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But it was not just 'some leaders', as Cook says. It was the whole General Council, 'lefts' and all. And the deputy leader of the National Union of Railwaymen, Mr C. T. Cramp, referring to the General Strike, exclaimed after the collapse at Baldwin's feet: 'Never again!'

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BY ALEX MITCHELL

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● On March 18, 1971, the infamous special Croydon Congress opened the door for the Industrial Relations Bill to become law.

● Only a few weeks before, the same TUC had left the postmen isolated and at the mercy of the Tory government.

● The TUC decision not to co-operate with the Act and its court was violated last year when unions were allowed to attend the court and pay its fines.

● When the Housing Finance Bill was before parliament, the TUC consistently retreated from organizing any form of struggle with the Labour Party against this broadside attack on council housing and the wage packets of workers.

● Trade union-sponsored MPs were permitted to vote time and again with the Tories in favour of Common Market entry.

● And despite the TUC's overwhelming vote against the EEC and its institutions at Brighton last September, Feather has become first president of the new Common Market trade union confederation.

Into this situation Mr Joe Gormley, the miners' president, has injected some 'blunt-talking'.

Gormley is a notorious right winger.

He has said that the situation facing the trade unions is either a General Strike or nothing.

His statement is aimed directly at the Stalinists and 'lefts' like Lawrence Daly on his own executive as well as the TUC.

TURN TO BACK PAGE

1,000TH ISSUE TODAY - FIGHT FOR FUND

IT IS a proud day for us. All our enemies have tried to prove that a daily paper, such as Workers Press, which fights unwaveringly every day for socialist principles would never survive. How glad we are to prove them wrong. Today we publish our 1,000th issue.

On every basic issue our paper has stood firm: since the day the Tories were elected we have been in the forefront of the struggle to force them to resign. Our paper has fought consistently against the anti-union legislation, the state pay laws, against British troops in Ulster, for the victory of the Vietnamese people.

Relentlessly we have exposed the reformist and Stalinist traitors in the labour movement who, each day, try to disarm the working class.

However unpalatable at times our political position might have appeared to you, our readers, your magnificent support has certainly proved its correctness.

Be proud of your paper. Help it to go from strength to strength. Our fund at the moment stands at £629.84. See if you can now raise an extra amount for this month.

Workers Press
February Appeal Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London, SW4 7UG



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BRITAIN'S 220,000 hospital ancillary workers will start national industrial action from March 1.

Leaders of their unions decided yesterday to stage selective strikes, ban overtime, work to rule and to withdraw co-operation. They said the new pay offer — which fell within the Tories' pay guidelines — was 'completely unacceptable'.

The new offer was 4p a week extra

taking the total to £1.88. The industrial action is supported by the overwhelming majority of workers throughout the NHS.

At north London's Whittington Hospital — one of the largest in the capital — laundry van driver Mr Dave Smart (above left) said: 'Our demand is not made from greed, it is made from necessity. Now we're going on strike we've got to hang on until we get what we want.'

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17, 1973 ● No. 1,000 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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St Helens gasmen say:

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS

THE GASWORKERS of Pocket Nook, St Helens, lead the north west in the gas work-to-rule and strike. They came out on January 21, over three weeks ago, and they are still out, stamping in the cold and snow, manning the picket line at their depot—the headquarters of south Lancashire area of the North West Gas Board.

On day three of official action, which now involves two-thirds of Lancashire's 6,000 gasworkers, they told me their story.

It was a tale of low pay, bad conditions and a pace of work so fierce that it threatened minimum safety standards laid down by the Board.

The men of Pocket Nook know they have taken on the government.

'They can win or we can win and beat the government, but I don't think these lads will see themselves crucified like the postmen,' their convenor, Alf Anderson, told me.

'There has been action in advance of the union call all over the south Lancashire area, that's St Helens, Wigan, Widnes, Runcorn and Warrington. Now the union has backed it we feel more backed up,' he said.

'Our case is simple, we want parity with other workers. Most of the lads on the service side are time-served tradesmen. But a gas fitter will take home about £19.50 a week. With a wife and two kids you just can't do it.

'The comparable rate in the electricity industry is £6.50 higher. This kind of difference is ridiculous and illegal—even if we got the £2.25 they've offered, the powermen would follow and we would be back to square one.'

To men like Alf Anderson, Tory policy has meant one thing — a declining standard of living — the prices 'freeze', he smiles cynically.

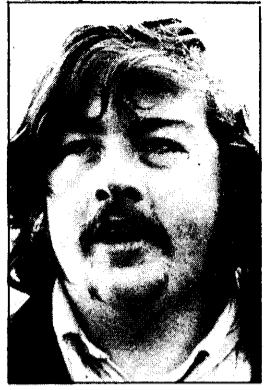
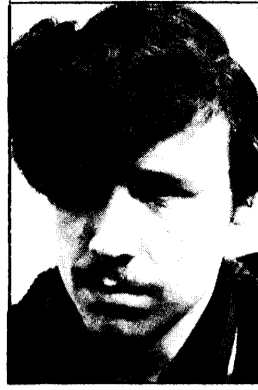
'I know how I live. The rent on the house has just been bumped up — where do I find the money? Prices are soaring in the shops. You're trapped. It's robbery. What does this government expect?'

The St Helens men came out because of their disgust at the £2.25 insult and the lack of action by their union — the General and Municipal Workers.

What did Alf think about the general situation, what did he think other unions could do?

'The TUC says it is opposed to this policy of the government. I think the unions should get together

'Let's have it out with the Tory government'



Young gasworkers (l to r) Joe Ousalice, Mick Crick and John Greenhall at the St Helens depot. Left: Pickets stop a lorry outside the gates.



Mike Wright ... can't play around with gas.



Cliff Whitefield ... angered by witch-hunt.

and try to fight as a body. Whether this would mean a General Strike, I don't know. This is getting into fields beyond what we are interested in or understand.

'Naturally enough we would like to see everyone together in this. It's all the same battle. But at the moment it's the gasworkers out in front,' said Alf.

The young gasworkers — often the lowest paid — pride themselves on their militancy. Joe Ousalice (22) and his mates man the picket lines every day.

Joe could kick himself. He voted Tory at the last election. His views have changed decisively:

'We are all told we have a democracy. We all went to the election and voted in a government and those MPs there are supposed to say what we feel.

'Well it's quite obvious Heath has booted out all democracy completely.

'At the stroke of a pen he has by-passed the whole democratic system. I don't think people are aware of the kind of things this government is

doing — but they'll find out like us gasworkers.'

His mate Mick Crick (24) a maintenance fitter took up the Tory lies about prices.

'It makes me so mad to see them going on about prices like they do. The whole thing is rubbish, everyone is being conned and robbed. We've just had the rent rise, now there's another 25p on top because of higher rates, but the government says we can have nothing, not a penny,' he said.

Joe and Mick, standing outside the snow covered gates with their mates John Greenhall, Cliff Whitefield and Mike Wright, told me about another Tory slander — the high-paid gasworker.

All the national newspapers quote a £30-a-week wage. But they never mention how hard and how long gasmen must work to earn this kind of money.

John Greenhall (22) a maintenance fitter explained:

'They have all these terrific

bonus schemes that look fine on paper. But it's impossible to meet the pace in practice,' he said.

'Do you know when you're working installing gas pipes, sometimes you're forced to work so fast it's positively dangerous — you're forced to break minimum standards even laid down by the Board itself.'

Mike Wright (21), a maintenance fitter, agreed:

'You can't play around with gas this way, it's dangerous,' he said.

'We want to get rid of the bonus scheme altogether, then you can get a decent day's pay without rushing everything desperately.'

Another source of intense anger is the witch-hunt on safety launched by the Tory press.

'It makes me want to throw up,' said Cliff Whitefield.

'We hear all the stories about the old-age pensioners. They never call the Tories murderers, do they?'

'But that's what they are. What about the thousands of old people who die every year because they can't afford to keep warm on a pension?'

'The other lie is the one about danger. We have put emergency squads on. There is better coverage now than there was when things were normal.

'But the Press never publishes this. They're only interested in Tory lies,' said Cliff.

The St Helens men are like the many gasworkers leading the working-class fight all over the country. They have one answer for the Tories.

'Get them all out, all the unions, and let's have it out once and for all,' said Joe — he spoke for almost every worker on the Pocket Nook picket line.

Yugoslavia to have price freeze

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

FEARING mass unrest at the price increases which are certain to follow the dinar devaluation, the Yugoslav government has declared a freeze on the prices of goods and services.

Most workers' wages have been frozen in Yugoslavia since December 31 last year and nearly a million workers suffered actual wage-cuts by government orders.

These cuts have led to a large number of strikes.

The dinar was devalued against gold by 10 per cent in the wake of the dollar this week. The parity change was made necessary by the great losses had the parity been maintained.

Zagreb radio said the severe economic shock which Yugoslav shipbuilders had suffered as a result of the sterling devaluation in 1967 would be a drop in the ocean compared with what the US devaluation had in store for them.

Dollar devaluation drives Japanese goods into Europe

BY JOHN SPENCER

JAPANESE goods could begin to flood Europe as a result of the dollar devaluation, according to Toshihide Takahashi of the Fair Trade Commission in Tokyo.

Although the yen is currently trading at a level about 16 per cent higher than its old parity against the dollar, the margin of increase against most European currencies is much smaller.

This means that Japan has lost a larger margin of competitiveness in the United States than in Europe. Takahashi added that many European industries are in a weak position to compete with Japan.

Takahashi and Yoshihiro Inayama, president of the Nippon Steel Corporation, called diplomatically for the continuation of controls over exports by the Tokyo government.

These controls have been singularly ineffective in discouraging exports in the past and there is no reason to believe that they will have any greater deterrent effect in the future.

At the time of the December 1971 currency revaluation, when the yen was up-valued 16.8 per cent against the dollar, Japanese goods were diverted from the US into Europe.

Japanese trade ministry figures show sharp increases in exports to Europe last year, particularly motor cars and electronic goods.

Japanese officials try to console the Europeans with the thought that their exports are still only a small part of the total imports into the Common Market. However, as Takahashi has made clear, this situation will not be allowed to last for long.

The dollar devaluation has opened a new era of trade war in which the dumping of goods on foreign markets will become standard practice.

Japanese customs clearance certificates for last year show that while exports to the US rose by 19 per cent to \$9,000m, shipments to western Europe rose 40 per cent to \$4,750m.

The biggest of all was a 71 per cent rise to \$990m in exports to

Britain, which Japanese industrialists correctly regard as the weakest EEC country and the least able to compete.

Exports to West Germany totalled \$932m, up 41.6 per cent, and shipments to France were up nearly 50 per cent to \$284m.

Common Market employers are in mortal fear of the Japanese trade offensive, because it means their own markets at home and in other European countries are undermined.

Already there are insistent demands for protective tariffs and measures to keep out Japanese goods at all costs.

This will undoubtedly be accompanied by chauvinist and xenophobic agitation designed to inflame British workers against their Japanese brothers.

The TUC and the union leaders are already opening the door for this kind of propaganda by advocating protection of such industries as textiles and electronics.

Today they mobilize the workers behind the boss for trade war. Tomorrow they will perform the same service for capitalism in the shooting war.

Murdered Red Army general is honoured

THE 80th anniversary of marshal Mikhail Tukhachevsky, one of the Red Army commanders shot on Stalin's orders in 1937, was commemorated in the army newspaper 'Red Star' yesterday.

It hailed Tukhachevsky's contributions to Soviet military science and spoke of his devotion to 'our motherland, which he loved wholeheartedly, and to the cause of the Communist Party, whose loyal son he was.'

No mention was made of the circumstances of his death. In fact, in the course of a mammoth purge of the commanding staff of the Red Army he and seven other generals were shot on a trumped-up charge of spying for Nazi Germany.

The British Communist Party fully supported the murder of Tukhachevsky and congratulated Stalin on smashing the 'plotters against peace'. A special pamphlet was written for the occasion.

Stalin's treacherous blow at the Red Army seriously reduced its defence capacity and brought the Soviet Union to the brink of disaster when the Nazi armies struck in July, 1941.

PAGEANT DIARY

The Road to Workers Power



Stephen Johns
in
Middleton

Political discussion is high point of Pageant rehearsal

THE MIDDLETON Pageant team has come out of its second crucial rehearsal with a hard core of youth and workers determined to see the campaign through to the end.

Slowly, out of argument, repetition and sheer determination to fight, the history of the Peterloo Massacre and the dawn of the Chartist movement is coming to light in north Manchester.

It's always a struggle. In the concert room of Middleton Labour Club, it is hard to imagine the field of Peterloo where tens of thousands of north-west workers turned out in 1819 to hear 'Orator' Hunt, the Preston radical, demanding the right to vote for the multitude before him.

The young worker-actors gathered around in a circle. 'Imagine the banners,' directed Corin Redgrave pointing to the left, 'the contingent from Rochdale, with slogans demanding one-man, one-vote. Over there Stockport, demanding a political voice for the working class'. The young worker who is playing Hunt for the night begins his address waving his hand to the crowd.

So the rehearsal continues. The scene is gone over time and time again from Hunt's speech to the moment the cavalry charge and cut down the crowd. With practice, the shyness and hesitancy vanish, voices get bolder as the people put into this decisive episode of working-class history what they see about today's fight against the Tory government.

Next the Chartist episode is rehearsed. The Chartist leader Julian Harney speaks

to a torchlight procession gathered on the moor. He tells the crowd they are many, the power is theirs if they stand together and fight for the charter. 'The Charter, the Charter, the Charter', the 15 or so people at the rehearsal shout out the battle-cry of the early pioneers—some instinctively raise their arms in clenched fist salute. The scene went well. People are beginning to get the feel of what Chartism meant in the 1830s and what it means today. As always a night's work ends with a discussion. Here the most vital aspect of the Manchester campaign is revealed—its politics.

At first there was a fear that it would be hard to introduce the politics of today. People might see a recreation of the past merely as an interesting episode of history. But the opposite occurred. The discussion always starts from present experiences—the struggles in the factories against the Tories and how the Manchester team can show workers today how to defend their rights.



Later one young actor—a motor mechanic—said he was in the campaign because he wanted to change today's situation.

'The Tory government is getting away with murder. Somehow we have to show people what to do about it. I think these struggles from the past we are showing in the Pageant will be very important.' Support is building up. The team spent a day going out to the workers in Manchester getting them to back their efforts, take part if possible, and buy tickets for the Empire Pool.

Yesterday morning they were out at 7.00 a.m. at the

Bradford gas works, Manchester's main supply plant. Later a drive was made at the dole, then the team moved on to hospital workers to encourage them to play a part.

Todmorden Trades Council has donated £15 and set up a Pageant committee. It will be sending a delegation to Wembley. More money will be raised when the team speaks to Manchester ambulance workers at the main Bellevue depot.

'It's taking shape now,' said Corin Redgrave. 'But it's only the political discussions and the fight to understand today's situation that keeps it going.'

Above: The crowd cheer 'Orator' Hunt in the Middleton rehearsals. Below: Director Corin Redgrave explains a scene.



Anti-'terrorist' training for Terriers

COUNTER-'terrorist' training must become an integral part of the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve training programme, says a Conservative Political Centre booklet, published yesterday.

Commenting on internal security, the booklet—'In Defence of Peace', says intelligence services should also be improved. 'The armed services must be provided with sufficient unsophisticated equipment for the task and more effective non-lethal deterrents are required to deal with internal security situations.'

The booklet also recommends that boys wishing to join the services under the age of 16 should be allowed to do so, in spite of the raising of the school-leaving age.

The Tories are rapidly developing their military-police force, along the lines of the hated French CRS, in preparation for imminent class battles—'internal security' in the words of the booklet.

Food prices up 25p.c.—with Vatflation to come

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

FOOD PRICES have risen by 25 per cent since the last General Election on June 18, 1970, it was revealed in the House of Commons.

And Tory Agriculture Minister Mr Joseph Godber admitted next month was bound to show some further additional increase.

He said the price rises were substantial and serious, but claimed they were outside the government's control.

'They are due almost entirely to increases in world prices of meat and cereals,' he said. VALUE added tax, due to be introduced in Britain on April 1, could cause the rate of

price increases to triple in the three months following its introduction.

The latest 'Barclays Bank Review', under the heading 'Vatflation', gives figures for the

effects of introducing VAT in six Common Market countries.

The figures demonstrate that the introduction of VAT was everywhere followed by a sharp increase in prices.

country	introduction of VAT	quarterly increase in consumer prices (%)	
		3 months before VAT	3 months after VAT
Denmark	3.7.67	1.67	6.56
France	1.1.68	0.89	1.77
Germany	1.1.68	0	0.9
Netherlands	1.1.69	1.6	4.72
Luxembourg	1.1.70	0.68	2.35
Belgium	1.1.71	0.54	1.39

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TWO VERSIONS OF A WORKER'S ARREST

A funny thing happened to Peter Kilbride, an Irlam steelworker, on his way home. It was during the early hours of December 10 last.

Kilbride was in Black Wycliffe Road, Urmston, when Police Constable Geoffrey Thomas Critchley saw him walking through an entry. He asked Kilbride for his reasons for being there and for his name and address.

Critchley told Manchester County Magistrates that Kilbride replied: 'It has nothing to do with you... I am telling you nothing.'

'Escorted'

Critchley said he noticed that Kilbride smelled of intoxicating liquor and that he was drunk.

Kilbride was again asked for his name and address and his reason for being there and he replied: 'Look I am telling you nothing.' Then he added, '... off or I will do you.'

Critchley told the court he asked Kilbride to be quiet and again asked for his name and address.

When he refused for the third time he placed Kilbride under arrest. Kilbride was 'escorted' to a police van, but he tried to get out.

'He punched me in the face on my left eye with his fist and I had to have treatment,' said the officer. 'My face hit the open door on the police van.'

Replying to Mr Peter Openshaw, defending Kilbride, Pc Critchley denied he had been the aggressor and that he had made an offensive remark to Kilbride. He agreed that he had shone a torch into Kilbride's face.

He agreed that he had hit Kilbride 'as hard as I could' with his clenched fists no more than three times when he tried to get away.

Kilbride's version of events was different. He told the court that he had been to Manchester with a friend and had four pints of beer.

He was not drunk and was taking a short cut home when he saw the officer.

He said that Critchley grabbed him by the shoulder and said: 'I could have you for breaking and entering.' He was put in the police van and the officer shone a torch in his face. He pushed the officer's arm away and Critchley then banged his head against the van door.

While he was at Urmston police station, an officer who was not in court hit him. 'Pc Critchley was there,' Kilbride testified. 'He was putting gloves on and when the other officer hit me he started to punch me.' He said the Critchley hit him six or seven times.

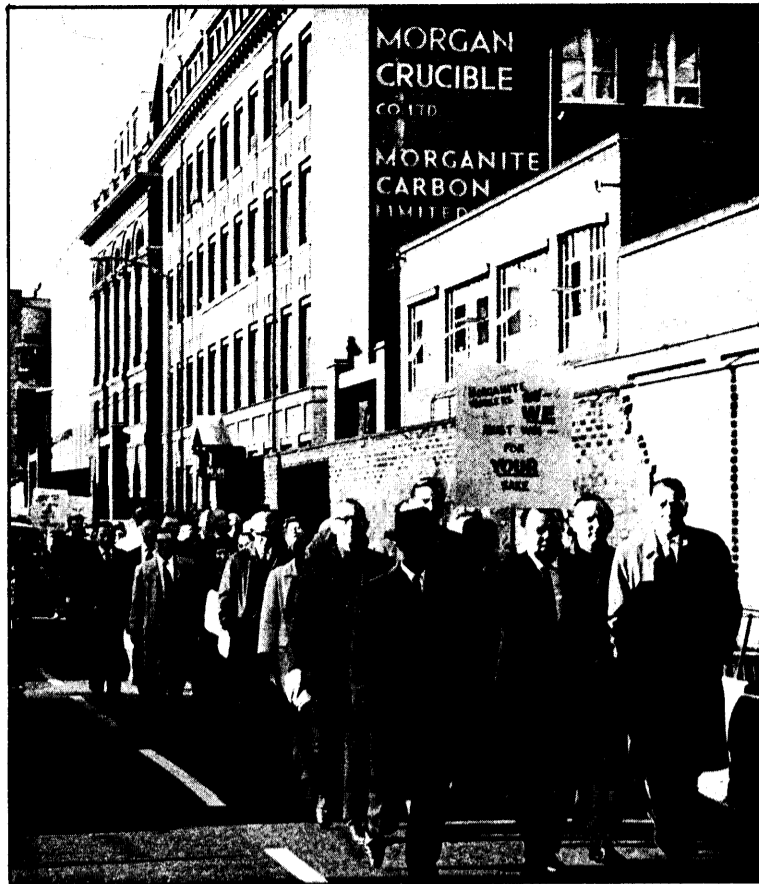
'As a result of the blows my nose was three times its normal size, my left eye was injured and my lips were cut and bruised.'

Complaint

After he was released from the station on bail, Kilbride went to nearby Stretford police headquarters to make a formal complaint that he had been assaulted.

When he appeared in court last week he was charged with assaulting Critchley and occasioning him actual bodily harm and being drunk and disorderly.

He was found not guilty of being drunk and disorderly—the charge which led to his arrest—but found guilty and fined £25 for assaulting the police officer.



WORKERS OUT-LUXURY IN

When the Morgan Crucible factory closed in Battersea, south London, 1,400 workers were made redundant. The company transferred the operation to Morryston, near Swansea, South Wales.

At the time of the announcement, early last year, the company said that falling profits were responsible for the closure.

It was not until much later that Morgan workers, on the dole, began to see another reason for the mass sackings.

The giant factory is situated right on the Thames on the South Embankment. It is an ideal site for redevelopment.

During the past week the company has been staging a public exhibition of its redevelopment proposals at the local St Mary's church.

The new project reveals that the company has in mind a £10m, 11-acre luxury houses-and-offices scheme.

Morgan, in association with the builders, Wates, propose to construct 290,000 square feet of office and luxury accommodation for 1,300 people in 53 houses and two blocks of flats.

After visiting the exhibition, Dr Guy Wilson, Wandsworth's former housing chairman, said: 'I reckon you wouldn't be able to buy one of the flats or town houses for less than £25,000.'

Wandsworth's borough services committee chairman, Martin Linton, said: 'It's a great shame that a firm which has had such a long connection supplying work for the borough has produced this plan. What is worse is that this scheme will also affect those living near the site by forcing their rents and rates up.'

'The Housing Finance Act states that rents will be at a level in comparison with adjoining properties. So if Morgan's homes cost £25,000 each, the effect will be to shoot up rents on housing estates nearby. The council will be powerless to stop this.'

If such rent and rate increases were introduced, it would make it impossible for many Battersea people to pay their rents or live in the area.

A recent survey in Wandsworth revealed that since 1966 a quarter of all jobs in the area—more than 27,000—had disappeared.

It further showed that industrial workers and their families had been forced out by declining job opportunities and soaring housing costs.

JAIL THREAT

Two tenants' leaders in Cork, Eire, may be committed to prison in the next few days for refusing to pay rent arrears they withheld.

Trade union branches are said to have promised 'decisive' action should the men be sent to jail.

The men are leaders of the Joint Council of Cork Corporation Tenants' Organizations and a local court has ordered them to pay their arrears at the rate of £25 a month.

Both men say they are prepared to be jailed and they back the JCCTO decision not to call off the rent strike in the town until the organization's demands are met in full.

The leaders are among several tenants ordered to pay up following a mass demonstration at which notices to quit from the Corporation were publicly burned.

The JCCTO is asking the Corporation to assess rents on the basis of a man's basic wage after stoppages with overtime not taken into account.

At present, rents are assessed on the basis of the value of a property and with house prices soaring many tenants believe their rents are being kept artificially high.

On new housing estates, like Mayfield and Glen, tenants can pay up to £9 a week in rent and a man with three children earning £21 a week before stoppages could be paying up to £5.

The JCCTO also wants a ten-year remission of rates on private dwellings and houses to be put into a good state of repair.

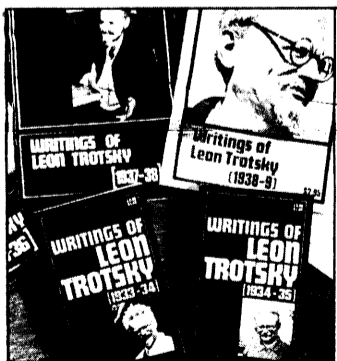
Cost of living pay rises should not be taken into account, they say, when rents are being assessed.

In the event of tenants being imprisoned for failure to pay rent arrears a statement published by the JCCTO calls for a total rent strike throughout Cork.

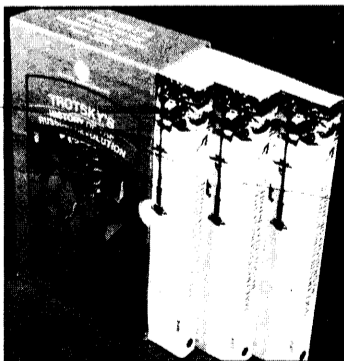
It asks trade unionists to raise the jailings at branch meetings.

And it says that every tenant should contribute 5p a week towards the cost of helping the dependants of those jailed, as well as writing letters of protest to the Corporation.

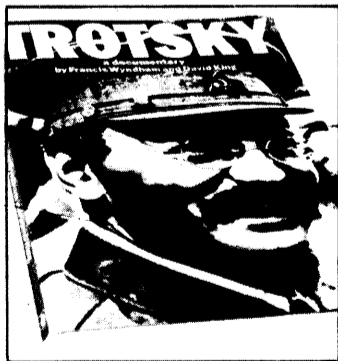
ANNOUNCING...



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RENTS THREAT ON PAY LAWS

Warrington council, Lancashire, say it will not implement Phase Two of the Tory rent Act covering rent assessments until the government withdraws its state pay laws.

The decision was taken in the teeth of contrary advice from the Labour-dominated council's chief officers who claimed that assessments had to be published by February 9.

The officials say that failure to do so could lead the Secretary of State to issue a default order against the council.

When the decision was taken last week the public gallery at the back of the council chamber was packed with boisterous members of rents action groups.

Ald G. E. Hooper told the

meeting that the Tories were making no effort to ease the burden of rents in the public or private sectors.

In a period of wage restraint it was felt there was no justification for supplementing a rent increase by further increases.

Mr Hooper said: 'This is a protest against differentiation between certain things which can be controlled and others that the government have no interest in controlling.'

A Tory amendment to a motion before the council to refer the question of assessments back to the housing committee for further consideration urging the assessments be made at once was defeated by 23 votes to nine.

'RECESSION SEEMS TO HAVE ENDED' SAYS MANDEL

BY CLIFF SLAUGHTER

'The international capitalist recession seems to have ended.' No this is not the 'Wall Street Journal' speaking, trying to bolster up confidence in the midst of international monetary turmoil and falling stock prices.

It is Ernest Mandel, leader of the Pabloite 'Unified Secretariat' the body which falsely claims to be Trotskyist.

Mandel is writing in the current issue of 'Intercontinental Press', weekly organ of the Unified Secretariat, edited by Joseph Hansen.

It was Mandel who throughout the boom peddled most determinedly the 'theory' of 'neo-capitalism'. According to this conception, post-war capitalism had changed fundamentally; because of a new 'technological revolution' and state intervention, capitalism was no longer prone to crisis and slump. It could be 'structurally reformed' to make it more pleasant for the workers. In everything but name this was merely a rehash of the old Fabian theory of reformism.

But it is clear that the more the capitalist crisis is deepened, the more Marxism is confirmed by the chaos reigning in the world's money markets, the more Mandel and his fellow revisionists intended to cling to their discredited theories.

A NEW BOOM

As usual, Mandel bases his conclusion that capitalism is now about to experience a new boom—however short lived—on the most superficial observations... and ones which were overtaken by the speed of events before this revisionist publication was on the news-stands.

He sees that production is rising over recent months in Japan, US and West Germany. But he completely ignores the fact that this 'expansion' takes place under conditions where the basis for the world monetary system has been knocked away.

When in August 1971, Nixon broke the dollar-gold tie, he not only left the Europeans holding billions of paper debts; he removed the cornerstone of the 1944 Bretton Woods arrangements which had kept the capitalist system afloat over the previous 25 years.

In this situation, any 'improvements' in the production of commodities can only aggravate an already explosive situation in that the means of converting such commodities back into money, which is essential for the process of accumulation, has been destroyed.

Mandel's politics flow inevitably from this middle-class faith which he still retains, even at this hour, in the future of capitalism. He says:

'The workers are not prepared to pay the cost of rising inflation, the only way for the capitalist system to avoid a very serious crisis. Hence the exacerbation of on-the-job conflicts, the proliferation of strikes, of higher and higher wage demands to keep



Freshly printed dollars in Washington and Mandel (inset) doesn't think there's a crisis.

pace with the rapid rise in prices.'

For Mandel, inflation is not a class matter, but a purely technical matter. The capitalists can, it seems, 'avoid a crisis by continuing their inflationary policies!

Again he deliberately misleads his readers about the real nature of the present currency crisis. It was one thing to inflate after the last war when the Americans monopolized the gold supply and could guarantee the exchange rate of the dollar. But inflation today is the very opposite of that which followed Bretton Woods; today it must undermine still further any semblance of order remaining in the economic and financial arrangements between the big capitalist countries and pre-

pare for the sharpest trade and money crises.

Mandel also clearly seeks to cut the struggle of the working class down to economic, syndicalist proportions. For him the struggle is purely over 'on-the-job' economic questions.

He consciously ignores the political and offensive content of every strike struggle in all the capitalist countries.

Workers in Britain have had to learn bitter lessons, under the false leadership of the Stalinists and reformists, that their struggles were no longer directed merely against the employer but against the capitalist state.

Once more, Mandel proves what a willing tool he is for the Stalinists, whose role throughout Europe has been to try desperately to keep the working class away from revo-

lutionary politics and limit their struggle to the purely economic level.

How does this revisionist see the 1970s? They are certainly not going to be years of revolutionary struggle for power, according to his prognosis.

MINIMUM PROGRAMME

'Inflation will remain at a high level, and with it the discontent and the related militancy of the working class... [there will be] reaction against speed-up, against intensification of exploitation, against management authority and against the relations of capitalist production in general' (!)

Shorn of its militant-sounding language, Mandel is here

proposing that the workers fight on a purely minimum programme.

He rejects, even in words, the basis of both the Third International, as founded by Lenin and Trotsky, and the Fourth International; bodies based upon the Transitional Programme, one which fights on demands which raise the question of power.

For Mandel, the prospect of taking power is a million light years away. It quite clearly never enters the thinking of him or his fellow renegades from Trotskyism.

Indeed, as the capitalist crisis deepens it pushes such trends ever further to the right. Now they are increasingly forced to abandon in words the programme and movement they deserted in practice 20 years ago.



SCOTLAND'S LAST RENT REVOLT

BY OUR HOUSING CORRESPONDENT

Clydebank Town Council has been fined £5,000 for defying the Tory Housing Finance Act—Scottish version, that is. If the rebel councillors continue to commit contempt of court the fines will escalate and they could face jail sentences.

The Act and the vicious prosecution of it against the Clydebank and Clay Cross, Derbyshire, councillors shows the Tories' determination to destroy the council housing rights won by the working class.

They have already added £1 to all council rents and another

round of increases are due in April. By progressively increasing rents, the Tories want to throw council housing to the cut-throat whims of the free market. In other words, to the mercy of the property speculators.

At the same time it is a way of impoverishing the working class—the clear intention of its other policies of allowing soaring prices and the attacks on trade union rights.

The decision by the Edinburgh Court of Sessions to fine the rebel councillors recalls the struggles in 1915-1916, at the height of World War I, to stop rent increases.

Clydeside was, at this time, convulsed by great industrial struggles in the engineering factories which had turned

over to the production of munitions. With the co-operation of the trade union bureaucracies, workers were subject to vicious speed-up and customary workshop practices were being broken down.

A new local leadership in the shape of the Clyde Workers' Committee of shop stewards came forward to head the movement. But it was limited by a syndicalist outlook which tried to keep aloof from politics and to solve the problems within the confines of the factories.

The growth of the munitions industry and the rise in prices caused by the war gave landlords the chance to raise rents. By mid-1915 eviction orders were being served on many workers' and soldiers'

families who had fallen behind with their rents. By the summer, rent increases had become general and there was a rising tide of resentment.

Strikes spread

On August 27, 120 tenants in South Govan went on rent strike and refused to pay the increases. In two test cases where tenants were sued for arrears the cases were dismissed. Strikes spread all over Glasgow with a leading part being taken by the women.

The rents fight sharpened the confrontation in the factories and made both issues political, involving the government. They required a complete break with syndicalism and reformism and

the unification of the rents struggle with that being waged in the engineering factories.

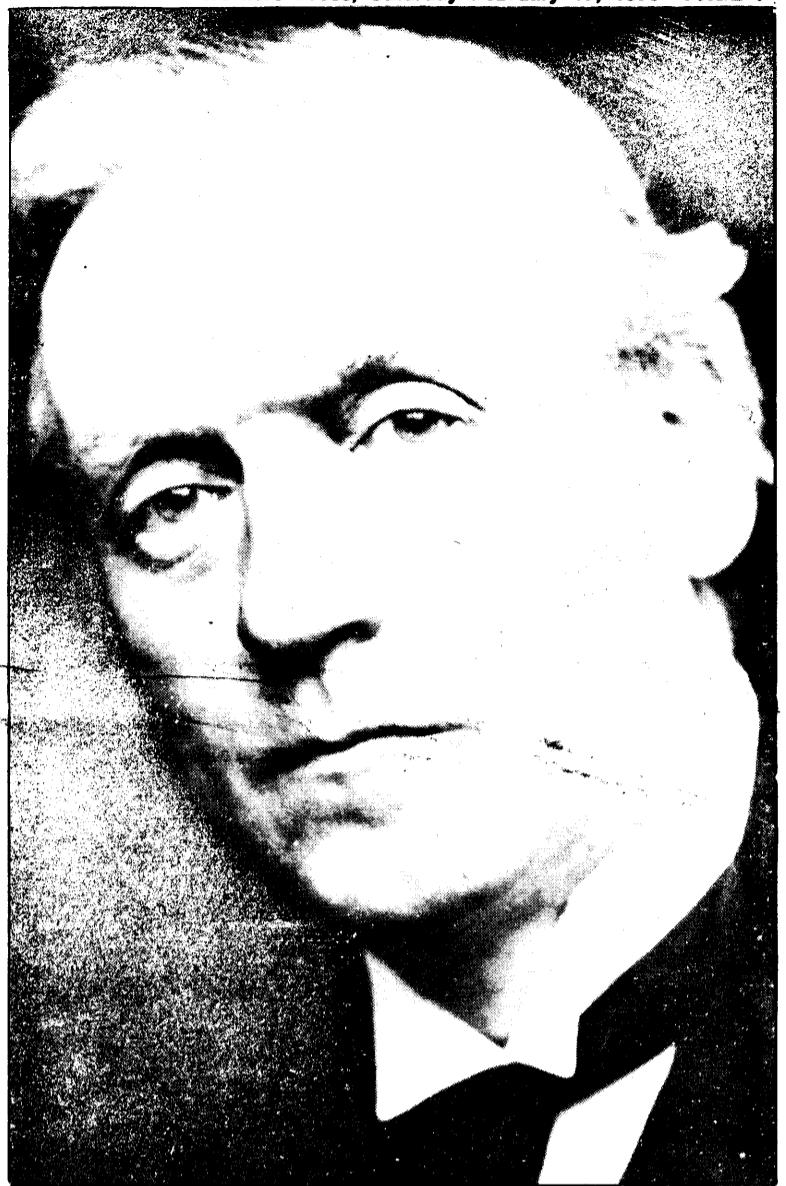
The failure of the Clyde Workers' Committee to recognize its responsibilities to broaden the fight to the whole working class while taking the leadership of the rent strikes was an index of its political weakness.

The tenants were left to fight it out alone. Mass demonstrations were held to support the strikers and to prevent evictions. A crowd of 2,000 protesting the eviction of three tenants held in Partick on October 16 was joined by hundreds of workers leaving the factories.

The rents movement was largely organized by members of the Women's Housing Association. It was they who attacked rent collectors and sheriff's officers trying to carry out evictions.

The Glasgow Labour Party called a number of meetings





Left: Mr A. Hood a tenant of Partick, who was threatened with ejection from his house by a sheriff's warrant, talks to a crowd of tenants outside his house. Above: Asquith. Below: Lloyd George (right) munitions minister at Glasgow Central Station.



at which militant-sounding speeches were made, but no effective leadership given.

A high point was reached on November 17 when demonstrators marched into the city centre where a number of test cases were being heard. Some munitions workers stopped work to join in and something like 10,000 people were on the streets.

The march passed the school from which the popular socialist orator and opponent of the war, John McLean, had just been dismissed. The demonstrators shouted for him to come out, and he joined them. But it was characteristic that he was not able to give direction and purpose to the movement any more than the syndicalists or the Labourites.

By this time the rent strikers were being driven to take a stand not only against the government, but also against the war. After the court hearing a section of the

crowd demanded that it should march past the recruiting office in West Nile Street, but the leaders persuaded them to abandon the idea.

Rent strikers packed the courts and deputations came forward from a number of big factories, the Dalmuir shipyards, the Parkhead forge, Weirs and Cathcarts.

The sheriff was probably on the telephone to the government itself while the proceedings were going on. It had no desire at this stage to take the Clydeside working class head-on when it was preparing to introduce conscription and required trade union co-operation in the dilution of labour and the prevention of strikes.

Out of hand

Whitehall drew its political conclusions much more rapidly and decisively than any of the workers' leaders. It was afraid that the movement would get out of hand and that a General

Strike would break out. Its strategy was to contain this militancy and defeat the most-advanced sections of the working class whose action could have given a lead for the whole country.

The government then introduced a Rents Restrictions Bill which soon passed into law. This fixed maximum rents for Scotland, London and the provinces and gave tenants some security of tenure. To that extent the strikers defeated the Asquith government and forced it to take steps to prevent excessive rents and evictions which provided a weapon for tenants for many years until the Tories later repealed an Act which they hated.

Despite the support which the rent strikes on Clydeside received from workers in the engineering works and shipyards the Clyde Workers' Committee isolated the struggle against the government's munitions drive from demands

which represented the interests of the whole working class.

The Clyde Workers' Committee failed to seize the opportunity to establish a really revolutionary syndicalism and doctrinaire Marxism of the type which prevailed in Britain at this time.

Further defeats

Those like the International Socialists and the Stalinists of the British Communist Party who have no intention of building a revolutionary leadership distort the history of the wartime struggles on Clydeside. They pretend that the limited success of the rent strikes show that more militancy on particular issues can win concessions from the Tories.

In fact 'Red Clydeside' was forced to accept the government's munitions drive. It suffered further defeats after the war and was driven into the poverty and unemployment

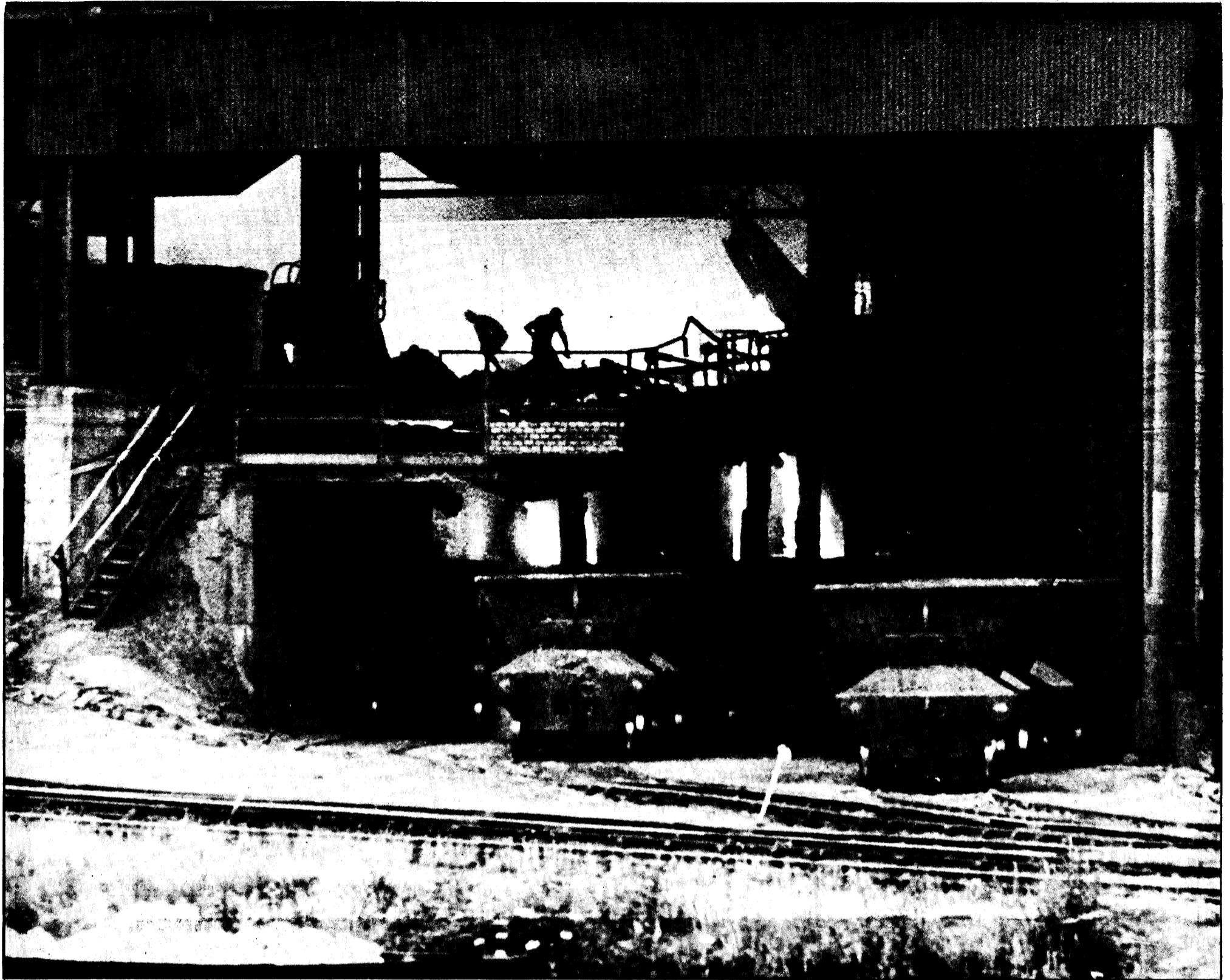
of the 1930s while the leaders of the wartime movement became open traitors.

The working class paid a heavy price for the failure of the shop stewards' movement to build a revolutionary leadership to take advantage of the crisis of British capitalism in the post-war years.

But there can be no room for failures of leadership today. The central question facing the whole working class is how to stop the Tory government and end its repressive and reactionary legislation.

This can only be done by the mobilization of the whole Labour and trade union movement against the common enemy—the Tory government.

The incoming Labour government must be mandated by the resurging masses to implement socialist policies, including the repeal of the Housing Finance Act, the nationalization of the land, the banks, the building societies, and the construction industry.



CORBY STEELMEN TO FIGHT...

Workers at Corby steelworks, Northamptonshire, which will lose its steel-making plant at least by the end of the decade, set up an action committee last weekend to fight possible closure.

No definite proposals were agreed at the inaugural meeting, but a committee will watch the situation and, if necessary, act to save the 6,000 to 7,000 jobs at risk.

Four union branch officials walked out after the meeting turned down a plea that the action committee should consist of branch delegates.

They also argued that policy decisions should be deferred until the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation holds its first national conference since the 1920s later this year.

In common with many others of the doomed steelworks, workers' leaders at Corby believe the best way to begin to save their plant is to show the Tory government it can compete.

This will certainly not upset works director Harry Armitage, who has already overseen a new, plant-wide productivity programme.

In the latest issue of 'British Steel'—the Corporation's magazine—he went on record with the view that one of the biggest problems facing the steel in-

dustry is 'encouraging the best from employees'.

As a start, the action committee intends to give Armitage no further grounds for complaint. Vice chairman of the committee, blastfurnaceman Mr Peter Huckle, said: 'I believe the Tories can be persuaded by the steel community or the TUC to see sense.'

'Corby has a great possibility of continuing due to its self-sufficiency based on a complete production process from ore to tubes. Our job is to show that we can compete.'

In the action committee at Shotton steelworks, Flintshire, north Wales, Communist Party members are actively pursuing the same strategy.

Mr Allen Smith told a Communist Party-dominated rally of Briant Colour workers and their supporters in London last week that churches, school-teachers and local government officers were backing their bid to prove to the British Steel Corporation that steel-making at Shotton can be profitably retained.

He disclosed that the action committee was considering an Upper Clyde Shipbuilders'-style work-in if the worst comes to the worst.

Workers at Ebbw Vale, where a 28-day ultimatum to the Tories expires on February 17, quickly discounted the idea that they should turn themselves into model workers and are threatening indefinite

strike action unless guarantees are forthcoming on the work's future.

There is no doubt that only action of this kind, with industry-wide backing, can save the threatened works and jobs.

The BSC is scrapping all its open-hearth and some of its electric-arc furnaces to reap the benefits of economies of scale derived from bulk steel-making using the basic oxygen process.

Some of the works like Shotton in fact make a profit, giving the lie to the suggestion that salvation lies in the direction of raised profitability.

The BSC has also announced to the industry that it is preparing a consultative document on the rationalization of steel foundries.

Scotland, particularly, would suffer from any concentration of foundries at Sheffield, where many special steel plants are conveniently clustered.

At a special conference in Sheffield last weekend a resolution was passed by representatives from Craigneuk, Hall-side, Tollcross and Grimesthorpe steel foundries pledging 'a struggle with the BSC' should redundancies be declared as a result of reorganization.

The resolution, in two parts, demanded 'no redundancy and no loss in job opportunities', yet made a plea for 'a substantial increase in investment for the steel foundries as a whole'.



Top left: Corby steelworks. Right: Sheffield steelworkers march for the right to work. Above: Shotton steelworkers demonstrate in London.



... JOBS AXE POISED IN SHEFFIELD

The long, drawn-out take-over battle between the two private enterprise steel giants, Thos Firth and John Brown and Dunford and Elliott, reached a new peak of drama last Tuesday

Dunford's have now bid £26.5m for their Sheffield rival, but in a move to stave off the take-over Firth and Brown claimed 1972 profits would be up 70 per cent on the year before at £3.7m.

Efforts have been made to rationalize the privately-owned steel-finishing plants centred on Sheffield, at least since 1968.

The problem, as it always was throughout the steel industry before nationalization, is that despite pressure on profit margins and the obvious need for mergers, owners are reluctant to forgo the opportunities of profit which many feel may be just around the next corner.

The Labour government's Industrial Reorganization Corporation tried to force the companies' hands in 1969 when it took over Brown Bayley Steels.

There were protracted negotiations with Dunford's then, but nothing came of them. Now the firm, 50.1 per cent owned by the Department of Trade and Industry, has uni-

laterally embarked on a modernization programme.

Last year, despite a £6.2m turnover, the company notched up a mere £1,000 profit and only massive new investment could change the position.

Since 1969 the steel industry has gone through its worst recession since the war and most private companies, with the notable exception of Dunford's, have suffered losses.

Since its 1968 merger with Hadfield's, Dunford's has driven profits up from £259,000 to £1.5m in 1972—the worst year of the steel slump.

This dramatic improvement was achieved on the basis of plant modernization and changed labour techniques and Dunford's is now planning a further £3m investment programme which will give it added economies.

The capacity of the firm's electric-arc furnaces is to be increased and a new semi-continuous bar-mill is being installed.

Firth Brown's has its own £10m investment programme but the point of attraction from the point of view of a merger is that both companies operate broadly in the same fields.

Many observers see the Dunford-Firth Brown take-over as the catalyst for the rationalization of Sheffield's private steel firms which eluded the IRC.

Both groups produce alloy steel which is sold as bar and billet and in the forgings field both have a world-wide market in alloy forgings and in forged steel rolls.

Dunford's and Firth Brown's are the two biggest groups in the private steel sector and a merger would give them a monopoly of steel forgings.

The merger would establish a firm of sufficient size to be able to compete with European and world competitors.

It would also mean drastic cutbacks of obsolete plant and in labour requirements.

The private sector accounts for between 60 and 70 per cent of Britain's steel-finishing trades, but most of the firms are small.

The British Independent Steel Producers' Association lists 50 companies on its books, many of them in Sheffield, although the town's industry is effectively dominated by nine companies.

Three of the nine, Balfour Darwin, Brown Bayley and Samuel Osborn, hover on the brink of profit losses and four others, Neepsend, Edgar Allen, Sanderson Kayser and Arthur Lee are far from happy about their last year's performance.

The steel recession means that private sector special steels and finishing processes must be rationalized to achieve maximum economies of scale.

The Dunford's-Firth Brown's reverse take-over bid is the first shot in the battle.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

RARITY

Fruit cake may soon become as rare a luxury on British tables as roast beef. Prices of raisins and sultanas in the shops have gone up by as much as 25 per cent from 10p to 12½p.

Worse still, they are likely to double in price in the shops before very much longer, said a spokesman at the Ministry of Agriculture prices freeze department in Nottingham.

'This week's increase is nothing compared to what is on the way. World prices have already almost doubled and this is bound to be translated into higher shop prices,' he added.

He said crop failure in the USA last year was the main cause.

'Severe frosts destroyed two-fifths of the American crop of black and white grapes from which raisins and sultanas come.'

TOP JOB

'Locomotive Journal', the monthly newspaper of the foot-platemens' union, ASLEF, has an unfortunate headline in this month's issue. It says: 'TUC opposes Market entry'.

The TUC mass membership certainly does. They voted by a majority of 3.1 million to oppose entry and to boycott its institutions. But Victor Feather, the TUC's leading bureaucrat, has now become the first president of the new European Trade Union Confederation, a top post.

We trust 'Locomotive Journal' will reveal this treachery in next month's issue!

RATES

More shocks on the rates front. An effective increase of nearly 26 per cent in the county rate will be levied in Worcestershire.

Because of rating revaluation, the county will lose £1.85m in rate support grants in 1973-1974. The County Treasurer, Mr T. H. Bradley, says another effect of the revaluation has been to shift the financial burden on to the domestic ratepayers.

BRAZIL

Ginger Rogers, the fading Hollywood film star, has just accepted a new role far from the dreamy romantic musicals of her Fred Astaire days.

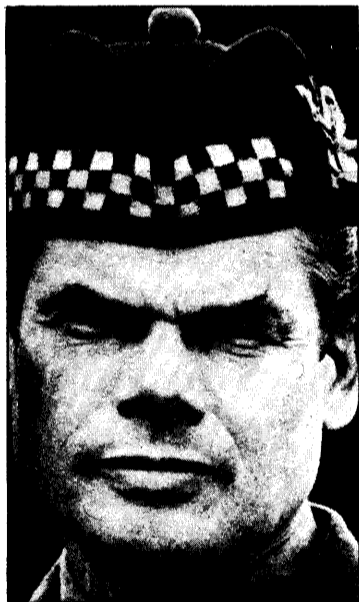
She has been contracted by the huge American chain store company, J. C. Penney, to sell the Brazilian image in the United States.

Penney is to flood its international network of stores with products from the police-state of Garrastuzu Medici, with Ginger giving a cosy impression of romance in Rio.

She has just visited various ministers in the Brazilian government—she told them that 100 US press-men will see the country with their own eyes.

It is not likely that their own eyes will see beyond the modernist bric-a-brac of Brazilia to the crowded settlements and prisons that are the lot of those who produce the goods for J. C. Penney.

CHUMS



Above: 'Mad Mitch'

The new chums in the House of Commons have struck up excellent friendships.

Two young Tories who are seen frequently together in the corridors of power are Winston Churchill, Junior, and Colonel Colin ('Mad Mitch') Mitchell.

Their conversations, we understand, are usually about how the nation can be 'saved'.



BOOKS BY TROTSKY

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SATURDAY TV

BBC 1

10.00 Repondez s'il vous plait. 10.30-10.55 Aventura. 11.00-11.25 Croesi'r bont. 11.40 Weather. 11.45 Herbs. 12.00 Motor mouse. 12.20 Outa-space! 12.45 Grandstand. 12.50 Football preview. 1.35, 2.05, 2.35 Racing from Chepstow. 1.55, 2.25, 2.55, 4.30 International athletics. 3.30 Rugby league. Leigh v Wakefield Trinity. 4.45 Final score. 5.05 Basil Brush. 5.35 News, sport, weather. 5.50 Dr. Who.

6.15 WONDERFUL WORLD OF DISNEY. How to Relax.

6.55 FILM: 'MALAGA.' Maureen O'Hara, MacDonald Carey.

8.15 CILLA. Cilla Black. Guests Hannah Gordon, Cliff Richard sings A Song For Europe.

9.00 A MAN CALLED IRONSIDE. Unreasonable Facsimile.

9.50 NEWS. Weather. 10.05 MATCH OF THE DAY.

11.05 PARKINSON. Michael Parkinson and guests. 12.05 Weather.

ITV

9.00 Time off. 9.30 Foreign flavour. 9.55 Return to Peyton Place. 10.20 Sesame street. 11.20 Merrie melodies. 11.35 Osmonds. 12.00 Partridge family. 12.30 News. 12.35 World of sport. 12.40 On the ball. 1.05 International sports special. Water polo. 1.20 ITV seven. 1.30, 2.00, 2.30, 3.00 Racing from Newcastle. 1.45, 2.15, 2.45 Racing from Nottingham. 3.10 International sports special. Indoor athletics, International heavyweight boxing. 3.50 Results, scores, news. 4.00 Wrestling. 4.50 Results service. 5.10 News. 5.15 Black beauty. 5.45 Doctor at large.

6.15 SALE OF THE CENTURY.

6.45 FILM: 'THREE GUNS FOR TEXAS.' Neville Brand, Philip Carey, Albert Salmi. Three Texas Rangers attempt to capture an Indian bandit.

8.30 THE VAL DOONICAN SHOW. Guests The New Seekers, Mike Newman, Patricia Carroll.

9.30 NEWS. 9.40 MADIGAN. The Manhattan Beat.

11.00 RUSSELL HARTY PLUS.

11.50 NO MAN'S LAND. Women and Work. Juliet Mitchell.

12.40 THE PIONEERS. Birth Control.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 11.40 Bonanza. 12.30 London. 5.20 Tarzan. 6.15 London. 6.45 Film: 'Mysterious Island'. 8.30 London. 9.40 Longstreet. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 Spyforce. 12.20 Weather.

WESTWARD: 9.55 Jobs around the house. 10.20 Getting your money's worth. 10.45 Joe 90. 11.10 Cartoon. 11.35 Gus Honeybun. 12.20 Faith for life. 12.25 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 9.15 Jobs around the house. 9.40 Getting your money's worth. 10.10 All our yesterdays. 10.35 Stingray. 11.05 Merrie melodies. 11.35 Cowboy in Africa. 12.25 Weather. 12.30 London. 5.15 Tarzan. 6.15 Who do you do? 6.45 Film: 'Mysterious Island'. 8.39 London. 9.40 Longstreet. 10.40 News. 10.45 Spyforce. 11.40 No man's land. 12.30 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.00 London. 9.55 All our yesterdays. 10.20 Bugs Bunny. 10.30 Once upon a time. 10.40 Grasshopper island. 11.00 Sesame street. 12.00 Osmonds. 12.30 London. 5.20 Bonanza. 6.15 Who do you do? 6.45 Film: 'One Spy Too Many'. 8.30 London. 9.40 Persuaders. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 Name of the game. 12.45 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 5.20 It's all in life. 5.45-6.15 Tra bodau.

ANGLIA: 9.00 London. 10.00 Hammy hamster. 10.15 Rovers. 10.40 Film: 'Rhubarb'. 12.30 London. 5.20 Riptide. 6.15 Who do you do? 6.45 Film: 'The Comedy Man'. 8.30 London. 9.40 Longstreet. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 Man in a suitcase.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.15 Jobs around the house. 9.40 Getting your money's worth. 10.10 Place in the country. 10.40 Thunderbirds. 11.35 Jackson five. 12.00 Skippy. 12.30 London. 5.15 Bonanza. 6.15 Who do you do? 6.45 Film: 'The Wackiest Ship in the World'.

Jane Goodall (left) presents 'The Wild Dogs of Africa' on BBC 2 at 7.25 on Sunday. Earlier on BBC 1 Deborah Makepeace and Donald Picketing are in the first part of a new children's serial 'A Little Princess'.

BBC 2

8.55-1.30 Open University. 3.00 Film: 'It's Always Fair Weather'. Gene Kelly, Dan Dailey, Cyd Charisse. Hollywood musical. 4.35 Play away. 5.00 Pets and vets. 5.15 Rare ones.

6.05 MAN ALIVE. Alive and Well and Living in Malta.

6.55 WESTMINSTER. 7.20 NEWS, SPORTS. Weather.

7.30 RUGBY SPECIAL. County championship semi-final. Gloucestershire v Eastern Counties.

8.15 WEIR OF HERMISTON.

9.00 FULL HOUSE. Including 'With 100 Kazoos', One street beyond justice or love, Soft Machine, Mass, The Sisters.

10.40 FACE THE MUSIC. 11.10 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

11.15 FILM: 'DESIRE IN THE DUST.' Raymond Burr, Martha Hyer, Joan Bennett, Ken Scott.

ARMY: 8.30 London. 9.40 Longstreet. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 Gordon Bailey. 11.35 Film: 'The Eyes of Charles Sand'. Weather.

ULSTER: 10.30 Sesame street. 11.30 Thunderbirds. 12.30 London. 5.15 Sports. 5.45 Beverly hillbillies. 6.15 Who do you do? 6.45 Film: 'The Rains Came'. 8.30 London. 9.40 Longstreet. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 Kreskin.

YORKSHIRE: 9.15 The last stand. 9.40 Getting your money's worth. 10.10 Osmonds. 10.35 Elephant boy. 11.05 Film: 'Abbott and Costello Meet Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'. 12.30 London. 5.20 Riptide. 6.10 Persuaders. 7.05 Film: 'Cheyenne Autumn'. 9.30 London. 9.40 Val Doonican. 10.40 No man's land. 11.25 Place in the country. 12.00 To see ourselves. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.15 Jobs around the house. 9.40 Getting your money's worth. 10.10 You and your golf. 10.40 Sesame street. 11.40 Huckleberry Finn. 12.05 Arthur. 12.30 London. 5.20 Big valley. 6.15 Who do you do? 6.45 Film: 'The Flight of the Phoenix'. 9.20

Bugs Bunny. 9.30 London. 9.40 Val Doonican. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 Boris Karloff presents.

TYNE TEES: 9.15 Wild life theatre. 9.40 Getting your money's worth. 10.10 Osmonds. 10.35 Joe 90. Abbott and Costello. 12.30 London. 5.15 Riptide. 6.10 Persuaders. 7.05 Film: 'Cheyenne Autumn'. 9.30 London. 9.40 Val Doonican show. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 FBI. 12.25 Lectern.

SCOTTISH: 9.15 Jobs around the house. 9.40 Getting your money's worth. 10.10 Funky phantom. 10.35 Black Beauty. 11.05 Joe 90. 11.30 Osmonds. 12.00 Cavalcade. 12.30 London. 5.15 Bonanza. 6.10 Protectors. 6.40 Film: 'The Greatest Show on Earth'. 9.30 London. 9.40 Val Doonican. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 O'Hara.

GRAMPIAN: 11.15 Jackson five. 11.45 Ron and friends. 12.30 London. 5.20 UFO. 6.15 Who do you do? 6.45 Film: 'An American Guerrilla in the Philippines'. 8.30 London. 9.40 Longstreet. 10.40 No man's land. 11.30 O'Hara.

SUNDAY TV

BBC 1

9.00 Nai zindagi naya jeevan. 9.30 Repondez s'il vous plait. 10.00-10.25 Aventura. 10.30-11.30 Mass. 11.35 Cut and thrust. 12.00 Handling materials. 12.25 Seventy plus. 12.50 Farming. 1.15 Made in Britain. 1.30 Parents and children. 1.55 News headlines. Weather. 2.00 Rugby Union. Barbarians v New Zealand. 2.45 Ask Aspel. 3.10 Your obedient servant. 3.45 Film: 'The Rainmaker'. Burt Lancaster, Katharine Hepburn. 5.40 A little princess.

6.05 NEWS. Weather.

6.15 THE SUNDAY DEBATE. Immigration and race relations. How should we deal with the consequences of Commonwealth Immigration? Rt. Hon. Enoch Powell puts his case.

6.45 PATRICK MOORE appeals on behalf of Refresh.

6.50 NEW BEGINNING. 7.00 CHOICE IS YOURS. 7.25 THE BROTHERS.

8.15 FILM: 'THE JOLSON STORY.' Larry Parks, Evelyn Keyes. Story of Al Jolson, American entertainer. 10.20 NEWS. Weather.

10.35 MORECAMBE AND WISE. Fools Rush In. An Omnibus film showing how the famous duo work.

11.25 CROSSTALK. Richard Crossman, MP and Baroness Sharp. 12.05 Weather.

ITV

9.30 Morning service. 10.35 UFO. 11.30 Weekend world. 1.00 Thunderbirds. 1.50 Skilful rugby. 2.15 Big match. 3.15 Persuaders. 4.15 Junior five. 4.25 Golden shot. 5.15 Aquarius.

6.05 NEWS. 6.15 ADAM SMITH. 6.40 INSTRUMENTS OF THY PEACE.

7.00 SONGS THAT MATTER. 7.25 THE FENN STREET GANG. Absent Friends.

7.55 FILM: 'IN THE FRENCH STYLE.' Jean Seberg, Stanley Baker. An American girl goes to Paris to paint.

9.45 POLICE FIVE. 10.00 NEWS FROM ITN.

10.15 COUNTRY MATTERS. The Simple Life. 11.15 OPEN NIGHT.

12.05 THE PIONEERS. Archbishop Temple and the Ecumenical movement. 12.10 SCALES OF JUSTICE.

BBC 2

9.20-1.25 Open University. 3.55 Man at work. 4.20 Money at work. 5.20 Horizon.

6.15 NEWS REVIEW. 6.50 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.

6.55 DOUBTS AND CERTAINTIES.

7.25 THE WORLD ABOUT US. Hugo van Lawick and Jane Goodall present The Wild Dogs of Africa.

8.15 THE GOODIES. 8.35 WAS THE 'UNFINISHED' FINISHED? Third movement of Schubert's Symphony No. 8 in B minor.

9.45 THE VIEW FROM DANIEL PIKE. The Manufactured Clue.

10.35 THEY SOLD A MILLION. 11.20 NEWS ON 2. Weather.



REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 11.30-1.00 London. 2.13 Weather. 2.15 London. 3.15 Film: 'A Pair of Briefs'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'In the French Style'. 10.00 London. 12.00 Epilogue. Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.30 London. 10.30 All our yesterdays. 11.00 Gus Honeybun. 11.05 Tomfoolery. 1.00 Talking hands. 1.15 Branded. 1.45 Farm and country news. 1.55 Acres for profit. 12.00 Faith for life. 12.05 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 9.00 VAT 73. 9.30 London. 10.30 Farm progress. 10.55 Weather. 11.00 World War I. 11.30 London. 1.00 Superman. 1.20 Primus. 1.50 Jimmy Stewart. 2.15 London. 3.15 Fenn Street gang. 3.45 Cartoon. 3.50 Golden shot. 4.40 Aquarius. 5.30 News. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 Lon-

don. 7.55 Film: 'The Hill'. 10.00 London. 12.00 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.00 VAT 73. 9.30 London. 10.35 Farming diary. 11.00 Place in the country. 11.30 London. 1.00 Survival. 1.30 Drive-in. 2.00 Bugs Bunny. 2.15 London. 3.15 Film: 'Johnny Nobody'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Hill'. 10.00 London. 12.00 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 6.40-7.00 Seiniu'r saboth.

ANGLIA: 9.00 VAT. 9.30 London. 10.30 Circus. 10.55 Doris Day. 11.20 Cartoons. 11.30 London. 1.00 Champions. 1.50 Weather. 1.55 Farming. 2.30 Film: 'Boys Will be Boys'. 3.55 Match of the week. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.25 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Pink Panther'. 10.00 London.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.00 VAT. 9.30 London. 10.30 All our yesterdays. 11.00 Citizens' rights. 11.30 London.

1.00 Champions. 2.00 Soccer. 3.00 Film: 'None But the Brave'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Ambushers'. 10.00 London.

ULSTER: 11.00 VAT. 11.30 London. 1.00 Foreign flavour. 1.30 Jobs around the house. 1.55 Pebbles and Bamm Bamm. 2.15 London. 3.15 Film: 'Black Spurs'. 4.40 Golden shot. 6.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Full House'. 10.00 London.

YORKSHIRE: 9.20 Chess masterpieces. 9.30 London. 10.30 Untamed world. 11.00 Hogan's heroes. 11.30 London. 1.00 Farming outlook. 1.25 Calendar. 1.55 Soccer. 2.50 Film: 'The Pleasure of His Company'. 4.45 Golden shot. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Robbery'. 10.00 London. 12.05 Shirley's world. 12.35 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 10.35 Untamed world. 11.00 Time to remember. 11.30 London. 12.55 Saint. 1.50 On the line. 2.25 Football. 3.25 Film: 'Wake Me When the War is Over'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Quiller Memorandum'. 9.50 Bugs Bunny. 10.00 London.

TYNE TEES: 9.20 Chess masterpieces. 9.30 London. 10.30 Jobs around the house. 11.00 Doctor in charge. 11.30 London. 1.00 Farming outlook. 1.25 World War I. 1.50 Where the jobs are. 1.55 Cartoon. 2.00 Soccer. 2.50 Film: 'It's Never Too Late'. 4.45 Golden shot. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Robbery'. 10.00 London. 11.15 Challenge. 12.05 Dr Simon Locke. 12.35 Lectern.

SCOTTISH: 10.10 World War I. 10.35 Women only. 11.00 Place in the country. 11.30 London. 1.00 Randall and Hopkirk. 2.00 Sport. 3.25 Theatre of stars. 4.25 Golden shot. 5.15 Aquarius. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'A Bullet For Joey'. 9.30 Comedians. 10.00 London. 12.00 Late call.

GRAMPIAN 11.00 Farm progress. 11.30 London. 1.00 Foreign flavour. 1.30 Jobs around the house. 2.00 Sport. 3.25 Film: 'Heidi'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Black Beauty. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Roman Holiday'. 10.00 London. 12.05 Living and growing.

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

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Devon trade unionists plan Council of Action

BARNSTAPLE and District Trades Council is holding a public meeting at the Queen's Hall, Barnstaple, next Tuesday to decide what action should be taken to oppose the Tory government's state control of wages.

In a Press statement, the Council declares: 'The so-called "price controls" have proved themselves a farce. Food prices, rents, rates and the cost of buying a house, all continue to rise rapidly. Common Market entry and the introduction of VAT on April 1 can only make the situation worse.'

'In these circumstances, many sections of the community, not only trade unionists and their families, find their standard of living undermined. The Trades

Council is inviting all those threatened by Tory policies to support the formation of a North Devon Council of Action.'

Support for the meeting has already come from the local Labour Party, the Communist Party, the Socialist Labour League and trade unionists in Bideford, Ilfracombe and Torrington.

In a statement supporting the call for a council of action, Chris Capel, a Labour member of Barnstaple Town Council, said the council had to hand over to the government about £20,000, which was surplus on their housing account.

'This is the actual profit made by the council on their council house rents,' he said. 'It is over £11 per council house extorted from council house tenants who are predominantly workers.'

Leaflets and posters publicising the meeting are being distributed throughout the area.

National Front leader speaks at Monday Club

THE ESSEX branch of the Monday Club was yesterday addressed by the chairman of the National Front, Mr John Tyndall.

The Club's headquarters intervened on Thursday and asked its Essex members not to go ahead with the meeting.

But Essex branch chairman Mr Leonard Lambert said: 'We decided to invite the National Front along after their campaign in the Uxbridge by-election.'

'We wanted to find out what made these people tick.'

The committee of the Essex Monday Club unanimously decided that the meeting would go ahead despite unfavourable publicity.

International Socialists to follow

Mr Lambert said it was their opinion that the Club's national management was not sufficiently acquainted with the facts. 'After much consideration,

we are unable to accede to any suggestion for cancellation of this meeting,' he said.

He added: 'While future invitations will include a speaker from the opposition International Socialist organization, it is evident that the recent impact of the National Front in a parliamentary by-election warrants immediate study.'

'It will be highly inconvenient and an act of discourtesy towards our members and Mr Tyndall for the meeting to be cancelled at this late hour.'

Uruguay Stalinists welcome anti-Marxist programme

THE URUGUAYAN Communist Party has described as 'generally positive' the agreement reached by President Juan Maria Bordaberry and leaders of the military rebellion.

A National Security Council which will be responsible for carrying out their 19-point pro-

gramme, including redistribution of land and income, workers' participation in management, the fight against the monopolies... and the influence of Marxist-Leninist ideas!

AN ATHENS military court has jailed Stathis Panagoulis for four years and ten months for allegedly dodging army service. This follows a similar sentence for allegedly plotting to hijack an airliner and kidnap foreign diplomats to secure release of political prisoners held by the colonels' regime.

CLYDEBANK town council will seek legal advice before deciding whether or not to pay the £5,000 fine imposed on them for contempt of a court order instructing them to implement the Tory rent Act. A meeting of the 21-strong council on Thursday night agreed to investigate the possibility of appeal.

Firth-Brown second offer

THOMAS FIRTH and John Brown, the Sheffield steel-makers, have received a second takeover bid substantially higher than the offer by Dunford and Elliot.

Richard, Johnson and Nephew, the industrial subsidiary of Jessel Securities, has offered £33m for the firm.

Firth-Brown has consistently fought Dunsford's reverse takeover bid, but it is understood the management will recommend the Jessel offer to shareholders.

● See pages 8 & 9.

Socialist Labour League Public Meetings UNITE IN ACTION TO DEFEND BASIC RIGHTS

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>ACTON
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 20, 8pm
Woodlands Hall,
Crown Street
speaker: G HEALY
(SLL National Sec)</p> <p>WANDSWORTH
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22,
8pm
Wandsworth Town Hall
Wandsworth High Street
speaker: MIKE BANDA
(SLL Central Cttee)</p> <p>BRADFORD
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22,
7.30 p.m.
Central Library
Top of Hall Ings.
Speaker:
Cliff Slaughter
(SLL Central Committee)</p> <p>CASTLEFORD
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25,
6.30 p.m.
Castleford Civic Hall
Ferry Bridge Road
Speaker: C. SLAUGHTER
(SLL Central Committee)</p> | <p>BIRMINGHAM
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, 7pm
Digbeth, Civic Hall
Digbeth, Birmingham
speaker: MIKE BANDA
(SLL Central Cttee)</p> <p>SOUTHAMPTON
MONDAY FEBRUARY 26, 8 p.m.
Marlands Hall
Havelock Road
opp. Civic Centre
Speaker: ALAN THORNETT
(Deputy Senior Steward Morris
Motors in a personal capacity)</p> <p>MEDWAY
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 27, 8pm
Aurora Hotel
Brompton Road
Gillingham
speaker: MIKE BANDA
(SLL Central Cttee)</p> <p>SLOUGH
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28
8pm
Britwell Community Centre
Long Furlong Drive
Britwell Estate
speaker: G HEALY
(SLL National Sec)</p> | <p>DAGENHAM
THURSDAY MARCH 1, 8pm
Manor Park Library
Romford Rd/Rabbitts Road
opp Rabbitts Pub
speaker: G HEALY
(SLL National Sec)</p> <p>HULL
THURSDAY MARCH 1, 8 p.m.
'Windmill Hotel'
Witham
Speaker: CLIFF SLAUGHTER
(SLL Central Cttee)</p> <p>WEST LONDON
THURSDAY MARCH 1, 8 p.m.
Lyndhurst Hall
Grafton Road, NW3
Speaker: M. BANDA
(SLL Central Committee)</p> <p>LUTON
FRIDAY MARCH 2, 8 p.m.
Assembly Hall
Town Hall
Speaker: M. BANDA
(SLL Central Committee)</p> <p>TOTTENHAM
TUESDAY MARCH 6, 8 p.m.
Lord Morrison Hall
Chesnut Grove
Speaker: G. HEALY
(SLL National Secretary)</p> |
|---|---|---|

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Fight rising rents and prices
Defend basic democratic rights
Force the Tories to resign

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>GOOLE: Sunday February 18, 7.30 p.m. 'The Buchanan', Weatherill Street.</p> <p>SOUTH EMSALL: Monday February 19, 7.30 p.m. Westfield Social Centre, Westfield Recreation Ground.</p> <p>BRIXTON: Tuesday February 20, 8 p.m. Brixton Training Centre, Control Room. 'No state control of wages'.</p> <p>LIVERPOOL: Tuesday February 20, 7.30 p.m. AEU House, Mount Pleasant.</p> <p>DAGENHAM: Tuesday February 20, 8 p.m. Barking Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue. 'Defend basic rights'.</p> <p>SKELMERSDALE: Tuesday February 20, 7.30 p.m. Quarry Bank. 'Forward to the Pageant'.</p> <p>EAST LONDON: Tuesday February 20, 'Festival Inn', Chrisp Street, E.14. 'Common Market Conspiracy'.</p> <p>LANCASTER: Wednesday February 21, 8 p.m. Trades Hall, Fenton Street (near GPO). 'Stop the retreat on Rents. Defend basic rights.'</p> <p>WINSFORD: Wednesday February 21, 8 p.m. 'Wheatshaf Hotel'.</p> <p>LANGLEY: Wednesday February 21, 8 p.m. 'Cardinal's Hat', Wood Street. 'Defend Democratic Rights. Forward to the Pageant'.</p> <p>PRESTON: Wednesday February 21, 7.30 p.m. 'Waterloo Hotel', Friargate. 'The Road to Workers' Power'.</p> <p>WOOLWICH: Wednesday February 21, 8 p.m. 'The Castle', Powis Street, S.E.18. 'The Crisis of leadership'.</p> | <p>TOTTENHAM: Wednesday February 21, 8 p.m. 'Bricklayers Arms', High Road, near White Hart Lane. 'The case for a Labour government pledged to socialist policies'.</p> <p>STEVENAGE: Thursday February 22, 8 p.m. 'Red Lion', Stevenage Old Town. 'Support the gasmen'.</p> <p>LEWISHAM: Thursday February 22, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club. (opposite New Cross station).</p> <p>HACKNEY: Thursday February 22, 8 p.m. Parlour Room, Central Hall, opposite Town Hall, Mare Street.</p> <p>WILLESDEN: Thursday February 22, 8 p.m. Labour and Trades Hall, High Road, N.W.10. 'Road to Workers' Power'.</p> <p>SCUNTHORPE: Sunday February 25, 7.30 p.m. The Kingsley Hall, Cole Street.</p> <p>BASILDON: Sunday February 25, 5.20 p.m. Barnstable Community Centre. 'Road to Workers' Power'.</p> <p>WANDSWORTH: Monday February 26, 8 p.m. 'King's Arms', High Street, S.W.18. 'Defend the right to work'.</p> <p>WATFORD: Monday February 26, 8 p.m. Trade Union Hall, Woodford Road, near Watford Junction Station. 'Rise of fascism in Italy'.</p> | <p>ACTON: Tuesday February 27, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Road, W3. 'Forward to the Pageant—The Road to Workers' Power'.</p> <p>CLAPHAM: Tuesday February 27, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor Street, S.W.4. 'Defend Democratic Rights'.</p> <p>PADDINGTON: Tuesday February 27, 8 p.m. 'Artesian', corner Chepstow / Westbourne Park Road.</p> <p>CAMDEN: Tuesday February 27, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross. 'Lessons of fighting the Housing Finance Act'.</p> <p>HARROW: Tuesday February 27, 8 p.m. Labour Hall, Wealdstone. 'All out for Wembley Pageant'.</p> <p>TOOTING: Tuesday February 27, 8 p.m. 'Selkirk Hotel', Selkirk Road, Tooting Broadway. 'The rise of Italian Fascism'.</p> <p>CROYDON: Thursday March 1, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road. 'Support the gasmen'.</p> <p>HOLLOWAY: Thursday March 1, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road (near Finsbury Park Station). 'Marxism and the trade unions'.</p> <p>KINGSTON: Thursday March 1, 8 p.m. 'Liverpool Arms', Cambridge Road. 'Support the gasmen and hospital workers'.</p> |
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Socialist Labour League Lectures

- Portobello (near Jessops hospital) 'The economic crisis and the socialist answer'.
- SHEFFIELD:** Monday March 5, 8 p.m. YS PREMISES, Portobello (near Jessops hospital). 'The Revolutionary Party in Britain'.

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Monty Johnstone: A statement

THE EAST London area sub-committee of the Socialist Labour League excluded the Stalinist Monty Johnstone from a public lecture in Poplar last Thursday night for the following reasons:

Johnstone's record in the British labour movement—and in particular in the Communist Party—is politically suspect. He joined the Young Communist League in 1941 and remained a member of this organization when he joined the Trotskyist Revolutionary Communist Party from 1945-1946.

Johnstone was an agent for the Stalinists in the Trotskyist RCP. Since then he has never tried to explain his membership in the RCP and his continuous and unbroken membership of the Stalinist movement since 1941.

He supported the imprisonment of Soviet intellectuals Daniel and Sinyavsky and described Stalin's death as an 'irreparable loss' to the 'whole world'. As editor of 'Challenge' in the 1950s, Johnstone defended and applauded the murder of east European communists such as Rajk, Kostov and Slansky.

Although he subsequently explained these methodical crimes and distortions of truth as 'mistakes', he has never explained how and why he supported them. The political behaviour of Johnstone, does not merit the support or confidence of workers or intellectuals. He has still not retracted his support of the Rajk trial.

Until Johnstone is prepared to explain publicly how he joined the RCP as a Stalinist agent and how he came to support the crimes of Stalin he will continue to be excluded from all public SLL functions.

The SLL welcomes members of the CP who are confused and who want to discuss the policies of the SLL and the Communist Party.

Johnstone does not come within this category. He remains the most conscious and inveterate Stalinist and an ally of the Kremlin bureaucracy which is the most counter-revolutionary force next to imperialism in world politics.

Today, when Stalinism openly combines with imperialism in Vietnam, in the Middle East and in Europe to prevent the working class from advancing to socialism it is essential to unmask Johnstone.

The struggle to expose such hacks and agents of Stalinism is an integral part of the construction of a revolutionary leadership.
East London area sub-committee.
February 16, 1973.

'Should have called Congress sooner' — Buckton ASLEF starts work to rule

BY ROYSTON BULL OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE COLLISION course the government is pursuing with the trade union movement became even clearer yesterday when the train drivers in ASLEF joined forces with the workers who have already declared for strike action against the Tories' arbitrary pay laws.

ASLEF called a one-day rail strike for February 28 and a permanent withdrawal of co-operation to go into effect immediately.

The industrial action is aimed to force British Rail to settle a drivers' pay claim outstanding since last June.

'The executive will review the situation after February 28 to see what action is necessary to pursue our claim,' union secretary Ray Buckton said yesterday.

Mr Buckton told Workers Press that British Rail's decision to hide behind the government's Phase Two pay controls in order to avoid



RAY BUCKTON

honouring last year's pay pledge had been the last straw.

'And they have also said that any review will be taken off this year's pay settlement. This means we

would get nothing in 1973,' he added.

Mr Buckton said that the drivers' pay dispute was now unavoidably brought into the general conflict between the government and the unions over the state pay controls.

'If the March 5 Congress calls for co-ordinated action by unions, my executive will give it the fullest consideration.'

But the ASLEF leader added: 'But maybe the situation will not wait till March 5 for a solution. In my opinion, this special Congress should have been called much earlier.'

'We should have called a Congress even before the Chequers talks. Instead of curing inflation, the govern-

ment's policy of confrontation is making it worse because it is driving unions into action which they have never been involved in before.'

The train drivers are demanding a £40 basic wage, which would mean a cash increase plus consolidation of various bonuses and allowances.

Their work-to-rule and overtime ban will have a slow build-up in effect, mainly on the Southern Region at first, but will become more noticeable after the 24-hour strike.

The ASLEF drivers do not do a great deal of the rest-day and overtime working, which was much discussed in the National Industrial Relations Court last year when the NIRC ruled that railmen were obliged by law to carry out 'rostered' overtime.

In last year's confrontation with the Tory laws, the rail unions membership showed their determination to fight.

They will fight again this year if the ASLEF leadership does not betray them.

The solution for train drivers and all other sections of workers fighting the dictatorial control of pay by the powers of the state, is to forge united action on March 5, or sooner, to get rid of the source of the hated pay laws, the Tory government.

TUC ON ITS KNEES

FROM PAGE 1

He is whipping them into line in anticipation of the collapse on March 5.

On February 11, 1926, less than ten weeks before the General Strike, Trotsky wrote about the ideological groupings in the British labour movement.

Referring to the leaders of the Labour Party he said:

'The official ideology of these gentlemen who will stop at nothing in the defence of the foundations of bourgeois society consists of the left-overs of bourgeois theories of the 19th century and primarily of its first half.'

Trotsky goes on to describe the 'middle tendency' of 'lefts' and syndicalists—the present-day Dalys, Scanlons, Heffers etc.

These, Trotsky says, 'are

recruited from eclectics, sentimentalists, hysterical philanthropists and, generally, muddlers of every type.

'The woolliness of the British "lefts" [and today we could add Stalinists] together with their theoretical formlessness, and their political indecision not to say cowardice makes the clique of MacDonald, Webb and Snowden masters of the situation which in turn is impossible with Thomas [extreme right-wing leader of the NUR, later in the coalition government].

'If the bosses of the British Labour Party form a bridge placed upon the working class, then Thomas is the buckle into which the bourgeoisie inserts the reins.'

But the situation facing the working class today is much more dangerous.

The fight against the Tory government must not be left for three weeks and put in the hands of the TUC leaders.

The campaign must be taken into every corner of the workers' movement for a fight to create the industrial and political conditions to make the Tory government resign.

The Socialist Labour League is at the centre of this struggle.

On Sunday, March 11, we have organized a massive historical Pageant and rally against the Tories at the Empire Pool, Wembley.

Stalinists fail to call off Cambridge sit-in

THE CAMBRIDGE University students' sit-in enters its third full day today—having defeated an attempt by Communist Party students to bring it to an end last night.

CP supporters proposed to a 600-strong mass meeting of students on Thursday night that they should campaign round the university on Friday for a big meeting in the evening.

They aimed to end the sit-in 'on a note of strength', with a torchlight procession and a letter of proposals handed to the vice-Chancellor.

It was defeated overwhelmingly. One speaker in the debate denounced the resolution as 'an organized CP attempt to block the sit-in' and recommended that it be 'rejected forcefully'.

A Young Socialist Student Society speaker told the meeting that rather than being brought to an end, the sit-in must be expanded in a disciplined way. 'But the overall political questions have to be taken up,' he warned.

'This fight against the university is inseparable from the fight against the Tory

government. The role of the Communist Party here is the same as it is nationally,' he added.

Cambridge students began their sit-in on Wednesday after the publication of a report by Lord Devlin, the university's High Steward.

Among his recommendations was a proposal that the university authorities go on refusing recognition to the Students' Union.

Devlin also refused to consider any reform of the present examination system.

The disciplinary system, whereby university proctors have greater powers than police constables, also angered the students.

Thursday's meeting took a decision to prepare further discussions yesterday to decide what action will be taken throughout the town.

Picketing of the main lecture block went ahead yesterday with attempts to intervene in lectures to discuss the situation.

No productivity—BRS men

PRODUCTIVITY was an unpopular word at the Alveston Manor Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon, yesterday.

British Road Services drivers who had gathered to hear the outcome of a meeting between the company and their union official, Alan Law of the Transport and General Workers, stressed that a productivity deal would not meet their demands.

The drivers want a £2.50 bonus for holding heavy goods vehicles (HGV) licences, which they are now required to hold by law.

BRS is refusing to pay the bonus—now standard at private haulage firms in the Midlands region—and the men have handed their licences in to the T&GWU.

Though they are reporting for work each day, BRS cannot send them out on the road in the big lorries serving the motor industry and is refusing to pay them.

Early yesterday afternoon, the drivers were still waiting to see an 11-page document setting out management demands for productivity concessions in return for the increase.

'They talk about productivity, but what productivity can we give?' asked T&GWU branch secretary Harry Shorter.

'We cannot work more hours

FROM DAVID MAUDE
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

because we're limited to 60 a week by law.

'Even if we accepted some fairly mild form of productivity I don't think it would be acceptable to many of our members back at the depots.'

'This is the first week we've had no pay at all, and the men have been meeting the same kind of hard-line attitude at the Social Security.'

'I know of a man with five children, years in the industry, who has been sent away with a few shillings: "You're on strike", they say.'

'Our bonus agreements are all based already on average speed of 28 miles an hour, which is just impossible when you have to pass through traffic. We can't go any faster.'

'Well, we're not, we simply

want what other people are paid in the area, but more and more of our members are seeing that this attitude is politically motivated.

'We didn't set out to take the government on, but we're up against them anyway, aren't we?'

Shop Steward Hayden Lee pointed out that many of the private firms who use BRS vehicles on contract had offered to pay the bonus to the drivers they used, but that the drivers had refused to accept this until everyone in BRS got the same.

Bill Hillier, a T&GWU regional committee member from Oxford, said that the present claim had started three years ago, when car delivery workers at some Birmingham firms had won the £2.50.

'Since then hundreds of other firms have got this money, but now we've run into opposition from the government.'

'We didn't pick a fight with them, but we're determined to get what we're entitled to.'

Unite in action to defend basic rights

<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">SLL</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">PUBLIC</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">MEETINGS</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">JARROW</p> <p style="margin: 0;">SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18 7 p.m.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Civic Centre, Jarrow</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Speaker: G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">NORTH KENT</p> <p style="margin: 0;">MONDAY FEBRUARY 19, 8pm</p> <p style="margin: 0;">The Shakespeare, Powis Street Woolwich</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Speaker: G. HEALY (SLL National Sec)</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">WATFORD</p> <p style="margin: 0;">MONDAY FEBRUARY 19, 8pm</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Trades Union Hall near Watford Junction stn</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Speaker: MIKE BANDA (SLL Central Ctee)</p>
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