

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 1972 ● No 857 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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BY PETER JEFFRIES

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- An increase in the price of gold.
- Restoration of dollar convertibility by the Americans.

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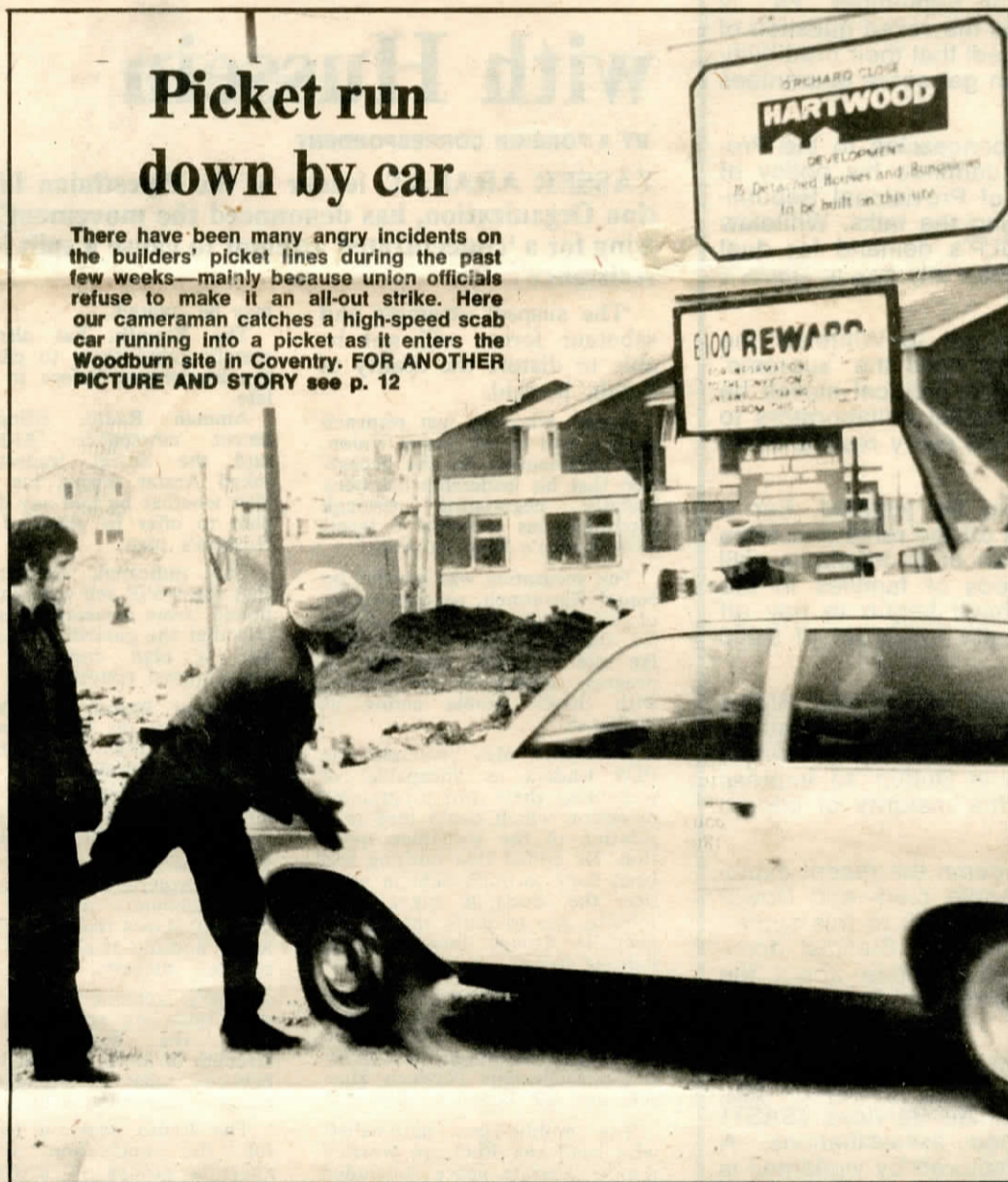
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There have been many angry incidents on the builders' picket lines during the past few weeks—mainly because union officials refuse to make it an all-out strike. Here our cameraman catches a high-speed scab car running into a picket as it enters the Woodburn site in Coventry. FOR ANOTHER PICTURE AND STORY see p. 12



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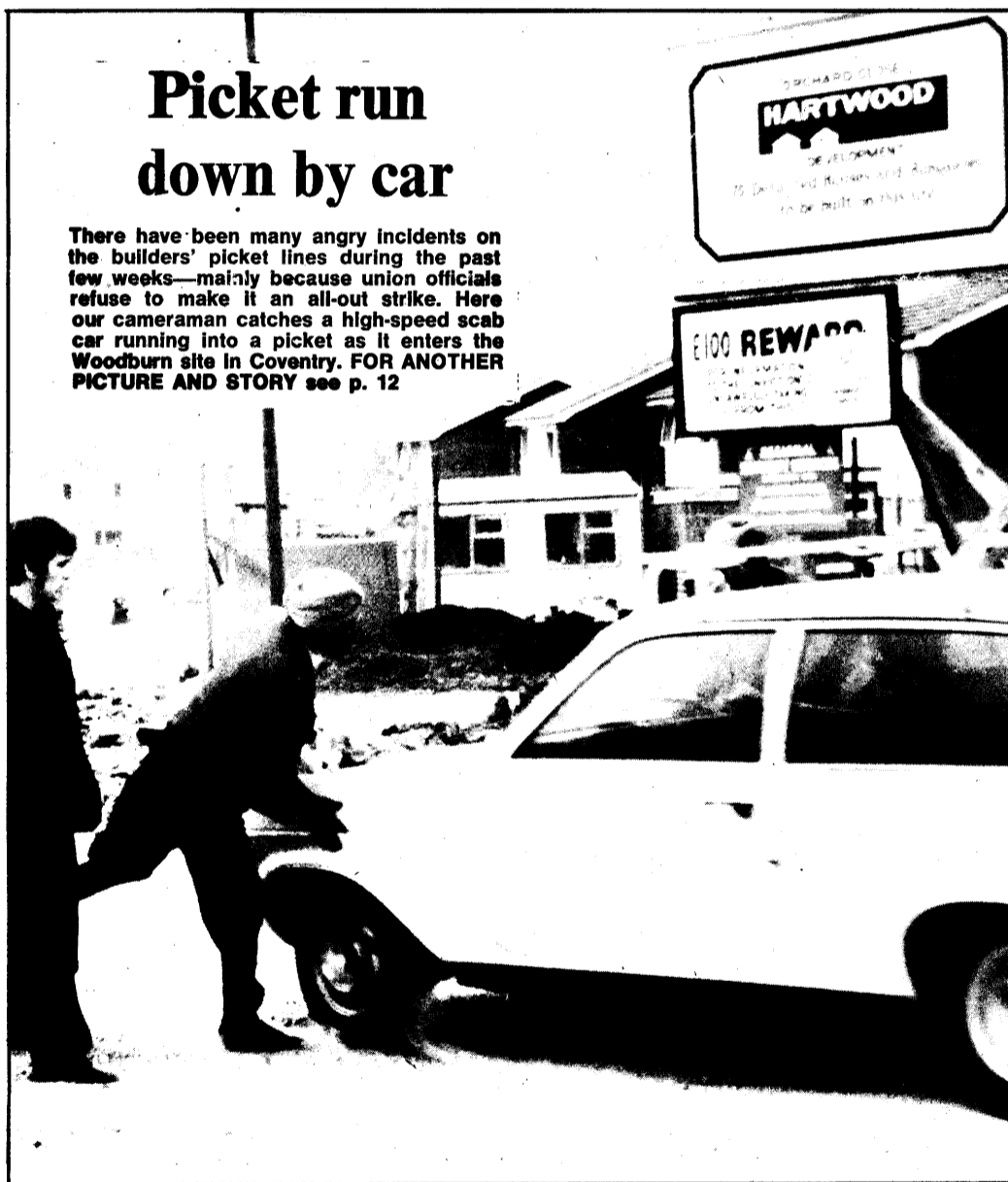
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What we think

MORE ULSTER TREACHERY

WHEN THE Ulster Social Democratic and Labour Party accepted direct rule, some people thought that this signified the ultimate in reformist treachery. They were wrong of course. There is no limit to the political cynicism and capacity for betrayal of these traitors.

As the world economic crisis intensifies and the plight of Ulster's rickety economy deteriorates progressively, the SDLP—closely followed by the Civil Rights Association and official IRA—becomes the central strand of the rope on which Ulster Supremo William Whitelaw does his political tightrope walk.

For their servile collaboration the SDLP leaders will be treated to the unaccustomed privilege of meeting Tory premier Edward Heath and Whitelaw in Chequers on September 12. This meeting, which is to precede the all-party round table talks on September 25, is ostensibly being called to discuss the vexed question of internment as the SDLP leaders feel that their credibility will be imperilled unless they can get some guarantees on the ending of internment.

But Whitelaw sees this as a concession to the Provisionals and is determined to continue his policy of arbitrary arrest and internment of Provisional Republicans who are presently boycotting the talks. Whitelaw will have no truck with the SDLP's demand for dual control of Ulster or in giving Dublin any say in Ulster's internal affairs.

The closer the SDLP leaders get to Whitelaw the more contemptuous and arrogant does the 'supremo' become. Without making any overt political moves he is confidently waiting for his reformist collaborators to isolate the Provisionals and call off every resistance to imperialism.

His confidence has proved to be justified. For a start the SDLP has begun to call off the rents and rates strike it began a year ago as part of its infamous civil disobedience campaign. Hundreds of families in the 'no go' areas of Londonderry have begun to pay off their arrears, though there are still 1,500 out of 5,000 tenants not paying arrears.

Following the SDLP the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association on Tuesday called on the IRA to halt its bombing campaign in Ulster. It is to send a three-man delegation to Sean MacStiofain in Dublin 'to impress upon him the revulsion which the majority of people feel at this murderous activity'.

The statement went on to condemn the recent explosions at Newry—where nine people died—and Downpatrick and called for an immediate halt to this sectarian campaign. Not surprisingly for this Stalinist dominated Association no mention was made about the necessity for the immediate withdrawal of British troops from Ulster.

The opportunism of this group on this vital issue is made even more blatant by its latest accusation that the British army is using Special Air Services (SAS)* personnel to carry out planned assassinations. A British soldier in plain clothes captured by vigilantes is alleged to have admitted to being in the SAS. The army predictably denied this and maintains that he was on 'a routine secret patrol'.

If the SAS operates with impunity in Ulster it is mainly because the Stalinists, SDLP reformists and People's Democracy revisionists have acquiesced to 'direct rule', and refused, all along, to unite Irish workers to fight with the British working class to force the Tories to resign.

The lesson of Ulster is crystal clear to all workers: those who refuse to fight for the replacement of the Tories by a Labour government pledged to socialist principles must become the running dogs of imperialism.

*The SAS is an élite formation which specialises in counter-insurgency. Its activities are shrouded in secrecy, but are alleged to involve assassination of political personalities.

Right wing still musters its forces

Allende denies civil war threat

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Salvador Allende said yesterday he was horrified by suggestions that Chile is on the brink of civil war.

Speaking to students at the Technical State University in Santiago at the start of celebrations to mark the second anniversary of his election victory, he said:

'I am horrified when I hear the talk of some irresponsible people that we are near to civil war, a civil war which—although we would win it because we would have to win it—would

scar us for generations and destroy the Chilean economy and human relations.'

As Allende was speaking there were more violent outbreaks in the streets of Concepción, Chile's second city. Police used tear gas to break up rival groups of student demonstrators. In the fighting a policeman was shot dead and two policemen and two demonstrators were wounded.

The clashes began when right-wing groups staged an unauthorized counter-demonstration against a rally of 15,000 supporters of the Popular Unity coalition. Police surrounded the headquarters of the local Socialist Party, where 200 party members had taken refuge from the right-wing mobs.

The clashes followed a government order proclaiming a state of emergency in nearby Bío-Bío province. The province is hit by a General Strike against the closure of a right-wing radio station.

The Popular Unity coalition of Stalinists, social-democrats and liberals is committed to the so-called 'peaceful road to socialism' which has in fact brought neither socialism nor peace.

In an attempt to woo the middle class and appear respectable in the eyes of the employers the government has soft-pedalled its modest programme of reforms. Not only has this disoriented and demoralized many thousands of workers, it has only served to whet the appetite of big business which is preparing an ultra-right takeover to smash the workers' movement.

In his Santiago speech, Allende himself admitted the fascist opposition had reached 'unbelievable heights of insolence' in recent weeks.

Despite the president's professed 'horror' the danger of civil war is very real.

It is a direct consequence of the treacherous Stalinist theory of the 'peaceful road' which is a virtual carbon copy of the British CP programme 'The British Road to Socialism'—endorsed by Stalin in 1952.

FOREIGN NEWS

Moscow urges PLO deal with Hussein

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

YASSER ARAFAT, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, has denounced the movement's left wing for a 'concentrated attempt to cause a split in the resistance'.

'The suspect attempts and saboteur forces will not be able to distort the reality of Fatah,' he said.

Arafat, who has just returned from a visit to the Soviet Union, was commenting on the accusation that his leadership has been secretly negotiating through intermediaries to come to terms with Jordan's King Hussein.

The accusation was levelled by Nauef Hawatmeh, centrist leader of the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He said the talks had been in progress secretly for six months, with Saudi Arabia acting as mediator.

Hawatmeh also criticized the PLO leaders as 'incapable' of presenting their own programme of action which could lead to a solution of the Jordanian question. He added that nothing had been done to implement in practice the decision taken four months ago to unify the various guerrilla groups into a single fighting force.

The bloody defeat of the guerrilla forces at the hands of the Jordanian army last year and the year before paved the way for a rapprochement between Hussein and the Israeli government.

The middle-class nationalists who head the PLO are worried that a separate peace concluded behind their backs will exclude them from any government portfolios and official posts that

may be created.

The Kremlin has also discreetly urged them to climb on the bandwagon before it is too late.

Amman Radio, citing the Beirut newspaper 'Al-Nahar', said the Soviet leaders had asked Arafat during his recent visit whether he had any definite plan to offer in place of 'King Hussein's plan'.

This indicated, Amman said that the USSR felt the plan contained 'some measure of realism' and that the guerrillas must submit 'a plan consistent with international conditions'.

Moscow Radio, in a lengthy commentary on the Palestinian movement, adds weight to this Jordanian analysis.

It quotes approvingly from Pa'iq Warrad, a member of the Palestine National Council, who says:

'The experience of Palestinian Arab peoples, and of other peoples, shows that the policy of all or nothing at all is not in the people's interests.

'Every genuine revolutionary must take into account at every stage the distribution and strength of forces and distinguish between what is possible and realistic and what is impossible.'

The Radio goes on to press for the unification of the guerrilla groups in a National Front, having previously acknowledged the political bankruptcy of the present leadership.

Cambodia faces big troop losses

MORE than 350 Cambodian puppet troops have been killed or wounded since heavy fighting broke out with liberation forces north of the capital ten days ago, a military command spokesman said in Phnom Penh yesterday.

He said another 200 were missing along Highway Five, the only road link between Phnom Penh and its main source of food, the rich ricefields of northern Cambodia.

Relief columns trying to reach two encircled garrisons about 70 miles from Phnom Penh so far have made no advance against liberation troops blocking the road.

Three government garrisons have already been overrun and an 18-mile stretch of the highway is in the hands of the liberation troops.

US losing out on world markets

AMERICA'S share in the import markets of the world's most important commercial nations is falling sharply this year, according to the latest US Department of Commerce study.

The report covers the first five months of the year. It reveals an average decline of 9 per cent in the US share of total imports in 40 countries. Last year these countries took 85 per

cent of America's \$43,600m exports.

Although the study points out that most industrial countries experienced some expansion towards the end of the year, this was not reflected in a demand for American goods.

'Even measured in dollar terms, over the last 12-month period an overwhelming majority of America's largest trading partners reduced the value of their imports from the United

States, while buying more from others', the report states.

'The United States share thus fell sharply in each—in fact declines are shown in three fourths of the listed markets.'

In West Germany, for example, America's share in that country's imports fell from 10.3 per cent last year to only 9 per cent this year. Falls of 9 per cent or more were recorded in Britain, Italy, Sweden, Japan, Australia

and Belgium-Luxembourg.

Although US exports to Canada claimed 19 per cent in the last year, total Canadian imports rose at an even greater rate, thus leaving America with a smaller share of that market as well.

It is easy to see why, in the light of these trends, Nixon and the American ruling class are being forced into the most brutal trade war against their European and Japanese rivals.

Less strikes more days lost

MORE DAYS have been lost through strikes in the first six months of this year than in any other year since the 1926 General Strike.

By the end of July 16,622,000 days had been lost. This compares with the 15.5million lost in the whole of last year.

The number of stoppages is falling—but the ones that do occur are larger in terms of workers involved and last longer. The miners' strike accounted for more than 10.75 million days lost, but the escalation of the builders' strike is now beginning to push the total up rapidly.

RACIALISTS plan to take to the streets again next week to protest against the immigration of Asians being expelled from Uganda.

The Smithfield Workers' Against Immigration, led by meat porters Danny Harmston and Ron Taylor, said yesterday they would march on the headquarters of the Transport and General Workers' Union in London next Thursday.

Taylor said he would be asking Jack Jones why he had not made any statement about the Asians. Last Friday about 200 marched to the Home Office and handed in a petition protesting against the government's policy on the Ugandan Asians.

Few meat porters took part,

and the main contingent was made up of supporters of the extreme right-wing National Front.

Dockers from the Royal and West India groups strongly condemned the march and many stewards spoke out openly against racialism.

Harmston led the 1968 pro-Powell march. He once stood as a candidate for the British Union Movement, led by Sir Oswald Mosley, who organized fascist and pro-Hitler forces in Britain in the 1930s.

Harmston was also a member of the National Socialist Move-

ment, the predecessor of Colin Jordan's British Movement.

Meanwhile Praful Patel, a member of the government's Uganda Resettlement Board, went to the Foreign Office yesterday. He urged them to set up a register of money and other belongings which expelled Asians are being forced to leave behind on orders of General Idi Amin, who heads the military dictatorship in Uganda.

Labourites yesterday continued to give credibility to the racist fantasies of an 'Asian invasion'. The leader of the Leicester

majority Labour group, Alderman Edward Marston, led an all-party delegation to the Home Office on the question.

There were fears, he said before going in to the meeting, that many Ugandan Asians were heading for Leicester. 'Things are getting worse in the city every day,' he said.

Many Labour councils have now made statements saying they do not want any of the immigrants to come to their particular towns.

The Yorkshire Committee for Community Relations said the county could absorb up to 8,000 Ugandan Asians. A statement said there had been a net decline in total population over a number of years in all three Ridings of Yorkshire.

'Screws provoked jail riot'

BY IAN YEATS

WARNINGS from prison officials that men taking part in recent disturbances would be severely punished have been followed up.

Two of the leading 'militants' have been escorted off the island to Wandsworth jail, South London, and another is to face visiting magistrates.

Governor Gifford Footer at Albany jail, Isle of Wight, has punished 60 of 158 inmates with penalties ranging from a caution to 14 days loss of remission.

The spate of recent rooftop protests began last week at Albany after warders discovered a so-called escape plot.

But as the police crackdown began to bite and protests fizzled out a man on five weeks' home release from Albany claimed the disturbances had been provoked by the prison officers themselves.

The man who preferred to be known by his christian name, 'Dave', told Christopher Walker of 'The Times' that it was untrue the riots had been started by high-risk prisoners.

'It was all caused by ordinary prisoners who were fed up with being locked in their cells for such a long time,' he said.

Trouble began on Friday after the discovery of an electric drill in the cell of a man regarded by police as the head of an escape committee.

The governor ordered all prisoners to be locked in their cells while a thorough search was made.

Said Dave: 'To start with all of us thought we were getting off work and getting paid for it, so the fact that we were locked in was generally accepted.'

Their feelings and tempers changed when they realized some prison guards were determined to keep them locked up in their tiny cells throughout the Bank Holiday weekend.

He said they had been unable to leave their cells more than once a day from Friday morning

Allegation by home release prisoner

to Monday night.

'There was just one opportunity a day to go to the recess (lavatory), whether you wanted to or not. And when you got there it was filthier and filthier.

Describing the outbreak of violence, he said: 'On Saturday night the tea was hours late and the screws (prison officers) were going round the block ripping picture boards and fitted furniture off the cell doors with a crowbar and a hammer.

'About 7.30, a man shouted: "The bastards have ripped the board off the wall, two photos are missing and the one of my wife is torn up." He picked up his chair and started smashing the glass.'

The prison officers have been demanding tougher treatment of inmates for some time and this



Peterhead jail, Aberdeenshire, one of the new trouble-spots where 170 prisoners joined the rooftop protest

week's provocation has clearly given them a golden opportunity to press their view at the Tory Home Office.

Twenty-one men were still on the roof at Parkhurst yesterday, but two who were alleged to have shouted abuse at prison guards were ordered to lose 14 days' association which means they will not be able to watch the Olympic Games on television.

Seven men continued their skyline protest at Chelmsford and 12 men refused to work at Leicester's Gartree prison.

At Camp Hill (IoW) all but three men have called off their protest and 282 men have received cautions and loss of remission.

But during Wednesday night, trouble spread to four new jails — Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, where 170 men were on the roof, Walton, where two men were on the roof and 40 staged a sit-down strike, Hull, where 360 men staged a work strike, and Haverigg Camp, Cumberland, where there was a demonstration against the transfer of two men to another prison.

Glasgow rebels on Rent Act

GLASGOW corporation's controlling Labour group has come out firmly against the Tory 'fair rent' Act, voting 57-5 on Wednesday night not to implement rent increases.

The decision will go before the full housing committee next week where backing is certain.

Labour group leader Dick Dynes said after the meeting: 'This is our decision. Now it's up to the government to do what it can.'

Glasgow was the scene of a massive rent strike in 1915 when landlords, taking advantage of war conditions, imposed huge increases.

Hundreds refused to pay the addition and massive demonstrations of trade unionists took place in the city.

Site deal builders out again

BY OUR OWN
CORRESPONDENT

THE POLICY of signing separate company deals and sending building workers back on site has rebounded on union leaders, employers claim. Many of those sent back in Scotland are out on strike again, despite the 'model' deals which only give a basic of £25 for a 40-hour week.

Union leaders in Scotland have been going through a hard time forcing home the company deals signed there. Last Friday, the policy was unanimously rejected by 6,000 building workers meeting in Edinburgh.

One of the deals signed was with Peter Cameron, the Aberdeen-based building firm. But employers now say that work has stopped on Cameron's sites in Ayr, Dundee, Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

Few workers had returned on other sites where separate deals had been reached.

Among the rank-and-file, the vast majority are hostile to separate negotiations because they rightly fear it could split up strikers and cause confusion.

The employers' federation is insisting on a national wages agreement or nothing. But union leaders are in favour of separate deals and if necessary abandoning the established joint national council in favour of a regional structure.

In Canterbury another 300 building workers have joined the strike since Tuesday and many more were expected to come out late yesterday afternoon. A spokesman for the university site said: 'We think it should have been a national strike from the start.'

In North Wales slate quarrymen have joined the builders in demanding £30 for a 35 hour week.

POCKET LIBRARY

Why a Labour Government?

A reply to some
centrist critics

By Cliff Slaughter

A series which appeared in Workers Press in June, 1972 is now available as a pamphlet in the Socialist Labour League Pocket Library.

'WHY A LABOUR GOVERNMENT? A Reply to some centrist critics.' By Cliff Slaughter Price 5p

Other titles in this series include: The Case for a General Election By Alex Mitchell.

The Ulster Dossier

The Social Security Swindle which includes the All Trades Unions Alliance Draft Manifesto and the Charter of Basic Rights.



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LAWS AGAINST STRIKES, CHARTISTS AND NEWSPAPERS

Part 3 of a series on Picketing by Bernard Franks

In 1819 the notorious 'Six Acts' prohibited unlawful drilling or exercises of a military character, enabled search and seizure of arms, restricted attendance at public meetings to local inhabitants only and banned carrying of flags, banners or arms at public meetings.

New attempts to suppress the radical and labour press were made with a law enabling seizure of any printed matter alleged to be seditious or blasphemous and with a new tax of 4d on all copies of newspapers and pamphlets.

The preamble to this last Act ran:

'Pamphlets and printed papers containing observations upon public events and occurrences, tending to excite hatred and contempt of the government and constitution of these realms as by law established and also vilifying our Holy Religion, have lately been published in great numbers and at very small prices.'

FLOGGINGS

This Act was especially aimed at news-sheets like William Cobbett's 'Political Register' and its cheaper edition, the 'Twopenny Trash', enormously popular among agricultural labourers and town journeymen. In fact, the papers continued to be printed without the tax stamp and hundreds of those who printed, published and sold them went to prison many times over.

A parson-magistrate wrote to the Home Office in 1817 to say that he had seized two men who were distributing Cobbett's pamphlets and had them well flogged at the whipping-post under the vagrancy laws.

Another such martyr to a free press was J. Swann who had already been in jail for selling Carlisle's 'Republican' and was once more up before the court. The proceedings, presided over by a Captain Clarke, ended as follows:

BENCH: Hold your tongue a moment.
DEFENDANT: 'I shall not! For I wish every man to read these publications (pointing to 'The Poor Man's Guardian', 'Hunt's Address' etc.

BENCH: You are insolent, therefore you are committed to three months' imprisonment in Knutsford House of Correction, to hard labour.

DEFENDANT: I've nothing to thank you for; and whenever I come out I'll hawk them again. And mind you, the first that I hawk shall be to your house (looking at Captain Clarke).
BENCH: Stand down.
DEFENDANT: No! I shall not stand down for you.

He was then forcibly removed from the dock and back to the New Bailey.

During this period, violent repressive action was taken against any hint of political or other movement by workers. In 1817 starving Manchester handloom weavers organized a march of the unemployed to London. Marchers were congregating in St Peter's fields, Manchester, ready to move off, when soldiers arrived and dis-

persed the demonstrators and arrested their leaders.

Contingents that had already started out were broken up by soldiers and yeomanry and their leaders arrested. Two years later St Peter's Fields was the scene of the 'Peterloo Massacre', when soldiers and yeomanry rode at and cut down a peaceful crowd listening to radical orators. Eleven people were killed and hundreds injured.

The action was fully endorsed by the Tory government. The poet Shelley, son-in-law of the Radical philosopher William Godwin, was moved by this event to write his 'Mask of Anarchy' of which a verse mentions one reptile politician:

'I met Murder on the way—
It had a Mask like Castlereagh—

Very smooth he looked yet grim;
Seven bloodhounds followed him.'

A few years later when Castlereagh cut his own throat, thousands of workers lined the route to his funeral and heartily cheered as his coffin rolled by: Peterloo had a deep and continuing effect on the British working class.

By 1824, the capitalists realized that the growth of trade unions could not be stemmed and, if remaining illegal, could become even more dangerous and violent. The Combination Laws were repealed.

An unprecedented rise in combination and strikes led to this new Act being in turn repealed the following year and replaced with a law allowing combination to discuss wages and conditions, but prohibiting almost every action associated with trade union agitation.

Picketing against employers or blacklegs was virtually forbidden. The Act declared: 'If any person shall by violence to the person or property or by threats or intimidation or by molesting or in any way obstructing . . . force anyone to leave work or prevent hiring or . . . force any manufacturer to make any alteration in his mode of business . . . he shall be liable . . . to a maximum of three months' hard labour.'

The courts put a wide interpretation on 'obstruction' and pickets to be sent to jail. Some examples of illegal actions by union men against employers and 'knobsticks' in subsequent years are given by Frederick Engels in 'The Condition of the Working Class in England'.

TRANSPORTED

These include the case in 1838 of the Cotton Workers' Union, a secret committee of which fixed a price on the head of blacklegs and 'obnoxious manufacturers' and upon incendiaryism in mills. The Committee was finally arrested after many murders and maltreatment of knobsticks, and its members transported for seven years.

But by far the main cause for concern by capitalism in these years was the political agitation carried on by the Chartists. In 1839 Chartist demonstrations were fired upon by troops in Bolton and Newport and many people were killed or injured. A general Strike in support of the Charter throughout Lancashire,



Yorkshire and the Midlands was enthusiastically supported by the workers who marched from town to town knocking out the boiler plugs—the so-called 'Plug Riots'—to prevent working where the employers tried to continue in operation. 'Political power our means. Social happiness our end' was their war-cry.

The strikers virtually took control of Stockport, Bolton and other towns. In one quarter of Bradford the police went their rounds only by special permission of the Chartists. The authorities had a desperate time trying to control the situation. Even Chelsea Pensioners were sworn in as special constables and threatened with loss of their pensions if they did not take part. Examples of police running away from demonstrators, or having to be rescued by troops, occurred frequently.

At the village of Sheephead in 1841, a Justice of the Peace had to read the Riot Act from an upstairs window to avoid the flying missiles. He was rescued by cavalry three hours later.

At Colne, Lancashire, a 'tolerably strong' force of police was completely routed by a body of disciplined strikers armed with firearms and garden palings.

Authorities were nervous of sending arms for fear of where they might end up. They also were afraid of provoking a general arming of the working class, though many 'physical-force' Chartists were already armed in such sections as the Wat Tyler Brigade.

For the same reasons the Yeomanry were not often used. These were different times from the Age of Peterloo.

Even more frightening for the authorities was the disaffection of some of the troops. When General Napier went to Nottingham in 1839, he found a rifleman attending all the Chartist meetings in the town, and another exclaimed 'Damn your eyes, we are all Chartists!'

Napier pressed the Home Office for more Irish troops: 'The difference of religion and country offers additional guards for the soldiers' fidelity' he wrote. Clashes even occurred between the military and the new much-hated pro-

Above: the Newport Rising 1839, where Chartists were fired upon. Left: John Frost, Chartist leader, who was transported for his part in the rising.

fessional police at Coventry, Hull, Ipswich and Newcastle.

The reason why more examples of defeat for military and police did not occur is that rather than have state forces be seen to retreat before the workers' political offensive, the authorities would avoid confrontation altogether.

F. C. Mather in his book 'Public Order in the Age of the Chartists' writes: '... as Napier never tired of pointing out, had a small detachment been overthrown by rioters the moral effect would have been incalculable. The disaffected throughout the country would have been encouraged to rise in rebellion and to throw themselves confidently against the troops, and the latter might have led them to desert in large numbers to the side of the populace.'

Trotsky wrote in 'Where is Britain Going?' that Chartism was an early historical overture 'immortal by reason of the fact that for a space of ten years it gave us in a compressed and diagrammatic form apparently the whole gamut of proletarian struggle — from petitions in parliament to armed insurrection.'

He added: 'As the Chartists threw overboard the sentimental preachers of "moral action" rallying the masses under the standard of revolution, so the British proletariat will be confronted with the task of thrusting out from its midst the reformists, democrats and pacifists and of mobilizing under the standard of revolutionary change.'

In this way 'the British proletariat must see in Chartism not only its past, but also its future'.

Picketing was made legal for the first time in 1859, in the middle of a period of unparalleled prosperity for British capitalism—and for a privileged layer of British workers also. This stemmed from the enormous industrial monopoly of world trade held by Britain and the ruthless exploitation and plundering of the colonies which enabled the ruling class to make concessions here to the more essential workers on conditions of union organization.

However, for the great majority, little and only temporary improvement occurred. Large sections were even worse-off as machines brought unemployment and more intensified working for those still in a job.

As soon as the system ran once more into crisis in the late 1860s, the ruling class looked to methods of taking back gains made by workers.

The 1859 Act was soon made ineffectual by judges' rulings. For example, in 1867 a judge held that the extremely well-organized and effective mass picketing by tailors of

the Masters' shops in London was illegal conspiracy to 'molest' by 'abusive language and gesture' and by giving 'black looks'.

A new attack on picketing occurred in 1871, following a report of a Royal Commission set up in 1867 to look into trade unionism after the so-called Sheffield and Manchester outrages of 1866. In Sheffield a tin of gunpowder had exploded in a non-unionist's house. In Manchester the authorities were extremely concerned about the power of the brickmen's clubs, members of which had used violence on scabs and shot 'unfair' employers.

The Royal Commission had been extremely concerned at the powers of the trade unions, which, it claimed: 'had certain injurious effects on the character of the working men'. For example, it found that brickmakers had designated a four-mile limit around Manchester within which no bricks may be used except those made in the district and where no brickmakers may work except union men.

DEMARCATION

Restrictions on piecework and overtime were rigidly enforced by the men and strict demarcation in the entire building trade was made between bricklayers, masons and plasterers etc. A Manchester builder constructing a railway station at Bury was instructed by the union to employ Manchester men for at least half of his labour force.

Following the Report two new laws were passed. The Trade Union Act of 1871 gave unions a firm legal status, protection for funds against legal liability and protection from being found 'in restraint of trade'.

The second Act—the Criminal Law Amendment Act—was a vicious anti-working-class law. It repealed the 1859 legislation, thus removing the legal right to picket. It further confirmed the previous court decisions restricting pickets and laid a basis for magistrates to send them to prison on the flimsiest charges.

The new law made it illegal to:

- Coerce a master to dismiss an employee or make a worker leave his job.
- To stop an employer offering work or a workman taking it.
- To demand payment of a fine to any temporary or permanent combination.
- To force any master 'to alter the mode of carrying on his business'.

The maximum penalty was three months' hard labour.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

AMIN'S ECONOMIC DISASTER

BY IAN YEATS

The expulsion of most of Uganda's Asians will do President Idi Amin's economy little good and much positive harm.

He is, of course in a difficult position. Things aren't going too well anyway and he figured getting rid of a large 'alien' population might help.

After his first wild announcement that 80,000 people must immediately uproot themselves from his country, Amin himself was clearly grabbed by a sudden fear.

The original decree, made at a sumptuous banquet at a palatial villa on the shores of Lake Victoria, was changed to exclude doctors, dentists, lawyers and owners of industrial and agricultural enterprises.

The thought of plunging the handling of business, commerce and the professions into totally inexperienced hands was obviously too appalling to contemplate for long.

Asians own most of the smaller factories, monopolize the cotton industry and sugar plantations as well as controlling the saw and timber mills.

A single Asian family—the Madhvanis—have about \$40m invested in Uganda. The family contributes 10 per cent to the country's annual revenue and employs 13,000 Africans.

Although Uganda's Asians take no part in politics, they dominate business and the

professions. In East Africa as a whole of 18,000 professional people 40 per cent are Asians and 50 per cent of the 49,500 technicians are Asians. The majority of shops are owned by Asians.

As a community they have kept very much to themselves. Intermarriage and even social contacts with black Africans has always been frowned upon. Until the government ordered educational integration Asian children were taught separately.

All of this—their ethnic exclusiveness and their dominance of business and commerce—were, of course, a deliberate creation of British imperialism.

Britain imported thousands from the Indian mainland first as labourers and then as an intermediate caste between the Europeans and the Africans enjoying favoured treatment and, therefore, loyal to the British crown.

Now Amin is trying to remedy Uganda's economic ills fanned by the world recession by offering his people the chance of complete mastery of their country at the expense of the Asians.

The effect would be short term at the best. But since Amin has deprived his country of virtually all its entrepreneurial talent, the consequences are likely to prove more or less disastrous—immediately.

Top: General Amin. Right: In Uganda's capital, Kampala, a group of young Asians waiting for news of their future.



French workers' annual August vacations were soured by huge price rises pushed through by the Pompidou government.

CATASTROPHIC RISE IN EEC LIVING COSTS

On the eve of Common Market entry, the leaders of the Trades Union Congress have tacitly agreed with the Tory government and the Confederation of British Industry to tie wages to an 8 per cent ceiling.

This is the purpose of the 12-man arbitration board established by the TUC and the CBI last month. It is aimed at policing strikes and pay demands in accordance with the so-called 'norm'.

This is being done despite the wage increases considerably in excess of 8 per cent won this year by the struggle of the miners and railwaymen, which exposed the hollowness of Tory pay-freeze policy.

The real treachery of this back-stage arrangement is revealed by the latest figures for price rises within the Common Market.

Britain is due to enter the EEC in December, and workers will then have to bear the full brunt of the rising cost of living as never before.

The most rapid rise in the cost of living is in the Benelux countries, where conservative official estimates put the rise in the price of consumer

goods at 4½ per cent over the last six months.

Like most statistics this figure conceals more than it reveals, because it lumps together all items of expenditure from relative luxuries and household durables to daily necessities.

A far more spectacular glimpse of the grim reality of Common Market prices is given by the Paris newspaper 'Le Monde', which details the following percentage rises in prices over the last year:

'In one year the price of beef has risen 15 per cent, that of veal 20 per cent; camembert cheese has gone up 12 per cent; potatoes by more than half; many fruits (apples, plums, peaches) cost 10 to 50 per cent more than last summer.

'Many prices fixed by—or in agreement with—the government have risen considerably over the last few months: bread (14 per cent in one year for a standard loaf), milk (8 per cent), tobacco and cigarettes (10 per cent on average), gas and electricity (4 per cent), rents (16 to 17 per cent).

'According to the latest official statistics shoes cost 6 per cent more than they did a year ago, clothes 5 to 8 per

cent more . . .'

And the paper adds ominously: 'The rise in the cost of living is far from over; the next set of figures for the cost-of-living index will be "catastrophic", according to the authorities.'

Prices will continue to rise, says 'Le Monde', not only because of this year's poor harvest, but also because wholesale buyers have been able to borrow considerable sums from the banks, making them more ready to take in goods at a higher price.

The paper also cites the continuing rise in the price of such primary goods as cocoa, tin, lead and wool, which are bound to 'work through' into the shops.

And it predicts with certainty that there will be further increases in the Common Market price of meat.

'Le Monde's' figures give some indication of the rapid price escalation within the Common Market, particularly for food products and essential goods.

They show the future awaiting the British working class as a result of the Tory government's plans and give a measure of the treachery of the TUC's wage-freeze agreement.



The extreme right in the 1930s and now. Left: The anti-fascist demonstrations staged by workers in the East End of London against Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists. The anti-fascist crowd is fleeing from police who are charging at the other side of the barricades, erected to keep the BUF out of the East End. Above: The police attempt to force a pathway for a BUF car at Royal Mint Street in the City of London. Below left: Confrontation 1968. Enoch Powell's attacks on immigration encouraged a revival of the extreme right. Here Smithfield meat porters and a small number of dockers clash with police in Whitehall. The organizer of the protests and the latest Smithfield march, below right, was Danny Harmston—a parliamentary candidate for Mosley's British Union movement in 1966. Like Glasgow's William Fullarton, Harmston is able to mobilize a minority of backward workers behind the anti-working class policies of the extreme right. Harmston uses racialism, Fullarton used religion—but both men tried to split the working class.



WHEN BILLY BOY JOINED THE FASCISTS

The racist outburst by a small group of Smithfield meat porters is nothing new. Several times this century right-wing and fascist forces have exploited the demoralization and sheer desperation the decay of British capitalism causes among workers and the poor. STEPHEN JOHNS describes here a little-known episode that occurred during the depression years in Glasgow—an event that is finding an echo in the same city today.

The central area of Glasgow is still a city of tenements, their stone stairways lit by a feeble electric lamp or even an old gas mantle in the more derelict areas of the Gorbals, Maryhill and Shettleston.

The wealthy Americans shiver as the coach to the airport speeds them through the worst south-side slums for the connection to Paris, Rome or Palma and the next hop of their European tour.

To the international tourist Glasgow is a one-night stop, a

dark and violent place quite unlike the 'real' Scotland of heather, hills and Robby Burns.

Yet more than half of Scotland live in and around this huge industrial octopus. The conditions of the working class, whether they live in the tenements or on the bleak windswept 'schemes' scattered around the fringes of the city, are the worst in Britain.

But in Glasgow it has always been the same—only worse.

In the 1920s and 1930s poverty and unemployment drove people down into a desperate sub-strata in the city's inner districts.

Young people especially, faced the world with no possible means of escape from enforced hunger, unemployment and idleness. They had no unions and the Labour Party leaders failed in two administrations to make any inroads on the capitalism that so oppressed the masses.

The unemployment figures give some idea of the scale of poverty. During the 1920s a 15 to 20 per cent male jobless rate was the average. But with the advent of the 1930s the total leapt to engulf up to a third of the male population. There are no statistics available for unemployment in the poorest areas, but the rate must have been considerably higher.

While the workers of Glasgow fought many heroic battles against the ruling class, others, broken in spirit, sank to the lowest depths of human existence.

The statistics for violence,

crime and drunkenness during this period follow almost exactly the rising graph of unemployment.

The drinking habits in the slums give some glimpse of the swamp of misery that swallowed many healthy men.

THE LETHAL COMPOUNDS

'Red biddy', meths mixed with cheap wine was (and still is) common. More lethal were the bottles of cheap scent—usually Eau de Cologne—that the addicts swallowed.

The most desperate, who searched for immediate and continued oblivion, bought 'spirit crystals' (now illegal). These, crushed in a little lemonade would cause immediate collapse. When the addict came round a glass of water

would be enough to make him completely drunk. When the effect wore off another glass was drunk until it was time to crush more crystals. It was said a man could remain drunk for two months for under a shilling with this method—not many lived to prove the theory.

Others, especially youth, attempted to find different means of escape. They turned to gang violence, and soon Glasgow had a reputation equalling that of New York or Chicago.

Whereas abroad the violence was often a part of organized crime, in Glasgow it expressed more directly the immediate frustrations of the impoverished working class.

The gangs had begun before the 1914-1918 war but it was not until the 1920s that they grew to be a real force in the slum areas.

The sectarian divisions within the working class were

immediately exploited and the gangs developed along strict religious lines, reinforced by the territorial segregation between Catholics and Protestants.

They took their names from streets—there were, for example, the 'Norman Conquerors' or 'Conks' who assembled in Norman St, The 'Beehive' took their name from a corner in Briggate where boys used to assemble; the 'Calton Entry' gang from Calton. But the most famous of them all, 'The Billy Boys', were immediately sectarian and took their name from the hero of Protestant mythology, William of Orange—'King Billy'.

In some cases the gangs—comprising youth over the age of 14 and men up to their mid-30s—developed into crime. The Beehive gang came eventually to be controlled by a group of experienced house-breakers who surrounded themselves with a bunch of toughs for protection.

WEAPONS TO MAIM

Their leader was a man called Peter William, from a 'respectable' family, well-educated and extremely eloquent when it came to a defence in court. But the real

'wheel' was a London safe-cracker called Howie, a real expert with great planning ability.

Other gangs developed in radically different ways. The 'Conks' became a focus of Catholic aspirations while the 'Billy Boys' led by William Fullarton (sometimes spelt Fullerton) became the spearhead of militant and right-wing Orangeism.

These gangs fought out some of the fiercest and bloody battles ever seen in the city. The weapons were crude and made to maim the opponent.

The razor or the 'chivvy' was a favourite implement. These would be fixed in hats and used to slash the face of a rival. Sometimes potatoes embedded with a number of razors were fixed on a stick and thrown at the faces of the opposition.

Other weapons were more commonplace, broken bottles and coshes.

Fullarton developed as an extreme patriot. The big battles were accompanied with a singing of the Orange hymn 'The Sash My Father Wore' and usually ended with 'God Save the King' (the Smithfield porters and company ended their jamboree with 'Land of Hope and Glory').

Fullarton would organize 'church parades' deep into 'Conks' territory as an excuse for a violent clash. The 'Conks' for their part tagged onto a Communist Party unemploy-

ment march into the Protestant homeland, Bridgeton. There, 300-strong, they were set upon by 200 'Billy Boys' yelling 'God Save the King'.

In their own areas the gangs would organize petty protection rackets among local tradesmen. But not all the business community were unwilling partners of the gangs' activities.

PETTY STORM-TROOPERS

The 'Billy Boys' came to have powerful political backing from the right wing.

They were employed to intimidate strikers and in 1926 Fullarton and his followers suddenly rediscovered a long-lost civic pride and began to scab on the General Strike. The pattern was emerging—the dispossessed and declassed were being used as petty storm-troopers for the most vicious section of the business community.

Things became even more clear in the 1930s. Fullarton and the activities of the gangs had produced a backlash. The police began to retaliate and he was arrested, among 40 of his supporters, at Toll Cross in Glasgow drunk with a three-year-old child in his arms.

He got 12 months and when

he came out of jail he joined the fascists and was put in charge of a section of 200.

Later Fullarton told a newspaper: 'I couldn't give you a definition of fascism to this day. It seemed like a good thing to belong to at this time'—words that might be repeated by many of the workers who marched from Smithfield last week, but nevertheless they did march.

After the war Fullarton seemed to relinquish any overt political commitment. He dropped from the news and lived out his days as a worker in the Clydebank shipyard.

But in 1962, when he died, there was one echo of his former notoriety. He got a VIP funeral from 600 of his fellow supporters who walked behind the coffin to Riddrie cemetery in a tribute to 'their former leader'. A cushion embroidered with marigolds was laid on his grave—a symbol of the Orange Order.

In Glasgow during the depression fascism recruited demoralized and backward workers through the poison of religious sectarianism—now the trick is race and hatred of black workers. In essence both methods are the same—they provide a worker with an illusive answer to his misery and frustration and give him an object towards which he can divert a hatred generated by the very conditions capitalism forces him to live under.

But the hand behind such political expressions is always the hand of capitalism, whether it be the bigots among Glasgow's petty trading classes or the big battalions like Krupp and Thyssen who paid the Nazis in Germany.

Now the danger is growing once more. Not only in London. In Glasgow there is a noticeable growth in sectarian hatred. The extreme Orangemen behind Pastor Jack Glass have been out on the streets again much to the joy of the news media—after all it's all good copy. The thinly-disguised sectarian battles that rage around the Rangers-Celtic football matches (again accompanied with massive Tory press publicity) are fiercer than ever.

THE SAME LESSONS

The scene of action may have shifted somewhat from the crumbling tenements to the big housing schemes like Castle milk, Drumchapel, Easterhouses and the Renton in the Vale of Leven, but the lesson is still the same—youth must not be fooled into fighting battles for the Tories and the bosses, it should be directed at the real enemy—capitalism.

The abortive Bolivian revolution of August-September 1971 which brought the CIA-sponsored regime of Col Banzer to power has had a considerable impact on the Trotskyist movement.

Not only did these events prove the complete bankruptcy of the revisionist forces of the Unified Secretariat in Latin America, but they also revealed the theoretical degeneration and blatant political opportunism of the Lora-Lambert tendency within the International Committee of the Fourth International (ICFI). These grave events gave a vital fillip to a discussion on the philosophical and political roots of the opportunism of the POR (Revolutionary Workers' Party of Bolivia) and its subsequent betrayal of the Bolivian proletariat.

No development of Trotskyism we believe is possible without an understanding and assimilation of the lessons of the revolution and counter-revolution in Bolivia 1970. In the interests of such a discussion we are publishing this critique of the 'Workers' Vanguard' statement on the POR. It has been submitted for publication by the Greek section of the ICFI.



Bolivian miners during street fighting in 1970

LESSONS OF THE WORKERS MOVEMENT IN GREECE

Part 4 in the series 'Workers' Vanguard and the Bolivian Revolution'

ARCHEIOMARXISM AND TROTSKYISM

All the elements which we have seen in the Workers Vanguard's analysis—confusion, formalism, sectarianism, anarcho-syndicalist ideas, are expressions of the same idealistic method, which is not unfamiliar, as we said at the beginning, to the Greek as well as to the international workers' movement.

Contrary to the Pabloite ideologists of the Novak school, in order to examine a method of thought, we do not make an abstraction of the historical horizon within which it comes into being and functions.

We cannot speak abstractly about empiricism, without seeing its historical development through the process of the English Revolution; nor can we talk about pragmatism, while ignoring the conditions of development of bourgeois ideology in America; nor about rationalism, independent of the class struggle that first formed it in France.

The WV's formalist method of thought, as well, has a historical origin. It is the method of a quite peculiar centrist sect, the Archeio-Marxist one, which developed before, parallel to and against the Greek Section of the 3rd International, the CPG against the Greek Left Opposition and against the founder and guide of Greek Trotskyism Pantelis Pouliopoulos.

This great communist leader and fighter of the 4th International had correctly characterized this current as 'a peculiar substitute for social democracy within primitive Greek communism'.

The line of the Archeio was: 'Education first and then action,' 'not just a passive but also a hostile stand against every political and trade union action of the workers' (Circular of the Archeio 1928), 'a systematic cultivation of hatred for every revolutionary organization, a blow and a split by terrorist means of the revolutionary wing in the trade union movement, the armed liquidation of the latter's conferences, a Masonic, despotic type of organization.' (Pouliopoulos 'Democratic or Socialist Revolution in Greece?')

Through the adventurist Molinier they came into temporary contact with the International Left Opposition, they hid behind the books of Lenin and Trotsky until they withdrew and began their fierce anti-Trotskyist efforts against the Greek section of the 4th International, and against the International itself, approaching the temporary international focus of centrism, the London Office, in company with the English ILP, the SAP, the POUM etc.

Blessings of revisionism

After the war, some of its vestiges took part in the regrouping of the Greek section of the 4th International in 1947, with the blessings of rising Pabloite revisionism. Greek Trotskyism joined with just what it had been fighting throughout its whole history up to that time...

Stalinism always wanted to make an amalgamation of Archeio-Marxism and Trotskyism in order to annihilate its opponents. Until now the CPG tries to slander Greek Trotskyism for the criminal policies of the Archeio. And at the time of the Albanian revolution, the arch-Stalinist Enver Hodja used amalgamation, slander and assassination to identify Archeio-Marxism with Trotskyism and to be better able to drown in blood the strong influence of Trotskyist ideas in the Albanian proletariat.

When the EDE took up in Greece the historic continuation of the heroic Greek Trotskyist movement against Pabloite liquidation, in its ranks were Archeio-Marxist elements which crystallized into a minority.

Within the rapidly-developing crisis of Greek and world capitalism, before the imperative tasks of a new revolutionary period when the International is called upon to play the role defined by its founding Conference in 1938 and by the Transitional Programme, no co-existence with centrism was possible, even less with an Archeio-Marxist type. In 1967 the minority was expelled from the EDE and from that time called itself Workers Vanguard.

Some people will say that these are old stories, that the WV cut its ties with Archeio-Marxism and its method. We believe that not only does the WV always follow its method, but also that it consciously

sees itself as its continuation. An apparently 'innocent' phrase in their document about the POR suffices to show us this. They write:

'From the time of Varsky's support for Pilsudsky in Poland, in whom he saw the "democratic dictatorship of workers and peasants", and of the support for the dictator Pangalos in Greece on whom the Greek CP called to "do as you boast, my general" in 1925, the continuity of support for Bonapartist regimes in the colonial and semi-colonial countries is a result of the fellow travelling of the Stalinists with the "democratic" bourgeoisie (as in China, Spain, Indonesia, etc.)'.

In 1925, the general secretary of the CPG was Pantelis Pouliopoulos who was condemned by Pangalos' court martial together with other communists, exiled to Folegandro from where he returned after the fall of the Pangalos dictatorship and fought in the Conference of Cadres of 1926 his first great battle against the ideological and organizational degeneration of the CP by the Stalinists.

In relation to the WV's beliefs, Pouliopoulos writes the following in 'Democratic or Socialist Revolution in Greece?':

'The political immaturity of

all the Party cadres the first time, and their uncritical faith in the correctness of the strategic orientation of the 7th Balkan Conference and of the 5th World Congress ("for an immediate workers' and peasants' revolution in Bulgaria"), had initially led the Party to the mistaken idea that it could easily win over many "left-ized" democratic officers, if it simply unmasked the original demagogic pseudo-radicalism of Pangalos before the masses as well as the democratic officers, proposing really radical demands—arming of the workers, alliance with the USSR, taxation, liberties to the proletariat, etc. From here, we have said, came the articles of the "red major", the "down with the masks, do as you boast" etc. (That the Party with these policies supposedly called on Pangalos to overthrow the bourgeoisie at the head of the workers, this is an idiotic slander of the Stalinists, which even small children can understand. No Stalinist believes this. That this is an impudent lie, that it is a disgraceful political slander, can be seen quite clearly also from the fact that it has been happening since 1926, for eight whole years, a very fierce struggle of factions within the party, where all sorts of trivialities and dirt were called up against the Marxist opposition—but even so about such a great crime the Stalinists speak for the first time today in 1934! They had... forgotten about it before! And this now—just in passing. They think: let us go ahead and say it, and whatever sticks in the minds of the new members who know nothing about history, well and good. Calomniez, calomniez, il en restera toujours.)

'If however—we stressed at the conference—the Party, from the very first days of the Pangalos dictatorship, had found the correct orientation and come in at the head of a truly heroic fight against it, (for example, the great anti-Pangalos meeting of refugees in Piraeus, disbanded by guns soon after the proclamation of dictatorship, new persecutions, trials of "autonomists" etc.) on the contrary the "Leninists" further deepened the mistakes...

Political immaturity

'The fighters of the later opposition, then as yet unformed, by reminding the 1926 conference of all this, were saying that the political immaturity of the new Party cadres certainly explained the mistakes of 1924 and 1925 (later it was revealed that a mature leadership of a fully developed CP, like that of the Stalinist Varsky in the Polish Party, when in May 1926

General Pilsudsky carried out his coup, called on the peasants to support him—something which never happened in the CPG, in spite of the relative Archeio-Marxist slander which, out of factional blindness, some of our more senseless Stalinists brought to the light again!'

We see again, after almost 50 years, the ancient anti-communist slander of the Archeio, used with such enthusiasm by Koutvis-Zachariadis (later to become the butcher of the Greek revolution of 1943-1949) against Pouliopoulos and the Left Opposition of the CPG, served up again in the document of the WV, disguised as an anti-Stalinist attack! The "political ichthyosauri" (to use an expression of Trotsky) of the Archeio are repeating past history for the second time, inevitably in the form of a farce this time.

A full discussion

In relation to Lora, the statement of the IC of the 4th International on October 24, 1971, said that:

'When he appeared in Europe in 1970, the SLL made it clear from the beginning that it would not support his engagement in the IC without a full discussion on his whole history and an understanding reached on this basis. We do not have one policy towards the LSSP and the Pabloites and another for Lora.'

The EDE again had told its former minority — now the WV, that any work whatsoever within a common framework would presuppose a critical re-examination of its whole history up to now, and a documented rejection of the centrist policies of this Archeio-Marxist group, particularly with regard to the time of the Occupation and the Civil War.

Greek Trotskyism will fight implacably any capitulation to centrism in any form, Pabloite, Archeio-Marxist or other. Now more than ever, in the presence of the mass struggles which have already begun in dictatorially-ruled Greece, any retreat whatsoever before centrism, any carelessness in the struggle against centrism will have catastrophic results.

The centrist policies of the POR again taught the Trotskyist movement bitter lessons. We cannot have one policy towards Lora and another for Archeio-Marxism.

S. Michael, member of the editorial board of the 'Ora tis Allagis', organ of the Central Committee of the Workers International League (EDE), Greek Section of the International Committee of the 4th International.



Members of the junta that rules Greece at present. Papadopoulos is front row third from left.

US ROUND- UP

THE SLUMP HITS MANHATTAN

The world-famous picture of Manhattan's skyscrapers overlooking quays bustling with merchant ships from every corner of the world has been transformed dramatically.

The noise and movement of a thousand cranes stacking the piers high with bags, boxes and bales has been replaced by a desert of rotting wooden spars and empty warehouses.

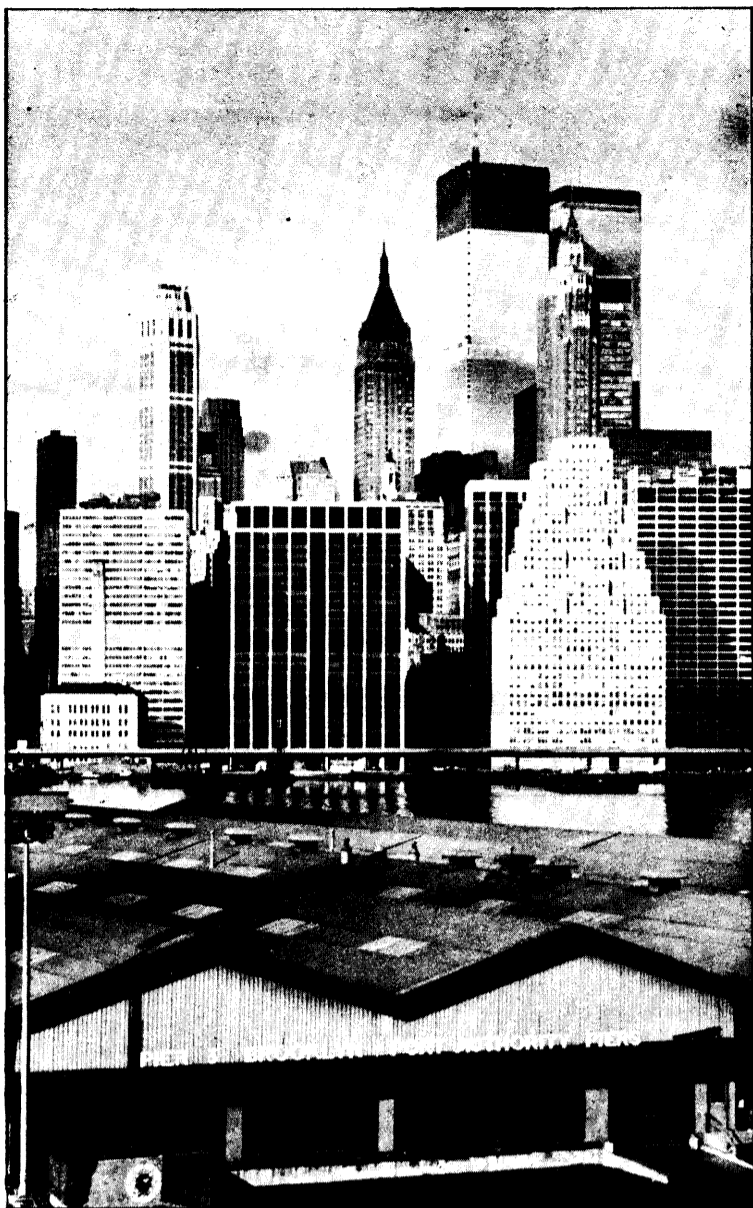
Mile after mile of Manhattan's 72 piers lie abandoned, beams and planks falling, rotten, into the sea where they look like flotsam from some enormous wreck.

A new report blames the decline in traffic using the port of New York on dockers 'stealing themselves out of jobs'.

The report claims pilferage is so widespread and persistent that not even the use of containers stops it—26 have been stolen in the past two years.

It adds that the International Longshoremen's Association has forced stevedoring companies to pay exorbitant wage rates through a series of strikes.

World slump has forced shipowners into a bitter cost-price war which they are trying to resolve through the use of new technology, new work practices and new pay systems.



Manhattan skyscrapers tower over a quay threatened with closure

Quite apart from the strength of the ILA with its implications for the employers costs, New York's choked and out-of-date harbour had become grossly uneconomic.

Not only was the traditional waterfront unsuited to containers but the cost in time and money of land transport through the city's dense urban jungle was prohibitive.

The open land the shipping operators needed for their vast new container marshalling areas was to be found on the fringes of New York at places like Port Elizabeth and at other east coast cities like Miami, Norfolk, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston and Portland.

Some mid-western shippers abandoned US ports entirely in favour of Saint John, New Brunswick and Halifax because Canadian laws allowed railways and shipping companies to offer rates at substantial discounts.

The new ports also offered the prospect of labour forces more willing than the New York longshoremen to bend to the work practices and pay scales which followed inevitably in the wake of containerization.

Now less than 13 per cent of the nation's ocean-borne foreign traffic passes across the quays of the 833-mile labyrinth of piers stretching from New Jersey to western Long Island.

Put them together and you have a plot which goes thus:

Leonard falls for Joan and Joan falls for Leonard. Peter thinks it's Graham who's stolen his girl, while Graham pursues Leonard with binoculars and envy. The mistaken identity is milked for all it's worth in the last act, while Leonard allows Peter to throttle Graham.

Because of Leonard's silent collusion Joan decides to leave him. The chaps go off and play football.

Alan Ayckbourn, the author, has a good ear for dialogue, a fair amount of humour and a good eye for petty-bourgeois mannerisms. The trouble is he doesn't know what to do with it all.

You walk out of the theatre saying to yourself, so what.

The play is so inconclusive, neither farce, nor belly laugh, nor satire. A tentative hotch-potch of everything which ends up as nothing.

There's a very good performance by Cheryl Kennedy as Joan. She has just the right pretentiousness of the suburban belle, the self-manufactured refined accent, the bored petulance, the coy giggle, which just reveals the knife edge of the hen pecker in the making. The rest give competent performances.

I suspect the play thinks itself champagne and it turns out to be liver salts—all bubbles and burps.

It's playing in London's glittering West End at the Comedy Theatre, where I was almost trampled to death by the middle class in the interval rush for the bar.



Tom Courtenay who plays Leonard in 'Time and Time Again' at the Comedy Theatre.

Alan Ayckbourn's latest play, 'Time and Time Again' is a sort of updated version of this genre. The setting has shifted to the south, the milieu is suburban lower middle class and there's not much more to be said for it.

The characters are stock, but fashioned out of the more updated stereotypes.

There's Leonard, played by Tom Courtenay, a wistful, self-absorbed drop-out school teacher who gets a job with the borough council; Graham, his brother-in-law, the self-made man, all lust and prejudice, his long-suffering wife; the sports fiend Peter; his dolly girl friend Joan, fresh from the cricket club social, airs and graces in angora knitwear.

THE BIG YAWN

THEATRE REVIEW
BY BRIAN MOORE

Years ago a certain kind of 'North Country' play was the staple diet of many of the repertory companies. They were the sort of thing where there was always 'trouble at t' mill', the local mayor was involved and the woman next door was a gasbag. They were all written and performed in broad stage 'North Country' dialect.

Someone once described the essential northern play in three lines of dialogue.

Enter Alderman Brindley, stage left, panting:

BRINDLEY: As soon as I 'eard the news, I came straight on t' tram.

DORA: But the trams don't run our way.

BRINDLEY: I'm not without influence in Osset.

And it's not a bad description.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

OLYMPIC OLIGARCHY

You will remember the moans, groans and chest-beating from the retiring president of the International Olympic Committee, Avery Brundage, when he was forced to expel the team of racist Rhodesia from the games. After the fateful decision Brundage venomously declared:

'It was a blatant intrusion of politics. They had a gun to our heads. It was political—nothing but blackmail—and we gave in.'

He expressed the fear that if this went on the games would die, like the ancient sports in Greece.

This is all very coy of the 84-year-old American millionaire who has ruled the games like a despot for the past 20 years. It's not the first time he has been involved in Olympic politics. Back in 1934, as president of the US Olympic Committee, he was sent to Germany to investigate the Nazi claim that there was no discrimination against Jewish sportsmen.

To their credit the US committee in 1933 had decided to boycott the 1936 Berlin games because of the anti-Semitism displayed by the German rulers.

Then Brundage, who was already devoted to the sturdy principle of sport and politics don't mix, led an investigation into the Third Reich. This came after the Nazis had put a token 21 Jews in their team.

Brundage was very impressed by what he saw of the new Nazi civilization and convinced himself the authorities were observing the spirit of the games (it was about the time the first concentration camps got to the drawing board stage).

On the strength of his recommendation the Americans, by the narrowest of margins, reversed their principled stand and Brundage himself led the 383-strong American team in the march past Adolf Hitler on the Tribune of Honour.

Another one of Brundage's passions is to keep filthy lucre out of the Olympic stadium. He is a stickler for the amateurs-only rule (Britain's Mike Bedford underwent cross-examination by the committee for breaking this one).

This anachronism places great obstacles in the way of

the working-class athlete, particularly if he comes from a capitalist or underdeveloped country.

Brundage of course is very much a professional. He uses his immense fortune to support his sporting globetrotting. He laid the foundations of his millions back in 1915 when he started a construction and real estate firm in Chicago. As he grew rich, so did his power in the administrative world of sport increase.

Before the sporting 'progressives' start sighing with relief at his passing, they had better take a careful look at the committee he leaves behind.

The Olympic Committee (in flagrant violation of the principles of Greek democracy!) is a self-perpetuating oligarchy



Avery Brundage

of millionaires and reactionaries.

Brundage is succeeded by another son of the soil, fat, pipe-smoking Lord Killanin. He owns a modest ten directorships and is a member of Lloyd's. His family seat is in Galway—motto 'If God is with us, who is against us?' (we could think of a few—Ed.).

But Killanin is a pauper compared to his other committee members. From France we have Count Jean de Beaumont, worth a cool £100m. King Constantine of Greece is a member and representing Britain there is the Marquis of Exeter, and Lord Luke of Bovril fame—both old Etonians.

The Committee members enrol whom they like, when they like. The fee attached to membership is secret, but it no doubt accounts for a healthy bank account, in Switzerland of course.

BOOKS



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**ALL TRADES
UNIONS
ALLIANCE
MEETINGS**

LIVERPOOL: Friday September 1, 7.30 p.m. Common Hall, Hackins Hey. 'Lessons of the docks and building strikes.' Speakers: Larry Cavanagh (dockers' steward), Mike Farley (building worker). Both in a personal capacity.

DAGENHAM: Tuesday September 5, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue, Barking. 'Lessons of docks strike, UCS jobs fight.'

HULL: Tuesday September 5, 7.30 p.m. White Hart Hotel, near Drypool Bridge. 'Victory to the building workers.'

SLOUGH: Wednesday September 6, 7.30 p.m. Slough Community Centre, Farnham Rd. 'Force the Tories out! Expose the traitors in the labour and trade union movement!' Speakers: Frank Toman and Brian Bailey, both in a personal capacity.

WEST LONDON: Tuesday September 5, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Road, (off York Way), Kings Cross. 'Stalinism and the builders' struggle.'

WOOLWICH: Tuesday September 5, 8 p.m. Queen's Arms, Burrage Road, SE 18. 'Lessons of the dock strike.'

GREENOCK: Wednesday September 6, 7.30 p.m. Salon Hall, Town Hall. 'The rents struggle and the Scott-Lithgow engineers' fight.'

RHYMNEY: Thursday September 7, 7.30 p.m. Rhymney Workmen's Club, Rhymney, South Wales. 'Crisis of leadership in the trade unions.'

SOUTHALL: Thursday September 7, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Bridge Road. 'Lessons of the dock strike.'

EAST LONDON: Thursday September 7, 8 p.m. Festival Inn, Market Square, Chrisp Street, Market, E14. 'What is Stalinism?'

SOUTHAMPTON: Friday September 8, 7.30 p.m. 'The Glebe', Corner of Brintons Road and Northam Road. Speaker: Alan Thornett (deputy senior steward Morris Motors, Oxford, in a personal capacity). 'The lessons of the docks strike and the fight for jobs.'

HULL: Wednesday September 13, 7.30 p.m. Church Hall, Wayne Road, Bransholme (opp 'The Swallow'). 'Fighting the Tories' Rent Act.'

CROYDON: Monday September 11, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road. 'Lessons of the dock strike.'

Halewood production shops being run down

Ford car parts go Continental



Workers Press headline April 17, 1971



FROM DAVID MAUDE, Our Industrial Correspondent

Men coming out of the Halewood plant in Liverpool

THOUSANDS of workers at the Ford motor company and its supplier factories will lose their jobs if the company is allowed to carry through plans for a large-scale transfer of work from Britain to Europe.

The plans—revealed in secret company documents released by Ford clerical workers—would mean that transmissions, gearboxes and body-panels would be produced in Germany and France rather than at Halewood, Liverpool.

A total of 30 British firms including Plessey, AC Delco and Lucas would lose all or part of their contracts to supply components for the 1973 modification of the Capri. The contracts in question cover 55 components.

Since mid-April last year there have been a series of threats to Ford workers' jobs as a result of top-level policy decisions emanating from Detroit, Michigan.

The first, revealed exclusively in Workers Press on April 17, 1971, was against tooling-design workers at Dagenham, Southampton and Doncaster. Ford's described the fears of the workers concerned as 'quite unfounded'. Eight weeks later 500 workers were told they would have to go.

On July 23, 1971, we reported that at least 1,000 workers at Dagenham and Halewood could lose their jobs by 1973 on the direct say-so of Henry Ford II.

The company was transferring engines and transmission production for the US Pinto model out of Britain. Lima, Ohio, would make the engines while the transmissions would go to Bordeaux.

By March 20 this year, Ford workers' fears for their jobs had reached such a pitch that 300 tooling workers at Dagenham

'If Halewood goes on strike we can simply step up production in Saarlouis'

stopped work to attend a mass meeting on the issue.

Shop stewards at the Dagenham paint, trim and assembly division noted that whereas in 1969 a total of 12 German suppliers held contracts for ten components, by January 1972 the figures had risen to 121 suppliers and 230 components. This was associated with a general loss of work from the division itself.

When Ford started production of the Capri at Halewood in 1969 only ten parts were imported from Europe for the model, but by next January, the captured document reveals, the company plans to bring in 272. The bulk of these will again come from Germany.

Indications are that when the Capri's successor, codenamed Diana, is introduced in mid-1974 there will be an increase of German-made panels.

Already work in the Halewood press shop, which produces panels, has fallen to its lowest-

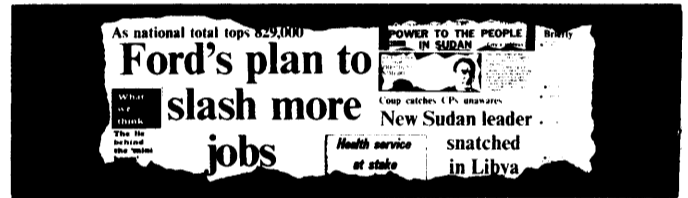
ever level and 80 jobs have gone from the shop. When the Escort's successor, codenamed Brenda, is introduced in 1975 output is expected to plummet even further.

In April and May of this year a team of five executives from Ford headquarters in Detroit visited Britain to take stock of their British subsidiary. As their tour of the factories drew to a close the company's annual report brought news of a £30m loss, adding power to their job-cutting elbow.

Ford's policy, of course, is geared directly to British entry into the Common Market, but it is also designed to give it striking power against its workers both here and in Europe.

As one company 'insider' told Workers Press earlier this year: 'We want the situation where we have absolute flexibility—if Halewood goes on strike we can simply step up production in Saarlouis.'

Saarlouis, on the Franco-



Workers Press, July 23

German border, is the site of a new transmission plant where Ford is building up production for Escorts and Capris.

The documents released by the Halewood clerical workers, first published in the Liverpool 'Free Press', reveal that existing capacity in the transmission plant there will not be used to make 2000cc gearboxes for the new 'facelifted' Capri.

Again these will be imported from Germany.

The number of vehicles which will be shipped abroad from Halewood for assembly elsewhere will have slumped from 13,500 in 1969 to 500 this year.

In 1969, Halewood turned out 350 Capris a day with Cologne making 220. Now the positions are completely reversed. Halewood turns out barely 200 a day.

The threat to jobs at Halewood is real.

But it is no less real all over the Ford combine and in the supplier plants, too. Clearly only a determined united struggle for the right to work will stop the threat becoming reality, but this poses big issues.

Ford's will not be stopped unless it is nationalized under workers' control. And that can only be done if the Tory government is forced to resign and a Labour government pledged to socialist policies elected. This is the logic of the struggle in which the Halewood workers have now embarked.

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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

Bonus fight at Decca plant

FITTERS, packers and storemen at the Decca factory, Battersea, south west London are to work to rule and ban all overtime from next Monday.

They have also given a fortnight's notice of strike action if management fails to improve a pay offer of a £3 bonus increase tied to a £1 to £1.20 reduction in basic wages.

The men are claiming a £4.50 minimum bonus for line opera-

tors and fitters and a £4.50 lieu bonus for the packers, storemen and repair wiremen.

The packers and storemen are particularly annoyed with this offer because they already have to grab every available hour of overtime, up to 15 hours a week, in order to make up a living wage.

Fitters and assembly workers who have been asking for a bonus scheme were bluntly informed by management that

there was nothing for them.

The Decca combine joint shop stewards' committee recommended that the Battersea stewards accept the offer.

But the Battersea men have stood firm. Their reply to the combine representatives' claim that storemen's rates are lower in the rest of the group was: 'Why don't they fight to raise the other storemen up to our rate instead of asking us to accept a cut in our basic.'

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ROLLS-ROYCE management at the Bristol engine division factories plan to implement a new wages agreement based on the flat-rate, Measured-Day Work speed-up system in two weeks' time. Last week the division announced that it would soon be reducing the labour force by almost 1,000.

Both these developments herald the beginning of a new and dangerous period for all Rolls-Royce workers.

A company statement on rationalization of the division says that in 1971 management constructed a plan which envisaged a substantial reduction in the numbers employed during 1972.

'However,' it went on, 'in January 1972, manufacturing were faced with a very bad situation in relation to achieving scheduled deliveries to our customers.' This was aggravated, the company added, by the strike at the end of 1971.

Rolls have made it clear that unless the unions co-operate in getting rid by 'voluntary' means of the present 1,000 workers they no longer require, then a larger compulsory redundancy will be implemented.

But the idea of a smaller voluntary redundancy is nothing more than a move to get the principle of redundancy accepted. No guarantees have been made on future employment.

The company says: 'It will of course be necessary to continue to adjust balance, and to examine continuously the level of manning required to sustain our programmes which inevitably fluctuate considerably.'

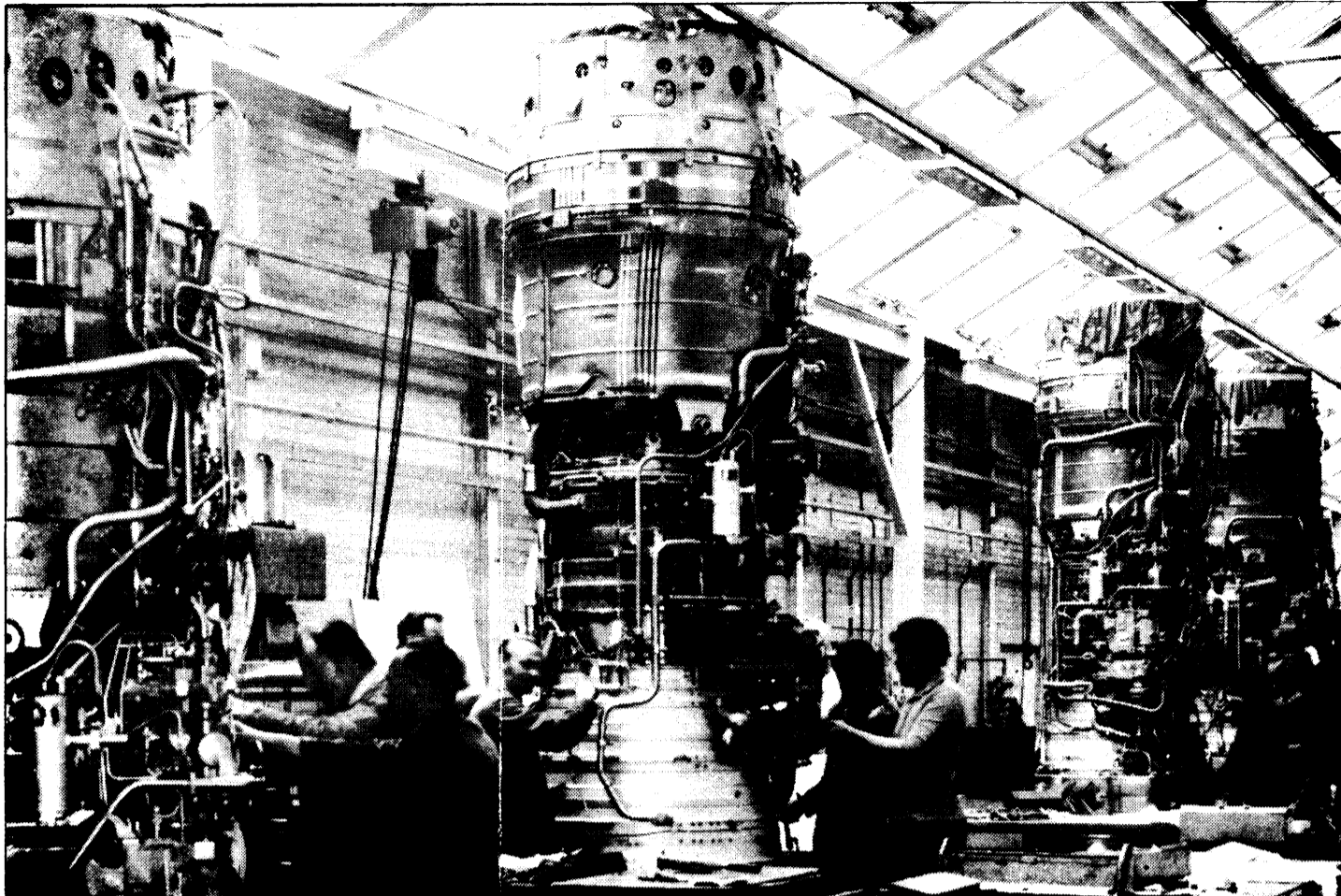
The backbone of the division's future programme is the Olympus 593 engine for Concorde. Despite recent press publicity on the BOAC-Air France orders for nine aircraft, lack of firm orders now threatens further substantial redundancies in Bristol.

In fact the future of the division rests on the success of Concorde just as the future of the Derby division rests on the RB211 and the Lockheed TriStar.

Many Rolls-Royce workers who thought that the government takeover after the collapse in 1971 gave them a secure future must now think again.

The present redundancies and Rolls'

The Olympus 593 engine being assembled at the Bristol engines division for the Concorde. Are these jobs so secure?



Jobs threat at Rolls engine plants

plans since the collapse offer no firm future to Rolls workers. In fact there is every reason for believing the Tories' intervention has stiffened Rolls' determination to make its workers pay for its crisis.

During the dispute earlier this year over the ending of the 30-year-old Coventry toolroom agreement, the government-appointed Rolls board played a major role in helping to get rid of the agreement when it locked out its toolroom-rated workers.

The preparations now taking place at Rolls are a continuation of the process

started in May this year with the merging of Bristol and Derby divisions into five new divisions—manufacturing, engineering, commercial, financial and paint and assembly.

As this reshaping continues, the pruning of factories and the labour force must also continue.

These changes are forced on Rolls-Royce by the developing economic crisis—a crisis which deepens daily.

Within the Rolls Ansty factory, Coventry, decisions are being made to resist redundancy by the shop stewards and workers.

But these decisions are only a start. They must be linked with a campaign to unite all sections of workers now under attack from the Tories and the employers in a campaign to remove this government.

It must be replaced with a Labour government which will carry out socialist policies, in particular the nationalization of all industry without compensation and under workers' control.

There can be no successful fight against redundancy without challenging the power of the employers and their government—this, above all, is the lesson of the upper Clyde.

TV

BBC 1

9.40 Camberwick green. 9.55 Robinson Crusoe. 10.20 Magic roundabout. 10.25 Olympic grandstand. 1.30 Fingerbobs. 1.45 News and weather. 1.55 Olympic grandstand.

6.50 NEWS and weather. 6.55 YOUR REGION TONIGHT. 7.00 THE VIRGINIAN. Stacey. 8.15 DAVE ALLEN AT LARGE. 9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather. 9.25 TODAY AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES. Three day event, 100m, gymnastics, cycling and swimming finals. 12.30 Weather.

ITV

10.45 Film: 'Batman'. 12.25 Women today. 12.50 Freud on food. 1.15 Bellbird. 1.25 Dan. 1.40 Bush boy. 2.00 Castle haven. 2.25 Racing from Kempton Park. 3.40 This week. 4.05 Happy house. 4.20 Adventures of Gulliver. 4.50 Magpie. 5.20 Olympics and news.

6.00 TODAY. 6.30 ARNIE. Citizen Pain. 7.00 THE BEST OF PLEASE SIR! Nemesis for Norman. 7.30 THE FBI. By Force and Violence. 8.30 SHUT THAT DOOR! Larry Grayson with guest Marjorie Proops. 9.00 HOLLY. New series with Brigit Forsyth, David Burke, William Gaunt and Paul Moriarty. 10.00 NEWS AND OLYMPICS AT TEN. 10.50 POLICE FIVE. 11.00 WICKED WOMEN. Madeleine July. Billie Whitelaw. 12.05 THE FRIGHTENERS. The Treat. Ian Holm. 12.30 CRAFTSMEN IN THE CHURCH.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 4.15 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Monkees. 5.20 Ask Aspel. 5.40 Magic roundabout. 5.45 Sounds of music.

6.45 BIRD'S EYE VIEW. A Green and Pleasant Land. 7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather. 8.00 THE MONEY GAME. 8.50 GARDENERS' WORLD. 9.25 ONE PAIR OF EYES. Mark Boxer reaches Half Way Mark. 10.15 ON THE RIM. In Iceland. 10.45 NEWS ON 2. Weather. 10.50 FESTIVAL 26.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 2.20 Puffin. 2.25 London. 3.40 Jimmy Stewart. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 4.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Cartoon. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 On the buses. 7.30 London. 10.30 We're ten. 11.30 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 2.10 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sports desk. 10.47 News. 12.15 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 12.55 News and weather. 1.00 Let's face it. 1.25 Beverly hillbillies. 1.50 Common Market cook book. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.25 London. 3.40 Weekend. 3.45 Houseparty. 4.00 Stingray. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.30 Who do you do? 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Sale of the century. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.50 Weekend. 10.55 Film: 'The Boss'. 12.30 News. 12.40 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 2.25 London. 3.45 Women only. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Saint. 7.30 Shut that door. 8.00 Cade's county. 9.00 London. 10.50 Cinema. 11.20 Film: 'Delayed Action'. 12.30 Weather.

HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.15-4.25 Cantamil. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd.



Mark Boxer, cartoonist 'Marc' of 'The Times' and an associate editor of 'The Sunday Times' magazine is featured in tonight's 'One Pair of Eyes' programme on BBC 2 entitled 'Half Way Mark'

HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Report West.

ANGLIA: 1.40 World War I. 2.05 Mad movies. 2.30 London. 3.55 News. 4.00 Romper room. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Glamour 72. 7.35 Please sir. 8.00 Combat. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'The Long, the Short and the Tall'.

ATV MIDLANDS: 1.45 Racing from Kempton Park. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Women today. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Mr Piper. 4.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Persuaders. 8.25 Please sir. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'It'. Weather.

ULSTER: 1.45 Racing from Kempton Park. 3.40 Sounds of... 4.00 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Viewfinder. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 Jason King. 8.30 Shut that door.

9.00 London. 10.50 Short story. 11.20 Saint.

YORKSHIRE: 1.45 Jake's scene. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.25 London. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Comedians. 7.30 Shut that door. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'Topkapi'. 1.00 Weather.

GRANADA: 1.15 Common Market cook book. 1.45 Racing from Kempton Park. 3.40 University challenge. 4.10 News. Happy house. 4.20 Skippy. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 OK. 6.30 Preston Guild. 6.50 Sylvester. 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Protectors. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'Pink String and Sealing Wax'.

TYNE TEES: 1.45 Yoga. 2.15 Bellbird. 2.25 London. 4.09 News. 4.10 Make a wish. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Smith family. 6.35 Cross-

roads. 7.00 Comedians. 7.30 Shut that door. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'Tea and Sympathy'. 12.55 News. 1.10 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 1.45-3.20 Racing from Kempton Park. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Women today. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Cartoon cavalcade. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Love American style. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 Saint. 8.30 London. 10.50 Festival. 11.20 Late call. 11.25 Name of the game.

GRAMPIAN: 2.00 Yoga. 2.25 London. 3.40 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Rumble jumble. 4.50 London. 6.00 News and weather. 6.05 Mr and Mrs. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Jimmy Stewart. 7.30 Cartoon time. 7.35 Jesse James. 8.05 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 10.50 Hogan's heroes. 11.20 Job look. 11.25 Film: 'Dracula'.

Register rebels reprieved?

BY DAVID MAUDE

UNIONS who have broken ranks with the TUC and registered under the Industrial Relations Act will be in no danger of expulsion until September 1973 if the TUC General Council has its way.

A pre-Congress Council meeting yesterday approved a recommendation that delegates from the 34 unions suspended for registration will be allowed to participate and vote in a special debate on Monday afternoon.

If the vote is in favour of the recommendations, the 34 unions will have to withdraw from Congress, but a decision on their suspension will be postponed to 1973.

Up to December 31, 1972, the General Council will have the power to remove the suspension of any union which comes off the register. After that unions would remain suspended even if they did come off.

Unions who want tougher action against those who have defied the policy decided at two Congresses last year will be meeting today to decide their policy in Monday's debate.

Scottish dockers go back

A THREE-DAY strike by dockers at three east Scottish ports ended yesterday when mass meetings of men at Leith, Dundee and Aberdeen voted to return to work.

A formula hammered out at talks in Edinburgh between unions and employers' representatives was accepted at mass meetings.

The strike began after dockers refused to handle cargo on two vessels—the 'Fastnet' at Leith, and the 'Paris' at Dundee—claiming that they had attempted to use two non-registered ports during the official dock strike.

The formula agreed at the talks in Edinburgh is that the two ships will not be worked until Tuesday, when their cargoes will be moved.

Porn-on-Thames

LORD LONGFORD, the anti-pornography campaigner, was among 200-300 supporters of the ultra-reactionary Festival of Light, many of them children, who sailed down the Thames yesterday in a bid to recreate the 'Dunkirk spirit'.

A leaflet distributed by the organizers urged onlookers to pray for 'another "miracle of deliverance" such as had been seen, it said, at Dunkirk 30 years ago.

'With violence, crime, venereal disease and divorce statistics constantly rising' it is high time we got down on our knees and asked God for another miracle on our land.'

The leaflet said nothing about rising prices, rents or unemployment. But then neither Lord Longford nor the other participants looked the sort who had any worry about mundane questions like that.

Lord Longford has spent the last three years trying to win 1000 murderers Myra Hindley and Ian Brady for Christ. Lord Longford is 66.

Coventry site stops after Picket run down by car

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

THE WOODBURN site in Coventry—where a picket was run down by a scab in a car on Wednesday—was finally closed yesterday morning. Workers employed by Quinn, the second main contractor on site, came out on strike following a picket by about 80 men—including 60 corporation builders who struck in sympathy to close the site.

On Wednesday, UCATT picket Harban Singh injured his leg when knocked over by a car trying to break through the line. He had to be taken to hospital by ambulance.

This incident occurred after scabs had openly threatened to run down pickets and two other cars had rushed the line.

In contrast, the picket itself had been entirely peaceful. Anyone seriously intent on crossing the picket line had only to ride across some rough ground. The car, nevertheless, swerved at high speed through the pickets on the main gate, without even sounding its horn.

Charlie McIvor, chairman of Coventry shop stewards action committee, was standing near to Harban Singh when he was struck down.

'We were picketing when I, as a representative of the committee, hailed the car down. I only just managed to jump out of the way in time. I shouted to the police constable 25 yards down the road, that this car had knocked down a picket.'

'The police officer hailed the car down, but it refused to stop until after a 400 yard chase. It appears that the driver was a sub contractor off the site.'

The incident, which incensed all the pickets, has strengthened their determination to pull out more sites in the district.

Tom McGinness describes his fellow pickets' reaction:

'We were determined that nobody else was going to get through. They would have had to have run us all down. All we wanted to do was to put our point to them and ask for their backing.'

In fact men still working the Woodburn site were themselves visibly shaken by the incident. Earlier in the morning pickets had already pulled one man out, and dissuaded some electricians and a Gas Board van from crossing the line.

The combination of these circumstances led to the announcement by the main contractor on the site—Hartwood Ltd—that work would end at the end of the day.

Eddie Donaghue of the Coventry shop stewards action committee, compared the justice of the builders' claim with the vicious reaction of the scabs.

'We stopped them mainly to ask for their support for our claim for a decent basic rate. As we stand now, there is no building society in the country that would even think of giving us a loan for a decent house on our basic rate.'

'We build the houses, but they are for others to live in. No building worker can afford them.'

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

Leicester falls in line

LEICESTER Labourites yesterday led a delegation to see a Tory Home Office minister in London saying they did not want any Ugandan Asians to come to the city.

The controlling Labour group, led by Alderman Edward Marston, have been quick to fall into line with the hysterical Tory press campaign.

Said Marston after the meeting: 'If any more come it will be a great handicap to those already living in Leicester. We already have about 30,000 coloured people.'

Marston is too quick to isolate the coloured community when there is in fact a total population in the city of some 275,000 people. See p. 3.



Harban Singh, the injured picket (seated on pavement) waiting to go to hospital in an ambulance

Boilermakers reject deal

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

CLYDESIDE boilermakers staged a dramatic revolt yesterday and threw out the latest draft agreement for establishing Govan Shipbuilders.

The shock decision was taken against the advice of the shop stewards co-ordinating committee and their local union executive at a mass meeting.

The move puts the future of Govan shipbuilders in jeopardy. The company has warned all unions that if they do not sign the agreement by 3 p.m. today there will be no government money and no Govan Shipbuilders.

The rank-and-file boilermakers want to negotiate a wage similar to the £1 an hour paid by Marathon Manufacturing at the Clydebank yard.

The company is insisting that the deal must be signed first before negotiations can start.

At yesterday's meeting, boilermakers' delegate Jimmy Ramsey said the firm had indicated that talks on a new pay deal could start immediately the ink was dry on the agreement.

But this was not enough for the militant boilermakers. A show of hands for the recommendation revealed a substantial majority against. In a bid to recover the position officials held a ballot, but the deal was still rejected by 540 votes to 560.

This is also a considerable

blow to the Stalinist-led shop stewards' co-ordinating committee. Sammy Barr, a leading Communist Party shop steward and boilermakers' convenor put the case for accepting the deal at the meeting.

He repeated the old Stalinist argument—used to justify every one of the many retreats at UCS

THE GOVERNMENT was accused yesterday of squandering millions on lame duck shipyards instead of modernizing the shipbuilding industry.

The all-party Public Accounts Committee says that much of the £40.8m handed over between 1967 and 1971 was used by firms to avoid bankruptcies and losses.

Of the £35m the Tories have pledged to Govan Shipbuilders on the Upper Clyde, half will be used to compensate for loss making orders.

—that resistance by boilermakers would turn 'public opinion' against them.

Ramsey and the other boilermakers' delegate Willy Dougan also hinted that a refusal to accept might bring the boilermakers' leader Danny McGarvey down to the Clyde once more.

Despite these pleas almost every speaker from the floor came out against signing the deal.

The men are afraid that Govan

Shipbuilders will drag out pay talks to hold back any increase for as long as possible. They point out that there has been a virtual pay freeze at the yard for over 12 months.

The decision was a shock to Govan Shipbuilders. The company thought that its pledge to employ by mid-October all of the 77 boilermakers left in the 'work-in' at the three old UCS divisions of Scotstoun, Govan and Linthouse would be enough to get agreement from the men.

A company spokesman said yesterday that the deadline for signing and the warning still stood.

In a statement released immediately he heard the decision, Archibald Gilchrist, managing director of Govan Shipbuilders said:

'If this is what the boilermakers have agreed, it is very disappointing indeed. But I can hardly think they would refuse to sign on a matter of this kind. It's nothing like so important as the employment situation, which, after much discussion has been resolved.'

'It is not a question of the company refusing retrospective payments, but refusing to guarantee a date from which that payment can be applied before negotiations have even started. It seems common sense that the implementation date of a wage settlement should be part of a negotiation leading to that settlement.'

CIRCULATION

01-622 7029

NEWS DESK

01-720 2000

ALL districts will be dry with sunny spells after the clearance of some mist and fog patches. Temperatures will be near normal for early September in northern England and Scotland, but it will be warm in southern England.