

HARDENING ON MINERS AND ULSTER

TORIES TO ACT ON UNION LAW

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT DAVID MAUDE

TORY DETERMINATION to implement the anti-union law later this month is hardening in step with the struggle against the miners and the war in Ulster.

By February 28, all the major provisions of the new law will be in force together with the Code of Industrial Relations Practice which will guide its use in court.

'The sooner this is in operation the better', Employment Secretary Robert Carr told the House of Commons amid very muted Labour protests on Wednesday.

A later debate, on an Opposition motion to stop the government activating the Act's provisions on union registration, picketing and sympathetic strikes, was marginally more heated.

But the Tories could not proceed for five minutes with their hated industrial pay or N Ireland policies without the most abject collaboration of the Labour and trade union leaders.

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● While Carr was speaking in parliament on Wednesday, Leonard Neal, chairman of the Commission on Industrial Relations, was declaring in Manchester that unions were defying TUC official policy of non-co-operation with the CIR.

'A lot are working with us behind the scenes', he said.

● The source of this defiance is the TUC itself.

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Hence the Tories' lethal arrogance towards workers both N Ireland and Britain.

Speaking during the Commons debate on implementation of the Act, Solicitor-General Sir Geof-

frey Howe, who drafted a large part of the law, made little attempt to conceal its purpose.

People were crying out for some way of breaking the deadlock in the miners' strike, he said.

Dublin and Londonderry, February 2, 1972, and the determined picketing of the miners in defiance of their national leaders' policies, show how fragile is the grip of the Tories' agents.

And the breadth of trade union support for the Right-to-Work marches which start tomorrow is a measure of the support which can be won for breaking that grip.

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PICKING COAL FOR PENSIONERS

Lynch on the brink

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

THE LYNCH government in Dublin made desperate moves yesterday to pull back from the brink of open conflict with Britain.

There was mounting speculation that the Eire premier would make another bid, possibly at the weekend, to get talks with the Tory government over the Derry massacre, which has thrown his administration into crisis.

He met Labour Party leader Conor Cruise O'Brien who reported on his talks with Home Secretary Reginald Maudling.

Among the points the Lynch deputation wants to make are demands for an end to internment, the eventual abolition of Stormont and withdrawal of British troops from what are described as 'highly-populated Catholic areas'.

This compromise will not be accepted by the Tories and cer-

tainly will not satisfy the Eire people, who, according to O'Brien, have undergone an 'imense and massive' change of attitude.

He compared the feeling in the Free State to that following the Dublin uprising in 1916.

This attempt at reconciliation is rapidly being overshadowed with the possibility of another massacre.

While the Eire parliament began its two-day debate on the Derry killings, civil rights leaders in Newry said the planned march on Sunday would go ahead.

Organizers said they expected bigger crowds than in Derry last Sunday.

The Tories have made it clear they will not allow the protest.

In the Lords, British Defence Secretary Lord Carrington warned:

'I am quite confident that the ban is right and that it must be upheld. The security forces will

therefore have no alternative but to halt and disperse any unauthorized marches, however difficult it may be.'

Prime Minister Heath has also intervened and asked leaders of the Roman Catholic Church to use their influence to stop the Newry protest.

Whether Lynch will be able to pull back from the brink once again and survive politically is doubtful.

The Tories are in no mood to compromise over their campaign of terror in the North and talks will not satisfy workers in the Republic.

Wednesday's rioting, when the British Embassy in Dublin was burned, was the biggest seen in Eire for a generation.

The shooting over the border by units of the Provisional wing of the IRA also suggests that elements in the Free State Army are not unsympathetic to the demands for military action against Stormont.

The Tory press is already printing its predictable pictures of old women shivering over empty grates in order to whip up hostility to the miners. Our picture gives a very different story, however. An elderly miner is picking coal on the old tip at Pontlottyn, S Wales, for his next-door neighbour—a pensioner. Many miners are having to pick coal for their own families because the NCB delayed their Christmas load; but they are all firm on one thing—they won't let the old people go cold.

MINERS' PICKET KILLED

A MINER on picket duty at Keadby power station near Scunthorpe, Lincs, was killed in an accident involving a lorry outside plant yesterday afternoon.

Labour MP Tom Swain warned in the Commons yesterday that this could cause 'another Ulster in the Yorkshire coalfield'.

● See P.12 Col 1 for more details.

workers press

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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AROUND THE WORLD

Nixon man puts dampers on cash bargaining

BY JOHN SPENCER

TALKS in Brussels between United States and Common Market trade negotiators opened yesterday in an atmosphere of crisis.

The talks, aimed at finalizing the monetary agreement reached in Washington on December 18, have been overshadowed by the renewed crisis on the foreign exchange markets.

William Eberle, President Nixon's trade envoy, said on the eve of the meeting that he was not optimistic about the outcome.

The Nixon administration has said it needs an adequate short-term trade agreement with the Common Market and Japan to support a formal application to Congress to raise the official gold price from \$35 to \$38 an ounce. Eberle added that if the Common Market failed to agree adequate concessions for US goods at Brussels, the proposed gold legislation would again be postponed or presented together with an inadequate trade package.

'People who want the gold revaluation should consider the implications of this,' he warned. Asked about optimistic reports on the talks in the European press, he said: 'It is difficult to know how this fits in with our discussions. I do not understand the optimism reported in the press, knowing how the talks have been progressing.'

The Common Market commissioners had only a limited mandate to negotiate in the short term, Eberle said, while the US wanted 'a prompt business-like settlement as opposed to continuing talks'.

The gold legislation was originally scheduled to go through Congress during the third week in January, but the Bill was postponed when the first round of Brussels talks broke down.

Together with the projected \$25,000m US budget deficit and rumours of an even bigger dollar devaluation on the way, postponement has thrown the capitalist world's gold and exchange markets in chaos.

The 'free market' gold price is climbing rapidly towards \$50 an ounce as dollar-holders in Europe try frantically to dispose of their holdings.



EBERLE: NO OPTIMIST

My trial a state conspiracy—Davis

ON TRIAL for her life in California, Angela Davis has said she will subpoena the state's right-wing governor Ronald Reagan to testify in her trial on the grounds that she is the victim of a state conspiracy.

She appeared in court at San José on Wednesday during pre-trial arguments on whether the state should pay for her defence and whether the trial's venue should be changed.

The black militant, a former philosophy teacher, said security precautions at the court and prison made it impossible for her to receive a fair trial.

'If there is a conspiracy here, it is one that has been conceived and executed by the state of California to further oppress black people... There is a conspiracy against sisters and brothers in the state's gaols and prisons.'

She has been charged with conspiracy to murder in connection with the August 1970 escape attempt at Marin County courthouse, N of San Francisco, when three people, including the judge, were shot dead.

Already nearly \$700,000 has been spent on gaol and courtroom security for her trial.



Leyland stoppage down under

AUSTRALIA'S crisis-ridden car industry received another blow yesterday when British-Leyland laid off 1,200 of its 3,000 production workers at the company's Zetland plant in Sydney because an electrical workers' dispute has delayed delivery of components from Victoria.

W German production down

INDUSTRIAL production in W Germany was down by 12.5 per cent in December compared with November and by 4.5 per cent on December 1970. Part of the drop was due to the metal-workers strike in Baden-Württemberg. The biggest fall was in capital goods production and in building. Home orders fell by 9.8 per cent and foreign orders by 1.4 per cent.

PAY WHEN YOU LIKE

ZULFIQAR Ali Bhutto has described his three-day visit to China, which ended yesterday, as 'productive, useful, constructive and successful'.

He was assured by the Chinese Premier that Pakistan could pay

back its interest-free loans from China 'in ten years, 20 years or even at the beginning of the 21st century'.

Pakistan has a total debt to China of \$307m (£118m) incurred since 1964. Some \$200m (£37m) of this was pledged in 1970.

WHAT WE THINK

'BLOODY SUNDAY' IS CENSORED

A WORKERS PRESS reporting team has compiled a reconstruction of the Rossville massacre that occurred in Londonderry last Sunday. After interviewing scores of eye-witnesses and the wounded, we had a complete dossier showing the bloody events which led to 13 people being gunned down.

Now, however, the Heath government has acted to prevent publication of this detailed investigation.

By setting up the tribunal under the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act, 1921, the government has given it the status of a High Court. This means that the laws of contempt apply. And this means that none of our information can be published because it would be in contempt of Mr Justice Widgery's tribunal.

In other words the establishment of this tribunal has successfully gagged the press. Government censorship is operating on life-and-death issues in Ulster.

What are the legal precedents for vesting a tribunal with such important powers?

The two most recent cases are the Aberfan inquiry and the investigation into the affairs of the Vehicle and General Insurance crash.

When the Labour government announced the appointment of the legal inquiry into Aberfan, it was Edward Heath himself who apparently complained bitterly about censorship.

But when Heath announced Widgery's appointment on Tuesday, the Opposition leader Harold Wilson made some mealy-mouthed objections to the fact that it was a one-man inquiry.

Wilson didn't want a single Widgery in charge—he wanted two or three more.

Although our Rossville inquiry cannot now be published, readers will be continually kept informed of events in Ireland in spite of government and army intimidation.

LIBERATION TROOPS MASS TANKS ON BORDER

THE US command in Vietnam fears a big N Vietnamese offensive in the N and Central Highlands of S Vietnam later this month.

N Vietnamese and National Liberation Front troops have already smashed their way into the Laotian town of Muong Kassy which opens the road to the headquarters of the neutralist forces 30 miles to the S.

A regular division of the N Vietnamese army is filtering through mountain passes to join other forces concentrated in the panhandle. The total of troops available for the offensive will then be four divisions — over 40,000 men. Their arms include tanks and amphibious armoured vehicles.

Continuous air attacks are being made by US and S Vietnamese planes in an attempt to disrupt the offensive. The troop movements along the trails are heavily protected by anti-aircraft guns and missiles. A US communiqué claims that 12 strikes have been made in the past few days.

The S Vietnamese also claim

to have to have knocked out a number of tanks in the Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam border area, where the N Vietnamese forces for the offensive are being assembled.

Hanoi's anxiety at the prospect of a deal between Mao Tse-tung and Nixon to end the war is reflected in the publication of an important speech made last December by Truong Chinh, chairman of the National Assembly and regarded as one of the three top men.

Washington, he says, is 'looking for a way to sabotage the socialist camp, to sabotage world revolution, sabotage peace and assure itself of world hegemony'.

By unity of action, he continues, the people must 'outwit the perfidious manoeuvres and adventuristic plans of imperialism'.

He asserts that US policy of 'being ready to negotiate with other countries, notably the Soviet Union and China... is to contain these two great socialist powers, to exploit in depth the contradictions between these two countries and provoke contradictions between socialist countries in general'.

Such language is not heard in Moscow or in Peking these days.

THE N Vietnamese delegation to the Paris talks has offered a new formula suggesting some softening of the line taken in their seven-point proposals of last July. They

CALL for total withdrawal of US troops, but leave Nixon to decide the date.

DEMAND that President Thieu should resign immediately, but do not propose the resignation of the entire Saigon administration.

PROPOSE talks with Saigon to set up a 'government of national concord'. This would organize elections with a view to forming a definitive government.

US prisoners in N Vietnam would be released when troops had been withdrawn. US negotiator William Porter described the proposal as 'rather frantic'. He expressed concern at the prospect of a new offensive by the N.

BRANDT STEPS IN TO SAVE GIANT COAL FIRM

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

WEST Germany's social-democratic government is planning a massive cash injection to save Ruhrkohle, the almost bankrupt cartel which produces three-quarters of the country's coal output.

Economic Minister Karl Schiller, who played a leading part in setting up the combine four years ago, is deep in discussions with Ruhrkohle directors and the North Rhine-Westphalia state government.

A firm opponent of nationalization, he is determined that the coal industry must stay in private hands. The plan under discussion involves the national and state

governments paying a total of £800m into Ruhrkohle over the next five years.

Despite a ruthless programme of rationalization and speed-up, Ruhrkohle has consistently lost money since it was formed.

Schiller persuaded the 26 companies with coal mines in the Ruhr to pool their interests as a means of combating stiffening competition within and outside the Common Market.

The former coal owners took shares in the new firm, and were also compensated to the tune of £190m, to be paid over 20 years with interest at six per cent.

The speed-up drive was inten-

sified in the mines. Over the last five years, the labour force has shrunk by almost half, but total production last year was only 10 million tons below the 110 million tons produced in 1966.

The social-democrats rationalized the sackings at Ruhrkohle by citing the large number of foreign workers, including 20,000 Turks, who work in the pits.

Anyway, they say, it is not hard to find jobs in the Ruhr.

The Ruhrkohle crisis is an index of the economic situation in the Common Market. The cartel produces almost exactly half the Market's total coal output. It has been losing money heavily ever since it was formed.

In the first two years' operation, losses totalled £70m and the financial position was only restored when the coalowners agreed to forego interest on half their compensation money.

Losses were even bigger in

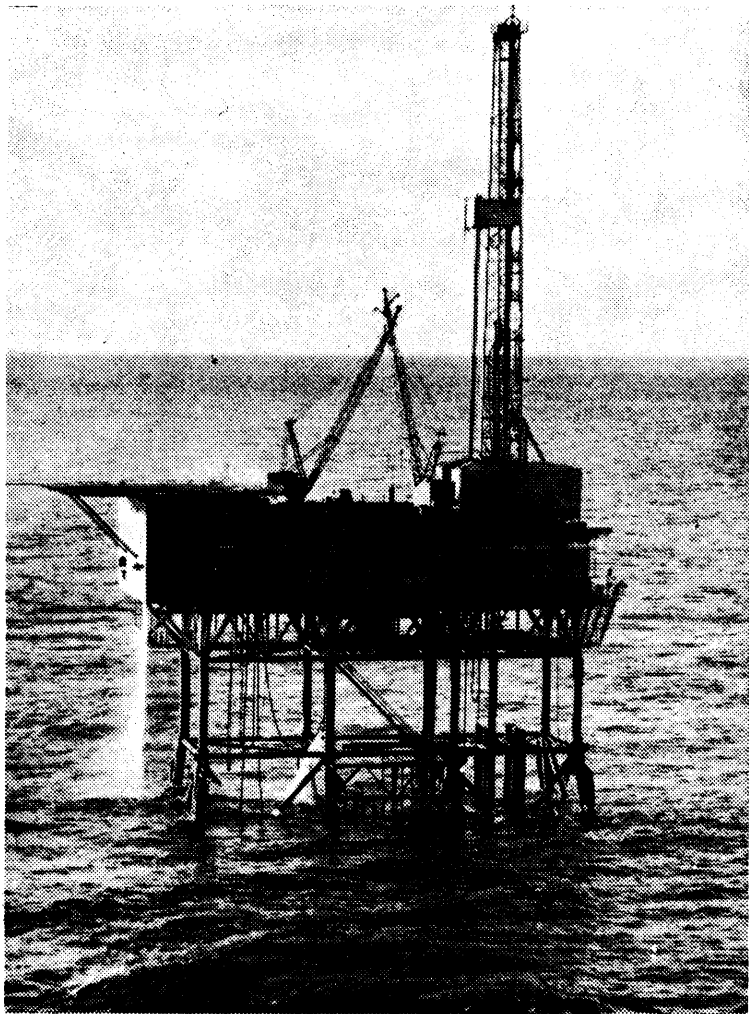
1971 as the effects of German revaluation and the subsequent currency crisis began to work through.

Due to cut-backs by its main customers, particularly the steel industry, Ruhrkohle's unsold stocks of coal and coke rose to three times their normal size. In addition, the losses totalled between £45m and £60m.

The board said last month it would run out of cash by mid-March unless the government stepped in, and virtually demanded a hand-out from the government.

The £800m pay-off to Ruhrkohle shows that the present German government is right in the pocket of big business.

It will enable the company to carry on with its plans for even bigger sackings of miners. The board has promised to cut the number of operating pits by 20 per cent before 1975.



NORTH SEA OIL

CBI survey encourages wage cuts

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE SOME facile claims to 'optimism', the latest CBI Industrial Trends Survey, published yesterday, indicates:

- A rise in the proportion of firms working below full capacity.
- A further shortage of orders.
- A continuing lack of investment.
- More unemployment.

The survey is compiled from 1,369 replies to questionnaires sent out by the Confederation of British Industry on industrial activities over the last four months and forecasts for the period January-May, 1972.

A further rise in the already large proportion of firms working below full capacity is revealed. In fact, 71 per cent of firms co-operating in the survey are in this category and there is no suggestion of any increase in manufacturing employment in the next period.

The survey states: 'Shortage of orders or sales is still seen as the dominating constraint in output.'

Despite 'optimism' about 'increased activity', the survey admits:

'The increased activity which is expected can generally be coped with in the short run by the more intensive use of existing capacity.'

In other words, no more jobs.

Forty-seven per cent of participating firms report a fall in numbers employed over the last four months and this is most marked among the larger firms. Sixty per cent of firms employing 5,000 or more workers report a reduction of manpower.

The survey comments: 'A further fall in manufacturing employment is indicated and again this applies particularly to the larger firms.'

Very few firms give shortage of either skilled or any other kind of labour as a factor likely to limit output over the next four months.

No less than 84 per cent of the firms said that lack of orders or sales was the main factor likely to limit output in this period.

Firms with direct exports of more than £10,000 a year were asked what factors were likely to limit their exports in the next four months.

Sixty per cent said prices and 52 per cent said 'political or economic conditions abroad'. This clearly reflects the international character of capitalism's crisis.

The survey concludes: 'Inflationary pressures remain acute. If prices are to continue to be held, greater moderation of wage demands are needed.'

In other words, the CBI is calling for an intensification of the offensive on wages, against workers in the private sector as well as those in the nationalized industries.

'The need for higher levels of investment will be as great as ever', says the survey, but many firms who sent in replies commented that a major reason for not investing was a doubt as to whether, or how long, the promised improvement in trade would last.

Students in Derry deaths protest

STUDENTS AT York and Lancaster universities have launched protest campaigns against the massacre of innocent civilians in Ulster.

In LANCASTER 500 students took part in a torchlight march into the town on Wednesday night where they were joined by a further 100 workers and housewives for a rally in the city centre.

An Irish worker who addressed the rally was applauded when he said that the fight of the Irish people was the same as the fight of the British miners and unemployed.

The Lancaster Students' Union is calling for the withdrawal of British troops from N Ireland.

Earlier this week they occupied the Senate Chamber in protest against Sunday's killings.

Four Lancaster students were arrested while picketing Heysham dock where British troops embark for Belfast. Three have been charged with assaulting a police officer.

Students have also been leafleting against army recruitment in the Lancaster area where unemployment is high.

In YORK 48 people were arrested after taking part in demonstrations through the city on Monday and Tuesday and charged with assault. A leaflet put out by the York Students' Union claims that the arrests were selective and one student claimed she saw police picking out marchers known for their political work.

The arrested claim they were all photographed before being charged, denied the right to phone a solicitor and allege police brutality.

SIXTH TABLE

A TEENAGER living in the London borough of Barnet is more likely to finish up in the sixth form than his counterpart in Bootle, Liverpool.

This brilliant observation has been deduced by the load of liberals who run the educational magazine 'Where?'

Today's issue produces a league table showing the number of pupils from each borough who make it to sixth form.

New licence to print black money

BY PHILIP WADE

THE TORY government is now in the process of giving away over 400 oil and gas concessions in the North Sea which will net their owners thousands of millions of pounds. In fact, the whole scheme is another licence to print money.

The revenue from the fields already discovered on the British continental shelf will be over £5,000m. Since the prospects for future discoveries are excellent and the price of oil is in a marked uptrend, the total revenue could reach £50,000m or more.

Even after deduction of exploration and development expenses, the profits will be immense for the companies with the concessions.

The recovery of significant volumes of natural gas from a well off the Irish coast, together with the results of recent seismic surveys in the western approaches and near Rockall Bank, also make bright prospects for additional discoveries.

Licences for exploring these fields will be given away free of charge, except for a small application fee which, compared to the potential revenues, is insignificant.

The value of British offshore licences is high. The August 1970 issue of 'World Petroleum' quoted an estimate that just six of the 94 British blocks awarded in 1970 were worth £44m.

These six blocks were granted for an application fee of less than £50,000.

Oil and gas resources are vested in the state and administered by the Department of Trade and Industry under John Davies. In June 1971 the DTI offered 15 blocks, each about 100 square miles in area, for competitive bids. These attracted total bids of £135m from 73 companies and 31 groups. They were eventually sold to

the highest bidders for £37.3m. One block was sold for £21m.

There must have been big pressure from the oil lobby following these deals. For the government promptly offered no less than 421 free blocks and, not surprisingly, has received requests for 271 of these!

The prospects under these blocks are considered excellent and, because of the large number of companies wishing to share in the bonanza, the 26 most favoured blocks have each been requested by from 15 to 28 companies or groups.

In practice, the final awards will have to be made on an arbitrary basis, with those favoured in the eyes of the DTI obviously coming out on top. Who knows what sort of manoeuvres are now taking place in the corridors of power!

Whichever way you look at it, the oil and gas exploration companies have got it made. For example, British law requires the surrender of 50 per cent of the licence area after six years, but the retained area can be selected in a block so large that it covers the entire productive part of a licence.

It has been estimated that oil companies operating around British coasts can expect to make a net profit per barrel three times larger than they would elsewhere.

All inquiries about rumours of licences to print money should be addressed to John Davies, the Department of Trade and Industry, London.

SECRETS MAN BARRED FROM INJURED GIRL

A ROYAL NAVY officer facing charges under the Official Secrets Act has been refused permission to visit his daughter in hospital with concussion following a road accident.

Seven-year-old Donna Bingham, who lives in Cowplain, near Portsmouth, had just stepped off a bus when she was involved in an accident with a van.

Her father, Sub-Lt David Bingham, is in custody at Winchester prison awaiting trial on ten charges alleging he recorded and communicated information which could be useful to an enemy.

When his wife Maureen contacted the prison to ask if he could be temporarily released under escort to see Donna, the request was refused.

Organizers on race charges

TWO ORGANIZERS of the extreme right-wing National Front are to face legal action for allegedly inciting racial discrimination.

A Race Relations Board statement said the two men are P. W. Aplin, S Hertfordshire branch organizer, and K. Taylor, N Hertfordshire area organizer.

The board said its action followed complaints from D. Watson of Potters Bar that the two men had induced or incited him to deny coloured children foster home facilities provided for other children.

No date has yet been set for hearing the case which is to be brought under the 1968 Race Relations Act.

Meanwhile the National Front has stepped up its campaign against the coloured community.

Leaflets have been pushed through letterboxes in the London area recommending a policy of repatriation.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Make the Tory government resign!

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

E LONDON: Tuesday February 8, 8 p.m. 'Aberfeldy', Aberfeldy St, Poplar (near Blackwall tunnel). Engineers' pay claim.

DAGENHAM: Wednesday February 9, 8 p.m. Room 11, E Ham Town Hall, E Ham. Support miners. Force Tories to resign.

LUTON: Thursday February 10, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Rd. World economic crisis.

SE LONDON: Thursday February 10, 8 p.m. Room 2, Deptford Engineers' Club (opp New Cross Stn). 'Support miners and Ulster workers.'

N LONDON: Thursday Feb-

ruary 10, 8 p.m. Town Hall, Edmonton. Reformism and trade unions.

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

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

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

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

CROYDON: Thursday February 17, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Rd, E Croydon. See Workers Press Ulster film.

Socialist Labour League
Special course of lectures

Common Hall, Hackin's Hay
(off Dale St)

LIVERPOOL, 8 p.m.

Tuesday February 8 and 15
Essential Marxism
Economics and Politics

given by
C. Slaughter (SLL Central Committee)

1926

MINERS' PART 4

The setting up of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the coal industry five weeks after Red Friday was the first step in the government's preparation for conflict.

But the right was preparing in other ways as well—on September 25, 1925, the Organization for the Maintenance of Supplies was formed.

Its head was Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, a former Viceroy of India, and its Council included Admiral of the Fleet, Lord Jellicoe.

On November 20, the Emergency Powers Act was invoked and England and Wales divided into ten Divisions, each under a Minister acting as Civil Commissioner on behalf of the government.

The government's position was clearly stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer—Winston Churchill—who declared on December 10, 1925:

'It is quite clear that a conflict of this kind, launched in this way, might easily cease to be a mere ordinary industrial dispute about wages and conditions and might assume a character altogether different from such industrial disputes.

'If that were to ensue, then it is quite clear that such a conflict between the community on the one hand, with the government at its head, and many of the great trade unions on the other, could only end in one way, namely, by the community, at whatever cost, emerging victorious over an organized section of its citizens . . .

'We considered, therefore, that should such a struggle be found to be inevitable at the very last moment, it was of supreme importance that it should only be undertaken under conditions which would not expose the nation needlessly or wantonly to perils the gravity of which cannot be overestimated.

'We therefore decided to postpone the crisis in the hope of averting it, or, if not of averting it, of coping effectively with it when the time came.' (My emphasis. J.G.)

The state was quick to act. The Communist Party planned to produce a daily edition of 'Workers' Weekly' during the strike.



Ernest Bevin

The first issue appeared on May 3, 1926, and on May 5 the police raided the Party press and took away vital parts of the machinery.

Leading Communist Party members were jailed (see Red

Friday article, Workers Press, November 21). Altogether 5,000 people were prosecuted for acts committed during the strike. 1,200 of these were Communist Party members and 400 were jailed.

How did the workers' leaders prepare? The September 1925 Congress of the TUC passed all kinds of 'left' resolutions including one of support to 'our Chinese comrades', one supporting the rights to self-determination of all peoples in the British Empire and one condemning the enslavement of the German workers by the Dawes plan.

But despite this and despite the many speeches about the need for preparation by leaders such as TUC President A. B. Swales, no steps were actually taken. The trade union leaders placed their hopes in the Royal Commission (the Samuel Commission) and shirked their own responsibilities even though the Commission contained no union representatives.

The Industrial Alliance of unions in heavy industry and transport continued to grow—on paper. The National Union of Foundry Workers joined and so did ASLEF and the ETU. In practice, however, this Alliance never functioned.

Even after the Samuel Commission reported and recommended cutting the miners' wages, the TUC urged the Miners' Federation to continue negotiations with the Mining Employers' Association "to reduce points of difference to the smallest possible dimensions".

NOTICES

The miners' leaders met the employers in March and again in April, but the employers wanted not only wage cuts but longer hours as well. In most districts they posted notices in the pits ending the existing contracts from April 30. The miners were locked out.

The mine-owners wanted to impose cuts of 2s 8d to 5s 11d a shift in S Wales and Monmouth, 2s 10d in Durham, 2s in Scotland and 1s to 1s 6d in all other areas.

The TUC leaders were on their knees from the start. They pleaded with the government and the employers to suspend the notices so that negotiations could proceed. J. H. Thomas the right-wing railwaymen's leader reported on these efforts as follows:

'I suppose my usual critics will say that Thomas was almost grovelling, and it is true . . . I never begged and pleaded like I begged and pleaded all day today.'

All the state forces were ranged against the miners—not forgetting the church. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster (Cardinal Bourne) declared at High Mass on May 9:

'There is no moral justification for a general strike of this character. It is a direct challenge to lawfully-constituted authority. It is therefore a sin against the obedience which we owe to God, who is the source of that authority.'

'All are bound to uphold and assist the government, which is the lawfully constituted authority of the country and represents, therefore, in its own appointed sphere the authority of God himself.'

On Saturday May 1, the TUC called the General Strike to start on Monday, May 3.

All conduct of the strike was handed over to the TUC General Council. On May 10 the TUC, in its paper 'British Worker' under a heading 'All's Well', declared:

'Nothing could be more wonderful than the magnificent response of millions of workers to the call of their leaders. From every town and city in the country reports are pouring into the General Council headquarters stating that all ranks are solid, that the working men and women are resolute in their determina-



Top: The miners' leaders, A. J. Cook and Herbert Smith (centre) fighting to maintain wages. Bottom: Crowds of strikers in the East End of London.

tion to resist the unjust attack upon the mining community.

'The General Council's message at the opening of the second week is: "Stand Firm. Be loyal to instructions and trust your leaders".'

Within 24 hours of this message, the TUC General Council was suing for peace.

Sir Herbert Samuel put forward some suggestions known as the Samuel Memorandum, the main points of which were that the General Strike should be called off while the subsidy was renewed for a 'reasonable time' while negotiations were reopened.

Without consulting the miners, the TUC's negotiating committee sought an interview with the Prime Minister, Baldwin. They crawled before him and pleaded with him to help them.

J. H. Thomas almost wept before Baldwin:

ASSISTANCE

'Your assistance is necessary . . . we want you to help us . . . we trust your word as Prime Minister. We ask you to assist us in the way you only can assist us—by asking employers and all others to make the position as easy and smooth as possible, because the one thing we must not have is guerrilla warfare.'

Ernest Bevin took up the refrain:

'I think you will agree in the

difficulties we have had before us, at least we have taken a great risk in calling the strike off. It took a little courage to do what we have done.'

PLEADED

Bevin pleaded in vain for some crumb of comfort from Baldwin:

'I do not know if I am overstepping the bounds, but I would like you to give me an idea of whether there is to be a renewal of the mining negotiations with us.'

Baldwin brushed off these timorous appeals with open contempt. He gave them nothing:

'Well, Mr Bevin, I cannot say more here at this meeting now. The point you put is one I must consider. In regard to your second point, there again I cannot say at this stage what will happen. I cannot say exactly what the lines will be upon which my object can best be obtained.'

Bevin begged, obsequiously:

'I do not want to take up your time, but shall we be meeting upon these two points soon?'

Baldwin spurned him:

'I cannot say that, Mr Bevin. I think it may be that whatever decision I come to the House of Commons may be the best place in which to say it.'

Despite this, the TUC General Council called off the strike and left the miners to fight alone for nine months. They even declared

in their statement—without the slightest justification—that they had 'received assurances that a settlement of the mining dispute can be secured'. They stated that they 'assumed' that the mining subsidy would be renewed.

But the government was not bound by the Samuel Memorandum. In fact, the first government official communiqué was to the effect that they would not compel employers to take back workers who had participated in the strike.

In some cases, they said, dismissal of workers would be inevitable due to the decrease in production caused by the strike and in view of obligations incurred by employers in regard to volunteer labour.

Victimizations multiplied. Railway companies, for instance, declared that strikers had broken their contracts and would be taken back only on individual contracts.

The TUC feebly requested that the government should stop the attacks on the unions.

'It must demand that the employers abstain from victimization. The word of the Prime Minister is at stake.'

What did the Communist Party do in this situation?

BUILDING THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

DISCUSSION ON THE ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE DRAFT MANIFESTO

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

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

C. CLARKE W. ROSE

Power workers,
Brimsdown Power Station.
This Tory government has to go if any of the basic rights of the working class are to be defended and extended. For this we need a programme and the Draft Manifesto is that programme.

I agree with the main point of the Manifesto that this is an illegal government.

On the question of the Common Market I think the trade union movement should fight for a General Election and for the expulsion of Jenkins and his gang from the Labour Party so they can join the Tories, where they belong.

If we are going to fight for the removal of this government we must have an alternative to replace them with.

The only alternative is a Labour government, not a Labour government like the last one, but one based on the Draft Manifesto and the Charter of Basic Rights.

That is, repeal the anti-union laws, legislate the basic charter and nationalize the banks and basic industries under workers' control. Nothing short of this.

I believe that to fight for these demands we must fight all those inside the Labour Party who don't and won't fight this Tory government.

We must build a new party based firmly on the programme of the Socialist Labour League (Draft Manifesto) and build this party in preparation for the working class taking power.

WALLY DOBNY Shop Steward, Abris, Coventry.

I am in agreement with a Common Market, but under the present system it is a Market for capitalists.

Even before we are into the Market you can see what the Tories are doing; they're moving capital into Europe and using the Industrial Relations Act and massive unemployment to break



up the unions and the strength of the working class.

I'm not sure about the term 'illegal government'. I mean is there a law against saying things like: 'We'll reduce prices at a stroke' and not doing it? I am certain that policies of unemployment are deliberate though.

I think 12 months ago a General Strike should have been called to force a General Election on the Industrial Relations Bill issue. A good time would have been just after the demonstration in Trafalgar Square, the feeling was there, a feeling of unity. But this leadership won't do this.

The Labour MPs who voted with the Tories should be put out of the party. There were enough Common Market rebels in the Tory Party to have enabled Labour to have defeated them.

The trade union leadership leave a lot to be desired. They always take the easy way out and try to avoid confrontation with the employers, and they never attack. It's always a defensive role. There's no hope of making the TUC call a General Strike.

The leaders really revealed their inadequacy in the GPO strike with the refusal to mobilize workers behind the Post Office workers.

I remember 12 months ago Feather forecast a million un-

employed. He should have made sure it didn't happen. He should have done something about it instead of the load of chit chat with Heath.

I think Labour had their chance after World War II. They should have nationalized everything instead of bits here and there.

Two Labour governments since the war and we're farther away from socialism than ever and a revolutionary party is a must if we want true socialism.

FRANK HUGHES T&GWU Branch 606 Liverpool docker.

The Tories needed to campaign for more unemployment to get accepted into the Common Market. They tell us we could go abroad to work, but we wouldn't be guaranteed a job, and if Italian or French workers came here there'd be no jobs for them.

In my opinion the Tories got in under false pretences, telling us they were going to slash prices at a stroke. This government's like Robin Hood in reverse — robbing the poor to give to the rich. It's bound to be illegal.

Jenkins and his supporters should have been thrown out of the Labour Party altogether. The truth is most Labour MPs fully support him; they proved that by voting for him as deputy leader. They were just putting on

a brave face in the Common Market debate.

In my opinion, when the first trade unionist is taken to court under the Industrial Relations Act, the whole working class should down tools, stop all industry and demand a General Strike is called. This would make the union leaders say whose side they're on and show their true face.

They keep telling us the trouble's caused by religion in Ireland. But it's nothing at all to do with religion.

I think they should pull the troops out, but that won't solve the problems while there's all that high unemployment and Catholic workers don't even have proper voting rights.

The Communist Party's in a strong position on Upper Clyde but they haven't made much of a show of it. Instead they've been working hand in glove with the Tories.

I'm pleased India supported Bangla Desh at last. The Bengalis voted for their own government and when the Pakistan army invaded, they only had sticks and stones to defend themselves with.

The Workers Press is different from other papers, they just say what's happened. The Workers Press explains the background of why things happen and what we can do to change things and put them right.

After the Trafalgar Square demonstration against the Industrial Relations Bill, the feeling was there to force a General Election.

JOHN BELL Engineering worker, Nuneaton.

Many so-called socialist organizations have listed the onslaughts the Tories have made on the working class and its trade unions, usually followed by polite calls to resign.

They avoid like the plague the real issue: i.e., the need for this reactionary government to be decisively toppled by the working class.

It is this consistent and unwavering call that makes the Draft Manifesto and the Charter of Basic Rights stand out like a beacon amid the unprincipled treacherous bleating of the Labour Party and trade union leadership.

As a docker I know now, as every docker knows, the Workers Press warnings of the double-dealing of trade union officials on selling out the jobs of dockers and the smashing of the 1947 Act were only too true.

The same shop stewards that ignored and even ridiculed these warnings are now wondering how they can explain it all away.



ACTORS ON THE MARCH

As the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work marches wind their way towards London over the next five weeks, a group of over 40 actors and actresses will be putting on performances of a new play centred around the English Revolution of 1640. Here PHILIP WADE describes part of a rehearsal and interviews the players.

The production opens with the Tory cabinet just after the 1970 General Election. They come leaping on stage boasting of their intentions to create mass unemployment, cut school milk, smash the unions and enter the Common Market.

Then Heath makes his famous speech to the United Nations where he declares the main problem today was not that of international war, but of civil war. In other words, between the ruling class and the working class.

He is interrupted by Cromwell's New Model Army who enter singing the Right-to-Work song. Once more it is Vic Feather to the rescue as the Tories cry for help: 'No, no, no,' he moans.

'The history of this great nation is a history of peaceful change, a history of the peaceful order and how it had to empirically build a movement to take the power.'

'Enter a worker to put him straight: 'At a certain point the class that holds back history is smashed by the class that takes history forward,' he declares.

'And Ted should know, because the ancestors of his rotten middle-class, old Cromwell and his Puritan army, were once the progressive class that took history forward.'

The play then switches directly to Henry VIII's dinner table. With him are a few burgers, representatives of the rising middle class.

With just over a week to go before the first performance I went to one of the rehearsals.

I spoke first to Corin Redgrave, who is in overall charge of the production:

'We're doing a play centred around the English revolution which aims to show the rise of the bourgeoisie. We want to see how the bourgeoisie came into conflict with the old feudal order and how it had to empirically build a movement to take the power.'

'We are counterposing our play to the gradualist view of history which Trotsky takes up in "Where is Britain Going". The Fabian leadership of the Labour

Above: Early stages—reading a scene. All eyes turn towards Peter Sproule. Producer Corin Redgrave keeps a watchful eye. Top right: Rehearsals—three of the actresses sombrely follow the movement. Is it that Charles I is about to lose his head? Lower right: Co-writer, Tom Kempinski takes the cast through a scene. The only one not amused is Konrad Fredericks (far left). Near right: Corin Redgrave takes overall charge of the production. Here he studies the script, marking out direction points.

Party always puts forward this slow, evolutionary view of history.

'What we are saying, in fact, is that the bourgeoisie came to power through a violent break with the established order.'

'Now, 300 years later, history is being stood on its head. What we're trying to do is to negate 1640 into the present because it is now our task to build a revolutionary party to take the working class to power.'

'We can articulate history in a dialectical way, in a vital way, which is necessary to the interests of the working class. We can contribute in a conscious sense towards the development of a Marxist leadership, and an understanding of history.'

'In the three weeks of rehearsal we've had so far there has been a tremendous struggle to develop our understanding of what is happening in this period.'

Tom Kempinski has played a large role in writing the play with Corin. He told me how the



unemployment rate in Equity, they have been putting on their own plays. But to put on a play where they articulate, and demonstrate in a conscious way, reflecting the class struggle, there is something more than just the sense of a play.

'We've had a big response. Many actors still lucky enough to be working have contributed lots of money. Theatre companies have asked for meetings on the Right-to-Work campaign.'

'There is a strong feeling in Equity and it is slowly dawning on actors that unemployment is serious. Actors are usually full of illusions about "doing their own thing", but now it is clear to them they have to be involved politically.'

'The contradictions are so sharp in this profession that you can't keep politics out any longer. Without a job, the whole of an actor's life is meaningless. So he is forced to join up with other workers in the fight against unemployment.'

'The middle class see their future as being more and more bound up with the future of the working class as a whole. A campaign like the Right to Work is ready-made for them.'

'We have been out campaigning, when we're not rehearsing, talking to actors at matinees and on the dole queues. The response has been good.'

'We have special skills. If we become conscious of our task, we have a role to play as agitators, reflectors of events around us and those that happened in

the past where there are lessons for workers in struggle today.

'For a worker to see one of these plays will enable him to identify with demonstrations of the processes of exploitation, of the extraction of surplus value, to see it as a living movement. We found that with "200 Years".'

As I left the hall, Corin Redgrave was mapping out a strenuous rehearsal programme to prepare the actors' team for their first performance.

- CAST**
- Oliver Cotton
 - Mike McKenzie
 - Konrad Fredericks
 - Tom Marshall
 - Malcolm Tierney
 - Mike Cronin
 - Peter Sproule
 - Terry James
 - John Guest
 - David Hargreaves
 - Peter Marinker
 - Martin Day
 - Alec Heggie
 - Andrew de la Tour
 - Bob Booth
 - Colin McCormack
 - Sebastian Graham-Jones
 - Glynn Lewis
 - Phillip Sayer
 - Lisa Marlin
 - Kika Markham
 - Marion Reed
 - Julia Jebb
 - Diane Aubrey
 - Terry Callaghan
 - Frances de la Tour
 - Celia Hewitt
 - Ian Blower

SPAIN 2 WHERE DOES THE PIT CASH GO?

A series by our Spanish correspondent

Spanish coal mine owners, a very parasitic section of the Spanish capitalist class, have for a long time preferred to invest their spare cash in the tourist industry and the car industry rather than modernize their pits.

Spanish capital has been engaged in a deliberate policy of closing down the mines in Asturias and at the same time dispersing and impoverishing this most political and militant section of the working class.

In recent years, 1,500 jobs have been destroyed annually in mining valleys while coke and coal imports have increased to feed the steel and iron industries. Chief imports have been from the United States and the Stalinist government in Poland.

Between 1965 and 1969 imports rose from 1.6 million tons to 2.2 million tons. In the meantime, coal production has slumped; in the first months of 1970 coke production, for example, decreased by 21 per cent and has been declining ever since.

The creation of the giant state-owned Hunosa complex was a preparation for more pit closures and attacks on wages. It also provided a flimsy cover for the former owners—who now make up the bulk of the Hunosa board of directors—to make huge fortunes in compensation.

The directors were the backbone of Franco's victory in the 1930s Civil War. Many belong to the Spanish feudal aristocracy and all of them adorn the board rooms of the main Spanish banks. The Hunosa concept evolved out of an earlier scheme known as 'Concerted Action' through which mine owners were given financial subsidies for the 'rationalization' of their pits. This rationalization usually meant one thing—more closures.

When Hunosa was formed, the old mine owners remained to administer the money that the state was theoretically giving for the modernization of those mines which had been nationalized.

The Hunosa balance sheets certainly make intriguing reading. In 1969, for example, total expenditure was 13 million pesetas (£76,000). Total loss was 1,580,000 pesetas. On new installations Hunosa claims to have spent 2,672,000 pesetas, but there is no indication as to the whereabouts of these installations.

New buildings account for 857,000 pesetas, although few new buildings are to be seen in the Asturian mining valleys: certainly there have been no new houses or hospitals for the workers and their families.

The restructuring of the firm cost 674,575 pesetas, yet the only detectable 'restructuring' was pit closures and the mass sacking of miners. Another item is quite inexplicable—1,159,000 pesetas for the purchase of land. One theory is that this might be on the Costa Brava as sites for luxury flats!

Against this wholesale profiteering is the plight of the Asturian miner fighting for a subsistence wage and working in death-trap conditions. In 1969 a miner's mate earned 8,000 pesetas a month (£48) and a labourer earned 5,000 pesetas (£30). And that is for a 48-hour week.

In the Hunosa complex alone, which employs 25,000 miners, there were 5,954 accidents in 1969. Because this figure comes from 'official' statistics, there is some reason to believe it is underestimated. A breakdown of these figures shows that the section most prone to accidents is pieceworkers who, because of



low piecework prices, have to ignore normal safety regulations in order to get a living wage.

The Polish Stalinist government has been the main aid of the fascist government in breaking the strikes of the Asturian miners. It has also been a big supporter of Hunosa's rationalization programmes. Workers Press reported on April 25, 1970 that Polish technicians were at work in Asturias helping Franco modernize his pits, i.e. to cut down labour and intensify production while preparing the closure of more pits, and that Knapick, the deputy director of the Polish Ministry of Mines, was in Oviedo for talks with Hunosa officials.

In a recent article, the Spanish Communist Party has given its full support to this intervention: the reformist logic of Spanish Stalinism is that Spain's feudal structure can only be changed by the application of bourgeois economic science and that the best purveyors of this particular science are the 'experts' of that 'socialist' state, Poland.

The Stalinist commentator notes that after the visit of the Polish experts there was a meeting of the Hunosa board which considered three plans for the future of production in the mines:

(a) Production should be reduced to 4 million tons, 12,000 miners should be sacked

and many pits should be closed in the four mining valleys of Asturias.

(b) Production should be reduced to 6.9 million tons 4,000 miners should be sacked and a few pits closed.

(c) The Polish plan was elaborated by a commission of Polish technicians who visited the Asturian valleys for this sole purpose and had many conversations with Hunosa. Suggestions were made for modernizing and mechanizing installations, and the introduction of new ones; "in eight to ten years production would be increased to 11 million tons and with the increase in profits, would open up opportunities for the creation of 5,000 new jobs".

This Stalinist pipe-dream was introduced deliberately to disorientate the Asturian miners' fight against closures and rationalization and to turn their attention away from preparations to do away with the Asturian working class altogether. After all, the closure of the pits could only mean better sales of Polish coal to Spain and a more stable climate for trade with the militant miners no longer present.

The Spanish Stalinists' attitude to the 'Polish plan' is one of ecstasy, since it is a big boost to their own reformist fight against closures based on the nationalist idea that 'what we want is more Spanish coal and less imported coal.

'The Communist Party has always been in the lead against closures. Our position has now been confirmed by the "Polish plan" which recommends the creation of 5,000 new jobs through the raising of production to 11 million tons. However, the leaders of Hunosa, the big finance groups of the regime, did not want anything to do with this commission of technicians of Centrozap and the ministry of coal industry in Poland. . . .

. . . the Poles have made great progress in the mechanization of vertical seams, and in some pits there has been up to 90 per cent modernization. All this rich experience, with the advice that they should produce 11 million tons, was rejected by Franco's government for not coinciding with a handful of bureaucrats and financiers.'

Commenting on the fact that the Hunosa board decided to follow the second plan which would lead to 4,000 redundancies, the Spanish Stalinist wonders why a reduction of production targets was being envisaged, when the Spanish economy was in great need of coking coal.

His answer is clear and to the point: 'Their intention is to destroy the revolutionary force in the mining valleys by closing the pits in Asturias and also the steel industry in Langeo and Mieres (towns in Asturias) without creating new jobs for workers who are sacked.'

Top: Asturian miners. Left: Professor Rodo, Franco's 'economic overload'. Centre: Gregorio Bravo former Minister of Industry, now in foreign affairs. Right: Franco.

Of course, the Polish Stalinists were not in Spain to discuss the creation of more jobs, but the preparations for the counter-revolution in Europe!

They are as frightened by the upsurge of the Spanish working class as part of the European working class as the fascists. The call for a joining of the forces of the Warsaw Pact and NATO is just another part of the elaboration of the strategy of counter-revolution.

However, the Stalinist bureaucracy cannot work out these plans as it wants. The revolutionary movement of the workers in the Seat car factories and in the Asturias showed this last year. The Communist Party in Spain is in a crisis-ridden state. During the last miners' strike the Asturian section split in two when a group decided to support the arch-Moscow Stalinist Lister.

As these treacheries proceed, the British Communist Party remains silent; not a word of criticism is made against the Polish Stalinists whose strike-breaking activities have led to the starvation and fascist crackdown on the Asturian miners.

TOMORROW: Doctors against Franco.



Rosa Luxemburg's writings are not as well known in this country as they should be. This volume does something to fill a gap by bringing together a selection which shows her, as the editor says, in her role of 'the revolutionary political activist working within the German socialist movement'.

Although the Communist Party Stalinists from time to time pay hypocritical homage to Rosa Luxemburg, they avoid re-publishing her works and do not encourage CP members to read them.

The reason is obvious. Her writings, from beginning to end, are a defence of Marxism against reformism, revisionism, parliamentary roads to socialism, the theory of socialism in one country and everything which savours of bureaucratism.

Already wanted by the Tsarist police for her revolutionary activities when she fled her native Poland at the age of 18, in 1889, she devoted her life to the working-class movement until her murder by Guards officers in Berlin in January 1919.

In 1898 she settled in Germany, which at that time had the most powerful and best organized working-class movement in the world. It was as a popular and influential leader of the left-wing of the Social Democratic Party, then a Marxist party, that she wrote the articles and pamphlets represented in this book.

She quickly recognized the danger to the German movement in the revisionist theories of Eduard Bernstein. Claiming that capitalism had changed, he wanted to abandon revolution for a variety of Fabian gradualism. Luxemburg's pamphlet 'Reform or Revolution' was a hard-hitting reply which was also a warning to the party.

She was a relentless critic of the 'parliamentary cretinism' into which the party's Reichstag faction was sliding and which prepared the way for the vote for war credits on August 4, 1914—a decision which Lenin himself at first disbelieved.

She contributed numerous articles to the party press on the fallacies and dangers of the 'parliamentary road to socialism' and the correct tactics for Marxists towards parliament.

None is more relevant today than 'Social Democracy and Parliamentarism', which appeared in 1904. However, Rosa Luxemburg underestimated the extent to which the party had already succumbed to reformism. She writes: 'In Germany, under existing conditions, such deviations in socialist practice from the basis of the class

BOOK REVIEW ROSA'S HERITAGE

ROSA LUXEMBURG: SELECTED POLITICAL WRITINGS. Edited and introduced by Robert Looker. Writings of the Left. General Editor Ralph Miliband. Jonathan Cape. Hardback £3.50. Paperback £1.50.

struggle are, of course, unthinkable'.

In 1912 she had to repeat and emphasize what for Marxists is obvious:

'Parliamentary manoeuvres and electoral strategies cannot change historical facts, conjure away class interests and bridge class differences.'

She warned that the development of capitalism 'is trampling down mercilessly the last remnants of what is called bourgeois liberalism and bourgeois progress'. A little more than two years after those words appeared, her party, like the other parties of the Second International, with the exception of the Russian Bolsheviks and the Bulgarians, had voted in their great majority for the imperialist war.

Rosa Luxemburg's whole career as a revolutionary—her theoretical fight for Marxism and against revisionism—left no doubt that she would oppose the war in 1914. Then she had to recognize what she had hardly cared to admit before—the SDP leadership's complete rottenness, its subservience to the bourgeoisie and its support for imperialism.

Like Lenin, she saw that the capitulation of German Social Democracy and the entire Second International made it necessary to build new revolutionary parties and a new International.

She dedicated the last years of her life to the preparation for the overthrow of German imperialism and world revolution. It cost her imprisonment and death, but it ensures the imperishability of her memory in the international working-class movement.

There is no point in glossing over the fact that on a series of questions, whether concerned with the analysis of capital accumulation, the nature of party organization, the national question or revolutionary tactics during the war, Rosa Luxemburg had important and principled differences with Lenin. It is also clear that on certain of these questions she made serious mistakes which could have had adverse if not fatal consequences.

In dealing with these differences the editor of this volume has not been able to avoid the temptation to make some factional capital out of them. Certain of his observations cannot go unchallenged because they rest on a distortion of Marxism-Leninism.

Unlike some self-appointed Luxemburgist, Looker does not make much of the differences between Lenin and Luxemburg on questions of party organization. He admits, too, that despite her criticism of the Bolsheviks, Rosa 'was committed heart and soul to the defence of the Russian Revolution' and died trying to extend it into Germany.

A few pages later he refers to those who hold that the failure of the German revolution of 1918-1919 was Luxemburg's failure 'because she had not created the kind of disciplined party which proved so successful in Russia, and her failure to do so sprang from her neglect of organizational questions.'

He has no difficulty in showing that this is an oversimplified explanation of the failure of the German revolution; all the same, the inability of Rosa's successors to learn the lessons of 1918-1919 led to the defeat of 1923.

It was the failure of the revolution to spread into Germany which provided the basis for the degeneration of the Soviet Union.

Looker gratuitously disparages both Rosa Luxemburg and Trotskyism in his final pages—the latter, he says, is contaminated with 'evasions on the nature of the Russian state and society and its commitment to many of the more rigidly formalistic features of the Bolshevik tradition'.

What these evasions are remain undisclosed, as do the features of the Bolshevik tradition to which he takes exception. In short, he arrogates to himself some superior wisdom which he refuses to share.

He thus lines himself up with the 'state capitalists' and other revisionist tendencies who exploit the very weaknesses of Rosa Luxemburg to reject Leninism and Trotskyism. They cover their own prostration before 'spontaneity', while ignoring and distorting those qualities which made her a great Marxist theoretician.

Looker claims that in the 'ferment of ideologies' generated by the revolutionary events of recent years, 'the crystal voice of Luxemburg is gradually re-emerging'.

A reference to the writings of Trotsky and the publications of the Trotskyist movement will show that this statement is false. They have always recognized her great contribution to Marxism, paid homage to her exemplary revolutionary life and incorporated her heritage into the struggle of the Fourth International.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

BEANS

Wait for it. The book scoop you've all be waiting for.

The 'Sunday Times' ferrets are digging into the mysterious history of Howard Hughes, the multi-millionaire who hasn't been sighted for about ten years.

What great new facts are the Philby and Lawrence of



Arabia exposers going to unearth?

Nobody is quite sure, except that the reporters have an introduction to one of Hughes' close business associates who is willing to spill the beans.

How was the business associate discovered?

He's a confidant of that other eccentric millionaire, Lord Thomson of Fleet who owns the 'Sunday Times'.

BOYCOTT

Fleet St newsmen may impose a boycott next week on press passes issued by the Metropolitan police.

Following a June 1970 brush with the Special Branch, 'News of the World' reporter Roy Stockdill has been refused a pass.

Stockdill says that police commissioner Sir John Waldron has made clear to his editor, C. J. Lear, that the refusal was because of the previous incident.

The details of this are interesting. They expose once again the myth of a free, fearless press and cast an interesting light on the role of the police force.

A 'NoW' reader handed to the paper what were believed to be secret tape-recordings of US nuclear-strategy briefings. Stockdill was assigned to take them to the US air base at Ruislip, Middlesex, and hand them over.

Once there, however, he was subjected to a three-hour interrogation by the British Special Branch, who refused him permission to call his office and wrongly informed him his paper had been notified.

Waldron refused to accept this version when Lear made a formal complaint to him about it. The editor made clear he accepted responsibility for

Stockdill's actions and presumed the issue closed.

Not so, apparently. The National Union of Journalists' chapel at the 'NoW' has unanimously backed Stockdill and journalists have returned their passes to the police. Now the NUJ's Central London branch will be asked to do the same.

PARADISE

Claims that the Industrial Relations Act is going to be a lawyers' paradise prompt the question: Where are these sought-after creatures living now?

Answer. They're doing quite naively, thank you.

In his 'Daily Mail' column the other day, Paul Callan wrote that top specialist QCs could earn up to £50,000 a year these days.

This is more than twice the salary—if you disregard his various perks, that is—of the man who is shortly to boost earnings even further... Edward Heath.

According to Callan, you have to be a pretty mediocre performer in wig and gown to be stuck at £10,000 a year. Which doesn't say much for those who become High Court judges at £14,000.

FIT

Who is the man that massages Edward Heath to keep him fit?

The stalwart is a Mr Len Hine.

He runs a private gymnasium at the Grosvenor House Hotel and charges considerable sums to keep overweight businessmen in good repair.

It seems that other clients used to upset their exercises, so now Mr Hine goes to 10 Downing St.

Hine told the 'Daily Mail': 'Mr Heath is a very good pupil, and very fit. He tells me all his problems. At first, with people like him, such as ambassadors and other dignitaries, I feel I have to call them "Sir" or "Excellency".'

'But once I get to know them I say things like "Come on, you so and so".'

Don't apologize Mr Hine, we know just how you feel.



Comments on the recent article 'Miners and the Tory government', written for Workers Press by Wheldale colliery miner and Socialist Labour League member Brian Lavery, have been flowing into our office. Today we print one from S Wales plus some comments from Kent and Yorkshire. Look out for other contributions from other coalfields each day on this page.

FORCE HEATH TO MAKE UP HIS MIND

IAN YEATS
talks to Bedwas
lodge secretary
KEN JONES

'WE'RE in the middle of a slump and the Tories think once they get into the Common Market they can control the whole working class,' Bedwas lodge secretary and ex-Communist Party member Ken Jones told me.

'We've got no chance of breaking this government on our own. We've got to have the support of the big unions.'

'The Tories are hell-bent on pushing up unemployment and keeping wages down to get bigger profits.'

'This bloody-minded, right-wing government has carried out policies that no one voted for. This is the first time any big industrial union has stood up against the Tories, who have threatened all the basic rights of the working class. The miners are in the forefront.'

'If the Tories keep digging in their heels I think we would have a General Strike and then a left-wing, Labour government.'

'We're standing out for what our boys should have. If they don't give us the money then let them close the pits.'

'After what Tory Employment Secretary Carr has said, I think we could be out two months now. We're not prepared to go back and see the lower-paid men earning £14 a week.'

SAFETY FACTOR

'I say let's get everybody out and force Heath to make up his mind whether he wants pits or not.'

'My personal opinion is that we should pull out all the safety men—get everybody out.'

'There are a lot of pits in this country which would flood in 24 hours destroying millions of pounds worth of machines.'

'The miners have got to make a fight. We've already considerable support.'

'Obviously we're looking to the power workers for support when they start their overtime ban.'

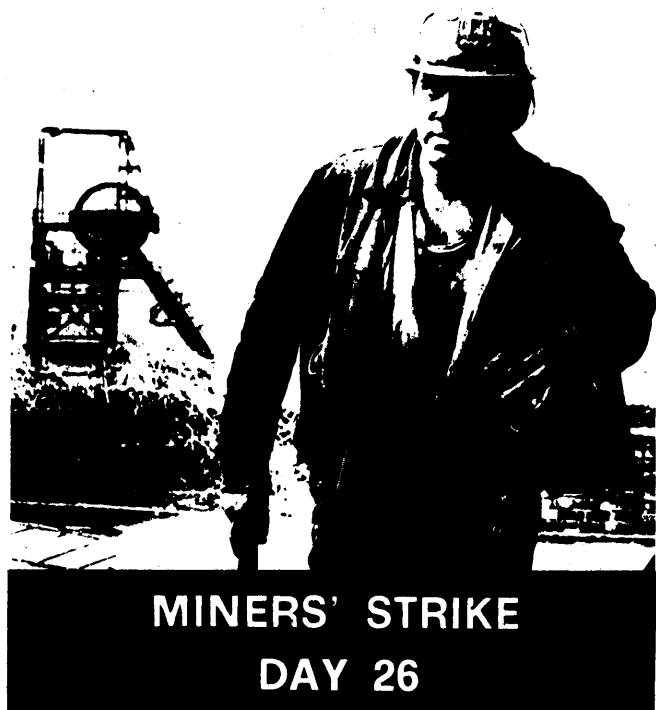
'You can't have socialism in a nationalized industry with a Tory government in power, but if Labour get in there must be some sort of workers' control.'

'It would not be just a matter of putting suggestions to higher board management, but the lads would have some sort of voting rights.'

'I think the TUC and the other big unions are biding their time now watching the progress of the strike, but it would turn to a General Strike against the Tories.'

'Commenting on the import of Polish coal into Britain Mr Jones said: 'I'm absolutely disgusted that a socialist country like Poland should send coal when it knows it's breaking a miners' strike.'

'I'm hoping that the Polish miners and other miners in the socialist countries will come out solidly for the British miners.'



IT'LL TAKE THE WHOLE WORKING CLASS TO DEAL WITH THE TORIES

EYTHORNE is the mining village closest to Tilmanstone colliery in Kent; it is small, bleak and frequently wind-battered, with panoramic views of the tips. Workers Press spoke to Gordon Roper and his son John, underground electricians in the colliery.

Gordon became a miner in 1946; his rate then was 12s 2d a shift. At nationalization he, like many miners, didn't expect the earth—but at least there could have been more regard for safety:

'The minimum roadway diameter on the coalface approach is 10 feet — but you really need 14 or 15 feet, particularly at junctions. But you should see the conditions we work in now! At a number of places, where the roadway bends, the tubs have to be carried round by the miners!'

'In fact, I think it's a lot of bullshit they're talking about safety at the moment. The mines normally stand for two weeks' stoppage at holiday time. The trouble is that conditions are really retarded as against what we thought they would be after nationalization. They have carried on production with no regard for safety.'

Gordon is what he calls a 'dyed-in-the-wool Labour man'; but he's by no means uncritical of the Labour leadership.

'To my mind the Labour Party is not sufficiently left of the line to bring in workers' control, which we need. It never has been. But we could argue for hours about what it has done wrong. Although I don't entirely agree with what you say about the Common Market. It's true that another world military power could raise its ugly head, but I think there could be a great opportunity for uniting the working class.'

Asked about the miners' leadership, Gordon was quite unequivocal:

'I think miners should watch their leaders a good deal more closely.'

Could the miners win their strike?

'It's always the same when you come up against these government concerns. If the government of the day doesn't want to concede, then it'll buy up coal overseas, the better to be able to trample us down. I think it'll take the strength of the whole working class to remove this Tory government.'

'Otherwise they use one section of workers against another.'

John Roper agrees very strongly with his father.

'I used to work at AVO Meters down at Dover. I had my City and Guilds, and I was doing skilled work on coal-winding machines. But I still only got just on £14 a week. But then they stopped making the winding machines — they've expanded though, but they only take women workers, at even lower rates.'

'I was laid off, so I had to come down and work in the mine. But even as an electrician down here I only get £14.40 after tax.'

'And it's no soft job; you have to take all the muck off the equipment before you can work on it, and often in very confined spaces.'

'I'm absolutely behind this strike. We've got to win. I think that with the rest of the working class behind us, we can, too.'

1926 PIT STRIKERS SUPPORT RIGHT-TO-WORK MARCHES

TWO MINERS who were on strike in the historic General Strike of 1926 are supporting the Right-to-Work marches organized by the Young Socialists.

Harold Beverley was secretary of Hemsworth Colliery NUM branch in Yorkshire from 1951 until the pit closed in 1971.

He started work in the pits in 1921 at the age of 14 and he took part in the General Strike at Darton Colliery, near Barnsley.

Arthur Moore started down the mines in 1924 at the age of 14 and still works on the face at S. Kirkby colliery. He can remember the miners' strike of 1921 (after Black Friday) when his father organized soup kitchens in miners' houses at Liver-ton colliery at Cleveland, N Yorkshire.

In 1926 Arthur was on strike at Monkton colliery. In recent years he was a member of NUM

delegations to conferences of the TUC and Labour Party until Monkton closed down.

Both Harold Beverley and Arthur Moore support the Right-to-Work marches because they know how the working class has had to fight to gain and defend every right it has ever won.

'In Silkstone churchyard,' says Arthur, 'there's a monument to 30 children, aged between seven and 17, who died when Crowther's colliery was flooded in the 19th century.'

'Written on it are the words "And the Lord sent forth his fire and thunder".'

'That's what we've come up from and the young people won't go back to it.'

Both these men remember 1926 vividly. Arthur Moore described a scab who used to cycle to the pit. 'One day, he came back carrying his bike round his neck. The lads had stretched a rope across the entrance!'

Harold Beverley described how, towards the end of the strike, police used to pick up the scabs at their homes and escort them to the pit, then home again after the shift.

'A pal of mine, Jimmy Evans, got three months for throwing stones at the police.'

But Harold has more pleasant memories too. 'We used to sit on a wall about 7 o'clock at night and the scabs used to come by with a sack of coal on their backs.'

'One day one of our lads knocked a sack off a scab's back and his coat accidentally came off with it. The scab left in a bit of a hurry and forgot to take his wages with him. There was £7 there.'

Wasn't £7 a huge wage for 1926? 'Scab's pay,' says Harold. 'Anyhow, it was beer for everybody in Silkstone that night.'

'That's how we fought then, and the youngsters today will fight even better.'

MINERS

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

All Rome strikes over jobs

ROME was gripped by a 24-hour General Strike yesterday called to protest against unemployment and back demands for reforms in housing, education and social services. The movement is expected to spread to other parts of the country.

Unemployment continues to grow rapidly and many factories which have declared workers redundant are being occupied.

The Italian Communist Party, which has been deep in the game of parliamentary manoeuvre, hoping to bring about 'an opening to the left' which would bring it into the government, now says that elections are 'not only the correct way out, but also the most responsible choice'.

It does not call for a workers' government as the way out of the crisis.

But a General Election in Italy is unlikely following Christian Democrat leader Emilio Colombo's failure to form a government. The centre-left coalition which has ruled Italy for years has broken up.

The old compromises are no longer possible as the economy lurches deeper into depression and a new round of wage-bargaining falls due.

At the moment bitter party infighting over the divorce question appears to be the main blockage. The Christian Democrats, backed by the Catholic Church, oppose a change in the present law which is a condition for the Socialists and Republicans joining a new government.

The largest trade union federation is under communist leadership, but it is proposing to fuse later this year with the Catholic and social-democratic unions. Joint action is now being planned on strictly trade union demands to be pressed when the major industrial contract comes up for settlement in the autumn.

While the Italian CP holds back and confuses the working class, there is talk of a 'strong man' emerging to form an interim government.

Cash still short at Leyland

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH-LEYLAND today confirms 1971 profits of £32.4m before tax compared with £3.9m the previous year.

DANGER MONEY STRIKE AT LEAD PLANT

THREE HUNDRED contract workers at Rio Tinto Zinc's Avonmouth smelting plant voted yesterday to continue their unofficial strike for 50p an hour danger money.

The men walked out Wednesday night because of dangers from lead poisoning at the £14m complex which has been closed down for at least eight weeks for anti-pollution work and general maintenance.

The men, who are digging lead residue from the smelter, want their strike to be made official.

The TUC's chief medical officer has described conditions in the factory as the worst he's seen for 25 years.

Recent research in the USA indicates that lead poisoning can cause brain damage among other things.

Employment Secretary Robert Carr will be making a statement in the Commons today about the smelter, which was only opened in 1968.

Sales were up from £1,021m to £1,177m, but tax and interest charges also showed a hefty increase.

Post-tax profits of £18.4m still do not solve the company's chronic shortage of cash.

£5m was wiped off the value of Leyland shares yesterday by news that it is having to raise some £51m from existing shareholders through a rights issue of ordinary shares and convertible loan stock.

Shop stewards at Austin-Morris car plant at Longbridge in Birmingham have made another dangerous concession to company demands for a change-over to the Measured-Day Work pay system.

Flat rate

They are to recommend that 1,000 engine assemblers accept a £4 flat-rate payment in place of present piecework rates.

Already the stewards have agreed to negotiate MDW and helped end a strike by 134 women trim-shop workers against the system.

The assemblers walked out for an interim award similar to that granted the trim-shop women pending agreement in the general negotiations.

The works' committee quickly intervened to call off the action.

If the men themselves agree, they will receive lieu payments giving them about £4 a week extra while the MDW negotiations proceed.

RAIL RISE SOUGHT

RAILWAY leaders yesterday submitted a new pay claim on behalf of their 50,000 members in British Rail workshops.

They were told they could expect nothing until May—12 months after their last rise—but were promised further talks in a month.

Sid Weighell, National Union of Railwaymen's assistant general secretary, warned that the unions would not accept 'a settlement that treats these workers in the public sector as second-class citizens'.

He pointed out that a rise of only 11 per cent would allow shopmen only to stand still in relation to the cost of living.

GEC jobs march

ABOUT 5,000 workers at Sir Arnold Weinstock's GEC plant, Stafford, stopped work yesterday and marched through the town to demonstrate against proposed redundancies.

National and local union officials were meeting the management yesterday afternoon to discuss the situation.

National ETU official Roy Sanderson told a mass meeting after the march that all the national officials should demand no further redundancies.

The work force at Stafford has been cut from 11,000 to 5,500 in three years. The management is now proposing a further 500 redundancies.

TV

BBC 1

9.38 Schools. 12.55 Canu'r Bobol. 1.30 Mr Benn. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 Schools. 4.15 Play school. 4.35 Hector's house. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Deputy Dawg. 5.05 Crackerjack 72. 5.44 Sir Prancelot. 5.50 News, weather.

6.00 LONDON THIS WEEK.

6.20 TOM AND JERRY.

6.25 THE VIRGINIAN. The Power Seekers.

7.40 TODAY AT THE WINTER OLYMPICS.

8.10 A MAN CALLED IRONSIDE. The Riddle in Room Six.

9.00 NEWS, weather.

9.20 MAURICE CHEVALIER. A Farewell Performance.

10.05 COME DANCING. Home Counties North v South of England.

10.40 24 HOURS.

11.10 FILM: 'WHITE HEAT'. James Cagney, Virginia Mayo. \$300,000 train robbery.

BBC 2

11.00 Play schools. 6.05 Open university. 6.35 Which Way? 7.05 Open university.

7.30 NEWSROOM, weather.

8.00 MONEY PROGRAMME. Munich preparations for the Olympics.

9.00 SOLO. Roy Dotrice as Anton Chekhov.

9.20 REVIEW. The film 'Family Life'. Tom Stoppard.

10.10 JOYCE GRENFELL.

10.40 NEWS, weather.

10.45 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV

10.20 For Schools. 2.30 Sandown Racing. 3.10 Tea Break. 3.40 British Museum. 4.10 Drive-In. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Arthur! 5.20 Bright's Boffins. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.

6.30 F TROOP. Guns, Guns, Who's Got the Guns?

7.00 THE SKY'S THE LIMIT.

7.30 THE PERSUADERS. A Death in the Family.

8.30 THE FENN STREET GANG.

9.00 SPYDER'S WEB. Romance on Wheels.

10.00 NEWS.

10.30 SHIRLEY'S WORLD. Shirley Maclaine.

11.05 THE FBI. The Assassin.

12.00 COLLECTING ON A SHOESTRING.

12.25 DIALOGUE WITH DOUBT.



Edmon O'Brien and James Cagney in a scene from tonight's BBC 1 film 'White Heat'.

All regions as BBC 1 except:

Wales: 10.25-10.45 Schools. 1.30-1.45 Ar lin mam. 6.00 Wales today, weather. 6.20-6.45 Whackol 6.50 Heddiw. 7.15-7.40 Dau a hanner. 9.20 Cywain. 9.45-10.05 Miners in the pink. Scotland: 10.25-10.45 Schools. 6.00-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 9.20-9.45 Current account. 9.55-10.40

Maurice Chevalier. 1.02 News, weather. N Ireland: 6.00-6.20 Scene around six. 10.05 Behind the headlines. 10.35-10.40 SportsScene. 1.02 News, weather. England: 6.00-6.20 Look North. Midlands today. Look East. Points West, South today. Spotlight SW, weather. 1.02 News, weather.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 10.20 Schools. 2.30 Racing. 4.05 Pinky and Perky. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 Dick Van Dyke. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Ask westward. 5.50 News. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 Weather. 10.32 Name of the game. 11.50 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.20 News. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sports desk. 10.30 Report. 10.58 News. 12.20 Faith for life. 12.25 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 2.30 Sandown. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Tea break. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Cartoon. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Bottom of the sea. 5.50 News. 6.00 Day by day: Scene South-East. 6.40 Out of town. 7.00 London. 8.30 Doctor at Large. 9.00 London. 10.30 Weekend. 10.35 Film: 'Return of a Stranger'. 12.05 News. 12.15 Weather.

HARLECH: 10.20 Schools. 2.30 Racing. 3.50 Women only. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Cowboy in Africa. 5.50 News. 6.01 Report west. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Bonanza. 7.30 London. 10.30 The making of Milkwood. 11.00 Second look. 11.30 Department S. 12.30 Living word.

HTV West as above except: 6.01-6.35 Report West.

HTV Wales as above except: 6.01-6.18 Y Dydd. 11.00-11.30 Outlook. HTV Cymru/Wales as HTV Wales. ANGLIA: 2.30 Racing. 3.35 Newsroom. 4.00 Tea break. 4.25 Romper room. 4.50 Bottom of the sea. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 By-gones. 11.00 Film: 'Taste of Fear'. 12.30 Living word.

ATV MIDLANDS: 2.30 Racing. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Julia. 4.40 Hatty town. 4.55 Lost in space. 5.50 News. 6.00 ATV Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Fenn street gang. 7.30 London. 8.30

Jimmy Stewart. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Edge of Eternity'. ULSTER: 10.20 Schools. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Lost in Space. 5.50 News. 6.00 UTV Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 Spectrum. 11.00 Film: 'The Floating Dutchman'.

YORKSHIRE: 10.20 Schools. 2.30 Racing. 3.20 Houseparty. 3.35 Calendar News. 3.45 Katie Stewart cooks. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's War. 5.50 News. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Parkin's patch. 7.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Kiss of Evil'. 12.05 Weather.

GRANADA: 10.10 For schools. 2.30 Racing. 3.40 Yoga. 4.05 News. Bird's eye view. 4.35 Magic ball. 4.50 Captain Scarlet. 5.15 Rainbow country. 5.50 News. 6.00 Newsday. 6.15 Kick-off. 6.25 Peyton Place. 7.00 London. 8.30 On the buses. 9.00 London. 10.30 Open Night. 11.05 See our next thrilling instalment.

TYNE TEES: 10.20 London. 3.35 News. 3.45 Katie Stewart. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.30 McQueen. 7.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Girl in the Headlines'. 12.20 News. 12.35 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 10.20 Schools. 2.30 Racing. 3.30 Kiri. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline: early. 4.55 Lost in Space. 5.50 News. 6.00 Dateline: Friday. 6.20 Mr Magoo. 6.30 Jimmy Stewart. 7.00 London. 10.30 In camera. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Film: 'The Curse of the Fly'. 12.35 Calgary the living west.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00-3.20 London. 3.38 News. 3.40 Simon Locke. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Mr and Mrs. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 8.30 Stuart Gillies ceilidh. 9.00 London. 10.30 Viewfinder. 11.00 Film: 'Nightmare'. 12.25 Prayers.

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DEAD PICKET FATHER OF FOUR

A MINER who was on peaceful picket duty yesterday was killed when a lorry leaving a Scunthorpe power station mounted the pavement and knocked him down.

He was Fred Matthews of Dunscroft, near Doncaster. He is married with four children.

Branch president, Bill Nimmo, said after the incident: 'This is a peaceful picket. We have had no trouble at all.'

It is believed that the lorry's load had been blacked and was still on board as it left the Keadby power station. The driver of the lorry was with police yesterday afternoon.

The miners' strike and the Tory government

WIGAN
Monday February 7, 8 p.m.
Raven Hotel
Wallgate
Speakers:
Two Lancashire miners

Jobs march begins tomorrow Sit-in plants give support

WORKERS at Plessey's factory in Alexandria and Fisher-Bendix stewards on Merseyside have offered support for the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign.

The first contingent of marchers will leave Glasgow tomorrow while other groups set out from Liverpool and Swansea on February 19.

All three contingents will converge on London on March 12 for a massive rally at the Empire Pool, Wembley.

The nationwide march is being organized by the Young Socialists to mobilize mass support for the right-to-work demand.

As the marchers move South

town-by-town they will hold meetings and discussions to arouse the widest possible support for the campaign.

Clive Norris, national secretary of the campaign, said yesterday: 'To end the soaring unemployment we must end the government which is encouraging it. The Tories must go.'

'WE WANT LABOUR IN'

'In place of the Tories we demand a Labour government pledged to restoring full employment.'

Coventry district committee of the AUEW has passed a resolution of support and will ask their officials for the use of the AUEW hall in Coventry for accommodation for the marchers.

At Rolls-Royce in Coventry

the joint negotiating committee, which includes both RR factories in Coventry, is recommending to the joint shop stewards' committee that they organize food and accommodation for the march.

The AUEW Coventry 25 branch donated £2.25 and will collect at each meeting until the end of the marches. The Warwick AUEW No. 2 branch donated £2.

Leamington Spa AUEW branch donated £1. Leamington Spa No. 8 AUEW donated £1.

Lutterworth, Warwickshire, AUEW passed resolution of support and local Labour Party.

Both of these bodies will be contacting local factories to arrange a meal for the marchers.

The other major support has come from the London head office branch of the Overseas Telegraphists, who have passed a resolution offering 'physical and financial support' to the march.

NIXON URGES LAW ON DOCKS

PRESIDENT Nixon has urged Congress to act swiftly on legislation to end the strike of W coast dockers which has now lasted 118 days.

Nixon submitted the legislation to Congress two weeks ago. He complained that crops were rotting, export customers were looking for other business and businesses were threatened with extinction.

He stated that the strike has cost the American economy \$600m and that California, Washington and Oregon had lost \$23.5m.

Meanwhile, in Canada's British Columbia Province, a court ordered dockers at Vancouver and New Westminster to resume handling cargo diverted there from strikebound US ports.

This ended a five-day boycott by 3,000 British Columbia members of the ILWU.

NUM leader demands a General Strike

BY IAN YEATS

A TOP S Wales miners' leader yesterday called for a General Strike in support of the miners.

As he issued the call, seven Yorkshire pickets were arrested after clashes with police at Kilnhurst colliery near Rotherham and picket-lines at Nottinghamshire power stations were arrested.

Coal Board chairman Derek Ezra called in London for third-party intervention in the four-week-old dispute.

In Wales, Emlyn Williams, S Wales vice-president of the National Union of Mineworkers, told Workers Press:

'I think it must be realized that we are fighting a struggle for all the trade unions.'

'After three weeks on strike unless we get immediate industrial support from all the other unions we are going to be isolated.'

Referring to a decision of the 250,000-strong Glamorgan Federation of Trade Union Councils to call upon workers in all branches of industry to raise money for the miners, he said:

'I think it's very good, but it is not nearly enough. What the Glamorgan Federation of Trade Union Councils should have done was to call on other unions to support us industrially.'

'They could stage token strikes at first going to a General Strike. This is the sort of positive action we want now.'

Williams warned that the miners could 'end up like the postmen' without support.

'I know this coalfield as well as anybody,' he said. 'All the indications are that the miners are entrenched—they'd be even more entrenched if we could see a bit more activity from the other unions.'

'The grass roots in the working class are helping. It's the national leadership we criticize.'

'Whatever the NUM national leadership may think, the rank and file won't go back now until they've got the full amount.'

He added: 'The call should be made immediately for a General Strike to support the miners.'

'Scanlon and Jones are supposed to be "lefts", yet all we get from them and the rest of the national leadership is silence.'

'We should have had the support of the power workers long

ago, but they've been misled by the decision to delay their overtime ban. If we had their support we could close the power stations a lot quicker.'

Picketing of power stations and coal depots in Scotland is developing into a dangerous farce.

It now appears that regular breaches in the picket lines are occurring.

One picket told Workers Press: 'The men are as militant as ever, but we're having the wool pulled over our eyes by our own officials who keep telling us the fight is going perfectly.'

A typical incident occurred on Monday at the giant Cockenzie power station, 12 miles from Edinburgh.

Four lorries carrying oil were allowed through the lines when the drivers assured the miners that they were acting under the instruction of their own Transport and General Workers' Union stewards.

Two convoys were allowed through before two T&GWU regional officials, Mr R Knox and Mr G Wilson, arrived on the scene.

As the drivers approached on their third visit to the station, the officials demanded to see the drivers' union cards. They refused and it then became clear to everybody they were 'scabs'.

Meanwhile inside Cockenzie there is sharp disagreement over whether the scab oil should be used.

The management of the station is apparently delighted; it has received sufficient oil to postpone any serious problem for 'a couple of weeks'.

At the other Edinburgh power station, Portobello, there is danger as well.

Shortly after 2 a.m. yesterday about 100 police swooped on the gates and allowed three oil tankers to get through.

A big picket had been organized in anticipation of the delivery, but it had moved away when officials felt that nothing would be attempted.

BIHARIS UNDER BENGALI FIRE

EXPLOSIONS rocked the Bihari colony of Mirpur in Dacca, Bangla Desh, yesterday and there were reports that Bengali troops were engaged in combat with the beleaguered residents.

The whole area was sealed off and under curfew. Soldiers manning roadblocks said rockets were being used against the Biharis—armed with automatic weapons—but there was no official confirmation of this.

Reporters waiting at a barricade on the fringe of the Bihari suburb were ordered away.

The Biharis came to what is now Bangla Desh from India at

the time of partition. During the struggle against the Pakistan army, the majority of Biharis sided with Pakistan.

The trouble in Mirpur and the nearby suburb of Mohammedpur is said to have begun on Sunday, when Bangla Desh forces entered the areas to search for arms.

They are said to have met strong resistance.

The eminent Bengali dramatist and film director Zahir Rahain, is reported to have disappeared in Mirpur on Saturday. He had gone there to look for his brother, who was kidnapped on December 13 by Pakistan troops.

NIRC APPLICATION DISMISSED

THE NATIONAL Industrial Relations Court yesterday afternoon dismissed its first application under the Industrial Relations Act.

Car Collection Co Ltd was told by NIRC president Sir John Donaldson that its only purpose was to get 'relief from industrial pressure'.

The company had asked for a reference to the Commission on Industrial Relations after what it claimed amounted to a request from the Transport and General Workers' Union for recognition. The T&GWU, which boycotted the hearing, had informed the court it was not seeking this.

LATE NEWS WEATHER

NEWS DESK
01-720 2000
CIRCULATION
01-622 7029

THREE HUNDRED and fifty workers at the Triumph Motors car plant in Coventry yesterday downed tools or left their offices and marched a quarter of a mile to All Souls Roman Catholic Church to take part in a Requiem Mass for those who have died in N Ireland.

Organizers of the march and service said they intended being away from the factory for about an hour and had no intention of disrupting production.

AFTER a period of prolonged rain at first over Scotland, all areas will have showers and sunny intervals. The showers may be heavy and thundery, especially in the W and SW. It will be generally mild.

Outlook: Changeable with rain at times.

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