working class of the basic right to fight for a standard of living.

Similar measures are being actively planned by the top circles of the Pompidou regime in France. In Germany, the employers are throwing all their weight behind the Christian Democrats led by Barzel and Strauss to gain office on a nakedly anti-working class programme in the Bundestag elections.

In Italy, influential industrialists are backing the fascist Italian Social Movement in the hope that it can bring back Mussolini's corporate state and discipline the working class.

The police have just had their powers of arrest, originally granted under the fascists, fully restored by the right-wing coalition which presides over an administration riddled with fascist sympathizers.

For the reactionary monopolists of the EEC the fight against inflation means nothing less than the preparation of civil war against the working class.

The great strength of the working class must be mobilized to smash this reactionary conspiracy through the construction of revolutionary parties all over Europe to lead the working class in the enormous struggles that are ahead.

November 17, 1972

MARKET TREATY SIGNED

WHEN Edward Heath signs the Rome Treaty today he will do so with the confidence that he has fulfilled two most vital conditions for entry:

The creation of over a million unemployed in Britain and the passage of the Industrial Relations Act.

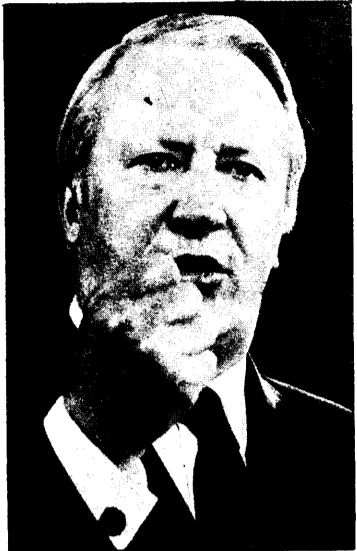
THE FIRST enables him to cut consumption, increase productivity and accumulate the necessary reserves for the protection of sterling and the conduct of the trade war.

THE SECOND provides him with the means to break shop-floor militancy, depress wages and facilitate the formation of the multinational monopolies to compete against the US and Japan.

Without these steps, the sinister ceremony going on at Brussels would be a meaningless formality.

For Marxists, the struggle against the Common Market is primarily a struggle to make the Tories resign. This objective can be attained by a fight against the spreading cancer of unemployment, for the independence of the trade unions from the capitalist state and for a revolutionary alternative to reformism and Stalinism.

If the Tories have gone so far to get into the EEC it is not just by their own efforts or because of any inherent strength in their system.



Edward Heath

Their successes are attributable largely to the sometimes tacit and mostly open collaboration of the Labour leadership and the continuous betrayals of the trade union bureaucracy in one major industrial struggle after another.

However much the Labour leaders try to conceal this collusion with histrionic protests in parliament and fancy arguments about the legality of the Treaty and the abuse of the Royal Prerogative, most workers know that it was the Labour Party right-wing which gave the Tories the

advantage they now possess—and that they still sit in the Labour benches.

Wilson's toleration of these traitors is the greatest encouragement that Heath could possibly have.

In fact, the deeper the Tories go into the European jungle, the more they need this support in putting a strait-jacket on the working class.

But the Tories reckon without their host—the British and European working class. As the recession worsens and as unemployment increases, not only will working-class resistance grow, but so will the hostility and distrust of the union ranks to its reformist leadership.

The miners' strike is a further reminder that neither Heath nor Feather are out of the woods so far as the working class is concerned.

The growing response of the union branches and strike committees to the YS 'Right-to-Work' campaign shows that conditions for building an alternative leadership to the reformist class collaborators is maturing rapidly.

By making this campaign a shining success and, equally, by establishing the tabloid Workers Press as the daily paper of the working class, we can, and will, ensure that Heath's signature today signifies the death warrant of capitalism.

January 22, 1972

LIBERATION VICTORY FOR ARAB GUERRILLAS!



WORKERS PRESS hails the liberation of the three guerrilla prisoners from Munich jail as a victory for the Palestinian struggle against Zionism and imperialism.

Their liberation will give new hope to the masses in the Middle East who have consistently been betrayed by the Arab bourgeoisie and the Stalinists who hang onto their coat-tails.

It proves once again that the Palestine liberation movement has a core of young fighters whose resolution has not been broken by the tragic defeats inflicted by the Israeli military machine and the Hashemite dynasty.

The Palestinians are at war with Israel. They are fighting a brutal militarist state which has robbed them of their homeland and driven 3 million of their people into poverty and exile.

The very existence of the Zionist state is founded on a gigantic act of robbery and violence against the Palestinian people. This state is unanimously supported by the imperialist powers who see it as a spearhead against the Arab revolution.

The hypocritical spokesmen of imperialism are loud in their denunciations of the Palestinian fighters who refuse to bow the knee to oppression and exploitation. They fulminate about Arab 'terrorism' and stay silent when the Israelis bomb and strafe unprotected Palestinian refugees.

Nobody can claim the right to call himself a socialist and remain neutral in this struggle. Workers Press stands entirely on the side of the oppressed Palestinians against the Zionist oppressors and their imperialist friends.

Trotskyism has always made clear its opposition to acts of individual

terror which cannot resolve the problems facing the Arab masses. The building of revolutionary parties with a programme to unite the oppressed masses in the Middle East is the only way the millions of oppressed workers and peasants can find a road to defeat imperialism and all its hangers-on and take power.

But Trotskyism has never equated the terrorism of oppressed and desperate fighters against imperialism with the cold-blooded and cynical terror of their enemies. Even more despicable is the position of those Labour and trade union leaders who solidarize themselves with the Zionists against the Palestinians.

Following the Munich airport shoot-out, Harold Wilson outdid even the Tory government in his rabid calls for action against the Arabs. His fellow social-democrat Willy Brandt is currently holding Palestinian student leaders in prison without trial having expelled from Germany most of the members of the Palestine Students' Union.

Regrettably the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs has promised union support to a 'black' on Libyan state airlines following the welcome given the hijackers in Tripoli. This is dangerous confusion which weakens the working class and above all ASTMS members.

ASTMS is one of the unions fighting for its life against the Tory government and its plans for state control of wages. The Arab oppressed are also fighting against the common enemy. They are the real allies of the British working class in its struggle against the Tories and any 'black' against them should be lifted immediately.

October 31, 1972

workers press

WHAT WE SAID IN 1972

EEC /Nixon/ Middle East

WHAT NIXON PLANS FOR US LABOUR

THE AMERICAN working class now faces a crisis situation. Richard Nixon is not wasting any time in pressing ahead with his plans to smash the trade unions and destroy the living conditions of millions of workers.

Though the elections are over, the greatest political tasks lie before the labour movement. No time can be lost in mobilizing the full strength of the working class through a Congress of Labour which must build a labour party based upon socialist programmes and take action now against Nixon's attacks.

The urgency of the situation is exposed by Richard Nixon himself, who, in an interview with the 'Washington Star-News' held just before election day and published last week, outlined in chilling detail his grand design for taking away every right won by the working class over the past 40 years.

With unequalled arrogance, this spokesman of the bankers and industrialists declared:

'The average American is just like a child in the family. You give him some responsibility and he is going to amount to something. He is going to do something.'

'If, on the other hand, you make him completely dependent and pamper him and cater to him too much, you are going to make him soft, spoiled, and eventually a very weak individual.'

Boasting that he never promised 'a whole bag full of goodies,' Nixon stated that nearly all the social welfare programmes instituted during the 1960s will be dropped.

While deploring the decline of the 'work ethic,' Nixon pledged that he will personally supervise massive job cuts throughout American industry and particularly among federal employees.

'Masses of civilian employees who are getting in the way of each other,' he stated, '... are going to have to take a thinning down.'

In the same malicious vein, Nixon declared that 'HUD, HEW, [housing and health departments] transportation are all too fat, too bloated.' Admitting that his administration has decided to eliminate thousands of jobs, Nixon made it clear that moral considerations would not stand in his way:

'We are going to try to do it in a way that will consider the individual, but we have to accomplish the objective.'

Make no mistake about it. In the full flush of his election victory, Nixon is talking about war against the working class.

In less than a week, it has become crystal clear that the second Nixon administration will be nothing like the first. His talk about creating mass unemployment and slashing all social programmes are no idle threats. The plans Nixon has for the working class are already being carried out.

● In Detroit, the city administration is threatening to shut down the school system in

December, and deprive working class youth of education.

● In St. Louis, 25,000 are being thrown onto the streets as public housing facilities are eliminated.

● In Newark, the Gibson administration is on the verge of declaring the city bankrupt.

These developments prove that the Nixon administration is determined to make the United States a country where millions of workers will have no jobs, no housing, no unions, no security in their old age, and where their children have no future.

The Congress of Labour must be convened immediately to take action against the attacks—unemployment, speed-ups, wage controls, cuts in social programmes—and preparing the alternative by actually organizing a labour party pledged to socialist programmes that will meet the crisis.

We propose that the Congress of Labour defeat Nixon's Pay Board and productivity drive by organizing national General Strike action. There is no other way to stop the government's open robbery of workers, its stomping upon the right to negotiate a decent contract and inhuman speed-ups.

The Congress must answer the threat of massive unemployment by fighting for the 30-hour week for 40 hours' pay. We must make the 30-hour week the law of the land so that everyone may work and benefit from the productive capacity of the country. There must be real job training for youth.

The Congress must reject and fight any attempt to turn back the clock on the living conditions of workers. Billions must be spent for education, housing and medical care.

All the attacks on the working class flow from the character of capitalism in crisis. Under capitalism big business uses the vast productive power of industry for profit, not to serve the people.

Nixon and big business are saying that the corporations cannot function unless they lay off millions and destroy the living conditions of the working class.

This means that workers can defend themselves only through the nationalization of industry under their control. Only this way can the economy be planned, organized and developed in the interests of working people. By controlling the economy, the working class will see to it that everyone has a job, that schools and housing are built and decent living conditions assured.

The Congress of Labour must unite all sections of the working class in struggle against Nixon around this programme.

We urge every trade unionist to take up the fight for the Congress of Labour in his union.

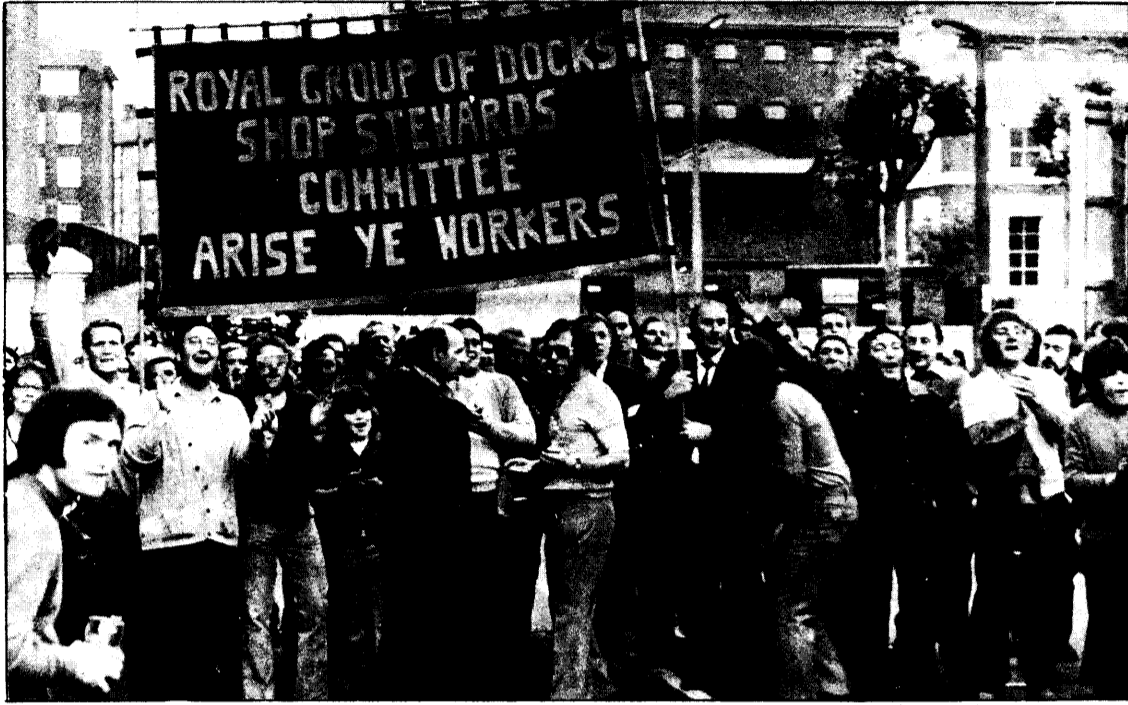
Reprinted from the November 20 'Bulletin', organ of the Workers League of America.

November 22, 1972

workers press

WHAT WE SAID IN 1972

Dockers/Miners



BETRAYAL ON THE DOCKS

COMMUNIST PARTY members in London's dock areas have now begun a campaign, not against the Transport and General Workers' Union leaders who called off the dock strike, but against Workers Press.

They are being assisted in this by members of the anti-communist 'International Socialism' group, which says the Soviet Union is a 'state-capitalist' country.

The Stalinists are seeking in this way to divert attention from their own total abandonment last Friday of the national port shop stewards' committee policy of continuing the strike for the four points on which it was based.

They were led to this position by their uncritical support for T&GWU secretary Jack Jones. In particular they refused to campaign for the recall of the T&GWU's biennial conference. This permitted the behind-the-scenes dealings of the Jones-Aldington committee to continue under conditions where the T&GWU leaders were not accountable to the union's membership.

It also enabled the T&GWU leaders to organize a reversal of the original strike decision at the docks delegate conference.

Behind this lay the shelving some months ago of the key political demand of the stewards' original nine-point charter—nationalization of the docks under workers' control. Communist Party stewards from London insisted on shelving this and other demands—against opposition from Liverpool and Hull—on the grounds that it could not be achieved under a Tory government. The implication was the remaining four points could.

In fact the Tory government is hell-bent on creating unemployment in order to drive down working conditions and to smash the unions.

Unemployment is the teeth of the Industrial Relations Act. To claim, as the Communist Party does, that job security and full employment can be maintained on the docks merely by using workers' militancy to put pressure on the Tories, is to prepare a sell-out and open the door for mass unemployment.

Tory policies are determined by the crisis of the capitalist system. This crisis is so serious that the Tories cannot afford to retreat. Under such circumstances, no lasting gain for the working class can be achieved simply by 'pressure'. As Trotsky pointed out in 'Lessons of October':

'Someone may at first glance raise an objection: Ought a revolutionary party refuse

to "exercise pressure" on the bourgeoisie and its government? Certainly not.

'The exercise of pressure on a bourgeois government is the road of reform. A revolutionary Marxist party does not reject reforms. But the road of reform serves a useful purpose in subsidiary and not in fundamental questions.

'State power cannot be obtained by reforms. "Pressure" can never induce the bourgeoisie to change its policy on a question which involves its whole fate.'

The fact that the ruling class can concede no reforms because of its crisis throws all reformist organizations into crisis also.

The Communist Party would not break decisively from Jones because, like him, it was not prepared for a battle to bring down the Tory government and to solve the docks problem in the only way possible—by returning a Labour government pledged to nationalize all the transport industries under workers' control.

Without leadership workers were left frustrated and—after the docks delegate conference had voted to end the strike—they could see no clear alternative.

As we point out in our diary of the docks strike (see page 3), those London stewards who are under the leadership of the Communist Party failed even to put forward a clear call for a strike in line with the decision of the national port stewards' committee.

This was not due to any 'mistakes', or bad handling of the meeting. It was because the Communist Party does not wish to break from the reformist trade union leaders and lead a fight against the Tory government.

As every docker now knows, the London decision led to a reversal of the earlier unanimous strike vote in Liverpool.

The Hull shop stewards' committee had a motion before its Sunday night meeting to go all out for a stoppage if Liverpool stayed out. Hull stewards were confident they could pull out between 300-600 on the first day.

Lord Aldington himself declared, in an interview in last week's 'Sunday Telegraph', that the dockers had been given nothing: 'No, the fact is that we have not made any improvement on our original offer. All we have done is to give clear evidence that our original recommendations could and would be implemented.'

Workers learn nothing from such an experience, and this can only strengthen the position of the right-wing reformist trade union leadership.

It is because Workers Press has fearlessly fought to stress the political implications of these events, and to campaign tirelessly for a fight to bring down the Tory government that we are now attacked by the Stalinists and the anti-communists of the so-called IS group.

The renegades of IS support the Stalinists in their attacks on Workers Press because they, too, refuse to call for the working class to bring down the Tory government. They, too, refuse to call for a recall of the biennial conference of the T&GWU to make the leaders accountable to the membership.

The IS advocates of blind trade union 'militancy' are implacably opposed to the introduction of principled politics into the unions.

Again and again International Socialism's paper 'Socialist Worker' has merely called for 'more militancy'.

The dockers have been as militant as it is possible to be. If they now appear to support Jack Jones's line of acceptance of Jones-Aldington it is not because they lack militancy nor because they have faith in Jones-Aldington.

It is because the actions of the Communist Party, supported by their IS hangers-on, have held them back politically from a fight against Jones and a fight against the Tory government.

Dockers know the record of Workers Press. Our sales are steadily on the increase all over the country. Day after day we supported the dockers' fight and defended them against the witch-hunts of the capitalist press.

We intend to continue to build unity of all sections of the working class based on socialist principles. This means unity based on mobilizing the working class to bring down the Tory government.

The Communist Party and the anti-communist International Socialism group fight tooth and nail to prevent unity being established on such a programme.

We are confident, however, that dockers everywhere will support Workers Press against the attacks now being launched against it, even though we will never hesitate to criticize their leaders when necessary.

Again as Trotsky pointed out in 'Lessons of October': 'The party should and must know the whole of the past, so as to be able to estimate it correctly, and to assign each event to its proper place.'

'The tradition of a revolutionary party is built not on evasions but on critical clarity.'

August 23, 1972

OF GIANTS AND PYGMIES

AT LAST the TUC has opened its mouth on the miners' strike. Its finances and general purposes committee has congratulated the NUM executive on recommending acceptance of the strike settlement and has 'expressed appreciation' to the unions which donated to the strike and whose members refused to cross the picket lines.

Yet, throughout the miners' struggle, the TUC never came to their aid. It did not once consider mobilizing its 10 million members behind them.

It stood by while Hugh Scanlon called off the engineers' national wages fight. It watched passively while Frank Chapple accepted 7½ per cent for the power workers.

The TUC was prepared to leave the miners isolated in 1972, as it had left the postmen isolated in 1971. The support for the miners throughout the ranks of organized labour was a basic class feeling, which over-rode the silence of the TUC leaders.

The miners were actively supported by thousands of Labour Party members. This found no reflection in the House of Commons, where Labour's spokesman on fuel and power, Harold Lever, joined Carr in expressing relief that a settlement seemed to have been reached.

And Communist Party members fought with the miners while the 'Morning Star' remained silent on the shipping of scab coal into N Ireland by the Polish Stalinist government.

Trotsky once described the British working class as a 'slumbering giant', tied down by pygmies. When the giant gained consciousness and began to move, the pygmies would be thrown aside. On the eve of 1926, Trotsky warned in advance of the role of the Labour and trade union leaders:

'The chief efforts of the official leadership of the Labour Party and of a considerable number of the official trade union leaders will not be directed towards paralysing the bourgeois state by means of the strike, but towards paralysing the General Strike with the aid of the bourgeois state.'

In 1972 the miners avenged 1926. In doing so, they struck terror into the hearts, not only of the Tories, but of the Labour and trade union bureaucrats as well.

These leaders stopped the movement short of bringing down the Tories altogether, but they could not prevent a substantial victory. Let the pygmies beware. The giant is stirring.

February 23, 1972

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BBC 1

9.50 Captain Pugwash. 10.00 Desert crusader. 10.25 Unsolved mysteries. 10.50-11.00 Huckleberry hound. 12.15 Boomph with Becker. 12.30 Ar y trywydd. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Trump-ton. 1.45 High street. 2.00 Out of school. 3.05 Tom and Jerry. 3.20 Children growing up. 3.45 The countryman. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Blue Peter. 5.15 John Craven's newsround. 5.25 Yogi bear. 5.40 Crystal Tipps. 5.45 News. Weather.
6.00 NATIONWIDE 6.45 TOP OF THE POPS.
 7.15 **Z CARS.** Skinner.
8.00 COMEDY PLAYHOUSE: 'THE LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE'. Michael Bates, Bill Owen, Peter Sallis.
8.30 HOLIDAY 73. 9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.
 9.25 **COLDITZ.** Murder?
10.15 MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS.
10.45 MIDWEEK. 11.30 LATE NEWS. Weather.

ITV

9.30 Outlook. 10.25 Cimarron strip. 11.35 Galloping gourmet. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Inigo Pipkin. 12.25 Witches' brew. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Jokers wild. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Generation three. 3.25 Rivals of Sherlock Holmes. 4.25 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 5.20 Pebbles and Bamm Bamm. 5.50 News.
6.00 TODAY. 6.30 CROSSROADS.
6.55 FILM: 'REVOLT AT FORT LARAMIE'. John Dehner, Gregg Palmer. Western.
8.15 MISS TV EUROPE.
9.15 DOCUMENTARY: SHOOTING THE COLORADO. Down the rapids.
10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.30 CINEMA.
11.00 COOKING WITHOUT TEARS. Cooking For One—At Leisure.
11.30 SCOTLAND YARD MYSTERIES. The Unseeing Eye.
12.00 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.
12.15 THE FUTURE OF THE FUTURE.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.
6.30 RIPPLES IN THE ETHER. But Electrons aren't Coloured **7.30 NEWS.** Weather.
7.35 WEB OF LIFE. The Living River.
8.05 EUROPA. Man and Magic. Part 1 The Great Illusionist.
8.30 WAR AND PEACE. Moscow.
9.15 FANATICS. Man of Letters.
9.25 HORIZON. Epidemic. The ever-present threat of epidemics of infectious disease.
10.15 FACE THE MUSIC.
10.45 IN CONCERT. Chuck Berry, Rocking Horse.
11.15 NEWS. Weather.
11.45 REAL TIME. Weekly round-up of issues concerning the world of television.

Regional TV

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women today. 3.00 London. 4.25 Follyfoot. 4.50 Elephant boy. 5.20 Doctor at large. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Cartoon. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Man in the Dark'. 8.15 London. 10.30 Smith family. 11.02 Cinema. 11.5 Frighteners. 12.00 News, weather.
WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.25 Let them live. 9.55 A Christmas carol. 10.50 Rainbow country. 11.15 Jackson five. 11.40 Katie Stewart cooks. 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 10.30 Report. 10.59 News. 12.00 Faith for life.
SOUTHERN: 10.00 Torchy. 10.15 Man of the South. 10.40 Dick Van Dyke. 11.05 Gilbert and Sullivan. 11.55 Cartoon. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 London. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Persuaders. 8.15 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Guideline. 11.15 Film: 'Sweet, Sweet Rachel'. 12.35 Weather.
HARLECH: 12.05 London. 2.30 Date-line. 3.00 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Sky's the limit. 7.00 Film: 'The Rabbit Trap'. 8.15 London. 10.30 Bath, a city preserved. 11.00 Spyforce. 12.00 Weather.
HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 2.30 Hamdden. 4.25 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50 Cantamil. 4.50-5.20 Rovers. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd. 10.30-11.00 Bright ones.
HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Sport West.
ATV MIDLANDS: 10.20 Freedom to Die. 11.20 Too close for comfort. 11.35 Not so much a theatre, more a way of life. 12.00 Today. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women today. 3.00 London. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.20 Julia. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Run, Simon, Run'. 8.15 London. 11.00 Angling today. 11.30 Film: 'She Waits'.
ULSTER: 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.00 Women today. 2.30 Cartoon time. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 Elephant boy. 4.50 Phoenix five. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Killer That Stalked New York'. 8.15 London. 11.00 What it all about? 11.20 Champions.
YORKSHIRE: 9.30 Let them live. 10.00 We need each other. 10.50 Odd couple. 11.20 Gilbert and Sullivan. 12.05 London. 2.30 Farmhouse kitchen. 3.00 London. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 Rovers. 5.20 Partridge family. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Murder Ahoy'. 8.15 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Mod squad. 12.30 Weather.
GRANADA: 11.03 Felix the cat. 11.15 Bush boys. 11.40 Lidsville. 12.05 London. 5.15 Smith family. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Police file. 6.30 Film: 'Vera Cruz'. 8.15 London. 11.00 Danger man.
TYNE TEES: 9.25 Out where the new begins. 9.30 Lidsville. 10.00 We need each other. 10.50 Dick Van Dyke. 11.20 Gilbert and Sullivan. 12.05 London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Let's face it. 3.00 London. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 Stingray. 5.20 Partridge family. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Terror in the Sky'. 8.15 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 News. 11.50 Scales of justice 12.20 Greatest fights of the century. 12.30 Lectern.
SCOTTISH: 11.20 Katie Stewart. 11.45 Sky hawks. 12.05 London. 2.30 Date-line. 3.00 London. 4.25 Lost in space. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Scotch corner. 7.00 Film: 'Barbados Quest'. 8.15 London. 11.00 Angling. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 Journey to the unknown.

Cork police link with spy ring?

A **SUSPENDED** police officer from Cork may be connected with the alleged British spy ring in the Republic.

Dublin newspapers yesterday speculated that the man may be facing charges under the Official Secrets Act.

Asked to comment, the police headquarters said: 'An officer has been suspended. We have nothing further to say.'

Nor would the spokesman confirm that a civilian living in Cork might also face secrets charges.

The Special Branch has launched a full-scale investigation into state security since the arrest of Englishman

John Wyman of Swan Walk, Chelsea, and Sergeant Patrick Crinnion.

A special court this week granted permission for police to examine Crinnion's bank account.

Their trial will start next week.

● A further security alert has been ordered following the disappearance of a machine-gun from a Dublin army barracks on Tuesday.

The FN machine gun is a heavy, fully-automatic weapon, accurate to a mile.

An army spokesman said: 'We are surprised that a weapon of such bulk could be removed from the barracks unobserved by the sentry on gate duty.'

Fighting the Tory rent Act

Clay Cross hot seat for auditor

By Our Housing Correspondent

HUNDREDS of Clay Cross workers and tenants are expected to give the district auditor a hot welcome this morning when he resumes his investigation of the Labour council's housing account.

Local council workers—who have an official holiday—will probably turn out to make it clear they support the council's continued refusal to implement the Tories' 'fair rents' Act.

The 11 councillors must feel strengthened by last week's unanimous support for their stand by the National Union of Mineworkers' Derbyshire area council representing 14,000 men.

Councillors have been invited to specify what sort of support they want if they are surcharged and disqualified from the council through the action of the district auditor.

Said council leader Arthur Wellon yesterday: 'There is only one thing we want. We're not after financial help and only industrial action by the miners can help us.'

'What will happen today is anyone's guess. But I don't see any alternative but for the auditor to surcharge us eventually.'

'If anything like that happened I think you'd see miners taking action without any direct request from us.'



ARTHUR WELLON . . . Need miners' support.

Private hospital take-over was discussed with Tories in 1971

THE HARLEY STREET Clinic, one of the largest and oldest private hospitals in Britain, plans to take over the private wings of National Health hospitals. The Clinic merged with the American Medical International Incorporated three years ago.

Dr Stanley Balfour-Lynn, chairman and managing director of the Clinic, has revealed that discussions about such a takeover have been held with regional hospital boards and doctors.

And the Department of Health confirmed that Social Services Secretary Sir Keith Joseph discussed the project with representatives of the Harley Street Clinic as early as 1971.

'Public Service', journal of the National and Local Government Officers, has condemned the scheme on the grounds that it would draw off staff the Health Service could not afford to lose.

The British Medical Association favours the scheme, but the Medical Practitioners' Union is opposed.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

The MPU's medical secretary, Dr Hugh Faulkner, said that any scheme to 'cream off doctors and resources for the benefit of the few' was 'immoral'.

Britain was short of doctors, said Dr Faulkner, and people who paid for private practice did not necessarily get better treatment.

'All they can really buy is time and jump the queue for medical treatment,' he said.

UNILEVER, the giant chemical and industrial group, yesterday announced an almost-completed £3m deal to buy the Dutch cocoa-chocolate company Bensch-dorp NV. The companies are still negotiating, say Unilever, and the final contract depends on a number of conditions under discussion.

Fine Tubes appeal

The Plymouth Fine Tubes Strikers, their wives and 53 children have just spent their third Christmas 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 has been 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 Workers 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.

All Trades Unions Alliance meetings

Fight Rising Prices
Force the Tories to Resign
Support the Engineers

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday January 4, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road. 'Build Councils of Action! Defend the engineers!'
LEITCHWORTH: Thursday January 4, 8 p.m. Trades Hall. (please note changed date.)
SOUTHALL: Thursday January 4, 8 p.m. Southall Library, Osterley Park Road.
MANCHESTER: Thursday, January 4, 7.30 p.m. 'The Cardinal's Hat', Wood Street, Middleton. 'Fight Rising Prices—Force the Tories to Resign.'

Speakers: Connie Fahey, Winnie Price (Manchester tenants' leaders).
BRADFORD: Sunday January 7, 7.30 p.m. Talbot Hotel, Kirkgate.
SWINDON: Sunday January 7, 7.30 p.m. 'Locomotive Hotel'.
BRADFORD: Sunday January 7, 7.30 p.m. Talbot Hotel, Kirkgate, Bradford.
WATFORD: Monday January 8, 8 p.m. Watford Trade Union Hall (upstairs), Woodford Road, opposite Watford Junction station.
COVENTRY: Monday January 8, 7.30 p.m. 'Elastic Inn', Cox Street (opposite Theatre One).
ACTON: Tuesday January 9, 8 p.m. 'The Rocket', Churchfield Rd, W3.
WOOLWICH: Tuesday January 9, 8 p.m. 'Queen's Arms', Burrage Road.

BRACKNELL: Tuesday January 9, 8 p.m. 'The Red Lion', High Street. 'Build Councils of Action. Defend Democratic Rights.'
SOUTHALL: Tuesday January 9, 8.00 p.m. Southall Library, Osterley Park Road. (Please note date change.)
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).
SHEFFIELD: Wednesday January 10, 7.30 p.m. 'The Grape Inn', Trippett Lane, Sheffield 1.

HACKNEY: Thursday January 11, 7.30 p.m. The Parlour, Hackney Central Hall (opp. Town Hall).
TONBRIDGE: Thursday January 11, 8 p.m. 'The Foresters', Quarry Hill Road.
KINGSTON: Thursday January 11, 8 p.m. 'The Liverpool Arms', corner of Cambridge Road and London Road.
SLOUGH: Thursday January 11, 7.30 p.m. Community Centre, Glass Room, Farnham Road.
LEEDS: Thursday January 11, 7.30 p.m. Peel Hotel, Boar Lane.
HOLLOWAY: Thursday January 18, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Rd (near Finsbury Park tube).

1972: Most strikes since 1926

1972 was a record year for strikes in Britain. Not since the 1926 General Strike have so many days been lost through industrial action, the Department of Employment Gazette reveals today.

The DEP figures show that in the 11 months from January to November 1972 a total of 1,589,300 workers were involved in strikes costing a loss of 23,635,000 working days.

Comparative figures for

the same 11 months of 1971 show 1,138,200 workers involved in strikes; the number of days lost being 13,275,000, 10 million less than in 1972.

The total for the whole of 1971 was 13,558,000 days lost, which beats any previous year except for 1926.

A total of 358,000 days lost was recorded in November—the lowest for any month last year. During the month 181 stoppages were brought to the DEP's attention.

In addition, 84 stoppages involving 108,300 workers which began before November were still going on.

Another big cause of losses in working days was industrial accidents.

Between July 1 and September 1, 1972 108 fatal accidents were reported in British industry. Altogether, 59,311 accidents were recorded in the three months.

From the beginning of November the basic weekly wages of 1,115,000 workers increased by a total of

£2,050,000—an average increase of £1.83 a week.

Between January and November 1972, 10,855,000 workers won increases in basic rates totalling £27,010,000, an average rise of just under £2.50 weekly.

Trade union membership fell in 1971, says the Gazette.

Total membership at the end of 1971 was about 10,935,000, approximately 106,000 less than at the end of 1970, but 598,000

more than at the end of 1969.

The decrease in membership during 1971 was an overall fall of 1 per cent.

Numbers of men in the unions fell by 1.3 per cent to 8,216,000 while the numbers of women increased 0.1 per cent to 2,720,000.

Over the past decade union membership has increased by 10.3 per cent, although the number of unions has gone down—due mainly to amalgamation—by 28.4 per cent.

Pay halt angers wider sections

First gas: Bread and milk next

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of key workers in the vital milk industry are demanding strike action over the Tory government's block on pay negotiations, warned Britain's seventh largest union yesterday.

The warning came from the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers—the main force in the dairies—as gasworkers in the south-east continued their overtime ban against the Heath policy.

Meanwhile strike action by bakery workers in the Manchester area moved closer following a threat that higher prices are 'inevitable' from the head of Britain's biggest bread supplier.

Milk supplies could be severely hit if there is a strike over the Milk Marketing Board's refusal to continue pay negotiations.

USDAW members employed as artificial inseminators, milk recorders and assistant field staff have been expecting a rise since October 1 last.

The union says these key workers are feeling 'extremely militant' at the board's attitude. USDAW itself regards the block on talks with 'the strongest possible opposition'.

A statement from USDAW's Manchester headquarters said that the TUC would be advised and that the union's Milk Marketing Board negotiating committee would hold a special meeting to consider the next step if the board does not budge.

GASWORKERS' delegates are meeting tomorrow and next Monday to decide their official answer to the Tory stonewalling against their 'substantial' claim.

Pressure at thousands of homes in the south-east was reduced for the third day running yesterday by the unofficial protest action of workers at Greenwich and Croydon.

Industry minister Tom Boardman met union leaders on Tuesday to discuss the dispute, and reaffirmed that there would be no pay offer while the pay-control law is in force.

This means that calls for national action are almost certain to be approved at today's Transport and General Workers' Union delegates conference and Monday's meeting of the majority union in the industry, the General and Municipal Workers.

BILL HARRISON, Manchester district secretary of the Bakers' Union, said yesterday that branch representatives from all the district would be meeting on January 13 to discuss their threat of a strike if bread prices rise.

The union's 46,000 members have had a £2.25 pay rise due December 3 stopped by the pay-control law.

Leaders of the 5,500 members in Manchester—the union's biggest district—have already said they may stage a token stoppage on January 23 if threatened price increases are not stopped.

And on Tuesday, Joseph Rank, chairman of Ranks Hovis McDougall, said: 'Selling prices must inevitably be increased under the pressures of higher raw material costs.'

The bread manufacturers have already had several meetings with the Department of Trade and Industry in a bid to get an increase approved.

JOSEPH LANGSTON, the 59-year-old Chrysler, Coventry, welder who has won legal backing for his campaign against the closed-shop, said yesterday he will go to the factory on Friday to pick up his £44.77 wages. He is suspended on full pay. He has threatened to go to the National Industrial Relations Court if workers continue to ignore an industrial tribunal ruling that he does not need to be in a union. Last Friday a spontaneous walk-out of the 2,000 workers on the day shift demonstrated complete rejection of Langston's campaign.



Federation steward Tony O'Brien (foreground) with pickets demanding his reinstatement.

Pickets back builders' steward

PICKETS were out at the Willett's Mile End building site yesterday in support of federation steward Tony O'Brien who, they say, has been victimized by management.

The men claim that O'Brien's sacking is planned to weaken the near-100 per cent trade union organization on the site.

Over 50 per cent of the site is already out on strike for O'Brien's reinstatement and it is expected that the remainder will come out this morning.

O'Brien's three-day suspension notice pending sacking was handed to him on Monday by a foreman who is also vice-

president of a local Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians' branch.

O'Brien said yesterday: 'They said I wasn't doing enough work, but it is a provocation to try and weaken the union which we have strengthened since the end of the builders' national stoppage.'

Civil Servants on deputation

A DEPUTATION representing 40,000 Civil Servants in the Environment Department will meet Environment Secretary Geoffrey Rippon today to tell him of their 'anxiety and anger' over the freezing of a pay claim affecting 250,000 Civil Servants.

A spokesman for the Civil and Public Services Association said the departmental deputation would be representing five Civil Service unions.

Beef and bank prices up

BEEF CATTLE prices at markets in England and Wales went up again yesterday by another 66p a live cwt, bringing them within the same price range as the Common Market countries.

The prices were in fact higher than those in Holland.

Average price for fat cattle at markets in England and Wales yesterday was £21.56 a live cwt as compared with £20.90 last

Friday, according to the Meat and Livestock Commission. In the Market as a whole last week's prices averaged £22.41 at current exchange rates.

Another increase in the cost of living affecting millions will result from the increase in bank lending rates announced by Barclays and the Midland on Tuesday. From yesterday overdrafts will cost 94-14 per cent more.

The other banks are quickly expected to follow suit.

New attempt to weaken CAV sit-in

THE JOSEPH LUCAS combine has launched a new bid to split its laid-off industrial equipment workers in Liverpool from strikers at the CAV factory there—now in their 13th week sitting in against closure plans.

Combine management, which says it will have to close Lucas Industrial Equipment permanently unless it can open within a few weeks, is refusing to discuss the laid-off workers' future alongside that of the CAV men and women.

Both factories occupy the same site at Fazakerley, Liverpool. LIE was laid off two months ago.

Now some LIE shop stewards are reacting to the combine's ultimatum by pressing the occupation committee, which is fighting to defend 1,000 jobs, for

concessions which would weaken its control of the site.

A mass meeting of the 350 workers at LIE has been called for tomorrow.

The main factor strengthening Lucas's hand is foot-dragging on

the CAV workers' appeals for support for their action, particularly by Liverpool's docks, Ford and Standard-Triumph stewards. It is now doubly vital that this support comes in quickly.

Scunthorpe steelmen to return

A MASS meeting of strikers from the British Steel Corporation's Scunthorpe works will decide today whether to accept a union recommendation to return to work.

The 6,000 men have been on strike for more than a week over the demand of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation to represent middle management.

The union executive yesterday made the strike official and immediately 'suspended' it for 28 days.

Flintshire County Council is to hire a firm of international business consultants to find out why the British Steel Corporation is to run down the steel-making plant at Shotton at a cost of 7,000 jobs.

Workers Press MONTHLY APPEAL FUND

JANUARY FUND STANDS AT £28.62

WE NEED to press ahead a bit faster if we are to collect a record amount this month. Our target is £1,750 but we are determined to try and go over the top.

We are confident we can raise this support from the movement that is growing against this Tory government's attacks against all the basic rights of the working class.

Help us step up the fight today to make this government resign. Raise as much as you can. Wherever possible collect extra amounts. Fight back by posting your donation immediately to:

Workers Press January Appeal Fund 186a Clapham High Street London, SW4 7UG

PAY PLAN

FROM PAGE 1

hostages to the new system, the working class is preparing to fight against the pay laws.

On Friday and Monday rank-and-file gasworkers' delegates meet to consider industrial action against the government decision to freeze their claim.

They will be followed by members of the shopworkers' union USDAW, civil servants and possibly actors.

Later it will be the turn of the big battalions of the car industry at Ford and British-Leyland.

The government's main aim is to use new talks with the TUC over phase two to divert and deflect this movement.

It is playing for time as it did in the months prior to Common Market entry and the so-called anti-inflation Act.

But now the situation is much more serious.

Action against the government could snowball into a general confrontation over pay within weeks, especially if one section of workers takes the lead.

The Tories' only allies in this desperate manoeuvre are the TUC leaders—who, as ever, prefer crawling to fighting.

The time to mobilize the working class is now. The fight over pay raises the question of the Tory government.

Either it is forced to resign or it will continue its plans to bring in the corporate state.

The talks should be broken off immediately and a special TUC congress recalled to discuss ways of mobilizing the working class to force the Tories to resign and elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

SEVERAL POLICE forces in Britain are now equipped with a newly-designed 'Police-Gun'. It is a shotgun-like weapon capable of firing CS gas, rubber bullets and plastic stunning devices at night through infra-red sights. A confidential Home Office report has advised all police forces to modernize their armories.

ULSTER'S Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions is to 'mobilize' the engineering workers of the province to pressurize management and security forces for increased protection for factory employees. It is gravely concerned about the murders and assassinations taking place.

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