

WORKERS PRESS

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

TUC still to see Heath and Macmillan TORIES CRACK LEGAL WHIP

BY ALEX MITCHELL

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The meaning of this intervention is that the Tory court is not only arbitrating on wages—as in the court action against the three rail unions last week—but also telling the TUC how to run the internal affairs of the trade union movement.

In the face of this offensive, which threatens the very foundations of the independent trade union movement, what are the trade union leaders doing?

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This convivial soiree comes only a week after Macmillan went to the NIRC to get an injunction against the three rail unions who were using a work-to-rule to get a decent wage for their 200,000 members.

And today Feather will lead the same crowd on a visit to No 10 Downing St to see Tory Prime Minister Edward Heath. They will be resuming talks, begun after the miners' strike, on how to 'get the economy back on its feet'.

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Does the TUC seriously believe that the court, set up and staffed by the Tory Cabinet, will give the working class justice?

Do they expect 'justice' from a court which has already fined the Transport and General Workers' Union £55,000 and is threatening to take away all its assets?

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The reformist trade union leadership today stands openly serving the enemy class. Each time the Tories hit out, the TUC

retreats still further. Now, the Finance and General Purposes Committee has violated the mandate of last September's Congress.

Workers Press has been the only paper to warn of the danger of this type of class-collaboration.

On April 14 our front-page headline said: 'TUC retreats on anti-union fine'. We stated that the TUC was 'now preparing to make appearances in the courts and before the Commission on Industrial Relations (CIR)'.

The urgent need now is to get the TUC of last September recalled to a special conference to reaffirm the decision not to co-operate with the Act and to expel those who have violated that decision.

Scanlon uses law to avoid pay fight

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE LEADER of Britain's second largest union yesterday used the Industrial Relations Act to warn his policy-making conference off a national fight with the engineering employers.

Speaking at Eastbourne, Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said that if the engineering unions reopened national pay negotiations with the employers they might find themselves in dispute with the whole industry 'with all that that implies from a legal viewpoint'.

On the eve of the 1.2 million-strong AUEW engineers' section debate on wages, he said that unions could not 'keep going to the brink' over disputes.

In what was taken as an implied criticism of the railmen's leaders, he

added: 'It is better never to go to the brink than going to the brink and then drawing back.'

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The housewives—and some husbands—converge on Redditch Development Corporation, Birmingham

Sparks' union at Court

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The small Yorkshire-based union wants bargaining rights at Ferrybridge power station. The electricians' union asked the court for an extension to answer the application and this was granted with the adjournment of the hearing until May 5.

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The union would make no comment.

TWO HUNDRED angry tenants yesterday besieged the offices of the Redditch Development Corporation in a protest against the Tory rent Bill and the already high rents on homes owned by the Corporation.

Led by Mrs Ivy Jones of Tedmore Rd, Redditch, the march wound its way up the long hill from the Woodrow Estate and through the town centre.

The majority of the marchers were housewives,

many of them pushing prams or leading young children.

Many of them were joined by their husbands, either factory workers or unemployed.

When Development Corporation officials refused for the fourth time to come out and meet the tenants, they voted unanimously in future to pay only what they considered to be 'fair' rents—£5 for a three-bedroomed house, £5.50 if the house had a garage and 50p more for every additional bedroom.

Reading from a prepared statement Mrs Jones said:

'Tenants are refusing to face the means test and succumb to this wretched government. Tenants will not be victims of this unfair act.' She said that the Tory government was acting in the interests of the money lenders and property owners and the sooner they called a General Election 'the better it will be for them'.

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BRANDT IN THE BALANCE

BY JOHN SPENCER

W GERMAN chancellor Willy Brandt is facing a no-confidence vote in parliament tomorrow which could end his two and a half years in power.

The opposition Christian Democrats, led by Rainer Barzel and Josef Strauss, have tabled a motion of no confidence for parliamentary debate on Thursday.

The motion was tabled only a few hours after the CDU's victory at the polls in Baden-Württemberg.

It also followed the defection from Brandt's coalition of Free Democrat Wilhelm Helms, the fourth coalition member to join the opposition since Brandt took office.

The Free Democrats are divided over the two crucial issues facing the government—its relations with the working class and its treaties with Poland and the USSR.

Like the Weimar governments of the 1920s, the Brandt coalition has been plunged into crisis by the worsening world economic situation. The German employers are demanding a government which will confront the organized workers and adopt a more aggressive foreign policy.

In particular, they oppose the pacts signed with Poland and the Soviet Union which effectively seal the division of Germany.



The treaties come up for ratification next week.

Brandt's government has a majority of only three in the Bundestag and Barzel said yesterday he had reason to believe the treaties would not get a majority. In order to oust Brandt, the Christian Democrats must get an absolute majority for a new Chancellor.

Moscow is becoming increasingly concerned about the possibility that the treaties will not be ratified. 'Pravda' yesterday attacked 'reactionary forces' which it said were planning to defeat the Brandt coalition. If the treaties are not ratified, it puts the Soviet government's plans for a European Security conference in jeopardy.

AROUND THE WORLD

Week of strikes in Spain

LIGHTNING strikes on a score of Madrid construction sites marked the start on Monday of a week-long campaign against the fascist government.

The campaign, scheduled to culminate in a mass rally on May Day, is a direct challenge to the official state-run sindicatos, Spain's sole legal union organizations.

Civil guards with carbines and sub-machine guns patrolled the building sites during Monday's strikes, but no arrests or clashes were reported.

The strike call came from four organizations—the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, the Workers Commissions (underground trade unions) and the Pabloite revisionist Revolutionary Communist League. All four are illegal under fascist law.

The workers were asked to down tools for brief site meetings to discuss political and industrial demands. These include a 400 pesetas daily basic wage, compared with 165 pesetas at present, and a 40-hour week.

The alliance between the Communist Party and the Pabloites is a new development in Spain. In the wave of strikes and demonstrations which followed the Burgos trial death sentences on six Basque nationalists, the Pabloites condemned the CP as reformist and organized separate demonstrations.

A recent issue of the CP paper 'Mundo Obrero' welcomed unity of action with the LCR in the following terms: 'The Committee of the University organization in Madrid of the Communist Party and the Student Committee of the Revolutionary Communist League have published a joint call for a struggle against the General Law on Education and for the May 1 strike "without that implying any ignoring of the profound strategical and tactical differences" between the two organizations.'

First Indo-Pak talks since last December

INDIAN delegates left New Delhi yesterday morning for Rawalpindi to open talks with Pakistan for the first time since the war last December.

The discussions open today at Murree, a resort not far from the Pakistan capital. They are aimed at paving the way for a summit meeting between Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian premier, and Pakistan President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

D. P. Dhar, one of Mrs Gandhi's closest advisers, heads the Indian team. His Pakistani counterpart is Aziz Ahmed, one of Bhutto's presidential advisers.

Bhutto has already indicated that Pakistan will adopt a 'flexible, conciliatory' posture in the talks. He has not ruled out acceptance of an Indian demand that Bangla Desh premier Sheikh Mujibur Rahman be invited to take part.

Bhutto is faced with mounting crisis at home, where opposition leaders in Baluchistan and NW Frontier Province have threatened armed resistance to back their demands for greater regional autonomy.

Khan Wali Khan, pro-Moscow leader of the National Awami Party, threatened at the weekend that force would be met

with force if Bhutto tried to deny the NAP's demands.

'If you resort to fist fights or batons or guns, we are equally prepared,' he warned. Wali Khan has thousands of men under arms.

One issue which could bring about the breakdown of the India-Pakistan talks is the fate of Pakistani war criminals held in Bangla Desh.

The Bangla Desh government plans to put them on trial, but Bhutto has said this would 'muck up everything' and wreck the talks.

Newsmen purged

THE HEAD of the Czech Association of Journalists has disclosed that 1,212 newsmen lost their jobs or were demoted in the purge that followed the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968.

The figure refers only to Bohemian and Moravian journalists. Slovak journalists are organized in a separate body.

WHAT WE THINK

A COVER FOR A RETREAT

RANK-AND-FILE Communist Party members, even though critical of some of their leaders' actions, often argue that 'when the chips are down' the Party will be on the right side of the barricades. Well, the chips were very definitely down at Monday's meeting of the TUC 'inner cabinet'. But how did yesterday's 'Morning Star' react to the committee's flabby retreat before the National Industrial Relations Court?

The paper hailed it as a stance of defiance. 'TUC Backs Union in Rejecting Fine', screamed the page-one headline. 'The top-level Finance and General Purposes Committee of the TUC yesterday agreed to defy the Tory anti-union legislation', read the first paragraph of an article by the paper's industrial correspondent. It was only in paragraph five that readers learnt that the committee 'did open the way to unions beginning co-operation with the institutions established by the Act'.

As we have insisted before in this column, the first duty of a revolutionary newspaper is to tell the truth to the working class. But the 'Star' is embarked on a course of consistently misinforming its readers.

There can be no doubt that the decisions the 'inner cabinet' will ask the General Council to ratify today are a retreat. By five votes to four, the committee rejected a proposal that an emergency congress be called to show a united front against the NIRC. A proposal for a special committee meeting to discuss a guidance document on when unions could attend the court was accepted five to three.

Union leaders who voted for the special meeting were Cyril Plant, George Lowthian, Joe Crawford, Bill Hogarth and Sir Sidney Greene. The same group gave the go-ahead for today's Downing St confab with Tory premier Heath, which Hugh Scanlon, Jack Jones, Richard Briginshaw and Dan McGarvey wanted to boycott. McGarvey remained neutral on the guidance-document proposal, as did Hogarth on the idea of a special conference.

Where, then, do these line-ups place the seven-to-one vote to support the Transport and General Workers' Union in its refusal to pay the NIRC's £55,000 fines? If the TUC leaders are against mobilizing the trade union movement against the implementation of the Industrial Relations Act, how can they 'defy' it as the 'Star' claims?

Even the most devoted Communist Party member can see the complete divergence between the 'Star's' treatment of this story and that of the Fleet St press. He will be asked to explain it in his place of work. And the 'Star' gives him no ammunition to answer 'The Guardian's' gloat: 'TUC Drops its Boycott of Disputes Court'.

Workers Press has warned continuously that the TUC leaders would call no action against the Industrial Relations Act. The Socialist Labour League fought at every turn to stop the union chiefs' gestures of opposition becoming mere covers for acceptance at a later date. The policy of the Communist Party and the 'Morning Star' was the opposite.

Confident that they have succeeded in confusing sections of workers about the role of the union leaders, the Stalinist leaders of the CP are now themselves on the brink of accepting the Act. That is the meaning of yesterday's article. But the working class—and the Workers Press—will prove them wrong. We urge all CP members who seriously want to fight the Act to join with us in doing so.

NO NEED TO NATIONALIZE SAY ITALIAN STALINISTS

ITALIAN Communist Party general secretary Enrico Berlinguer considers that further nationalization of the country's industry is unnecessary as the public sector is extensive enough.

His attitude indicates the thoroughly reformist character of the CP's campaign as Italy approaches its most critical General Election since the war.

The Italian Stalinists' economic programme is based on so-called 'structural reforms'. These amount to reorganizing the big monopolies with state participation and reform of the banking system.

It stipulates in particular that there must be 'a large role for private initiative'. The only

nationalization measures in the Party programme concern the drug industry, sugar production and certain agricultural holdings.

The giant motor, chemical and steel combines are left entirely untouched by this programme. According to John Earle, 'The Times' correspondent in Rome: 'The ideal offered by the communists is that of numerous small businessmen, shopkeepers and individual peasants living harmoniously with benevolent state control over the major means of production.'

It is with this milk-and-water perspective that the CP leaders are preparing to fight the right-wing challenge of the fascist Italian Social Movement, which is campaigning openly for the

re-establishment of Mussolini's corporate state.

The Stalinists, in fact, appear far more concerned about the growth of what they term 'ultra-leftist' tendencies.

At his election meetings, Berlinguer is at pains to dissociate the CP from any suspicion of involvement in the recurring street battles with the fascists.

These battles, he tells his listeners, involve people who 'have nothing to do with the Italian Communist Party or the mass of the workers'.

The leaders of Italian Stalinism are peddling the dangerous illusion that fascism can be defeated through the decrepit and discredited parliamentary system which itself is the seed-bed for fascist tendencies.

Hot property

Shepperton studios, Middlesex, workplace of actors, technicians, carpenters, electricians etc, goes for a cool £5.5m to property dealer

JOHN BENTLEY'S £5.5m takeover bid for British Lion means that the days of Shepperton Studios, Middlesex, are numbered. Despite reassuring noises in yesterday's capitalist press that Bentley was interested in film-making, the fact is he is more keen on money-making.

When I asked one of Bentley's business associates if the 32-year-old tycoon was a fan of art, he replied, 'Art? Who's Art?'

Bentley, whose personal fortune is believed to be between £2m and £3m, is a protégé of Jim Slater, the head of Slater Walker Securities. Slater 'discovered' Bentley when he was a young and inexperienced stockbroker and has acted as his financial patron ever since.

When Bentley launched his own firm, Barclay Securities, it was Slater who chiefly capitalized the venture. Slater owns between 20 and 30 per cent of the stock in Barclay Securities.

Bentley's offer for British Lion has astonished the City of London.

About a year ago when British Lion shares were worth only 25p, the company was valued at little more than £2m. And yet after a year in which profits have been almost eliminated, Bentley's offer is £5.4m—twice its face value.

How can Bentley make such a generous offer? He can make it only on the basis of selling off Shepperton for property development.

'The Times' said yesterday: 'The fact that Lord Goodman will continue as chairman of British Lion was being seen as an indication that the company will continue to be involved in film production.'

The City is reading the board moves quite differently. One broker told us that as soon as Roy Boulting, Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat formally accept the takeover offer, they will resign from the board.

The reshuffled board will reflect the interests of the major shareholders, notably Bentley and the triumvirate which controls 15 per cent of the stock — Slater Walker, Warburgs, the merchant bankers, and M&G unit trust.

This new management team has not the slightest interest in film production. Their eyes are on the 60 acres at Shepperton, Broadwick House in Soho, and another valuable site in Dover St, Mayfair.

Bentley does well out of the deal. He will add Pearl and Dean, British Lion's film advertising subsidiary, to his 'media division'.

In the past couple of years Bentley has cornered this market: he controls Mills and Allan, London Poster, and Dorlands, all poster and hoarding firms.

Until now Bentley's entrepreneurial activity has been most noticeable in the toy industry. He is now believed to be the country's biggest toy producer after buying up Chad Valley and the Pedigree subsidiary of the embattled Lines Brothers.

Asked what was the likely future of Shepperton, a broker associate of Bentley told us:

'It will be like a film script. The present directors will keep a stiff upper lip and fight for the protection of the British film industry.'

'But the new financiers will fight back. They will want to turn the property into a residential estate just as Stirling Homes is doing at Boreham Wood.'

'The bad guys will win and the curtain will come down on the old board members weeping—all the way to the bank.'

⊙ The six directors involved in the sale to Bentley are Lord Goodman, John and Roy Boulting, property millionaire Max Rayne, and film team, Gilliat and Launder. The Boulting Brothers are believed to have sold their holdings for more than £500,000 each.



Sir Max Rayne, the property man on the British Lion board



Workers from the film and theatre industry at a recent protest meeting against the possible Shepperton closure

Vintage steak and kidney—'fresh daily'

THAT 'FRESH' meat pie on your local shop counter could be ten days old—and very stale. Some shop keepers can only give 'inspired guesses' as to the exact age of your favourite steak and kidney.

Leading public health inspector E. W. Kingcott told the Royal Society of Health Congress in Eastbourne yesterday that bakers and public health authorities had agreed pies should never be sold more than 48 hours after the delivery date.

However, a survey of Westminster shops showed pies which had been on the shelves for more than ten days. Some shopkeepers did not know how old their pies were.

Supermarkets fared a little better than the small grocers with only eight out of 24 keeping their pies for longer than two days compared with 25 out of 64 small shops. Three of the smaller grocers kept their pies for more than ten days and four did not know how long they kept theirs.

Pie makers also have differing ideas on how fresh a pie should be when it is delivered.

Leading companies, said Mr Kingcott, do not bake over weekends.

So that pies baked on Thursday or Friday could be delivered on Monday or Tuesday and still be allowed two days on the shelf.

One such company has the slogan 'fresh daily' painted on the 'sides' of its vans...

Dark ages forecast for mental patients

THE OFFICIAL policy of running down Britain's hospitals for the mentally handicapped could mean a return to the dark ages for some of their patients.

Dr J. Newcombe, physician superintendent of Clayberry hospital, York, said that patients transferred to the psychiatric wards of district hospitals would inevitably become second-class citizens. The policy of running down hospitals for the mentally handicapped was based on a report 'Better Services for the Mentally Handicapped' and produced by a committee set up by Richard Crossman when he was Labour's Minister of Health.

Dr Newcombe claimed that the committee produced its report after meeting one day a month for about a year. Very few of the committee members had much practical experience of the mentally handicapped, he said.

If patients were transferred to general hospitals on the scale suggested, said Newcombe, the building costs would be over £120m, building sites would have to be found, starting them would be a major problem and the running costs would be astronomical.

Nurses in general hospitals were not interested in handicapped patients and the wards would be the least attractive and tucked away out of sight. Patients would have nowhere to 'let off steam' as they have in the present hospitals.

What a police record! But we won't see it

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

THE POLICE inquiry into the Leeds police shows that there is nothing fundamentally wrong with the city's police force.

The investigation was carried out by two senior Scotland Yard police officers, Sir John McKay and Mr James Starritt, an assistant police commissioner. It took them four months to reach their conclusions.

The report will not be made public—which is extraordinary considering it was done on behalf of the worried citizenry of Leeds and at public expense.

And if the report is so laudatory of the Leeds bobbies, why not publish it so that other police forces throughout Britain can take note of how to improve their own efficiency, honesty and integrity?

The report could become the bible of all police forces throughout the country who want to achieve the heights of public service attained at Leeds.

What other police force in the country can boast the sort of record of Leeds?

The Chief Constable's annual report shows there were 78 complaints against the police in 1963, 231 in 1969 and 330 last year.

In the past two years no less than 16 police officers have been prosecuted in the criminal courts and many more disciplined.

The most grisly case against a local officer emerged in 1969 when a Sgt acting as a coroner's officer was convicted of stealing from corpses and forgery. He was given a two-year suspended sentence. Then the cases came thick and fast...

October 1969: Constable fined £25 for stealing from a supermarket.

April 1970: Constable sentenced to nine months' imprisonment for stealing from a police-woman's handbag at police station.

August 1970: Five officers in court on charges arising from theft of car accessories. Sgt sent to prison for three years; one constable for 27 months, and another given suspended sentence and fined £100. Two other constables were acquitted.

August 1970: Constable jailed for nine months for indecent assault on two boys and a girl.

November 1970: Two officers jailed for nine months for misconduct following death of a 72-year-old woman in a road accident.

September 1971: Two detectives, a sergeant and a constable, suspended from duty following allegations of misconduct (still unresolved).

October 1971: Constable fined £50 for attempted bribery.

December 1971: Insp Geoffrey Ellerker and Sgt Kenneth Kitching jailed for attacking and beating up David Oluwale whose body was found in the River Aire.

A record which Dixon of Dock Green would be proud of.

WHO WILL LEAD THE ENGINEERS?

BY DAVID MAUDE

Polling ends in just three weeks' time for the general secretaryship of the powerful engineers' section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

The contest is, in the main, a straight fight between the president, right-wing incumbent Jim Conway and one of the union's assistant general secretaries, Ernie Roberts, who is unchallenged on the left.

With the AUEW in crisis over its wages policy and the Industrial Relations Act now in daily use against the unions, the poll clearly assumes big political importance.

Defeat of the Tory government is placed by Roberts at the centre of his election address.

'The Tory employers and their government are on the attack against the living standards of our members,' he writes.

'They have increased prices, fares and rents; created 1.25 million unemployed; refused a substantial old-age pension; kept 11 million people in slums; withdrawn free milk from school children.'

Union leaders have a big responsibility in 'the struggle against Tory big business', he says. 'It is important to elect a general secretary who will give his undivided support to this struggle.'

The union, Roberts' address goes on, needs a united leadership if it is to defeat the government on the Industrial Relations Act, the Common Market and other issues. 'We must... return a Labour government which will carry out socialist policies.'

Roberts also launches a fierce attack on his chief opponent's record, particularly as editor of the monthly 'AUEW Journal', which he alone controls.

'Why,' the address asks, 'do we read in his journal editorial (November 1971) that "only government action can restrain both wages and prices on an equitable basis"? He should know that our union's policy is against government interference in wage negotiations...'

'Again, in his journal editorial (October 1971), he wrote: "Each strike, no matter how costly to the workers or the nation, is always hailed as a victory, regardless of the outcome... Strikes never did and never will cure our industrial problems..."'

'What does he expect members to do?' Roberts asks. 'Plead and pray? Accept anything from the employers?'

'The AUEW is now faced with the Industrial Relations Act and its disastrous effects on union finances', he writes.

The national committee and executive 'decided not to register and fought against the Industrial Relations Bill'. The members demonstrated and loyally supported the one-day strikes against the Bill.

No united action

'Then why did the general secretary hand over the journal (December 1970) to Robert Carr, Secretary of State for Employment, to advocate the Bill?... the general secretary, in his editorial in that same issue, criticized those members and officials who were advocating national token stoppages against the Bill. It was because there was no united action by the whole of the trade union movement that the Industrial Relations Bill became law.'

Jim Conway himself, who will be in for life if he wins this time, takes his stand in his address firmly on the preservation of capitalism.

AUEW cardholders should be 'responsible members of the engineering industry', he says.

'The future of our movement depends upon our success as an industrial nation,' he writes. 'I believe that with the right kind of leadership in government, industry and the trade unions that future will be assured.'

'We will achieve for our members that which they so rightly deserve—the highest standard of living in Europe.'

The kind of leadership Conway thinks 'right' is well known.

An ardent supporter of the Common Market, he last week described as 'a tragedy' the resignation of Roy Jenkins, MP as deputy leader of the Labour Party.

The 'AUEW Journal' front-paged a big portrait of Jenkins the month after he and 68 other MPs kept the Tories in office by voting with them on the Market.

Conway is also a key figure in the Trade Union Committee for Europe, which through its connection with the shadowy European Movement receives finance from big business and the Tory government.

He apparently sees no contradiction between this and the pledge in his address 'to do everything in my power to defeat this partisan and destructive Tory government and to work for the return of a Labour government'.

A large part of Conway's address is given over to a rehearsal of his organizational work as general secretary.

This features the claim: 'I have proved that the computerization of agreements is no longer fantasy.'

Greater rationalization

'It is fact,' Conway writes, 'the benefits of which can be of great value to us all, provided we can obtain maximum benefit and efficiency from this service. This will mean a greater rationalization within the trade union movement.'

He declares that he is 'not unmindful of the unemployment affecting our members and the nation'.

Then comes the following comment: 'This is why I have had an exercise carried out covering all districts.'

'We now know the situation in any industry or area and can begin to tackle the problem as it should be tackled, with complete knowledge of the facts, not with slogans or demonstrations.'

It appears that this is something of a pet theme since the next paragraph has Conway refusing to 'believe or accept that our members want slogans or demonstrations'.

The only woman candidate, Mrs Nora Bance, from Chatham, makes 'no claim to fame, just hard work in a local factory'. Her father was, until his retirement, general secretary of the Tobacco Workers' Union.

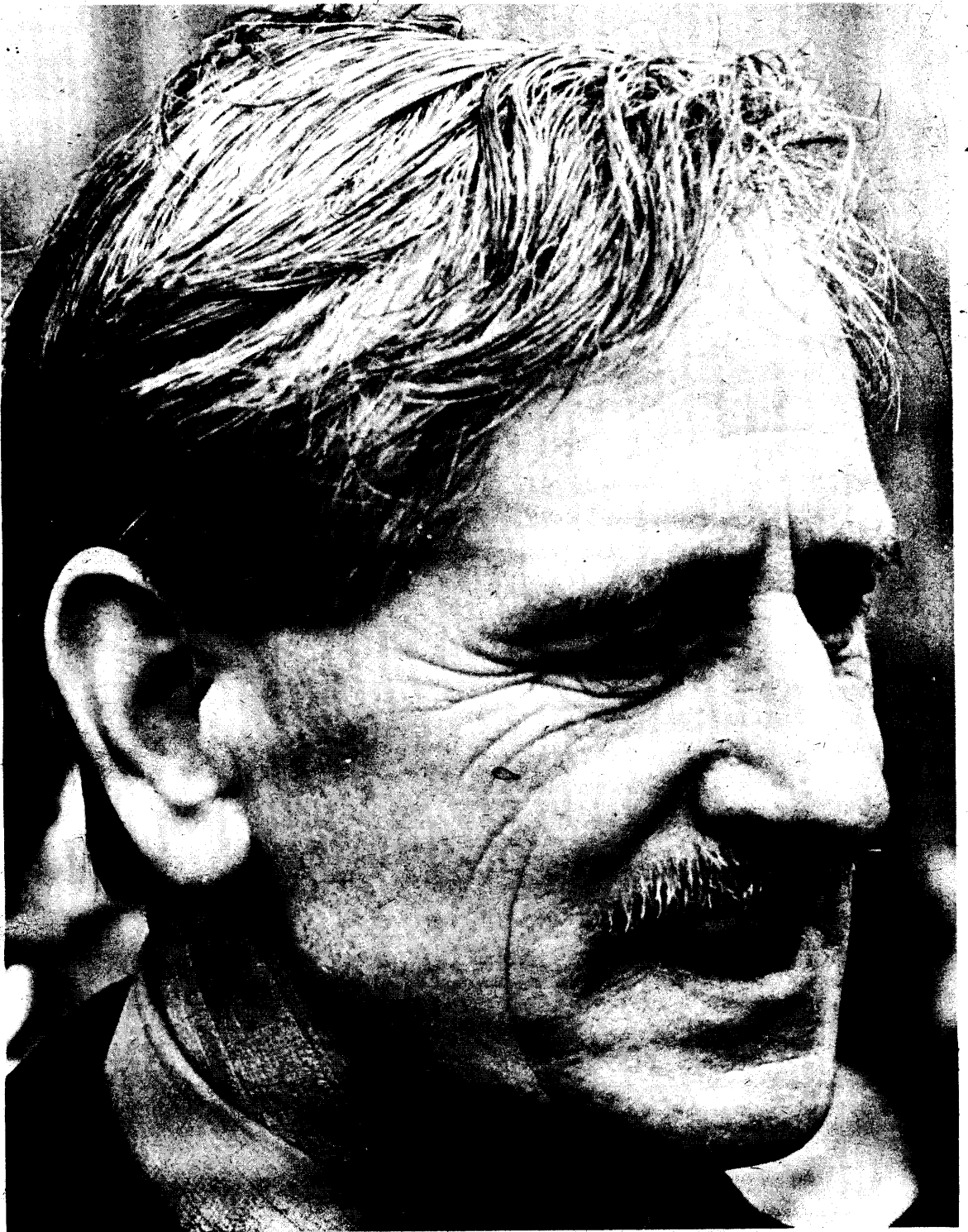
Other candidates include Sam Jones, convenor of the Metal Box factory at Neath; John Llewellyn, of Farnborough; Stan Smith, from the Port Talbot steelworks; and John Wilkinson, of Hartlepool.

Tom Kidd, of Brighton, is a modest man.

'Dear fellow members,' he opens, 'after much careful thought, and at the insistent persuasion of my colleagues, I present myself for election with all due humility, fully appreciating the diffidence that many old campaigners will entertain about supporting the comparatively unknown.'

He concludes: 'If you believe in progress and sanity I am sure you will cast your vote for, if not me, someone who thinks this way.'

Also in the lists are Fred Aldridge, of Blackburn, and Eastleigh's Derek Bedford. Neither of these submit any manifesto at all.



Contenders for the position of AUEW general secretaryship—top: Ernie Roberts, above: Jim Conway.

ITT NOW LOOKS TOWARDS MEXICO

Mexican President Luis Echeverria recently criticized the open imperialist interference with political life in Latin America.

He told the Chilean Congress there should be a democratic system for conducting international affairs 'free from hegemonies, spheres of influence, equilibrium based on terror, political intervention and economic subjugation'.

RESPECT

After paying his respects to Chilean President Salvador Allende's 'peaceful road to socialism', Echeverria spoke of interference in Chilean political life by outsiders—a reference to the CIA and International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation's conspiracy to stop Allende from assuming the presidency in 1970.

A couple of days before, Robert H. Smith, ITT vice-President, told the Mexican daily 'El Sol': 'Mexico is a country which offers great advantages to the investor. That's why we have chosen it for a major investment programme.'

He added that ITT owned at present 50 companies in Mexico and praised the 'sensitivity' with which foreign investment is handled. He was accompanied in Mexico by Donald Rumsfeld, a White House adviser.

Echeverria's pat on the back for Allende followed the visit of Samuel Golsweig, head of the Chilean Farm Planning Office, to Mexico City.

Golsweig declared that there would be no latifundia (large privately-owned estates) left in Chile within two months—all peasants would be liberated. The Mexican agrarian reform had served as an important model for the changes carried out by the Allende government.

But recently peasants demonstrated in El Palmar, near the gulf of Mexico, against German Nazi landowners who had beaten them up and threatened to kill them.

A week later a caravan of peasants from the Puebla state headed for Mexico City to demand the government return lands seized by landowners.

PROMISE

Heavily-armed troops stopped the marchers 55 kilometres from the capital and a 150-strong delegation was taken to Echeverria. After he had promised them an 'agrarian action' programme by the end of the month, they saw Gomez Villanueva, the director of Agrarian Affairs, who told them: 'Agricultural problems are solved in the countryside not in meetings around the monument to Emiliano Zapata.'

Hundreds of students who had supplied the peasant marchers with food and clothing for their five-day trek were arrested by Echeverria's police. They were released after being warned to 'mend their ways'.

Senor Golsweig's thoughts on these events during his Mexican visit on behalf of Chilean peasants have not been recorded.

But they reveal the friends that ITT and Allende share in common and the kind of future envisaged for the peasantry.



Top: Mexican President Luis Echeverria. Right: Chilean President Salvador Allende



STREET BATTLES

There has been strong reaction in Australia to US President Nixon's bombing raids against N Vietnam.

At the weekend police fought a street battle in Melbourne with anti-war demonstrators — many of them armed with clubs and stones.

Police horses were hit by stones and an officer was struck by a thrown bottle. Two people were knocked unconscious in the melée and a youth was struck by a passing car.

The street battle began after about 200 of the 1,000 protesters taking part in an anti-war march smashed windows in the offices of Pan American Airways.

Several arrests were reported and police later charged a 17-year-old girl and a 25-year-old man student with offensive behaviour.

Meanwhile another march, in Brisbane, ended after police arrested 37 of about 1,000 youths staging a sitdown in a road near the US consulate.

The marchers, mainly university students, carried National Liberation Front flags and pro-communist placards.

COST OF LIVING UP BY 96 p.c.

The Argentine working class recently prevented a round of price increases in Mendoza province. But inflation still eats away at wages.

The cost of living rose by 6 per cent in March after an 18 per cent rise in January and February. At this rate the cost of living will increase by 96 per cent in one year!

The main architect of this pauperization policy is Carlos Brignone, President of the Central Bank.

When the government of Roberto Levingstone granted a 7-per-cent wage increase, he condemned it with the following banker's logic: 'The least opportune moment to increase wages is when prices are rising.'

His central thesis is that workers and sections of the middle class who are being impoverished should recognize that dear bread means more capital will be available for investment:

'In fact, many of the problems of Argentina could be solved if we looked at them in reverse; people have always tried to make meat cheaper. We should consider whether the solution would not be to make it more expensive.'

Brignone has revealed the real meaning of Lanusse's avowed policy of bringing social peace to Argentina:

'The secret of harmonious development resides in taking obstacles away from those who want to get rich without worrying too much that some get rich quicker than others.'

Mendoza workers have given their answer to this apostle of free enterprise.



PEOPLE IN GLASS HOUSES...

St Helens is a Lancashire town devastated by social deprivation. It is also a subject to the immense Pilkington glass monopoly which dominates the life of every man, woman and child. The working-class housing areas

are continuously coated with grime and dust from the huge glassmaking plants. But at Windle Hall, the mansion of Lord Pilkington, there's no sign of poverty or filth—as PHILIP WADE found out when he went to tea.

Lord ('Harry') Pilkington and I stood and gazed across the magnificent lawns and gardens.

Some little distance away from us middle-aged couples tip-toed to and fro stopping every few yards to admire flower blossoms. 'Cyril,' said one lady beckoning to her beaten-looking spouse, 'isn't this gorgeous?'

Turning to me, Lord Pilkington said: 'It is such a wonderful way to meet people and make friends.'

We were all guests of the good peer and his wife at an open-day to inspect his gardens. Pilkington throws up his gardens to the public twice a year as part of his contribution to the National Gardens Scheme. Over 1,000 gardens in England and Wales belonging to some of our richest families are made available to the public to collect a few bob to help the district nurses' scheme.

I dutifully paid my 10p to Lady Pilkington's mother at

the gate of Windle Hall and wandered in. The mansion is only a few minutes from the centre of St Helens, but it could be another planet.

The gardens are a beautiful, carefully nurtured garden surrounded by acres of lawns and woodlands. The daffodils were in full bloom.

On arrival I joined the small knot of people queuing for a cup of tea and a piece of gâteau baked by Lady Pilkington herself.

Lord Pilkington arrived late. It turned out he had walked 12 miles for that afternoon and his wife had gone out to bring him back. As the crowds moved into Windle Hall, the representative of the gentry moved smoothly among us, chatting amiably.

'There's nothing like this where I come from,' I said to his lordship reflecting on the concrete jungle in which I share a council flat.

He muttered something consoling to me and then ambled away with that gait that reminds me of the Duke of Edinburgh — hands clasped behind back, chin thrust forward.

Over to my left Lady Pilkington was trilling away with a cluster of garden-lovers. I'd had enough.

Driving back to lodging in the town was sobering.

Within minutes there wasn't a blade of grass to be seen. Not a playground, not a tree.

Unemployment has now reached 2,000 and it shows itself on the streets and in the faces of the men and women on the streets.

The town still harbours 69 militants sacked by Pilkington's following the bitter strike in 1970. They still fight on for the right to work.

Now their struggle is indelibly linked with the struggle of other workers throughout the country to get rid of the Tories and their big backers. The day of the garden tea party is at an end.



Above left: Lord Pilkington in the grounds of Windle Hall with garden-viewing guests. Left: Lord and Lady Pilkington. Above right: a St Helens alley.

For almost 150 years the Pilkington family has made glass in St Helens. The multi-million pound world monopoly is now in the hands of the fifth generation.

In the way he runs the organization, Lord Harry Pilkington evokes the traditions of his forefathers in the last century. He is an active Congregationalist and his speeches are endowed with claims of high moral purpose.

His brother, Lawrence, who once worked for a missionary society, wrote a long poem in 1934 entitled: 'The Dayspring: a protest against materialism.'

In 1967 Lord Harry said: 'I remain convinced . . . that if we are going to balance our payments at a high level and look forward to a thriving future, then we in this country and in some other western countries must not merely work harder and better to improve our general productivity, but we shall also need to work more.'

Whether this be through longer hours and less idle time

in the day, or rather more Saturdays, or rather fewer holidays in the year, or even a later age of retirement and pension is a matter of opinion.

In 1969, the year before the big strike in his country-wide glassmaking plants, Pilkington issued this sermon to his workers: 'Glassmaking is a matter of discipline . . . It is our aim to ensure discipline where it matters and to give freedom where the interests of others are not endangered.'

He sees the trade unions as part of a police force for capitalism: 'We have consistently supported unions when it has not been too difficult to do so, but now when times are more difficult it is even more important to help the unions to maintain or restore discipline in their own ranks.'

Behind all this moral rectitude Pilkington himself leads a leisurely existence. He likes cycling, walking and playing tennis. His second wife, Mavis, an ex-actress, is an enthusiastic hostess for local good causes. All of which is a long way from the exceedingly dangerous and back-breaking work in Pilkington's six plants in St Helens where the profits are made.

DE VALERA: FROM CIVIL WAR TO COLLABORATION

Part 3 by Jack Gale on the Irish Civil war

De Valera was arrested on August 15, 1923, while attempting to address an election meeting. Released after 11 months' imprisonment without trial, he was elected to the Dail of the Irish Free State while still in jail.

This involved a break with some of his Sinn Fein colleagues who regarded participation in such elections as recognition of the Dail, an institution completely British in origin.

By March 1925, however, a total of 48 Sinn Fein deputies had been elected to the Free State Parliament.

All of these absented themselves because they refused to take the oath of allegiance to the British Crown and also because they regarded the Dail as an illegal government imposed by the British.

In fact, the Republican deputies constituted themselves into an 'Emergency Government', with de Valera as President. (The IRA held a separate convention and adopted a new constitution under which it became independent of the Emergency Government.)

By November 1924, the promised Boundary Commission which was supposed to give Republicans in the N a choice of joining the Irish Free State (see first article in this series), finally collapsed. Partition was an established fact.

De Valera called for 'reuniting the people of all parties throughout the country in effective opposition to partitioning our motherland'. By this time, he was anxious to participate in the Free State Dail and proposed that the Republicans should take their seats in it if the oath of allegiance were withdrawn. In other words, they should cease to regard the Dail as illegal.

When he failed to carry this line, de Valera broke from Sinn Fein and formed a new organization, Fianna Fail.

(There was also a split on the government side following the collapse of the Boundary Commission and another new organization, Clann Eirrean, was formed.)

Fianna Fail was a purely nationalist organization, firmly opposed to any political independence for the working class. Its aims, laid down by de Valera, were:

1. Securing the political independence of a united Ireland as a Republic.
2. The restoration of the Irish language, and the development of a native Irish culture.
3. The development of a social system in which, as far as possible, equal opportunity will be afforded to every Irish citizen to live a noble and useful Christian life.
4. The distribution of the land of Ireland so the greatest number possible of Irish families would be rooted in the soil of Ireland.
5. The making of Ireland into an economic unit, as self-contained as possible, with a proper balance between agriculture and other essential industries.

By now, de Valera was totally committed to parliamentary procedures, if only the oath of allegiance could be waived. At the first Ard Fheis (congress) of Fianna Fail, in November 1926, he declared:

'If the road of peaceful progress and natural evolution be barred, then the road of revolution will beckon... and when

the fight is over it will probably be found out once more that the problem has remained and that force is not the solution... If we cannot win an election, then we are not, in the present situation, likely to win any other way.'

In the Irish elections of 1927, Fianna Fail won 44 seats compared with the government party, Cumann na Gnaedheal, which won 46 (it had held 63 in the previous election in 1923). Sinn Fein declined from 25 to five deputies, 22 Labour deputies were also elected.

Even if Sinn Fein boycotted the Dail, the government party was clearly in a minority, holding less than one-third of the total seats.



De Valera demanded the right of the Fianna Fail deputies to take their seats without accepting the oath, and backed this with legal proceedings and a campaign for a referendum. The government party, however, seized on the murder of vice-President Kevin O'Higgins (for which no Republican responsibility was ever established) to close what legal loopholes there were and to re-establish military dictatorship.

In this situation, the Fianna Fail deputies, on the initiative of de Valera, decided to take the oath, announcing that it was, in any case, only 'an empty formality'.

They did not explain, however, why it had been necessary to fight a bloody civil war, in which hundreds of men had died, over 'an empty formality'.

On August 11, 1927, de Valera and his followers signed the oath of allegiance to the British Crown and took their place in the Dail. De Valera admitted: 'I grant that what we did was contrary to all our former actions, and to everything we stood for—contrary to our declared policy, and to the explicit pledges we gave at the time of our election.'

The scenes when de Valera took the oath bordered on the farcical. In order not to offend his religious conscience, he moved the Bible from the table containing the necessary documents and placed it carefully on a couch at the other side of the room.

The ceremony required the elected deputies to sign a sheet of paper containing the oath. De Valera signed in the appropriate place, but covered the words of the oath with his own papers so that he could not see them when he signed—though he knew perfectly well that they were there!

This delicate manoeuvring raises the whole question of the nature of the Irish civil war. As pointed out in an earlier article, this was to a considerable extent created by the actions of the British government. But de Valera saw it as a purely nationalist, non-class battle (though, in political content, he was conducting a



Above: De Valera with Churchill in late 1940s. Left: with Pope Pius XII in 1958

bourgeois nationalist struggle with forces largely recruited from the Irish petty-bourgeoisie and intelligentsia).

At no point in the civil war were the class interests of the Irish workers and peasants involved.

Since the class strength of the oppressed masses was never used, the battle was over once the Republicans were out-gunned. And the Republicans were bound to be defeated by the superior strength of the Free State government, backed by the British imperialists.

In so far as any support was sought outside Ireland—in Britain and America—it was based on the nationalist sympathies of the Irish émigrés, many of whom were part of the British and American working class, or—in some cases—of the employing class.

De Valera's class outlook, of course, made it impossible to appeal to the common class interests of British, American and Irish workers.

There is, therefore, no fundamental contradiction between the de Valera who was prepared for fratricidal conflicts over religious oaths and parliamentary legality and the de Valera who subsequently signed the same oath in order to enter the same parliament.

Once he was militarily defeated, he had no choice but to seek to forward his aims within the state apparatus which had tortured and murdered his followers.

There is no similarity between de Valera's entry into the Irish Free State Dail and Lenin's insistence that communists should utilize bourgeois parliamentary institutions in order to struggle for the overthrow.

Indeed, de Valera was quite specific on this point. He declared: 'I want to reply to the suggestions now being put forward that our purpose in entering the Free State Dail is to destroy it. This is a falsehood. We are entering in the hope of helping to make it develop to what it should be ultimately—the sovereign national assembly of the Irish nation...'

'Our purpose is not to destroy but to broaden the Free State assembly... and make it so truly representative of the whole people as to secure for it the necessary authority and influence

to have its decisions readily accepted and its laws willingly obeyed.'

De Valera was now making more and more openly right-wing declarations. He was not in favour of removing state officials who had conducted the civil war ('I believe in justice to every man, friend or opponent').

He explicitly denied any revolutionary aims: 'The sinister design of aiming at bringing about a sudden revolutionary upheaval, with which our opponents choose to credit us, is altogether foreign to our purpose.'

He granted the right of the government to 'preserve order': 'There must be somebody in charge in the community to keep order and by virtue of your *de facto* position you are the only people who are in a position to do it.'

When, in 1929 and the succeeding years, the IRA again became active, de Valera openly supported the government against them:

'I do not want to or be said to give any encouragement to them [the IRA] at all. I say again, there is no authority in this country to take life except in so far as the present ruling authority is entitled to take it.'

In 1931 the Cosgrove government introduced the infamous Article 2A, which set up a military tribunal of five members with power to impose the death penalty. There was no appeal from its decisions.

Revulsion against Article 2A led to Fianna Fail's victory in 1932. De Valera formed a government, with the support of the seven-strong Labour Parliamentary group (to which he gave no Cabinet seats).

One of the results of the Fianna Fail victory was that some members of the Free State Army formed a body called the Army Comrades' Association. In this they were encouraged by General Eoin O'Duffy, the Commissioner of Police. De Valera was forced to remove O'Duffy from his post (though he offered him another of equal status and salary, which O'Duffy refused).

After a few weeks, the former government party, Cumann na Gnaedheal, and the smaller Centre Party merged with O'Duffy's followers—the fascist 'Blue Shirts'—to form the United Ireland Party (Fine Gael) with

O'Duffy as President. De Valera used the military tribunal set up by his predecessors to deal with the Blue Shirts—but he also used it against the IRA.

During World War II, Ireland remained a 'friendly neutral'. De Valera clearly hoped to pressurize the British government into ending partition. The British government, in its turn, undertook on June 26, 1940, to pressurize N Ireland to end partition immediately on condition that Eire entered the war on the British side. But de Valera insisted on a united Ireland first and the negotiations fell through.

De Valera's opposition to entering the war was in no sense an opposition to its imperialist character. He was friendly with the imperialist leaders all over the world. When Roosevelt died, de Valera described him as a man who could have 'saved the world from recurring calamities'.

And when Hitler died, on April 30, 1945, de Valera paid a formal visit of condolence to the German Minister in Dublin.

After the war, de Valera's government—like every other capitalist government in Europe—faced a social crisis. By 1948 he was out of office. In 1951 he was back again (with a parliamentary secretary called Jack Lynch), only to lose office again to a Fine Gael-Labour-Clann na Talmhan coalition in 1954.

In 1957, at the age of 74, he became Prime Minister yet again. His Cabinet included Jack Lynch, Neal Blaney and Kevin Boland.

In June 1959, Eamon de Valera became President of Ireland, a divided bourgeois Ireland dependent, economically and politically, on British capitalism. He was the friend and admirer of Winston Churchill, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson and Harold Wilson.

The one-time commander in the Easter Rising, one-time prisoner, one-time civil war fighter had devoted his life to trying to make Ireland safe for the Green Tories and for capitalism.

His life's work will count for nothing. The revolutionary workers of Ireland, behind a party of the Fourth International, will destroy the bourgeois Ireland which Eamon de Valera fought to construct and preserve. **CONCLUDED**



John Wayne (right) with director John Ford (centre) making 'The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance'

COWBOYS AND CULTURE

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor, Maoists are for rejecting bourgeois culture. 'Smash the decaying cultural superstructure of imperialism', they say, and accuse those who seek to defend what is good in that culture as 'petty-bourgeois idealists'.

It is true that the defence of culture has fallen largely to the lot of middle-class intellectuals, precisely because the capitalist system has denied the masses access to that culture. If, therefore, part of the educational programme of a socialist government would be to open up the culture of the past to the people in order for them to understand and consciously accept or reject the good and bad, and go on to build a socialist culture, then those middle-class intellectuals who write about art in socialist newspapers must, right now, understand what, in this context, 'petty-bourgeois thinking' actually is.

A week ago last Saturday some readers may have watched a western about a cavalry troop. Its leader takes them into a battle, after an exhaustive training period, in which he himself dies. The film shows the irascible, right-wing redneck qualities of this leader — qualities which, according to the film, raise him above the rank and file of the cavalry. After he is dead, the film wallows in almost tearful sentiment.

The film is called 'Fort Apache'. It was directed by John Ford and stars John Wayne (and we all know about him!). The film is a masterpiece; among the finest the cinema has produced.

I make this statement in conscious opposition to a small caption in Workers Press which, however insignificant in itself, reveals a style of petty-bourgeois thinking not like that of the Maoists attack, but of a type which Trotsky attacked time and time again.

The caption appeared under a still from another John Ford film called 'The Iron Horse', on Friday, March 14. It read: 'Ford's career is recalled by some of the performers who have worked with him in his quest to create and glamour one of the most

brutal areas of capitalist development during the last century'.

They key word which reveals the ideology behind this caption is 'glamour'. It reveals the kind of 'Marxist' sensibility which, taken to its logical conclusions, would dismiss Cromwell's way of dealing with the Levellers, or his quelling of the Irish rebellion (with a glib gesture of unqualified contempt) — a sensibility which is never found in Workers Press, except in some of the writings on culture.

It represents an entirely subjective approach to the films in question which, far from taking the working class towards a conscious understanding of the virtues and defects of bourgeois culture, puts a wall between them and that understanding. It creates a situation in which bourgeois culture remains the privileged property of middle-class intellectuals, who then proceed to reject it 'on behalf' of the working masses. This is real petty-bourgeois thinking.

I am well aware that Trotsky was writing not in a context such as ours in which the proletariat needs to be on its guard against the distortions of the press, the media and other aspects of culture, but in that of an intellectual debate on the myth of proletarian art.

Nevertheless, I quote: 'Dialectical materialism can be applied to new spheres of knowledge only by mastering them from within' ('Culture and Socialism').

'Art has to be approached as art . . . as a quite specific field of human endeavour. Of course we have a class criterion in art too, but this class criterion must be refracted artistically. The bourgeoisie knows this very well and likewise approaches art from its class point of view. It knows how to get from art what it needs, but only because it approaches art as art' ('Class and Art').

'Art is one of the ways man finds his bearings in the world. . . . Unlike science however, art is a form of cognition of the world not as a system of laws but as groups of images. The art of past centuries . . . has

enriched (man) in an all-round way. Mastery of the art of the past is, therefore, a necessary precondition not only for the creation of a new art, but also for the building of the new society. . . . ('Culture and Socialism').

I know that film, as a product, a commodity on the open market, cannot be judged solely by artistic criteria. It is, however, equally true that the bourgeoisie finances films not on the basis of their class content entirely, but on their possible profitability.

Therefore, in making clear the class content and historical position of individual films, we should beware of being blind to those other technical and aesthetic qualities in them from which we can learn.

Far from putting down John Ford, we should be recommending him to the working class as a rich and complex film-maker whose works should be approached, like any others, critically, consciously, scientifically and, above all, fearlessly.

A strange word to use, perhaps, but one which indicates the source of that hostility to the first quotation I made from Trotsky — a hostility which often crops up when right-wing art is the object of analysis.

Let us by all means expose art as the commodity it has become. But let us also keep an eye open for those things which will keep certain works alive long after commodities in a capitalist system have ceased to be.

Yours sincerely,
Tim Horrocks.

The caption writer assures me he was not dismissing Ford in using the word 'glamour' (in fact, it should have read 'glamourize'). He was trying to convey, in a very shortened form, what is expressed in a reader's letter, which will appear tomorrow on page 9. In fact the TV programme on Ford was particularly highlighted by a picture and caption in our programme schedules to encourage people to watch it and assess Ford for themselves — be they workers or middle-class intellectuals.—Ed.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

Equality

Another giant stride for women's liberation was taken last week by Col Maries Louise Rasmusen, former head of the American Women's Army Corps (WACs).

She favours making opportunities for women in the army equal to those enjoyed by men. Specifically, she wants the authorities to call up women in times of national emergency and lower the age of entry for women soldiers.

What have women done to deserve this, you might well ask. 'I think the women have earned these things. They have done such a good job that the services have recognized their achievements,' the colonel says.

Mrs Rasmusen is 70.

Labour girls



Philippines President Marcos

The Philippine government is investigating a complaint that nine Filipino girls were victims of 'unscrupulous labour recruiters' in the Philippines and in England.

The Foreign Office announced that the Philippine Office of Consular Affairs had been asked to check the complaint from the girls' relatives.

In a letter to the Philippine Embassy in London the relatives said the girls were promised 'good employment, good salary and better living in England with the possibility of entering the United States

from England after termination of their contracts'.

The work which the girls, mostly college graduates, got turned out to be as 'resident domestics' and to perform the 'duties and work of slaves'.

The letter said the girls were paid £11 a week from which £2 was deducted for transport, although they had been promised free fares to England.

Destitute

About 5 per cent of the French population is practically destitute and living on the fringes of society according to the charitable organization AIDE. About 60 per cent of these are children and young people.

The movement's secretary, the Abee Wresinski, in announcing a new appeal, said that every crisis increased the numbers of the sub-proletariat, many of who live in shacks and shanty-towns on the outskirts of big cities.

Sailor

Lang Smith has returned from his sailing expedition, 50,000 miles short of his goal.

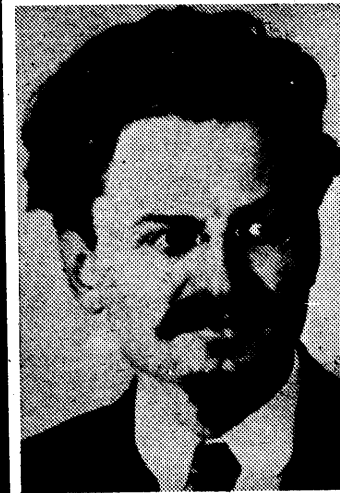
Smith (27), set sail near Vancouver, British Columbia, on April 8 in a tiny plastic foam sailboat, planning to sail around the world. Fifty-five miles later he hit a submerged log near the E coast of Vancouver Island and was forced to call off his planned two-and-a-half year venture.

His vessel was an 11-foot sailboat weighing less than 40 pounds and purchased for £52. It had a broomstick for a bowsprit and a picture frame for a steering wheel.

Back at his mother's home he said the accident damaged his retractable centreboard and affected the steering.

Smith, a bachelor, has no immediate plans to try again. He said he needs money now and plans to drop in at the Pacific National Exhibition to see whether he can get back his old job as a roller-coaster operator.

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'Colour' cards in Birmingham housing lists

BIRMINGHAM Housing Department has been marking tenancy cards with 'C' for coloured and 'NC' for non-coloured for about four years in contravention of the Race Relations Act.

The Tory council's official policy of 'dispersal' of immigrants was decided after protests from white tenants about the number of coloured people being allocated to their estate.

According to housing manager J. J. Atkinson, if there are two immigrant families on the landing of a block, another immigrant family will not be offered a flat on the same floor.

Though these tenancy cards are allegedly confidential, they recently got into the hands of a Sunday newspaper.

Birmingham Housing Department is investigating this situation, but a spokesman said it will not change its system of marking.

The London borough of Lambeth also keeps such immigration statistics.

● See Saturday's Workers Press for a special report on Birmingham housing and rents.

Rota ban

ENGINEERING workers at Arthur Lees, a Sheffield steel firm, yesterday decided to introduce a full overtime ban with the suspension of the working rota.

In a statement to Workers Press, the joint shop stewards' committee said that any reprisals by management would be met with 'immediate action'.

Fianna Fail looking for a 'yes' before going to the country



Premier Jack Lynch, whose party works in the Dail (parliament) with a minority of 70 MPs against a combined opposition of 74. He wants to recoup lost seats.

Lynch election?

FROM SARAH HANNIGAN

EIRE may face a General Election within the next two months.

Feeling in Dublin is that if the ruling Fianna Fail party is successful in achieving a majority 'Yes' vote on the Common Market entry referendum on May 10, then its leaders may immediately lay plans for a June election.

Speculation was increased last Thursday after the announcement that Fine Gael—the right-wing opposition party in the Dail (parliament)—has instituted a major re-shuffle of its front-bench spokesmen.

Commenting on the re-shuffle decision, Fine Gael leader Liam Cosgrove said it had been taken because the present Dail was within 'measurable distance of a General Election'.

The Fine Gael re-shuffle came 24 hours after Eire's Finance Minister George Colley announced details of what is being hailed in Ireland as his 'give-away' Budget.

Obviously a Budget with the coming EEC referendum vote in mind, it gave extra money to the old, retired, disabled and unemployed, while at the same time increasing income tax allowance.

Farmers were also given a sop in the form of increased milk prices and a £35,000 hand-out to start implementing EEC directives on agricultural reform.

In addition to increased pensions, the over-70s are now allowed free travel, while all old age pensioners' free electricity allowance will be trebled, from October to March and doubled for the rest of the year.

Introducing his 'package', Colley referred to the current national wage agreement discussions between unions and employers.

Stating that he had 'no doubt' that the discussions would take notice of the 'needs of the current economic situation', Colley went on:

'I would be failing in my responsibilities if I did not spell out the objectives on the incomes front. . . .

'With so many unemployed and so many redundancies threatened, it would be inexcusable if the community as a whole had to divert to serious inflationary pay rises, money which could be used directly for providing new jobs.'

In this light, the Budget can be understood in the nature of a 'last-ditch stand' by Jack Lynch's Fianna Fail government in its attempts to successfully manoeuvre the 26-counties into the Common Market.

At present Fianna Fail is in

the position of working in the Dail with a minority of 70 MPs against a combined opposition of 74—covering Fine Gael and Labour Party MPs. A General Election after a successful 'Yes' referendum vote could possibly recoup lost seats and strengthen Fianna Fail's hand.

In the past week campaigning for the Common Market vote has been stepped up. The Irish Labour Party and the big unions have declared their opposition.

The Irish Congress of Trade Unions has circulated 500,000 copies of its 'black paper' which warns that thousands of workers will lose their jobs and that the country would face economic catastrophe inside the EEC.

Independent MP for Mid-Ulster, Miss Bernadette Devlin, has announced that she will be campaigning in the 26-counties in the coming weeks against entry.

With Fine Gael and the powerful Farmers' Association supporting entry, however, it is thought that Jack Lynch will have the country's agreement when the votes are counted in May.



Eire's Finance Minister George Colley recently announced a 'give-away' Budget geared to winning extra support.

EEC will increase transport costs

ENTRY into the Common Market would mean an increase in the price of transport, John Elliott, president of the Freight Transport Association, warned last night.

Mr Elliott told the Association's annual dinner that European controls and the tax system for transport in the Market countries would cause the increases.

He asked: 'How are we going to increase our European market if the French and Italians refuse entry permits for our vehicles and those of our hauliers? The restrictive quota system is already prejudicing some exports and frustrating others completely.'

'Will we be forced to accept a new tax system for transport which may be the acme of theoretical perfection and equity, but which increases enormously freight costs?'

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Extreme right rallies in London

BRITAIN'S right-wing National Front and the Ulster Vanguard Movement are forging an alliance of extreme-right elements in Britain.

The Front in a 'Members' Bulletin' dated April 1972, calls on all its members and supporters to join the demonstration of British Loyalists next Saturday, April 29, at Hyde Park Corner.

The march and rally is being sponsored by the Vanguard, whose leader, William Craig, has promised to field at least 1,000 supporters from N Ireland for the occasion.

Two National Front leaders—John Tyndal and the Rev. Brian

London

Green—have been asked to address the rally.

In a letter recently to the Bexleyheath edition of the 'Kentish Times', Bexley National Front secretary, James Turner, describes the Vanguard as a 'popular patriotic mass movement with forceful, determined and courageous leadership'.

And he adds: 'If the United Kingdom is to remain strong and free, and if the British people are to retain their independence and identity, then we must take the example of the Ulster Vanguard

to heart. Only disciplined mass action can now defeat the system. Now is the time to organize and fight back.'

There are even thought to be moves afoot to join the Front and the Ulster Vanguard together in a new movement, the 'National Vanguard'.

Another speaker invited is Enoch Powell. Last weekend Powell was strongly advocating the occupation of areas in N Ireland 'occupied by the enemy'.

Powell, who like the Ulster Vanguard, is an opponent of the Tory government's direct-rule 'initiatives', has described the Tory supremo William Whitelaw's task as 'not difficult, but impossible'.

Revolt against Carter

ABOUT 40 teaching staff at Lancaster University staged a one-day strike yesterday against attacks on lecturers and students on the campus.

Students have also voted to reject the inquiry set up by the university pro-Chancellor, Lord Greenwood. They say its terms of reference are too narrow and they have not been consulted about the appointment of a person to conduct the inquiry.

Staff in one-day strike over sackings

The staff—members of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs—picketed the entrance to the university building with placards opposing moves to dismiss English lecturer Dr David Craig.

At a 1,500-strong mass meeting on Monday night, students voted to lift their boycott of lectures. This move followed a statement by the vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Carter, that

grant cheques would be issued if there was no threat of resumption of the boycott and if there was no sit-in.

The meeting voted to adopt new tactics to deal with the university administration. These include selective withdrawal of students from joint committees and the withholding of residence fees from the colleges.

Present at the meeting were nine shop stewards from the BAC Preston plant, now on strike for over 11 weeks.



ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

SOUTHALL: Wednesday April 26, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Bridge Rd. Fight Tory rents policy.

ACTON: Wednesday April 26, 8 p.m. Tenants' Hall, Hanbury Rd, S Acton Estate. Tory rents policy.

LUTON: Thursday April 27, 8 p.m. St John Ambulance Brigade Hall, Lea Rd. YS May Day rally.

N LONDON: Thursday April 27, 8 p.m. 'Bricklayers Arms', Tottenham High Rd (nr White Hart Lane). The engineers' wage claim.

SE LONDON: Thursday April 27, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Rd (opp New Cross stn). Tory 'fair rents' Bill.

LIVERPOOL: Thursday April 27, 8 p.m. 'Swan Hotel', London Rd. Building an alternative revolutionary leadership.

CASTLEFORD, Friday, April 28, 6.30 p.m. 'The Magnet', Airedale. The Industrial Relations Act.

E LONDON: Tuesday May 2, 8 p.m. 'Aberfeldy', Aberfeldy St (nr Blackwall Tunnel). N Ireland.

W LONDON: Tuesday May 2, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Rd, Kings Cross. Fight Industrial Relations Act.

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

STRIKERS at the newly-organized D and E Plastic Components factory, Canley, Coventry, yesterday voted to continue their two-week-old pay dispute with the company. They will not meet again until Friday.

The 75 men and women involved, who joined the Transport and General Workers' Union last month, made their decision despite a threat of redundancy from managing director Tony Bradbury.

On strike for better pay, holidays and overtime rates, many strikers, particularly the women, are voicing a new grievance.

They allege that people entering the factory have made obscene gestures and that lorries have driven straight at them as they lined the gates for picket duty.

The firm employs 100 altogether and limited production is in progress.

Founded 12 years ago as a family concern, D and E is not considered by the owners as an engineering firm. But pay and conditions there finally led the men and married women to see the need to organize and fight

Newly-organized plastics plant votes to stay out

for their rights.

Jeff Brassington, the night-shift shop steward, said the strike is basically over pay and overtime rates.

'On night-shift we receive 50p an hour and £3.50 a week night allowance,' he said.

'Even on this there is a penal clause. If anybody loses a night they lose all their night allowance.'

'Our demand is for 25p per hour increase on wages and an increase in the night allowance to £5 per week.'

'For the day shift, mainly women, we demanded an increase from 35p per hour to 52½p per hour. For labourers, who only get 27½p per hour, we demanded 50p per hour.'

'We want a revision of all piecework rates and fall-back pay of 75p per hour.'

'Further, this firm works seven days a week and yet all overtime is paid at single rate. We have demanded proper overtime rates.'

'The claim was put in three weeks ago. The management turned round and said they would go bankrupt if they paid this.'

'They offered a 7½p per hour increase to night workers plus 50p per week night allowance increase. For the day shift they offered nothing.'

'Our members flatly refused this and came out on strike.'

Robert Harrison, the T&GWU full-time official responsible, says that while the union is backing them, it could not make the strike official because seven days' notice of strike action was not given to the firm.

Kenneth Berry, the T&GWU convenor, told Workers Press the strikers thought the wages at D and E were 'disgusting'.

He said: 'The firm are always finding excuses for putting off our demands for decent wages. They even stop workers having their holidays later in the year if they work the holiday fortnight.'

There are many complaints

about conditions, first aid and facilities, but management refuses to comment on these charges.

When asked for a view of what the strike was about, a representative said: 'You can say that these workers are overpaid and underworked, but they think it is the other way round.'

Mass torture of Arabs

ISRAELI military authorities are holding 10,000 Palestinian Arabs without charge of trial, according to a report by the Union of Liberal Students published yesterday.

The report says many of a further 4,000 Palestinians convicted since 1967 have been tortured during their imprisonment.

THE Birmingham Chapel Lane branch of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has sent the following letter to Workers Press:

◀ Birmingham Battery and Metal Company Ltd. About 350 AUEW members have been on strike since March 15, 1972.

The Executive Council declared the dispute official on April 11. Our members have been out for six weeks and have not had any benefit yet and they are suffering badly from lack of funds and we will be very grateful for any help. E. S. Curtis, 34 Barnwood Rd, Quinton, Birmingham 32 ▶

BBC 1

9.20 Pogles' Wood. 9.38 For Schools. 10.45 Boomph with Becker. 11.35 Schools. 12.25 Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan. 1.00 Disc a Dawn. 1.30 Camberwick Green. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 Schools. 2.25 Racing from Ascot. 4.15 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Laurel and Hardy. 5.15 John Craven's News Round. 5.20 Before the Event. 5.44 Hector's House. 5.50 News, weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
7.00 SPY TRAP. Time to Kill—episode 1.

7.25 STAR TREK. Metamorphosis.

8.15 LORD PETER WIMSEY: CLOUDS OF WITNESS. Part 4.

9.00 NEWS, Weather.

9.25 SPORTSNIGHT WITH COLEMAN.

10.00 LIBERAL PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST.

10.15 TALKBACK.

10.50 24 HOURS.

11.30 Weather.

TV

ITV

12.25 Ideas in Print. 1.20 House and Garden. 1.45 This is No Time for Romance. 2.10 Early One Morning. 2.30 Good Afternoon. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.15 Dr Simon Locke. 3.45 Edgar Wallace. 4.40 Hatty Town. 4.55 Lift Off. 5.20 Escape into Night. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.
6.35 CROSSROADS.
7.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE.
7.30 CORONATION STREET.
8.00 CADE'S COUNTY. One Small Acceptable Death.

9.00 CALLAN. The Carrier.
10.00 LIBERAL PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST.

10.15 NEWS.
10.50 FOOTBALL.
11.45 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING.

12.15 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.
12.30 THE BISHOPS.

REGIONAL TV

All regions as BBC 1 except:

Wales: 4.55 Cadi Ha. 6.00 Wales Today. 7.00 Heddiw. 7.15 A Phlesser. 7.45 It's Murder, But is it Art? 11.32 Rygbi. 12.00 News.

Scotland: 6.00 Reporting Scotland. 10.15 Sportsreel. 11.30 News, weather.

N Ireland: 10.25 Schools. 6.00 Scene around six. 11.32 News, weather.

England: 6.00 Look North, Midlands, Look East, Points West, South, Spotlight West. Weather. 11.32 News, weather.

CHANNEL: 2.10 Royal family. 4.05 Paulus. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 Good afternoon. 4.55 London. 6.00 Channel news, weather. 6.10 Towards the year 2000. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Treasure hunt. 7.30 London. 10.00 Life in France. 10.15 London. 12.13 Epilogue. News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.20 News. 6.00 Diary. 12.13 News, weather. 12.17 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 2.05 Katie Stewart. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Danger man. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 Enchanted house. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.30 Challenge. 7.00 London. 12.10 News. 12.40 Weather. Epilogue.

HTV: 12.55 Woobinda. 1.20 Captain Scarlet. 1.45 Arthur. 2.05 Out of town. 2.25 Dangerous corner. 3.20 Talking hands. 3.35 Enchanted house. 3.50 Ugliest girl in town. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.01 Report. 6.15 Report. 6.30 Odd couple. 7.00 London. 12.15 Mad movies. 12.45 Weather.

HTV Wales as above except: 3.50 Hamdden. 4.15 Miri Mawr. 6.01 Y Dydd.
HTV Cymru/Wales as HTV Wales.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School. 5.35 Open University. 7.05 Measure of Conscience.

7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather.

8.00 TIMES REMEMBERED. James Blades. Part 1.

8.10 MAN ALIVE: GALE IS DEAD. Film about young drug addict.

9.00 POT BLACK. Snooker competition.

9.20 VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD:

HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Report.

ANGLIA: 2.30 London. 3.15 Jockey club. 3.45 Yoga. 4.15 News. 4.18 Cartoons. 4.30 Romper room. 4.55 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London.

ATV MIDLANDS: 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women. 4.10 Mrs Muir. 4.40 Grasshopper island. 4.55 London. 5.20 Maggie. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London.

ULSTER: 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.15 What's on? 6.35 London.

YORKSHIRE: 1.00 Rainbow country. 1.25 Pied piper. 1.30 Sean. 1.40 Corwin. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 The sound of... 3.15 Hadleigh. 4.10 News. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Hatty Town. 4.55 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 London. 8.00 Cade's County. 9.00 London. 12.15 Odd couple. 12.40 Weather.

TYNE TEES: 12.30 Forest rangers. 1.00 Time to remember. 1.30 Corwin. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 The sound of... 3.15 Had-

'CENTENNIAL SUMMER'. Jeanne Crain, Cornel Wilde, Linda Darnell. Romantic adventures and misadventures of Rogers family.

10.00 LIBERAL PARTY POLITICAL BROADCAST.

10.15 CENTENNIAL SUMMER. Part 2.

11.15 NEWS, Weather.

11.20 LATE NIGHT LINE UP.

leigh. 4.10 News. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Make a wish. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 London. 8.00 Cade's county. 9.00 London. 10.45 Tommy Cooper. 11.15 Wrestling. 11.45 News. 12.00 Epilogue.

GRANADA: 1.20 Polaris. 2.00 Mad movies. 2.25 Edgar Wallace. 3.30 Yoga. 3.55 Camera in action. 4.10 News. Peyton Place. 4.40 Paulus. 4.55 London. 6.00 News. What's on? 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 London.

SCOTTISH: 3.30 Pinky and Perky. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.20 Cartoon. 6.30 More we are together. 7.00 London. 8.00 Cade's County. 9.00 London. 10.45 Shine a light. 11.15 Sport. 11.45 Late call. 11.50 Wrestling.

GRAMPIAN: 3.38 News. 3.45 Women. 4.10 Jimmy Stewart. 4.40 Enchanted House. 4.55 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Grampian Week. 6.35 London. 8.00 Cade's County. 8.55 Police news. 9.00 London. 10.50 O'Hara. 11.45 Wrestling. 12.15 Epilogue.

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FROM PHILIP WADE
IN MANCHESTER

Plant bargains cracking up

THE STRUGGLE of the greater Manchester engineers has reached a crisis point and threatens to crumble as the strategy of plant-bargaining begins to collapse.

AUEW district officials are now running from one plant to another to try and prevent wages only settlements being made.

A severe set-back was the rebuff handed out to district secretary Bernard Panter by 2,000 workers at the Mather & Platt plant.

On Monday Panter appealed to

them to repudiate a wages only agreement reached by shop stewards. He called for a fight on the district claim for shorter hours and longer holidays.

But they refused to listen to him and insisted on accepting the £5.50 rise.

'It is a set-back all right', said John Tocher, divisional organizer yesterday. 'They have been bought with a wages offer and it was attractive in a situation where men were in financial difficulty.'

Understandably the Employers' Association were jubilant at the wedge driven between work-

ers and district committee officials.

'Common sense will now gather momentum and those sitting in will now stand up', a spokesman said.

Another blow to the district claim has come from the settlement made at the Simons-Vickers plant near Warrington.

Some 500 workers have called off their three-week sit in on the basis of a £2-a-week rise and nothing on hours or holidays.

Although John Tocher managed on Monday to persuade 2,000 Hawker Siddeley workers at Woodford not to return with-

out an offer on hours a question mark still hangs over the resumption of work by 3,500 workers at AEI Trafford Park.

The locked-out men returned to work yesterday on the basis of talks on the district claim. Convenor Bert Brennan said they were being allowed to return on day work and a ban on overtime.

This may be so, but it is far from the victory it has been hailed as by the 'Morning Star'.

Although Communist Party members Tocher, Panter and Bernard Reagan are trying desperately to preserve the unity of

the district claim, the plant-by-plant settlements are fragmenting the struggle.

And they are unable to draw any lessons from this critical situation.

Employers are now beginning to play off the rank and file against district leaders and engineers in other plants.

This dangerous situation flows directly from the retreat made by the AUEW national executive when it abandoned the national claim.

And it was a move covered up for by the 'Morning Star' and leading CP members.

Saigon troops flee central highlands

LIBERATION forces with tanks were heading S towards Kontum City yesterday after smashing down S Vietnamese defences in the central highlands and putting Saigon's troops to flight.

Heatons to test black

HEATONS Transport of St Helens has threatened to take container lorries to Liverpool docks again today to confront the unofficial black.

Late yesterday a delegation of union representatives went from Liverpool to St Helens to meet Robert Heaton, joint managing director of the firm.

The Transport and General Workers' Union has already been fined £55,000 in the National Industrial Relations Court for refusing to lift the black.

Yesterday, talks were in progress in Liverpool between representatives of another road haulage firm, Bishop's Wharf of Warrington, who are also involved in legal action against the union, and shop stewards.

Tory 'lease of life' on EEC

THE TORY government has 'received a new lease of life' from Labour's impotence over the Common Market, print-union leader John Bonfield said yesterday.

'Speaking in London, the National Graphical Association secretary said that a 'two-pronged' attack was needed on the Industrial Relations Act.

'We must resist all attempts to invoke its provisions to the detriment of our members' interests and wellbeing,' he said in his presidential address to the Printing and Kindred Trades' Federation conference.

At the same time, the TUC should insist that, as a condition of union co-operation [with the government] in dealing with the nation's economic problems, they suspend the Act, or at the very least drastically modify the application of its most vicious provisions, until such time as the whole issue can be reopened again.'

Efficiency will kill transport jobs—Robens

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS

WORKERS in the transport industry would pay for greater efficiency with redundancy—this was the message yesterday from Lord Robens to Britain's transport employers.

The ex-Coal Board chief said that new methods necessary to meet the fierce competition from Europe were 'blurring' the distinction between the docker, the railwayman and the lorry driver.

People employed in the industry would have to be kept down to a minimum to cut costs, he told a lunch organized by the Centre for Physical Distribution Management.

'It must surely only be a matter of time before the boundaries disappear altogether. People must realize that they are no longer in road haulage, in the docks or the railways as such but in a business called transportation.'

The changes, particularly in containerization, were leading to increasing militancy among workers.

'Now we have the problem in the docks on containerization and this is leading up to a very nasty confrontation with the law.'

But it was up to trade unionists, the government and employers to make the transition a smooth one.

No one liked to lose their job, he said, but 'you can't avoid changes.'

'You can't reject increased efficiency merely because it's going to mean social changes because this is the road to economic disaster.'

Hundreds of government troops were hiding in bunkers and refusing to fight as their commanders desperately tried to cobble together a defence line against the advancing liberation units.

Civilians were fleeing out of the town along a road already held in some places by liberation troops. Radio Hanoi yesterday called on its forces to close in on S Vietnamese troops and prevent them fleeing from the Kontum area.

'All local armed units must co-ordinate with local guerrillas to call all enemy remnants hiding in the jungle to surrender . . .', it said.

Saigon commanders admit that their main units—two regiments from the S Vietnamese 22nd Infantry Division and one paratroop battalion suffered crushing casualties as the liberation forces struck.

Only five battalions of Rangers and one paratroop battalion were in good enough shape to undertake any kind of defence, the S Vietnamese said. Kontum itself is defended only by local militia forces whose reliability even in 'normal' circumstances is doubtful.

The victories in the central highlands indicate the liberation forces' complete mastery of the battlefield situation. They opened up the central front just a few hours after the S Vietnamese had withdrawn units from the area to reinforce the defences of Saigon.

S Vietnam's strategic reserve no longer exists and the government is clearly not capable of fighting a war on several fronts.

In the area N of Saigon, the fighting has slackened over the past two days, though the besieged town of An Loc again came under heavy bombardment from liberation troops yesterday.

In neighbouring Cambodia yesterday police and troops surrounded the University of Phnom Penh where rebel students who oppose the Lon Nol regime have taken refuge.

The students are protecting Koy Pech, a 32-year-old student leader facing a military trial accused of subversion and serving enemy interests.

WEATHER

ENGLAND, Wales, N Ireland and S Scotland will be mainly cloudy with some rain or drizzle in places. Temperatures will be near normal.

Outlook for Thursday and Friday: Mainly dry over England and Wales with sunny spells, rather cloudy over Scotland with some rain at times in the E and N. Temperatures generally near normal.

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FIVE MORE DAYS TO GO!

THE MORE the union leaders retreat from the fight against the Industrial Relations Act, the more strength and determination the Tories gain to hit out even more ferociously at the working class.

This cowardly union leadership can and must be thrust aside. Instead a revolutionary alternative must be built to lead hundreds of thousands of workers everywhere to force this government to resign.

Workers Press alone speaks out and prepares for these decisive battles. Help us therefore in every way you can for our April Fund. We need to raise £1,000.85 in the next five days. It is a tough assignment, but with a great last-minute effort, we are sure you will do it. We are relying on you. Rush all donations immediately to:

Workers Press April Appeal Fund
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SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MAY 1 PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Mobilize against the Tories
Hands off the trade unions
Defend the right to work
Force the Tory government to resign**

LONDON: Poplar Civil Hall, Bow Rd, 7.30 p.m.
G. Healy (SLL National Secretary); Sarah Hannigan (YS, London regional secretary).

LIVERPOOL: Royal Institute, Colquitt St, 7.30 p.m.
Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee); Christine Smith (YS).

LEEDS: Art Gallery, Headrow, Leeds 1, 7.30 p.m.
Jack Gale (SLL); Ken Pearce (OTO in personal capacity); Joan Burrows (YS National Committee).

SHEFFIELD: Montgomery Hall, Survey St, opp. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee); Frank McCabe (NUM in personal capacity); Ray Jaxson (YSNC).

BIRMINGHAM: Lecture Room 1, Digbeth Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Mair Davies (SLL Central Committee); Alex Mitchell (Workers Press); William Aitken (YSNC).

NOTTINGHAM: Co-op Education Hall, Heathcote St, 7.30 p.m.
John Spencer (Workers Press); Harry Finch (SLL); Steve Martin (YSNC).

SWINDON: Locomotive Hotel, Fleet St, 7.30 p.m.
Ray Howells (AUEW personal capacity); Clive Norris (YSNC).

READING: Trades and Labour

Hall, Minster St, 7.30 p.m.
Dany Sylveire (SLL); Tony Richardson (T&GWU in personal capacity).

SOUTHAMPTON: Langley Hall, next to St Peter's Church, Commercial Rd, 7.30 p.m.
Frank Willis (AUEW in personal capacity); P. O'Regan (SLL).

GLASGOW: Partick Burgh Hall, Glasgow, 7.30 p.m.
Stephen Johns (Workers Press); John Barrie (YSNC).

EDINBURGH: Trades Council Club, Albany St, 7.30 p.m.
Jim Dormer (EPTU in personal capacity); Dave Barclay (YS).

MANCHESTER: Wheatsheaf, High St, 7.30 p.m.
Alan Stanley (Vauxhall shop steward in personal capacity); John Simmance (YS national secretary).

AYLESHAM: The Legion, Burgess Rd, Aylesham, 7 p.m.
Brian Lavery (NUM in personal capacity); Roger Smith (ACTT in personal capacity).

NEWCASTLE: Hotspur Hotel, Haymarket, 7.30 p.m.
Dave Temple (SLL); Hugh Nicol (AUEW in a personal capacity); Ian Yeats (Workers Press); Keith Radford (YSNC).

BRISTOL: Central Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Alan Wilkins (AUEW in a personal capacity).

Socialist Labour League and Young Socialists

MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION

Sunday May 7

**We demand the Right to Work!
No retreat from the fight against the Industrial Relations Act!
Hands off the trade unions! Defend democratic rights!
Withdraw troops from Ulster! Release all internees!
Victory to the Vietnamese workers and peasants
For the military defeat of US imperialism!
MAKE THE TORY GOVERNMENT RESIGN!**

ASSEMBLE: 1.30 p.m. The Embankment, Charing Cross

MARCH: via Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly, Regent Street, Oxford Street, Tottenham Court Road, Euston Road

MEETING: 4 p.m. St Pancras Town Hall.

G. Healy (Socialist Labour League National Secretary)
J. Simmance (Young Socialists National Secretary)
M. Banda (Socialist Labour League Central Committee)

In a personal capacity:
Frank McCabe (NUM)
Roy Battersby (ACTT)
A. Thornett (Deputy Senior Steward Morris Motors)

CHAIRMAN
C. Slaughter (Socialist Labour League Central Committee)

I would like to come to the May Day Demonstration

NAME

ADDRESS

Please send me details of transport arrangements. Complete form and send to J. Simmance, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.