

RESIST TORY PROVOCATION

BUILD COUNCILS OF ACTION

Statement by the
Political Committee of
the Socialist Labour League

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Shall the union leaders be allowed to surrender the rights gained in the two centuries of struggle, or will the working class fight back?

Heath and his Tory government have embarked on this course and they will not turn back. Every single worker must realize that there will be no 'negotiated' way out of the crisis. There will only be a fight to the end.

Either the government imposes a new slave status on the working class by destroying the trade unions and wiping out 200 years of history, or the

working class unites to make the government resign.

The Tory government will never forgive the miners for the retreat forced upon it in February. And they intend to prevent dockers, railwaymen or any other section of workers from doing the same thing. As Heath said on April 19:

'We have got this Bill, we are going to use it, and we will see this through.'

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The working class, as always, will fight to defend its basic rights, and the Tory government would have to defeat this working class in action to get its way. This is what it is preparing to do.

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class; the issues can only be resolved in struggle.

The working-class movement must now prepare and act with great urgency and resolution to defeat the Tories' plans. Rule by decree is being built up to replace capital parliamentary democracy. Elementary rights to justice are to disappear, as the Tory government sets up and rules through its own appointed courts.

The actions of the National Industrial Relations Court, intended as a blunt instrument to tame the working class after the miners' strike, are stiffening the resistance of millions of workers.

As they have shown in the municipal elections as well as in their actions on the railways and docks, workers feel they can beat the government, and they are right. They will not tolerate dictatorial decrees from a Tory government ruling without a mandate.

Armed with the authority of the Court, the Tories' plan could well be to provoke a major confrontation with the dockers and the railwaymen. They would then declare a state of national emergency and use special powers, backed by the decisions of the Industrial Relations Court, to smash the unions at factory and local level, and to

hit at left-wing organizations. Those who oppose their illegal acts will be condemned as law-breakers, arrested and jailed.

The continued authority of the National Industrial Relations Court now demands that it must proceed to fine and jail rank-and-file trade unionists.

An open clash between the organized workers and the government is now inevitable. This necessitates the most responsible and thorough political preparation.

The first need is to unite the working class to fight for the return of a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

Every speech by Heath which talks of conciliation and negotiation is a smokescreen to obscure the Tories' real plans.

Every approach by TUC general secretary Feather and the General Council to the Tory Cabinet is time lost, creating fatal illusions and preparing defeats.

Seeming to put off the confrontation, these treacherous actions only ensure even more bitter struggles later on, under worse conditions. Every retreat only whets the appetite of the Tories.

The trade union leaders who refused to fight the Industrial Relations Bill by mobilizing their members for a General Strike to

bring down the Tories bear a terrible historical responsibility. These same leaders helped the Tories once more by trying to sell wage restraint in exchange for the non-activation of the Bill. Now they are divided and impotent. But the struggle cannot be postponed.

We could be only weeks away from a General Strike provoked by the NIRC. Now is the time for the working-class movement to be mobilized to defeat the Tories, before their plans are completed.

Because in the background the Tories are also preparing, through changes in the army and police, the machinery to counter-attack when the working class forces them to resign and elect a Labour government.

The police raids on the homes of hundreds of socialists in March and the attack on the rights of accused persons in court, all are deliberate preparations. Ulster is the training-ground.

Donaldson and the Industrial Court have brutally demonstrated that the unions cannot defend themselves under the law. They cannot win.

But these unions are the bread and butter of every worker and his family. They are the guarantee of every single democratic right.

How then can the unions be defended? Only by the mobilization of the working class politically to make the Tory government resign.

Such a mobilization will embrace very broad masses, the vast majority of the population. The unbearable rise in the cost of living (17.2 per cent increase in food prices since June 1970), the existence of close to 1 million unemployed, the threat of doubled rents, and the attack on democratic and trade union rights, affect virtually everybody, including the middle classes.

With the Tories deliberately preparing to provoke a General Strike, what alternative faces the working class except to prepare for a General Strike itself?

A decisive policy by the labour movement now can unite all the anti-Tory forces and stop the Tory conspiracy to replace parliamentary democracy with dictatorship:

FIRST, there must be formed Councils of Action in every area, as in the period before 1926, to unite all those fighting against the government on all issues. This is the only way to defend trade unions and it is the key to every anti-Tory struggle.

These councils must consist of all workers' organizations: trade unions, Labour Parties, the SLL, Communist Parties and all socialist tendencies, as well as tenants' committees, co-operatives—in short, all sections of the labour movement.

These Councils of Action will be the basis all over the country to organize massive resistance to the plans of the Tory government. This organized resistance is the very minimum requirement

Liverpool Trades Council takes the first step

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The decision was carried as an addendum to a resolution

from the trades council condemning the TUC General Council for advising unions to appear before the National Industrial Relations Court as a flagrant breach of TUC policy.

The resolution demanded a special Trades Union Congress and called on the TUC to

break off immediately all talks with the Tory government on regulating wages and other methods of co-operation.

It also called on the TUC in conjunction with the National Council of Labour to organize a 24-hour General Strike as part of a campaign to defend workers at present under attack by the Industrial Relations Act and to bring down the Tories and re-elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

Rail ballot imposed: Recall TUC says union

THE INDUSTRIAL war in Britain reached a new climax yesterday as the rail unions and the government set themselves on a collision course. As the Appeal Court backed the government ballot the train drivers union ASLEF called for a special TUC conference and a war on the Industrial Relations Act. ASLEF leader Ray Buckton (right) said he was disappointed with the verdict but he was confident his members would vote against the government.



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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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● See page 12 for rail story.

● SEE PAGE 2 COL. 1

WHAT WE THINK

'MORNING STAR' EUPHORIA

WHEN IT comes to looking for silver linings on the dark clouds of economic crisis you can't find a more assiduous applicant than the 'Morning Star' editor.

In yesterday's editorial he becomes almost euphoric about this month's unemployment figures. He certainly doesn't share the scepticism of even right-wing Social Democrats like Reg Prentice MP, who described them as 'intolerably high' and 'far and away the worst' for May for over 30 years. He makes no mention of the fact that in Scotland and the North jobless rates have broken all post-war records.

These facts and the prospect that unemployment figures will shoot-up steeply in the autumn once Common Market entry is complete and the trade war intensifies is of little concern to him. In fact they could be positively embarrassing because they contradict his Stalinist thesis that the boom can be maintained by working-class 'pressure'.

'The Tories have been forced reluctantly and slowly by mass pressure, especially from the trade union movement, to introduce some measures which may be having a limited effect. The fights put up by the UCS, Plessey and other workers against closures and redundancies, and the many battles to push up wages to increase purchasing power and therefore demand for goods, have had an impact.'

This is a dangerously oversimplified and diversionary argument which reverses the sequence of cause and effect in the process of accumulation. It has long been recognized, even by bourgeois commentators, that the Tories, as well as the previous Labour government, in their haste to enter the Common Market and accumulate the necessary surpluses to do so, set out to cut domestic consumption and the money supply at an inordinately high rate.

They over-reacted to the point where they were faced with serious industrial stagnation and a government-induced depression. This trend, coinciding with the general crisis of world economy exacerbated by the August 15, 1971, measures of Nixon, could have led to an extremely critical situation for the Tories.

By the middle of 1971 all sections of the capitalist class were agreed that a certain measure of relaxation on credit and investment were necessary if profit rates were to revive. But this stimulus

alone could not have worked unless certain political conditions were satisfied. These were:

1. the successful passage of the White Paper on the Common Market.
2. the enactment of the Industrial Relations Bill.
3. the revaluation of the yen and the deutschemark and the 'dirty floating' of the pound on the international foreign currency exchanges.

It was this modest and carefully-controlled filip to investment, which, incidentally, led to the tremendous speculation in land and house property and created the objective conditions for a renewal of trade union struggle. The high point in this upsurge was the miners' strike. Contrary to what the 'Star' alleges, it was the slight deflation of the economy by the Tories that stimulated working-class militancy and not the other way round.

This is a point of seminal importance to Marxists because it is only by understanding this relationship that we can prepare for the next stage of the struggle to force the Tories to resign.

Those who believe that working-class 'pressure' forced the Tories to reflate—as the Stalinists do—must, by the logic of this reformist thesis, capitulate to the Tories and abandon even the pretence of a struggle against the Tory government.

This is precisely what the Stalinists propose in the 'Star': '... the greatest possible pressure needs to be developed for measures which will make drastic cuts in unemployment and lead to full employment.' (Our emphasis.)

Capitulation to the Tories is also capitulation to the trade union leaders who betray the struggle against the Industrial Relations Act. That is why the 'Star' editorial can praise Hull docks shop stewards' chairman Walter Cunningham, but remains cringingly silent on the retreat led by the union chiefs from any fight on the Act.

Far from giving in to pressure by the workers we confidently state that the Tories will do what Marx predicted in 'Capital':

'... as soon as adverse circumstances prevent the creation of an industrial reserve army... capital... rebels against the 'sacred' laws of supply and demand, and tries to check its inconvenient action by forcible means and state interference.'

In other words, if you want full employment prepare to meet the provocative attacks of the Tories and force them to resign through a General Strike.

AS NIXON HEADS FOR MOSCOW...

Potsdam carve-up ghost revived

BY JOHN SPENCER

He adds: 'The principles of peaceful co-existence also [sic] tally with the interests of the peoples of the capitalist states.'

The implication is that what is good for the capitalist rulers of the West is also good for the working class.

The biggest danger of all is to the Vietnamese revolution. What kind of concessions are the Soviet leaders planning to offer Nixon in the privacy of the Kremlin?

PRESIDENT Nixon is assured of a fulsome welcome when he lands in Moscow on Monday, despite the provocative US blockade of Haiphong and the escalation of the Vietnam war.

According to Moscow Radio, he will find a 'sincere negotiating partner' in the Soviet Union. The radio said the Soviet leaders were 'striving to give the idea of co-operation between states and peoples real substance and help towards a practical settlement of real problems.'

'Despite the current turbulent international events and sharp turns in the international situation,' the radio said, 'our country fundamentally observes in its foreign policy the Leninist principles of peaceful co-existence and favours settling international problems at the negotiating table.'

A particularly ominous passage in the Radio's broadcasts on May 18 implied that Nixon's visit could produce Soviet-US relations comparable with the wartime alliance between Stalin and Roosevelt.

Dr Petr Shishkin, described as a prominent Soviet historian, said: 'The principles of peaceful co-existence manifested themselves most fully in these periods of American-Soviet relations when realism dominated in the policy of American statesmen.'

'We might mention President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in this respect. During his term of office diplomatic relations were established and economic and trade ties developed successfully.'

An even more important feature of Soviet-American relations during this period was the conclusion of the Yalta and Potsdam agreement which cynically divided Europe into spheres of influence and under which Stalin agreed to co-operate in restoring capitalism in West Germany, Italy Greece and France.

The secret diplomatic dealing behind the backs of the working class embodied in Yalta and Potsdam is the essence of the Stalinist policy of 'peaceful co-existence'. The Soviet leaders cynically misrepresent this policy as 'Leninist'.

But in practice they subordinate the revolutionary struggle of the international working class to the diplomatic requirements of their own bureaucratic rule. As Shishkin puts it: 'The element of mutual benefit is a distinguishing feature of peaceful co-existence.'

By their refusal to cancel Nixon's visit, despite the mining of the North Vietnamese coast, the Soviet leaders have already signalled that they consider Vietnam to be subordinate to their desire for a European security conference and for trade terms with the US.

The international working class must be on its guard against a new Geneva sell-out of the Vietnamese struggle. The Kremlin's secret diplomacy places the long struggle of the Vietnamese workers and peasants in the greatest danger.

AROUND THE WORLD

Election likely over German treaties

THE TREATIES with Poland and the Soviet Union, which accepted existing frontiers, were passed yesterday by the upper house of the West German parliament. They will become law when President Gustav Heinemann signs the ratifying Bill next week.

As in the lower house, the Christian Democrats, who have a majority in the upper house, abstained from voting.

But both houses passed unanimously an all-party resolution which claims that the pacts only establish a *modus vivendi* and do not create a permanent legal basis for the existing German frontiers.

The Polish government fears

the Kremlin is prepared to go too far in making concessions to Bonn.

Poland acquired territory from Germany at the end of World War II and wants a definite guarantee of its present frontiers.

Chancellor Willy Brandt's government nearly fell on the ratification issue, while the Christian Democrats, although divided, are now in a position to force Brandt to call an early General Election in which the treaties will be a major factor.

This comes in the midst of growing economic depression when the working class is coming onto the scene with demands of its own on the Brandt government.

NLF claims to have GI prisoners

AMERICAN GIs have been captured in recent fighting in Vietnam, according to Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the National Liberation Front. The claim was made in an interview published in the French Communist daily, 'L'Humanité'.

South Vietnamese forces are making desperate attempts to prepare for the expected onslaught on Hue by making sorties to disrupt enemy positions and regain lost territory.

Buddhist monks and supporters of the Cao Dai sect have called

for a permanent ceasefire and the withdrawal of all foreign military aid from Vietnam within six months. They offered to act as go-between to bring about a peace settlement.

A statement by the Foreign Ministry of North Vietnam says that 'the Vietnam problem must be solved by Vietnam and the United States at the Paris conference on the basis of respect for Vietnam's independence, unification and territorial integrity and for the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination'.

FROM PAGE 1

for the working class to prevent destruction of all it has gained in 200 years of struggle.

The Councils of Action will be the organs which defend the working class against the Tory counter-attack when a Labour government is elected.

They will carry through the socialist policies demanded of such a government by expropriating the employers and defending the gains thus made.

SECOND. These Councils of Action will prepare to defeat the Tories in the General Strike, and will demand of the TUC that nationally co-ordinated preparations for the General Strike are made, preparations in the hands of the Councils of Action.

Those union leaders, like Jones of the T&GWU and Feather in the TUC, who break the decisions of elected conferences to capitulate to the Tory government and the Industrial Court must be made accountable to the rank and file of the movement.

Every T&GWU member must demand recall of the T&GWU Biennial Conference.

If Feather will not do it the TUC majority must immediately reconvene the TUC to discuss

Build councils of action

the urgent tasks of the new situation.

The decision of Jones and the T&GWU officials to obey the Court and discipline shop stewards holds out the gravest dangers and must be completely opposed by workers everywhere.

THIRD. The Councils of Action must have a political programme against the Tory government and to answer the crisis.

This programme is to make the Tories resign and elect a **Labour government pledged to socialist policies.**

The working class will not tolerate a Labour government like that of Wilson which served the employers. The Labour government must nationalize the banks, the building societies and insurance companies and all major industries, without compensation and under workers' control.

It must withdraw all troops from overseas, release all political prisoners and internees in every part of the world under its influence.

It must disband the standing

army to prevent it from becoming the centre of an ultra-right Franco-type conspiracy. It must replace it with a workers' militia, with democratically elected officers and subject to the control of the working class through the trade unions and Councils of Action.

It must enter into reciprocal trading relations with the Soviet Union, China, Eastern Europe and all countries who are willing to trade without political ties.

In conjunction with such a trading policy the Labour government must take immediate steps to prevent devaluation and another balance of payments crisis by

- a) Confiscating the immense investments held overseas by British banks, insurance houses, big corporations and wealthy individuals.
- b) Repudiating all international short-term debts.
- c) Establishing a state monopoly of foreign trade.
- d) Withdrawing from IMF and other imperialist bodies.

It must end secret diplomacy,

publish all secret agreements, including all Cabinet minutes up to the present day.

The Industrial Relations Act must be repealed forthwith, the NIRC disbanded and its officials sacked. The right to strike and organize freely in trade unions must be legislated.

On this basis, full employment, rising living standards, decent housing at fair rents and the restoration of all welfare, health and education benefits must proceed.

There is no time to lose! The working class will fight every inch of the way to stop the Tory attack, but it must not fight with one hand tied behind its back. The trade union leaders will either become policemen patrolling their unions on behalf of the Industrial Court, or they will become the democratically elected representatives of the rank and file. There is no middle road. All those leaders who collaborate with the Tory Court must be replaced by leaders who will be subject to the decisions of the members.

It is through this political struggle that the unions become fighting instruments, enabling the workers going beyond the election of a Labour government to the actual wresting of power and property from the capitalist class. It is in this struggle that the revolutionary leadership will be built.

Without these Councils of Action, without the programme outlined here, the working class will be left defenceless in face of the Tory plans to provoke a General Strike, Emergency Powers, arrests and jailings.

When Heath said to the United Nations in 1970 that we faced a decade of civil wars, this is what he meant. It is for this, and not for 'conciliation', that the Tories are preparing.

- Victory to the railwaymen!
- No retreat before the NIRC!
- Victory to the dockers!
- The trade unions must set up Councils of Action in every area!
- Prepare for the General Strike!

We appeal to all workers to support this policy and immediately apply to join the Socialist Labour League, working with us to transform it into a revolutionary party.

May 19, 1972.

Dublin jail riot: Inquiry soon

A HIGH-LEVEL investigation has been started into the riot by prisoners at Dublin's Mountjoy jail on Thursday night.

Three prisoners who climbed on the roof of 'B'-wing identified themselves as Provisional IRA members. They said they wanted to negotiate a speedy trial for men on remand—some of whom had already spent four months in jail.

One man who climbed on the roof, Alphonsus O'Riain, told reporters:

'We want to say we have no fight against the Irish people, the ordinary Gardaí, or the warders. Our fight is against the collaboration forces, the Special Branch, the secret service and the British authorities who direct them. We know these people receive their orders from London.'

Trouble began when 30 or 40 political prisoners seized cell block keys. They then released other prisoners and within a few minutes warders were overpowered and the block sealed. Altogether about 100 prisoners were involved.

● Large-scale evacuation of Mountjoy prisoners began yesterday.

Prisoners were herded into vehicles and rushed through Dublin under heavy police escort. It is thought some of them were going to the detention centre at the Curragh and the military centre at Arbour Hill, Dublin.

The transfer operation began after a government bureau announced that all the prison cells were 'unoccupiable' because of riot damage.

A tough year in print

A WARNING that industrial unrest in the printing industry would hinder chances of business recovery was made yesterday by Sir Max Bemrose, president of the British Federation of Master Printers.

He said it had been a tough year for the industry. There had been unemployment for the first time in 25 years and more than 200 firms had closed in the last four years.

The federation's annual report said there were signs of improvement in business confidence, but he warned the situation had not been helped by overtime bans imposed by two unions seeking wage claims.

He forecast: 'There will certainly be an increase in the demand for the services of the printing industry and it is up to us, with full co-operation between unions and management, to meet those demands both efficiently and profitably.'

He said the Common Market was 'certainly one of the most important factors in our immediate future.'

Hull blacking stays

HULL SHOP stewards have voted unanimously to continue their blacking of three local container firms.

The decision was taken in defiance of special pleading by two local officials of the Transport and General Workers' Union, David Shenton and Brian Barker.

Shenton, the district secretary, and Barker, the docks secretary, this week became the first T&GWU officials to appear before the Tory National Industrial Relations Court.

Stewards reject pleas by T&GWU officials

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

They were later commended by Court president Sir John Donaldson, for their 'sincere' and 'genuine' intervention. 'We have been greatly impressed and assisted by the oral evidence which union officials have given in this case,' Donaldson gushed.

After pleading with the Hull shop stewards at a meeting on Thursday night, a vote was taken.

The 36 stewards unanimously decided to continue the blacking of MAT Transport, Panalpina (Northern) Limited and a ferry firm.

At the court on Thursday, Donaldson found that the T&GWU and Walter Cunningham, chairman of Hull shop stewards' committee, were guilty of an unfair industrial practice. He issued a permanent order against the defendants calling on them to stop the blacking. The union is appealing.

Mr Cunningham, who has boycotted all court proceedings, said he did not recognize the authority of the NIRC.

The 43-year-old docker added: 'The blacking will not be lifted. Even if I am left languishing in jail at the end of the day, they will still have to face the national shop stewards' committee.'

It was the national committee which originally introduced the nation-wide ban on a number of container firms.

'The committee will lift it, not me. No matter what they do to me, they will have to face the national shop stewards. They will have the last word.'

NIRC judgement in US

SIR JOHN DONALDSON, president of the National Industrial Relations Court, has his legal equals across the Atlantic.

This is a ruling by Judge Kroninger on a strike by members of the giant Teamsters' Union at Pepsi Cola company in California:

'One can't be permitted to uncage a tiger and then throw up his hands, claiming that he shouldn't be held responsible because he no longer has control of it. If a union has chosen to unleash its members it has got to do something more than stand by.'

In a case which paralleled the recent court battle involving the NIRC and the Transport and General Workers' Union, Kroninger found the Teamsters legally responsible for their members' actions.

He fined the union \$41,000 on 82 counts of 'violence, vandalism and mass picketing'.

The multi-million Pepsi Cola company also came in for its share of punishment—\$1,500—but then their crimes only included pulling guns on pickets and attempting to run them over on the picket line.



Cunningham: They can jail me, but they still have to deal through the stewards.

Yesterday the shop stewards held a meeting with MAT Transport, one of the three blacked firms. Before the meeting Cunningham said: 'I hold out hopes of the talks with the firms—just as I do on any talks.'

The firm's spokesman said there had already been 'a certain amount of discussion' with the T&GWU's docks section.

It was also announced yesterday that a mass meeting would be held on Hull docks on Monday at which T&GWU officials would speak.



Builders fear for union on site

BUILDING WORKERS in central London, have been on strike for a week against non-union sub-contractors and for the reinstatement of four steel-fixers. The strike, at the National Hospital, Queen Square, London, has been made official by the Union of Construction and Allied Trades and Technicians, but not by the Transport and General Workers' Union.

A steel-fixing company, Gofix Ltd, went into liquidation shortly after refusing to accept the cards of two new employees and the four steel-fixers were made redundant.

The company that succeeded them, Ebannon Ltd, employed only two people and Lovell's, the main contractors, gave these two the go-ahead to work as director-workers on the site.

Senior steward George O'Driscoll said that these two adopted an 'anti-trade union attitude at work.'

'This represents an attempt to break the organization at Lovell's, which is 100 per cent.'

He said that they were trying to get an emergency recall of the T&GWU building trade group to make the dispute official.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Fight the Tories' 'fair rents' Bill

NORTH KENT: Tuesday May 23, 8 p.m. SOGAT House, Essex Rd, Dartford.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday May 23, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue, Barking.

CLAPHAM: Tuesday May 23, 8 p.m. Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4.

PRESTON: Tuesday, May 23, 8 p.m. 'Railway and Commercial Hotel' (near railway station), Butler Street. 'Recall the TUC, Make the Tories resign'.

WEST LONDON: Tuesday May 23, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Rd, off York Way, Kings Cross.

SOUTHALL: Thursday May 25, 8 p.m. Parkway Rooms (Rent office), Racecourse Estate, Northolt (next to swimming pool).

NORTH LONDON: Thursday May 25, 8 p.m. 'Bricklayer's Arms', Tottenham High Rd (nr White Hart Lane)

CROYDON: Thursday May 25, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Rd.

LUTON: Thursday May 25, 8 p.m. St John Ambulance Hall, Lea Rd.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday May 25, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club (opposite New Cross Station).

ACTON: Monday May 29, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Rd.

EAST LONDON: Tuesday May 30, 8 p.m. 'Aberfeldy', Aberfeldy St, E.14.

Fighting the Tories' Rent Bill

Revolt planned against consenting councillors

BY PHILIP WADE Our Housing Correspondent

A committee spokesman said: 'A number of councillors have said they believe that they would get no support if they decided to vote for non-implementation. Not one of the councillors has said this is a good piece of legislation.'

The narrow council majority in favour followed a number of stormy meetings in the Labour group which had eventually voted for non-implementation.

The council's decision has led to the resignation from the group

of council leader Ian McGarry (31) and several other leading Labour members.

'The council should be prepared to refuse to carry out this legislation, even if it means that the Tories put in a housing commissioner,' added the spokesman.

A committee statement says: 'We also throw out a challenge to those councillors who vote to implement the Bill to resign seats and stand for re-election. 'You were elected to look

after the interests of the community, not to assist the Tories in driving down the living standards of working people.'

A Lambeth Labour Party spokesman said that the Party did not want the council to implement any part of the Bill.

'While we cannot dictate to the councillors, they should consider their position as leaders in Lambeth,' he said.

● See page 4: The tenants' fight in Nottingham.

● Page 8: The Communist Party and the 'fair rents' Bill.

Plans are also being laid for a possible rent strike, marches on councillor's homes, lobbies and rallies.

NOTTINGHAM: MISERY FROM TORY RENT BILL

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Eight thousand families on the vast Clifton housing estate across the river Trent from Nottingham face real misery from the Tory Rent Bill.

In the last century Nottingham slums were known as the worst in the British Empire, while huge profits were made by the hosiery and coal-mining bosses.

The answer of the working class was a long and bitter struggle to establish basic rights. Immediately following the early Luddite outbursts, the Nottingham Reform Riots of 1831 forced the Tory government of the Duke of Wellington to resign and opened the way for the Liberal Reform Act of 1832.

Later, Nottingham was the first city to officially welcome delegates to the newly-formed Trades Union Congress.

Over two centuries ago the lace operatives formed their union in Nottingham.

The hope of decent housing conditions has been one of the most important results of this long struggle for political and trade union rights. For 42,000 people, Clifton Estate seemed to offer a new and healthier life.

But newly re-elected Labour councillor Bob Churchill explains the reality of 1972.

'Clifton in the daytime is a ghost town because the wives go out to work to pay the rent,' he said. 'If they stick £1 a week on next September, this will be wiped out.'

He pointed out that a three-bedroomed house now costs £7.56 a fortnight in rent and rates. This will go up to £9.56 in September and eventually could double.

DAMP PROBLEM

Many of the housewives on the estate feel the present rent is excessive in view of the damp problem in the concrete council houses and the difficulty of getting the council to tackle repairs.

'From October to May the walls all go black with mould,' said Mrs Christine Dennis. 'I have three children and my girl's bedroom walls are wringing wet. She is off school a lot with asthma.'

Mrs Maisie Levers had much the same to say:

'My complaint is the damp. You wouldn't mind paying a bit more each week if they did the repairs, but I have to go out to work to pay the rent anyway. With the children's dinner money and my own fares there is not much left.'

Mrs Elsie Levers backed her up: 'I have damp in the back kitchen. The plaster on the walls and ceilings is cracked all over the house. All my walls are black.

'I won't be able to pay the increase in the rent. I'm at work now. In 20 years I've had one week on holiday, and now this lot's coming up.'

She also made a point that has been worrying a lot of council tenants:

'They ought to stop people buying houses on the estate. These are for poor people.'

Mrs Pat Lawson, a young widow with two small children, is on the Executive Committee of the Clifton Tenants' Association. She works part-time for the Entertainment Centre that the Association has founded. She is completely opposed to the new Bill.

'I don't think it's fair. The rent increases will affect us greatly. The scheme is supposed to be for poor people, but it'll only be the rich that can afford the rents.'

She thinks that the scheme will drive a lot of people to consider buying their own houses and she is opposed to this.

Pensioner Mrs Dora Darby illustrated the sort of increases Clifton tenants have had to face over the last few years.

'I live in a bungalow. Five years ago the rent was £1.15s a week. Now it is £5.02 a fortnight. I am living on a widow's pension plus social security. My pension will be going up in September, but I'm already paying a much bigger rent.'

Insurance agent Mick Broughton; who has many clients on the estate, pinpointed some of the Housing Finance Bill's more far-reaching effects:

'This is the most vicious piece of legislation for years. It's wider than just the rents. There will be a bad effect on younger couples trying to buy their houses because older couples will be forced off the estates.'

'Traditionally the rent of council housing has been about 15 per cent—20 per cent of the average income. This increase will force the trade unionists to demand more pay—which is just what the government does not want.'

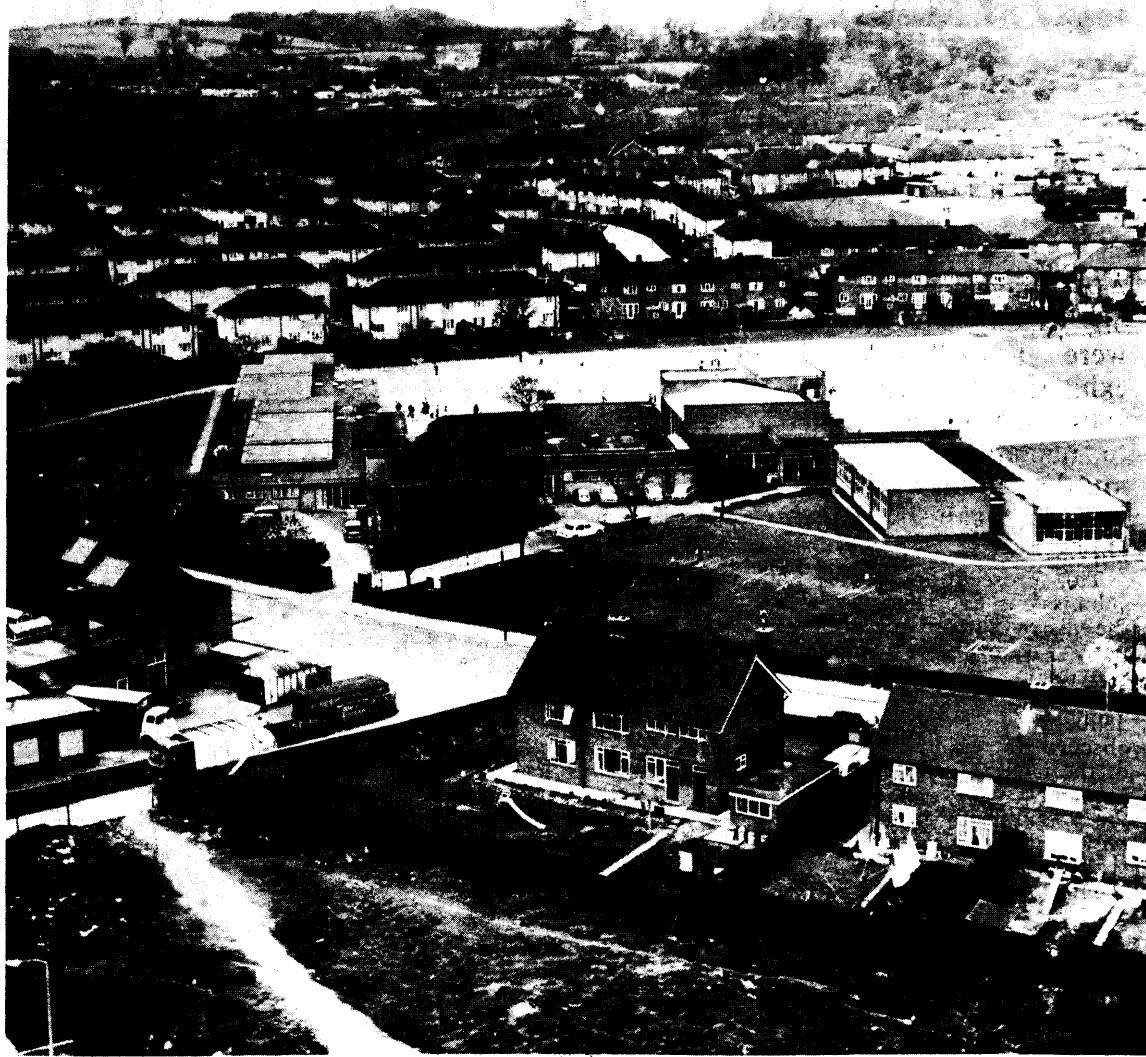
'The private sector will profit—the private landlord and the speculator.'

'And this law is taking even more power out of the hands of the local authorities.'

The means-test aspect of the increases sticks in the throat of Clifton tenants, many of whom work overtime to make sure there is something left over from the rent to pay for improvements to home and garden.

Trade unionists, of course, are more aware of what can happen with a rebate scheme in operation. George Groves is a dues collector at work for the Hosiery Workers' Union.

'The means-test will mean that a person with four children can be paying £2 rent while the person next door will



Housing on the Clifton estate in Nottingham where tenants are plagued with the problem of damp.

be paying a different rent,' he said.

Mr Nick Ford, a life-long miner and now G&MWU steward at the Nottingham Wilford power station, put the same point:

'We have worked all our lives. My basic opinion is that we have never been out of work and we don't see why we should pay more and others less.'

'I don't mind pensioners and widows and such like getting a rebate,' he said, 'I'm definitely going to press for a bigger wage demand.'

What the housewives see is the sheer impossibility of paying the new increase.

'The main thing is to try and stop it,' said Mrs Eastwood at her home at Greencroft, Clifton.

'I'm against paying, definitely. With four kids how can you keep on paying pounds? You have to leave something out somewhere, and then you get

in arrears.'

Her husband asked: 'If this is a Tory plan, will the new Labour council here carry it out?'

For an answer to this we went to Bob Churchill.

'If we refuse to implement the Bill,' he said, 'we are liable to end up in clink and the Tories would be in control of the council. I'm sure the electors voted us in to run the affairs of the City of Nottingham and not to spend time at one of her Majesty's Prisons, for not implementing government law.'

CAPITALIST DISEASE

Unemployed engineering worker Bill Nelson of Foxearth Avenue, Clifton, has very different ideas:

'The Refts Act is merely a

symptom of a disease, namely capitalism,' he said, 'therefore to say it is robbery with violence is stating the obvious.'

'After decades of collaboration, the working class must organize to smash the ruling-class parasites and their stooges in the Labour Party and the trade union movement.'

Nick Ford, put fairly and squarely what he thought the duty of the leaders of organized labour is:

'All the unions must stick together on this rent increase,' he said. 'All union branches should take it through to the TUC to try and stop it. If there were a rent strike we would all have to stick together or there would be discrimination against individuals.'

'My opinion is there should be a General Strike to get this Tory government out.'

For the workers of Nottingham it would not be the first time.

DANGERS IN DEFENCE OF ANGELA

After seven weeks during which 100 witnesses were heard and 200 exhibits produced, the state has done nothing to substantiate charges of murder, kidnap and conspiracy against Angela Davis.

The prosecution ended its submissions five days ago with the district attorney's declaration: 'The evidence compels a conviction.'

The state's case has been deliberately presented to obscure the political content of the trial against Miss Davis, a member of the Communist Party and lecturer in German philosophy.

Instead, the prosecution has sought to turn the case into a 'crime of passion'.

Chief prosecutor Albert Harris contends that she planned an abortive kidnap-ransom plot in order to obtain hostages from the Marin County Courthouse, California. These hostages were to be used to barter the freedom from San Quentin of Soledad brother George Jackson.

The plot ended disastrously when Jonathan Jackson, George's younger brother, was shot dead along with two other prisoners and a state judge as they were leaving the courthouse in a hired van.

Harris's case rests, he says, on letters and diaries collected by the FBI during their investigations. They contain correspondence from Miss Davis to George Jackson and 'prove', according to Harris, that her motive was 'to free the man she loved'.

Against protests from the prosecution Harris got three letters and an edited version of the diary entered into the court record. He argued that unless the documents were shown to the jury 'we might as well pack up and go home'.

The letters (one of which was published in full in Workers Press, May 15) are completely irrelevant to the trial. They simply express many of her deeply-held political beliefs as well as her close emotional ties to Jackson and the Soledad Brothers' cause.

What is alarming, however, is that when the prosecution introduced the letters the defence lawyers labelled Harris as 'obscene'. They were shocked by the 'sick game' he was playing.

But Harris is not playing a 'game'. He is in deadly earnest. As an agent of the crisis-ridden American ruling class he is desperate to railroad Miss Davis by any means at his disposal. The state is determined to carry out a conspiracy frame-up.

In shrieking 'obscene' and talking about 'sick games', the defence is allowing the defence of Miss Davis to enter the murky and treacherous world of the state itself.

A political defence of Miss Davis is the urgent necessity of the hour.

It is no accident that it is the Communist Party which is behind Miss Davis's defence. So far, apart from Miss Davis's own opening statement, the defence has studiously played the state's game of avoiding the direct political implications of the trial.

When the defence opens next week it will be vital to see if the Davis lawyers mount a political attack on the state case to demolish it.



The state case against Angela Davis has relied on some extraordinary witnesses.

One was Louis May. He gave crucially damaging testimony that he saw Miss Davis and Jonathan Jackson emerge from a yellow Hertz rental van in San Quentin's parking lot some time before lunch on August 6, 1970, a day before the courthouse shoot-out in which Jonathan was killed.

May said he was stationed at the prison's East Gate entrance above the parking lot. He explained that he drove a tram used to transport visitors from the East Gate to the 'Spectroscope Gate' about three-tenths

of a mile away.

May said he offered to give Jonathan Jackson a ride, but Jackson replied, 'No, thank you.'

Chief prosecutor Albert Harris asked May if Jackson 'was accompanied' inside the East Gate.

'Yes, sir,' May answered.

May said he didn't see Miss Davis and Jackson get into the van before leaving the prison parking lot. However, he added, he did see them as the vehicle came up the ramp from the lot.

'Johnathan Jackson was driving and Miss Davis was about in the middle of the

front seat, sitting next to him and facing him,' May said.

'I heard quite loud voices,' he said, 'and they sounded argumentative.' He admitted he couldn't distinguish their words.

Under cross examination, however, it emerged that May was a former inmate of San Quentin. It also emerged the 'star' witness was a twice-convicted sex offender and he had served time for burglary.

As he stood in the witness box, he faced further litigation. Was he giving help to the state case in return for help, the defence asked—but got no reply.

Another witness, Mrs Lois

Leidig, testified that she was in Judge Haley's courtroom at Marin County on August 7, the day of the gun battle. She claimed to have seen George Jackson there. When the defence challenged her truthfulness, she angrily replied: 'I am under oath and don't you call me a liar.'

The defence then introduced a letter Mrs Leidig had written to a friend on January 11 1971, in which she said:

'I am hoping for this verdict for all of those anarchists involved. Our national courts need a verdict like this.' Her letter also expressed support for capital punishment.

Crisis, Credibility and the Decline of the West

THE UNITED STATES IN VIETNAM

BY ANNA TATE, PART TWO

Due to lack of support for a policy of direct intervention in 1954 from other western powers, Eisenhower bided his time.

The Geneva Conference of 1954 seemed to the Vietminh to be a fair settlement. While dividing the country at the 17th parallel, the agreements stipulated, and this must be stressed, that the division was only a temporary one, that it did not create two states but two contending parties within one nation-state.

Elections were to be held within two years, under the supervision of the International Control Commission, as to which party should control the entire area.

North Vietnam attempted time and again to ensure that such elections take place. The Americans had, however, by that time created a separate state in the South under Diem, protected by SEATO protocol.

This was a flagrant violation of the Geneva settlement, although the US Under-Secretary of State had claimed at Geneva that:

'In connection with the statement in the Declaration concerning free elections in Vietnam, my government wishes to make clear its position which it has expressed in a Declaration made in Washington on June 29, 1954, as follows: "In the case of nations now divided against their will, we shall continue to seek to achieve unity through free elections, supervised by the United Nations to ensure that they are conducted fairly".'

Dulles made explicit his rejection of the Geneva Accords by setting up the South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO). At that time he declared:

'The important thing from now on is not to mourn the past but to face the future opportunity to prevent the loss in northern Vietnam from leading to the extension of communism throughout South-East Asia and the South West Pacific.'

Thus, a strategic line had been drawn by the US across South East Asia. It had been drawn not by accident, nor by the whim of certain men in power, but through a determination to protect the expansion of Nippon capitalism under the guidance of the USA. A State Department Study Group Report put this very plainly in 1955:

'Japanese industry has long since outgrown its meagre domestic resource-base and must find expanding overseas sources of food, fuel and industrial materials which can

be purchased with expanding exports of manufactures. In the inter-war period, the Japanese industrialists threw in their lot with the militarists in an effort to solve this problem through imperialism. Today the same problem faces them again in much aggravated form. The Japanese economy has been shorn of its protected colonial markets, investment outlets and food and raw materials sources, and its trade with the Chinese mainland has been reduced to a trickle.'

The US now had to hold Asia at whatever cost to the peoples of that region. This was concealed behind a moralistic stance. Thus, Eisenhower in pledging his support to Diem—the most ruthless dictator Asia had seen for some time—claimed he was doing so in order to 'discourage any who might wish to impose a foreign ideology on your free people'. The people of South Vietnam then had inflicted upon them a series of dictators in the name of freedom and the foreign ideology of US capitalism.

Under the wholesale repression of Diem the National Liberation Front came into being in 1958. It must be stressed that the NLF was born in the South, on southern initiative, to combat the fierce measures of Diem against the people. Hanoi did not accord its recognition to the Front till two years later.

Unable to concede a real mass opposition in the South, Eisenhower, and Kennedy, who succeeded him as President, used the façade of 'aggression from the North' to cloak their intention of holding on to South Vietnam at all costs. Dean Rusk, Kennedy's Secretary of State, spoke in 1961, of the 'determined and ruthless campaign of propaganda, infiltration, and subversion by the communist regime in North Vietnam to destroy the Republic of Vietnam'.

Kennedy's war was all the more subversive for being kept secret and illicit. In revealing the story behind 'Kennedy's Private War', Ralph Stavins wrote that:

'During its 33 months in office, the Kennedy Administration managed and directed an illicit war. By sending an additional 1,000 troops to Vietnam in 1961, Kennedy broke through the MAAG ceiling and violated the Geneva Accords. Speaking to Rusk at a National Security Council meeting in November 1961, Kennedy defined the Presidential manner proper to breaching international laws: "Why do we take onus, say we are going to break the Geneva Accords? Why not remain silent?"'

At the end of 1961, there were 1,364 US military personnel in South Vietnam. By



the time of Kennedy's assassination in November 1963, there were 15,500. The policy of 'one more step' had begun to over-reach itself. The great liberal Kennedy had waged a silent, but not a passive war. It was he who built the élite corps of the Green Berets. According to Sorenson:

'... the President's pride was still the Army Special Forces, rapidly growing to a level some five or six times as large as when he took office ... The President directed—again over the opposition of top generals—that the Special Forces wear Green Berets as a mark of distinction.'

With the US economy still giving the false appearance of 'strength', President Johnson was able not only to continue the policy of 'one more step' but to skyrocket into escalation. His 'quick kill' strategy required the gargantuan injection of US troops into Vietnam, together with devastating

bombing and marine manoeuvres.

In the US elections of 1964, senator Barry Goldwater, champion of the ultra-right, advocated intensive bombing of North Vietnam, while Johnson countered with an image of peaceful restraint, declaring on August 29, 1964:

'I have had advice to load our planes with bombs and to drop them on certain areas that I think would enlarge the war and result in committing a good many American boys to fighting a war that I think ought to be fought by the boys of Asia to help protect their own land. And for that reason I haven't chosen to enlarge the war.'

Just one year later, in August 1965, Johnson had brought about a situation in which systematic bombing of Vietnam was taking place and there were already 125,000 US troops in that country. The US were, nevertheless, failing

miserably to halt the guerrilla resistance. They now began to invoke the 'noble strategy of victory' i.e. American troop strength was doubled to 500,000 and the Pentagon's 'quotient of pain' bombing and chemical warfare were stepped up. The Vietnamese have understood the pain and have manifested an outstandingly heroic will to fight back.

The advent of Nixon to the Presidency in 1969 was a victory for America's so-called 'silent majority'. His election was no accident. The American dream of world hegemony had taken deadly blows over a decade.

The Vietnam war had deepened and exposed the underlying contradictions of US imperialism. The right-wing 'silent majority' were demanding a return to the dream, a reassurance that all would be well, that a 'hawkish' Republican would turn the tide of history.

The Democrats, Kennedy

and Johnson, had come to power under the impulse of a nation elated with self-confidence, Nixon under the impulse of a profound crisis of confidence. But the days of Keynesian 'economic liberalism' were over, giving rise to protectionism. Trade war and military war were now to merge.

The tide of history could only be turned into either barbarism or socialism.

Nixon has set out on a course of barbarism the implications of which are of world-shattering proportions. In his speech of May 9, 1972, his justification for unleashing the forces of barbarism against those of socialism, was outrageous in its distortion. He claimed that:

'Throughout the war in Vietnam, the United States has exercised a degree of restraint unprecedented in the annals of war. That was our responsibility as a great nation—a

nation which is interested, as America has always been, in peace and not in conquest.'

If the massacre of thousands, the injury of millions and the devastation of a nation for the benefit of capitalism can be construed as 'restraint' by Nixon, what can the world expect when the 'restraint' is dropped?

Nixon, the man, is unimportant in this circumstance. The objective conditions which have brought the United States to this point of decline, deadly in its intent, constitute the determinant. As Franz Schurman put it:

'From the end of World War II till 1968, the vision of American Empire rested on three fundamental assumptions: 1) that only America had the strategic military power to protect the free world ... 2) that the powerful American economy was the foundation of all other capi-

talist and free world economies ... 3) that the political power of the American government was ... alone capable of bringing about any kind of free world unity. As late as the mid-1960s, little appeared to contradict these assumptions. America enjoyed unmatched superiority over the Soviet Union in strategic weaponry ... Despite the spectacular growth of the Common Market countries and Japan, their dependence on America was symbolized by the centrality of the dollar in their transactions ...'

By 1970 this vision could no longer be sustained. Gone was the centrality of the dollar. Gone the disparity in strategic weaponry. Gone the political power of the American government. The resignation of Johnson in 1968 signalled not the demise of a man, but of the political power of the administration.



Loading bombers (1) in the Tonkin Gulf. Above: Kennedy, Johnson



Above: Diem's corpse Nov. 2, 1963. Below: Goldwater (1) and Rusk



The American industrial economy had placed an overwhelming emphasis on 'high-technology production', and as a result, consumer and production goods declined. Recession and inflation with concomitant price rises and growing unemployment have led to Nixon's protectionist measures which now threaten to turn into wholesale, capitalist trade war.

The high point of contradiction is that Japan—the very country which the US had built up as a bulwark of capitalism in Asia—has by its very growth, come into conflict with the American economy. Schurman correctly analysed the situation thus:

'The shift from capitalistic internationalism to capitalistic nationalism in both pre-war periods was marked by: 1) escalating arms races between the great powers, 2) erosion of the international monetary system, and 3) rising demands

for domestic welfare expressed by growing left-wing pressures. Each of these three factors plays an important role in the advanced capitalist nations today. In the 1960s, America appeared committed to reaching an arms control agreement with the Russians. Now Nixon has committed himself irrevocably to the arms race with his new "Keynesian" budget. Japan is just now entering the arms race. Britain's Conservative government is moving toward a strengthened military posture. The seemingly inexorable pace of inflation in America, which can only worsen with deficit spending, assures the doom of the international monetary system.'

As the western world, in its decline, moves into barbarism, the only power which can reverse catastrophe is the power of the international working class and the international peasantry, united and armed with Marxism.

THE CP AND THE TORY RENTS BILL

BY PHILIP WADE

The Tory Housing Finance Bill which will double the rents of almost 6 million council and private tenants has now passed its final stages in the House of Commons and has gone through to the House of Lords.

Tenants in their tens of thousands have moved into action against the so-called 'fair rents' Bill. Their pressure has thrown many Labour councils into a real crisis.

With no clear policy on the Bill, several have capitulated before the Tory onslaught on tenants' rights and have decided to implement the Bill when and if it becomes law.

Some Labour councillors have resigned in protest against these decisions while the right-wing in some areas has moved in and suspended opponents of the Bill who wanted Labour councils to have nothing to do with it.

It has to be made clear from the start that this Tory attack on housing flows directly from the ever-deepening crisis of British capitalism. The Tories desperately need to drive down the conditions of the working class wherever they can.

If their hated Bill becomes law the Tories will cream off £200 million in subsidies which councils have used to keep rents down. It is also estimated that the Bill will bring in an extra £500m in rents over the next few years—half of this will go directly to the government.

UNDER THE TORY FIST

The Tories attack through need and they are heedless to pressure or protests. They have embarked on a strategy of destroying all rights. The trade unions, the social services and the welfare state, prices—all have come under the Tory fist.

The central question posed before tenants' associations, therefore, still remains forcing the government to resign. There is no other way to defend the rights of tenants or any other section of the working class.

This means the seeking of unity in action with the big battalions of workers massed in the trade unions now preparing for a showdown with the Tories and their Industrial Relations Act.

The main obstacle to the raising of the tenants' understanding to the need for such a perspective is the British Communist Party.

True to its reformist programme of the 'peaceful road' to socialism the Stalinists have throughout the campaign against the Bill sought to tie tenants to the coat tails of the Labour bureaucrats in the town halls.

For many years the CP has had an important influence in the tenants' movement. It controls the National Association of Tenants and Residents which always comes through with the Party line on housing.

Wherever it is involved, the

CP has but one objective: to ensure that the movement remains trapped in protest channels that can lead nowhere.

It has separated off the 'fair rents' Bill, which aims to smash the basis of municipal housing, from the whole drive of the Tories to drive down living standards through the destruction of every basic right of the working class.

Instead the CP has embarked on a programme of petitioning and protesting which can only confuse and wear out tenants and in which no way raises their political understanding of the fight against the Tories.

The CP's political bankruptcy is revealed for all to see in a four-page pamphlet published earlier this year on the Housing Finance Bill.

And what does the front page declare? 'No rent rises. The Communist Party says Kill the Tory Rent Bill.'

Once more the CP has resurrected the discredited slogan of Kill the Bill. Trade unionists will remember the attempts made to deflect the struggle against the Industrial Relations Bill with this line.

On the back page of the pamphlet the CP's pernicious reformist policy is elaborated under the title 'Homes Before Profits'.

'The Communist Party says this Tory Rent Bill can and must be smashed', it declares. How will this be done?

For in the next breath it is assumed the Bill has already become law—the pamphlet goes on to call on all Labour councils to defy the Act 'all along the line'.

'If the 300 Labour councils take this stand then, backed by the trade unions, the tenants and the labour movement, this Tory legislation can be defeated.'

And that is the sum total of their perspective on the Bill. Of course, this is no policy for fighting to defend the right to housing or any other right of the working class threatened by the Tories.

But it is the line of Stalinism through and through. The working class as an independent force for change is consciously discounted by the King St purveyors of peaceful co-existence.

Tacked on in a completely separate and independent way to the statement on the Bill itself is the Communist Party's so-called housing policy.

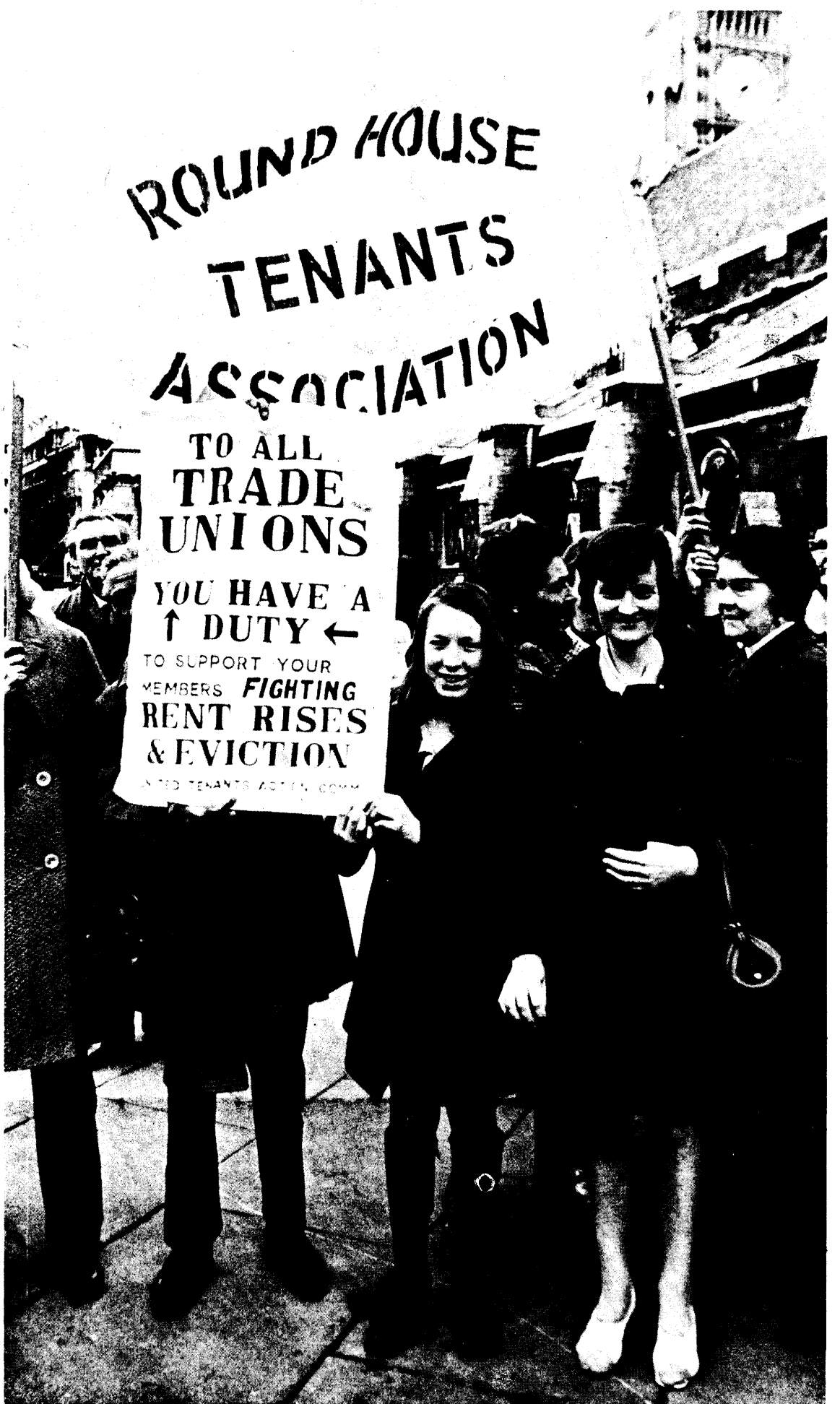
'But we need to go further. Radical [note, not socialist] changes in policy are needed to solve Britain's housing problems,' it begins.

Its five-point programme says: No rent increases; increase housing subsidies, grant 2 per cent loans to local councils and cheap mortgages to owner-occupiers; build 500,000 council houses for rent each year, and stop the sale of council houses; nationalize urban land; nationalize the big building firms and the building materials industry.

The CP is at least right when it calls these 'radical' changes. For in no way they can be considered socialist demands.

Land and the building industry are to nationalize without workers' control and, presumably, with compensation. But that is not all. The real, reformist, class-collaborationist nature of the CP's line is revealed in the statement on where the money is to come from for 'a real crash programme for housing'.

'Cut the arms bill by at least 50 per cent, impose a wealth



Tenants lobbying parliament to protest against the Tory Housing Finance Bill.

tax, and increase Corporation Tax to 50 per cent.'

Of course no demand is made for the nationalization under workers' control of the building societies, banks and insurance companies, who between them control all the finances for housing. These elements are instead asked to reduce interest rates which presumably hasn't occurred to them before now.



Frederik Engels

This so-called programme makes clear that the CP thinks with enough tinkering with capitalism every worker could have a decent place to live in at a reasonable rent.

But when Engels took up the housing question in a series of articles in 1872 he made abun-

dantly clear that this or any other 'problem' facing the working class could not be resolved by or under capitalism.

... it [the housing shortage] is a necessary product of the bourgeois social order; that it cannot fail to be present in a society in which the great labouring masses are exclusively dependent upon wages, that is to say, upon the quantity of means of subsistence necessary for their existence and for the propagation of their kind; in which improvements of the machinery, etc., continually throw masses of workers out of employment; in which violent and regularly recurring industrial fluctuations determine on the one hand the existence of a large reserve army of unemployed workers, and on the other hand drive the mass of the workers from time to time on to the streets unemployed; in which the workers are crowded together in masses in the big towns at a quicker rate than dwellings come into existence for them under the prevailing conditions; in which, therefore, there must always be tenants even for the most infamous pigsties; and in which finally the house-owner in his capacity as capitalist has not only the right but, by reason of competition, to a certain extent also the duty of ruthlessly making as much out of his property in house rent as he possibly can. In such a society the housing shortage is no accident; it is a necessary institution and can be abolished together with all its effects on health, etc., only if the whole social order from which it

springs is fundamentally re-fashioned.'

The so-called Communist Party is opposed to this revolutionary conception.

THE ROAD TO DEFEAT

In direct opposition to CP policy the Socialist Labour League says that you cannot peacefully co-exist with capitalism which in Britain today is represented by the Tory government.

To isolate tenants like the CP does and lead them into a single-issue campaign to make the Tories reverse their policy can only lead to defeat.

The working class is a revolutionary class capable of independent action which can force the Tory government to resign now and return a Labour government forced by the mass movement to carry out socialist policies.

It is clear, however, that a new leadership will have to be fought for throughout the tenants' movement. Tendencies such as the Communist Party will only lead to a betrayal of their interests.

An alternative leadership must be constructed based on the principles and practice of revolutionary Marxism. That is the only way forward for tenants and other workers fighting the Tory government.

US ROUND- UP

'TROUBLE- MAKER' GI FACES DEATH IN FRAME-UP TRIAL



Above: William Calley, the mass murderer of My Lai—treated as a hero. Below: Washington police in riot formation.

Private Billy Dean Smith is being made a scapegoat for the demoralization and mutiny in the ranks of the United States army.

After more than a year in solitary confinement, he is due to go on trial in August charged with 'fragging' two officers in Vietnam. The first GI to go on trial for this charge, Smith faces the death penalty if convicted.

He has appealed to 'the people all over the world to help me and my family fight for my life'.

Billy Smith is on trial for his life because he is a militant who fought racialism and repression in the army and opposed the imperialist war in Vietnam. His army career was marked by harassment, continual punishment for minor infractions and shortly before the murder charges, he was being processed for discharge as unsuitable and unfit. His commanding officer, Capt Rigby, claimed that he was unenthusiastic about 'closing with the enemy'.

An explosion of a fragmentation grenade in Bien Hoa, Vietnam killed two officers and wounded a third. Smith the 'troublemaker' was immediately charged. The only evidence against him is a grenade pin found in his pocket at the time of his arrest. Nothing links this pin with the grenade that killed the officers.

His sister pointed out that he was seen playing with a ball shaped grenade on the day of the explosion and the grenade that caused the deaths was pear shaped. She also says that soil on his shoes did not match that around the explosion area and that there is no match with the grenade pin found in his possession.

There is not a scrap of evidence against Smith. He is facing the death penalty as a warning to the hundreds of GIs who have thrown grenades or taken shots at their officers and to the thousands more who are refusing to obey orders as mutiny grows in the demoralized American army.

While William Calley, the mass murderer of My Lai, is treated as a hero and makes preparations for his early release, Smith is a symbol of resistance that must be destroyed.

The fear of every officer of a bullet in the back and the hysteria of a ruling class on the brink of defeat in Vietnam is directed at Billy Smith.

Smith faces a military court determined to destroy him. Only the action of the working class can free him.



PREPARING THE MIAMI 5,000

Miami Beach city council are taking no chances this summer when the Republican convention comes to the millionaires' playground.

The 1968 Chicago Democratic convention produced some of the worst police brutality ever seen in the United States.

And with up to 250,000 people expected to converge on Miami for the two conventions to protest against the Vietnam war and the government's policies, Miami's burghers are getting ready for a repeat performance.

In fact, the council split four-three over accepting the Democratic convention. They weren't worried about the presence of Nixon and his war-mongering aides.

They feared there might not be enough police and troops lining the streets to maintain law and order. Police chief Rocky Pomerance told the council he wants 5,000 police on duty during the two conventions and the month in between.

So far, he has been able to

muster about 1,150, but Nixon has promised Federal marshals and the army.

The resolution to invite the Republicans passed only after the inclusion of a proposal that Nixon create an élite 1,000-member riot squad, cynically described in the resolution as a 'convention peace corps'.

Members of this official goon squad are to be carefully selected by computer 'from suitable and appropriate branches of the armed forces'. This plan has already received the enthusiastic backing of the Nixon Administration.

Jerris Leonard, head of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) has called it 'an exciting proposal'. The Administration has already promised the city \$550,000 to pay for additional security forces during the Republican convention, in addition to \$520,000 earmarked for the protection of the Democratic convention in July.

This is a commentary on the two main American political parties—both of which require over \$500,000 protection money to save them from the wrath of the people they are supposed to represent.

In fact, both the Republicans and the Democrats represent big business interests which are bitterly hostile to the working class and to the thousands of young middle-class people who will be flocking to Miami to protest against Nixon's policies.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

Mickey mouse

Exchange in the National Industrial Relations Court. The transport manager of Panalpina (Northern) Limited was telling Court president Sir John Donaldson about the blacking of one of his lorries on Hull docks.

The witness said he asked one of the dockers who he was.

The docker turned around and replied: 'Mickey Mouse.' Donaldson said: 'Did Mr Mouse say what union he belonged to?'

PS: Donaldson's reply is not as humorous as it may first appear. In the case it is necessary for the container firms to have concrete evidence of the dockers' union membership.

On Hull docks there are two unions—the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers, the 'blue' union, so named because of the colour of its membership cards.

Milk and honey

The world economic tensions reveal themselves in the most glaring way in the colonial and semi-colonial nations. Take Australia.

The recently-retired chairman of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission has said that Australia should consider developing the capability for bacteriological, chemical and nuclear warfare.

He said this might be necessary if Australia had to turn itself 'into a defending island against hordes of refugees or even armies fleeing from a world disaster or in other possible circumstances'.

Speaking on a recent national television debate, Baxter agreed wholeheartedly with the world cataclysmic forecasts of Professor Paul Erlich.

He said: 'I believe a disaster of some sort will strike the world about the turn of the century destroying billions of people, possibly through environmental collapse or nuclear war.'

Australia as an island with food-producing capacity and other advantages would be in a unique position to survive such a disaster.



Paul Erlich: cataclysmic forecasts

In these circumstances defence would become a matter of survival for Australia which would be comparable to a life-boat which could carry only a certain number of people without sinking. Baxter said Australia must be in a position to accept those refugees that it wanted and turn away others.

Now you've got the picture, haven't you. As the refugees stream towards the land of milk and sunshine, the Aussies all man the beaches and fire nuclear missiles at them and drop chemical and biological bombs on them.

Ombudsman

No comment. This item appears in the latest 'Australian News', the journal issued by the Australian High Commission in the Strand: 'An ombudsman, the first in Australia, is about to take up duties in Western Australia. He is Mr O. F. Dixon, the state's Chief Crown Prosecutor.'

BOOKS



Moscow Trials Anthology
Paperback, 62½p
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186a Clapham High Street,
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Scottish unity with Midlands tyre workers

ENGINEERING workers who are on strike in Wolverhampton have won support from their fellow workers in Glasgow.

At a mass meeting yesterday 500 workers at Goodyear Tyres Ltd heard that shop stewards at the company's Glasgow plant had blacked all work being shifted to Scotland.

The Glasgow stewards took the decision after they had travelled at their own expense to Wolverhampton for talks with the strikers. They will also launch a financial appeal to help the Wolverhampton men.

The strike, for a substantial pay rise, is the first since the factory opened in 1927. Horace Bowering, chairman of the shop stewards' committee, said that the most significant thing about it was the new determination shown by the men.

'They are determined not to move until the firm come up with a reasonable offer.'

Earlier this week management offered £5, but this was tied to a number of demands which would have given them absolute rights to make arbitrary changes on the factory floor.

Following the move by their Glasgow workers management has reopened negotiations and the men will meet next week to hear a progress report.

Para blast case in June

THE CASE against three men charged in connection with the explosion at the Parachute Brigade HQ in Aldershot are expected to start on June 8.

It is likely to last at least eight days and 52 witnesses could be called, Timothy Taylor, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, told magistrates at Aldershot yesterday.

In addition, he said, statements from 66 other witnesses were served on the defence yesterday.

The three accused men were again remanded in custody for a week. Two are accused of the murder of seven people, who died from the explosion last February.

Civil servants won't register

A CONFERENCE representing 60,500 management grade Civil Servants decided not to register at the moment under the Industrial Relations Act.

But they gave their executive authority to register if and when it thought circumstances warranted this.

The Society of Civil Servants' annual conference at Margate took this stand after its general secretary, John Dryden had told them: 'As far as this society is concerned the Industrial Relations Act is a total irrelevance.'



Young Socialist Right-to-Work marchers pass the Vickers plant during the Deal-London section of the five-pronged campaign.

Right to work is a vital fight in SE

THE ENTIRE 110-strong work force at William Mallison Aircraft Products Ltd, Crayford, are to be made redundant by the end of June. And an announcement of big sackings at Crayford's Vickers' factory is expected at any time.

Shop stewards fear that as many as 750 of the present 1,000-plus labour force could be axed because of the drop in commercial orders and the phasing out of armaments production.

A decade ago the factory employed up to 2,500. It was slashed to about 1,400 by 1967. Early retirements and voluntary redundancies accounted for a further 300 by 1972.

Vickers say armaments production at the factory will be ended within six months and add ominously that orders for commercial products have stopped coming in.

Commercial output includes bottling machines and box-making and packaging machinery.

Vickers have said that if there were enough commercial orders they would build a new but smaller factory adjacent to the existing building to employ up to 500 people, but shop stewards claim that even this now seems unlikely.

Substantial redundancies at Vickers would considerably boost local unemployment currently running at 13.6 per cent for the neighbouring boroughs of Bexley, Greenwich and Lewisham.

Since 1964 more than 140 factories have closed in South East London as a whole with a loss of up to 100,000 jobs.

Vickers' 35-man shop stewards'



Convenor Bob Hall: May propose sit-in

committee has been in touch with local councillors, MPs and Defence Department officials to see what could be done to avert further run-down at the factory.

In January 1971, as a result of meetings with officials at the Defence Department, armaments production at the plant was given 'a new lease of life' until 1973.

Communist Party AUEW convenor at Vickers, Bob Hall, said: 'We went through a propaganda stunt of writing to MPs, but this really only showed blokes that seeing the people who direct their lives doesn't work.'

'My attitude is that you've got to fight and once we know exactly what Vickers are going to do, I shall recommend either a sit-in or a strike.'

Despite these strong-sounding words, Mr Hall (49), who has been a CP member for 33 years argues the orthodox Stalinist view that workers simply won't fight.

The problem, he says, is not that workers have nothing to lose but their chains, but that 'they like the chains they've got'.

He adds that workers will move so far and no further and that to 'get too far out in front' risks the danger of sectarianism.

Mr Hall lists a long catalogue of reasons why a redundancy fight at the factory would be impossible.

The average age is 55, he says. Some of the men think they will find other work if the factory

cuts back and others are 'disillusioned'—hardly surprising in the light of the way in which reformists and Stalinists alike have done next to nothing to fight the spate of sackings in the Crayford to Woolwich area.

But, significantly, he says that some men in the factory are arguing for double redundancy pay while others want to see the jobs retained.

In other words nobody knows quite what to do and many would be susceptible to firm leadership.

The same is almost certainly true of Mallinson's, which CP Dartford Trades Council secretary Vic Drongin described merely as 'a setback' adding that 'pressure for government policies which will put an end to unemployment' should be continued.

It was Erith AUEW district committee which passed the Right-to-Work resolution on which the Young Socialists' nationwide winter marches were based.

Now there is a chance and a need to defend the right to work by a principled stand at Vickers and Mallinson's and by widening the struggle for jobs in these factories into a fight mobilizing the labour movement and the working class against the Tory government.

Registration revolt in ASTMS

THE REVOLT against registration under the Industrial Relations Act is growing in the white-collar Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

The union's Croydon branch has called for a special delegate conference to carry out the wishes of the majority and de-register and campaign for a recall of the TUC Congress.

At the recent annual delegates' conference, a two-thirds vote for deregistration failed on the technicality under rule and the union remains registered. General secretary Clive Jenkins has said he wants the union to be treated like an unregistered organization.

The game called collaboration

MORE indication that the right wing in the TUC General Council intends to prevent any fight with the Tories has come from the mouth of Jack Peel, general secretary of the National Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers.

In an interview yesterday with one of Britain's most reactionary newspapers, the Tory 'Yorkshire Post', Peel, a general council member, said: 'We have probably seen the last major national strike of the century'.

He was one of the judges in the final round of the 'Industrial Relations Game' run by the paper and a management consultancy group. The 'game' was designed to see how strikes could be avoided.

Keeping good company in line with the TUC's retreat on the Industrial Relations Act, one of Peel's fellow judges was former Tory Employment Minister Paul Bryan.

Holding out his hand to Tory arbitration plans, he said:

'In industrial relations some attention is again being given to refereeing and it is for this reason that I make this prediction [about national strikes].'

'The framework of the Industrial Relations Act, although it is likely to be modified by this and successive government, will make it less easy for a small problem to escalate and is bound to act as a deterrent to full strike action.'

So presumably the government can proceed to destroy the right to strike and he won't oppose it?

Giving further indication of TUC collaboration with the Tory government, he added that there was a need for a prices and incomes policy as soon as possible and said a lot of work was going on to formulate one.

'Teachers should demand recall TUC'

THE EXECUTIVE of the National Union of Teachers has been sharply criticized for its decision not to press for the recall of the TUC to affirm opposition to the Industrial Relations Act.

A resolution has been sent to the executive from the Croydon Teachers' Association asking for a 'reconsideration' of the fight against the Act. The resolution states:

'This association views with alarm the attacks of the employers and the government on the trade unions by the use of the Industrial Relations Act. It records its support for trade unionists fighting to defend their living standards and their right to work.'

'In particular, at the present time, the CTA supports the railwaymen's and dockers' demands. It asks the NUT executive also to register their support for these trade unionists under attack, and to publicize the case of the railwaymen and dockers in "The Teacher" and by circular.'

'It also asks the TUC to reverse its decision recommending that unions may attend the Industrial Relations Court and should pay fines imposed by that Court.'

When the mover of the resolution challenged the executive's position on the recall of the TUC, and demanded to know where the executive stood on this question, executive member Jack Jones hastily left the meeting as he had another meeting to attend.

I would like information about

THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Fill in the form below and send to NATIONAL SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE, 186A CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON, SW4 7UG.

Name

Address

BBC 1

10.00-10.30 Wie bitte? 11.30 Weather. 11.35 Queen in France. 12.45 Grandstand. 12.50 International football preview. 1.15 Fight of the week. Phil Matthews v Roy Dale. 1.50, 2.20, 3.25 Racing from Newbury. 2.35 World championship tennis final. 3.10, 3.45 Rugby league championship final. Leeds v St Helens. 4.35 International air race. 4.45 Final score. 5.05 Basil Brush. 5.35 News. 5.50 Dr Who.

6.15 TOM AND JERRY. The Flying Cat.
6.20 FILM: 'SPENCER'S MOUNTAIN.' Maureen O'Hara, Henry Fonda. Spencer family struggle against poverty in a Wyoming valley.
8.15 THE MORECAMBE AND WISE SHOW. Guests Shirley Bassey, Glenda Jackson, Andre Previn.
9.00 A MAN CALLED IRON-SIDE. This Could Blow Your Mind.
9.50 NEWS and weather.
10.00 INTERNATIONAL MATCH OF THE DAY. Wales v England, Scotland v N Ireland.
11.15 JULIE FELIX.
11.45 Weather.

BBC 2

9.05-1.00 Open University. 3.00 Film: 'A Private's Affair'. Sal Mineo. Trio of Army draftees become friends. 4.30 The Perpetual harvest. 5.00 Tutankhamun's Egypt. 5.20 Look. 5.45 Television doctor.
6.00 MAN ALIVE. Hyde Park.
6.50 WESTMINSTER.
7.10 NEWS, SPORT and weather.
7.25 PEOPLE OF THE SEAL. Eskimo Winter.

TV

ITV

10.45 Joe 90. 11.15 Sesame street. 12.15 Jackson five. 12.45 News. 12.50 World of sport. 12.55 On the ball. 1.20 They're off! 1.30, 2.00, 2.30, 3.00 Racing from Thirsk. 1.45, 2.15, 2.44 Racing from Hereford. 3.10 International sports special. 1972 Stanley Cup final. 3.55 Results, scores, news. 3.58 Wrestling. 4.55 Results service. 5.10 The train now standing. 5.40 News. 5.45 Sale of the century.
6.15 THE ROLF HARRIS SHOW. Guests Val Doonican, Georgie Fame, Alan Pride.
7.00 WALES V ENGLAND. International soccer.
8.30 NEW SCOTLAND YARD. Hard Contract.
9.30 SATURDAY VARIETY. Edward Woodward, Leslie Crowther, Russ Conway, Larry Grayson, The Settlers.
10.30 NEWS.
10.40 TAKE THE WORLD FROM ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW. Simon Welfare.
11.25 STRUGGLE FOR ISRAEL.
12.25 ASPECTS OF FAITH.



Kinkug, an Eskimo mother, plays blind man's bluff in an igloo near the North Pole in 'People of the Seal', a worthy repeat on BBC2 tonight at 7.25.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 12.45 London. 5.10 Ken Dodd. 5.40 London. 11.25 Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 11.40 Gus Honeybun. 11.45 Rupert Bear. 11.55 Lone Ranger. 12.20 Lidsville. 11.25 Teach a man to fish. 11.30 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.15 All our yesterdays. 11.45 Thunderbirds. 12.42 Weather. 12.45 London. 5.10 Primus. 5.40 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 News. 11.35 UFO. 12.30 Weather. Epilogue.

HARLECH: 10.20 Tennis. 10.45 Woobinda. 11.15 London. 12.15 Farming diary. 12.45 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.15 Prisoner. 12.20 Weather.
HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 5.10-5.40 Sion a sian.

ANGLIA: 11.00 All our yesterdays. 11.25 Film: '1001 Arabian Nights'. 12.45 London. 5.10 Flintstones. 5.40 London. 11.25 Film: 'Man Who Could Cheat Death'.

ATV MIDLANDS: 12.10 Stars. 12.15 Captain Scarlet. 12.45 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 Challenge. 11.55 Who knows?

ULSTER: 12.30 Enchanted house. 12.45 London. 5.10 Primus. 5.40 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 Theatre.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00 All our yesterdays. 11.25 Make a wish. 11.50 Skippy. 12.15 Lidsville. 12.45 London. 5.10 Primus. 5.40 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 Edgar Wallace. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.50 Play the game. 12.15 Secret service. 12.45 London. 5.10 On the buses. 5.40 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 Thriller.

TYNE TEES: 11.00 All our yesterdays. 11.25 Bushboy. 11.50 Arthur. 12.15 Lidsville. 12.45 London. 5.10 Primus. 5.40 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 Strange report. 12.20 Spilogue.

SCOTTISH: 11.40 Beagan gaidhlig. 11.55 Clapperboard. 12.15 Tom Grattan's war. 12.45 London. 5.10 Roadrunner. 5.40 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 Late call. 11.30 Gideon's way.

GRAMPIAN: 12.15 Yoga. 12.45 London. 5.10 Rovers. 5.40 London. 5.45 Train now standing. 6.15 London. 11.25 Strange report.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 11.00 London. 12.05-12.30 Music in the round. 2.13 Weather. 2.15 Star soccer. 3.15 Film: 'The Bandit of Sherwood Forest'. 4.35 Danton. 4.45 London. 6.54 Weather. 6.55 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Last Angry Man'. 9.30 Cinema. 10.00 London. 11.15 UFO. 12.05 Epilogue. Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.30 London. 12.55-1.20 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.50 Farm and country news. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.00 London. 12.00 Weather. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.55 Farm progress. 1.25 Training the family dog. 1.45 Stingray. 2.15 London. 3.15 Film: 'The Iron Glove'. 4.35 News. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'A Child is Waiting'. 9.50 Cartoon. 10.00 London. 11.15 Something to say. 12.15 Weather. Epilogue.

HARLECH: 11.00 London. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.55 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.45 London. 2.15 Soccer. 3.15 Film: 'The Honeymoon Machine'. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Vicki'. 9.30 Mr and Mrs. 10.00 London. 11.15 Avengers. 12.15 Weather.
HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 12.05 sylv. 12.40 Llusern.

ANGLIA: 11.00 London. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.55 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.20 University challenge. 1.50 Weather. 1.55 Farming. 2.30 Film: 'Man in the White Suit'. 4.10 Simon Locke. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Esther and the King'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Saint.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00 London. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.55 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.45 All our yesterdays. 2.15 Star soccer. 3.15 Film: 'Village of Daughters'. 4.45 London. 5.35 Forest rangers. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Double Man'. 9.47 Cartoon. 10.00 London. 11.20 Spy force.

ULSTER: 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.55-1.20 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.45 London. 3.15 Film: 'Tarzan's Savage



Singer-critic-writer George Melly explains 'The Birth of the Blues' in ITV's London series 'Music in the Round' on Sunday at 11.15.

Fury. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Under Ten Flags'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Saint.

YORKSHIRE: 10.45 Talking hands. 11.00 London. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 Camping and caravanning. 1.00 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.25 Farming outlook. 1.55 Calendar. 2.20 Snooker. 3.15 Film: 'The Floating Dutchman'. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Drop Dead Darling'. 9.50 Popeye. 10.00 London. 11.15 Aquarius. 12.15 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-12.00 London. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.50 Farmhouse kit-

chen. 1.20 All our yesterdays. 1.50 Mad movies. 2.15 London. 3.15 Film: 'Mouse on the Moon'. 4.40 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Pumpkin Eater'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Man in a suitcase.

TYNE TEES: 10.20 Farming outlook. 10.45 Talking hands. 11.00 London. 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 Camping and caravanning. 12.55 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.25 Farming outlook. 1.55 Out of town. 2.15 Where the jobs are? 2.20 Snooker. 3.15 Film: 'The Old Dark House'. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Running Man'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Aquarius. 12.15 Epilogue.

BBC 1

9.00 Nai zindagi naya jeevan. 9.30-10.00 Wie bitte? 10.30 The people of God. 11.30 Boomph with Becker. 11.45 Mistress of Hardwick. 12.10 Bellamy on botany. 12.35 Profit by control. 1.20 Farming. 1.50 Hammer it home. 2.15 Made in Britain. 2.25 Going for a song. 2.55 Laurel and Hardy. 3.15 Film: 'Odette'. Anna Neagle. 5.10 British Empire.

6.05 NEWS and weather.
6.15 THE ORIGINS OF CHRISTIANITY.

6.50 ROBERT ROBINSON. Appeal on behalf of Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled.

6.55 SONGS OF PRAISE.
7.25 AIR SPECTACULAR. Biggin Hill International Air Fair 1972.

8.10 FILM OF THE WEEK: 'THE COUNTERFEIT TRAITOR.' William Holden, Lilli Palmer. War time activities of the spy Eric Erickson.

10.25 NEWS and weather.

10.35 OMNIBUS. A Girl Like You.

11.30 KENNETH HARRIS INTER-VIEWS. Lord Melchett, Chairman British Steel Corporation.

SCOTTISH: 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.55-1.22 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 1.55 Beatrix Potter. 2.40 Zingalong. 3.00 Film: 'Little Big Shot'. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Summer and Smoke'. 9.55 Appeal. 10.00 London. 11.15 Late call. 11.20 Randall and Hopkirk.

GRAMPIAN: 12.05 Music in the round. 12.30 London. 12.55 Farmhouse kitchen. 1.20 All our yesterdays. 1.45 Farm progress. 2.15

Soccer. 3.15 Film: 'Siege of the Saxon'. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Lion'. 9.30 Odd couple. 10.00 London. 11.15 His and hers. 11.40 Job look.

TV

ITV

10.30 All our yesterdays. 11.00 Eucharist. 12.05 Farmhouse kitchen. 12.30 Something to sing about. 12.55 Out of town. 1.15 Stingray. 1.45 University challenge. 2.15 Sportsworld 72. 3.15 Jason King. 4.10 Catweazle. 4.45 Golden shot. 5.35 Pretenders.

6.05 NEWS.

6.15 PRIVATE VIEWS.

6.55 APPEAL. Dame Flora Robson for the National Gallery.

7.00 STARS ON SUNDAY.

7.25 DOCTOR IN CHARGE. Which Doctor?

7.55 FILM: 'THE DOUBLE MAN.' Yul Brynner, Britt Ekland, Clive Revill. Spy thriller.

9.50 POLICE FIVE.

10.00 NEWS.

10.15 THE ORGANIZATION. Veronica and Mr Pulman.

11.15 MUSIC IN THE ROUND. The Birth of the Blues.

11.45 SHORT STORY. The Minister's Bath.

12.15 ASPECTS OF FAITH.

BBC 2

9.35-1.00 Open University. 1.50-6.30 Cricket. Northamptonshire v Lancashire.

7.00 NEWS REVIEW and weather.

7.25 MUSIC ON 2. Counterpoint.

8.30 THE WORLD ABOUT US. The Forgotten Mermaids.

9.20 HELEN REDDY AND THE LES HUMPHRIES SINGERS from The Talk of the Town.

10.05 TUTANKHAMUN'S EGYPT. The Scribes.

10.25 THE LOTUS EATERS. Aphrodite.

11.15 NEWS SUMMARY and weather.

11.20 UP SUNDAY.

Leyland stoppages

BRITISH-LEYLAND's Midlands plants were hit by stoppages yesterday.

At Longbridge, Birmingham, inspectors went on strike for the second time this week thus hitting engine production.

As the 360 inspectors walked out, management laid off 2,300 production workers on the Mini 1100 and 1300 and the Morris Marina.

The strike is over work-measurement in an interim pay system while talks go on over a plan to switch from piecework to Measured-Day Work.

A similar strike earlier this week by 102 machinists stopped production of engines for the MGB, 1800 and Marina 1.8 models. These strikers returned on Wednesday.

Meanwhile almost the whole work force—400 workers—walked out at British Leyland's light commercial vehicles factory at Adderley Park, Birmingham.

The strike was in protest against management plans to take work from the factory to other parts of the Leyland empire.

Row over pupil 'stars'

CONFUSION reigned in Nottingham yesterday over a controversial army plan to involve junior school children in a mock riot for an army internal training film on urban guerrilla warfare.

The Royal Scots, recently back from Northern Ireland, were to stage scenes on Monday in the slum clearance district of St Anne's.

Letters were sent from the Blue Bell Hill Junior School urging parents to let their children have 'the big chance' to 'make a career in films'.

But students at the Trent Polytechnic Department of Education investigated the scheme and approaches were made to central Nottingham Labour MP Jack Dunnett.

Yesterday's 'Guardian Journal' announced the cancellation of the scheme, but local students employed as extras for the film were told only that it was 'postponed'.

Meanwhile polytechnic staff and students are enraged by a memorandum from their committee of management forbidding them to participate in any demonstration next Monday.

THE LABOUR Party's national executive and shadow cabinet met in London yesterday to discuss a 112-page policy document drawn up in preparation for the next election.

Shadow Foreign Secretary James Callaghan told the meeting that the most important section of the draft, which is for discussion only and commits the party to nothing, was how the party should control prices.

Rail ballot decision by next Friday

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

THE APPEAL COURT upheld yesterday the right of the Tory government to force a ballot on the railwaymen. As the verdict was given, the train drivers' union ASLEF committed themselves to an industrial and political campaign to destroy the Industrial Relations Act.

A spokesman for the union said the Industrial Relations Commission had indicated they would send out ballot forms immediately after the verdict and the votes would be collected in next Friday.

Master of the Rolls, Lord Denning, found that the rail workers had breached their contracts, that the action would have created economic havoc and that the Tory Employment Secretary who applied for the ballot, acted within his powers under the Act.

Almost as he was speaking, 44 lay delegates at the ASLEF annual conference at Torquay called for an urgent recall of the TUC Congress to prepare a campaign 'involving all forms of political and industrial action'.

They also pledged to campaign within their union for a 'Yes' vote in the ballot against the government. This will be backed by propaganda from the unions.

Leaflets from the largest rail union NUR called on their members to vote 'Yes' and reject the 'scurrilous' attack on the unions by the Tories.

First reaction to the expected court decision came from ASLEF leader Ray Buckton:

'Naturally I am very disappointed. I shall be contacting our solicitors and will make a fuller statement later.'

Commenting on the unanimous decision to campaign for a 'Yes', he said: 'There is no doubt at all that the delegates have registered the opinions of the rank-and-file members. I have this message very firmly. It has confirmed that there is no need for a ballot because the delegates are rank-and-file men.'

Lord Denning said: 'I ask is a man entitled to wages for his work when he with others is doing his best to make it useless? Surely not. Wages are to be paid for services rendered, not for producing deliberate chaos.'

'I hold that the concerted course of conduct was in breach of the contract of employment. This means that on the evidence this work-to-rule was irregular industrial action short of a strike,' he said.

'It has to be remembered that we are concerned with a grave threat to the national economy to see that the steps which were proposed did not imperil the liberty, livelihood or property of any man.'

ASTMS men locked out



EIGHT HUNDRED and fifty workers at William Warne and Co Ltd, Barking, have been locked-out since May 12 after 150 members of the white collar union ASTMS struck against the sacking of officials.

ASTMS division organizer Dave Ingram said yesterday: 'We have had rather a bitter time over the past two months with the company and I think they want to break ASTMS strength.'

Trouble began at the factory in February when in line with the Industrial Relations Act, Warnes set-up two new consultative committees for production workers and staff which included non-unionists.

ASTMS insisted on sole bargaining rights for all clerical staffs and a stop-gap agreement was reached.

But when on March 25 non-unionists and 26 ASTMS workers were declared redundant via the boycotted consultative committee, union officials protested that they had not been consulted.

After a strike threat the company agreed to discuss the sacking and agreement was reached on all but one man—ASTMS plant negotiator Ron Hallatt.

Now Warnes have agreed to re-employ Hallatt for a 'reasonable period of time'. But ASTMS workers voted overwhelmingly yesterday to stay out until he gets reinstated without strings.

Belated action by Birmingham engineers

PRESSURE is growing among Birmingham workers for district-wide industrial action over the engineers' pay claim.

Two key meetings will take place next week which will decide whether workers in the engineering industry will join Manchester in the campaign for pay increases and a shorter working week.

British-Leyland shop stewards will meet on Thursday and give a dead-line by which the company will have to make concessions on pay and hours if they want to avoid immediate industrial action.

This is likely to be followed by a mass meeting of stewards from car and component firms which will be addressed by AUEW president Hugh Scanlon.

The other centre of action is in the Lucas group—shop stewards at the firm's Birmingham factories are already discussing combine-wide action if the company does not meet a demand for a £6-a-week pay rise and shorter hours.

Norman Cartwright, East Birmingham secretary of the AUEW, said he expected support for the claim from the other unions in the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

He said a claim by the West Midlands Engineering Employers' Federation that a majority of local firms affected by the claim had settled for £2 or less as 'extravagant'.

He said that if any firm was expelled from the Federation for making a concession on hours, the union 'would take action in support of that firm'.

Birmingham engineers should be very wary of these opening manoeuvres. Action on the claim is long overdue—men in Manchester have been fighting it out for over nine weeks now.

The Scanlon visit is also ominous. Scanlon was the man who publicly criticized members in the areas for not pressing ahead with the claim. This was after he and his executive had led the fight to abandon it at national level.

The executive followed through this kind of policy last week when they sent a circular round the Manchester area which clearly indicated that the key demand for shorter hours—the one all the employers are resisting—was no longer top priority.

This has led to a number of serious retreats in Manchester.

LATE NEWS

WEATHER

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NEARLY 1,500 engineering workers are to be made redundant at three plants with the firm blaming falling orders and competition from Japan.

The firm, Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd, which announced big redundancies only last autumn, yesterday said the labour force at its general bearings division factories in Co. Durham, Chelmsford and Newark would be severely pruned.

In spite of government action to boost the economy, there had been no overall rise in demand and the level of orders was significantly below current production levels, the firm said.

Of the workers involved, 530 are at Annfield Plain, Co. Durham, 320 at Chelmsford, 525 at Newark and 100 in divisional departments at Chelmsford and Newark.

SOUTH WEST and central southern England, Wales, the West Midlands, Isle of Man and Northern Ireland will be rather cloudy with showers or longer outbreaks of rain.

North and East England and Scotland will be dry at first but showers which may be heavy will develop. There will be some sunny periods.

Outlook for Sunday and Monday: Changeable with showers prolonged at times perhaps with thunder. Some sunny intervals. Temperatures near normal.

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