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THE STATE PAY PLAN TO BE LEGAL

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

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Heath's legislation is not just 'wage freeze mark two', as the Tory Press would like workers to believe, but the most decisive step ever taken towards the corporate state by the most reactionary government since the end of World War II.

From today state wage control will be added to the anti-union laws as the second plank of the corporate state.

The implications are plain and startling. By the end of the week it will be illegal for workers to win the wage increase they deserve, just as it is illegal now for unions and their members to fight freely for standards and conditions.

For the class struggle in Britain it means the point of no return has been passed. Not even the most servile trade union leaders can shift the situation back to the days of negotiation and compromise. Major political struggles lie immediately ahead.

But the working class must be warned of the web of conspiracy the Tories are weaving for them.

A big rise in the cost of living can be expected from today. It can take weeks to win a wage increase, but only seconds to put up the prices of food, fuel and clothing.

Already reports from Marks and Spencers and Sainsbury's have exposed the scramble for higher prices. Now the big wholesalers are waiting on the touch-line—basic commodities like wheat, wool, coffee, cocoa and copper, will all be jacked up by the speculators.

Second trick

The second Tory trick involves Victor Feather of the TUC.

He showed his colours on Friday, the day after Heath declared war on the unions. Workers may have seen their 'leader' in his tie and tails with a cigar poking out of his mouth. He was on the top table with the Prime Minister at the BBC's exclusive 50th anniversary dinner.

Just in case the Tories had not got the message, Feather spoke out on Saturday at Bradford:

'This is not a time for provocation,' he said. 'It is time to keep level-headed and keep our tempers and I hope nobody, nobody, will take any other view.'

'We shall not go out looking for trouble. If trouble comes our way we shall have to cope with it like we always do. But we are not the ones to stir it up.'

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and the bulk of the TUC are preparing to head off the mass movement developing against the Tories and their plans. By confusing and demoralizing workers the TUC hopes to snatch this government from the fire once more.

The so-called 'left' in the TUC are impotent. The breakdown of the talks has been portrayed as a victory for Hugh Scanlon and Jack Jones. But what it has really revealed is the alarming lengths both these men went towards the corporate state.

They agreed to control over wages and to drop their demands for legal sanctions of price rises. Only the knowledge that it would be impossible to sell such a Tory package to their militant members stopped them signing.

The working class therefore

faces months of struggle both with the government and the TUC rotten leadership.

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Councils of Action must be built in every area of Britain to unite all sections of the working class in the fight on prices, rents and wages.

The Tories are presenting the working class with a simple choice. They say: 'Accept the principles of the corporate state, give up your basic rights, or remove us from office.'

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the working class must pick up. This government has no mandate for wage control, anti-union laws and measures to give the speculators millions. It must be driven from office and replaced by a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

There is no other way to defend wages and democratic rights.

This political battle demands revolutionary leadership in place of the bankrupt reformists of the TUC.

This is the call the Socialist Labour League makes today. The task of the hour is to campaign for the resolution passed by over 2,000 trade unionists at the Birmingham conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance to transform the League into the revolutionary party of Britain.

Merseyside rallying to CAV sit-in

SHOP STEWARDS from major industry on Merseyside are to meet at the occupied CAV factory in Liverpool tomorrow.

Plans will be put to the meeting for stepping up the campaign to keep the factory open.

Occupation leaders say they are confident that if their plans are adopted they can force the Lucas combine, which owns CAV, to reverse its closure decision.

Dockers, railwaymen, road-transport drivers, carworkers, engineers and even miners have been invited to the meeting.

But for the 1,000 men and women who are now in the fifth week of their sit-in strike for the right to work, the key to success is now seen as the transport situation.

'It is vital we make our black on all Lucas products watertight', said a spokesman for the CAV stewards at the weekend.

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Following the lay-off of all transport from the Fazakerley site, particular attention is being paid to the combine's Victor aerospace works at Broadgreen. The CAV stewards say they have received assurances of support for their action from national officials of the engineers' and transport workers' unions.

They will be pressing both unions this week to make their pickets of car and other factories official.

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● MONDAY NOVEMBER 6, 1972 ● No. 913 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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Polish-US trade talks are under way

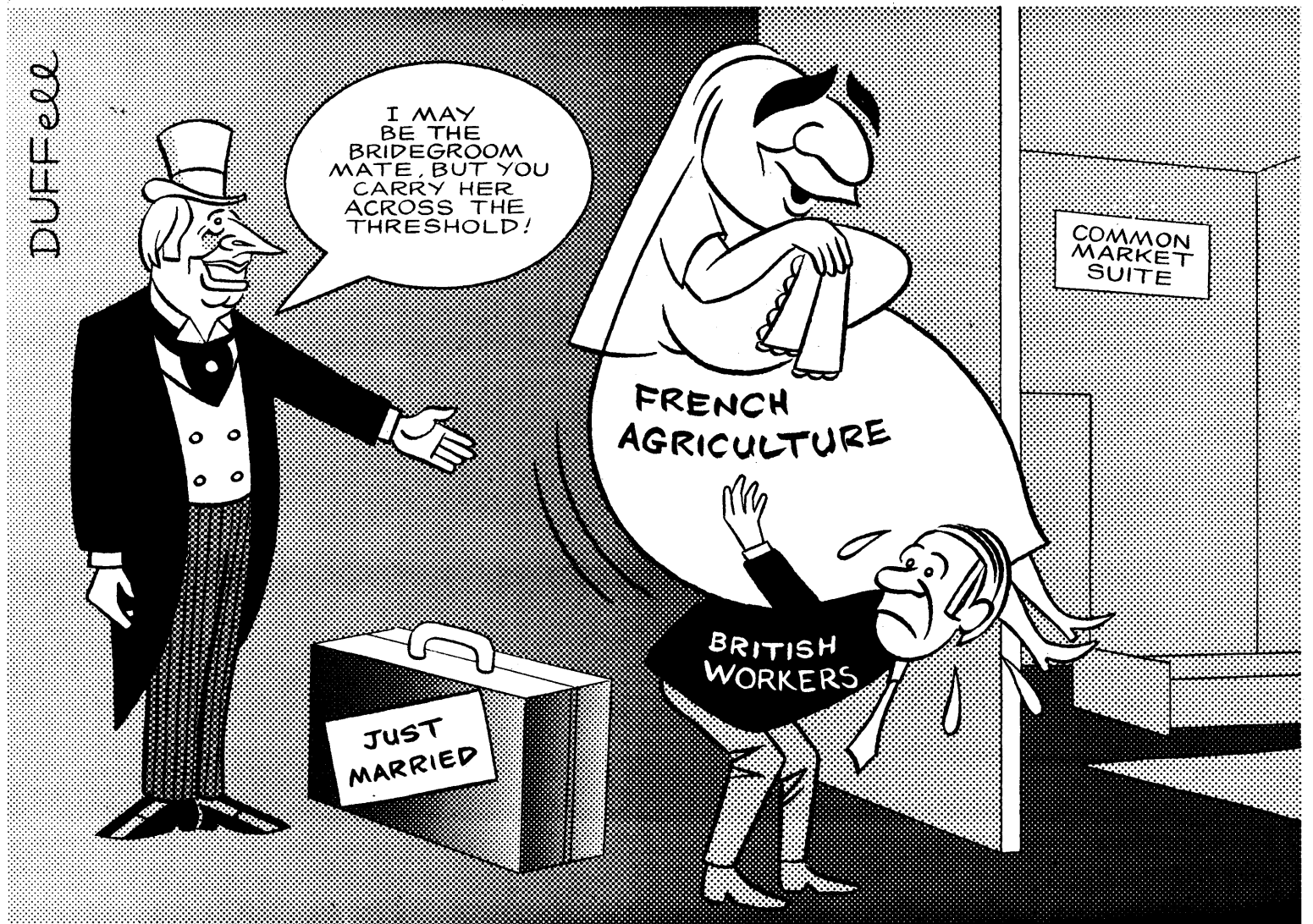
TALKS between Poland and the United States on a major trade agreement have opened in Washington.

The Polish delegation, headed by Foreign Trade Minister Tadeusz Olechowski, arrived in the US capital on Friday for talks with Commerce Secretary Peter Peterson.

Peterson recently concluded a very large trade pact with the Soviet Union. He met Polish officials in Warsaw in August to discuss trade, commerce and industrial and technical co-operation.

Now that a deal has been signed with Moscow, the Polish negotiations are expected to move rapidly towards agreement.

The Poles will no doubt ask for an agreement similar to the US-Soviet deal, involving thousands of millions of dollars in US bank credits.



Air build-up in Vietnam

BY JOHN SPENCER

THE UNITED STATES is making strenuous efforts to build up the South Vietnamese armed forces while stalling on a Vietnam ceasefire agreement. Helped by the governments of Iran, South Korea and Taiwan, the US is sending supersonic F-5A fighters and C-130 transport aircraft to South Vietnam to make the Saigon air force into one of the world's strongest.

Simultaneously the Americans are said to be demanding that Hanoi pull most of its troops out of the south as a ceasefire condition.

The US is clearly determined that the puppet regime will continue as a bastion of counter-revolution in south-east Asia, regardless of the ceasefire terms. President Nixon reportedly feels secure enough to win the election without previously signing a ceasefire deal.

He will then be able to impose even more pressure on North Vietnam to settle at worse terms than the draft agreement drawn up by Dr Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho which the Americans have refused to sign.

Hanoi has said the agreement could collapse if Nixon insists on renegotiating basic issues. But it has also indicated a willingness to meet Kissinger again for further talks 'if he is serious' about them.

In the background of these sinister diplomatic manoeuvres is the attitude of Moscow and Peking, where the Stalinist leaders appear eager for a Vietnam settlement at any price.

They want nothing to jeopardize their close relations with President Nixon. Not only do they want the butcher President re-elected, they also want an end to the revolution in Indo-China whatever the cost to the workers and peasants of Vietnam.

Pressure on Czech intellectuals

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

GUSTAV HUSAK'S regime in Czechoslovakia continues to put pressure on intellectuals to conform to its rigid Stalinist requirements.

At a central committee meeting on ideology last week, hard-line Kremlin supporter Alois Indra expressed dissatisfaction with the work of the heavily-purged intelligentsia.

He implied that there was too much 'false professional solidarity' with people who had been driven out of the Party for supporting the Alexander Dubcek tendency.

Indra added that there would be no 'general amnesty' for Dubcek's supporters. The personal responsibility of every member of the intelligentsia, particularly scholars, would be judged even more stringently.

The campaign's course was revealed by the old Stalinist Pavel Auersperg who made an anti-Semitic speech under the guise of attacking Zionism.

'We could see by the example of many of our citizens of Jewish origin, even before 1968 and the period of crisis, that the ideology of Zionism, the false, chauvinistic, international clanship of all Jews, operates within the socialist countries as a class alien infection.'

The most outstanding wave of Stalinist anti-Semitism in Czechoslovakia prior to 1968 was generated around the frame-up Slansky trial of 1962, in which 11 of the 14 defendants were Jews.

The defendants were subjected to explicitly anti-Jewish abuse and the charge of Zionism was prominent in the indictment. Auersperg's ominous speech shows that the Stalinists have not changed their spots.

TURKISH cabinet went into emergency session in Ankara yesterday following the withdrawal from the government of the Republican People's Party, the country's second largest party. Turkey has been a military dictatorship since April 1971.

Odd claim by Allende

After putting Chile under military rule and forming a cabinet with leading army generals, President Salvador Allende broadcast this optimistic message at the week-end:

'We have had a great victory . . . We have defeated the spectre of fascism . . . We have defeated sedition and

those who tried to destroy the support for the government did not succeed.'

At the end of the first full cabinet meeting, Allende's new Ministry of the Interior, CIA-trained General Carlos Prats, said he was confident that the lorry owners' strike would be settled this week.

Strike leader Leon Villarín, President of the Lorry Owners' Federation, described a meeting he had with Prats as 'extraordinarily cordial, friendly and positive'.

He added that the new Minister of the Interior was studying a revised list of demands which Allende's previous government had rejected

for being 'purely political'.

There is euphoria in ruling-class circles in Chile. Clearly Allende—with the help of the Chilean Communist Party — has already dropped more than his nationalization policy.

He has even imposed, 'peacefully and democratically', a virtual military dictatorship.

Bolivian escapees seek asylum

FIFTY-SIX political prisoners who escaped from a Bolivian prison camp on the Coati Island on Lake Titicaca, in the Andes mountains, have asked for asylum in Peru.

The prisoners were all victims of the repression which followed Hugo Banzer's coup on August 21, 1971.

Bolivian Minister of the Interior Adett Zamora said the prisoners had bribed their guards to let them out.

It is doubtful whether they will get a very warm welcome from Peruvian dictator Velasco. He has already imprisoned five members of the Bolivian National

Liberation Army whose extradition is being demanded by Banzer.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Miguel Angel de la Flor told

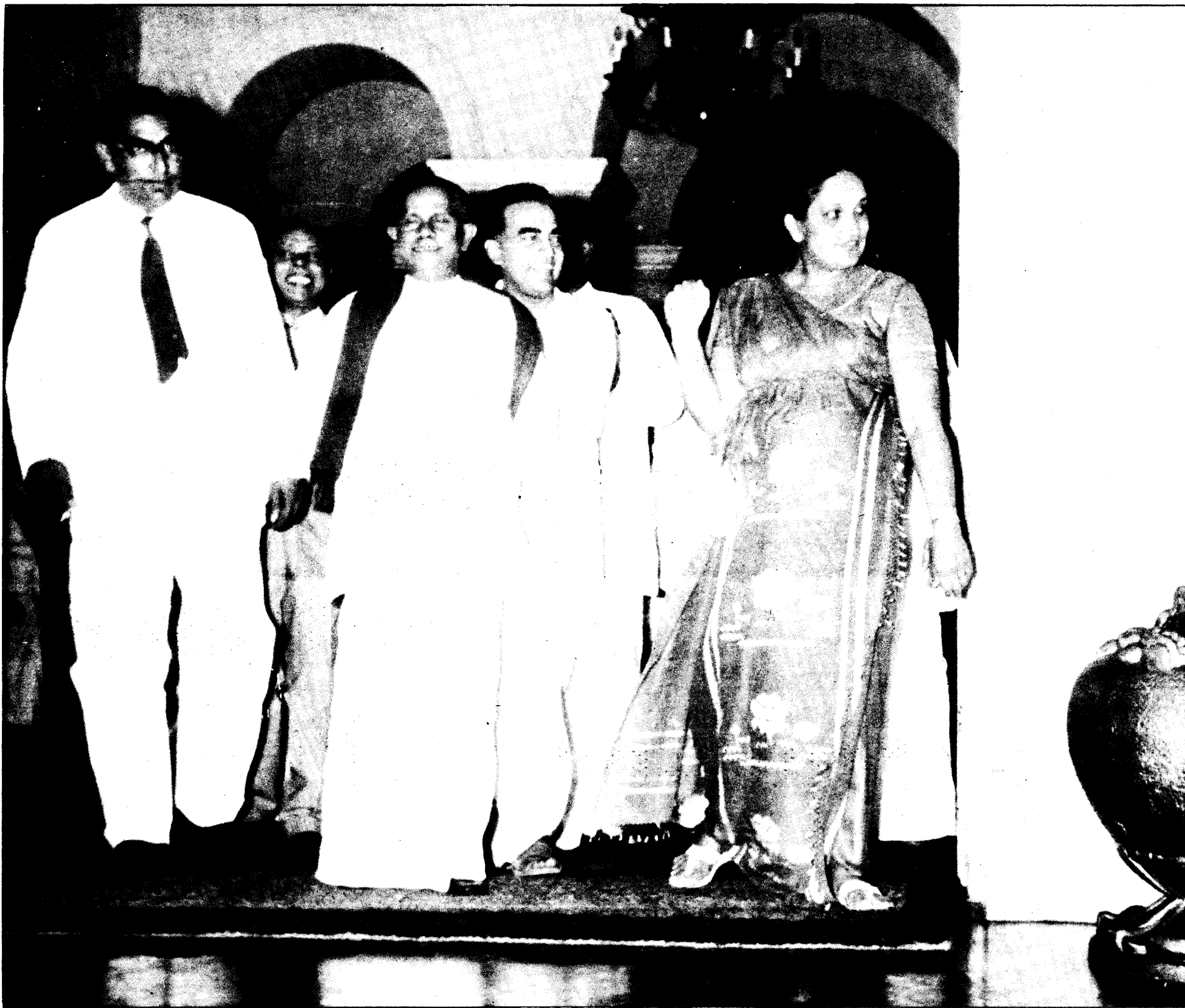
reporters that his Ministry had not yet received an official report on the prisoners' request and he could not say whether it would be granted.

Explosion deaths protest

POLICE broke up a demonstration of angry workers and their wives in Barcelona on Saturday. The demonstrators shouted 'Pay compensation', 'We want safety' and 'No more deaths' outside the gas company in the working-class district of Sans where three houses were destroyed a week ago by an explosion caused by a

gas leak. Fourteen people were killed.

This explosion follows the collapse of a ten-storey block of flats last March in which 18 people were killed. Despite pious resolutions from the local fascist authorities, working-class housing in Barcelona continues to be as dangerous as ever.



Statement of the International Committee of the Fourth International

AGAINST THE REPRESSION IN CEYLON

The political trials involving about 14,000 youth who are being held in the so-called 'rehabilitation camps' are now in progress in special law courts in Ceylon.

These camps were specially set up by the bourgeois coalition government when the mass killings and arrests of youth started 18 months ago. The government also recently brought in new statutory laws to set up special judicial procedures for the hearing of these political trials.

These political prisoners were arrested during the abortive uprising in April 1971, led by Janatha Vimukthi Paramura (JVP). This organization, which came into the open in 1968, was mainly composed of university and rural youth who had experienced long periods of unemployment. No doubt these youth could be an invaluable motive force for the socialist revolution if they were trained and organized on the principles of Marxism and the traditions of Bolshevism.

But from the very beginning the JVP opposed this perspective of building and training an alternative leadership in the working class. In fact they condemned the working class

and its traditional organizations, the trade unions, as reformist, and abandoned any fight to transform the workers and their organizations into cadres and organs of revolutionary politics.

They believed in a revolution from the country to the town, believing that the workers in the towns would join the revolution spontaneously as they saw the rural masses fighting. In this way they developed a conception completely hostile to Marxism on the development of revolutionary consciousness in the working class. They showed this hostility towards Marxism concretely when they attempted several times to physically beat the members of the Revolutionary Communist League (RCL), the Ceylon section of the International Committee of the Fourth International (ICFI), who fought uncompromisingly to build a revolutionary leadership among the workers and peasants on the basis of Marxism.

Massacre

The crisis-ridden bourgeois coalition government provoked these petty-bourgeois romantic revolutionaries of the JVP to a battle in March 1971 and with the aid of all the centres

of imperialism and Stalinism perpetrated a massacre on the militant youth throughout the country.

The responsibility for these youth who were thrown into a struggle unprepared and isolated, ending up in a blood bath, lies with the Pabloite revisionists of the Unified Secretariat in Ceylon who covered up for the petty-bourgeois politics of the JVP. They encouraged the JVP in their suicidal attempts by their theories about 'natural Marxists', after the example of Castro.

It also must be stated here that the conscious treachery of the Unified Secretariat is unpardonable as it deliberately covered up for Bala Tampoe, the secretary of the Pabloite section in Ceylon. On the one hand he encouraged these youth for blind terrorism and on the other hand maintained close relations and made himself a source of information to the worst reactionaries, like MacNamara, the head of the World Bank, and ex-Nazi Kissinger, West German Minister.

Today these same Pabloite revisionists have abandoned any struggle to defend these youth in the jails. Instead, starting by writing petitions to Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike preaching to her

about Buddhist principles and appealing to her to pardon futile one-day hunger strikes in the worst tradition of pacifism.

Aided by these policies of the Pabloite revisionists, the Lanka Sama Samaja Party (LSSP) and the Stalinist Communist Party (CP) desperately attempt to maintain their counter-revolutionary alliance with the bourgeois party of Mrs Bandaranaike. But the working class of Ceylon, with its powerful trade union organizations, has come forward today to oppose this condition in all its struggles to defend its basic rights. This is the central political issue involved in all the major strikes which have occurred in the last year. The bank employees have shown their determination not to bow down in front of the government's threats or strike-breaking attempts, by carrying forward their fight for a wage demand now over a period of more than ten weeks.

The International Committee of the Fourth International demands that all the political prisoners in Ceylon be released immediately and all the democratic rights of the workers and peasants be restored.

It believes that these demands can only be met by

Top: Ceylonese Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike (right) with members of the present government which recently passed statutory laws to set up the trials of thousands of youth arrested in April, 1971

the struggle for a workers' and peasants' government which will take the political power from the bourgeoisie. The mobilization of the working class and the peasants for this political task can be achieved today by training a new alternative leadership in the working class and the rural areas, by breaking the grip of the LSSP and the CP reformists who try to tie the workers and peasants to the bourgeoisie. That is why the fight to mobilize the masses to force the LSSP and CP leaders to break from the coalition and fight for their own government has become so vital and urgent today.

Only through this mobilization of the mass movement for its political independence can we train a new leadership.

The RCL, the Ceylon section of the ICFI, fights rigorously against all the revisionist elements who try to divert the workers and peasants from this central political struggle to build an independent Marxist leadership in Ceylon.

October 30, 1972

ROLLS-ROYCE: WILL THE AXE FALL AGAIN?

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Is a major carve-up of Rolls-Royce on the way? This is the question that every Rolls-Royce worker must consider following the recent Press report that the Tory government intends to cut the labour force by half.

'The Engineer', in its October 19 issue, quoted the American aircraft industry journal, 'Aviation Week', which stated:

'Rolls-Royce's new managing director, Mr Kenneth Wilkinson has been given five years by the government to cut Rolls-Royce's labour force from its present 63,000 employees, down to 30,000.

'Pratt and Whitney has a payroll of around 30,000 people. And it is anticipated that these measures will enable Rolls-Royce output per man to match that of its American counterpart.'

'The Engineer', then quotes from an interview in March this year when Rolls-Royce's then managing director, Mr Ian Morrow, said: 'Rolls-Royce would not make any more savage cuts in personnel, but would aim to achieve increases in productivity by changing methods of work.'

These extracts throw new light on Morrow's sacking in October and the appointment of Wilkinson from December 1.

REDUCTIONS

The campaign for drastic reductions in the Rolls labour force has been under way for sometime. The 'New Scientist' on December 9, 1971, had this to say:

'It's full steam ahead again at Rolls-Royce. But the inherited overmanning problem remains. Total unemployment is around 62,000; employment at the giant complex of Derby factories is some 34,999 — down 6,000 from February and 10,000 less than early 1970.

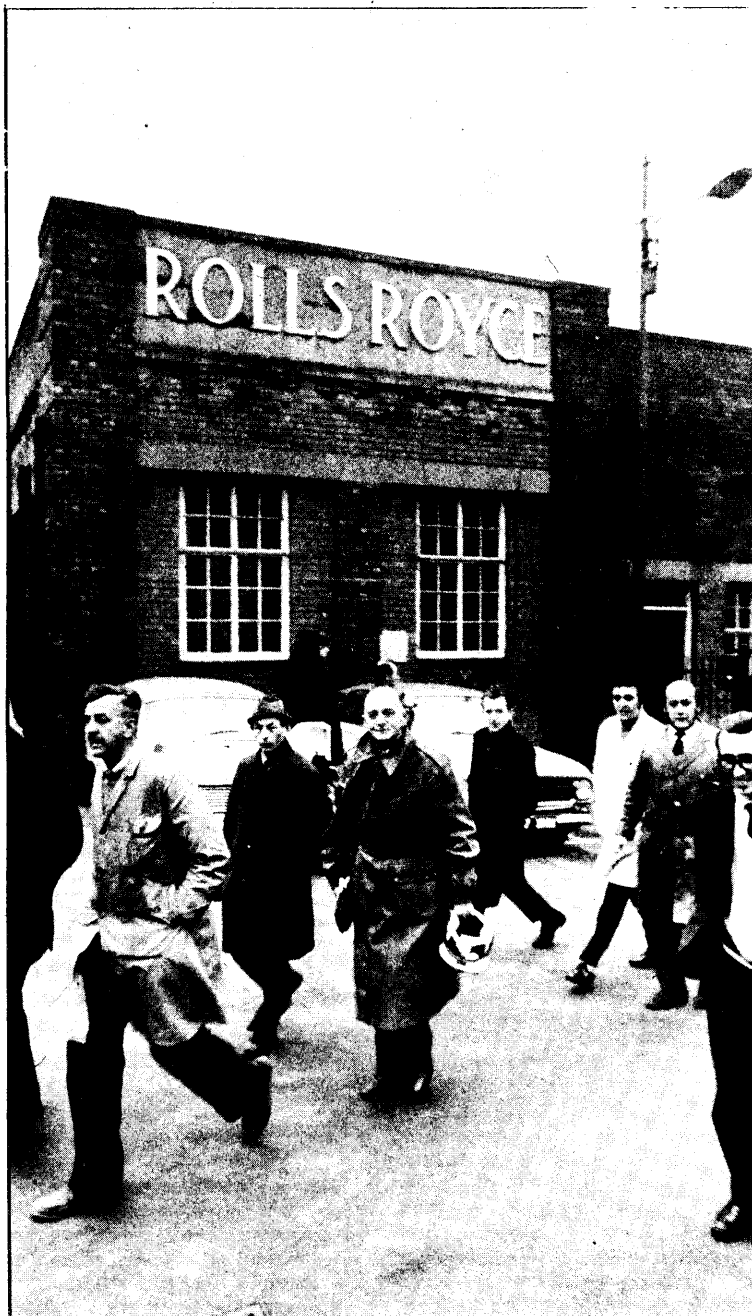
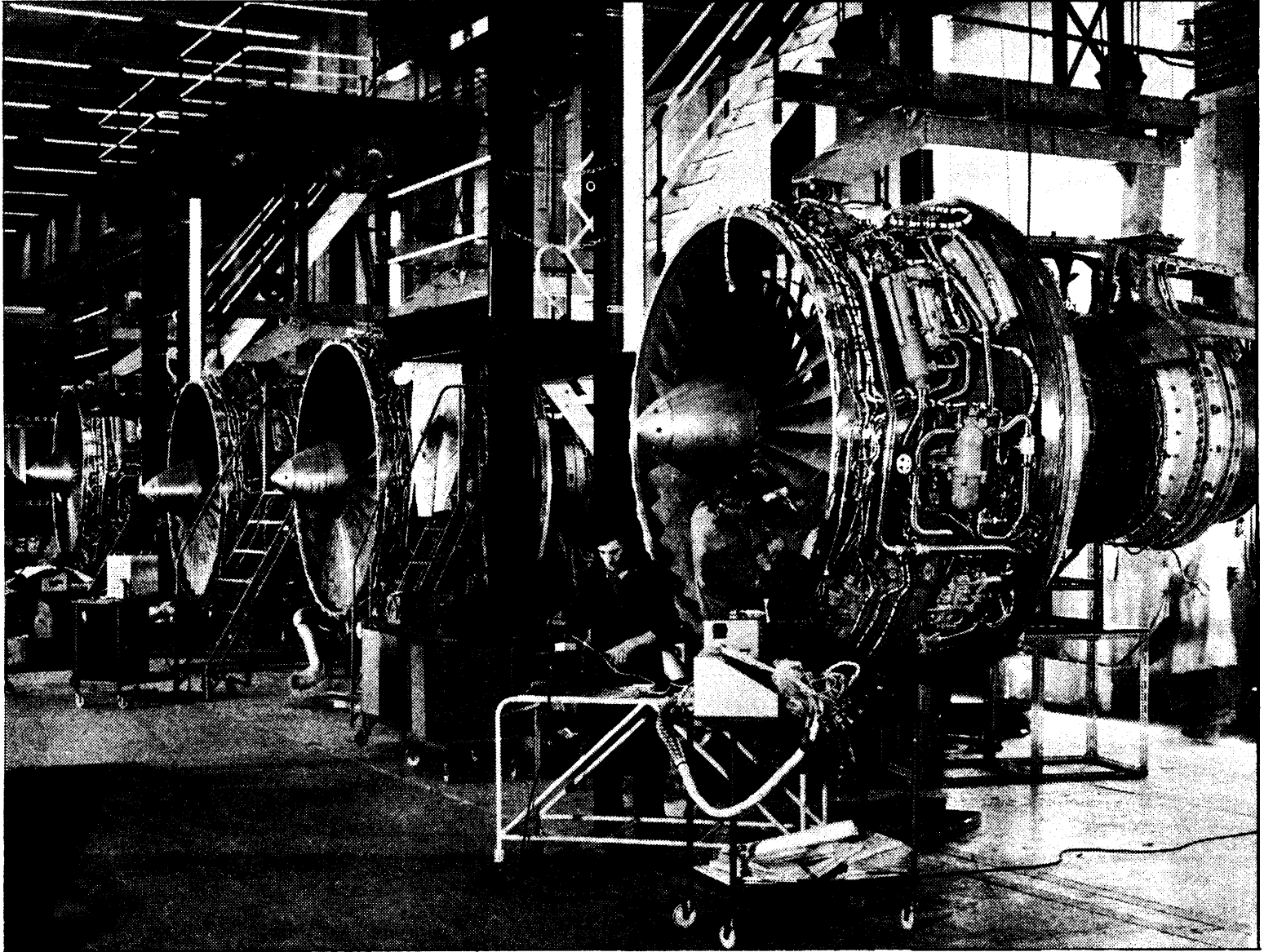
'Yet the underlying problem is still overmanning. If the US General Electric, the company's most direct rival in aircraft propulsion, is taken as a yardstick, GE at Evendale, Ohio, has a bigger engine output from a labour force of about 11,000, with roughly the same degree of sub-contracting.

'Rolls has roughly 22,000 working on the RB211 [TriStar engine] alone. At a cost per employee of around £4,000 per year (inclusive of overheads) some idea can be gained of the British firm's financial handicap.'

Although between May 23 and December 1971 Morrow was able to turn the Rolls-Royce losses into a £6.5m profit before tax, this was only achieved with £170m worth of government assistance for the RB211 project.

Now, with the pound at its lowest level and the economic crisis gaining momentum every minute, the Tories cannot afford such cash hand-outs.

And the RB211 is not the only white elephant in the Rolls-Royce stable. It also houses the Olympus engine for Concorde. Concorde's estimates started at £150m and by the time of the first prototype flight, it had reached £885m!



Top: RB211 (TriStar engine) in production at Derby. Above: Rolls Royce, Derby workers. 22,000 are employed on the RB211 alone.

In fact Olympus costs are so gigantic that Aerospace Minister Frederick Corfield told the House of Commons in February 1971 that 'to reveal the cost of the Olympus engine for Concorde [believed to be nearly double that of the highest estimate for the RB211] would not be in the commercial interests of Rolls-Royce'. ('Flight International', February, 11, 1971.)

What appears to emerge is that Morrow thought Rolls-Royce could sell aero engines. But now the Tories no longer think so. Wilkinson has been put in to butcher Rolls-Royce—a 'bloodletting' as 'Aviation Week' calls it.

'The Sunday Times' said on October 8 that since Michael Heseltine has become Minister for Aerospace, the government tendency to intervene in Rolls-Royce had been increasing and that the government had refused to give Morrow the independence he wanted to continue as managing director.

WORLD-WIDE

The report went on to say that Wilkinson has no manufacturing experience and very little commercial experience; but as a lifetime nationalized industry executive, he would be less likely to rebel against government intervention than Morrow.

A further indication of government thinking on the aircraft industry, and an explanation for Wilkinson's appointment, can be gained from the 'Sunday Telegraph's' feature article on the Farnborough Air Show in its issue on September 10, 1972:

'The aircraft industry is in a state of decline and the problem is world-wide. The reasons include reduced

defence expenditure, higher productivity, longer product life and over ordering by the airlines.'

Because the aircraft industry was being deprived of its original life-blood of defence contracts on a cost plus basis, it has turned to the civil airlines. Lockheed, with the TriStar, its first civil aircraft for years, is a typical example.

The competitive nature of capitalism forces each airline to take new aircraft types, through fear that a rival might gain an edge on them. This theory was applied to the turbo-prop aircraft, then jets and now Concorde.

The result has been that airline after airline has bankrupted itself—so the theory will not work any more.

Sabena, the Belgian airline faced with an estimated £6m loss, was the first to cancel its options for two Concorde aircraft. Now United Airlines, America's largest domestic carrier, has cancelled its options for eight Concorde. The cancellation was due mainly to financial difficulties.

Two more American airlines, Pan Am, with eight Concorde options, and TWA, with six options, are openly expressing reservations about Concorde's operating costs.

In its December 11, 1971, issue, the 'Economist' said: 'The more Concorde an airline flies, the more money it could expect to lose.'

So desperate are Concorde's makers to get an American contract that they have offered Pan Am a special reduced price for an early firm order. It was in this way — and through government pressure—that BOAC and Air France bought five and four Concorde's respectively.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

EUROPEAN POLICE UNITE TO ATTACK EMIGRANTS

On November 11 and 12 the 3rd Congress of Spanish emigrants will be held in Zurich in Switzerland. As there are over 2 million Spaniards working in Europe, one would have expected the Common Market to figure high on the agenda.

But it does not, since the reformists and liberals who are organizing the conference accept the EEC as a given reality and are in favour of Spanish entry.

A leading organizer of the Congress, Señor Montero has said that the most pressing problems are pensions, education and the emancipation of women.

As for the class struggle, Señor Montero is fully in favour of it, provided that the local police are brought in.

'We demand that no special structure of repression be set up against the emigrant worker. If somebody commits a crime, they should be judged by the same juridical procedures which deal with nationals.'

But Montero must surely be aware that the Spanish emigration authorities signed a bilateral agreement with the French government which excludes Spanish workers in France from social benefits, such as they are, which are enjoyed by French workers and their families.

Doesn't he remember the visit paid by the head of Spanish Police, Inhiesta Cano, to his French opposite number last year to draw up a plan for joint police activity against all 'trouble makers', be they Basque nationalists or militant Spanish trade unionists?

This police co-operation is also at work in Germany against immigrant workers. The fascist police and the German police united against a recent strike of immigrant



Above: Immigrant workers on strike outside a Frankfurt engineering factory.

workers in the Opel factory in Bochum.

The strike began when Opel sacked a worker elected as the representative of the Spanish workers in the factory. This worker had spoken at a mass meeting calling for the unity of immigrant and German workers, the abolition of Saturday shift-working and equal wage increases for all.

The day after he was sacked. According to paragraph 7 of the 'law against foreigners', 'the end of the work contract also means the end of the permit to stay in Germany', for all those who do not come

from countries which belong to the Common Market.

Eighty per cent of the Spanish workers at Opel immediately struck work and set up pickets outside the factory.

One picket was attacked by a group of Spanish fascists and the German police allowed the fascists to leave while they told the strikers to return to work: their strike was illegal since it was not recognized by the leadership of the union.

Five workers were arrested when the strikers refused to return to work.

German police and foreign fascists had been united against

immigrant workers only a few days previous to the Opel strike. Turkish fascists joined the police in an assault on a demonstration of Turkish and Italian workers in Russelsheim, near Frankfurt.

The Zurich Congress and the activities of Señor Montero are a complete diversion from the struggle of the European working class against the monopolists.

Any attempt to put liberal pressure on the men who are setting the foundations for the dictatorship of capital in Europe is a blow against such actions as the strike at Opel.

FRENCH CP HAILS THE 'SOCIALIST' BISHOPS

The plenary assembly of French bishops met at Lourdes last Saturday and adopted a resolution on 'The Christian practice of politics'.

This pious document called for 'action against injustice' and for an end to the impasse of 'industrial civilization'. Not enamoured of revolutionary solutions, the French Episcopacy pointed out that man cannot be reduced to his class position.

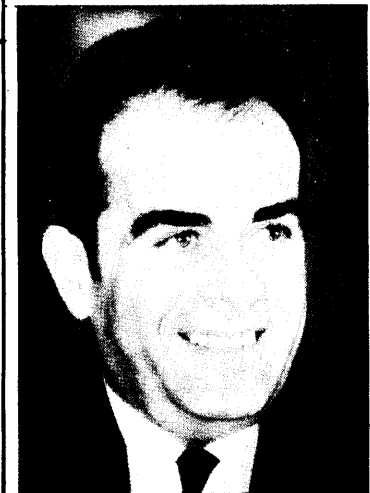
Increases

The weekend conference was held in the midst of rapid price increases throughout Europe and a financial crisis which threatens the whole of the working class with rapid impoverishment.

Workers in two strikes at least were showing their willingness to defend their living standards. The workers in the potash mines in Alsace were well into their second week of strike. At the Big Dutchman in Saint Brieuc, a strike for a wage increase of 55 centimes an hour had entered its seventh week.

Event

The French Communist Party decided that the assembly of bishops was the most important event of the weekend. 'L'Humanité' devoted its front-page editorial last Monday to the Bishops and their move towards socialism!



Above: Marchais, Chief of the French Communist Party.

According to this editorial, the hierarchy no longer defends as 'an expression of divine will the existence of the private ownership of the means of production'.

Indeed, 'we have often said that we want an alliance with Christians. We have the same ideal of justice and dignity. We have the same interests and the same enemies'.

The French Stalinists' identification with the 'anti-capitalism' of the church hierarchy also extends to the Protestant Federation and Catholic Action.

No wonder the circulation of 'L'Humanité' is falling drastically!

GADDAFFI'S MYTHICAL THIRD THEORY

Libya's President Muammar Gaddafi chose a symposium of intellectuals held recently in Tripoli to unveil his answer to communism and capitalism — the Third Theory.

Details of this massive contribution to human thought were left rather cloudy. But Gaddafi did tell his audience: 'The Third Theory means that in our Moslem faith we need neither capitalism nor communism . . . We are only slaves to God.'

He added: 'With respect to the details of the theory, it is the duty of every educated man, thinker and research worker to explain the military, legal, political and economic provisions in the Koran . . .'

Which leaves precious little room for education, thought and research! One immediate

task he set the meeting was to combat 'a communist encyclopedia composed of tens of volumes which attacked the Holy Koran and Islam and tried to connect it with imperialism, reaction and underdevelopment'.

The existence of these volumes was a 'very important and grave' matter, Gaddafi said. Moslem priests and thinkers should reply to it and expose its atheist fallacies.

All of which sounds very much like the old anti-communism masquerading as a new philosophical breakthrough. But Gaddafi had the last word: 'We should confront capitalism strongly to show the evils of money when it is accumulated and used for evil purposes.'

Reports of panic among the Libyan bourgeoisie are said to be 'much exaggerated'.

Right: Libya's President Muammar Gaddafi.



WAR BY FIRE

BY JACK GALE

One of the features of US imperialism's aggression in Vietnam has been the extensive development of weapons to cause burns.

The first large-scale experiment in the use of such weapons was, of course, dropping Atomic-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. While imperialist and Stalinist papers throughout the world shrieked with joy, 45,000 people died in Hiroshima on the first day and 22,000 in Nagasaki on the day a bomb was dropped there.

Not only is immediate death high from heat and flame, but the chance of recovery is much lower than from any other type of wound. Of 41,992 burn-wound survivors of Hiroshima Day One 9,776 (23.3 per cent) subsequently died.

A badly-burned body cannot maintain the optimal temperature of 37 degrees necessary to maintain human life, nor can it prevent the evaporation of moisture, which also causes death.

Treatment of serious burn wounds is dangerous and agonizing. The skin can only regenerate from intact portions. This means that skin-grafts are necessary and this requires repeated operations which are lengthy, tedious and excruciatingly painful.

The skin contains millions of nerve-endings which feed sensations to the brain. If the skin is removed these sensors are removed with it.

The skin contains two main levels — the sensitive lower level and a protective outer level. As the sensitive level is being regenerated, dressings are required to carry out the protective function normally done by the outer skin. These dressings have to be changed every day and the experience is equivalent to being systematically skinned alive.

In addition to this there are enormous psychological complications caused by the disfigurement resulting from burn wounds.

Obviously the longer the skin is in contact with burning material, the more damage is done.

The American military chiefs in Vietnam, therefore have arranged that incendiary agents should be thickened with such substances as rubber, asphalt, soaps, polystyrene and polyisobutylene. These materials extend burning time and are difficult to remove from the skin. The main burning agent used is napalm—jellied petroleum.

Very few napalm victims survive. Data issued by the North Vietnamese Army indicates four categories of napalm victims:

- 1) Those who are incinerated or die of heat in the initial fireball (no figures available).
- 2) Those on the periphery of the fireball who are splashed by

burning napalm: some 35 per cent of these die in about half an hour.

3) Of those who survive, some 50-55 per cent die during the course of the next 40 days due to shock.

4) Some 10-15 per cent survive and require extensive medical treatment.

North Vietnamese doctors use a standard treatment schedule in four phases. The first (shock) phase of three to four days; a second phase, 30-40 days; a third phase, from the 40th day to the formation of scars; the fourth phase from formation of scars to healing. Sixty-two per cent of the persons who reach the third period die. The fourth stage is reached by only 10-15 per cent of the persons affected.

Napalm makes up 8-9 per cent of the fighter-bombers' tonnage of American munitions in Vietnam.

But it is, of course, used in combination with fragmentation bombs, high-explosive bombs, phosphorous bombs, fragmentation and phosphorous rockets, rapid rate-of-fire machine-guns etc. to increase the overall lethality. The chance of only being hit by napalm and surviving is extremely small.

In addition, Vietnam is subjected to the most massive bombardment in history. The chance of wounded being evacuated and receiving treatment is therefore slight.

After napalm, the most commonly used burning agent is white phosphorus.

There are more immediate survivors of white-phosphorous burns because its effect on the body is usually well localized. White-phosphorous burns, are, however, unusually deep and slower to heal than most third-degree burns. Victims require an average of 5.8 operations each.

Secondary effects of such burns include contracture of the joints, complications of the eyes and eyelids, pneumonia, upper gastrointestinal bleeding, septicaemia, acute renal failure and extensive damage to the kidneys.

White phosphorus has a low ignition and melting point and therefore continues to burn in the skin until air is excluded.

Clinical reports from North Vietnam frequently refer to phosphorous wounds smoking for hours or even days.

A particularly gruesome effect of white-phosphorous shells, grenades and bombs is that particles of phosphorus penetrate into the deeper tissues of the body and body cavity. There they continue to burn in the muscle tissue.

Napalm, white phosphorus and other burn weapons are used extensively against the civilian population of North Vietnam. They are known as 'area' weapons. They are not used against specific military targets but against areas — a



village or a town—which may, or may not, contain a military target.

Burn weapons depend for their effectiveness on the fact that the incendiary agent itself, or the heat, flame and noxious gases produced by it, spread beyond the point of impact and envelop a large space around it. This is the great attractiveness of fire, a characteristic which it shares with biological weapons.

As one of the advocates of war by fire — Colonel Zanetti — wrote in the United States

during World War Two: 'The small size of these bombs may appear almost ridiculous, particularly after considering the tons of gas that are required to produce lethal concentrations.

'But here comes the essential difference between gas and incendiaries that makes fire far more dangerous to a large city. Gas dissipates while fire propagates.'

The types of incendiaries used by the Americans in Vietnam spread in several

ways. The forest was bombarded with World War II magnesium incendiary bombs. An area the size of Philadelphia was destroyed and 6,000 people lost their homes. But the enterprise failed in its main aim—the tropical forest did not burn down and guerrillas were back in the area within a month.

In 1968 a third and much larger episode took place, in the U Minh forest (the 'Forest of Darkness') in the extreme south of the Mekong Delta. Seventy to 80 fires were started over an area of 800 square miles. US jets roared down over the Delta to feed the fire with napalm and white-phosphorous rockets while US Navy ships and long-range artillery maintained a constant bombardment.

The fire raged for six weeks. 'Time' magazine claimed that '20 years of communist building and hoarding' had been destroyed and that 'it will take at least a year for the forest to turn green once more and five years before anyone, including the Vietcong, can hope to use it as a hiding place again'. ('Time', April 26, 1968.)

In less than a month, Liberation Front units launched a major attack on Saigon, only 90 miles away. Despite the brutally inhumane and indiscriminate fire-raising no military gains had been won by the Americans.

But that makes their ruling class and military chiefs no less determined to destroy their opponents, regardless of the cost in innocent lives.

The imperialist, military outlook has never been so clearly expressed as it was by General Curtis E. LeMay. LeMay was Chief of Staff, US Army Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific in August 1945, with a major responsibility for the atom-bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He was Chief of Staff, US Air Force, 1961-1964.

On Vietnam, he said: 'My solution? Tell the Vietnamese they've got to draw in their horns and stop aggression or we're going to bomb them back into the Stone Age.'

WRITINGS OF LEON TROTSKY

A review by Tom Kemp. The years 1938-1939

The volumes of Trotsky's writings so far published for the period after 1935 differ in several respects from the two already reviewed. They are printed on a large format page and consist mainly of facsimile reproductions of articles which appeared in the Trotskyist Press and other journals in the United States, together with a few items translated into English for the first time. The selections are grouped under headings according to country or subject rather than being in chronological order. This makes it possible to follow through Trotsky's thought on a particular topic, such as the Moscow Trials. On the other hand, the notes do little more than indicate the source of the articles, thus leaving the reader to find out for himself about the many persons, organizations and events which are referred to. In addition, there is no index. Apart from the faults of editorship, these volumes are still to be highly recommended because they bring together writings which are otherwise virtually inaccessible or, in certain cases, have never been available in English before.

This volume of Trotsky's writings includes the period when war almost broke out as a result of Hitler's demands on Czechoslovakia regarding the Sudeten German minority, only to be postponed with the signing of the Munich Agreement in October, 1938.

It gives Trotsky's assessment of these events and the counsel which he gave to the international movement on the war question.

In face of the great dangers opening up before the working class with the approach of a new war Trotsky was acutely conscious of the need to strengthen and develop the work of the Fourth International, which had been founded in August, 1938, and establish a firm policy for a war situation.

The first section of this volume contains a number of important articles on the coming war which are, in fact, closely related to those in the second dealing with problems of the Fourth International. The third section deals with the murder of his secretary Rudolph Klement and his son Leon Sedov by Stalinist agents.

A whole section is devoted to Latin America and particularly to the Mexican nationalization of British-owned oil wells.

There is a section on Stalinism, which includes one of enormous theoretical interest called 'Three Conceptions of the Russian Revolution'.

There is a section on France which continues the struggle against centrism by the supporters of the Fourth International in that country. Included as an appendix are letters from two leaders of the centrist organization PSOP to Trotsky.

Ever since the defeat of the German working class in January 1933, Trotsky had insisted that war could only be a question of time. Nazi Germany was bound to go to war with the Soviet Union and with its imperialist rivals, Britain and France. War was the only way in which German imperialism could seek a way out of its intolerable contradiction. Only a revolution could forestall another imperialist war.

In France in 1936, and then during the Spanish Civil War, opportunities for a revolution which could have spread to other countries and rekindled the fighting capacity of the working class in the fascist countries were destroyed by

Stalinism. These defeats, Trotsky pointed out time and again, were the consequences of the treacherous policy of 'people's fronts' adopted at the 7th Congress of the Communist International in 1935 on Stalin's instructions.

The Stalinist policy at this time was to rally the working class behind the 'peace-loving' democracies in a front with the Soviet Union against the fascist powers. Stalin hoped at this stage to block Hitler's path to conquest in the east by lining up with the old imperialist countries, satiated powers satisfied with the *status quo* and fearful of the revolutionary consequences of a new war.

Champion

In accordance with Soviet diplomacy, the communist parties preached unity with the 'democratic' bourgeoisie against fascism and war. But while Stalin was prepared to support bourgeois governments in return for an alliance against Hitler, for their part they did not in the least trust the Soviet Union which still remained in their eyes a dangerous revolutionary force. They had supported Hitler's rise to power as their champion 'against Bolshevism' and they would have preferred him to Stalin as an ally, if conditions had made it possible.

Trotsky upheld the Marxist policy on war against those who were taken in by the Stalinist policy of support for the 'democracies' and the Popular Front. All these questions were analysed at length in the article 'A Fresh Lesson', as well as the social-patriotic position of the parties of the Second International and the pacifism of the centrists.

At the same time, in the article 'Learn to Think', he opposed the ultra-left positions which, in brief, opposed support for progressive wars and put forward policies which were the 'same' for all countries.

That means, for example, that they would not support China's war against Japan and would oppose help given to a colonial revolt by another imperialist country.

Trotsky stated his position clearly in this article as, for example, in the following passage:

'The policy of the proletariat is not at all automatically derived from the policy of the bourgeoisie, bearing only the opposite sign—this would make every sectarian a master strategist; no, the revolutionary party must each time orient itself independently in the international as well as the



Chamberlain, Mussolini, Hitler (signing) at Munich: Czechoslovakia was now a bridge for Hitler into Ukraine.

external situation, arriving at those decisions which correspond best to the interests of the proletariat. This rule applies as much to the war period as to the period of peace.'

And later he concludes: 'Defeatist policy, that is the policy of irreconcilable class struggle in wartime, cannot consequently be "the same" in all countries, just as the policy of the proletariat cannot be the same in all countries. Only the Comintern of the epigones has established a regime in which the parties of all countries break into march simultaneously with the left foot. In struggle against this bureaucratic cretinism we have attempted more than once to prove that the general principles and tasks must be realized in each country in accordance with its internal and external conditions. This principle retains its complete force for wartime as well.'

The Munich Agreement inflicted a heavy blow to the Stalinist hopes for a 'peace front'. At Munich Britain and France, together with Mussolini's Italy, agreed to Hitler Germany's carve-up of Czechoslovakia and to exclude the Soviet Union from any part in the re-division of the European map.

As Trotsky put it: 'If until now Czechoslovakia was considered a military bridge for the USSR into Europe, it now becomes a bridge for Hitler into the Ukraine . . . The collapse of Czechoslovakia is the collapse of Stalin's international policy of the last five years.'

As Trotsky saw it, and he was soon to be proved right, Stalin would now have to seek a deal with Hitler. What is more: 'The terrific blow at the international position of

the USSR is the pay-off for the continuous bloody purge which beheaded the army, disrupted the economy and revealed the weakness of the Stalinist regime.'

Coming on top of the events in Spain the whole policy of the Kremlin was in ruins. It was reaping the fruits of its counter-revolutionary role; war had now become a nightmare for the bureaucracy.

The section on the Fourth International includes the stenographic report of discussions on the Transitional Programme adopted at the Founding Conference in August 1938.

As Trotsky put it: 'The programme must express the objective tasks of the working class rather than the backwardness of the workers. It must reflect society as it is and not the backwardness of the working class. It is an instrument to overcome and vanquish the backwardness.'

Objective

These discussions were directed mainly to the problems of the American working class, especially the need to fight fascism through the formation of defence squads. The general point which Trotsky insists on is that the programme must be based on an objective analysis of the objective situation: 'We must give a scientific explanation of society and clearly explain it to the masses.'

The decision to launch the Fourth International had met with bitter opposition from the centrists. Trotsky deals with a critic who wanted the movement to call itself 'Movement for the Fourth International'. In this the unnamed critic resembles the French Organization Communiste Internation-

aliste (OCI) which split this year from the International Committee, which it always insisted should be 'for the reconstruction of the Fourth International'.

Trotsky pointed out that not only did enemies of the movement never use the word 'for' but always spoke 'of the Fourth International'; the prefix was a sign of indecision and lack of self-confidence. Not 'modesty' in the use of a name, but firm and correct policies could attract support. In his message to the Founding Conference entitled 'A Great Achievement', Trotsky proclaims: 'The Fourth International is now the only international organization which not only takes clearly into account the driving forces of imperialism, but is armed with a system of transitional demands which are capable of uniting the masses for a revolutionary struggle for power.'

'We do not need any self-deception. The discrepancy between our forces today and the tasks of the morrow is much more clearly perceived by us than by our critics. But the harsh and tragic dialectic of our epoch is working in our favour. Brought to the extreme pitch of exasperation and indignation the masses will find no other leadership than that offered by the Fourth International.'

Only the Fourth International could resolve the crisis of revolutionary leadership in the working class which was the starting point of the Transitional Programme.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

The article dealing with the years 1937-1938 will appear in Wednesday's Workers Press. We apologize for the change in sequence.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

'NON-EVENT'

National Union of Students President Digby Jacks is to visit Stirling University this Tuesday. He will probably have to address a students' union meeting outside, since the students are still banned from using university buildings after the uproar about incidents during the Queen's visit last month.

Communist Party member Jacks will also presumably discuss the question of the charges being brought against 25 Stirling students in the aftermath of the Press and TV witchhunt.

Stirling students' president Jack Carter, one of the 25 due to appear before the university's disciplinary committee, said the charges were 'extremely serious'.

And in the meantime everyone in the Tory Party and in the Department of Education and Science who want students' unions registered and their funds in the hands of college and university authorities has used the occasion to speak out.

But when Workers Press first rang the NUS headquarters the day after the incident for a statement we were told that the union considered the whole thing a 'non-event'.

LOWER RETIRING AGE

At last year's conference of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (APEX) it was announced that over 7,000 members had been lost, mainly due to redundancies in the engineering industry caused by factory closures.

This staggering loss in a union with a total membership of only around 20,000 was never fought at all by the leadership, which concentrated only on securing higher redundancy payments.

Now, however, they have come up with a revolutionary scheme for fighting unemployment. Lower the retiring age—and Bob's your uncle!

For each year the official retirement age is lowered, 250,000 jobs are released,

states 'The Clerk', APEX's monthly paper.

APEX is planning to get the government to cut several years off the working life by... a national petition! This, they assure their members, could 'cause the government to have second thoughts on opposing earlier retirement'.

But then, APEX President Denis Howell has always been a great believer in trying to change the Tories' minds instead of fighting them. He was one of the 69 Labour MPs who voted with them on the Common Market and helped to keep them in power—unemployment strategy, and all.

UNKNOWN



Above: Sir Gerald Nabarro

A leading solicitor has expressed 'astonishment' at the costs, estimated at £10,000 awarded to Sir Gerald Nabarro after his acquittal on a charge of dangerous driving.

He is Mr Ivan Geffen, member of the national executive committee of the British Legal Association. He says it is a well-established practice that courts only award costs to acquitted people in exceptional circumstances.

In an emergency resolution for the BLA's conference, Mr Geffen notes that even when costs are awarded the amount is often quite small, leaving the successful innocent defendant heavily out of pocket. His resolution adds that it is almost unknown for a motorist to be awarded the cost of briefing leading counsel, except in cases which raise novel or complex issues of law.

Stalinist Crisis 'Comment' lies about Soviet nationalities

BY PHILIP WADE

The British Stalinists have regurgitated their usual falsifications of history as the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic nears.

In the fortnightly review 'Comment', editor Paul Olive has written a commemorative piece. It is full of so many lies and distortions that it could have been written by Stalin himself.

The history of the Republics, of the minorities in the USSR since the death of Lenin, has been one of constant oppression and denial of basic rights laid down soon after the October 1917 Revolution.

None of these questions is dealt with by Olive.

Soon after taking power, the Bolshevik government laid down a declaration of rights of the peoples of Russia:

... The Council of Peoples' Commissars has resolved to base its activity in the matter of the nationalities of Russia on the following principles:

1. Equality and sovereignty of the peoples of Russia.
2. The right of the peoples of Russia to free self-determination, up to secession and formation of an independent state.
3. Abolition of all and any national and national-religious privileges and restrictions.
4. Free development of national minorities and ethnic groups inhabiting Russia.

But with the rise of the Soviet bureaucracy under Stalin's leadership things began to change. A glimpse of what was to come for the minorities could be seen in Lenin's criticisms of Stalin in 1923 on the question of Georgia—Stalin's home state.

Instead of offering the Georgians unification on equal terms with the existing Soviet Union, Stalin had foisted on them his so-called 'autonomization' plan, which involved Georgia's being swallowed up by Moscow in true Tsarist style.

In his last but one letter before his final stroke, Lenin wrote to Trotsky urging him to undertake the defence of Georgia on the Communist Party's Central Committee against Stalin and Dzherzhinsky.

But the abandonment of Marxism—and its revision with the 'theory' of 'socialism in one country'—led Stalin truly along the path of Russian chauvinism and to attacks on the many Republics which lay outside Russia itself.

And then, in the middle 1930s, the attacks began. It was the period of the Popular Front in foreign policy.

The language of the class struggle became an embarrassment for the Kremlin in this period of collaboration with the ruling class of the 'democratic' powers, the bourgeois democracies of western Europe.



Propaganda showing Stalin as 'Great White Father' of Moslem minority. Yet under him they were persecuted and their rights denied.

It was replaced by liberal phraseology, patriotism and, in the Soviet Union itself, by pure great Russian chauvinism.

Soviet historians were berated for neglecting the great figures of Russia's past—the Tsars. Nationalism in the form of anti-Semitism was used by Stalin to assist his fight against Leon Trotsky's Left Opposition and to help in the frame-up Moscow Trials from 1936-1938.

Out in the Soviet Republics, the bureaucracy set about rewriting the history of the Tsarist empire and its oppressed national minorities. Those national heroes who struggled against the Russian Tsars were relegated to positions of the counter-revolution while the Tsars became the 'progressives'.

Historians attempted to prove the 'purity' and 'self-sufficiency' of Russia at all times to fit in with the 'socialism in a single country' line.

Russian chauvinism had therefore become part of Stalinist ideology, attempting to justify the oppression of the national minorities.

Yet within four weeks of taking power the Bolsheviks issued the following proclamation:

Moslems of all Russia, Tartars of the Volga and the Crimea, Kirghiz and Sarts of Siberia and Turkestan, Turks and Tartars of Trans-Caucasia, Chechens and mountain Cossacks!

All you, whose mosques and shrines have been destroyed, whose faiths and customs have been violated by the Tsars and oppressors of Russia!

Henceforth your beliefs and customs, your national and cultural institutions are declared free and inviolable!

Build your national life freely and without hindrance. It is your right. Know that your rights, like those of all the peoples of Russia, will be protected by the might of the Revolution, by the councils of Workers', Soldiers' and Peasants' Deputies.

But by 1938 the leaders of the October Revolution had been slain by Stalin's execution gangs. And their fight for Marxist principles in relation to the minorities had been liquidated with them.

During World War II, the treatment of the minorities by the Stalinist regime became barbaric.

In 1944 an entire nation of 200,000 people was deported from the Caucasus to central Asia.

They were the Meshketians, a group living in east Caucasus. A Moslem nation, these people spoke a Turkic language. But in November 1944, without any charge against them, they were sent to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Placed under the brutal

'Special Settlement' control of the secret police, 50,000 died.

Between 1941 and 1944 1.25 million Volga Germans, Karachai, Kalmyks, Chechens, Ingushi, Balkars and Crimean Tartars were transported across the Soviet Union.

Today the Stalinist persecution of the minorities, the denial of their rights to self-determination, continues in the Soviet Union.

The Tartars are still fighting for the right to return home, nothing less. One of their champions, Major Pyotr Grigorenko, has been pushed into a mental asylum.

In Lithuania, where oppression by the bureaucracy, and the destruction of local customs and religions, has led to serious clashes with the police and army, any opposition is put down ruthlessly and the youth described as 'drunken hooligans'.

And once more the Stalinists make use of anti-Semitism against the Jewish minority, driving many of them into the hands of the Zionists and giving every anti-communist ammunition for attacks on the Soviet Union itself.

Of the Soviet Union's 232 million citizens, 105 million live outside Russia proper in 15 Republics. In every case the Leninist principles on which they joined the USSR have been trodden into the dust by the Kremlin bureaucrats.

For Olive, however, this is not noticeable:

'Socialism has banished the criminal waste of human resources and the dreadful personal suffering which it involves,' he writes on the question of the USSR's 50th anniversary.

Those hundreds of thousands who perished under Stalin and the rest who remain oppressed would not agree with that.

In two pages Olive contrives to jump from 1922 to 1972 without a word of what happened in the period between. That is real Stalinist history-writing for you!

Undoubtedly great gains have been made in the Republics because of the nationalization of the means of production. But that does not flow from the bureaucracy, but from the changes wrought by the October Revolution itself.

At the same time, however, the persecution of the minorities by the Kremlin always threatens to drive the Republics into hostility to socialism.

Only the political revolution now against the bureaucracy can sweep the Stalinists aside and restore the rights granted the Republics after 1917 under Lenin.

In that struggle the hack British Stalinists like Olive will also be driven out.

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SHOPWORKERS LOBBY TO DEMAND £3 NOW

Militant shopworkers plan to lobby pay talks next week between the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers and the Multiple Grocers' Association.

The talks take place next Tuesday, November 14. The grocers have offered £1.80 a week for shop assistants and £2 a week for managers. USDAW is claiming £3 and £5.

Already there are clear indications from all over the country of angry rejection of the offer. Union officials feel industrial action is inevitable unless there is a radical improvement next week.

In South Wales, where the union has 6,000 food-store members, the vote against has been unanimous at Swansea, in the Rhondda, and at Barry, Newport and Port Talbot. A strong contingent from the area is planned at the lobby.

Said USDAW divisional officer John Jones: 'There is strong feeling among our members in South Wales about the employers' paltry offer. They have decided that our negotiators in London should feel they have an army behind them, so we are sending representatives from each store to protest during the negotiations.'

'We are also urging branches in the rest of Britain to do the same.'

BRAIN DAMAGE FROM RIVER POISON

BY PHILIP WADE

Geologists have found enormous quantities of lead, zinc and other toxic metals in the Rivers Tawe and Neath and at Swansea Bay.

The findings by scientists from University College, Swansea, show the River Tawe itself as one of the main sources of metal pollution in the Bristol Channel and say the pollution is caused by industry.

Lead levels in the sediment samples from the Tawe are phenomenal and range up to 2,850 parts per million, about 100 times higher than in a natural background. In the River Neath the lead level was 420 parts per million, still 20 times the normal value.

Samples collected from three points in Swansea Bay showed the lead level to be 220 parts per million.

Lead is hardly less dangerous than mercury and, in children, is similar that at low intake levels it can selectively damage the brain.

It accumulates in bone even in its inorganic forms and has been shown to be damaging in every biological system in which it has been examined.

Lead has no known natural role in biological processes, and therefore is damaging to living things in whatever form it appears.

Natural lead mobilization amounts to about 150,000 tons a year. Industry unleashes over 4 million tons a year.

Of all the known contaminants, the levels of lead—as measured in the blood of ordinary people—are the highest. In fact, the range of levels found in urban populations is actually higher than the range



known to cause accepted symptoms of lead poisoning.

High copper levels were also found in the Tawe. Some samples contained so much copper—up to 2,215 parts per million—that they could almost be classified as low-grade ore.

Zinc, cadmium and silver readings ranged from 1,650, 60 and 24 parts per million respectively. Of these metals, the existence of cadmium is the most sinister.

It is highly poisonous and as a natural component of soils and water it is present only in very low concentrations.

But chronic exposure to relatively large amounts (i.e. a few parts per million) may after a number of years lead to painful and commonly fatal affliction in which the skeleton decays and collapses.

One unique property of cadmium is that it is accumulated with enormous efficiency in the kidneys and is released and excreted only slowly.

Another property is that at extremely low levels the injection of cadmium into the bloodstream produces an immediate increase of blood pressure. This could result from the daily ingestion of only a few hundred micrograms.

Without doubt the source of the high concentrations of toxic metals in these Welsh rivers is industrial waste from the metal-processing plants alongside.

It could not be the result of draining into the rivers from upland areas because the rocks there are mainly unmineralized.

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All Trades Unions Alliance MEETINGS

BIRMINGHAM: Monday November 6, 8 p.m. Lecture Room 5, Digbeth Civic Hall.

LEICESTER: Tuesday November 7, 8 p.m. Southfields Library.

WOLVERHAMPTON: Tuesday November 7, 7.30 p.m. The Molyneux Hotel, Molyneux Street.

WANDSWORTH: Tuesday November 7, 8 p.m. Balham Baths, Elmfield Road, SW12. 'Inflation—A deliberate Tory policy'.

PRESTON: Wednesday, November 8, 7.30 p.m. Oddfellows Arms, Mount Street.

LUTON: Wednesday November 8, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Road.

LIVERPOOL: Wednesday, November 8 7.30 p.m. Mitre Hotel, Dale St (near the tunnel).

WILLESDEN: Thursday November 9, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, NW10. 'Common Market conspiracy'.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday November 9, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road (opposite New Cross station). 'Stalinism and the fight to force the Tories to resign'.

MANCHESTER: Thursday November 9, 7.30 p.m. Milton Hall, Deansgate.

CLAPHAM: Thursday November 9, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4.

CASTLEFORD: Saturday, November 11, 6.30 p.m. The Ship, Aire Street.

WIGAN: Sunday November 12, 12 noon. 'Dog and Partridge', Wallgate.

TYNESIDE: Sunday November 12, 7.30 p.m. 'Robin Hood', Wallsend High Street, WALLSEND. 'The Crisis in Shipbuilding'. Speaker: Stephen Johns (Workers Press).

ACTON: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Road, W3. 'Transform the SLL into revolutionary party.'

WATFORD: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. Trade Union Hall (upstairs). Woodford Road, opposite Watford Junction Station. 'Transform the SLL into revolutionary party.'

ACTON: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Road, W3. 'Transform the SLL into the Revolutionary Party.'

NORTH KENT: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. 'The Greyhound', Rochester Avenue, Rochester.

PAISLEY: Wednesday November 15, 7.30 p.m. Paisley Town Hall.

COVENTRY: Wednesday, November 15, 7.30 p.m. Elastic Inn, Cox Street (opposite Theatre One).



Sheila Allen plays Veronica in David Halliwell's 'Triple Exposure' — tonight's BBC 1 Play for Today. A burglar's break-in is seen from three viewpoints.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.00 Schools. 2.20 Yoga. 2.50 Film: 'Talk of A Million'. 4.15 Puffin. 4.25 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.15 Knockout quiz. 6.45 London. 10.30 Name of the game. 11.50 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 4.15 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.35 Date with Danton. 10.30 News. 10.33 Format. 12.35 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 Film: 'Gory Alley'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 London. 10.30 Southern scene. 11.00 News. 11.05 Theatre. 12.00 Farm progress. 12.25 Weather Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 1.00 Helen McArthur show. 1.30 London. 2.00 Farmhouse kitchen. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 Film: 'Boys Will Be Boys'. 4.25 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.22 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Mark'. 12.55 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 41 as above except: 6.01-6.22 Y dydd.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 as 41 plus: 8.00-8.30 Yr wythnos.

HTV West as above except: 6.22-6.45 This is the West this week.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 2.00 All our yesterdays. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 Saint. 3.55 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.45 London. 10.30 Journey to the unknown. 11.30 London.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 2.00 Shirley's world. 2.30 London. 3.00 Film: 'The Monk'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.45 London. 10.30 Name of the game. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.33 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 Film: 'Circle of Danger'. 4.22 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale Farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.15 Smith family. 6.45 London. 10.30 Monday night. 10.35 Film: 'Escape'.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 3.00 Film: 'The Ghost Train'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.45 London. 10.30 Name of the game. 11.55 All our yesterdays. 12.25 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 2.30 Film: 'Kelly and Me'. 4.00 Crossroads. 4.20 London. 6.00 Newsday. 6.25 This is your right. 6.40 London. 10.30 What about the workers? 11.15 Film: 'The Mummy's Tomb'.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Galloping gourmet. 3.00 Film: 'Lobster Cutlets'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.25 Cartoon. 6.45 London. 10.30 Face the press. 11.00 Spyforce. 11.55 News. 12.10 Greatest fights of the century. 12.25 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 Film: 'The Monk'. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Cartoon. 6.45 London. 10.30 Late call. 11.35 Name of the game.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.45 Enchanted house. 3.00 News. 3.05 Film: 'Cruisin' Down the River'. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Country focus. 6.35 Cartoon. 6.45 London. 10.30 Name of the game. 11.55 Meditation.

TV

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play School.

7.05 **CHILDREN GROWING UP.** Home and Away.

7.30 **NEWSROOM.** Weather.

8.00 **ALIAS SMITH AND JONES.** The Legacy of Charlie O'Rourke.

8.50 **FIFTY YEARS OF MUSIC** or They Don't Write 'Em Like That Any More! Popular music during the last five decades. With Henry Hall, Lulu, Vera Lynn, The New Seekers, Gilbert O'Sullivan, Cliff Richard, The Young Generation.

10.05 **THE ASHES OF ATLANTIS.** Magnus Magnusson looks at the legend of the lost island.

10.55 **NEWS ON 2.** Weather.

11.00 **LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.**

BBC 1

9.38-11.55 Schools. 12.00 Profit by control. 12.25 Cywain. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Along the seashore. 1.45 Look, stranger. 2.05-3.55 Schools. 4.00 Pixie and Dixie. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Magic roundabout. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 The long chase. 5.45 News and weather.

6.00 **NATIONWIDE.**

6.45 **TRANSWORLD TOP TEAM.** United Kingdom v Canada.

7.10 **Z CARS.** Old Soldiers.

8.00 **PANORAMA.** Alliance for Nixon?

9.00 **NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.** Weather.

9.25 **PLAY: 'TRIPLE EXPOSURE.'** By David Halliwell. With Alec McCowen, Sheila Allen, Tom Chadbon, Marguerite Hardiman.

10.30 **MASTERMIND.**

11.00 **FILM 72.**

11.30 **LATE NIGHT NEWS.**

11.35 **IRELAND.** Green, White and Gold.

12.00 **Weather.**

ITV

9.30 Schools. 10.30 Computer people. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Larry the lamb. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Mr. and Mrs. 1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 All our yesterdays. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Film: 'Billie'. 4.25 Freewheelers. 4.55 Clapperboard. 5.20 Bless this house. 5.50 News.

6.00 **TODAY.**

6.40 **OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS.**

7.30 **CORONATION STREET.**

8.00 **WORLD IN ACTION.**

8.30 **LES SEZ.** Les Dawson.

9.00 **KATE.** The Woman Behind the Man.

10.00 **NEWS AT TEN.**

10.30 **LONGSTREET.** The Way of the Intercepting Fist.

11.30 **DRIVE-IN.**

12.00 **ROAD TO DAMASCUS.**

Kaufman defends Labour's retreat on rent Act

ANGRY TENANTS in the Ardwick district of Manchester have been told by their Labour MP, Gerald Kaufman, they had to wait at least two years to end the rent rises.

Pro-Act Labourites face expulsion

KILMARNOCK constituency Labour Party meets tonight to consider the expulsion of two councillors who voted for the Housing Finance Act.

The two men—Treasurer R. Banks and Cllr W. Wallace—defied a Labour group meeting to vote for implementation.

A motion was put on the agenda of tonight's meeting following their action. The town council voted 11-10 against the Act.

At a meeting last Friday Kaufman tried to cover up for the Labour councils who have

implemented the Tories' 'fair rents' Act.

'It is an unfortunate fact that Amery (Housing Minister) has the right to increase the rent under this Act of parliament. With a wage freeze to be announced on Monday the 92p rise is wrong,' said Kaufman.

Then he told the tenants they could expect no help from him or other Labour MPs.

'You have my personal support, but I cannot invite anyone to break the law of the land.'

There was no answer, he

added, to the increases. And Labour councils had 'very good reasons' to implement. They had accepted the law to 'protect their tenants and make sure the limit on the rise was reasonable'.

Carrying on the apologies, Kaufman said it was wrong of tenants to ask their 'representatives to destroy their families', presumably referring to the possibilities of surcharge for those who stood out against the Tories.

At this point a militant tenant called out at him:

'Vic Feather controls all the

unions. The powerworkers stopped the country in ten days. Why not have a General Strike and have all the 280 Labour MPs out too?'

Kaufman rushed in to defend Heath. The Tories, he replied, were 'a democratically-elected government' and a General Strike would only mean a bigger majority for the government. 'We must wait until the next election.'

He also refused to give a specific pledge that the next Labour government would cut rents. 'That would depend on the situation.'

Albania signs deal with colonels

FOLLOWING negotiations in Tirana with the pro-Peking Albanian government, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced agreement on trade and payments.

The Albanian Maoists, headed by Enver Hoxha, are on extremely good terms with the repressive military dictatorship in Greece.

The Greek colonels' represen-

tatives reported on Athens Radio that they were 'most lavishly treated, while the negotiations were held in a climate of cordiality and mutual goodwill and understanding'.

The deal itself provides for the exchange of goods worth at least \$4m by each side. The Greek Foreign Ministry said the deal was 'an excellent basis for the further development and broadening of Greek-Albanian trade

relations.'

Deputy Foreign Minister Kavalieratos told a Press conference in Athens last week that the colonels' regime will be exchanging ambassadors with Peking soon.

He added that Greece was continuing the effort of developing friendly relations with other Balkan states, referring particularly to Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Rumania.

Socialist Labour League PUBLIC LECTURES

Leeds

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MARXISM

Given by Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee member)

Building the revolutionary party Monday November 6

GUILDFORD HOTEL The Headrow, 8 p.m.

OXFORD

Thursday November 9
Basic essentials of Marxism Thursday November 16
A theory of knowledge Thursday November 23
Opponents of Marxism Thursday November 30
Marxism—the science of perspective

SOUTH OXFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Lake Street, 8 p.m.
 Lectures given by G. Healy
 SLL national secretary

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WE MUST not allow the campaign for our Fund to slacken. More than ever we must go out and raise as much as possible to develop our paper.

Following the breakdown of discussions with union leaders, the Cabinet is now preparing plans for a showdown with the working class.

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prepare workers everywhere for the dangers ahead. So start today. Keep the fight for our Fund always in front of you. Raise more money wherever you can. Post every donation immediately to:

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Wage queue leaders hit by £2 ceiling

Pay hold-up: Tempers fray

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

OVER 7,000 WORKERS employed by the UK Atomic Energy Authority have been given a pay rise of less than £2 a week, it was revealed on Saturday. Increases of only £1.80 a week were accepted on the present craftsmen's basic of £22.10 and £1.55 on the unskilled rate of £18.35 a week.

The last pay rise won by this section of workers was 7 1/2 per cent in November 1971.

Meanwhile farmworkers and teachers have reacted to government attempts to clamp down on their wages and salaries. And the probation officers have sacked their negotiators following a recent pay settlement.

Reg Bottini, general secretary of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, said at the weekend that the proposed £3.30 increase in farmworkers' wages was not satisfactory.

The original claim was for £8.80, taking the basic rate to £25. A two-hour cut in the working week was also demanded.

But he warned the union's Wiltshire conference:

'You haven't got your £3.30, and you have a 50-50 chance of not getting it.'

Mr James Prior, agriculture minister, had invited the government to 'put the wage freeze on farm wages'.

The conference went on to pass a resolution unanimously condemning any action by the government superimposing its policy or decisions on the Agricultural Wages Board.

This so-called independent body is made up of eight representatives from both the union and employees and another five government appointees.

Another teachers' union has slammed as 'insulting and derisory' the £15 London allowance 'offer' made on Friday.

The 60,000 teachers working in London had expected an offer of between £60 and £80 a year to add to their £118 weighting allowance. But Education Secretary Margaret Thatcher stepped



Farmworkers on a recent London lobby of their pay talks

in and prevented the Burnham Committee making any such offer.

On Friday the National Union of Teachers rejected the £15 and on Saturday the Assistant Masters Association meeting in London deplored 'the refusal of the government to permit the management panel to make the more realistic offer it wished to make'. They unanimously supported the rejection of the offer.

At Birmingham on Saturday Britain's probation officers voted for the resignation of their union's salary committee.

Representatives of the National Association of Probation Officers passed a resolution by 408 votes to 346 calling for the committee's resignation. The national executive committee is now thought to be considering its resignation.

The movers of the motion accused the committee of failing

to take into account members' views during recent negotiations which led to an interim pay award.

One of their main grievances was the continued existence of two grades of probation officer, which the rank-and-file wanted abolishing.

Under the interim settlement—due to be reviewed at the end of the year—raises ranging from 8 per cent to 25 per cent were awarded.

Protestant opposition to Green Paper

A 60,000-STRONG Protestant group, the Loyalist Defence Volunteers, yesterday underlined its opposition to the government's Green Paper on Northern Ireland.

In a statement, issued in Belfast, the LDV said:

'On behalf of the Loyalist Volunteers, the Ulster Special Constabulary Association and the Vanguard Service Corps, we call for an immediate return to basic democratic principles so a General Election may be held and the voice of the people heard through their true representatives.'

The LDV's message to the Westminster government and the Whitelaw administration is 'No appeasement, no deals and, most of all, no surrender'.

The LDV is, together with Vanguard, the Loyalist Association of Workers and the Ulster Defence Association, part of the Ulster Loyalist Council, the hard-line Protestant umbrella movement.

Phone-tap may reopen probe into Drugs Squad

BY ALEX MITCHELL

ROBERT MARK, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, may re-open the inquiry into the former head of Scotland Yard's Drugs Squad, Detective Chief Inspector Victor Kelaher. Kelaher left the Squad more than 18 months ago and was reassigned to regular duties. At the same time several of his colleagues were taken off the Squad and its size was cut by almost a half.

In a major investigation published yesterday, 'The Sunday Times' INSIGHT team says that the Customs and Excise investigations branch had considered charging Kelaher as a party to a drugs smuggling conspiracy.

But in May this year, following a long inquiry by the then assistant chief constable of Lancashire, Mr Harold Prescott, the Director of Public Prosecutions decided not to lay charges against the ex-drugs Squad chief.

Kelaher's name was placed under a cloud during a lengthy trial at the Middlesex Area Sessions during June and July 1971.

At the end of the trial four men and a woman were convicted of a drugs conspiracy and sentenced to jail terms of from one to seven years.

They were accused of conspiring to import or acquire possession of 24lb of cannabis. On the London market this would have been worth some £5,000. Kelaher appeared as a witness in the case and disputed throughout that he had anything to do with the drugs ring.

Defending counsel, John Lloyd-Eley, QC, told the jury that Kelaher corruptly involved with one of the defendants, 41-year-old club owner Basil Sands, who was described as the 'mainspring' in the case.

'I cannot tell exactly what their purpose was,' said Mr Lloyd Eley, 'I can only tell you it was concerned with their obtaining . . . cannabis for their own purposes. The obvious inference is that it was to be sold and the proceeds shared in some way between them.'

Kelaher denied these allegations, saying he had been making his own inquiries with the help of his informant, Basil Sands.

In his final speech to the jury, Mr John Marriage, prosecuting counsel for the Customs and Excise department, warned the jury not to rely on the veracity of the two separate statements Kelaher had made to Customs.

'Mr Kelaher is not to be believed,' he said. 'Do not in any circumstances use his evidence against any of these defendants.'

This is the prosecutor talking about the head of Scotland Yards Drugs Squad!!

Also in the closing stages one of the defence counsel remarked: 'The court has not heard the whole truth.' And the judge promptly replied: 'That I accept as the truest thing that has been said.'

Immediately the trial ended Commander James Crane was put in charge of an unofficial investigation of Kelaher's activities. (Crane, head of the Fraud Squad, is now in charge of the investigation into the Poulson empire which precipitated the resignation of the Tory Home Secretary Reginald Maudling.)

Crane's inquiry later gave way to a more publicized one by Harold Prescott who was brought from Lancashire as 'Mr incorruptible' to handle a top-level investigation. It is

known that Prescott's report went to the highest authorities in the land—Maudling, Sir Philip Allen, permanent secretary at the Home Office, Sir John Waldron, the former Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Robert Mark, the new commissioner, deputy assistant commissioner Richard Chitty, and Sir Norman Skelhorn, the Director of Public Prosecutions. No charges were made.

But INSIGHT has now revealed the existence of tape recordings of conversations between Basil Sands, one of the jailed defendants, and Kelaher. But throughout the trial the Customs men were under instruction not to mention them.

Following 'The Sunday Times' revelations there is certain to be mounting pressure for a re-opening of the Kelaher case.

Socialist Labour League Greater London Rally
CELEBRATE
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PRESS

showing the developments and gains since the first issue of Workers Press, September 26, 1969.

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G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)
CONNIE FAHEY (Wilmislow tenants' leader)
CORIN REDGRAVE (Equity)
ROY BATTERSBY (ACTT)
ALAN THORNETT (Deputy senior steward Morris Motors Assembly, Cowley, Oxford)
GARY GURMEET (Editor Keep Left)
Chairman:
MIKE BANDA (SLL Central Committee)
(Union and tenant speakers appear in a personal capacity.)

LATE NEWS WEATHER

LEGAL CLAMP ON IRA

HARSH action against the IRA can be expected in the Irish Republic later this month. Desmond O'Mally, Eire Minister for Justice, said yesterday a Bill dealing with 'illegal organizations' would go before the Dail before the end of November.

EASTERN, central, and southern England will have a cloudy but mostly dry day with bright spells and perhaps some sunny intervals in the afternoon.

Western England, Wales and the Isle of Man will be rather cloudy and dull with local drizzle and hill fog. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have some bright periods in the east, but rain will spread from the north-east during the day. It will be rather warm in most areas.

Outlook for Tuesday and Wednesday: Changeable with rain at times, temperatures normal in south, but rather cold in the north.

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.