

Workers Press

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● MONDAY MAY 21, 1973 ● No. 1077 ● 4p

THE DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Behind Lonrho and Watergate scandals

MAJOR CRISIS ON THE WAY

AN ECONOMIC and political crisis of unprecedented proportions is emerging within the major countries of the capitalist world.

The Nixon-WATERGATE scandal in the US is merely the surface appearance behind which a divided bourgeoisie grapples with the worst economic crisis in its history.

The LONRHO affair in Britain, following close on the heels of the POULSON scandal and Tory Home Secretary Reginald Maudling's resignation, is only the tip end of the crisis which is blowing up underneath.

The feverish policy twists and turns by the Heath cabinet, coupled with the spineless capitulation of the TUC leaders, simply express the growing dilemma and indecision in the camp of the most reactionary forces.

During the 25 years of the Bretton Woods economic agreement of dollar conversion into gold, the representatives of international capital were able to exercise a certain control over the working of the capitalist system.

Such control enabled them to modify the periodic crises by the fiscal methods of 'stop-go' deflation and inflation.

This came to an end on August 15, 1971, when Nixon abandoned dollar convertibility.

From that day onwards, world trading relations between the main capitalist countries, as well as the problems of their internal economy, became more and more subject to the objective anarchic laws of capitalism which were well to the forefront in the 1920s and 1930s.

But with one fundamental difference this time: capitalism now has to pay the accumulated price for having held back the full cyclical functioning of these laws over the past quarter of a century.

This means that an inflationary boom, such as we have in Britain, the US, Japan and West Germany, begins, almost immediately it is launched, to generate uncontrollable inflation.

Likewise, deflationary measures begun within the US and West Germany will become even more uncontrollable, and it is at this point that the major split within the capitalist class becomes irreconcilable.

Powerful sections of big business have set their sights on a trade war and deflation, which will almost immediately introduce the greatest class battles in history throughout the capitalist world.

Statement by the Central Committee of the SLL

This policy will also bring them into conflict with those sections of big business which have profited from the inflationary boom.

Despite all the prattle about the 'boom', this split will openly emerge before long within the ranks of British capitalism.

From the effects of this crisis, the working class will undergo an enormous shock which will place the need to take the power firmly on the agenda.

All those agencies such as the Labour leaders and the Stalinists, who set out deliberately to blindfold the masses as to the grave consequences of the crisis, are simply disarming the working class, as they always do, in the teeth of the most determined and ruthless offensive of capital.

As the objective laws of capitalism assert themselves, so the bourgeois democratic structure of

parliamentary politics and its laws will begin to crumble almost overnight.

To have lasted as long as they have has been due almost entirely to the economic implications of the Bretton Woods inflationary process.

The Central Committee of the Socialist Labour League declares that the most urgent task before advanced workers is to join with us and prepare to transform the Socialist Labour League into the revolutionary party.

Either we build this party to prepare the working class to take the power, or dictatorship and fascism will destroy the labour and trade union movement in all those countries where basic democratic rights still survive.

We must rouse the masses and warn them about what lies ahead.

It is within this context that the Central Committee welcomes the decision of the All Trades Unions Alliance to hold a mass rally in Belle Vue, Manchester on July 1.

This rally must meet the response of thousands. It must be the beginning of a mighty campaign which will:

- End Phase Three collaboration
- Restore free negotiation between unions and employers.
- Repeal the Industrial Relations Act.
- Force the Tory government to resign.
- Elect a Labour government pledged to implement socialist policies.

This programme opens the way to the exposure of the Labour leaders who will never agree to carrying out socialist policies. Only the intervention of the masses, having broken with reformism, will achieve this.

We appeal to all readers of the Workers Press and supporters of the Socialist Labour League to join us in this vital task.
May 19, 1973



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Defence Committee, the Anti-Internment League, and Sinn Fein. At the back of the demonstration, Kilburn Provisionals marched in formation.

Our picture shows relatives of some of the imprisoned ten marching at the head of the procession.

£100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

THE battle for our fund is definitely on. We have now reached £24,116.69. It is still not yet half way to the first leg of £50,000, which we were planning to reach on May 31, but we know that the next ten days will see our readers and supporters fighting as never before. Socialist Labour League branches sent in:

Aberdeen £7.70; Dundee £6; Kings YSSS £11; East London £25; Liverpool £5.50; Southampton £20; Coventry £10.30; Sunderland £8; Swindon £5; Leeds £80; Leicester £10; Reading £5; Luton £20; Rolls-Royce Ansty £2.20.

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WHAT WE THINK**Labour must nationalize industries without compensation**

THE CENTRAL Committee of the Socialist Labour League, meeting on Saturday May 19, demanded a clear pledge from the Labour Party leadership that a future Labour government would immediately nationalize Lonrho without compensation.

Without the measures outlined in the CC's resolution, all talk of 'capitalism's ugly face' and all Harold Wilson's strictures on 'perks' are totally meaningless.

Wilson's criticisms are completely hypocritical unless stern measures are undertaken to deal with the profiteers and speculators.

What is involved in the Lonrho affair is not just another 'scandal' but the class relations based on private property in the means of production, distribution and exchange.

'Scandals' are, in any case, a normal aspect of capitalist commercial and political relations. Lonrho is merely the last in a long line of 'incidents' which include the Profumo affair of 1963, the excessive profits on government contracts made by firms like Ferranti and Bristol Siddeley, and the Poulson revelations.

Prominent Tories connected with Lonrho are Duncan Sandys, a former cabinet minister, and Edward du Cann, former Conservative Party chairman.

Top Tories were also involved in Poulson's business dealings. One was Reginald Maudling, one-time deputy Tory leader, and president of the Real Estate Fund of America, whose initiator, Jerome Hoffman, was jailed for fraud.

Wilson is forced to keep silent about Poulson because leading Labour figures in parliament and local government were also involved.

According to a report in yesterday's 'Sunday Times' one of these men—Alderman Andrew Cunningham, a member of the Labour Party's NEC—is likely to lose seven of his eight key positions in the north east.

Stalinists run

Despite all this, however, the Labour Party's policy statement contained no measures of nationalization. Wilson's 'left-sounding' talk remains a cover for abject reformism which leaves the property of the ruling class untouched.

Anthony Wedgwood Benn's statement that a Labour government would nationalize Rolls-Royce Motors without compensation brought howls of protest from employers, the Tory benches . . . and from leading Labourites.

Even now, Wilson has merely asked that 'above a certain sum' rent-free accommodation, compensation and payment of salaries in tax havens should have to be 'disclosed by law'.

The Social Democrats are not the only ones to run away from the central question of property relations. Saturday's 'Morning Star', the Communist Party daily, carried a long article on Lonrho which did not mention nationalization once.

While workers' wages are held down by law and the cost of living soars through rising prices and higher rents, the profiteers live in opulence and receive thousands of pounds a year without lifting a finger. There can be only one conclusion. Their property must be taken away from them and owned and controlled by those who produce all the wealth—the working class.

That is why workers who built the Labour Party and finance it through their trade unions must insist that the exploiters must be expropriated. If the Labour leaders refuse to do this, they must be replaced by others who will.

The mobilization of the working class to defend its living standards and basic rights will create the political and economic conditions for forcing the Tory government to resign.

By demanding that the Labour leaders carry out socialist policies of nationalization without compensation and under workers' control, the real nature of reformism can be exposed and a revolutionary leadership constructed.

'Most serious crisis in ten years'—banker**Dollar panic hits Euro-bonds**

THE PANIC flight from the dollar has created 'easily the most serious crisis in the Euro-bond market's ten years of existence' says one banker.

Investors are rushing to dump any bonds denominated in dollars. The banks and traders are reeling under their losses.

Last weekend one of the top Euro-bond banks, the Kredietbank of the Benelux, said it was ceasing trading in these bonds.

Trading in bonds is now running only half the level of a year ago. During the past week alone more than \$100m-worth of bonds was sold in a sharply falling

market. One Swiss banker explained: 'My clients just don't want long-term dollar paper and frankly I agree with them.'

This situation is especially serious for the consortium banks which placed the majority of Euro-bond issues and underwrote the bonds on offer.

A distinctive feature of the Euro-bond and related markets has been the formation of consortium banks, in which most of the big names of international high finance are involved.

SERIOUS EFFECTS

The pull-out from the Euro-bond market will have extremely serious effects for the Tory government's attempts at 'management' of

the inflationary boom.

The government is trying to overcome the effects of the £1,000m balance-of-payments deficit by encouraging local authorities to raise foreign currency in the Euro-markets.

But now that the shutters are going down on the Euro-bond markets the Tory government will be brought face to face with the impossibility of raising further funds at the same time as much of the invisible earnings the City gets from Euro-market coupon-clipping suddenly dries up.

MEANWHILE mounting evidence of the slide towards recession in the United States is having a direct effect on the New York stock market as investors are beginning to sell in response to slump predictions.

Wall Street fell 16 points on Friday, not least because of an article on the front page of the 'Wall Street Journal', which listed the opinions of a number of leading economic analysts who predict a slump.

The prestige National Bureau of Economic Research which keeps a continuous watch on business trends is quite definite in its predictions.

Director Geoffrey H. Moore, says: 'We now see clear evidence that a slow-down, and very possibly a fully-fledged recession, lay ahead.'

'It should begin to show up in the index of leading indicators before many months.' He cites several technical and statistical indicators which bear out this standpoint.

The bureau's prediction is echoed by A. Gary Shilling, chief economist of White, Weld and Co, the big New York stockbrokers. Shilling believes a full-scale recession will be under way by early next year.

REACT STRONGLY

Similar predictions from other economists are also quoted by the 'Wall Street Journal'. The significance of the article lies not in the predictions, so much as in the fact that the stock market is now beginning to react strongly to them.

Wall Street is also feeling the direct impact of the international monetary crisis. Foreign holders of dollar-denominated bonds are selling their shares en masse in a panic flight from the shaky American currency.

According to sources quoted by Reuter's news agency: 'Overseas corporations and other institutions which are large holders of US Treasury Bills, government and corporate bonds and common stocks, are becoming increasingly concerned about the future of their investments in the current political and economic climate in the United States.'

LIQUIDATE HOLDINGS

Some of the very large institutions are actively discussing the partial or even full liquidation of their holdings.

In the last two and a half months, according to the Federal Reserve Board, the net sale of government securities by foreign holders was \$2,800m—nearly 10 per cent of the total foreign holding.

Canvey 'oilmada' sails

SIX HUNDRED Canvey islanders launched their 'oilmada' against the government on Saturday and sailed into London aboard four pleasure boats and several fishing vessels. They docked at Westminster and angrily marched on Downing Street. Their modern armada was the latest in a series of protests against two giant oil

refineries to be built on Canvey Island, Essex.

Environment secretary Geoffrey Rippon recently granted planning permission for the refineries. Shouting, 'Oil out! Rippon out!' and waving banners, the islanders halted traffic in Whitehall. A delegation handed in a petition signed by 20,000 people with a children's petition of 400 signatures.

Rippon has now agreed to meet a delegation of Canvey councillors early next week. Said Cllr Mrs Dot Shaw: 'This gives us hope. We are all bitter and angry with frustration because we have not been able to see anyone in government.'

Canvey Island urban council had subscribed £500 towards the cost of hiring the boats.

Palace guard to spill Watergate beans?

JOHN EHRLICHMAN, once President Nixon's second closest aide, has said that he acted on the President's instructions when he carried out actions which could lead to his indictment on criminal charges.

He told this to top Republicans within hours of the testimony of John McCord, a convicted Watergate burglar, whose evidence to the Senate Watergate inquiry

directly implicated the President in the attempts to cover up the scandal.

Ehrlichman and H. R. (Bob) Haldeman were the two leaders of the White House palace guard. If Ehrlichman begins to reveal what actually happened in these top circles, Nixon cannot avoid being dragged down.

John Mitchell, once the President's law partner and the man who left the job of Attorney-General to take a leading post in the Com-

mittee to Re-elect the President, has told a reporter: 'Any attempt to make me the fall-guy isn't going to work.'

Mitchell himself has already been indicted on charges of corruption and perjury for having accepted \$200,000 from shady financier Robert Vesco who wanted to escape an investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

All the indications now point to the direct involvement of Nixon—not just in

the Watergate bugging affair, but in a whole complex of corruption and criminal activity designed to systematically subvert the constitution and abolish basic democratic rights.

The President's efforts to control the Watergate inquiries through a combination of threats and bribery appear to have failed.

He has been forced to announce the appointment of a Harvard law professor, Archibald Cox, as special investigator into the scandal.

RAIDED FOR THE FOURTH TIME

Mrs Peggy Deery, the only woman to be shot on Bloody Sunday (January 30, 1972), has alleged that troops used foul language, were very abusive and put a hole in the ceiling of her home at 82 Creggan Heights, Derry, Northern Ireland, during a recent raid.

Mrs Deery said it was the fourth time she had been raided. Up until she had moved to this house she had never been raided before.

'The raid took place around five o'clock in the morning. I heard banging, in fact kicking at the door. I looked out the window and saw soldiers at the door. One of them said, "Get this f---door opened", she said.

'She told them that she could not move very fast. She then called her 16-year-old daughter, Margaret, to go down stairs.

'When she opened the door the soldiers immediately rushed in and upstairs. They did not say what they were looking for. Nor did they quote the Special Powers Act.'

Kicked

Mrs Deery said that she and her children were told to come down stairs and were kept in the downstairs living room while the search was taking place. She said that in the confusion she forgot all about her year-and-a-half old daughter Bernadette, who began to cry when she saw the soldiers.

'I told the soldiers that I wanted her down and they said we could not leave the room. Margaret went to go up for her but was kicked on the leg by a soldier. When I told them that I was wounded on Bloody Sunday, they all laughed. At least the soldiers who raided the house before had some respect but these boys hadn't.'

She added that the search lasted for about three-quarters of an hour and that nothing was found. All her fourteen children, whose ages range from one-and-a-half to 17, were at home at the time.

Denial

A British army spokesman said that there was an officer present during the search. He told Mrs Deery that they were looking for a wanted man.

He denied the allegations that the soldiers used foul language and said: 'Regrettably Mrs Deery and one of her daughters were extremely abusive to the search party.'

He also denied that the soldiers were aggressive and said that they carried out the search with two officers present at all times to keep control.

He said that when the baby was heard crying the search officer suggested that somebody should go upstairs to her. Mrs Deery's daughter did go up and was in no way hampered.

He admitted that a soldier put his foot through the ceiling but arrangements were being made to have repairs carried out.



A STAKE IN FRANCO'S SPAIN

Alarmed by the growing militancy of the working class and anxious to promote foreign investment, the Spanish fascist government is planning to increase expenditure on arms and riot equipment.

Coupled with this programme will be an attempt to step up recruitment and training of the national guard.

In Barcelona last month a building worker was shot dead by the police and in May Day demonstrations there was further clashes resulting in the death of a policeman.

Pressure for a tougher line against the working class is coming from the foreign investors

who have substantially increased their stake in Spain during the past decade. Companies like International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation (ITT), International Business Machines (IBM), Chrysler Corporation and Armco Steel have led the way.

The Ford Motor Company has also announced plans for a \$200m car plant.

There is no way of measuring the total flow of US dollars into Spain because the government only records direct investment of more than 51 per cent in Spanish enterprises.

That figure rose to a record \$160m last year from \$2.4m in 1960.

But it doesn't include the

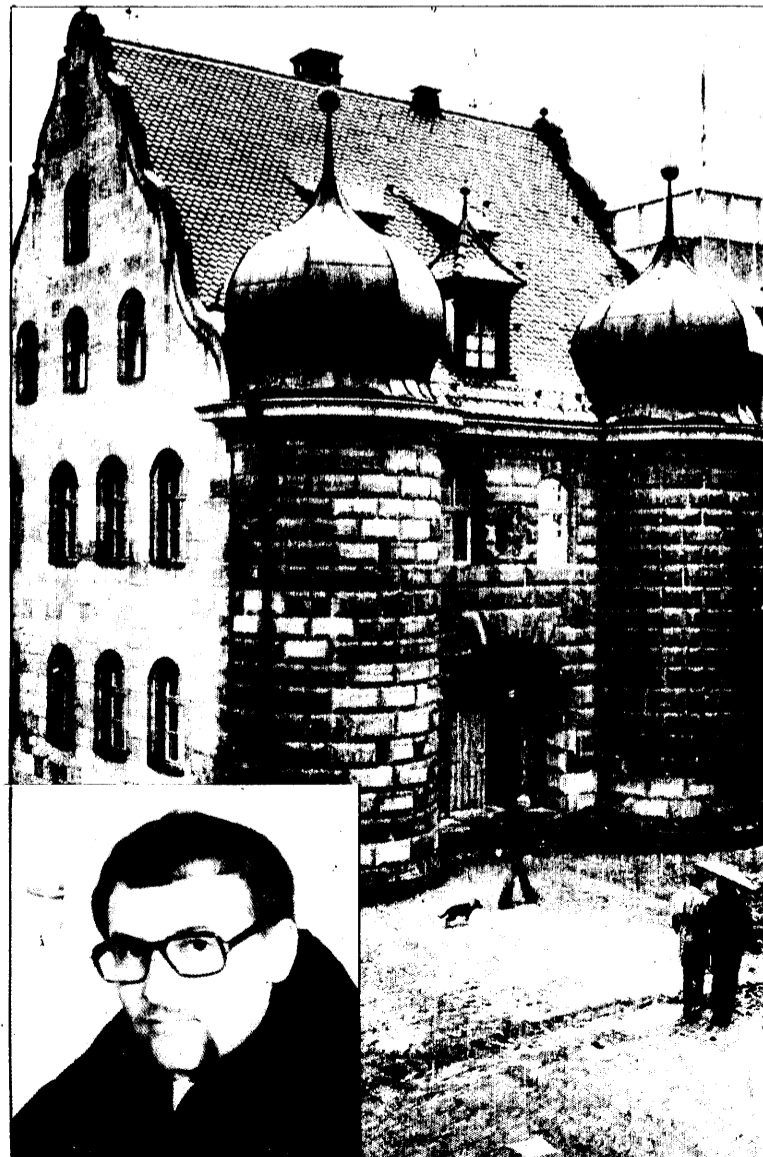
foreign capital pouring into minority investments, real estate and the sky-rocketing Madrid stock market—and which gave Spain an 8.3 per cent inflation rate last year, one of western Europe's highest.

Speaking about his company's investment package in Spain, one US executive said with utter candour:

'The reason isn't hard to find—labour is cheap.' He also pointed out that Spain is 'a handy springboard to the Common Market'.

'It's a great place to invest,' said Alan B. Helffrich, Junior, director general of Armco, the Spanish subsidiary of Armco Steel. His company plans to

NUREMBERG'S SAVAGE 'DISTRICT FOUR'



The district 4 police station which is at the centre of allegations of police brutality. Inset: Judge Romming—fined the lawyer.

Police station district 4 in Nuremberg, West Germany, is a place to remember for many workers and youth who had the misfortune to come into contact with it.

William Novack (22), a plumber, went to station 4 to make a statement and came away with blue bruises on his body. Novack's lawyer was told that five policemen had admitted to 'pushing him, and that he had fallen to the ground'.

But 'no one had beaten him, and it was impossible to note precisely what took place'.

Butcher William Popp (35) was taken to station 4 and, while being searched with his hands up in the air, was hit in the face by the police.

Although one of the officials who was present said he had heard the sound of 'flesh on flesh', the public prosecutor declined to take up the allegations on police brutality.

Case after case of allegations of police brutality in district 4 led lawyer Dieter Berthmann (48) to take up the defence of victims who came to him seeking legal assistance.

In his defence of a group of street musicians, who were accused of resisting arrest, Berthmann made a sharp attack on station 4.

The effect of his criticism was that the public prosecutor decided to prosecute Berthmann for public insult and defamation of the police!

In the massive trial that followed, 80 witnesses gave evidence.

Two other recent cases in Nuremberg where the police had been accused of brutality, had found them guilty of lying to the court and placed fines on the officers involved.

Lawyer Berthmann was not so lucky. Judge Romming fined him 2,000 Deutschmarks.

Left: ITT production of switchboards in Madrid. The company has substantially increased its stake in Spain during the past ten years.

expand manufacturing operations by about 20 per cent this year with an outlay of \$1.5m. 'There's a good, hard-working labour pool and a good market for steel in the construction industries. Tourism is bringing in billions of dollars, so you know the government isn't going to go broke. That means they can go on providing the roads, harbours, police force and other things needed to make it attractive.'

The average industrial wage still runs from \$6.25 to \$7.15 a day in spite of the 15-per cent increase last year. This compares with the \$10 to \$20 a day paid to the average non-farm workers in neighbouring France and West Germany.

On the surface the foreign investment appears to be strengthening the fascist rule in Spain. But on the contrary, US dollars are being dumped in such a way as to aggravate the worst inflation in the country's recent history.

Speculation in shares is rampant and is conducted under conditions of almost zero regulations. The market rose 250 per cent in value in the four years from 1968 to 1972, increased about 35 per cent last year and another 20 per cent has been tacked on in the first four months of this year.

Fuelled by unwanted US dollars the Spanish economy is on heat: speculation, bribery, corruption and fraud are commonplace.

At the same time, however, the working class is being made the scapegoat of the inflationary situation. Wage rises are kept to the barest minimum while prices go through the roof.

A labour professor recently warned General Franco that the labour unrest was a result of 'situations of injustice that oppress and prevent the free exercise of basic rights.'

'A dynamic of rising expectations has been created and the government is under pressure to meet it.'

LESSONS OF UCS

REFORMISM ON THE CLYDE

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REFORMISM ON THE CLYDE
The Story of UCS



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TRANSFORMING THE SOC INTO A REVOLUTIONARY

Extract from the policy resolution adopted unanimously by 2,200 delegates and visitors at the All Trades Unions Alliance conference, Birmingham, on October 22, 1972.

Fellow trade unionists, comrades and friends we address you with this urgent call to action:

In its place must be elected a Labour government which is pledged by the mass action of the working class to implement socialist policies.

We say 'pledged' to socialist policies knowing that the present leaders of the Labour movement have no intention of introducing such policies. Indeed, in the last analysis some of them will be prepared to join a coalition government with the Tories to head off the working class.

But if the working class is strong enough to force the Tories out, it is strong enough to deal with the traitors in its own midst. This can only be achieved by exposing them in the fight for an alternative socialist policy.

The Central Committee of the Socialist Labour League calls upon the working class to support the following policies to unite the working class against the Tories and the present Wilson-Feather leadership of the Labour movement:

Here is the policy which the next Labour government must be forced to carry out.

1) A Labour government must immediately repeal the Industrial Relations Act, Housing Finance Act, Immigration Acts, Fair Trading Act and all wage control. After the repeal of all Tory anti-working class measures, there must be legislation to implement the Charter of Basic Rights, along the following lines.

2) The right to work! Capitalism demands mass unemployment. The right to a job must be guaranteed. This can only be done by breaking the grip of capitalist ownership on the economy. Employed and unemployed must unite to insist on a Labour government nationalizing the main industries and banks, under workers' control and without compensation.

3) The democratic right to strike and to organize in trade unions. Only the organized working class can lead mankind out of the historical crisis. Every right and every gain won by the working class, every democratic right in Britain, has been won because of the organized strength of the unions and the strike weapon.

A Labour government must immediately repeal the Industrial Relations Act. This fight must begin now by forcing the TUC to break off all relations with the government and mobilize the working class to destroy state control of wages.

4) The right to defend rights won in the past and change the system. All the changes in legal procedures made by the Tory government must be repealed. All secret police and MI5 organizations must be disbanded and fully exposed. The secrets of the Tory administration in this sphere must be published. All rights to assembly, free speech and the Press must be guaranteed.

The struggle must begin now. No closures, no sackings, must be the policy of the trade unions. Occupation of factories threatened with closure,

THE TORY government is relentlessly pursuing its plan for a confrontation with the working class. Each day new sections of workers are forced to become criminals — under Tory law — to defend their standard of living against government-inspired soaring cost of living.

Large sections of these workers openly acknowledge that the only answer to their fight to maintain a decent standard of living is a General Strike. That is, the creation of the industrial and political conditions which will force the government to resign.

as part of the fight to bring down the Tories.

5) The right to a higher standard of living. It is not the living standards of trade unionists, but the profit system, which causes the crisis. The first step must be to appropriate all the great fortunes of the rich, close down the Stock Exchange, place a state control over all movements of capital in and out of the country.

Nationalization of the basic industries and of all large companies, banks, building and insurance societies will provide the resources for a unified plan to improve the living standards of the whole people. Workers' control of these, as well as the present nationalized industries, will run them in the interests of the workers and consumers.

Again, the fight must begin now. State control of wages must be answered by the most widespread fight for wage increases to meet price rises and improve standards. This means a fight to remove the Tory government and change the union leadership.

6) The right to health and welfare benefits. Every Tory gov-

ernment cut in welfare benefits, in the health service and in all public spending must be revoked. On the basis of nationalization, a crash programme of expansion of services to the unemployed, the low-paid, the sick and the aged must be undertaken as an absolute priority. The working class and the Labour government must take immediate and absolute responsibility for these victims of the capitalist system.

7) The right to decent housing. Decent housing is not a luxury; it is a necessity. People have the basic right to decent accommodation at rents they can afford. Nationalization of the handful of building monopolies and building societies will provide the basis for a massive programme of new house building. The disgraceful problem of the homeless in the cities must be immediately solved by census and taking-over of all unoccupied property.

8) The international responsibilities of the working class. The working class is international. We fight for the unrestricted right of any worker of any nationality to move freely through the world.

Withdraw the troops from Ireland. Unite the Irish and British working class to throw out the Lynch and Heath governments.

Unite in the struggle for the Socialist United States of Europe, the only alternative to the Common Market plans for dictatorship.

Withdraw all British troops from abroad and disband the present standing army.

Sign treaties with all ex-colonial countries for programmes of equal trade and mutual assistance.

Break from NATO and all imperialist alliances.

For the carrying out of such policies the SLL fights for the setting up of Councils of Action to lead the struggle against the Tory government in every area. These Councils unite trade unionists, tenants, unemployed, all political parties and tendencies of the working class (Labour Party, Communist Party, SLL, IS, IMG, etc.) to fight against the main enemy, the Tory government.

The SLL calls upon every socialist and class-conscious worker to consider this programme and manifesto very carefully, and to decide now to take up their inescapable responsibilities. The building of the revolutionary party is the burning question now, not in some remote future. The SLL is determined to carry through its transformation into a revolutionary party.

JOIN the Socialist Labour League and help transform it into a revolutionary party.

Central Committee
Socialist Labour League

THE DISCUSSION GOES ON

'The TUC... are giving away all the rights'

Steve Armstrong an apprentice (17), came into politics as a result of his experiences during a strike at the Kingston upon Thames garage of Lankesters Ltd.

Before I had the struggle at Lankesters I didn't even know who Scanlon was. I didn't know his face or what he looked like.

It was only through the struggle at Lankesters that I found out what the trade union leaders are doing to the working class.

Workers want to get up and struggle, but the trade union leaders want to kick them down.

The AUEW district committee was telling us to go back to work without any solid agreement. It seems that way all the way up to the top.

The Tories are saying they've raised the standard of living and helped poor people. I can't see that. I think that's rubbish.

The policies of the League are right, but it is not going to grow into a mass party until the Labour government's been in and the working class see they are not going to do more than the Tories.

That's when the working class will really turn to the League. The League will lead a fight against the employers as we thought the trade union leaders would do.

I think it is very important to build the League into a party to get things done for the working class.

The TUC and the Labour Party seem more willing to negotiate and compromise and they are giving away all the rights of the working class.

They've given away the right to picket and the right to negotiate your own rates with your employers. They've let the Tories butt in and put a ceiling on rises.



'Before I had the struggle at Lankesters I didn't even know who Scanlon (above) was... I found out what the trade union leaders are doing to the working class. Workers want to get up and struggle but the trade union leaders want to kick them down.'

SOCIALIST LABOUR PARTY

LEAGUE



'The Tories will have us eating bones if they can'

Eleanor Ward is a London housewife:

☾ I realize it's the Tories who are keeping the working class down and I see the League as the only answer. Let's face it. We've jumped from Labour to Tory and got nothing. That's why we need a complete change of leadership.

It was hatred of the Tories that first got me interested in politics. We used to have meat every day. Now we have it every other day. Even the egg meal we have in between is more expensive. The Tories

will have us eating bones if they can.

I see the League as the only answer for working-class people. We are definitely the underdogs and the only way we can change our way of life is with policies like the League's.

This house the three of us live in is just an old house converted into three or four flats. It's not a very good way of life. Everyone is entitled to a flat of their own. Decent housing is not very much to ask.

The whole business of the present leaders of the labour movement is in selling us down the river. They are pussy-footing with the Tories.

The TUC leaders are not really on the side of the working class. They are on the side of the Tories. That's where their bread and butter lies.

A lot of working-class people

The Young Socialists' 13th annual conference at Blackpool. That really impressed me. Seeing 14 and 16 year olds getting up there and they knew what they were talking about.'

believe all this claptrap about the boom and if the Tories have a General Election they might get back and then we'll take a step backwards again.

I went to the Young Socialists' conference at Blackpool and that really impressed me. Seeing 14 and 16 year olds getting up there and they knew what they were talking about. It surprised me and the person I took with me.

The ATUA conference at Birmingham impressed me too. Seeing all those workers united. The ATUA is fabulous. It brings a terrific body of people together from all walks of life and at the meetings they really listen. ☾



'To take the working class to power'

Glyn Gorringe (31), works on a London golf course. He used to look after the grounds at General and Municipal Workers' Union headquarters — Ruxley Towers.

☾ What really interested me in politics was seeing what went on at Ruxley Towers.

Then I saw all these people round here in their £100,000 houses—that's more than I'll ever earn in a lifetime.

At the course I think to myself: 'In an hour I earn 75p and the bloke sitting there smoking a fat cigar and drinking a cocktail has earned a month's wages in the same time.'

My wife and I are lucky. We've got a council house, but my wages get less and less every week because ☾

of rising prices. It's prices that worry Glyn's wife Maggie (31):

☾ When Glyn started this job they said: "Have you got a reliable car". So we bought a new car. But once Glyn's paid for this and odds and ends of bills, we haven't got pocket money for the kids.

Said Glyn: 'When we were first married we were buying bits of furniture. But lately we're just buying basics and there's no money to spend on anything else.'

I suppose prices are going up all over the world because

of the international monetary crisis. The only way they can get value back into paper money is by grabbing it back from the working class.'

Said Maggie: 'I have never been interested in politics. I don't even think about it. But then you only had to walk in to get your weekly groceries to see how things were going up.'

'We had to start cutting down on things. Then we got in contact with the League and they made it clear why all this was happening.'

Although Glyn and Maggie want to see a principled, fighting leadership built in the working class they have their doubts.

Said Glyn: 'Half the people in the TUC and the Labour Party don't give a damn about the working class.'

Said Maggie: 'I'd like to see the Party try to fight elections. I think the League's ideas and policies are what we need and I think they'd get a good following.'

Glyn believes that for the League to put up candidates would split the Labour vote. He wants to see a General Strike against the Tories and he thinks Labour will hang themselves, politically, in the eyes of the working class once they are elected.

I agree with the League's policies. I had a bitter row with my brother in law the other day. He praises the Tories for everything they've done.

I agree with taking the working class to power, ☾ even if it means a fight.

'The Tories are preparing for a dictatorship'

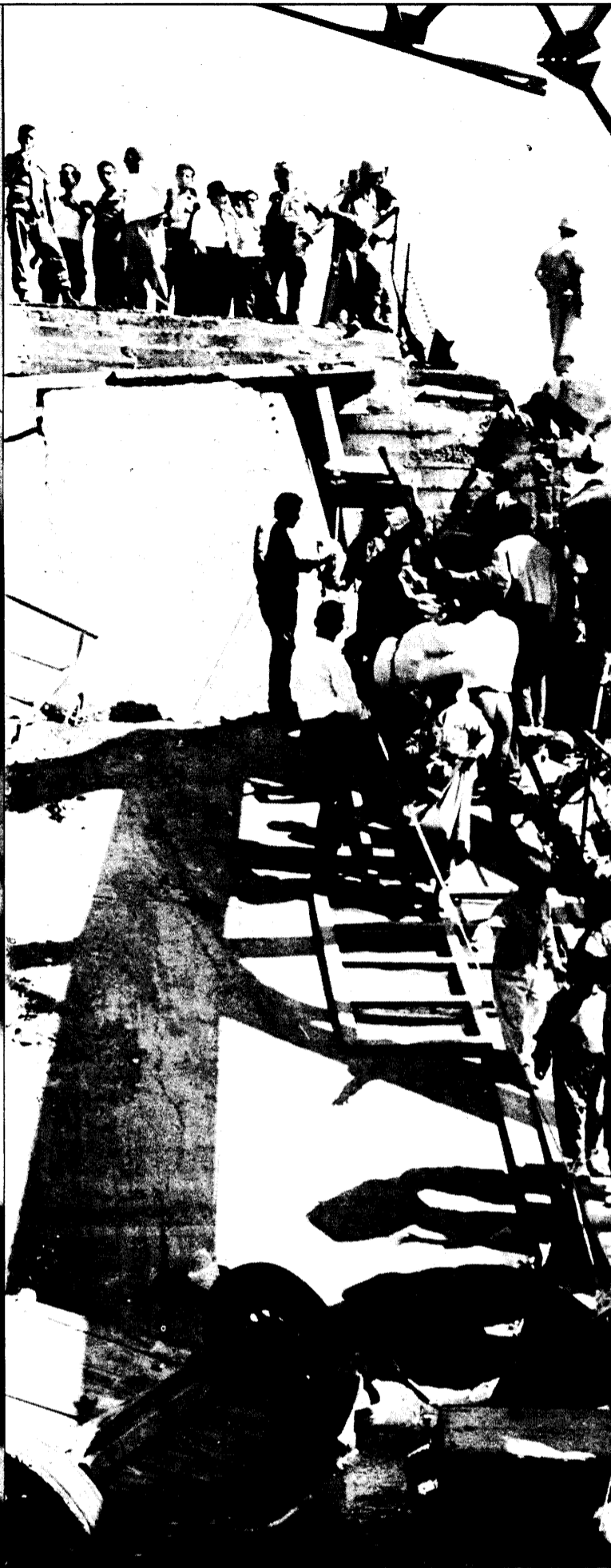
Brian (22) is a factory labourer from Leicester:

☾ The capitalist class go deeper into crisis, threatening the basic rights of the working class. The Tories say they'll use Phase Three to 'control inflation'. This really means cutting the standards of living of the working class further.

With the help of the leaders of the Labour Party and trade unions, the Tories are cutting jobs, raising prices, raising rents and so on. They want to aid the big capitalists.

The Tories are preparing for a dictatorship, but the leaders of the trade unions confuse the working class because all they do is talk. The Tories are trying to tie the unions to the state.

So we need a new leadership — a revolutionary party that isn't going to sell us out, and that's going to get rid of this government and fight for socialist policies. It's the only way forward for the working class. ☾



Last Monday—May 14—was the 25th anniversary of the founding of the state of Israel. In a second article on Israel, Charles Parkins recalls another anniversary—that of the massacre at the Arab village of Deir Yassin in 1948.

VIOLENT CONQUEST OF THE LAND

Deir Yassin was an Arab village situated near Jerusalem. Twenty-five years ago it was part of the international zone which the United Nations proposed in the Palestine partition scheme.

Deir Yassin means for the Arab people the same thing

as Lidice meant for the Czechs, or Oradour for the French, or My Lai for the Vietnamese.

In 1948, the village of Deir Yassin was not known for its militancy or support for Arab nationalism. The mukhtar (headman) of the village had made an agreement with the nearby Jewish community of Giv'at Shaul that they would not attack each other.

Nevertheless, on April 9, 1948, Zionist forces belonging to the Irgun Zvai Leumi and

Lehi (the Stern group) attacked this village and massacred the inhabitants. Over 250 men, women and children were killed.

The attack commenced at 4.30 a.m. Units of Etzel (the Irgun) and Lehi had surrounded the village in the night. Hearing the attackers coming, the villagers were alerted and took up old hand-guns and rifles to defend themselves.

The Zionist forces had soon smashed their way into the village, however and eventually a Haganah force with a mortar was brought in to decide the battle.

General Meir Pa'il, who retired from active service with the Israeli army last year, was a liaison officer between the Haganah (official Zionist army) and Irgun forces at the time of the Deir Yassin attack, and here is part of his account of what happened:

'It was noon when the fight was finished and the firing ceased. The situation was quiet, but the villagers did not surrender. The fighters of Etzel and Lehi went out of their hiding places and began to make a "clearing action" in the houses. They had fired with all the weapons they had and had thrown dynamite into the houses. They shot everybody they had seen, including women and children, and the commanders did not even try

to stop the shameful killing.

'I and several other people from Jerusalem asked the commanders to order their men to stop shooting—but in vain. Meanwhile about 25 men were taken out from houses. They were taken on a lorry and were driven in a "victory celebration" through Mahaneh-Yehuda and Zikhron-Yosef Quarters, as in a "Roman Triumph".'

'After this, they were brought to a quarry between Deir Yassin and Giv'at Shaul and shot in cold blood. The women and children who remained alive were put on lorries and driven to Mandelbaum Gate.'

General Pa'il goes on to say that when the Haganah commander in Jerusalem, David Shaltiel, arrived at Deir Yassin, the Irgun and Lehi commanders said they were leaving.

'The commanders of Etzel and Lehi also refused the request that their men should bury the 254 Arab dead who were dispersed in the area. This unpleasant task was given to two forces of Gadna [cadet units] which were brought to the village from Jerusalem.'

(General Pa'il's account given to Ilan Kfir, of the Israeli newspaper 'Yediot Aharonot'.)

Richard Catling was a British police officer, Assistant Inspector General of the Palestine CID. In a report to the Man-

date authorities, he describes a visit to the village of Silwan, where some of the survivors of Deir Yassin were sheltering.

He wanted to inquire about atrocities, but found the Arab women 'very shy and reluctant to relate their experience especially in matters concerning sexual assault and they need great coaxing before they will divulge any information. The recording of statements is hampered also by the hysterical state of the women who often break down many times whilst the statement is being recorded.'

'There is, however, no doubt that many sexual atrocities were committed by the attacking Jews. Many young school girls were raped and later slaughtered. Old women were also molested. One story is current concerning a case in which a young girl was literally torn in two. Many infants were also butchered and killed.'

'I also saw one old woman who gave her age as 104, who had been severely beaten about the head with rifle butts. Women had bracelets torn from their arms and rings from their fingers and parts of some of the women's ears were severed in order to remove earrings.'

Some 40 orphaned children from the massacred village were taken in care by Mrs Vester, at a Jerusalem children's nursing home. When she





Left: The Allenby Bridge, reached by the Israelis in June, 1967. Far left: Ben Gurion. He never believed in the possibility of co-existence with the Arabs.

consideration, and that there need be no hesitation in butchering them, even their children, or in driving them from the land.

Remember that, as Meir Pa'il recalls, the commanders refused to order their men to stop shooting. Note also the satisfied way in which Beigin refers to the effect of the massacre in terrorizing the Palestinians into fleeing their homes.

The Irgun Zvai Leumi—and its political heirs in the Herut party and the Jewish Defence League—represents the extreme chauvinist right wing in Israel; but it was an offshoot of Zionism, which even in its more 'moderate', official, forms, has refused all along to recognize the rights of the Palestinian Arabs.

Deir Yassin was not an isolated excess. It was part of a deliberate policy, enforced by all the Zionist armed forces, of driving the Palestinians out.

The Haganah command in 1948 worked out a plan—'Plan Daled'—under which whole areas were to be cleared of their Arab population. This plan was implemented in some cases by psychological warfare, in others by force.

Thus the Arab inhabitants of Haifa and Jaffa were driven out and eastern Galilee was cleared, as well as the Arab villages between it and Tiberias destroyed.

The Bedouin communities in the Beisan area were driven out and Haganah forces attacked the Katamon suburb of Jerusalem to drive out the Arabs. Arabs were also made to flee from areas in western Galilee, which had been allocated as an Arab zone in the UN partition plan.

Yigal Allon, who was commander of the Palmach (Haganah striking force) in Galilee, was to write later in the book 'HaSefher HaPalmach':

'There were left before us only five days before the threatening date, May 15. We saw a need to clear the inner Galilee and to create a Jewish territorial succession in the entire area of upper Galilee. The long battles had weakened our forces, and before us stood great duties of blocking the routes of the Arab invasion.

'We therefore looked for means which did not force us into employing force in order to cause the tens of thousands of sulky Arabs who remained in Galilee to flee . . .

'I gathered all the Jewish mukhtars, who have contact with Arabs in different villages and asked them to whisper in the ears of some Arabs that a great Jewish reinforcement has arrived in Galilee and that it is going to burn all of the villages of the Huleh. They should suggest to these Arabs, as their friends, to escape while there is still time . . . The tactic reached its goal completely.'

After the declaration of the state of Israel, and during the UN truce from June 11 to July 9, the Zionists prepared to step up the offensive, and the new state's premier, Ben Gurion, told his cabinet that there was no obligation to stick to the UN partition boundaries—'the situation in Palestine,' he declared, 'will be settled by military power.'

When fighting resumed, the Haganah forces seized Arab villages on the central front and the inhabitants were, according to the Zionist phrase, 'encouraged' to leave.

On July 11, Israeli forces under Moshe Dayan attacked the town of Lydda, Jon and David Kimche, two Zionist writers, in their book 'Both Sides of the Hill', say that Dayan 'drove at full speed into Lydda shooting up the town and creating confusion and a

degree of terror among the population . . . its Arab population of 30,000 either fled or were herded on the road to Ramallah. The next day, Ramleh also surrendered and its Arab population suffered the same fate'.

Confronted with the question of the Arab refugees, Zionist propagandists and their dupes have usually been prone to reply that it was all the fault of the Arab leaders who urged their people to leave and that Israel bears no responsibility for the problem.

We shall take a look at the role of the Arab ruling classes in a later article; but suffice it to say here that detailed monitoring of Arab states' radio broadcasts for the period has failed to uncover any official call for an Arab exodus. On the other hand, events like Deir Yassin must have been a very persuasive argument; and all the evidence shows quite clearly that the Zionists set out deliberately to drive the Arabs out.

In his book 'Ben Gurion—Armed Prophet', Michael Bar-Zohar describes the Israeli leader's attitude as follows:

'Ben Gurion never believed in the possibility of co-existence with the Arabs. The fewer Arabs within the frontiers of the future state the better. He did not state this explicitly, but the impression given by his speeches and asides is quite clear: a major offensive against the Arabs would not only break the force of their attack, but would also reduce to a minimum the proportion of the Arab population within the state for which they were now preparing. He may be accused of racialism, but in that case the whole Zionist movement would have to be put on trial, since it is based on the principle of a purely Jewish entity in Palestine.'

The attitudes and policies that were to culminate in the war of 1948 can be traced back to the early days of Zionist colonization in Palestine. In its Utopian beginnings, the Zionist movement had spoken of taking 'the people without a land to the land without a people'.

But Palestine did have a people.

At the time of the Balfour Declaration, in which the British government, then planning to carve up the old Turkish empire, declared its support for 'the establishment of a Jewish National Home' in Palestine, at least 90 per cent of the population of Palestine was Arab.

For some of the early Zionists, realization that the Zionist state project would mean imposing upon, and displacing the indigenous population of Palestine, came as a shock.

But the more 'practical' leaders of Zionism did not see the problem of Arab rights as any objection to their plans. For one thing, having come from a European bourgeois cultural background, they generally tended to see the Arabs as an inferior people, who did not have 'rights'.

Zionist attitudes in this respect have not differed essentially from those of other white settler groups. Even as recently as a few years ago, Golda Meir, when asked by foreign reporters for her views on the question of the Palestinian people, replied scornfully 'What Palestinian people?' Secondly, it was a particularly characteristic element in Zionist ideology to regard nationalism and national antagonism as being natural—part of human nature.

The founder of Zionism, Theodor Herzl, had regarded anti-Semitism in this way and so, in effect, have his later followers.

In the same way, they have been prepared to accept antagonism between Jews and Arabs as inevitable and to take it for granted that there must be conflict.

In preparing the basis for a Jewish state in Palestine, the Zionist colonizers adopted the twin slogans of 'Kibbush Ha'aretz'—the conquest of the land; and 'Kibbush Avodah'—the conquest of labour.

The first meant the systematic acquisition of land for Jewish settlement. In the early years this was by purchase from Arab landlords, usually absentees. In later years, as in 1948, it was by military means. With the war of June 1967 and the occupation of Arab territories since, the use of force, intimidation, and purchase, have been combined.

'Kibbush Avodah', the conquest of labour, meant a 'return to the soil', the 'dignity of labour' and the regeneration of the Jewish people through settlement on the land and physical labour.

For the practical Zionists it meant getting rid of the Arab labourers from the farms and citrus groves and replacing them with Jewish farmers and workers to lay the basis of a Jewish nation-state.

Where land was bought by the Zionists from absentee landlords, Arab tenant farmers were 'persuaded' to leave by various means, or evicted. In one series of deals, with the Sursok family who were resident in Beirut in the late 1920s, the Zionists acquired about 50,000 acres of land, which included 22 villages with a population of 9,000 people. These Palestinian Arab peasants were all evicted.

Meanwhile, the Zionist Labour movement—the Histadrut (full title—Histadrut Klalit Ha'Ovdim Ha'Ivriim b'Eretz Yisrael—General Federation of Hebrew Workers in Israel) was pursuing the aim of 'Kibbush Avodah' by insisting on the policy that 'Jewish enterprises employ Jewish labour'—in other words, 'No Arabs Need Apply!'

The Histadrut argued that Arab workers were cheap labour, competing with the Jewish workers. But it made little attempt to organize them.

On the contrary, the Histadrut itself was prepared to lower Jewish workers' wages and strive to make Jewish labour more productive, so as to replace and exclude the Arabs. The aim was not to unite Jewish and Arab workers against the employers, and against British imperialism, but to unite Jewish employers and Jewish workers in a partnership to lay the economic, social—and military—basis for the Zionist state.

The Zionist leaders, for the most part, recognized the invaluable role of the Histadrut, and its associated co-operative enterprises, both in creating a Jewish working class and in undertaking the constructive tasks, essential to the future state, which private capital might consider too risky.

In 1926, arguing with those who wanted to emphasize political demands for Transjordan to be included in the area claimed as a Jewish state, Zionist leader Chaim Weizman asserted:

'The road to Allenby Bridge along which we shall cross over to Trans-Jordan will not be paved by soldiers but by Jewish labour and the Jewish plough.'

In June 1967, the Israelis reached the Allenby Bridge. It was the combination of 'the Jewish plough' and the soldiers that got them there.

In Zionist publications, the war of 1948 is usually referred to as the War of Liberation. In reality, it was a war of conquest.

The whole basis of the state of Israel was the conquest of the land. The state was established on the destruction of the homes and the rights of the Palestinian people. As events since 1967 have made clear, those who defend 'Israel's right to exist' are really defending conquest and repression, the denial of the Palestinians' right to exist.

approached one frightened little boy, he screamed 'She is one of them', and collapsed of a heart attack, dying soon after.

The Jewish Agency, which was official leadership of the Jews in Palestine, tried to dissociate itself and the Haganah from the Deir Yassin massacre, and Prime Minister David Ben Gurion sent a telegram to King Abdullah of Transjordan, apologizing for the deeds of the Zionist terrorists.

But meanwhile, an agreement was ratified by the Zionist Central Council for co-operation between Irgun Zvai Leumi and Haganah. The Irgun, for their part, were able to reproduce in their paper, 'HaMashkif', on April 11, a copy of the letter they had received from the Haganah commander in Jerusalem a few days before the attack, in which he stated: 'I have no objection to you carrying out the operation provided you are able to hold the village.'

Menachem Beigin, former leader of the Irgun, today a prominent figure in Israeli politics, was to write afterwards in his book 'The Revolt':

'In Jerusalem, as elsewhere, we were the first to pass from the defensive to the offensive . . . Arabs began to flee in panic shouting "Deir Yassin".' Responsibility for the Deir Yassin massacre, and the place

it should be accorded in history, remained for some years a matter of controversy in Israel.

When the issue was raised abroad, supporters of the Israeli government tried to present it as an isolated excess, committed by extremists. The political heirs to the Irgun Zvai Leumi, however, argued that it had served a useful purpose in creating a panic among the Arab civilian population and causing the flight of the refugees.

In preparation for the war of June 1967, the Israeli coalition was enlarged to include the extreme right, and Menachem Beigin was given a ministerial post. In line with this move, the government has given official recognition to the role of the Irgun and Lehi terrorists in fighting to establish the state, and furthermore, an official Israeli government report has been published 'exonerating' the perpetrators of the Deir Yassin massacre.

Events like Deir Yassin do not 'just happen', nor do the men who perpetrate them come from nowhere.

To launch an organized bloody massacre of the civil population like this requires a movement of men and women imbued with the ideas of racial superiority, convinced that the people being attacked are enemies beneath any human

TROTSKYISM AND STALINISM



Since May-June 1968, the Soviet Stalinists have been haunted by the spectre of revolution in western Europe and the growth of Trotskyism in the advanced countries in the west. Fearful of losing their parasitic privileges at home and their control of the labour movement abroad, the Soviet bureaucracy has begun a campaign to once again discredit and distort the principles and history of Trotsky's struggle for the regeneration of the USSR and the world-wide revolution of the working class. The Institute of Marxism-Leninism of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1972 'Against Trotskyism', a compendium of documents, articles, extracts, speeches and resolutions aimed at discrediting Trotskyism and distorting completely the truth about the relations between Lenin and Trotsky. In this series of articles MICHAEL BANDA replies to this book.

cowardly assassination of Trotsky himself in Mexico in August 1940 were all part and parcel of the 'struggle against Trotskyism' which this book exalts.

And by covering up for the crimes of the past and systematically distorting the history of Bolshevism its authors—B. S. Vlasov, I. P. Genenko and A. A. Solovyov of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism in Moscow—are laying the foundations for a new counter-revolutionary attack.

They have surpassed even the usual standards of lying and distortion for which the Institute of Marxism-Leninism (Stalinism) is well known.

Their shoddy anthology is presumably intended to serve the hacks of the various western Communist Parties with anti-Trotskyist 'ammunition'.

It falls into three parts: the first deals with the differences between Trotsky and Lenin in the period before the February 1917 revolution; the second with the period when they were both leaders of the Soviet government and the Bolshevik Party; and the third with the period after Lenin's death until Trotsky's expulsion from the Stalinized party in 1927.

Facts speak louder than lies and the facts about the close alliance between Trotsky and Lenin during and after the conquest of power in 1917 not only transcend the episodic differences of the pre-revolutionary period, but also completely unmask the Byzantine lies and impudent distortions

of this book on the post-1917 period.

In his famous letter to the Bureau of Party History (Istpart), written when the campaign against him led by Stalin was at its height, Trotsky anticipates these allegations and refutes them decisively.

In this important letter Trotsky revealed how the bureaucracy was carrying out a 'conscious and spiteful distortion of the past, which is now organized on an enormous scale, sustained by the authority of all kinds of public institutions and even carried into the textbooks'.

There is no greater tribute to the superiority of the Marxist method over the crude metaphysics of the Stalinist 'Institute of Marxism-Leninism' than to contrast Trotsky's analysis of the Stalinist lie campaign with the sterile rubbish of the Moscow hacks.

Listen to Trotsky: 'The lie in politics as in daily life, serves a function of the class structure of society. The oppressors erect the lie into a system of befuddling the masses in order to maintain their rule.'

'On the part of the oppressed the lie is a defensive weapon of weakness. Revolution explodes the social lie. Revolution speaks the truth. Revolution begins by giving things and social relationships their real names . . .

'But revolution is neither a single nor a harmonious process. Revolution is full of contradictions. It unfolds only by taking one step back after

Above: Lenin and Trotsky, leaders of the Soviet government, pictured in 1920.

taking two steps forward.

'Revolution in its own turn sweeps into power a new ruling stratum which strives to secure its privileged position and is apt to view itself, not as the temporary historical vehicle of revolution, but rather its completion and its crowning work.'

'The epochs of ideological reaction which, more than once in history, have run parallel with economic success, engender the need for revising revolutionary ideas and methods; and create their own conventional lie.'

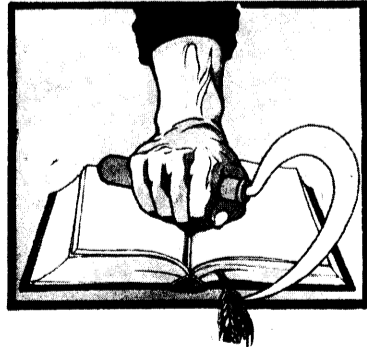
The creation of such conventional lies, for all their apparent subjective arbitrariness, are rooted in social and material reality.

Trotsky's imperishable contribution to Marxism consists not only in his factual exposure of the bureaucracy's lies and his courageous defiance of their Stalinist authors, but above all in his scrupulously scientific and materialist analysis of the social origins of these lies.

In this way he helped to train a new generation of fighters of the Marxist method who understood not only the methodology of the Stalinist counterfeits but also the contradictions which determined the campaign against Trotskyism.

Trotsky exposed these contradictions succinctly in the foreword to his book 'The Stalin School of Falsification'.
CONTINUED TOMORROW

BOOK REVIEW



Against Trotskyism. A collection of Documents. Progress publishers. 406 pages. Distributors—Central Books. £1.25.

The publication in English of the book 'Against Trotskyism' (Progress Publishers, Moscow) testifies to the Soviet leaders' fear of the growth of the Fourth International.

The more openly the bureaucracy capitulates to imperialism and collaborates with it against the world revolution, the more it must slander and attack Trotskyism.

This book is an exceptionally crude attempt to blacken Trotsky's name by bringing together in one volume all the unfavourable references to him extracted from Lenin's writings.

These are accompanied by a vitriolic commentary which obscures and distorts all the issues with which it deals in order to misrepresent them and confuse the reader.

The extracts from Lenin are juxtaposed quite arbitrarily with resolutions passed after his death by Stalinist-dominated Communist Party and trade union organizations.

The book ends abruptly in August 1927, thus freeing the editors of any obligation to defend the wave of purges and repressions against the Old Bolsheviks in the 1930s.

These massacres of revolutionists which culminated in the Moscow Trials and the

A SPLENDID TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

A party of Chinese journalists which visited Britain recently did not actually leave saying 'your policemen are wonderful'. But they came pretty near it.

In their articles for the Chinese Press after their month's stay they gave a typically tourist picture, emphasizing the existence of old traditions alongside evidence of rapid change.

They discovered that 'British people are fond of gardening' and had a friendly talk with Alec Douglas-Home, the Foreign Secretary. They were ushered round the House of Commons by Conservative MP Mrs Wicks [Chinese form of Dame Joan Vickers, perhaps?], happily recalling her visit to China in 1961.

They enjoyed 'a grand reception at Lancaster House on April 12' laid on by the under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Anthony Kershaw, and 'had many friendly and cordial talks with many friends in Press circles'.

Whether they met anyone connected with the tiny and warring Maoist organs they did not record. But as they visited Cambridge, Stratford and other places on the tourist circuit it seems unlikely that they would have had time.

Apart from the members of a Welsh choir, they do not appear to have met any workers, nor did they show any curiosity about the fate of the English peasantry.

They did mention with



Chinese diplomats on an earlier visit to Britain. This delegation, which included the Chinese Foreign Trade Minister (shown above shaking hands with Edward Heath) opened the way for following visits of journalists and the promotion of economic relations between Britain and China.

gratification that 'The friends we contacted in industrial circles during our trip showed great interest in the promotion of economic relations between Britain and China. Many of them told us that they had pleasant memories of visits to China'.

These 'friends' evidently came from the boardroom, not the factory floor, and the 'old China hands' they encountered must have recalled the days when parks in the European quarters of the so-called treaty ports bore the legend: 'No dogs or Chinese admitted.'

CHINESE TOAST HIROHITO

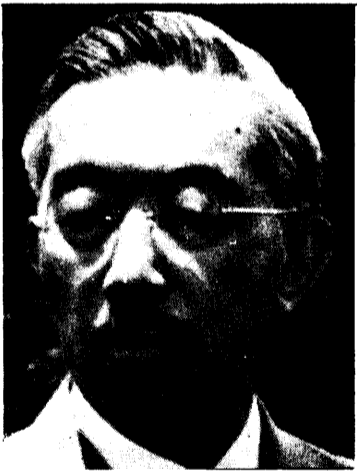
A reception in the Japanese Embassy in Peking to honour the Mikado's birthday was attended this year by a number of high-ranking Maoist officials, including Kuo Mo-jo, vice-chairman of the National Peoples' Congress, and Chi Peng-fei, the Foreign Minister.

The ambassador proposed a toast to the health of Mao Tse-tung, Tung Pi-wu, the acting chairman, and premier Chou En-lai.

In reply, the health of

Emperor Hirohito and his Prime Minister Tanaka was proposed by Chi Peng-fei and the Chinese dignitaries downed their saki together with the diplomatic corps in what the New China News Agency described as 'a friendly atmosphere'.

Such antics can only cause revulsion among those Chinese who recall the role which Hirohito played in the Japanese militarist's plan for expansion of which China was the first victim in 1931.



Left: Emperor Hirohito.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

AD WRANGLE

The advertising warfare in the US is something to behold. In February 1970 Seven-Up applied to register a new marketing theme for 'The Un-cola'.

Coca-Cola opposed the application. A legal battle has been conducted in the courts for the past three years.

Now the US Trade Trial and Appeal Board has given Seven-Up permission to use the 'Un-cola' slogan in its advertising. The board dismissed Coca-Cola's contention that the consuming public is likely to be confused, mistaken or deceived by the similarity between 'The Un-cola' and Coca-Cola names.

'These marks don't look alike, they don't sound alike, and the meanings thereof are distinctly different.'

After the decision Seven-Up Company said it would be 'intensifying use of "The Un-cola" concept.' Coca-Cola is appealing...

EXCITEMENT

There are still some people who seem to think that the role of the British army in Northern Ireland is to preserve law and order and stop the fighting. They still worry about 'our boys' risking their lives for such a laudable aim.

A lot of the soldiers themselves do not see it in quite those terms, as a reporter from the North West London Press papers found when he interviewed men from his area at present on manoeuvres in Germany with a battalion of the Queen's Regiment.

The special training was aimed at teaching them to 'wipe out' an enemy and one of the things they were doing was firing at still and moving man-shaped targets set up in a model village. They were constantly being told it was preparation for action in Ulster and other similar places.

'It's a great life,' said Private Paul Rouse. 'You can achieve something and get somewhere.'

Corporal Christopher Poynton (23) has been to Ulster three times in his five and a half years in the army. He has a vivid memory of a gun battle with an IRA force holding out in a block of flats in the Falls Road area of Belfast. He said he enjoyed the variety of army life.

Perhaps the most telling statement came from Private Frank Dalby (20). He has already had a spell in Ulster and can't wait to get back there.

'I like a bit of excitement,' he said. 'If the army didn't have anywhere to fight, it's no good being in it.'

CLIPPINGS



A Manchester reader has sent us some clippings of interesting anniversaries: One is of 50 years ago last week. It reads:

'London members of the Fascisti gave a picturesque send off to King George and Queen Mary as they left London on a state visit to Rome.'

'They were not allowed to wear uniforms, but gave the ancient Roman salute with the right arm outstretched.'

'In Rome the King and Queen were received by King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Elena and Signor Mussolini.'

Our reader's other clipping refers to an event 25 years ago last week:

'The Jewish Stern gang admitted being responsible for sending a parcel bomb to the Midlands home of British army officer Capt Roy Farran, whose younger brother was killed by the explosion.'

'It was sent on the first anniversary of the death of a Jewish youth killed in Palestine for whom Capt Farran was tried and acquitted.'

WATERGATE 1

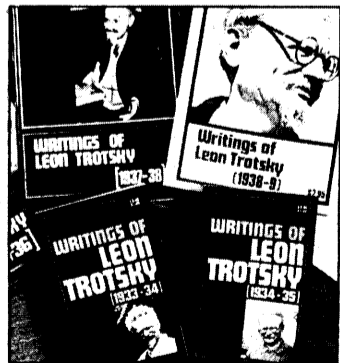
Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japan's Minister of Trade and Industry, was asked the other day whether the Watergate affair was creating difficulties in US-Japan relations. 'No,' Nakasone replied. 'The electronic equipment and tape recorders used at Watergate were not made here.'

Another Watergate story. Democratic Representative Hungate of Missouri has written and recorded a song. In the first week of release more than 10,000 people have dialled 202-797-5972 to hear the dulcet tones of Hungate singing: 'Come, come, come and play spy with me Down at the old Watergate...'

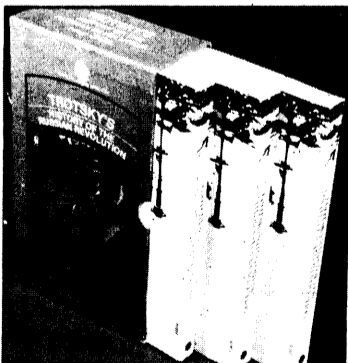
WATERGATE 2

Down at the old Watergate...'

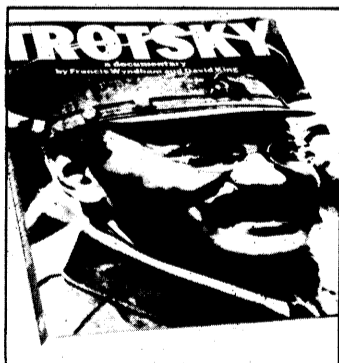
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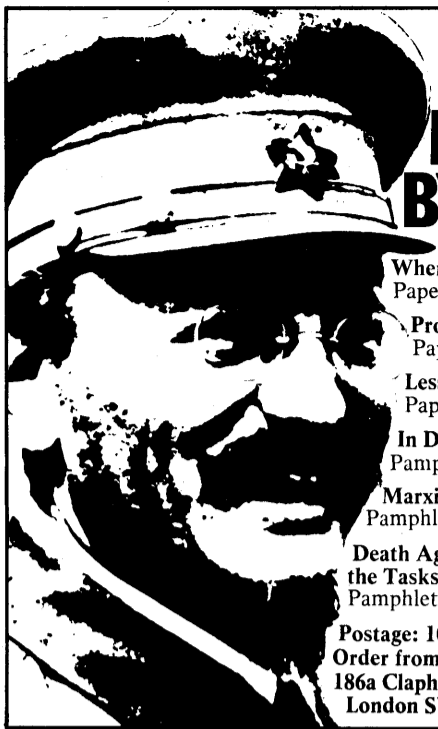
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the Tasks of the Fourth International
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MEET THE TOP MAN IN EQUITY FUNDING

He has been variously described as 'aloof and unemotional', 'surprisingly warm' and 'a soft touch'. Others say he is 'sharp tempered and arrogant', 'subtle yet assertive' while yet another group of associates say he can be 'awash with sentimentality'.

Whatever the truth about his personality, Stanley Goldblum is a living legend.

He's the man who is at the top of the most ferocious business scandal to hit Wall Street for generations.

In the space of a couple of years Goldblum and the other heads of Equity Funding cleaned up some \$2 billion with bogus insurance policies.

The main company over which Goldblum presided and its subsidiaries have been under public seizure since the whole deck of cards collapsed leaving many of America's top banking houses holding fake policies... and considerable debts.

While government investigators pick their way through the complicated set of accounts, Goldblum remains in his elegant house on Whittier Drive in Beverly Hills, California.

'I don't think I have anything to say to the Press at this time,' he said shortly after the crash. 'Maybe I'll be able to talk freely sometime soon.'

And that has been the only comment from the self-made multi-millionaire whose fortune is believed to be about \$30m.

In the absence of Press conferences from Goldblum, a number of reporters have been examining his track record. Though somewhat inconclusive at this stage, they paint a picture of an incredibly nerveless character who successfully deceived a major part of what is called 'the Wall Street establishment'.

Stanley Goldblum is now 46. He wasn't always a quicksilver financial entrepreneur. Indeed, his background hardly indicates that he would have been hailed in the late 1960s as one of the flagbearers of the new-style approach to the American insurance industry.

According to a company-prepared biography Goldblum graduated with a BSc from the University College of Los Angeles in 1949.

But UCLA says this wasn't the case. Their records show he won a two-year Associate of Arts degree in 1948. This historical discrepancy is pretty pointless when we consider young Stanley's first job—he became a butcher. This was with the Cherry Meat Packing Company in Los Angeles.

Goldblum once confided to an employee that he suffered from arthritis. When asked how he got it, the boss said he used 'to push beef around in a cooler'. Beyond this he didn't elaborate.

He also took other jobs such as a swimming and gym instructor before getting into the field that made him famous—insurance.

His first insurance job was in 1955 with the Midland Mutual Life Insurance Company as a salesman. His success was meteoric; by 1960 he bought his way into a group tying mutual funds and insurance into a single package.

The following year the group became known as Equity Funding Corporation with an adventurous foursome at the top: Ray Platt, a dynamic salesman and Eugene Cuthbertson and Mike Riordan, two insurance men with considerable flair and style.

Goldblum surfaced at the head of the growing organization in the most bizarre fashion. A colleague explains:

'In the beginning there were four horsemen. Platt died of a heart attack, Cuthbertson was bought out, Riordan was covered by a mudslide, and then there was one. Stan just ended up with all the marbles because everyone left the game.'

By the time Goldblum took over sole control in 1969, Equity was a thriving concern. In its nine years the company had grown from reported revenues of \$409,217 to \$45,571,643. But it was under Stanley's leadership that business really started to get off the ground. Annual revenues in the next two years reached \$100m. Wall Streeters and City editors marvelled at his business skills.

Until his operation was closed down, the company managed to sell more than \$2 billion worth of fraudulent



Stanley Goldblum.

insurance and create more than \$120m in non-existent assets.

One of his employees commented:

'Everybody was always suspicious of the company's very aggressive accounting, but nothing like this.'

The amount of 'aggressive accounting' is beginning to surface in the preliminary reports of the court-appointed trustee, Robert M. Loeffler. He has revealed that more than half the 'funding programmes' on Equity's books are bogus. But, said a member of Loeffler's staff, the programmes 'held by real people are real'.

At present it appears that all the customers who thought they purchased insurance, mutual funds and combined programmes from the company really did. 'We're confirming this now with everyone who is real,' Loeffler said.

He said the phantom customers—existing only in the company's computer—were the only 'policy holder victims' of the phoney mutual fund shares, pledged against phoney loans to buy phoney insurance, which appeared on Equity Funding's books.

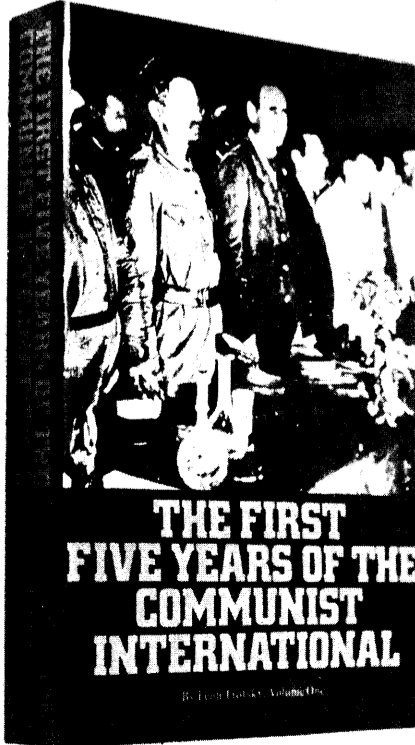
The whole operation was worked through Equity Funding's computer which stored the names of clients, their insurance programmes, the loans on their investment, etc.

'Apparently,' said one Equity Funding executive who is in the clear, 'the computer tape ran out phoney figures padded with non-existent programmes.' The company's lawyer thought that all the shares and notes were at the firm's bank. They weren't. But no one actually looked beyond the computer read-out to see where the notes or mutual fund shares really were.

There have been some extremely generous reports in some US financial newspapers. One described how Stanley tendered his resignation from the board and then repaired to his office to clean up.

'The tragedy showed in his eyes,' one report said. Meanwhile Goldblum waits at home, a retired multi-millionaire with two Rolls-Royces parked in the spacious garage.

A new English edition of the 'First Five Years of the Communist International' incorporating hitherto unpublished material from Volume XIII of Trotsky's 'Works'.



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CIR to probe Rubery Owen but no pay

RUBERY OWEN workers at Darlaston, Staffs, who have been waiting for Tory Pay Board approval of a wage increase are to get a government instituted investigation into labour relations instead.

The Department of Employment has applied under section 121 of the Industrial Relations Act to the Commission on Industrial Relations for the inquiry.

The reason put forward by the Department is the crucial position that Rubery Owen holds as major components supplier to the motor industry.

The five-week strike which ended two weeks ago with a pay agreement is said to have cost the industry £30m in lost production.

Rubery Owen itself claims to have lost £2.5m through the strike.

Transport and General Workers' Union Wolverhampton organizer Harry Littlehales and Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' secretary Fred Griffiths both told the local 'Express and Star' that their unions would not be taking part in the investigation as it was part of the Industrial Relations Act.

But what is obvious from the announcement of the investigation is the determination of Rubery Owen, backed by the Tory government, to prepare for the next round of the wages and conditions struggle in October.

For the return-to-work formula not only agreed to wage increases of between 50p and £2.50, but it also provided for negotiations on a new wages structure to be implemented in October 1973.

While the official union leadership has adopted a wait-and-see attitude, Rubery Owen has prepared quite differently.

Prior to the attempt forcibly to change the wages structure from April 2, which would have resulted in wage-cuts of up to £13 a week for some workers, the firm had taken advice from The Grubb Institute of Behavioural Studies. This led to the strike.

Where the Grubb Institute

failed, Rubery Owen has turned to the Tory government, its laws and commissions.

T&GWU shop steward Brian Downing commented: 'I am getting fed up with government intervention in the trade unions.'

'We have not got the money yet that was agreed at the end of the strike because they say it is over the government's £1 plus 4 per cent norm.'

'But if they want a fight they can have it.'

'We have not officially been told about the government's investigation yet, but we are getting ready for the next round ourselves.'

One man for pit inquiries

A PUBLIC inquiry into the Seafield colliery disaster of May 10, in which five miners died, is to be conducted by Mr J. W. Calder, OBE, HM Chief Inspector of Mines and Quarries.

Mr Calder is also to conduct the public inquiry into the Loft-house colliery disaster in which seven miners lost their lives. That will open in Wakefield on Wednesday May 30

GEC toolmakers maintain eight-week picket

EIGHT weeks and still going strong. A group of Coventry toolroom strikers guard the entrance to the Stoke plant of the GEC combine in the town.

Over 200 toolroom strikers at Stoke and GEC Helen Street are fighting for higher wages.

The firm has refused to offer any money and has got 'an opinion' from the Pay Board which says the men's demands are against the government's Phase Two pay laws.

Behind the issue of the strike, however, is the Coventry toolroom rate. Last year the practice by which all wages in the dis-

strict went up by averages was abolished after a long struggle.

Now employers like GEC who initiated the struggle against the rate want to keep wages down.

One striker said that wages in the GEC toolroom were up to £6 below other toolroom workers in the town.

Below: Some of the toolmakers on picket duty outside a Coventry GEC plant.



St Thomas electrician pickets acquitted

CHARGES of committing a 'blemish of the peace' against St Thomas's hospital site electrician Brian Moody (25) have been dismissed by Camberwell Green magistrates, south London.

Moody was among the 80 electricians at the site who struck work 16 weeks ago in a dispute over a pay claim.

He told Workers Press after the case: 'It was claimed that we followed two scabs to Waterloo station on March 22 and stood on one of their heels.'

'They said that we threatened one of them.'

The charge of 'blemish of the peace'—an Act dating from 1361

—was also brought against other St Thomas's site electricians in alleged incidents with men who have crossed the picket line.

In the last week cases against two other electricians have been dismissed, while one man has been bound over for a year on a surety of £50.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

MEETINGS

ACTON: Monday May 21, 8 p.m. 'Six Bells', High Street, W3. 'Force the TUC to break off talks with the Tories'.

LEWISHAM: Monday May 21, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

ABINGDON: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. Above New Top Taxis, Oak Street. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

BATTERSEA: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. 'Nags Head', cnr Wandsworth Road/North Street. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

BRIXTON: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. Brixton Training Centre, Control Room. 'The Economic Crisis and what it means for the working class'.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday May 22, 8 p.m. Barking Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue. 'The inflationary crisis and the rising cost of living'.

TOTTENHAM: Thursday May 24 8 p.m. 'Bricklayers Arms', High Road, nr White Hart Lane.

READING: Tuesday, May 22, 8 p.m. The T&GWU offices, King's Road. 'The TUC and Phase Three.'

HACKNEY: Wednesday May 23, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, Mare Street. 'Build the Revolutionary Party'.

Hemel Hempstead: Wednesday May 23, 8 p.m. Adeyfield Hall, Queen's Square, Adeyfield. 'The fight against Stalinism'.

PAISLEY: Wednesday May 23, 7.30 p.m. The Bakers' Rooms, George Place. 'Build Councils of Action'.

WYTHENSHAW (Manchester): Wednesday May 23, 8 p.m. 'Cock o' t' North', Portway. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

FULHAM: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Fulham Broadway. 'Force the TUC to break off talks with the Tories'.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'Marxism and the trade unions'.

LEEDS: Thursday, May 24, 8 p.m. 'Peel Hotel', Boar Lane. 'The role of Stalinism in the trade unions.'

LUTON: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Road. 'Force the TUC to break off talks with the Tories'.

TONBRIDGE: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. 'The Foresters', Quarry Hill, Tonbridge.

WILLESDEN: Thursday May 24, 8 p.m. Brent Labour and Trades Hall, Willesden High Road, N.W.10. 'Forward to the ATUA Conference'.

BERMONDSEY: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. 'Havelock Arms', Balaclava Street, off Southwark Park Road. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

CAMDEN: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross. 'Betrayal at UCS—the struggle against Stalinism'.

PADDINGTON: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. 'Prince of Wales', Harrow Road, cnr Gt Western Road. 'The economic crisis and the trade unions'.

TOOTING: Tuesday May 29, 8 p.m. Tooting Baths, Tooting Broadway, SW17. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights'.

SLOUGH: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Farnham Road. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

SOUTHALL: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. Southall Library, Osterley Park Road. 'Marxism and the trade unions'.

WALTHAMSTOW: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. 'Crooked Billet', North Circular Road, Walthamstow. 'Labour to power pledged to socialist policies'.

WEMBLEY: Wednesday May 30, 8 p.m. Copland School, High Road. 'Forward to the ATUA conference'.

FELTHAM: Thursday May 31, 8 p.m. 'Three Horseshoes', High Street. 'The economic crisis and the rising cost of living'.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

Public Meeting

GLASGOW

Reformism on the Clyde — The Story of UCS. WEDNESDAY MAY 30 7.30 p.m.

McLellan Galleries Sauchiehall Street Glasgow.

Speaker: Stephen Johns (Workers Press)

All Trades Unions Alliance Meeting

After Jones-Aldington What next for dockers?

SOUTHAMPTON

Wednesday May 30, 7.30 p.m. Conference Room Civic Centre

Speaker: M. Banda (SLL Central Committee)

NEWSDESK

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SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Merthyr Tydfil

Given by Gerry Healy, National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League

Wednesday May 23

Theory and Practice of Marxism

Wednesday May 30

Role of the revolutionary party at

St David's Church Hall, Church Street, Merthyr 7.30 p.m.

Jarrow

Given by Cliff Slaughter SLL Central Committee member

Civic Hall, Jarrow 7.30 p.m.

Monday May 21

The Socialist Revolution in Britain:

3. The state and revolution. Reformism and revolution in Britain. The fight for democratic rights today means preparing for working-class power.

Basic reading:

Perspectives for transforming the SLL into a revolutionary party. Marxist Analysis of the Crisis. Problems of the British Revolution (Trotsky).

Death Agony of Capitalism and the Tasks of the Fourth International, Communist Manifesto.

Council of Action North London

TUC must break off talks with Tories

No negotiations on Phase Three No capitulation to corporatism Make the Tory government resign

TUESDAY MAY 22, 8 p.m.

Lord Morrison Hall, Chestnut Grove, Tottenham, N.17

All Trades Unions Alliance meetings

TEACHERS' MEETING

The way forward after the NUT conference

Thursday, May 24, 7.30 p.m.

Conway Small Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn (admission 10p)

HOSPITAL WORKERS' MEETING

Hospital workers and the fight against the Tory government

Tuesday May 29, 7.30 p.m.

Norfolk Room Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, London SW1 (admission 10p)

BUILDING WORKERS' MEETING

TUC must break off talks with Tories! Build revolutionary party!

Wednesday, May 30, 7.30 p.m.

Tudor Room Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, London SW1 (admission 10p)

POSTAL WORKERS' MEETING

Break off secret talks with the Tories! Force the Tories to resign!

Sunday, June 3, 10.30 a.m.

Conway Small Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn (admission 10p)

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Left-wing groups 'subvert' the union—smear

Post union chief joins the conference witch-hunts

RIGHT WING postmen's leader Tom Jackson had his union conference in uproar at the weekend when he attacked a rule amendment on the grounds that it would enable the Communist Party, the Socialist Labour League and the International Socialists to 'subvert the union'.

Later, Jackson apologized to the movers of the rule change, who were Labour Party supporters, for having called them subversives, but did not withdraw the witch-hunting allegations.

Jackson alleged that Communist Party members of the UPW had met in London to discuss the agenda and their fares had been paid by King Street. The SLL and the IS had nothing to give the union, he added.

Stalinists at the conference did not speak against the witch-hunt.

One delegate who did—before he was ruled out of order—Peter Bradford, said that the democratic rights of trade unionists to hold political views must be defended. He likened Jackson's outburst to the witch-hunting at other recent union conferences.

The rule change, which would have allowed delegates the right

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT, DOUGLAS IOM

to reply after debates on amendments they had moved to the general report, was lost following Jackson's intervention.

But the executive was defeated on a similar issue concerning the right of reply to composite amendments to the general report.

Previously, the executive retained for themselves the right of reply on all amendments to their report.

Another successful rule change carried against the advice of the executive was to permit amendments to the general report expressing direct opposition to it.



JACKSON . . . Fares paid

Previously, these had been ruled out of order.

An executive motion to allow rules revision conferences only every five years instead of every three was also thrown out.

But a motion for automatic suspension from office of union officials who ignore union policy was defeated after an executive intervention opposing it. The issue arose out of alleged strike-breaking instances during the 1971 post strike.

Joint deals without poll

POST OFFICE workers' leaders have been given a virtual blank cheque to sign joint agreements with other unions, even if these have not been approved by a conference.

The executive of the Union of Post Office Workers defeated moves, at a rules revision conference, to commit it firmly to calling ballots of the members concerned before signing.

By a narrow card-vote majority it won approval of a rule amendment stating simply that it is the duty of the executive to consult the members.

Amendments to the special executive report on wages indicate little opposition to the leadership's policy of going to the Pay Board. The UPW annual conference is to debate wages this week.

BRIEFLY - BRIEFLY

THE EXECUTIVE of the National Union of Teachers yesterday condemned the 22 per cent increase in school buildings cost limits announced by Education Secretary Mrs Margaret Thatcher this week as 'wholly unsatisfactory'. The local authorities insisted that a general increase of 400 per cent was necessary.

FORD HALEWOOD Transmission plant workers met at the Top Rank, Liverpool, yesterday and voted to accept the company's pay offer in line with the Tory state pay laws. Convenor Bernard Bradley refused to put to the 750-strong meeting a resolution of no confidence in the union leadership and another calling on the TUC to lead a fight against the government.

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Fourth International

A journal of international Marxism published by the International Committee of the Fourth International Spring 1973

Contents include:

Ceylon: The Centrism of Bala Tampoe

By a Ceylon correspondent
April Dictatorship: The Tasks of the Greek Trotskyists
Resolution of the 5th Congress of the Workers International League

Several translations of articles from the German Trotskyist newspaper Der Funke
Italy's New Fascists

By Stephen Johns
LENIN AND TROTSKY WRITING ON EUROPE

and six International Committee statements



Council's 'two-faced' rents policy—tenants

GREENWICH tenants picketed the town hall at the weekend in protest against the actions of the Labour council on the rents question.

But they later attended a meeting called by Labour councillor M. Jeffrey specifically to persuade the rent strikers to start paying.

The tenants claim the council has adopted a two-faced attitude since capitulating to the Tory Housing Finance Act. On the one hand it had resolved officially not to evict tenants for withholding rent increases. On the other hand, it had harassed rent strikers with eviction threats.

Mr W. Jeavons, for the Greenwich Tenants' and Residents' Campaign Committee, said: 'It is we who are carrying out Labour policy and not the council. It is not just an isolated strike here. Thousands all over the country are refusing to pay the increases.'

MAY FUND NOW £763.46 ONLY 11 DAYS

WE'RE getting to the last lap of our May Fund and we still need £986.54 to complete our monthly target. It still is a tough fight so let's not waste any time. Go into action today and help us change this position.

As more and more revelations come out about the Watergate affair, the depth of the crisis facing the ruling class can clearly be seen. But this is just a glimpse of the crisis facing the capitalist class throughout the world.

Only Workers Press has warned of the serious nature of this political situation. Our paper must be used, therefore, to reach out to thousands more workers who will be immediately affected by these major events.

Our Fund this month is more than vital. Without it we can't expand. We urge you all, dear readers, don't sit back. Raise all you can and, where possible, try and collect extra amounts. Rush every donation immediately to:

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May Appeal Fund
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London SW4 7UG**

BRIEFLY - BRIEFLY

RETAIL price index published by the Department of Employment has shown a record rise in April. In one month, prices went up by 1.9 per cent, which is a rate of 23 per cent a year. Wages in 1973 are being kept by the Tory pay laws to an average 7 per cent a year increase. Compared with a year earlier, the index has been rising steadily since the alleged prices standstill came in last November when all wage increases were banned for five months.

The record prices leap in April was caused, the D of E says, by higher meal charges, rates and other services. Nearly half the 1.9-per-cent rise was caused by VAT, the government claims.

STRIKING technicians decided on Saturday to obey a court order allowing officials of the University of East Anglia into the computer centre which they have been occupying since Wednesday. A High Court injunction required the operators and any others involved to allow the university and its agents to enter any part of the computing centre. But it did not require the operators—on pay strike for eight weeks—to leave the building.

PUBLIC MEETINGS Transforming the Socialist Labour League into the Revolutionary Party

Hull
Wednesday May 23,
8 p.m.
'Windmill Hotel'
Witham

Goole
Thursday May 24, 8 p.m.
'Cape of Good Hope'
Dewsbury
The Textile Hall.
Thursday, May 24 7.30 pm

TODAY'S TV

BBC 1

9.38-11.55 Schools. 12.25 Llywbraur's wlad. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Joe. 1.45 Pets and vets. 2.05 Schools. 3.10 Expedition North America. 3.35 Holiday '73. 4.00 Huckleberry Hound. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Blue Peter. 5.15 Champion for the king. 5.40 Hector's house. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 **NATIONWIDE**.
6.50 **TOP OF THE FORM**.
7.15 **Z CARS**. The Spike.
8.00 **PANORAMA**. A quarter of a century of Apartheid in South Africa.
9.00 **NEWS**. Weather.
9.25 **LAURIE LEE'S 'CIDER WITH ROSIE'**. Screenplay by Hugh Whitmore. With Rosemary Leach.
11.00 **JUMPING FOR THE JELLY BEANS**. What makes us work hard?
11.25 **LATE NIGHT NEWS**.
11.30 **MAN IN HIS PLACE**. Two Societies.
11.55 **Weather**.

ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.30 World War I (London only). 11.00 Schools. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Up and down, in and out, roundabout man. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Melody inn. 1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 Schools. 2.20 Cartoon. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Doing things. 3.25 Public eye. 4.25 Clapperboard. 4.50 Tomorrow people. 5.20 Thirty minutes Worth. 5.50 News.

6.00 **TODAY**.
6.40 **DAVID NIXON SHOW**. Guests Peters and Lee, Rocky Rendall.
7.30 **CORONATION STREET**.
8.00 **BLESS THIS HOUSE**. I'm Not Jealous, I'll Kill Him.
8.30 **WORLD IN ACTION**.
9.00 **PLAY: 'The Team'**. By John Elliot. With James Launson, Caroline Harris, Stephen Sheppard, Ivan Beavis.
10.00 **NEWS AT TEN**.
10.30 **WILD, WILD WEST**. The Night of the Gruesome Games.
11.30 **ART OF THE CRAFT**. Restoring Antiques.
12.00 **WORLD WAR I**.
12.25 **A COMMON MIND**.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open University.
7.05 **PARENTS AND CHILDREN**. Mum I'm Bored.
7.30 **NEWS**. Weather.
7.35 **INSIDE MEDICINE**. Accidents go happen . . .
8.00 **HIGH CHAPARRAL**. Sea of Enemies.
8.50 **FACE THE MUSIC**.
9.25 **ROY HUDD FAMILY SHOW**.
10.10 **PHILPOTT FILE**. The Sporting Life. Part 2: The Fisherman.
11.00 **NEWS**. Weather.
11.30 **OPEN DOOR**. How to Stop Ring Roads.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Survival. 6.45 London. 10.33 Stanley Baxter. 11.03 History of motor racing. 11.23 Protectors. 11.50 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.20 Sports. 6.35 Date with Danton. 11.50 Epilogue.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 House party. 3.00 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 London. 10.30 Oliver Reed. 11.00 Streets of San Francisco. 11.55 News. 12.00 Farming. 12.25 Weather. Guide-line.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.22 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 10.30 Film: 'Kiss of Evil'. 12.05 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 2.30-3.00 Hammdden. 6.01-6.22 Y dydd. 8.30-9.00 Yr wythnos.

HTV West as above except: 6.22-6.45 This is the West this week.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 12.25 Larry the lamb. 12.40 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 House party. 3.00 London. 6.00 Above Anglia. 6.45 London. 10.30 Gardening. 11.00 Film: 'Inside Detroit'. 12.30 Epilogue.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 London. 6.00 Today. 6.45 London. 10.30 Romantic versus classic art. 11.00 Man in a suitcase. 12.00 Christians at large. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.33 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.15 Please don't eat the daisies. 6.45 London. 10.30 Monday night. 10.40 Banack.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.45 London. 10.30 Emmerdale farm. 11.25 Outsider. 12.20 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Yoga. 2.55 London. 6.00 News. 6.25 This is your right. 6.40 London. 10.30 Film: 'A Rage to Live'.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 4.25 Superman. 4.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Cartoons. 6.45 London. 10.30 Late call. 10.35 You pass your money. 11.07 Upstairs, downstairs.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.40 Cartoon. 2.52 News. 3.00 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Strictly Scottish. 6.45 London. 10.30 Romantic versus classic art. 11.00 University. challenge. 10.30 Odd couple. 12.00 Meditation.