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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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BY OUR FOREIGN EDITOR
JOHN SPENCER

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happen. We are prepared to use our military and naval strength against military targets throughout North Vietnam and we believe that the North Vietnamese are taking a very great risk if they continue their offensive in the South.

'I will just leave it there and they can make their own choice,' he said. Since Nixon made this ominous threat, the South Vietnamese armies have suffered further defeats and the Thieu regime is on the edge of collapse.

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Nixon also has a force of 5,000 Marines standing by on his armada in the Gulf of Tonkin. There was speculation in Washington yesterday that these troops might be landed on the coast of North Vietnam to wreck harbours, depots and anti-aircraft installations.

Other desperate moves under consideration by the National Security Council included breaching the dikes of the irrigation system in the Red River Delta, flooding huge tracts of North Vietnam and drowning thousands of men, women and children.

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The world labour movement must be on its guard against these genocidal plans. The victory of the Vietnamese revolution is the direct concern of every worker struggling against capitalism in Britain and throughout the world.



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OVER 1,000 schoolchildren marched round West London schools yesterday calling out support for a one-day strike today.

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The two were Steve Finch (18), from Rutherford, and Steve Wilson of the Schools Action Union. They were taken away in a police van.

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BY SARAH HANNIGAN

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The Rutherford boys then walked to Marylebone Institute and Marylebone Central Schools before the meeting at Paddington Green.

Organized by members of the Schools Action Union the pupils are demanding no school uniforms and an end to caning and detentions.

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£247.90 - A GREAT COLLECTION AT OUR MAY DAY RALLY

A MOST enthusiastic audience at the May Day rally last Sunday collected the grand amount of £247.90 towards our May Appeal Fund. It really was a tremendous collection. Thank you all very much indeed.

The huge turn-out and the meeting, filled to overflowing, shows that our firm, principled stand against the Tory government is winning greater and greater support throughout the

labour and trade union movement.

So let's press ahead as fast as we can. At the moment, the total for our fund stands at £438.15. But don't sit back—this month we are aiming to raise an extra £500 over our £1,250 target. Keep up this magnificent effort. Post every donation immediately to:
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Sacked! For being jailed by Franco

NEARLY 300 Spanish teachers have drafted a protest letter to the British Ambassador against the sacking by the British Council of a teacher currently imprisoned without trial for alleged political offences.

The teacher, Mrs Pamela Crist, was dismissed from the British Institute School in Madrid for 'absence without cause'. She is a prisoner in the notorious Carabanchel jail

after failing to pay a £1,500 fine inflicted without trial for allegedly attending an illegal teachers' meeting.

Mrs Crist, who was born in Ireland, has taught at the British Institute School for 13 years. Her dismissal by the British Council implicates this semi-official body in the Franco government's fascist repression of militants.

British Ambassador Sir John

Russell was not available at the weekend to receive the protest letter because he was in Jerez for the annual spring fiesta.

Mrs Crist's colleagues have decided to await the outcome of a meeting between the director of the British Institute and the state-controlled Sindicatos (fascist unions) before presenting the protest.

WHAT WE THINK

THE FIGHT FOR JOBS

WORKERS from Burroughs Machines in Scotland met with American executives yesterday to argue over yet another massive redundancy. This time the US company want to axe 1,000 jobs at their factories in Strathleven and Cumbernauld. For both communities it will mean a male unemployment rate of 15 per cent when the sackings begin at the end of this week.

The redundancies, which are a disaster for the two towns, have not given rise to any dramatic protests. One could even say that the workers are despondent—and it's not difficult to see why.

Since unemployment in Scotland was highlighted in July 1971 when the UCS workers began their work-in a further 17,000 men and women have gone onto the dole queues. In other words, all the protests and pleading, the sit-ins and work-ins, have completely failed to stem the relentless increase in the number of jobless. A similar pattern has been repeated in all Britain's depressed areas.

The Burroughs men—witnessing this failure to defend the right to work—must ask, 'what can we do then to save our jobs?'

The answer can be found on the Clyde. Here reformist trade union leaders and Stalinists of the Communist Party got together to confound and divert a massive movement against the Tories and their unemployment policy.

Their main aim was to keep politics out at all costs, and make sure the avenues of retreat were kept open in preparation for a later compromise with the Tories.

This was why they appealed against political slogans on the huge UCS demonstrations which mobilized all the workers in the West of Scotland.

This was the great climax of resistance. The main slogan of the two biggest protests was 'Heath out'. This showed that UCS was not just about UCS—it was undoubtedly a focus of resistance against the government around which the working class, particularly in Scotland, was prepared to mobilize.

From this moment the Stalinist shop stewards and the local and national officials did all in their power to confine the battle to the shipyards and get workers to accept the possibility of a Tory compromise. Meanwhile, as we see, redundancies at the yards and factories outside continued to soar.

This is what Stalinists like James Reid call a victory. The whole Tory cabinet will probably join in Reid's celebrations. They want to sack workers and make men who remain in employment work harder. That's what they have at the yards and that is what they want at Burroughs, Rolls-Royce and all the big Scottish combines.

Workers in Scotland now face the battle of their lives. They must reflect carefully on the failure of the Stalinist policies of the Communist Party and the reformist union leadership to defend minimum standards.

The issue before them is a political one—no one can deny, when faced with the tide of unemployment that is battering Scotland, that without the removal of this Tory government the 1930s—and worse—will return.

A campaign to make this government resign and for the election of a Labour government pledged to full employment policies is the only way out for Scottish and English workers today.

Prisoners of war in Vietnam island riot

SOUTH VIETNAMESE military police opened fire on prisoners of war on Phu Quoc island, killing 13 and wounding 56, a Saigon military spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman claimed the prisoners had staged a riot on Saturday at the government's main PoW camp on the island, in the Gulf of Siam just off the border between South Vietnam and Cambodia.

Phu Quoc is described by Saigon officials as a camp for 'hardened' National Liberation Front and North Vietnamese prisoners. North Vietnam has described the camp as a hell-

hole where 30,000 prisoners of war are held in conditions of extreme squalor.

The Saigon spokesman claimed a working party of prisoners outside the prison compound had refused to return to their cells. When they eventually did return, he said, they attacked two police guards who were checking the cells.

Military sources said the riot appeared to be more a political demonstration than a break-out. Last August, five North Vietnamese prisoners of war escaped from the island in a bloody breakout which left nine other prisoners and eight military policemen dead.

AROUND THE WORLD

Makarios falling in with Greek plans?



Greek premier Papadopoulos kisses Archbishop Makarios' hand. But the balance of forces indicate it may be Makarios who will soon be doing the kissing.

ARCHBISHOP Makarios, the Cyprus president, is reported to be on the verge of accepting the Greek colonels' demands for a Cabinet reorganization to form a 'government of national unity'.

His Foreign Minister, Spyros Kyprianou, resigned at the weekend 'for health reasons', but made it clear at a press conference that he had

been forced to leave the Cabinet.

Other Cabinet ministers are expected to follow Kyprianou's example over the next few days, opening the way for Makarios to implement the Greek ultimatum originally presented on February 11.

This demanded that arms imported from Czechoslovakia for the Cyprus National Guard

be handed over to the United Nations and that Makarios form a new Cabinet which would recognize the authority of the Greek regime in formulating its policy.

Makarios has already handed over the arms and the forced resignation of Kyprianou indicates that the second section of the Greek note is about to be applied.

The Greek colonels want a servile right-wing regime which will suppress the independence of the Cypriot working class.

Makarios' move exposes the complete political hollowness of the Cyprus Stalinist Party AKEL, which has given full support to the Archbishop in his phoney 'opposition' to the colonels.

BRANDT IN FOURTH ROUND OF 'OSTPOLITIK' TALKS

GOVERNMENT and opposition leaders met in Bonn yesterday for their fourth round of talks in the political crisis in the West German Bundestag.

Social-Democratic chancellor Willy Brandt was again seeking opposition agreement to a joint foreign policy statement. The

statement has been drafted in an effort to overcome Christian-Democratic objections to Brandt's eastern treaties—his 'Ostpolitik'.

The opposition argues that the treaties—signed in Moscow and Warsaw nearly two years ago—will seal the partition of Germany. Christian-Democrat leader Rainer Barzel is under pressure from his own right wing to hold out against the pacts.

Much now hangs on the attitude of the Kremlin. If Moscow is prepared to accept what amounts to a revision of the treaties, it seems likely that Brandt will be able to win a temporary respite from the parliamentary crisis.

At present he lacks the necessary absolute majority needed to ratify the treaties in the Bundestag.

Trial set, but no charges

THE TRIAL of four people accused under the Terrorism and Suppression of Communism Acts was set for June 8 in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday, despite protests from defence counsel that no indictment had yet been drawn up.

The accused are: Mohammed Essop (22), an Indian medical

student detained in a security police swoop last October; Mrs Amina Desai (51); Indhrasen Moodley (27); and Yussuf Hassan Essock (21).

They appeared briefly before Pretoria magistrates yesterday to hear the magistrate rule that although the case had been under

investigation since last October, the Attorney-General may not have been in a position to draw up an indictment.

'I feel that should a postponement be necessary an application could be made in the Supreme Court,' the magistrate said.

Rent Bill resignation by borough Labour chief

THE LEADER of the Labour-controlled council in Wandsworth, South London, has resigned because the Labour Group voted to implement the Tory 'fair rents' Bill.

Councillor Ian McGarry (31) resigned as council leader and from the Labour Group, which voted last Friday to implement the housing finance regulations by 29 to 26.

Councillor McGarry had stated publicly he wanted Wandsworth not to operate the Bill.

Several committee chairman are expected to walk out over the decision.

Commented Councillor McGarry: 'This is likely to be the most important issue that this council will ever have to decide upon and I feel I have no alternative but to resign.'

Abolish unions, says economist

AN AMERICAN economist has offered some advice to Britain on how to beat inflation—abolish trade unions.

The genius behind this idea is Professor Gottfried Haberler of Harvard University. He made the suggestion at a conference of the 'distinguished' Institute of Economic Affairs.

'There is no synthetic substitute for restoring a larger measure of competition in the labour market and elsewhere,' he said.

To curb the unions he suggested withdrawing their legal and other privileges, changing welfare policies which 'effectively strengthen strikes', and strengthening competition.

Collectively, such steps should have a noticeable impact on inflation.

Professor Haberler is returning to America very shortly.

No immediate recovery for shipping industry—forecast

A LEADING shipping company forecast yesterday there would be no recovery from the present depressed conditions of the shipping market in the near future.

Eggar Forrester Limited says in a ship sale market report that the soaring freight rates are making the running of a large number of vessels 'increasingly difficult'.

'Vulnerable as it may be and subject to very general and largely uncontrollable economic forces, the shipping industry cannot lightly be considered defenceless in adversity,' the report says.

'Larger and more modern tonnage will feature in the sale lists. Such buyers must either have ready-made trades or indeed be in a strong enough

BY OUR OWN
CORRESPONDENT

financial position to allow them to ride the storm until better conditions set in.'

Commenting on the report, the 'Journal of Commerce' says: 'Shipping is an industry which always looks on the optimistic side and so no matter how difficult trading conditions might be, the world's shipowners are always hoping for brighter conditions just around the corner.'

'At the present time, however, hopes for better things do seem to be rather misplaced and the current ship sale market report of Eggar Forrester does paint a gloomy prospect. Eggar Forrester does not see any likely improvement in market conditions in the near future.'

'No doubt there will be many people who will be watching the situation in the Far East as a possible influence to the benefit of shipping. Equally there are a

Eire votes on EEC entry: Will lead to jobs cuts

EIRE'S 1.75 million voters go to the polls tomorrow to decide whether the Republic joins the Common Market. Opinion polls are predicting a 2-to-1 majority in favour of entry.

The votes will be counted on Thursday and because it is a straight 'Yes' or 'No' vote, the result will be known by midday.

There is considerable apathy among the electorate with the government party and the equally right-wing Fine Gael, both in favour of entry.

The main opposition has come from the Irish Congress of Trades Unions which has dis-

tributed 500,000 copies of a newspaper called 'The Black Paper' attacking the Market.

Both wings of Sinn Fein — the political arm of the Provisional and Official IRA — are campaigning against entry as is the Labour Party.

Premier Jack Lynch has retaliated by sending 300,000 letters to people supporting entry.

Entry into Europe would create massive unemployment in Eire and open up the Irish market to further exploitation by the big European combines. The nationalists in the anti-Market

lobby also complain that entry would destroy the country's culture and language.

However, they ignore the fact that the fight against entry is linked with the British government's own campaign to get into Europe. The link-up between British and Irish capital is so close that capitalists in both countries must move together towards Europe.

This raises the question of a united fight in Britain and Ireland against this attempt to impoverish the working class and farming communities of both countries.



Steward Tony Hallinan inside the Erith plant: Firm rationalizing by closing down plants.

Erith follows Woolwich into jobs doldrums

BY IAN YEATS

FIVE HUNDRED people have been sacked from Sebel's toy factory, Erith, Kent, two years after Barclay Securities Limited took it over.

Angry workers said yesterday that they had broken management targets for increased output forcing up productivity by more than 80 per cent in a bid to improve the factory's trading position.

Transport and General Workers' Union shop steward Tony Hallinan said yesterday:

'Barclay's are just speculators. All they think about is profit and loss. They seem to buy up factories and then rationalize

so that they can shut half of them down.'

Sebel's made a profit in 1971 but Barclay's were not satisfied.

Said Mr Hallinan: 'Twelve months ago they bought out Triang and then we were told that this factory was obsolete and that production was being concentrated at more modern Triang factories at Merton, London, and Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales.'

Shortly after the Triang takeover Barclays announced the closure of three factories including Sebel's at Redcar and Birmingham.

In March, after a mass meet-

ing of the work force which decided to fight the sackings, workers operated a three-week reciprocal black on components to and from the Triang factories in a bid to keep the Erith plant open.

Despite protests from a number of the sacked workers, shop stewards from the factory's four unions — the Transport and General, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, the Boilermakers' Society and the Iron, Steel and Kindred Trades—urged acceptance of the best severance pay terms they could get.

About 400 workers have already been dismissed, some of them with redundancy pay double their official entitlement.

Erith is rapidly joining Woolwich as an area of mass unemployment with next to no chance of alternative work.

Said Mr Hallinan: 'Officials from the Department of Employment were in the factory this morning, but there were no jobs going.'

Among those sacked is Communist Party AUEW Erith district committee member Wally Woods.

The opinion of Communist Party members in the plant is that workers were 'too conservative' to fight the sackings and fell for the inducement of extra redundancy pay.

CP members did not challenge the policy of the shop stewards and instead urged the 'moderate' policy of attempting to postpone the closure.

Stocks in the factory have piled up and about 100 warehouse and maintenance staff and 40 clerical workers will be relieved—at least until the autumn when the factory is due for total closure.

The head of Barclay Securities, David Bentley, has just taken over Shepperton Studio, Middlesex.

There is every indication he will end film production and carve up the valuable real estate for property development.

Bentley's personal fortune is estimated at between £2m and £3m. He is aged 32.

New model, new price strikers stay out

EIGHTY-SIX workers at the Alvis Company, Coventry—part of the British-Leyland Combine—are to continue their strike over piecework rates.

At a meeting yesterday they decided not to return to work until the day before a works conference is conceded on the issue.

The men, who are engaged in manufacturing military equipment called the Fighting Vehicle, walked out last Thursday.

Negotiations for prices on new model vehicles have been stretched over 16 months.

Essentially the firm is trying to reduce average earnings on new vehicles. These vehicles often take a number of months to build. The workers are demanding a guaranteed £1.25 an hour.

The firm has countered this by saying they will give £1.15 an hour for the first two vehicles, provided unlimited overtime is worked.

After that they will give only £1.05 an hour.

As one worker said: 'How can we come off an older type vehicle and then start on a new-type vehicle working at £8 to £10 less a week?'

About 14 of the 100 original strikers were threatened with expulsion from the Birmingham Sheet Metal Workers' Union, if they carried on with the strike.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

SLOUGH: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Slough Community Centre, Farnam Rd. Speakers, Frank Tomany, ex-convenor Omes Faulkner, Brian Bailey, AUEW (in a personal capacity). The Industrial Relations Act.

Recall the TUC

Expel the traitors

Make the Tories resign

SW LONDON: Tuesday May 9, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4.

N KENT: Tuesday May 9, 8 p.m. SOGAT House, Essex Rd, Dartford.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday May 9, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Ave, Barking.

CROYDON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Rd.

LUTON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. St John's Ambulance Hall, Lea Rd.

N LONDON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Bricklayers Arms, Tottenham High Rd (nr White Hart Lane).

SE LONDON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, New Cross Rd (opp New Cross station).

DOCKERS SHOULD BEWARE OF EMPTY SLOGANS

Dockers must reject the arguments for co-operation with productivity deals and the national interest, says a pamphlet* just published by the Communist Party on the jobs crisis in the industry.

Such statements can, of course, never be taken at face value. In fact the eight-page pamphlet is from beginning to end a cover-up for the treachery of the CP Stalinists on the docks . . . and a preparation to do the same again.

Written by Bill Dunn, the pamphlet calls for nationalization of the docks, but makes no mention of the shelving of this demand by the Transport and General Workers' Union leadership and the CP's own dock stewards.

He mentions 'union agreements' to productivity-dealing on the docks, while remaining silent, of course, about the role of the CP and its one-time leading light, Jack Dash.

Dunn's analysis is treacherous from its first word to its last. 'The Tories', he says, 'are deliberately maintaining high unemployment by reducing purchasing power of the people.'

The implication of this anti-Marxist garbage is that there is no insoluble crisis of the capitalist system and that all we need is a bit of pressure on the government to change its policies.

Dunn fudges this over with the militant-sounding, but fundamentally meaningless formula: 'The only way to fight the employers and the government's policies—is by taking action.'

Calls for 'action', 'a united struggle' and 'one policy covering all ports' are dotted throughout the pamphlet. But Dunn never mentions Dash's bitter fight against action to defeat the Devlin speed-up scheme, the CP's 1966 policy of preventing a united struggle of dockers and seamen and its work to split port from port during the 1967 dock strike.

He tells us that 'the employers got the co-operation of the trade unions in pushing through productivity deals', but fails to explain why CP members consistently refused to come out in clear opposition to Devlin Phase Two.

As for the T&GWU leadership, you might think it never existed. 'What price the employers' pledge in safeguarding the National Dock Labour Scheme?' Dunn asks at one point.

What price indeed. And what is more to the point, what price a pamphlet that carefully omits all reference to the union leaders' secret talks with the employers about abolishing the scheme.

What is needed is a call to



Top: Jack Dash. Above: John Gollan, Communist Party secretary

action against the dockers' main enemy—the Tory government. The defence of dock jobs is today inseparable from the fight to defend the unions against attack, force the Tories to resign and elect a Labour government committed to socialist policies. Hundred percent nationalization of the ports under full workers' control, without compensation, remains the question of the hour.

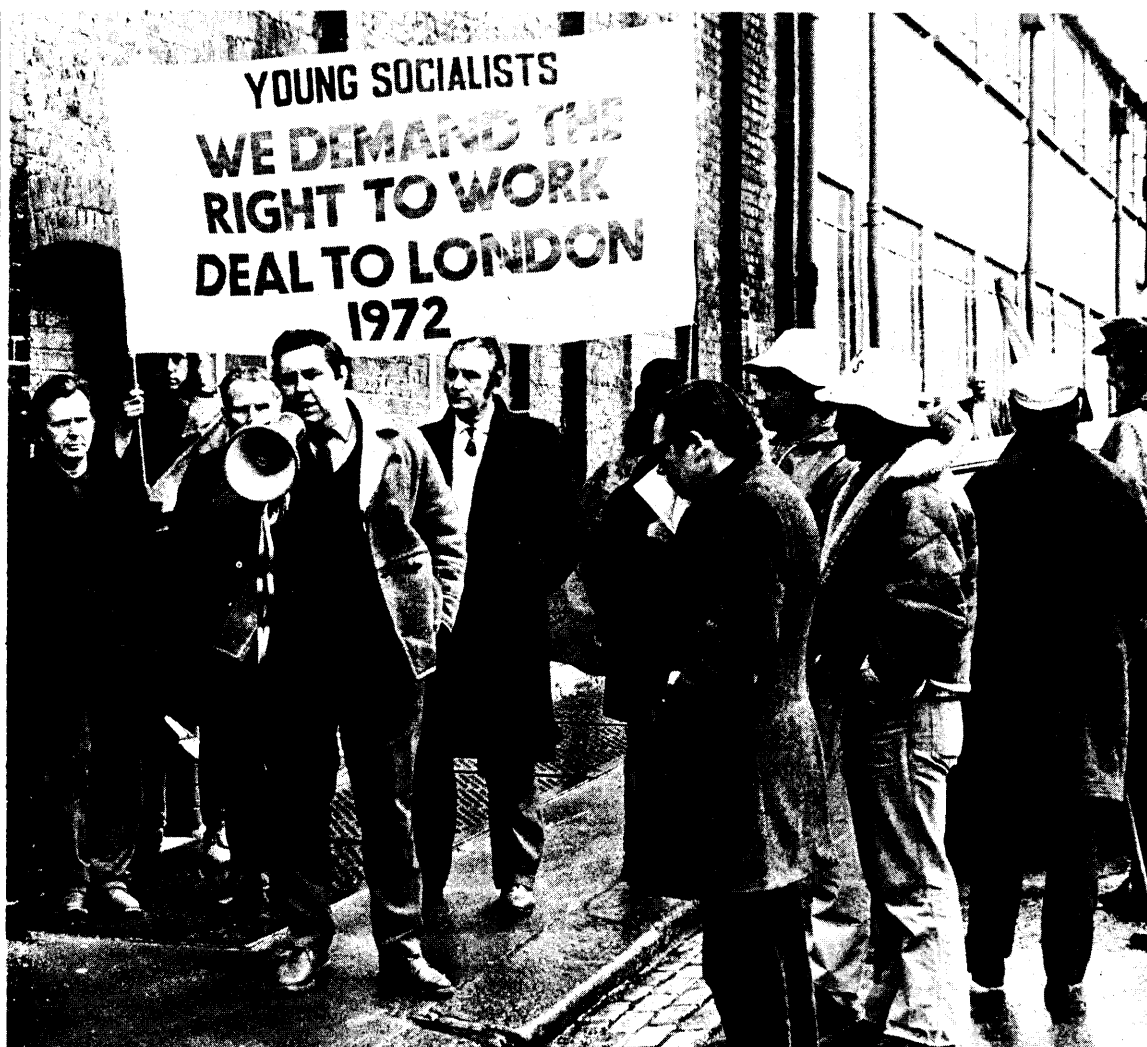
It is time to call a halt to the politics of confusion, compromise and class-collaboration on the docks. With only token protests from the reformist union leaders and their friends in the Communist Party, 20,000 jobs have been destroyed in the industry over the past seven years. And many more are now threatened.

Much more than jobs is at stake, however. The judgements of the new National Industrial Relations Court on the Merseyside containers row has called into question the very existence of trade unions as fighting organizations of the working class.

And the union leaders' retreat before the court sharply reinforces Leon Trotsky's 1940 warning: 'Monopoly capitalism is less and less willing to reconcile itself to the independence of trade unions. It demands of the reformist bureaucracy . . . that they become transformed into its political police before the eyes of the working class.'

'If that is not achieved, the labour bureaucracy is driven away and replaced by the fascists.'

* 'Docks—the fight for jobs', by Bill Dunn, Communist Party pamphlet. Price 3p.



The Right-to-Work marchers outside the Sovex factory in Kent.

WHY I LEFT CP

BY KENT WORKER

Frank Allpress (49), a plater at Sovex, Erith in Kent, is about to resign from the Communist Party.

But he will hardly notice the difference. Since the Tories came to power on June 18, 1970, he has not been asked to take part in a single campaign or indeed to undertake any form of work for the Party. He has not been asked for any dues for 12 months, nor has he been asked to attend meetings.

Said Mr Allpress: 'They have let me be a sleeping member really. The Socialist Labour League shows much more determination to mobilize the working class.'

'In fact it is quite a shock to come into contact with members of the YS or the SLL after you have been allowed to languish watching television or doing the garden.'

I asked Mr Allpress why he became a CP member four and a half years ago.

He said: 'I thought it was a revolutionary party before the war when I was in it for a very short time and when they came to me and asked me if I would consider rejoining I said I would.'

'They said they wanted to keep the Erith group together and expand, but I joined because I was asked by my friends who were Party members.'

MEETINGS

'We used to have factory meetings once a month when there were 15 or 20 of us, but there are only three left now due to people moving and closures.'

'The CP should have put up a fight against redundancies in Erith, but they did nothing.'

'There was a campaign on to stop Parsons shutting. I never knew what came of it. One part of the group wanted to take the severance pay Parsons were offering and another group wanted nothing to do with it. I don't know what happened, but I do know that Parsons closed.'

It was the Party's 'leadership' at Upper, Clyde Shipbuilders and their approach to the Industrial Relations Act which set the final

seal on Mr Allpress's decision to resign.

'What they have done at UCS is terrible. There is no other word for it.'

'They started off by saying there would be no co-operation with the liquidator, that ships were not going to be delivered and that all the jobs would be saved.'

'But now it has deteriorated into a complete turnaround and they have even managed to say that is a victory. They have deliberately deceived the working class on the Upper Clyde.'

He added: 'The way they withdrew the £100 from the Right-to-Work marchers from Scotland was also completely unprincipled.'

I asked why he thought the CP behaved like that.

'I don't really know', said Mr Allpress. 'I have not really read Marxism. What I have read I have picked up myself. If the CP had classes I have never been invited or even heard of them.'

Although he has not been to classes or undertaken a guided course of reading, Mr Allpress has subscribed to the 'Morning Star'.

He told me: 'I took the "Morning Star" every day until I saw the Workers Press. The things the "Star" said sounded fine, but there was nothing in them. To be truthful, for the last few months I have not read the "Star" even though I have been taking it.'

'I think a theoretical knowledge is very important otherwise you miss a lot of the points in what is going on.'

'But if the CP did give theoretical guidance they would probably lose membership faster than they are now. I would say a state of semi-ignorance is the best quality a candidate for the CP can have.'

Political events, Mr Allpress said, are now moving very fast and the CP shows no sign of developing policies capable of meeting the situation.

'The Party's attitude to the Industrial Relations Act is completely negative', he told me.

'Their most revolutionary slogan was "Kill the Bill", but looking back on that after the past few weeks their policy was an absolute shambles.'

'The only way to do anything about the union law is to force

this government out because every minute the Act is on the statute book it is a threat to the working class.

'Under the Act whatever the working class want to do is illegal. The only thing you can do legally is exploit and make money.'

'This government is definitely setting out to try to crush the working class, starting with the trade unions. Getting into the Common Market is all part of this.'

'A General Strike is the only possible way of getting rid of this government.'

'As a matter of fact I think the Tories are themselves preparing for a General Strike. I think they have organized to meet it. They seem to be pushing all the big unions into this situation.'

FUTILE

'But when I went to a CP meeting on the Act when SLL members called for a General Strike the CPers said they were mad to even think of it. Instead they called for one-day strikes and futile marches to parliament.'

'I thought, if that is their policy they are just diverting the working class to defeat them and maintain their own position.'

'It was the same with the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions. The CP were making the right noises but going in the opposite direction.'

'The sort of thing you get is that we can't do this or that because the working class is not ready for it.'

'But I think workers today are ready. What they need is leadership. The people in my place of work are not militant, but they all see the point that where there is a wage confrontation it turns very quickly into a confrontation with the government.'

'I think it is very urgent to build a principled, revolutionary Marxist leadership now because this time is so dangerous for the working class.'

'Pressure on the working class is being increased all the time with the trade union Act, the rent Act and now the Night Assemblies Bill.'

'I think the SLL is a principled party that will give the working class the leadership it needs.'



WHERE 15p.c. WAGE RISE MEANS NOTHING

The Argentine government, under Lt-Gen Alejandro Lanusse (above), recently tried to appease growing working-class militancy by awarding a general 15-per-cent wage increase.

In fact, the measure is more symbolic than real, for the cost of living in Argentina is rising at something over 40 per cent a year. In 1971 it rose by almost 40 per cent and in the first quarter of this year the index rose a staggering 20.9 per cent.

Wage increases won last year have already been absorbed, and the 15-per-cent increases will go the same way in a matter of a few weeks. The rise, which was decreed by the junta of armed forces commanders after talks between the president and the unions, is being hailed as a triumph for Lanusse.

Government inability to contain inflation

In fact, it only underlines his government's inability to contain the runaway inflation and its fear of the organized working class. Among the measures taken at the same time as the wage increase were decrees fixing a new rate for electricity supply.

Increases in electricity prices gave rise last month to explosions of popular discontent in Mendoza and other big provincial cities, the repression of which took a toll of three dead and hundreds of people wounded or arrested. The junta's measures were

accompanied by threats against militants and trade unionists. These were directed particularly against the workers' and students' organizations planning a hunger march through Buenos Aires. The march was banned by decree.

Demands for release of political prisoners

On of the main demands of this movement is the release of political prisoners, including Agustin Tosco, who has now been held in prison for exactly a year without charge or trial. Tosco was arrested in the city of Cordoba, where he lives, and taken off to prison with no explanation. Since then he has remained in Buenos Aires' Villa Devoto prison in isolation. Thus far the protests and demands for his release have been to no avail.

Tosco has never been brought to trial—in fact no charges have been levelled against him. Government spokesmen have indicated his imprisonment is preventive, claiming that in the past year, 'things have been quieter in Cordoba'.

Tosco is general secretary of Electricity Workers (Light and Power Union) of Cordoba province in central Argentina. This province, especially its capital of 700,000 people, is at the vanguard of the labour and popular struggle against the military regime governing Argentina since 1966.

Besides heading the 'light and power' union, Tosco is deputy secretary of the local General Confederation of Labour (CGT). The Cordoba federation is by far the most militant in the country.

During his year's imprisonment, Tosco has continued to occupy his posts—although he is not naturally not exercising them—and he was re-elected to both. In his own 'light and power' union, with more than 4,000 members, the slate Tosco headed from prison obtained more than 85 per cent of the votes.

As for the CGT post, he was re-elected last month along with the incumbent secretary general Atilio Lopez, leader of the Cordoba bus drivers and a member of the 'hard line' Peronist current.

Tosco's most spectacular role was as leader of the 'Cordobazo', a mass rising in Cordoba in May 1968 which meant the beginning of the end of General Juan Carlos Ongania's presidency. Striking workers, students and angry middle-class people occupied the city for three days. They gave way only when the Third Army stepped in directly with tanks and heavy artillery.

Thirty people were killed, but the attempt to establish a military leadership for ten years of a real 'Pax Romana' type ended right there. Nine months later Ongania was overthrown.

Tosco was one of the leaders of the 'Cordobazo' along with Elfidio Torres of the auto workers' union. The columns of workers from the Renault factory and the power plants were the first to arrive in the centre of the city to control the strategic points.

The army levied a steep price for the 'Cordobazo'. Tosco Torres and other labour leaders were tried by military courts and sentenced to as much as ten years in prison. Tosco, sentenced to eight years, was sent to a prison in the south and was released when a post-Ongania amnesty was decreed for prisoners sentenced by military courts.

NIXON LETS PRICES SOAR

American businessmen with lingering fears about the effectiveness of the Price Board set up by President Nixon, can breathe freely again.

They have been assured by Herbert Stein, the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, that 'there is nothing in the (control) system to prevent a prosperous year for business'. In fact, the Price Board is little more than window-dressing to make wage freezing more acceptable to the union leaders.

In fact, addressing the Economic Club of New York last week, he specifically advised businessmen not to worry about the Price Board:

'For business to become frightened at this moment would not only be entirely without foundation, but could also precipitate controversy which would really undermine the system and impede the recovery.'

Stein indicated he was responding to 'some anxiety in the business community

over the more rigorous application of the Price Commission standards' covering profit margins. These standards prevent price increases that would raise a company's profit margin, as a percentage of sales, above the average margin in the best two of its last three fiscal years.

This is hardly an onerous burden, and in any case it has signally failed to prevent prices rising as fast as before. This has occurred despite a number of 'roll-backs' ordered by the Price Board.

The products involved include a brand of sparking plugs, 'Textron' snowmobiles and the magazine 'Sports Illustrated'. Even Stein was forced to admit that the latest price indexes showed 'a bulge in industrial prices apparently resulting from miscalculation of costs' by the Price Board.

This admission did not prevent him expressing confidence that the 'price bulge' was over and that the control system should achieve its object of reducing the rate of inflation to 2-3 per cent a year. If Stein believes all this stuff, he is the only man in America who does.

NO CUSTOMERS FOR COPPER

Bougainville, an island off the New Guinea mainland, is described as the 'jewel' in the world ore holdings of Rio Tinto Zinc.

Development of the copper resources on the island began two years ago after vicious clashes with the local inhabitants.

Backed by a para-military police force wielding batons and firing tear gas, the company moved islanders off their land and started the open cut removal of copper ore.

After paying royalties to the administration at Port Moresby, the copper still finished up with handsome profits. All these calculations were taken, however, before the world economic recession sparked off by Nixon's decision to devalue the dollar.

Now the company has found itself with a mountain of rich ore but no customers. The chairman of Bougainville Mining Limited, F. F. Espie, told the annual meeting last week the anticipated output

for 1973 and 1974 still hasn't been sold.

He said the group had been successful in placing all its planned 1972 production with the exception of about 10 per cent, which it was necessary to stockpile. With regard to the next two years, however, the company had not yet sold all it expected to produce.

He revealed that Bougainville had recently concluded a further sales contract with the West German Norddeutsche Affinerie group for the supply of up to 12,000 long tons of copper in concentrates during 1972.

Negotiations were also at an advanced stage for the supply to another smelter of between 7,000 and 10,000 long tons of copper in concentrates over a period of four years.

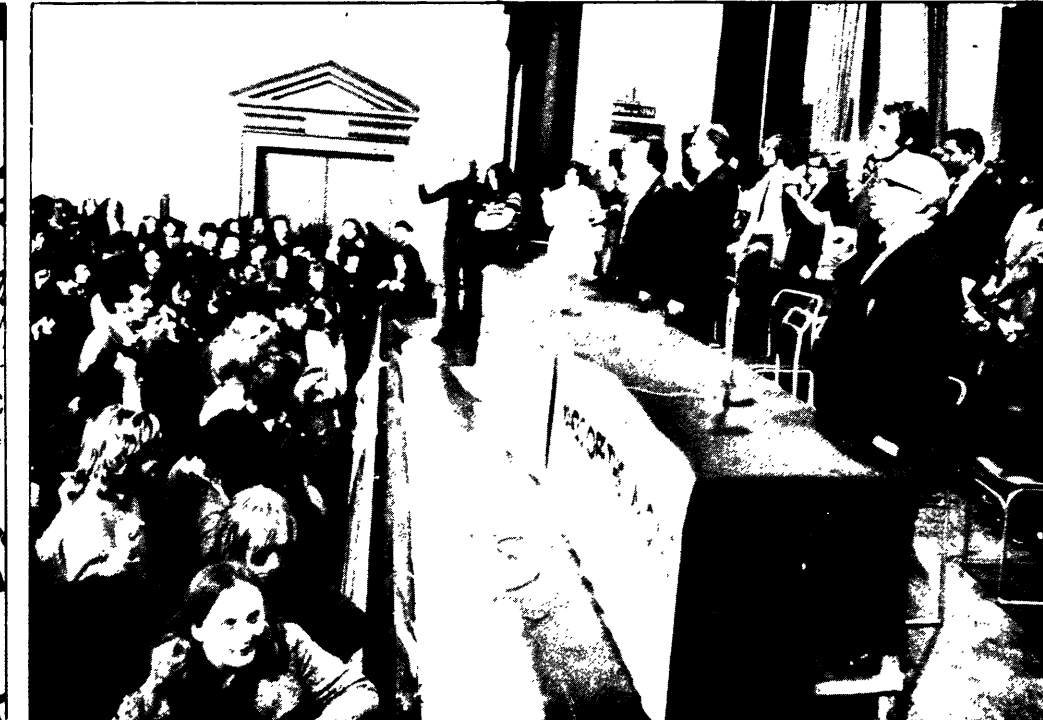
Meanwhile, however, the huge stockpiling begins. This will almost certainly mean that the world price of copper will drop even further thus making the project extremely risky. In view of this it is difficult to share Espie's statement to shareholders that 'the future could be viewed with confidence'.

BOOKS



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1972
MAY DAY



THE GLASGOW RENTS FIGHT

PART TWO

At a high point in the Glasgow rent battle in November 1915, when a demonstration had been organized to march on the small debts court where a test case against the strikers was to be heard, John Maclean had just learnt that he had been sacked by the Govan school board for his principled stand against the war.

The march to the court passed Maclean's school. The marchers stopped, shouted for him to come out, and he joined the demonstration. It was a semi-conscious expression of the deep class and political implications of the rents movements.

At the small debts court, the sheriff, almost certainly acting on political instructions, dismissed the cases. The rents movement had extended to other parts of Britain and the urgency of dealing with the munitions crisis was uppermost in the thinking of the government. It had already decided on the Rents Restriction Act.

This battle, of course, was only one incident from a whole history of struggle between the working class and the capitalist class over housing conditions. And—as has been indicated—it was only one aspect of the class war waged during World War I on Clydeside and in all the major engineering centres of Britain.

But it is important that the correct lessons should be drawn.

For Marxists the study of history is not a question of providing interesting or colourful 'background' to present-day events. Nor is it a matter of plucking episodes out of the past to 'prove' the correctness of a current political line.

Real historical understanding comes only as part of an overall struggle for the continuity of Marxist theory. Those who have abandoned that struggle and are implacably hostile to it cannot teach the working class anything essential about even the smallest aspect of its history.

Misleading

When the 'Socialist Worker'—weekly paper of the revisionist International Socialists—carried an article on the 1915 Glasgow rent strike (April 8, 1972) it was inevitable that it would be misleading and inaccurate from beginning to end. Author Jim Kincaid, following the editorial line of the paper, seeks to disarm the working class by turning its attention away from capitalism's crisis and the revolutionary nature of all the struggles into which it is now being thrown.

For him the way to fight

the rent Bills is by leaving the Tories in power and organizing rent strikes linked to industrial action. He claims that this is working in Ireland today and that the Glasgow rent strike shows that it can work in Britain.

The first assertion carries the petty-bourgeois empiricist's method of making a metaphysical division between one 'aspect' of the situation and another to a new level of cynicism. Bloody Sunday for this reactionary is the subject for another article from one on the 'successes' of the rent strikes.

The second argument leads Kincaid into a thoroughly unhistorical account of what happened in 1915. It is no coincidence that he relies exclusively and uncritically on one source: the 'vivid' (Kincaid's word) 'Revolt on the Clyde' by arch-Stalinist William Gallacher.

Gallacher's version is that the shop stewards of the Clyde Workers' Committee saw the need to link up the fight in the factories with the rents issue. They joined the demonstration of November 17, 1915, to the small debts court and threatened a General Strike if rents were not frozen. The sheriff phoned Munitions Minister Lloyd George. He was told to dismiss the charges—the government would introduce the Rents Restriction Bill.

Illusions

Gallacher's syndicalist illusions, so embedded in his consciousness after a decade and a half in the Communist Party and several years training in Stalinism that he was incapable even of accurately recounting his own World War I experiences, fit in with the requirements of the state capitalists today.

Kincaid writes: 'The moral is clear. An effective rent strike is a great achievement. But in the end what really counts is the industrial power of the workers in key sections of industry. The Glasgow rent strike was won because it also became an industrial strike, though it was possible to get industrial action partly because the rent strike had evoked such exceptional fighting spirit and support. The combination of both forms of strike action proved unbeatable.'

A sub-heading to the article says explicitly: 'Historic Glasgow rents victory points the way for Britain's council house tenants today.'

The whole story is abstracted from the reality of the historical process and slanted to show that the International Socialists are right to tell the working class that more militancy on each issue can drive the Tories back on that issue. The spontaneous action of the workers can defeat the capitalist class and revolutionary leadership is not the central question of the day.



Top: Hospital St, Gorbals in Glasgow. Above: the tenants march of 1915

In reality the historic failure of 'Red Clydeside' and of the shop stewards' movement as a whole in World War I Britain was its inability to build revolutionary leadership. Despite the enormous militancy of the working class the government was able to carry through its munitions drive and, more important still, to inflict defeats in the post-war years—with the aid of the refusal of the trade union leadership to face the question of taking power—which opened the way for the inter-war depression and the conditions of the 1930s.

At this period, because of the relatively strong position of Britain in the chain of world capitalism, the success of the revolution in Britain would have depended on the extension of October to the other advanced countries of western Europe. The opposite is true today.

The historic crisis of British capitalism now meets up with the international crisis to throw the British working class into the most revolutionary struggles of all in defence of its basic rights.

It is vital that correct lessons be learnt from the past.

The rent strikers of Glasgow—and other areas—wrested an important concession from the government at a period when such a tactical retreat was deemed necessary by the government. But

despite the more or less spontaneous support from sections of shipyard workers, the most important rank-and-file leadership in the area—the Clyde Workers' Committee—was unable to intervene in the rents struggle. They key section of workers in struggle with the government's munitions drive on the Clyde remained isolated from the demands which affected the working class as a whole.

Failures

Such tactical failures by the leadership flowed from its inability to grasp the crisis of imperialism which gave rise to the war; and to draw the conclusions for revolutionary internationalism from the capitulation of the Second International drawn by Lenin.

If this theoretical limitation was almost inevitable in World War I Britain, it is certainly not so today. Those who refuse to take responsibility for building revolutionary leadership inevitably distort historical reality as part of the process through which they seek to contain the working class within the limits of its 'own' spontaneous, trade union and national level of consciousness.

This is the reactionary role of the co-thinkers of Gallacher, and of the Kincaids. For Marxists there can be

no abstention in the fight of the working class to defend its right to decent housing and to prevent rent increases. But this fight cannot be won by another 'Kill the Bill' campaign of protest.

A consideration of the history of the fight against the Industrial Relations Act will convince every serious worker of that.

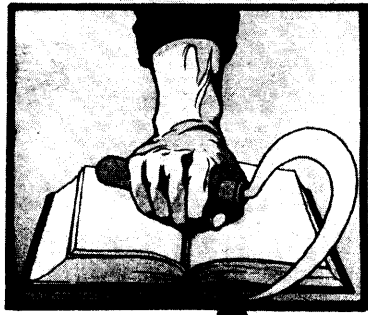
The central question is to make the Tories resign and return a socialist Labour government.

This government must nationalize the building companies without compensation and under workers' control and put an end to all forms of property speculation once and for all. It must enact the All Trades Unions Alliance Charter of Basic Rights.

The trade union and Labour leaders must immediately mobilize the working class on this programme. The working class can ensure that this is done only by building an independent revolutionary leadership.

For workers thrown into struggle on the rents issue, this means joining the Socialist Labour League and helping transform it into a revolutionary party. Every facet of the betrayals, evasions and distortions of the reformist and Stalinist leaders, and of their revisionist allies, must be constantly exposed.

BOOK REVIEW



'THE FORSAKEN LOVER—White words and black people' by Chris Searle. Published by Routledge and Kegan Paul. £1.50.

IDEAS OF A LIBERAL POET

'Language is as old as consciousness, language is practical consciousness, as it exists for other men, and thus as it first really exists for myself as well. Language, like consciousness, only arises from the need, the necessity of intercourse with other men.' (Karl Marx.)

Here we have the materialist conception of sociology tracing language back to its origins and showing it to be inevitably the product of an objective process — the necessary continual struggle between man and nature.

The development of methods of communication must not in any way be seen to precede the development of the objective necessary social conditions. This is the initial point on which Marxists will take issue with Chris Searle's well-intentioned liberal platitudes on the continuing effects of English bourgeois education on the colonial youth of the West Indies.

'... when our world speaks of division and guilt to us through our language, then we are inevitably divided and guilty.'

This is one of the not infrequent gems of idealism in this book, which was written in impossible circumstances. How can a well-meaning middle-class writer deal with the effects of British imperialism on the West Indies today without once mentioning capitalism, and without drawing awkward parallels with life at home? The answer for Searle is to pick on the most superficial factors and make them the centre of the whole work.

As a result, we are presented with a contrast between 'black' culture and 'white' culture. Searle deftly lumps all works by all white poets and authors since (and including) Shakespeare, regardless of chronology or class background, together as 'white' culture, and deals similarly with black writers.

As an added diversion we have the fact that the West Indian youth are forced to learn textbook English, taking exams set in Oxford and Cambridge.

For Searle the important fact is not that the people of the West Indies are oppressed by world capitalism, but a question of culture:

'Education inside any other foreign culture means dependence and subjection to that culture. It is the way back to



Chris Searle

colonialism and absolute reliance on alien standards by foreign people.'

Substitute 'bourgeois' for 'foreign' in this quotation, and it begins to make sense. The whole of the international working class is in this way subjected to an alien 'culture'. The working class itself has no culture, since it is an oppressed class, required to struggle for its very existence. As Marx puts it:

'The dominant ideas are nothing more than the ideal expression of the dominant material relationships grasped as ideas, and thus of the ideas which make one class the ruling one; they are consequently the ideas of its dominance.'

Castigating Christianity as the 'white man's religion', as does Searle, tells us only a small part of the story. What class of white men? For what purpose was their religion used? Obviously, to intimidate the class enemy and strengthen the rulers in their position.

If that religion happens as a by-product to aid repression of black slaves at a later date, this makes things that much easier. It does not really matter whether the West Indian youth is taught he is inferior by one method or by another. Under imperialism he will only be taught that which enables his ruler to keep him under control.

It is in this sense a distortion to write:

'The choice of syntax and vocabulary are political acts that define and circumscribe the manner in which "facts" are to be experienced. Indeed, in a sense they go further and even create the facts that are studied.' (R. D. Laing, quoted by Searle, p. 23.)

To put it bluntly, red is red, a cabbage is a cabbage, in French, English or Japanese. The objective fact remains the same, and is in no sense changed by change of form in the language used. Yet Searle proceeds from this inversion to a worse example:

'To change from one language to another is to change life itself.'

Of course, Searle does not mean to limit the mystic power of language to that of changing objective reality; he wants it to make up for the social deficiencies of capitalism, and '... build the structure of belongingness and trust that most people need, giving the individual self the ability to experience the necessary social sense of continuity and sameness'.

Obviously Searle believes

correct use of the right language would enable the ruling class to 'fool all of the people all of the time', and to give the working class, dispossessed and oppressed though it is, a 'structure of belongingness' in the system which degrades and alienates it.

'... it is imperative that his language reflects him and his own world, that it does not continuously betray and humiliate him by the meanings and pressures of its dominant images.'

Here we need to substitute the word 'philosophy' for 'language' in order to see the real relationships concealed by Searle's red herrings. The working class can only break free from its chains by struggling to understand and put into practice the science of Marxism.

Some of Searle's quotations from works by West Indian youth burst through the suffocation of his text. Particularly clear are these lines:

'Lord, the negroes have had too much work already,

Why should we learn again from foreign books,

About all kinds of things we've never seen?'

Central to this quotation is the recognition that education under imperialism only exists for exploitation. Searle hastily glosses over this point. The political background to the start of the education system in the West Indies is scrambled through in a round dozen lines of text, though he does quote these telling words from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1847:

'The lesson books of the colonial schools should also teach the mutual interests of the mother country and her dependencies, the rational basis of their connection and the domestic and social duties of the coloured races.'

This is the voice of international imperialism, its message only obscured by Searle's accumulated irrelevancies.

As a final point; Searle selectively quotes George Jackson as an endorsement for his opinions. Yet he remains at the lowest level of consciousness from which Jackson developed through struggle, to the point of urging a study of Marxism as the only method of not merely understanding the world, but changing it.

As a result Jackson's letters reflect a process of development whereas Searle remains bogged down in idealist confusion and futility.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

Big Ben

How are our MPs busily defending the interests of their constituents? How goes the cut and thrust of parliamentary debate?

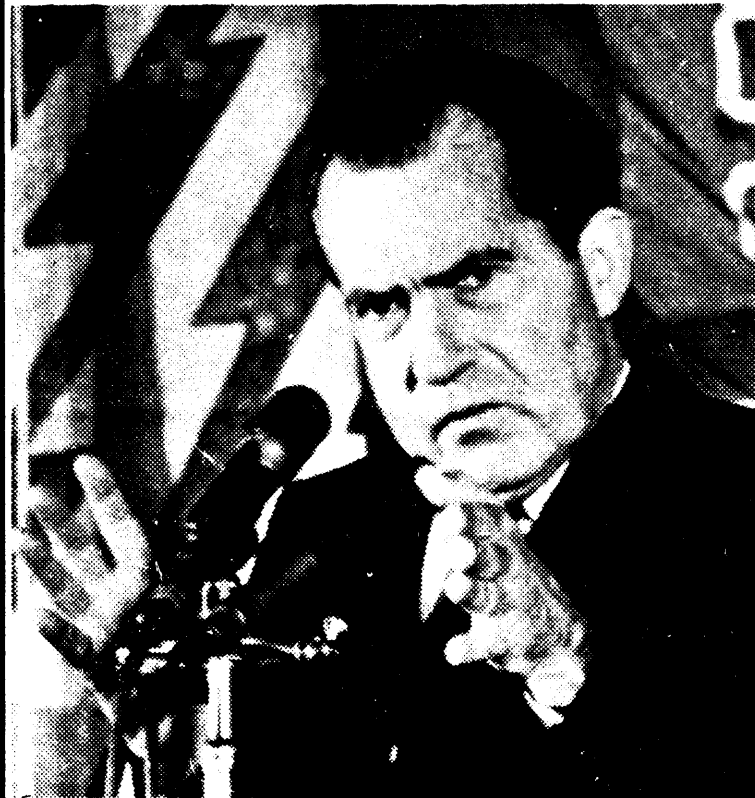
Mr Marcus Lipton asked the Environment Minister: 'By how many inches, and in what direction, has the tower of Big Ben leaned from the perpendicular in the years 1952, 1962 and 1972 respectively?'

Back came the answer: 'Figures are not available

before 1960, but in that year a survey showed an inclination of about 15 inches towards the north-west.

'No change was detected until 1968 when a more accurate survey with modern instruments of greatly improved design showed that the inclination was 9½ inches in the same direction. The most recent test was carried out on March 29, 1972, and showed no significant variation.'

With this sort of cerebral activity at the top, it's no wonder the nation sleeps so peacefully.



Nixon's man

A grocer in Mitchelville, Tennessee, who is a firm supporter of President Nixon's economic policies has closed his store rather than raise prices.

'I want to be fair', he observed, 'I want to make a decent, honest living, and if I can't it's time for me to turn lose and do something else.'

He has auctioned off his stock and is looking for a job as a salesman.

The extension of this princi-

ple to other sectors of capitalist business offers some interesting possibilities.

However much we may want to believe that the Tennessee grocer will be widely followed, it is extremely unlikely that we shall see property dealers in London giving up their businesses because they don't like to put up prices.

In fact Mr Walker of Tennessee only exemplifies the power of the laws of capitalism: the alternative to obeying those laws, which in this case means putting up prices, is to go out of business, or wait to be driven into bankruptcy.

BOOKS



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Chapple takes his union to Riviera

Next conference in Rimini Italy

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

FARMERS had marked themselves as being among the most reactionary employers by resisting their workers' just pay claims, a union leader claimed yesterday.

Bert Hazell, president of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, told the union's biennial conference in Weymouth, Dorset, that British agriculture must recognize that it cannot remain aloof from trends affecting the whole industrial field.

A 40-hour, five-day working week for farm workers was long overdue. Two awards in the past two years of £1.65 and £1.40 had brought the present minimum to £16.20, but these awards had been absorbed by runaway inflation.

The agricultural industry had received substantial financial aid to assist further expansion and to increase the prosperity of all engaged in the production of food, Mr Hazell said.

'Unless farmers take a more realistic view of their workers, they will experience a labour situation, already serious in some

FARMERS AMONG 'MOST REACTIONARY' EMPLOYERS

parts of the country, which will prevent them achieving the expansion called for by the government.

'For without workers it will be impossible to maintain, let alone improve production.

'Farming today is being carried on by an ageing population, for young people are reluctant to enter an industry that has throughout the years failed to recognize that its workers are the same as workers in other forms of employment.

'They have the same needs, the same domestic responsibilities, the same hopes for security of their homes—and they need the same rewards for diligently undertaking work carrying higher degrees of responsibility than is found in many other occupations.'

THE ELECTRICIANS' union has chosen the venue for its next annual conference. It will be the resort of Rimini in Italy.

It is unprecedented for a British trade union to hold its conference outside this country.

The decision, taken by the union's executive in February, has already stirred up heated controversy in local branches. The leader of the union, Frank Chapple, is a known pro-Marketeer.

The union, which meets only once every two years, has been under pressure recently for more rank-and-file democracy.

Several factors are worrying the membership:

- Who is going to pay for the transport and accommodation of the conference delegates?
- If delegates have to pay their own fares, what will happen to those who can't afford it? Will they simply be disqualified from attending and representing their local members?

For electricians and plumbers who may be interested in the holiday atmosphere at Rimini, Workers Press has taken this extract from Clarkson's 1972 catalogue:

'Rimini is the most famous of all Adriatic coast resorts. For every good reason. This is not a small town. It spreads itself around the Old Town for miles in every direction—from the shoreline to the beginning of the mountains and the fascinating mini-country of San Marino. The facilities of the beaches are without equal—sailing boats of all sizes, rowing boats, pedaloes, water skiing, swings and diving platforms, deck chairs, sun umbrellas and countless beach bars.

'While you're there see the ancient buildings and narrow alley ways — The Arch of Augustus, built in 27 BC, the churches, Tiberius's bridge, the Roman Amphitheatre, the old city walls. At night the possibilities are endless.'

PS: When we telephoned Chapple's headquarters to ask for details of the proposed Rimini venue, we were told that 'the man who makes press statements isn't in'. Asked about arrangements for delegates to get to Italy, the telephone line suddenly went dead. Probably an electrical fault!



Too breezy in Britain . . . Chapple's off to the sun

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Opening of Seaforth is cancelled

TOMORROW'S official opening of Merseyside's £50m Seaforth Dock complex has been cancelled. The decision was taken by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company following Sunday's vote by Mersey dockers not to work at the new complex until an agreement on pay and conditions is reached.

The dock company was notifying its decision to more than 200 guests who had been invited to sail down the Mersey in a chartered ferry to inspect the complex.

The port modernization committee, which includes representatives of the employers and the dockers' Transport and General Workers' Union was meeting to discuss the row.

Meanwhile the Merseyside 'blacking' of three container firms, which has already cost the transport union £55,000 in fines, goes on.

Leaders of lorry drivers, who belong to another section of the union, arrived in London yesterday to see its general secretary, Jack Jones.

DELEGATES representing the 188,000 strong Civil and Public Services Association overwhelmingly backed their executive's decision to de-register under the Industrial Relations Act.

But the delegates at their Margate conference, representing Whitehall's largest white collar union, gave the executive power to defend itself or its members before the National Industrial Relations Court.

Coal Board to hive off brickworks

DEREK EZRA, the Coal Board chairman, is ready to announce that 46 brickworks will be hived off to private enterprise.

The decision will delight Tory Party supporters who support private raids on the nationalized industries.

Whoever buys the brickworks will make attractive profits;

there is a big demand for bricks at present.

At its last conference the miners' union passed a resolution deploring the attacks on the coal industry by the Tory government.

Pills probe

THE GOVERNMENT is expected to launch an inquiry into the use of barbiturate sleeping pills and some tranquillizer drugs.

It is understood that the inquiry into the use of the drugs—some 30 million prescriptions are issued annually—has been urged by the British Medical Association.

The BMA in its last annual meeting urged a close examination of drug usage.

On Thursday the Association's Board of Science report is expected to recommend the setting up of a government inquiry.

Toledo back to normal

LIVERPOOL'S Triumph car factories will be back to normal tomorrow after a three week lay-off of most of the labour force.

Only 466 men were without work on yesterday's day-shift and production of the Toledo restarted last night.

The lay-offs were originally caused by a pay strike at Coventry which was settled last week.

Last Friday 1,400 Liverpool production workers went back only to be sent home again because of a one-day strike of maintenance men.

Indian prison riot

AT LEAST five prisoners were shot dead and more than 90 wounded when police opened fire during a riot at a jail in Bhagalpur, India, yesterday.

Units of the Bihar state police were sent in to quell the trouble and were attacked by prisoners using bows and arrows and throwing bombs.

Then the paramilitary central reserve police stormed into the prison and opened fire.

First reports said the rioting began after the prisoners objected to the release of two student detainees.

Shoot on sight in Greece

THE COLONELS' regime is reacting with an iron fist to stirrings of militant opposition in the universities.

Following open-air demonstrations at Athens and other universities, the regime has given security forces powers to open fire on demonstrators without first seeking judicial permission.

The police can now shoot after giving three verbal warnings to demonstrators.

The students' main demand has been for implementation of their legal right to elect representatives of their own choosing to replace leaders imposed by the state.

Ten faculties at Athens, Salonika, Patras and Crete are petitioning for this right, but their lawyers have been warned off handling the cases and a number of students have been arrested.

Deputy Prime Minister Pattakos warned at the weekend that 'severe measures' would be taken if students continued with 'inadmissible and illegal' strikes.

● See Makarios and Greece, p. 2.



Bhutto going to Muslim states

Bhutto drums up support

PAKISTAN president Zulfikar Ali Bhutto is to make a 12-day tour of Middle East and African countries later this month before his summit talks in New Delhi with Indian premier Mrs Indira Gandhi.

The tour will take Bhutto to a number of Muslim capitals which supported Pakistan against India and Bangla Desh during the war last year. He also plans to visit Ethiopia whose emperor, government and great people have given us vigorous support in the difficult days we have experienced.

Bhutto will be negotiating with India from a position of

great weakness following Pakistan's defeat in the war and he plainly wants all the support he can get before the talks begin.

He said he was neither optimistic nor pessimistic about the forthcoming summit: 'We will have to accept certain realities, but we can never accept dictated terms,' he said. 'We seek a durable peace, but we will reject one that is imposed. We are sensitively aware of our national interests and we will make every human endeavour to safeguard them.'

He described the weekend fighting between Indian and Pakistan troops in Kashmir as 'pretty serious', adding that he hoped it would not 'topple things' at the summit talks.

Impatience with Chile's Allende

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

THE CHILEAN masses have begun to show their impatience with the vacillations of President Salvador Allende's government. His reformist economic policies have not led to any improvement in living standards, despite Allende's glowing promises.

Workers in the huge open-cast copper-mine at Chuquibambilla staged a two-day strike last week for higher wages.

Their representatives claimed that nationalization had not improved their standard of living and that if the government did not improve their wages, they would call an indefinite General Strike.

A few months ago, Allende had to intervene personally to prevent a strike in the copper mines, and Fidel Castro, on his Chilean tour, told the miners to increase their productivity and to be satisfied with their lot. Allende has not helped matters by referring to the miners as 'a labour aristocracy'.

Workers in the Santiago factories of the Trevira company, the main supplier of synthetic fibres to Chile's textile plants, staged a sit-in last Thursday when the employers rejected a demand for a 360 per cent increase in wages and bonus payments and offered a total increase of only 160 per cent.

Agricultural workers and peasants are also becoming increasingly hostile to Allende's gradualist methods.

On Thursday, Allende's police arrested 40 peasants of Melpilla, near Santiago, for illegally taking over a large estate.

In Los Angeles, shooting broke out when a large group of unemployed agricultural workers tried to take over a large estate.

The Revolutionary Left Movement (MIR), has organized road blockades and stopped all traffic until the arrested workers are released.

The workers and peasants are angry at the slowness with which the government body, the Corporation for Agrarian Reform, is carrying out legal expropriations of landed estates in the area.

The peasants and workers of Chile are showing that they have little faith in the reformist nonsense of the 'third world' experts at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Santiago and that their illusions in the ability of Popular Frontist Allende to build socialism in Chile are fading fast.

TONIGHT'S

BBC 1

9.20 The Herbs. 9.38 Schools. 12.45 Cadwynau yn y Meddwl. 1.30 Along the Seashore. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 Schools. 4.15 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Animal magic. 5.20 News round. 5.25 It's a wolf. 5.44 Hector's house. 5.50 News, weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.45 TOP OF THE FORM. Larne v Dungannon.
7.05 TOMORROW'S WORLD.
7.30 HOLLYWOOD PREMIERE: 'DRIVE HARD, DRIVE FAST'. Brian Kelly, Joan Collins, Henry Silva. Racing driver becomes involved in international espionage.
9.00 NEWS, Weather.
9.20 SOB SISTERS. Four advice columnists talk to Dr Stephen Black.
10.10 FILM '72.
11.15 THE BITTER SANDS. Patrick Garland reads from The Desert Fathers.

BBC 2

11.00 Play school. 6.05 Open university. 6.35 Computers in business. 7.05 Open university.
7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather.
8.00 RICH MAN, POOR MAN ... Trade. Second of six programmes on the widening gap between the rich

TV

ITV

10.20 Schools. 1.15 Remember. 1.45 Schools. 2.33 Good afternoon. 2.55 York racing. 3.45 Danger man. 4.40 Once upon a time. 4.55 Showtime. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.
6.35 CROSSROADS.
7.00 ALBERT.
7.30 FILM: 'AL JENNINGS OF OKLAHOMA'. Dan Duryea, Gale Storm. Lawyer turns bandit.
9.00 CRIME OF PASSION. Daniel.
10.00 NEWS.
10.30 ALGERIA — TEN YEARS AFTER. James Cameron reports on Algeria's search for a national identity.
11.30 DRIVE IN.
12.00 ONE POINT OF VIEW.

and poor countries.
8.50 WHEELBASE.
9.20 THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII.
10.50 NEWS, Weather.
10.55 THE OLD GREY WHISTLE TEST. Tom Paxton, The Doors.

A Grand Prix racing driver becomes involved in espionage in tonight's Hollywood premiere film 'Drive Hard, Drive Fast' with Karen Huston (left), Brian Kelly and Joan Collins.



REGIONAL TV

SOUTHERN: 2.30 London. 3.45 Cartoon. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 Grasshopper island. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.30 Sale of the century. 7.00 Film: 'The Great Manhunt'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 11.30 News. 11.40 Farm progress. 12.10 Weather. Matter of life and death. WESTWARD: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Racing. 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.10 Enchanted house. 4.20 News. 4.22 Simon Locke. 4.55 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Town Tamer'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 11.57 News, weather. 12.01 Faith for life. HTV: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Racing. 3.20 Camping. 3.50 Junkin. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Film: 'Big Deal at Dodge City'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 12.00 Weather. HTV Wales as above except:

4.15 Miri Mawr. 6.01 Y Dydd. HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Report West. HTV Cymru/Wales as HTV Wales plus: 10.30 Dan Sylw. 11.15 O'r Wasg. ANGLIA: 2.30 London. 3.45 Women. 4.10 News. 4.15 Mr Piper. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Colombo'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 12.00 Reflection. ATV MIDLANDS: 2.33 Racing. 3.05 Good afternoon. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women. 4.10 Dr Simon Locke. 4.40 Storytime. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Readhead from Wyoming'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 11.30 Who knows? YORKSHIRE: 10.20 Schools. 2.32 London. 3.40 Scales of justice. 4.10 News. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Hogan's heroes. 7.00 Film: 'The Plunderers'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00

London. 11.30 Spyforce. 12.25 Weather. TYNE TEES: 10.20 Schools. 2.30 Taste and style. 2.55 Racing. 3.40 Room 222. 4.10 News. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Sean. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Hogan's heroes. 7.00 Film: 'The Wild and the Innocent'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 11.30 No small change. 12.00 News. 12.15 Epilogue. SCOTTISH: 10.20 Schools. 1.45 Racing. 2.33 Racing. 3.30 Foo Foo. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.20 Hogan's heroes. 6.50 Film: 'Blackbeard the Pirate'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 Drive in. GRAMPIAN: 11.00 Schools. 2.55 Racing. 3.38 News. 3.45 Women. 4.10 Nanny and the professor. 4.40 Once upon a time. 4.55 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.05 Strictly Scottish. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Father of the Bride'. 8.30 Albert. 9.00 London. 12.00 Epilogue.

Containers: Drivers and dockers to meet

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A MEETING between the docks and road haulage sections of the Transport and General Workers' Union will be held in London later this week under the chairmanship of Harry Urwin, the union's assistant general secretary.

This follows a two-hour meeting at Transport House yesterday between Jack Jones and a deputation representing

lorry drivers from St Helens and Preston.

For the past two months some container lorries driven by members of the commercial section have been blacked by dockers.

Ken Jackson, national secretary for the commercial section, said after the meeting that the national committees of both sections would get together 'as soon as possible'.

The press statement issued after the meeting, authorized by Jones, reiterated the call to dockers to stop all unofficial blackings.

While the meeting was in

progress Preston dockers refused to unload a vehicle from Queensferry and Hull shop stewards announced that their unofficial black would continue.

Today in the National Industrial Relations Court, the T&GWU will defend itself against charges of contempt of court made by two road haulage firms, Heaton's Transport (St Helens) Limited and Craddock Brothers of Wolverhampton.

The union last week paid £55,000 fines imposed for two breaches of contempt.

Last Wednesday the court president, Sir John Donaldson, gave the union a short adjournment to tell the court how it proposed to stop the continued blacking of container vehicles.



URWIN... Arbitrer?

White-collar march in Lincoln

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

FOUR HUNDRED members of the white-collar union, ASTMS, yesterday staged a one-day strike and march through Lincoln in protest against redundancy procedures at local plants of the giant GEC-AEI combine.

The workers are from seven separate factories in the Arnold Weinstock group.

Already 90 supervisors and technicians are on strike at Dorman Diesels, a GEC subsidiary. They have been out for a month in protest against the redundancy paid to a store supervisor.

He was given two weeks' notice and paid £300 less than the agreement ASTMS has with another local GEC firm, AEI Semi-Conductors.

Bill Brett, ASTMS divisional organizer in the East Midlands, said that the union had been negotiating for eight months without success for the same redundancy agreement which applies in most GEC companies.

He added: 'Despite the fact that one member has been made redundant, Dorman Diesels now refuse to negotiate, arguing that there is no large-scale redundancy.'

With the greater numbers of pickets at Dorman's, the police have been out in force at the gate, a development which one picket, who is also an AUEW member, described as 'unprecedented' in Lincoln.

A further 230 redundancies at all levels in the factory are to be announced in three week's time with the completion of an order made by the Pakistan government.

Preston dockers adamant on ban

A LORRY from Williams Brothers of Queensferry, near Mould, carrying aluminium ingots failed to get unloaded at Preston docks yesterday.

Preston dockers decided not to touch the lorry in spite of assurances from management and their own Transport and General Workers' Union officials that the black on Williams Brothers had been lifted.

The dockers' shop stewards contacted an official of the National Docks Labour Board who informed them that the black had been lifted by their union.

They then spoke to Alan Taylorson of the local T&GWU branch.

He also said the blacking was lifted. Through the T&GWU offices, Mr H. Davis was contacted in Liverpool and he also stated the blacking was lifted.

However, the Preston dockers have decided that no cargo in dispute must be touched.

One leading shop steward said: 'This is nothing to do with the T&GWU. We put the blacking on and we'll take it off. We are waiting to get confirmation from the National Joint Shop Stewards' Committee on what the position is.'

Late yesterday after a series of telephone calls the dockers permitted the vehicles through. This followed assurances that dock labour would 'stuff' and 'strip' the lorries.

AT HULL a spokesman for the shop stewards' committee said a list of all transport firms to be blacked had been circularized. Hull dockers would operate the blacking procedure, he said.

Rail confrontation—destination NIRC

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

EIGHT HOURS before yesterday's midnight expiry of the rail cooling-off order, the Tories appeared hell-bent on a showdown with the railway workers.

An emergency meeting of top-ranking Tory Ministers at 10 Downing St called to discuss government moves to deal with the threatened rail crisis left no room for hope that they would authorize the Board to give in to the unions' demands.

And the three rail unions broke up after two hours of talks last night having agreed to take no further action until 10 a.m. this morning.

NUR leader Sir Sidney Greene said, 'We don't want to be provocative. Tonight is the night'.

Sources said last night that it was unlikely that Tory Employment Secretary Maurice Macmillan would apply to the NIRC for an extension of the 14-day cooling-off period. He was known to feel that negotiations with the three unions had been exhausted.

His most likely move if the unions decided to stand by their claim was an application to the Court for a secret ballot of rail union members.

NUR leader Sir Sidney Greene said before the joint meeting of rail unions at Unity House, Euston, London, that he would not be putting any new proposals to the Rail Board.



'No compromise' — says ASLEF's Buckton

He said: 'We have nothing to say to them. In our view, there is no reason to expect a move on the union side.'

'We have complied with the cooling-off period and when people come to look at the action in the Industrial Relations Court, they will find no fault on our side.'

And ASLEF leader Ray Buckton told reporters: 'We shall be going to the joint trade union meeting with the policy that we press for the implementation date to be May 1 — no compromise.'

Less cash for BSC

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

THE TORY government yesterday announced plans to cut back steel production and investment.

In a major review of the steel industry, the new Minister for Industry, Tom Boardman, said £200m would be spent in the 1973-1974 investment programme. This was £65m less than previously allocated.

Boardman told the House that it was 'inevitable' there would be some closures of older steel mills and older plants, and therefore, there would be redundancies in some areas.

'The number of redundancies will depend on the final outcome of the BSC's strategic plan,' he added.

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