

# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● THURSDAY OCTOBER 5, 1972 ● No 886 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

## COMMON MARKET FRAUD

# WILSON MOVING CLOSER TO TORIES

BY OUR REPORTERS

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The Labour leaders know that there is no possibility whatever of the European capitalists accepting these conditions.

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All the other big unions voted against the engineers' motion.

If the 'left' Jack Jones is against entry in principle, why did he refuse to block the double-talk in the NEC statement?

In failing to oppose the NEC, Jones violated his own union's anti-Market policy and that of millions of trade unionists who want nothing to do with this capitalist pact, which means only higher prices and more unemployment.

'Left' MP Michael Foot also assisted in the Wilson victory. Foot also backed the AUEW resolution, but referred to the NEC statement simply as 'confusing'.

He did not call for outright rejection of the statement.

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tively treacherous. It allows Wilson to continue his manoeuvres on the Market, which he secretly supports.

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● In tomorrow's Workers Press: The great Common Market fix. We reveal the backstage deals which lay behind yesterday's voting.

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Paddy Mullane, maintenance steward, said in a personal statement that he wholeheartedly supported preparations to occupy.

'We should leave no stone unturned to keep the site open, but the big question is a political one. If we succeed and stop the closure here, it has to be part of the fight for the right to work which can only be carried through by a fight to bring down the Tories and get a Labour government to carry out socialist policies with the same determination with which this government carries out Tory policies.'



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The national executive committee statement opposing entry on the present terms was formally moved by Party chairman Anthony Wedgwood Benn.

Moving the unsuccessful engineers' union motion, John Baldwin said: 'We intend to have a Labour government during the transitional period of membership which will carry with it a mandate to withdraw from the Treaty of Rome.'

● Shouts of 'coward', p.3.

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Our Fund is vital for the production of Workers Press. Help us, therefore, make for a good start this month. We know you will raise everything you can. Post all donations immediately to:  
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London SW4 7UG.

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# 17½ per cent of world's silver used on clouds US spends millions on 'unknown' rain weapon

SPECIAL REPORT BY JOHN SPENCER

**AMERICAN forces have dropped \$95m worth of rain-inducing silver iodide canisters into clouds over the Ho Chi Minh trail in Indo-China, says Montreal meteorologist Bernard Power.**

Power (53), president of the Weather Engineering Corporation of America, is suing the US government for £39.5m for using 'Weathercord'—a cloud-seeding device he invented ten years ago.

Patented in the US and Canada the system explodes 3lb canisters of silver iodide crystals dropped from planes.

If Power's figures are correct, this means that the US has dropped some 2.5 million lbs of the precious metal into monsoon clouds over Vietnam and Laos.

This is roughly 17 per cent of annual silver production at present levels and would cost some £25m at current prices. The silver is not recoverable once it is released over the clouds because the resulting rain distributes it over a wide area.

There is a world shortage of silver which is growing more acute and forcing up prices. Consumption is running at a level well above production. The capitalist world's output of new silver in 1969 was under 17.3 million lbs.

In the same period, a total of over 27 million ounces was consumed, much of it in applications where recovery is low.

The photographic industry, for instance takes 30 per cent of world production.

Not only is the US rain-making programme extremely costly and a flagrant waste of a scarce natural resource, it is also highly dangerous. When the cloud-seeding policy was first revealed earlier this year, Dr Matthew Meselson of Harvard University told the magazine 'Science':

'It is obvious that weather modification used as a weapon of war has the potential for causing large-scale and quite possibly uncontrollable and unpredictable destruction. Furthermore such destruction might well have a far greater impact on civilians than on combatants.'

'This would be especially true in areas where subsistence agriculture is practiced, in food-deficit areas and in areas subject to flooding.'

As is well-known, much of Indo-China falls into all three categories.

Last year the prestigious National Academy of Sciences urged the Nixon administration to sponsor a resolution at the United Nations 'dedicating all weather-modification efforts to peaceful purposes and establishing . . . an advisory mechanism for consideration of weather-modification problems of international concern.'

The US military cloud-seeding programme began in 1963 and was secret until July this year when the 'New York Times' revealed details of the programme.

It began when the technique of rain-seeding, first developed by meteorologists, was in its very early days. Even now almost

nothing is known of the long-term effects of tampering with the weather, particularly on the scale that is being undertaken in Indo-China.

Rain-making was first used in Vietnam, according to the 'New York Times', in August 1963 when Buddhist demonstrators were active against president Ngo Dinh Diem. A former CIA agent told the paper: 'They would just stand around during demonstrations when the police threw teargas at them.'

'But we noticed that when the rains came they wouldn't stay on. The Agency got an Air America Beechcraft and had it rigged up with silver iodide. There was another demonstration and we seeded the area. It rained.'

Ironically, only three months later the CIA was instrumental in organizing the assassination of Diem by a group of army generals. But the cloud-seeding programme was born.

From these small beginnings rain-making has become a major industry for the US air force. Four planes operating out of a top-secret section of the Udorn airbase in Thailand are assigned full-time to the job.

The purpose of the American rain-making over Indo-China is primarily to hinder movement of North Vietnamese troops and equipment and suppress anti-aircraft fire. These aims are achieved by muddying roads and flooding lines of communication.

As an added refinement, the US has developed a method for treating clouds with a chemical that eventually produces an acidic rainfall capable of fouling the operation of North Vietnamese radar equipment used for directing surface-to-air missiles.

Other objectives of the programme are to provide rain and cloud cover for infiltration of South Vietnamese commando and intelligence teams into North Vietnam; to serve as a 'spoiler' for attacks by the liberation forces and to tailor the pattern of clouds and rainfall to assist US bombing missions.

One of the main effects of the programme was to lengthen the duration of the south-west monsoon which covers North Vietnam and Laos from May to early October. By lengthening the rainy season the air force had the opportunity of creating more rainstorms.

Even after ten years, the Pentagon is still almost as ignorant of the long-term effects of cloud-seeding as it was when it started. Its Advanced Research Projects Agency is sponsoring research to determine how much tinkering with the atmosphere is required to disturb the climate on a global scale.

## What we think

## Press pleased with Wilson

THE CENTRAL question facing the labour movement is the need for a campaign to force the Tory government to resign. This has not been forthcoming from the Labour Party conference.

The Tory press is in broad agreement that Tuesday's speech by Harold Wilson presented no threat at all to the Tories. The 'Financial Times' assessed Wilson's plan as 'not unrealistic'.

The 'Daily Mail' declared: 'Mr Wilson was careful not to reject the [Heath] £2-a-week plan out of hand. He knows there is no alternative to something along these lines . . . all the socialist leader could do was to point to some of the loose ends.'

And 'The Times' said: 'The criticisms that Mr Wilson had to make of Mr Heath's proposals lacked the conviction which can be commanded only by someone who knows what he would do in the Prime Minister's place. That said, it should be acknowledged that the criticism was neither obstructive nor wholly negative.'

**The Labour leader, indeed, presented no policy at all for socialism. There is no advance from the political bankruptcy which allowed the Tories to take office in 1970. That bankruptcy opened the door for the Tory attacks on workers' living standards which are now in full flow. And workers fighting these attacks are being rejected by the Labour leaders at Blackpool.**

Tenants and those Labour councillors who are fighting this week's rent rises would have been given no protection

whatever if the NEC had had its way. And—a few days after the building workers' strike—the NEC sought to delete the building industry and finance houses from a nationalization resolution.

In both cases prominent 'lefts'—Frank Allaun and Ian Mikardo—were pushed forward to argue the executive's case. While the right gets a completely free hand on the Common Market, these gentlemen of the 'left' allow themselves to be compromised rather than engage in a principled public battle with the NEC and fight for re-election in opposition to Wilson and the right wing.

The defeat of the leadership on the questions of the rent rebels (by a 4-1 majority) and nationalization was a victory for the rank and file of the Labour Party and the trade unions.

Left wing delegates are also attacking the executive because they say it has suppressed a resolution demanding that MPs who act in opposition to Party decisions should be made to resign and should not be re-endorsed. But this, important as it is, is not the main question.

**Without a campaign to force the Tories to resign, all the discussion at Blackpool is meaningless. Resolutions on nationalization, rents and the Common Market are empty words unless a Labour government pledged to carry them out is put into office.**

Tenants facing rent rises, workers facing wage restriction and unemployment, housewives facing ever-mounting costs, want action as well as words.

## No EEC renegotiation once we're in—Heath

**TORY PREMIER Edward Heath, in Italy for talks with premier Giulio Andreotti, has said that no future British government will be able to renegotiate the treaty of accession to the Common Market.**

His position was echoed by Dr Sicco Mansholt, president of the European Commission, who said there was no question of Britain renegotiating the entry treaty at some future date:

'If she wants to negotiate a new treaty, it has to be signed by all nine [member countries]. She won't get it.'

Heath's visit comes just a week before the opening of the EEC summit in Paris and the two leaders spent most of their time discussing the issues which are likely to be raised at that meeting.

Heath's declaration about the permanency of British accession is intended to reassure the other Common Market leaders over any fears they may have that a Labour government might pull Britain out of the Market.

In view of Harold Wilson's position adopted at the Blackpool Labour Party conference, however, their fears of action by the Labour leaders are entirely unjustified.

The permanency of British entry is a key element in the political integration of which Heath spoke during his visit. It is a declaration of willingness by the British employers to subordinate their own national interests to those of the European monopolies as a whole.

Declarations come cheap, however, and they cannot cover over the deep-going divisions within the EEC created by the international economic crisis. These divisions almost caused

French President Pompidou to call off the summit this summer.

Heath said after his talks with Andreotti that both had agreed on the need to fight inflation—meaning, of course, that both are pledged to fight against higher wages and attack workers' living standards.

This is likely to be a key issue at the summit next week, when financial and monetary questions will also be high on the agenda.

Heath and Andreotti also discussed the proposed European Security Conference which is being promoted by the Soviet Union and other East European countries as a means of ratifying the *status quo* in Europe.

## Greek colonels to have China embassy

THE GREEK colonels will open an embassy in Peking before the end of the year.

The agreement establishing diplomatic relations between Greece and China was signed in Albania in June.

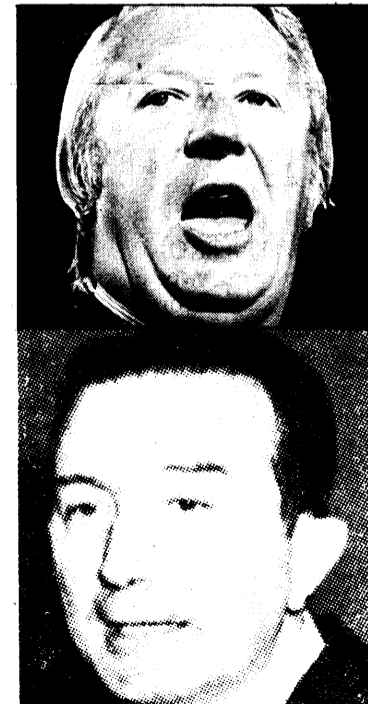
Mao's diplomats had more success on Tuesday in their courting of the most anti-working-class regimes which keep their own Maoists firmly in jail.

At the United Nations, Spanish Foreign Minister Lopez Bravo

and his wife attended a reception given by the Peking government on an official invitation.

This was first official contact between Franco's regime and China which do not yet enjoy diplomatic relations. Chief host for Lopez Bravo was Chia Kuanhua, the Chinese vice-minister for Foreign Affairs.

Who will be next on the road to Peking? Tory Foreign Minister Douglas-Home will lead a British delegation to China on an official visit from October 29 to November 2.



Andreotti

# IN AND OUT



# OF LABOUR'S CONFERENCE

By ALEX MITCHELL in Blackpool

## Marketeers get rough ride: Shouts of 'coward'

DELEGATES gave a rough ride to Labour's open pro-Common Market faction in yesterday's debate.

Jack Peel, right-wing general secretary of the Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers, who lost his seat on the TUC General Council recently, told the delegates above considerable noise: 'The NEC statement gives us a basis for unity.'

'With it we can win. Without it, we shall be isolated from Europe and from power in this country for a generation.'

Peel said that there was a substantial minority in the party in favour of the Market.

'One third of the Parliamentary Labour Party are pro-Marketeers.'

This was greeted with shouts of 'traitors' and 'shame'.

He said that they would not win the next General Election merely by making full-blooded socialist speeches.

'We have to persuade the country we are fit to govern. To be fit to govern we have to persuade the country we have constructive alternative policies. We have to be consistent in our behaviour.'

Peel added against loud shouts: 'We were in favour of entry on principle five years ago. Last year we stood out against the terms. Now we are proposing to go back on the principle. What platform is that for Harold Wilson at the next election? It is a sure ticket for defeat.'

There were shouts of 'rubbish'.

Ron Leighton, prospec-

tive parliamentary candidate for Horsham, said a clear conference decision was required. The terms and the treaty were unacceptable.

Anti-Market MP Peter Shore said that despite pressures and persuasion 'the British people have remained resolutely opposed to the whole proposition.'

'We have won the argument in the country and, I believe too, we have really won the argument in the Party as a whole.'

He urged: 'We have to mobilize the country in an election and fight to stop the whole wretched process of surrender.'

There were cries of 'coward' when chairman Anthony Wedgwood Benn announced that Roy Jenkins had indicated that he did not wish to speak in the debate.

Benn had earlier said that pro-Market leader Jenkins had been among MPs who wanted to speak.

Another pro-Marketeer, Willie Hamilton, MP for West Fife, was booed and hissed during his speech.

He said: 'I was totally convinced and remain convinced by the arguments put forward by Harold Wilson in 1967 and, there-

after, by every member of the Labour Cabinet between 1967 and 1970, including Mr Peter Shore, and including Mr Benn.'

Against a background of applause and groans, Hamilton said: 'The Labour Party's record is not a credible one.'

Michael Foot, the newly-elected member of the national executive, said:

'The worst aspect of the whole Common Market affair is that the British people are being driven into the Market by Heath and his government without consultation, without their consent and as far as all the indications show, against their will.'

'Indeed the case is even worse than that. Words were used by Heath at the last General Election for the deliberate purpose, the sole purpose you might

**BILLBOARD for local Blackpool newspaper outside the Conference hall:**

**'Complete Entertainment Guide WILSON'S PLAN TO END INFLATION.'**

almost say, of excluding the Common Market issue from the General Election.'

Foot said of the pro-Marketeers in the party:

'I respect their views. I would not be any party to stifling the rights of minorities to speak.'

This was applauded enthusiastically and Foot added:

'I have never said Roy Jenkins or anyone else should be called upon to recant their views. But now face this situation and let the pro-Marketeers face it. What happens to that doctrine after January 1, because Heath is saying to all of us who are against entry: "You have to recant your views after January 1."

'Don't let anyone imagine that the fight about the Common Market is over on January 1. Of course not. That is the time the British people are going to start paying—in food prices, in the Common Agricultural policy, they will have to start paying to the economic and monetary union.'

Foot added: 'Heath says that you have no right to settle the question of British entry. He has slammed the door in your face. But we in the labour movement are going to open that door because we say that the whole issue of the democracy in this country is at stake.'

'If the British people are not allowed to settle this issue then we would have destroyed democracy.'

Foot was given a standing ovation.

## New left in NUM

SINCE the miners' strike a group of right-wing Labourites in the union have been drawing up plans on how to stop the influence of communists.

One of the attacks they are directing is against the right of Communist Party members to attend Labour conferences and participate in decision making on their delegation.

At present these CP members sit in the public gallery throughout conference and join in frequent discussions with the Labourites to frame policy on which way to vote. Now the right wing want to end this.

They want the CPers out of the hall and the conference altogether.



Gormley: Agreement with Rumania on economy.

MEANWHILE Joe Gormley the miners' leader is basking in the reflected glory of the smashing of the Tory pay norm. In private conversation Gormley projects himself as the architect of the fight. This will come as a great surprise to thousands of miners who watched Gormley throughout the strike plead with the Tories for a settlement at almost any price.

And to show how really left he is, Gormley is telling the story of his recent visit to Rumania. He got very upset he says when he was introduced as being a leading right winger.

He began a discussion on economics with the Rumanian leader who, you will remember, has just taken his country into the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Rumania thus becomes the first East European country to enter these citadels of capitalist power.

When they completed their discussion, Gormley says they found they were in complete and total understanding on the subject of economic management. 'So how can I be a right winger?' Gormley asks.

**PAUL CALLAN** editor of the 'Daily Mail's' gossip column: 'Don't call me a reactionary. I'll have you know I started the first communist society at Eton.'

## Rough and tumble

GLOVES are off for a rough-and-tumble by-election in Lincoln. During the conference's secret session Dick Taverne, QC, MP, did not appeal against his dismissal as a Labour candidate at the next election, but later he made it known that he is going to resign the seat shortly and fight the by-election as an independent.

Roy Jenkins and his colleagues have indicated they may campaign for Taverne against the official Labour man.

The Tory press has been primed to aid Taverne. 'The Reds have taken over Lincoln', one political correspondent told us this week.

Which gives us a glimpse of the sort of treatment the by-election will get in the press.

Already local Party agent Pat Mulligan has issued a writ against Nora Beloff of the 'Observer' over one of her articles.

## (Not) a bad bloke Benn woos the unions

THIS YEAR'S Party chairman Anthony Wedgwood Benn, has been conspicuous in his attempts to woo trade unionists' support.

At every reception Benn and his wife have been engaging in 'participatory democracy' by holding

earnest talks with the rank and file.

At the Union of Post Office Workers-Post Office Engineering Union reception he held forth for an hour with a group of grim-faced postmen. When he left their company one of them said hesitantly: 'He

doesn't seem like a bad bloke does he?'

His companion commented on the former Technology Minister: 'You must be joking, he cost us more jobs than I can think of.'

You can fool some of the people some of the time...

## Levy to aid Triumph strikers

A 2,000-STRONG mass meeting of workers at the Triumph factory, Meriden, Coventry, has voted to raise financial support for the 66 sales and service department workers who struck work on Monday.

Clerical and manual workers struck over the Triumph board of directors' decision to transfer the whole department to Birmingham by the beginning of December.

Yesterday's meeting agreed to pay a 50p-a-week levy throughout the factory.

Engineers' convenor John McLoughlin told the meeting: 'These are 66 trade unionists whose basic rights—their right to work—we are defending. I believe it is imperative that we take up the fight. When the whiz

kids get going we don't know whose turn it will be next!'

A black has been imposed from the rest of the factory on production going into and out of the spares department.

The company has set up a new firm called International Triumph BSA Spares. This company, says Triumph, is part of a reorganization which will allow the company to 'shop about' for spares. In other words the production of spares could well go outside the Triumph motor cycle group.

The move to Birmingham could well mean that more than just the 66 jobs in the spares and service department would be lost. In fact, workers at the factory fear up to one-fifth, about 360, of their jobs could be affected.

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# SECRETS REPORT THREATENS WORKING- CLASS PRESS

BY DAVID MAUDE

One of the most vehement opponents of last week's inquiry report on Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act was Baron Wigg of Dudley, security bloodhound for Harold Wilson until he was promoted to the Lords and the Horserace Betting Levy Board in November 1967.

Lord Wigg (71), once plain George Edward Cecil Wigg, attacked Lord Franks and the 12-man inquiry team which prepared the report as 'a crowd of bloody amateurs'.

He ranted: 'If the government does what Franks says, the beacons will be going up in the Kremlin. It might have the effect of weakening our security and at the same time imperilling our freedom.'

Lord Wigg appears to be having it both ways here. He wants to suggest that spies would find it easier to get government secrets under the Franks proposals, while at one and the same time implying it would make the circulation of information more difficult.

But Wigg's comment is typical of the hysterical, Red scare atmosphere generated in several sections of the mass media around the report.

In some cases the language used was reminiscent of extreme right-wing Tory MP Enoch Powell, whose amazing and quite unsubstantiated allegations of Civil Service concealment of the 'real facts' about immigration hit the headlines during the last General Election campaign.

## MIDDLE CLASS BACKING

The reason for this atmosphere today is as obvious as that for the splash coverage given to Powell in June 1970.

The British ruling class desperately needs backing from the middle class for its bid to destroy living standards and the organizations of the working class prior to Common Market entry.

Its media men must therefore seize on every opportunity to whip the middle class in behind the Tory government and the politics of 'the nation'.

This, then, is the first point

about the Franks report: it should not and cannot be separated from the general development of the class struggle in Britain today.

But to say this in no way implies acceptance of the picture Wigg's comment conjures up, of a set of wishy-washy liberal proposals which might in some way lift the veil of secrecy from the workings of capitalist government. Quite the opposite.

The second, and most important point about the report is that if implemented it will in fact strengthen government powers to withhold information and clamp down on the working-class press.

Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, 1911, relates to any person having in his possession, among other things, any note, document or information which has been obtained in contravention of the Act or which has been entrusted to him as a person holding office under the Crown.

It provides that he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour if he communicates it to anyone other than those he is authorized to communicate it to.

The committee of inquiry found the section 'a mess', obscuring the important distinction between espionage and the mere leakage of information.

It said this should be replaced by a new Act, known as the Official Information Act, which would penalize those who leaked information causing 'serious injury to the interests of the nation'. The remaining sections of the Official Secrets Act could then appropriately be renamed the Espionage Act.

Under the new Act, those liable for prosecution would include government Ministers, civil servants, members of the armed forces, the Atomic Energy Authority and the Post Office.

People serving under them or employed by them would also be liable. So would retired employees and members of the legal profession acting for the Crown or the police in bringing prosecutions.

The types of information the proposed new Act would cover would be:

- Classified information about defence, internal security, foreign relations, the currency or the reserves.
- Information likely to assist criminal activities, or impede law enforcement.
- Cabinet documents.
- Information which has been



entrusted to the government by a private individual or concern.

Penalties would include two years' imprisonment or an unlimited fine, or both, for conviction on indictment. On a summary conviction the penalties are six months or a £400 fine.

## SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL

The suggested provisions would open the way to a wide-ranging reclassification of information and a much more tightly drafted set of provisions for deciding when offences had been committed.

The reclassifications—into 'top secret', 'secret' and 'confidential'—would form the basis of prosecution. It would be undertaken by the government through the Ministers or civil servants concerned.

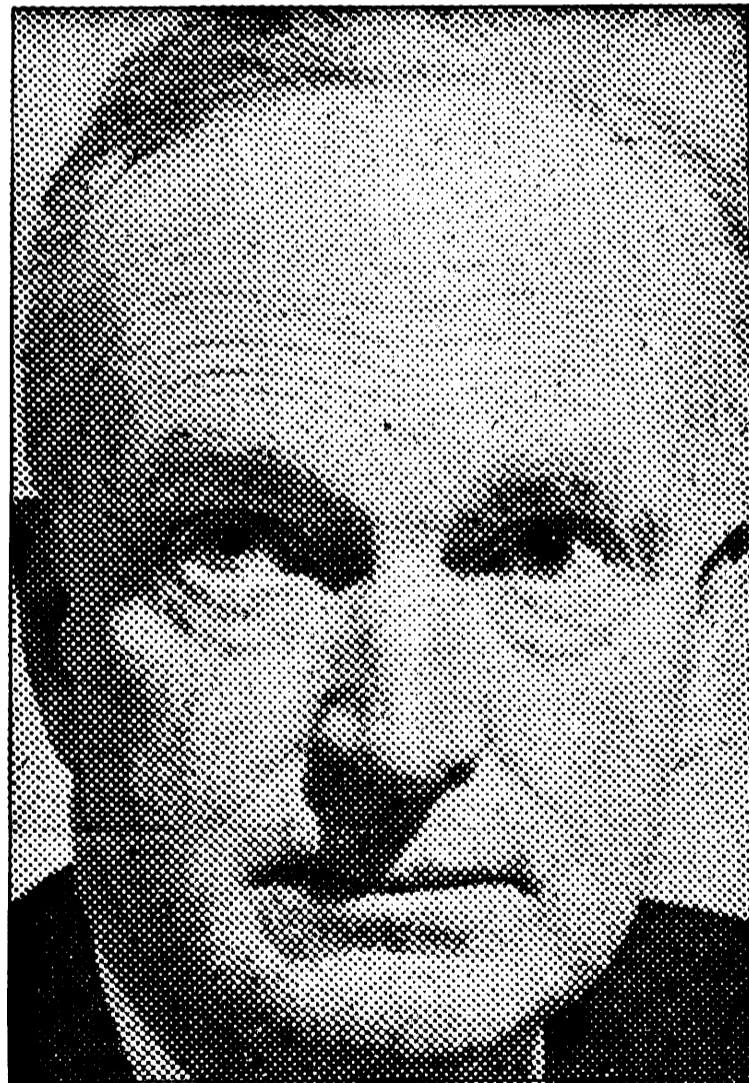
Wide powers would thus be handed to the government of the day to suppress relatively inconsequential, but embarrassing information as 'secret'.

And a clear result of the tighter drafting was clearly expressed last Sunday by Brian Roberts, editor of the 'Sunday Telegraph'.

Admitted Roberts: 'It might well result in more secrecy than at present, where an editor may take a slight and ill-defined risk under Section 2 and "publish and be damned".'

If this is the fear of the high Tory 'Sunday Telegraph', the threat of prosecution of the working-class press must be infinitely increased.

The Franks report in fact rejects the idea that it should be a defence to a charge under the proposed legislation that the disclosure in question was



Top: Lord Wigg who called Lord Franks and his 12-man inquiry team 'a crowd of bloody amateurs'.

made in good faith and in the public interest. It does so on the grounds that contentious political issues cannot be left to a jury, and that in rebutting such a defence the prosecution might itself have to disclose secrets.

What is more, the report proposes to leave a political appointee, the Attorney-General, whether or not proceedings are taken.

Unlike Wigg, the two Labour MPs who sat on the inquiry (Merlyn Rees and Brian Walden) and the TUC leaders who gave evidence to it, Marxists do not accept the right of the capitalist state to conduct its anti-working class business in private.

Neither do they accept its right to intimidate, imprison or fine those who seek to bring to light the clandestine workings of government.

# CP BOOST FOR RIGHT WING ITALIAN PREMIER

BY OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

**President Andreotti's Italian government allows the fascist movement to organize military training camps for its youth movement.**

The police force is otherwise engaged in rounding up left-wing militants with the legal backing of 'anti-subversion' section of laws drawn up by Mussolini.

Meanwhile the Italy Communist Party strives to give this reactionary government every possible support in its efforts to bring advanced democracy to Italy.

On September 16, Andreotti visited the town of Sesto to present the citizens with a gold medal for their heroic partisan struggle against the fascists during World War II. The Italian Stalinists were in the vanguard to welcome his tribute and to prevent any opposition to the fraudulent ceremony.

## SUPPORTED

On the eve of the presidential visit, the walls of Sesto were covered with posters signed by the CP and the trade unions under their control.

They called on all citizens to make sure that the event 'was not disturbed by initiatives which favour provocations and manoeuvres harmful to the cause of anti-fascism and democracy'.

They added: 'No opening must be allowed for groups which have as their objective the division of anti-fascist unity...'

The CP was readily supported by that respectable body of citizens—the Sesto police. They refused to allow Maoists and the centrist Lotta Continua to organize a demonstration to the square where the gold medal was to be handed over.

The road from Milan to Sesto was lined with armed police with machine guns and Sesto itself was thronged with police and plainclothes men on the day of the visit.

## RED

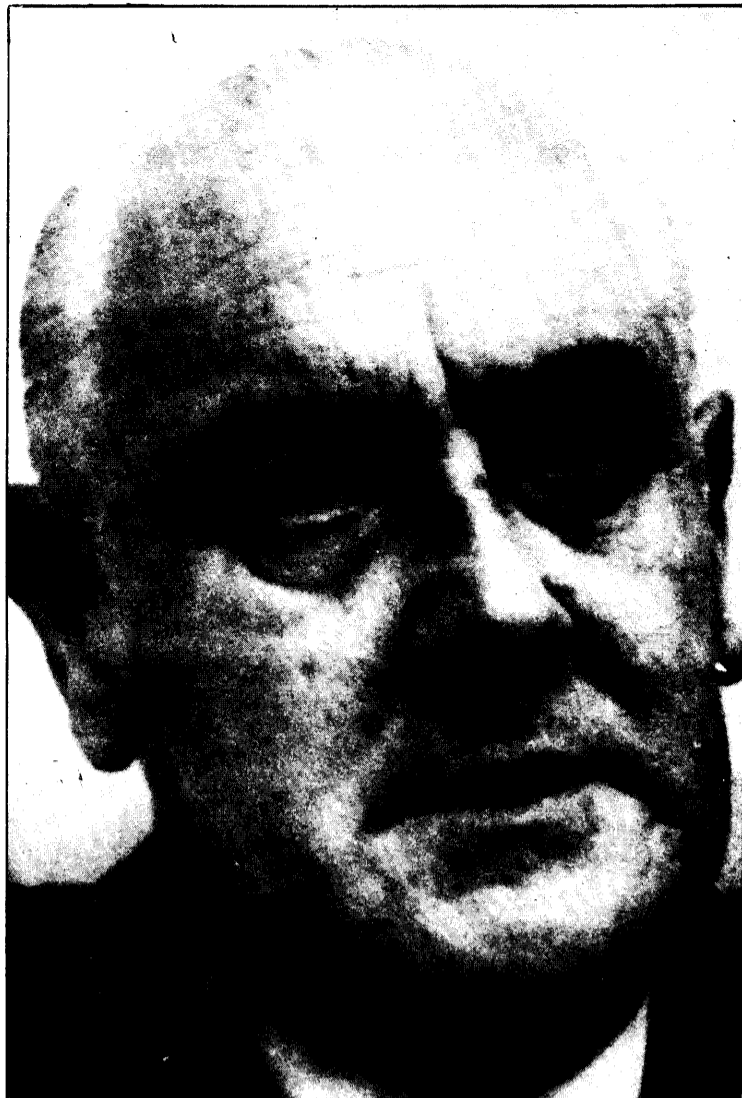
When Andreotti arrived and began his speech in the People's Square, a contingent of workers from the Breda factory began to shout: 'The resistance is red, not Christian Democratic.'

The police attacked the demonstrators — including youth and students—arresting several workers who were driven off in police vans. The police were supported by Communist Party stewards sporting red arm bands.

Their combined efforts were not enough to silence the workers' anger at the hypocritical praise for the partisans from a President whose power rests on the votes of the fascist Italian Social Movement.



Top: President Andreotti, using laws drawn up by Mussolini (above).



# ARGENTINA REVISIONISTS PRESSURE LANUSSE

**The Revolutionary Workers' Party (PRT) of Argentina has joined with Juan Coral's Socialist Party (PSA) in a summer campaign of 'left' pressure on General Lanusse's military government.**

The two parties have demanded that the military 'retire' from power!

The PRT is backed by the Pabloite revisionist Socialist Workers' Party in the United States, which made this grandiose claim for the PRT's partner in a recent issue of the weekly 'Militant':

'The PSA has called upon all working-class organizations to refuse to participate in the conferences organized by the military dictatorship and to oppose all blocs with any sector of the capitalist class.'

In fact, in the build-up to the forthcoming elections, a PRT-PSA delegation visited the Co-ordinating Committee of the Political Plan of the military dictatorship to present its revolutionary document: 'They must go'.

The document, which is entirely aimed at the military bourgeois parties and the Peronist bureaucracy of the CGT (union federation) calls on the military to 'retire from the exercise of power!'

If the military were kind enough to absent themselves, the PSA-PRT wants a 'pact of guarantees for the working class, the people and the nation, supported by all parties which are for the working class, the people and national liberation'.

This pact will call for a broad, democratic, coalition government in a constituent assembly which will open the

way up for socialism.

Such an approach to the generals merely gives their election a left tinge. This much is clear from the PSA-PRT conception of the 'historical failure' of the armed forces in Argentina.

'The failure of the Argentinian revolution is a new example of its historic impotence in bringing progress to the people and the country, whether with parliamentary democratic or dictatorial forms.'

Perhaps the PSA-PRT has in mind progress through Peron's 'humane' dictatorship, or more currently, the 'progressive' dictatorship of the Peruvian general, Juan Velasco?

Despite this 'historic failure' and despite the imprisonment, torture and murder of trade unionists and students, the Pabloite/social democratic alliance believes:

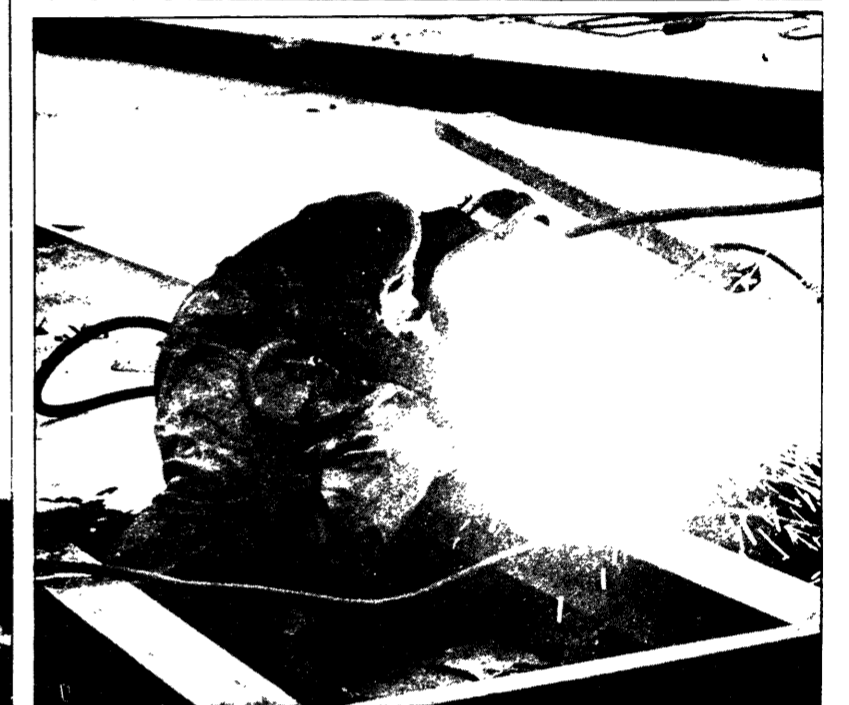
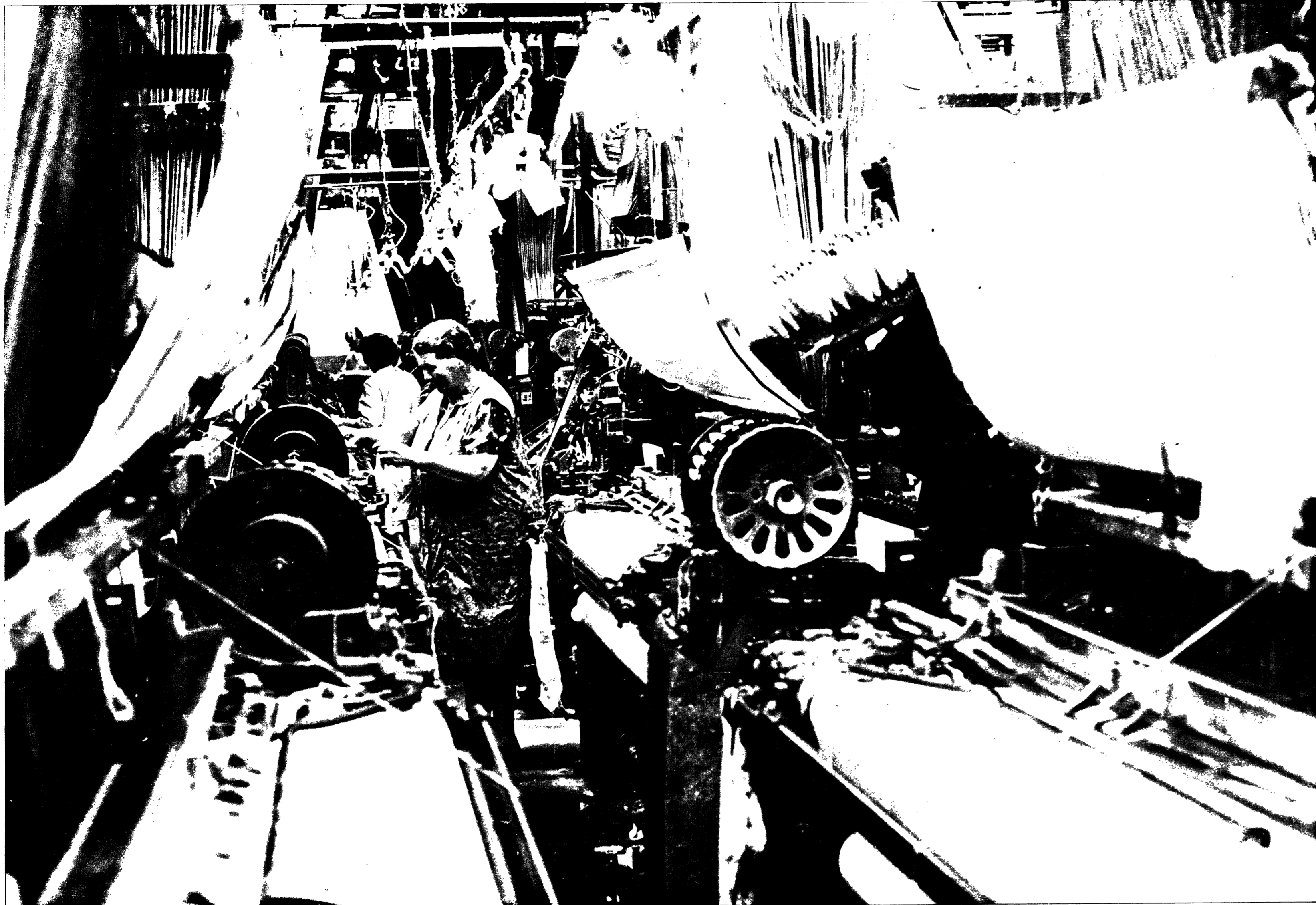
'It is evident that since General Lanusse came to power there has been a change in the national situation, with the tardy, imperfect opening up of a process leading to political legality.' (Emphasis in original.)

Consequently, 'unlike the other parties, we do not question the reforms which the armed forces wish to introduce in the 1853 Constitution...' ('Avanzada Socialista', No. 26. Paper of the PSA.)

Petty-bourgeois opportunism, veering from adventurism to reformism, is the hallmark of the Pabloites in Argentina. The SWP backs the PRT of Moreno. The European Pabloites support the Revolutionary People's Army (ERP).

The ERP's futile shoot-outs with the army are the other side of the PRT-PSA's praise for Lanusse's legality.

Both are tailor-made to disorientate the militant working class in Argentina.



Left: weaving mill in Belfast. Top: dole queue in Derry. Above: welder in Belfast shipyard. Below: boarded shops, Newry.



# DERRY DOOMED IF SHIRT FACTORIES CLOSE

BY IAN YEATS

The challenge of cheap imported shirts is kicking the props from under the last major industry in the towns outside Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Isolated 80 miles north west of Ulster's capital, Londonderry, with unemployment already running at 20 per cent, will be worst hit.

With Iceland to the north, the wilds of County Donegal to the west and a two-hour drive to the nearest easterly centre of industry, Derry is not every businessman's first choice.

Generous bait has been laid out by the Derry Development

Commission including grants of up to 40 per cent for machinery, equipment and building, tax allowance, free depreciation, loans, factories at low rents, and training grants of up to £15 a week per man.

The Maydown industrial estate set up in 1960 on the outskirts of Derry was the earliest and—after the fighting began in 1969—virtually the only fruit of these lavish concessions.

Firms which set up there include Du Pont, the British Oxygen Company and Molins, the tobacco machinery manufacturers.

Although output has increased, the number of workers employed by these firms and at Derry's three other

industrial estates at Pennyburn, Bligh's Lane and Springtown has actually dropped.

The desperation of a situation in which second generation unemployment is now a common feature—fathers and sons—has been recognized by the Tory government. It has announced cash inputs totalling £110m to 'rejuvenate' the area.

Many Derry homes have been kept going by wives and daughters supplementing Social Security payments with their income from work at local shirt factories.

A new bombshell has been dropped into this already disastrous employment situation—two of the largest shirt manufacturers, Tillie and Henderson and Hogg and

Mitchell may have to close. Others are claimed to be under pressure.

This threat to the livelihoods of hundreds of workers is nothing to do with the sectarian violence which has raged for the last three years.

Only two weeks ago the shirt manufacturers' association warned that up to 70 per cent of the home market had been lost to foreign imports.

The threat to jobs in Derry and in other primarily rural towns dependent on the clothing trades springs entirely from the cut-throat competition manufacturers are forced to engage in as their markets contract under the impact of world recession.

Urgent talks between the owners of the factories and

the Ministry of Commerce are going on. But should they fail, up to 1,200 girls will lose their jobs, further deepening the already fathomless poverty in which scores of families live.

A spokesman for the Ulster Office said that if the factories shut the situation would be 'very serious'.

Derry is by no means alone in its plight. Isolated towns like Strabane and Newry, for whom the clothing and textile mills and workshops of the 19th century were their lifeblood, share its predicament.

Most of their problems have been caused by the demise of the linen trade. In the eight years up to 1971 production fell by more than a third.

It was replaced by the synthetic fibre production in

plants owned by the giant world monopolies, like ICI, Courtauld's and Du Pont. But the branch factories they set up to cash in on the availability of cheap and comparatively docile labour employed few people and were centred around Belfast.

The towns and villages of what has become rural Ulster have been left to fend for themselves. It is significant that it is often in these places, with their high and insoluble unemployment, that violence has been fiercest.

The industry Ulster has sticks close to Belfast, a city where half Ulster's 1,527,293 population lives and works and where businessmen find all the services they need conveniently clustered together.

If local markets are not large, at least Belfast has the virtue of being on the coast and therefore closest to the sales possibilities offered by England's industrial north west and Midlands.

In response to sharpening competition output has gone up throughout the troubles—rising from 142 in 1969 on the production index to 157 today. But unemployment has continued to rise.

It now stands at 45,226, or 8.7 per cent, and much of the increased output has come from upped productivity rather than extra employment.

The Ministry of Commerce freely admits that in the last decade and particularly in recent years companies have set up in Ulster because labour

is cheap and they have been able to introduce work practices that are unacceptable to workers elsewhere in Britain.

Production has been further helped by the employers, the government and the trade unions impressing on workers that the already tenuous links between the textile giants and the Six Counties would not be strengthened by strikes.

Last year stoppages were down by a third.

Bulk of the jobs lost directly as a result of the troubles have been in the retail sector, and 2,000 workers have been sacked because of closures.

Since 1969 only ten manufacturers have left Ulster as a direct result of the fighting, with a loss of 621 jobs.

Shootings and bombings

have emptied what were once busy shopping areas and small businesses have been the first to the wall. Shopping multiples, many of them owned outside Ulster, have lasted longer.

Ulster is the Tories' biggest lame duck. And much of its major industry, including Belfast's shipyards, is utterly dependent for its survival on millions of pounds of government aid.

Should the shipyards fail, scores of small engineering factories, already cutting back, would crash with them.

Tory money is propping up the economy of Belfast and much of that of Derry. Aid for the ailing shirt manufacturers will take it the whole hog there too.

The problem is that no

amount of Tory money will pump life into dead markets and sooner or later those who pay the government piper will start calling the tune.

Capitalism is to blame for the problems of poverty and unemployment which have dragged on in Ulster for decades.

The closure of Derry's shirt factories, affecting Catholic and Protestant workers alike, rams home that it is recession and the employers who are the root cause of Ulster's troubles.

This also points the way to the unity of Northern Ireland's working class, without which it is incapable of joining with British workers and striking decisively at the real enemy—the Tory government.

# AFTER THE DEFEAT OF THE GERMAN OCTOBER

Part seven of a series by Tom Kemp on the history of the German Communist Party

The defeat of the German October in 1923 opened a new period in the history of the German Communist Party (KPD).

The period of temporary stabilization in the capitalist world removed the immediate prospect of revolution. The rise of Stalinism in the Soviet Union and the changes which ensued in the leadership and policy of the Communist International made themselves felt in what was called 'bolshevization' of the Communist Parties.

This process, which brought the parties under the control of the Stalin faction in the Soviet Communist Party, had more direct and serious effects on the KPD than perhaps any other party.

Relations between Moscow and the German communists had always been close. German was the main language of the International at this time. Many of its leaders knew Germany well and some, like Radek and Zinoviev, had intervened personally in the KPD's affairs.

The problems and internal situation of the member parties were always thoroughly discussed by the Comintern's Executive Committee or by special commissions set up for the purpose. The internationalism, which had prevailed in the first years of the Comintern under Lenin and Trotsky, continued in a distorted form in the 1920s—this time as direct control by the Stalinist leadership over its hand-picked lieutenants in the national sections.

The history of the German Communist Party—from its defeat in 1923 to its even greater and definitive defeat ten years later—falls into three main periods. These divisions corresponded with the zig-zags of the Comintern, determined by the needs of the Soviet bureaucracy dictated by Stalin.

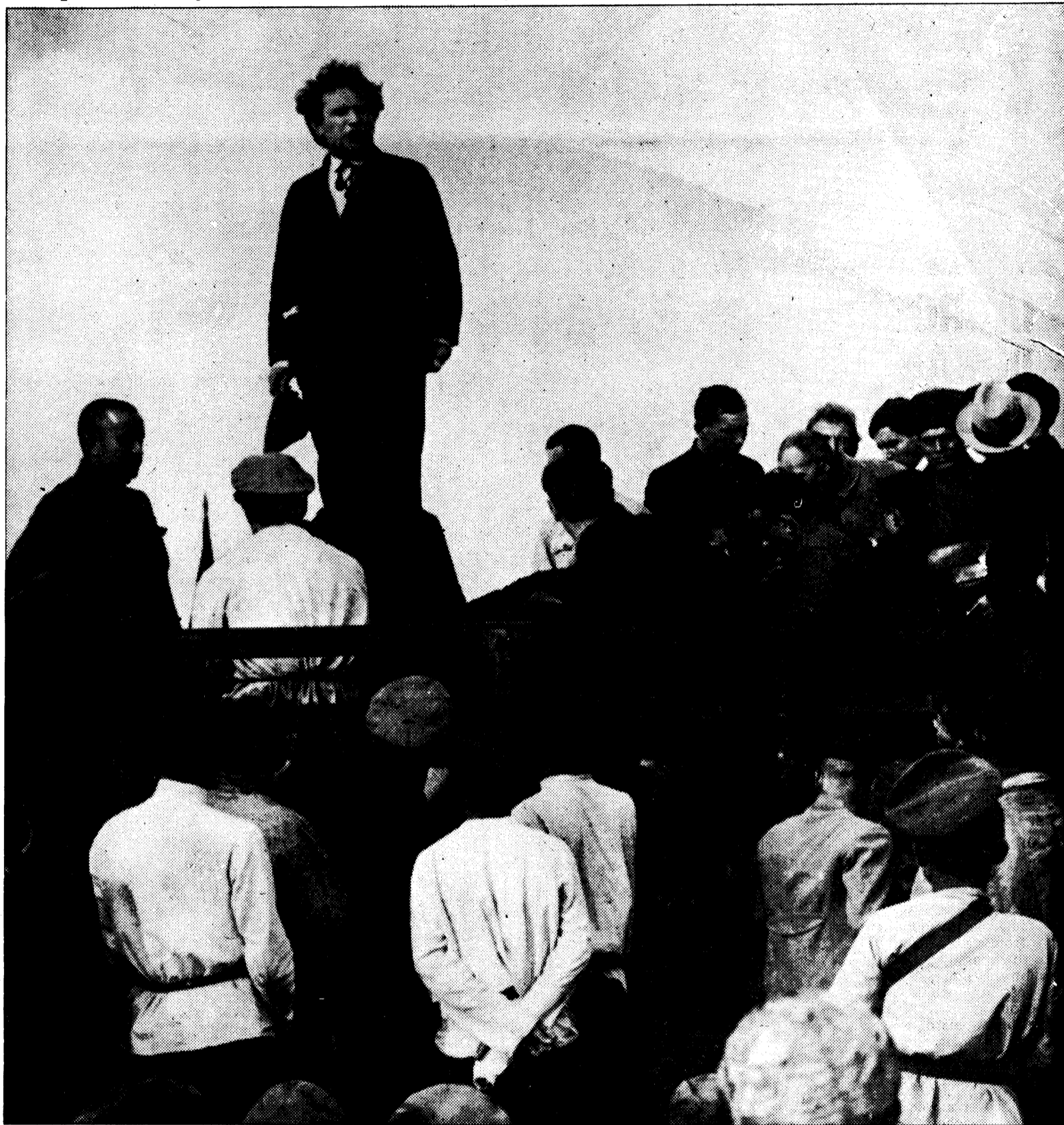
Although at some points the German leadership resisted these turns, it became increasingly docile to Moscow's demands. By the 1930s it accepted without question policies which many of the leaders themselves recognized to be dangerous, if not suicidal.

In the early years there was considerable freedom for discussion and debate between clearly-defined factions. But as the Party became increasingly Stalinized, adherence to the party line was mandatory. Leaders or members who opposed it were quickly expelled.

After 1923 the Brandlerite right was in disgrace and the left dominated the party. This left wing had nothing to do with the Left Opposition in the Soviet Union, but was close to Zinoviev, who was dominant in the Comintern at this time.

This section of the leadership, under Ruth Fischer, Arcadi Maslow and Ernst Thaelmann, continued in control of the Party until just after the Fifth Congress of the Comintern in 1925 when Thaelmann took over complete control. In the meantime it had adapted itself to the rightward turn which Stalin made in 1925 when Bukharin replaced Zinoviev.

From 1928 the KPD went over to the policies of 'the third period', corresponding



Above: Zinoviev in his heyday, dominant in the Comintern and intervening personally in the KPD's affairs in Germany.

with Stalin's ultra-left turn as forced collectivization and industrialization began.

Throughout these years the KPD had an ultra-left wing, which constantly seemed to renew itself despite expulsions. There were also supporters of Brandler and Thalheimer who stayed in the Party at least until 1929 when they were expelled. In addition there were many members of the permanent Party apparatus who went with the dominant faction or followed the directions of Moscow without expressing a clear view of their own.

Finally there were tendencies which had a local base or followed particular leaders. At one time, at the end of the 1920s there were as many as ten.

In the following period of complete Stalinization the differences which remained were mainly on a personal basis and political discussion had sunk to a low ebb.

The post October 1923 period was naturally dominated by the effects of the disaster, once it dawned on the

entire Party leadership how serious it had been. After the Hamburg uprising the government made the Party illegal, which added to its difficulties. Many workers left or drifted from the Party in 1924.

They were mainly elements favourable to the Brandler-Thalheimer right leadership and former members of the Independent Social Democratic Party (USPD). In many areas the left's influence grew in the Party. There was great bitterness against the role of the Social Democratic Party and a revival of ultra-left trends, including hostility to trade union work.

## TRANSFORMED

KPD influence in the unions declined markedly and many known communists were expelled. Sharp differences between the 'left' and the 'right' emerged in a debate on trade union work.

This discussion and one on the October defeat was conducted under conditions of internal democracy with free debate and the formation of factions. Although the Stalin

faction in the Comintern was able to use various pressures—such as detaining Maslow and others in Moscow, or demoting leaders—the Party was still very far from being an instrument of the Soviet bureaucracy.

At this stage it was only beginning to emerge as a parasitic layer in the workers' state.

What has to be traced is how this degeneration brought about the transformation of the KPD.

In 1923-1924, despite losses in membership, the KPD remained a mass Party of the working class with considerable influence in certain areas or among particular sections of workers. The claimed membership in March 1924 was 180,000 against 380,000 two years before.

Instead of an honest reckoning being made in Moscow of the reasons for the October 1923 defeat, the main concern was to find a scapegoat. The whole responsibility was placed on Brandler and his supporters while Zinoviev's role was left in the dark.

Zinoviev at this time was in alliance with Stalin. Both were anxious to find allies against Trotsky.

The Comintern leaders tried to reconcile the warring factions in the KPD. There were three main positions on the October events: the right (Brandler and Thalheimer) which had dominated the party at the time, justified the retreat; the centre accepted that a retreat was unavoidable, but thought that it should have been made fighting; the left maintained that a great revolutionary opportunity had been missed.

Right-wing leaders were called to Moscow and kept there while an attempt was made to bring the centre and left together and establish a new leadership. In fact the initiative rested with the left in the shape of Arcadi Maslow, Ruth Fischer and Ernst Thaelmann. The first two were intellectuals—Maslow being the main Party theoretician—while Thaelmann, later to become unchallenged leader, was a worker from Hamburg.

CONTINUED TOMORROW





## CHABROL'S POIGNANT MURDER

BY PHILIP WADE

Conventional thrillers always seem to be filled with plenty of darkness, harassed detectives sleuthing innumerable suspects and plenty of overt violence. At the end of it all, so the moral goes, the good cop comes out on top.

When Claude Chabrol makes a thriller it is entirely different. 'The Butcher' is almost in the form of a film essay.

In fact, the murder of three girls from a small French rural town assumes a sort of sub-plot around which the main essence of the film is played out.

The film's main characters and plot are carefully and thoughtfully unwrapped rather than revealed at the beginning for all to see. It opens with celebrations at a wedding of a local schoolteacher.

But the camera selects the main participants by regularly zooming in on Helene, the young, vivacious headmistress of the school and Popaul, who has returned to his native town after 15 years in the army.

And then only as he walks her home after the wedding does he reveal that he was a butcher in the army, like his father before him. 'Do you like meat?' he asks her. A strange question on any count.

The first murder is introduced almost casually. In silence the camera pans on the local gendarmerie and then fades. It is linked with the two main characters in passing. One of the children in the playground mentions the fact as they are hustled inside for the class, police with dogs march past to examine the body and look for clues.

Yet the same day Popaul arrives at the classroom with a present for the headmistress—a leg of lamb. Then the film turns again as she takes the initiative and much to his surprise invites him to dinner. In the evening it twists yet again when he is the first to men-



Top: Helene (Stephan Audran) and victim. Centre: Popaul (Jean Yanne) the butcher in the army and in the town.

tion the murder.

By now Chabrol has built up a relationship between the two. She has no lover because of a disappointing affair some years ago. Yet it is obvious she feels something for the local butcher who is kind and generous and altogether an apparently pleasant man who was sickened by the carnage he saw in Algeria and Vietnam.

Only mid-way through the film does it tighten in tension with the first real evidence that Popaul is the murderer.

And Chabrol manages to maintain the link nicely between the couple by having Helene discover the body on a school outing. She also finds at the scene a lighter she gave the butcher for his birthday. Perhaps, not unexpectedly, she pockets it and says nothing to the police.

Still the plot revolves around her deep felt but hidden passion for the man. And this continues throughout the film. The butcher himself maintains this affection for Helene, throwing the murders which he has committed into some sort of relief.

Inevitably, of course, he

confronts her with his role as murderer, especially when he discovers the lighter he left at the scene of a murder in Helene's room.

For those used to conventional thrillers made in the American-style, the ending will be a surprise. But considering the main plot of the film it is not. Suffice to say that it closes with Helene wistfully staring across a mist-laden river, shattered.

Chabrol's direction is beautiful. The ambling pace of life in the countryside is set perfectly by his lack of hurry over seemingly unimportant scenes. At the same time, of course, he is building and developing his theme, patiently making the connections.

The two principal actors sketch and draw their own characters rather than being imposed with one by the screenplay.

Amid all this the photography is superb, with exquisite use of colour and softness in the accustomed manner of French film directors. 'The Butcher' is in fact, if there is such a thing, a poignant murder film.

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## MAO MEDIA

There is a growing interest in Chairman Mao's China, according to the Universities of Leeds and London School of Oriental and African Studies. Applications are on the increase for the four-year Chinese studies degree course.

Brian Hook, a lecturer in the Leeds Chinese Studies Department, says the people who apply are often those who are 'attracted by the land of Mao'. What sort of jobs do they get?

The Foreign Office, the Bank of England and the news media, says Mr Hook.

## ABOVE THE MADDING CROWD

No up-and-coming company can consider itself really set up in business these days without at least two different ways of getting above the madding crowd, it seems.

You've heard about the building employer who used his helicopter to ferry non-unionists over the strike picket line into a site in Basildon.

Well there may be no connection at all, but the young heirs to the Marks and Spencer millions have just spent £80,000 on a mint condition Westland-French Gazelle helicopter they saw at the Farnborough Air Show.

Julian Sacher (22) and Michael Glass (24) have already acquired two executive jets for their new company Meriot International.

And so anxious were they for the Gazelle they refused to accept the first delivery date early next year. They insisted on taking the demonstration model.

Sacher is son of the store group's assistant managing director, while Glass is married to Diana Lerner, granddaughter of store-chain founder Lord Marks. The question is: would the old man have approved?

## HASSAN



King Hassan of Morocco's hasty return from Paris on August 14 in his private jet, which was attacked by dissident air force officers out to kill him, followed information from the French secret service that something suspicious was going on at home.

This is suggested in an article in the journal 'Afrique-Asie'. It says that his attention was called to discontent in the army and he decided to return without consulting his Interior Minister, Oufkir, the real inspirer of the plot to overthrow him.

Commandant Kouera, whose plane intercepted the royal Boeing, had instructions to force it to land at the Kenitra air base. When the King refused to do this, Kouera opened fire and finally directed his jet against the Boeing and used his ejector seat.

The other jet fighters, which were not armed, were obliged to return to Kenitra and the pilot of the Boeing was able to bring it down at Rabat airport.

The paper claimed that after landing Hassan took refuge in the Lebanese embassy until the danger had passed.

It adds that Oufkir was not liquidated at the royal palace of Shirat. Instead, knowing the game was up and taking flight, he fell into an ambush and was killed with a burst of machine-gun fire in Hassan's presence.

## BOOKS



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## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

**SHEFFIELD:** Thursday October 5, 7.30 p.m. Manchester Hotel, Nursery Street. 'The ATUA Conference and the Revolutionary Party.'

**WEST BROMWICH:** Thursday October 5, 8 p.m. 'Wagon and Horses', Lewisham Road. 'ATUA conference.'

**BRACKNELL:** Monday October 9, 8 p.m. Priestwood Community Centre. 'The ATUA national conference.'

**COVENTRY:** Monday October 9, 8 p.m. 'Market Tavern', Junction Street (off the Butts). 'ATUA conference.'

**BIRMINGHAM:** Monday October 9, 8 p.m. Lecture Room 3, Digbeth Civic Hall. 'ATUA conference.'

**SOUTH WEST LONDON:** Tuesday October 10, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor Street, SW4. 'The ATUA conference.'

**WEALDSTONE:** Tuesday October 10, 8 p.m. Wealdstone Labour Hall, Station Approach, Station Road. 'ATUA conference.'

**MANCHESTER:** Wednesday October 11, 7.30 p.m. Milton Hall, Deansgate. 'Fight the rent Act! Build Councils of Action!'

**SOUTH EAST LONDON:** Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, opposite New Cross Station. 'The ATUA conference.'

**LEICESTER:** Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. 'Queen's Hotel', Rutland Street. 'ATUA conference.'

### Socialist Labour League

#### LECTURES THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MARXISM

given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

## London

Historical materialism today Sunday October 8

**EAST HAM TOWN HALL**  
Lister Room  
Barking Rd, 7 p.m.

### Public Meetings

## Banbury

Wages Jobs and the Fight against the Tory government  
**Thursday October 5, 8 p.m. Town Hall, Banbury**  
Speaker: Gerry Healy, national secretary of the Socialist Labour League.

## Nottingham

**Wednesday October 11, 8 p.m. Thurland Hall, Pelham Street, Nottingham**  
Speakers: Roger Stenson (Secretary Bilborough Tenants' Association), Jim Butler (T&GWU branch chairman). Both in personal capacity. John Eden (YS National Committee).

THE POULSON bankruptcy hearing is expected to be the most costly of its kind held in Britain with a final £50,000 bill. The 'Architects' Journal' has demanded immediate action by the Royal Institute of British Architects on unprofessional conduct charges laid against John Poulson. 'Poulson was allowed six months by the professional conduct committee to reply to its charges,' says the journal. 'This period has now expired and the PCC should act at once.'

## BBC 1

9.42 Schools. 12.10 Bridges in Holland. 12.30 Telewele. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Pogles' wood. 1.45 Tom and Jerry. 2.00-2.38 Schools. 2.50-3.15 Nurses in training. 3.20 Garden of the gods. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Adventures of Parsley. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.50 Deputy dawg. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 John Craven's newsround. 5.25 Yogi bear. 5.45 News and weather.

### 6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.50 TOM AND JERRY. Milky Waif.

7.00 TOMORROW'S WORLD.

7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.

8.00 SYKES. Menace.

8.30 AS WE RECALL. John Snagge looks back at 50 years of the BBC.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.

9.25 INTERNATIONAL SHOW JUMPING. Horse of the Year Show.

10.45 MIDWEEK.

11.30 LATE NIGHT NEWS.

11.35 Weather.

## ITV

9.30 Schools. 12.00 Diane's panda party. 12.15 Labour Party conference. 1.00 Sports special. Dunlop masters golf, racing from York. 2.05 Castle haven. 2.30 Good afternoon. 2.55 Sports special continued. 3.40 Labour Party conference. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.20 Dave Cash radio programme. 5.50 News.

### 6.00 TODAY.

6.35 CROSSROADS.

7.00 ... AND MOTHER MAKES THREE. Thank heaven for little girls?

7.30 FILM: 'THE NAKED RUNNER'. Frank Sinatra. Espionage thriller.

9.30 THIS WEEK.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 CINEMA. A look at the careers of John Barry and Miklos Rosza, film music composers.

11.00 DUNLOP MASTERS GOLF.

11.45 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

12.00 MISCELLANY. Vicar of Calcutta.

## BBC 2

9.30 Labour Party conference. 11.00 Play school. 11.25-3.25 Labour Party conference. 3.30-4.45 Service of Thanksgiving.

### 6.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

6.35 ROSLA AND AFTER. School and Community.

### 7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWSROOM, CONFERENCE REPORT. Weather.

8.05 EUROPA. The Bus labelled The End ...

8.30 WAR AND PEACE. Sounds of War.

9.15 BACKSTAGE. Sir John Gielgud.

9.25 SHOW OF THE WEEK: SACHA'S IN TOWN. Sacha Distel with guests Dick Emery, Michael Bentine, Lily Tomlin.

10.10 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

10.15 FILM: 'DAISIES'. Directed by Vera Chytilova with Jitka Cerhova and Ivana Karbanova.

11.25 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

## REGIONAL TV

**CHANNEL:** 9.30-12.00 London. 1.20 Sports special. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 Primus. 5.20 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Sports roundup. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Prize of Arms'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. 11.40 News, weather.

**WESTWARD. As Channel except:** 12.00 London. 4.23 News. 6.00 Diary. 11.12 News. 11.15 Cinema. 11.40 Faith for life.

**SOUTHERN:** 9.30 London. 12.05 Labour Party conference. 1.00 News. 1.05 London. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.25 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film: 'Plainsman'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.45 News. 11.55 Guideline. 12.00 Odd couple. 12.30 Weather.

**HARLECH:** 9.30 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 4.10 Tinkertainment. 4.25 Merry melodies. 4.50 Elephant boy. 5.20 Gustavus. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.30 Sky's the limit. 7.05 And mother makes three. 7.35 Film: 'Press For Time'. 9.30 London. 10.30 Alive and kicking. 11.00 London. 11.45 Spyforce. 12.45 Weather. HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except: 2.30-3.00 Hamdden. 4.10-4.25 Miri mawr. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 10.30-11.00 Musicians in the making. HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Sport West.

**ANGLIA:** 9.30 London. 3.40 Labour Party. 4.10 Sean the leprechaun. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The Greengage Summer'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.45 Frighteners.

**ATV MIDLANDS:** 9.30 London. 2.20 Horoscope. 2.25 Women today. 2.55 Sports special. 3.45 Labour Party. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Don't Look Behind You'. 8.45 Cartoon. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. 11.55 Film: 'In the Dog House'.

**ULSTER:** 11.00 London. 1.32 Cartoon. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Sports special. 4.00 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Cowboy in Africa. 5.20 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 Film: 'The Remarkable Mr Pennypacker'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.45 What's it all about?

**YORKSHIRE:** 9.30 London. 4.25 Funky phantom. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Some People'. 8.45 Cartoon. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. 11.45 Department S. 12.40 Weather.

**GRANADA:** 9.30 London. 4.20 News. Lone Ranger. 4.50 Rainbow country. 5.15 Peyton Place. 5.50 London. 6.00 Newday. Police file. 6.30 Dave Cash radio programme. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.10 Film: 'Banacek'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 11.00 On the line. 11.30 Golf.

**TYNE TEES:** 9.30 London. 4.25 Woobinda. 4.50 Junior showtime. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Popeye. 7.05 Film: 'Some People'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. 11.45 Police call. 12.05 Division four. 1.00 Revolving chair.

**SCOTTISH:** 9.30 London. 2.30 Dateline Scotland. 2.55 London. 4.25 Lost in space. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Jimmy Stewart. 7.00 Film: 'The Quiller Memorandum'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. Late call. 11.50 Benny Hill.

**GRAMPIAN:** 10.58 London. 12.45 Sports special. 1.38 Schools. 2.42 Cartoon. 2.50 News. 3.00 Sports special. 3.45 London. 4.25 Elephant boy. 4.55 Junior showtime. 5.20 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Mr and Mrs. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Not With My Wife, You Don't'. 9.00 And mother makes three. 9.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. 11.45 Epilogue.

# Council of Action has candidate on the spot

COUNCIL TENANTS attending the first public meeting of the Orpington and Sidcup Council of Action angrily demanded answers from the local prospective parliamentary candidate — who was in the audience — about the Labour leaders' betrayal of tenants.

The candidate was forced to speak, but he avoided straight answers to the tenants' demands.

Bill Freeman, chairman of Briant Colour Printing Joint Chapels Committee, told the

meeting that the Tory government must be forced to resign and be replaced by a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

Laurie Smith from the Erith District Committee of the AUEW, who chaired the meeting, attacked all those who blamed the working class for the betrayals of the leaders and who talked of 'apathy'.

The working class had shown that it was prepared to fight, he said.

Alan Mayes, delegated from Klingers' shop stewards' committee, described the threat of their management to move production abroad where cheaper labour was available.

Pat Bridgeman from the Young Socialists called for an alternative leadership in the labour movement to fight the betrayals of the present leaders.

The meeting passed a resolution of support for the Birmingham conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance on October 22.

## Singer's men protest

A MASS MEETING of 6,000 workers at the Singer sewing machine factory yesterday hit back at management who have threatened to withhold rates from Clydebank council.

Singer have said they will not pay the £20,000 rates bill because they claim it has gone up following the council's decision not to implement the 'fair rents' Act.

Shop stewards' convenor Gavin Laird said after the mass meeting:

'The workforce expressed their anger at management's interference in local politics. They passed a resolution that they fully supported Clydebank town council and Glasgow Corporation for refusing to implement the Act.'

Singer workers have also offered full support to councillors who might be jailed or fined for refusing to carry out the increases.

## Picketing stepped up at GEC

PICKETING is to be stepped up at the two Fife, Scotland factories of GEC Telecommunications where over 2,600 workers have been on strike for the past eight weeks.

This follows GEC moves to switch work to England.

After a meeting in Kirkcaldy this week a joint strike committee spokesman said:

'It is not for me to say that the management are bluffing. But we are certain they are not going to move work out of the Kirkcaldy and Glenrothes factories. We already have a 24-hour picket at the two factories, but this will now be intensified.'

The company announced last weekend that it intended to switch manufacturing work south of the border to enable nearly 1,000 workers at the Aycliffe factory, County Durham to start work.

The strikers have already rejected a company offer of a £2 a week increase.

## Frelimo meetings

SPEAKERS from Frelimo MPLA and PAIGC are to report on the liberation struggle in Mozambique, Angola and Guiné at two meetings next week. The meetings—organized by the Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guiné—are on Wednesday October 11 at 7.30 in the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square and on Thursday October 12 at 2 p.m. in the Conference Hall, Central Collegiate Building, Gordon St, WC1.

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# Sharp reaction to CAV closure

**LUCAS WORKERS** at Liverpool reacted sharply to the combine's threat against 1,000 jobs at the city's CAV vehicle-pump factory at Fazakerly.

At both CAV and the nearby Lucas Industrial Equipment factory, Workers Press was told that workers completely rejected the closure plans and would fight them to a finish.

Keith Wright, toolroom steward, CAV, said: 'I don't accept redundancies or closure. I'm convinced we can get another product. We can keep it open.'

'Cond Diesel of Barcelona is making

exactly the same pump at half the price because of cheap labour.' (Cond Diesel had a strike last year which raised workers' wages from £6.50 to £8.50 a week.)

Lucas Industrial Equipment convenor Ray Reynolds, speaking in a personal capacity, said: 'I say that whatever action the members in CAV take to preserve jobs, I will endeavour to support them. The shut down is disastrous for this area. No one should have the right and the power to affect the livelihood of 1,000 people in this way.'

'Members in CAV will not win on their own. They require the support of other sections of workers.'

Alf Irwin, a setter in Lucas Industrial Equipment: 'First and foremost CAV have

got to decide themselves. I think they should occupy. We should then support them, even if it means we follow the same line of action. Some workers here will say we will be jeopardizing our jobs by taking action, but we will be jeopardizing our jobs if we don't. Our jobs like their jobs can be moved somewhere else.'

Joe Harrison, shop steward, said: 'If they are prepared to sit-in at CAV we should support them.'

'The Lucas combine is trying to make bigger profits. What's viable for them is what gives profit. The employing class is a greedy class. The working class is not a greedy class—it just wants decent standards.'

Lucas Industrial Worker Viney Kennedy, said: 'People should realize that 1,000

men and women are being sacked merely because of profit. Surely in this day and age a person's livelihood is more important than profit margins.'

Peter King, also from Lucas Industrial, said: 'It is a national problem, not just a Lucas one. In support of our brothers and sisters in CAV we should call on the whole trade union movement to bring down the government.'

Bob Stanton said: 'It is a disgrace. The sooner we get a good Labour government the better.'

Brian Stoneley said: 'I want to do something but what can we do?' Bob Stanton answered: 'What could save CAV is for the Lucas combine to unite and say to Lucas: "You're not closing any factories down. If you do everybody will stop".'

## Swan's strikers stay out

A MASS meeting of 3,000 Tyneside boilermakers at Swan Hunter's shipyards yesterday decided to continue their four-week-old strike for a £4.70 cost-of-living increase.

Their decision was a rebuff for Dan McGarvey, Boilermakers' Society president who on Tuesday night called yet again for a return to work.

McGarvey was speaking to reporters at the Blackpool Labour Party conference.

Ivor Mitchell, speaking on behalf of the apprentices who on Monday voted to support the strike with work sanctions, told the meeting that individual apprentices were being victimized by foremen.

Terry Daley, secretary of the shop stewards' committee, told Workers Press after the meeting:

'There is no chance of boilermakers going back for a £2 increase. The TUC should never have gone into talks with the Tories. They're just enmeshing themselves in a spider's web.'

## Turner to quit as dock shop steward

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

VIC TURNER, one of the five dockers jailed by the National Industrial Relations Court, has said he wishes to resign as a Transport and General Workers' Union shop steward. As chairman of the London port stewards' committee, Turner played a leading role in the recent national docks strike and its ending in London.

His reasons for wanting to resign are to be put to a joint meeting of T&GWU and National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers' delegates. But he says that amongst these is disillusionment with the line the T&GWU is taking.

Precisely what this means is not immediately clear.

There has been considerable criticism of the leadership of Turner and London stewards' secretary Bernie Steer during the latter stages of the docks strike. Neither has spoken at recent mass meetings at the Royals.

Last week, a major row blew up among



Turner: Position before meeting

stewards at the Royals over the picketing of Midland Cold Storage, the Hackney depot owned by the Vestey family, where dockers are fighting for jobs.

Workers Press was told by one tendency that if T&GWU secretary Jack Jones could prove there was a basis for negotiation with the Vestey's, there might be grounds for calling the

picket off.

Workers Press immediately published this important development in the thinking of the tendency in question.

Other stewards—including some of those who have spoken at Royals meetings of late—angrily repudiated the idea that it is their committee's intention to end the picket.

## French rail pay

TALKS between rail union leaders and the management of the French railways open in Paris today following a series of partial one-day stoppages in various regions.

The communist and reformist unions have joined together to submit demands over conditions of work and for a revision of the existing system of promotion on the railways.

The strikes in support of these demands, however, have been organized so as to cause only marginal disruption of services—24 hours in the Marseille region and minor actions elsewhere.

## 8,500 in Bengal jails

ABOUT 8,500 people are under arrest in West Bengal because they defied a government ban on demonstrations against rising prices and unemployment.

They were arrested at the start of a three-day campaign organized by the pro-Moscow Communist Party in protest against the 'capitalist policies' of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Police broke up demonstrations in other states, but there were fewer arrests than in West Bengal. The Communist Party has long supported the Congress government and the demonstrations are merely aimed at putting pressure on Mrs Gandhi.

Thousands of the pro-Chinese breakaway party and other left-wing groups are in prison in West Bengal and the pro-Moscow Stalinists have made little protest over their fate.

## Kremlin chokes French CP magazine

BY JOHN SPENCER

THE FRENCH Communist Party weekly 'Les Lettres Françaises' presided over by the writer Louis Aragon is to cease publication next Tuesday because of falling circulation.

The daily paper 'L'Humanité' is also in serious difficulty and the party's central committee has appealed to the membership to act immediately to prevent a reduction in its size which would otherwise be necessary.

The chief reason cited by Aragon for the winding up of 'Les Lettres Françaises' is the fact that it is now not sold 'in a number of overseas markets for extremely diverse reasons which there is no need to enlarge on here'.

For several years the magazine has not been on sale in the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and other East European countries because of Aragon's liberal criticisms of the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Though the Kremlin has choked his journal, it awarded

## Daily paper also in crisis

Aragon the Order of the October Revolution for his 75th birthday on Tuesday. The award is the subject of a full-page feature in Tuesday's 'L'Humanité'.

Aragon's magazine was founded as a clandestine newspaper under the German occupation. It played a major part in the mobilization of French intellectuals around the Communist Party in the years after the war.

Aragon's pliable backbone and his fulsome praise of Stalin won him a place on the French CP Central Committee which he still holds. Moscow rewarded him with an honorary doctorate of Moscow University and the Lenin University and the Lenin Prize for services to 'peace between the peoples'.

In recent years, however, in order to maintain any credibility among his French readership, Aragon has been forced to publish a certain amount of criticism of Soviet literary policy and the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

The loss of 'Les Lettres Françaises' will be a serious blow

to the French Stalinists who are also in difficulties with the rest of their press. On Tuesday 'L'Humanité' published the text of a resolution to be submitted by the Central Committee to the Party's 20th congress in December.

According to the resolution, the Party's daily 'must face up to difficulties so serious that we will not succeed in resolving them unless every communist has this burnt onto his consciousness'.

It adds that: 'For "L'Humanité" the continuing fall in circulation which has been going on for some years is worsening a situation which is already dangerous, more especially as the sale of "L'Humanité-Dimanche" (the Sunday magazine edition) is falling as well.'

This means that the Sunday edition will no longer be able as it did in the past to make up the deficit on sales of the daily. The resolution adds: 'The financial difficulties are such that our newspaper will shortly have to cut its numbers of pages unless

the tendency is reversed, this will reduce its impact and make further inroads into its circulation.'

## Shots fired at Craig

ULSTER Vanguard leader William Craig escaped an assassination attempt yesterday when a sniper fired at his car near Lisburn.

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Laying down the line—left, right and centre—Wayne Harbin, president of the Marathon Manufacturing Company.

# MARATHON CRUNCH

BY IAN YEATS

**COMMUNIST PARTY** leaders at the Clydebank Shipyard, Glasgow, face a stark choice today — prostrate themselves before the Marathon Manufacturing Company or lead a real fight for the right to work on the upper Clyde.

When he meets shop stewards and union leaders at the Imperial Hotel Blackpool this afternoon, Marathon president Wayne Harbin will repeat his 'co-operate-or-pull-out' warning.

Stalinist Clydebank convenor James Reid has already come under pressure from boiler-makers' leader Danny McGarvey to call off any new 'work-in' at the yard.

And at his London hotel on Tuesday Harbin went out of his way to make it plain that there was no basis for a new work in by assuring workers that anyone made redundant would be rehired as quickly as possible.

But Reid will have a tough job persuading Clydebank's 2,000

workers to throw themselves on Harbin's mercy.

As the American arrives in Blackpool today the last ship to be built at Clydebank will glide down the slipway to be towed up-river for completion.

Up to 800 men will be employed jointly by the UCS liquidator and sub-contractors finishing this ship and three others due to sail not later than February.

So far Marathon has hired only 450 men whom they have employed on demolition work in preparation for converting the yard from shipbuilding to oil-rig production.

This leaves about 800 men unaccounted for and it is these workers Reid and Harbin will primarily have to reassure as a result of today's meeting, although the 800 others will be wondering what is going to happen to them come February.

# TODAY

Reid claims Marathon agreed to employ 1,000 men immediately, but Harbin said in London that they would only work up to that number by the end of the year.

Harbin argues that his company's programme to develop the yard was set back at least two months by the Tory government's failure to pass the Industry Bill by June 30 as promised.

The legislation which allowed a £6m loan to be paid to Marathon was not finally passed until August 8.

Harbin said at his London hotel: 'This has set us behind in our programme, but if people will be patient we will go ahead and develop this yard and it could be one of the finest in Europe.'

He added: 'You cannot just provide employment for 2,000 people overnight. We pledged that in 18 months or two years we would build up to that number.'

'We told the unions from the beginning that they had to be prepared to accept redundancies and the agreement was signed in the full knowledge of this.'

'If we cannot get peace in the yards with the labour force and the unions then we must withdraw from the yards and if we have to we will. It is not too late. It is never too late.'

'The idea of going back into the so-called work-in is very disruptive and under the agreement they promised not to do this to us.'

Harbin said he had now paid cash for Clydebank bringing his total investment in the yard to around \$5m (£2m).

He was deeply worried that continued labour unrest at the yard was preventing Marathon from clinching even a single order.

Two drilling platforms which could have been made at Clydebank had already been transferred to Singapore and Brownsville, south Texas, because customers refused to risk delays and losses because of disputes at Glasgow.

Harbin claimed \$100m (£40m) worth of orders hung on today's decision.

'There is a world of business', he said. 'But we are not going to see it unless we resolve these labour disputes.'

'All our customers are American and they think a work-in is men taking over your business. Of course it is not like that. You can't imagine what it is like trying to win a multi-million dollar order when the customer turns round and says "You are kidding, the men up there won't work".'

Harbin said he did not understand what the latest trouble at

Clydebank was about, stressing that 'stirring the pot' was 'disruptive' and creating 'serious difficulties' for Marathon.

He said: 'I think there is an agitational element there which it is difficult to understand. It is not as if the men temporarily redundant won't have a job ever. When we start production they will come right back in and they have redundancy pay to tide them over that period.'

Earlier when he arrived at London's Heathrow airport from America, Harbin made a scathing attack on Clydebank shop stewards, alleging the new work in was a communist inspired plot.

Later he went out of his way to be conciliatory to Reid:

'I don't think it was right to say the agitation was communist-inspired. I think James Reid might have been right to take exception to that. I think I said there was an agitational element there with communist overtones. I don't think I said that James Reid was inspired by communists.'

Reid is a member of the National Executive of the Communist Party.

Harbin still made it clear that Marathon was a commercial company whose first responsibility was to its stockholders:

'For some reason James Reid feels he has a responsibility to the workers in the yards. We certainly don't feel we have an obligation to provide employment for people who have never been on our payroll.'

Harbin's remarks throw into high relief the tenuousness of the agreement the Stalinist-led co-

ordinating committee signed with Marathon.

Harbin is a shrewd businessman with an eye for a deal, but his anxiety about the cost of delays and disruption almost certainly indicates the slender margins within which his company operates.

● **STEPHEN JOHNS WRITES FROM BLACKPOOL:** Clydebank stewards at Blackpool yesterday refused to say whether the 'work-in' would be called off.

McGarvey said they were meeting Harbin today 'to get his full plans in relation to the overall picture'.

He added: 'The men want to do everything possible to make this yard a success.' He said current problems could be solved if a spirit of co-operation prevailed.

Shop stewards are due to meet at 3 p.m. before they see Harbin and one idea which McGarvey will put to them is to accept redundancies on a 'cyclical' basis. ...He said yesterday men could be employed by civil contractors demolishing the yard so protecting them from long-term redundancy.

Bob Dickie, convenor at Clydebank said yesterday that 300 men will get their notice from the liquidator next Friday, but these will be employed completing the vessels already taken upstream.

He said a further 400 men faced redundancies within the next few weeks and the figure is expected to rise to 900-1,000 by Christmas.

## Housewives angry at rent rise

**WANDSWORTH** Labour council in south London have put notices up around housing estate rent offices saying how sorry they were to have to implement the 'fair rents' Act.

The fact remains, however, that the borough's thousands of council tenants have had their rents raised 75p. And no amount of apologies from councillors who refused to fight on the issue will make any difference on that score.

In the Battersea district, on the huge Winstanley Estate, the tenants' association call to withhold the increases has met with a good response. Charlotte Despard Avenue tenants are reported to be 80 per cent behind the call.

At the rents office yesterday and around the adjacent shops, housewives were extremely bitter about the increases and most of them had refused to pay up.

Mrs Edith Aylott said: 'I think it's a bit much because the extra 75p would have to come out of my housekeeping.' out of my housekeeping.

'My rent is already £9.30 a fortnight, including £1 a week for heating for which we have to pay throughout the year.'

Her husband, who is a driver, had told her not to pay the increase. 'The rents went up in April, they're going up now and it will be the same next April,' said Mrs Aylott.

'He got a rise in April and gave me £1 out of it. But now with all the prices going up there's nothing left of it.'

'Although I'm not paying I'm putting the money by. The only

trouble is that some are paying. But I don't think this government is always going to get the better of us.'

'Scandalous' was how Mrs Peggy Smith described the 75p imposed on her £5.92 a week rent. 'And the point is it will be going up again and again,' she told me outside the local Co-op where she had just spent some of the last of the week's house-keeping.

'Look, my husband's wages don't go up after this. Heath is saying we have no rights at all. If we end up paying the increase it would mean giving up the car.'

'I know that might sound like giving up a luxury, but my husband works in Croydon and needs it to get to work. In fact it's cheaper than the trains.'

'Now I only wish we could get this government out,' said Peggy.

In the nearby Battersea Park Estate, a rent strike is also gathering pace. One of those not paying the increase is Pat Leiby. Her rent is already £6.61 a week.

'To pay the extra rent means I have to cut down on everything.'

'Everyone thinks the same about this government. But although there's been a lot of resistance to the Tories it doesn't seem to have made much difference. Yet if every tenant refused to pay they couldn't evict all of us.'

● **Trade unionists at Hebburn, County Durham, have set up an action committee to co-ordinate industrial action in support of any tenant evicted for not paying the rent increases.**

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