

# WORKERS press

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY MARCH 10, 1972 ● No. 710 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

**Tory policies 'do not seem likely to bring about a substantial reduction in unemployment'—research report**

## JOBLESS WILL RISE

BY JOHN SPENCER

BRITAIN is heading for still higher unemployment, the National Institute for Economic and Social Research predicts in its quarterly report out yesterday.

It says that present Tory government policies 'do not seem likely at all to bring about a substantial reduction in unemployment'.

It adds that unemployment will not be reduced unless the economic growth rate is more than doubled from its present level of 1.9 per cent a year.

To bring down unemployment, the Institute says, the Tories would have to reduce taxation and increase spending power by some £2,500m—which is far in excess of anything planned for Chancellor Anthony Barber's forthcoming budget.

The Institute's proposals are the classic Keynesian approach to reflation of the economy. But the crisis facing British capitalism cannot be solved by these financial readjustments.

President Nixon tried the same reflationary techniques in the United States over the last two years. His efforts produced a titanic deficit in the US balance of payments, forcing him to sever the connection between gold and the dollar last August.

In Canberra yesterday the secretary-general of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Emil Van Lennep predicted that unemployment would continue to rise in all the OECD countries—including most of W Europe, the US, Canada and Japan—at least until early next year.

The Institute itself expresses concern over the future of British exports as a result of the international monetary crisis.

Exports, it says, are affected by loss of competitiveness and restrictions imposed by other countries.

This is borne out fully by the recent experience of the largest British monopolies. Shell reported the loss of £22m last year as a result of the currency crisis alone, while ICI profits fell by £14m.

ICI reported: 'The continuing and powerful influence of inflation throughout the world, and the currency problems of the latter months, provided an unfavourable background to the growth of world production and trade in 1971.'

It pointed out that world chemical production is now increasing by only 4 per cent a year, compared with an average rate of increase of 8½ per cent per year through the 1960s. The company's profits were trimmed by almost 10 per cent in 1971.

Another index is the staggering drop of new orders for machine tools both at home and abroad—indicating a massive decline in manufacturing investment as employers prepare to meet the international crisis.

During the first three quarters of 1971 new orders for these vital engineering goods were down 53 per cent on the corresponding period of 1970.

This is what makes the Right-to-Work marches of such vital political importance for the working-class movement. These marches are not a 'single-issue' protest. They are organized to mobilize the workers' movement to force the resignation of the Tory government and the election of a Labour government pledged to implement socialist policies.



## Confed rejects McGarvey deal

BY AN INDUSTRIAL REPORTER

LEADERS of 100,000 shipyard workers yesterday rejected a proposed new wage structure recommended by boilermakers' leader Danny McGarvey. The Confederation of Shipbuilding unions executive turned down the offer, which would have given shipbuilders a £6-a-week rise spread over two years, by 15 votes to seven.

McGarvey, who agreed the deal at talks in London earlier this month, had hoped for a quick ratification so that he could settle with the employers.

But Confederation policy is against long-term agreements.

The executive wants an across-the-board offer.

It also felt the cash offer was insufficient.

McGarvey said he still regarded the proposals as 'a breakthrough'.

'If it comes to the crunch, our union will apply our constitution and have a ballot of members in the shipbuilding industry,' McGarvey said.

This means he plans to go it alone and ignore the confed decision if necessary in order to impose the deal.

## MARCHES NEAR GOAL

THE Swansea-London and Southampton-London Young Socialist Right-to-Work marchers joined forces at Reading on Wednesday for the last leg of the campaign as it moves into London. The three other marches — Glasgow - London, Liverpool-London, Deal-London—are all now in the Home Counties and still finding tremendous support in the labour and trade union movement. This is despite a ban by both Labour Party and

the TUC on any of their organizations giving the young marchers any help. But still the moral and financial support flows in, see p. 12. On the same page you will find details of where to meet the marchers in London on Saturday morning. For a diary of events on all marches see pp. 10 and 11. And to be sure of your ticket for Sunday's great Empire Pool rally, book immediately.

See details below and p. 4.

YOU MUST BE THERE THIS WEEKEND : BOOK NOW FOR

## EMPIRE POOL WEMBLEY SUNDAY MARCH 12

AT 3 p.m. GREET THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS WHO HAVE MARCHED FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, SWANSEA, SOUTHAMPTON AND DEAL DEMANDING THE RIGHT TO WORK

AT 7.30 p.m. RELAX AT THE STAR-STUDDED SHOW WITH LARRY ADLER, RAM JOHN HOLDER, PAUL JONES, MOLLY MALLOY DANCERS, GEORGE MELLY, SPIKE MILLIGAN, ADRIAN MITCHELL

SLADE ★ MCGUINNESS FLINT ★ VINEGAR JOE ★ ROCK 'N ROLL ALL-STARS  
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For full details and ticket application form see p. 4  
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AROUND THE WORLD

# Nazi Mengele hiding in Peru

NAZI WAR criminal Dr Josef Mengele of the Auschwitz concentration camp is believed to be hiding with German settlers in a wild mountainous region of Peru.

Mengele carried out gruesome experiments on living people in the notorious death camp during World War II. After Bormann, Hitler's deputy, he was the most wanted war criminal, and like him his trace was lost after the war.

Lima police confirmed that Mengele was being hunted in Peru. Mrs Beate Klarsfeld, who has been trying to establish that naturalized Bolivian businessman Klaus Altmann is really the former head of the Gestapo in Lyons, claims that Bormann is also hiding in S Peru.

The French government's request for Altmann's extradition has been rejected by Col Banzer's government.

Reports that Mengele came to Peru at the end of 1971 and had made contact with Altmann and other ex-Nazi refugees were received by the judge investigating the New Year's day stabbing of the wealthy Peruvian, Luis Banchemo Rossi.



ADMIRAL BLANCO

# FRANCO'S DEPUTY LAYS INTO STUDENTS

UNIVERSITY teachers and students who have brought 'subversion' to Spanish campuses should be removed, Franco's vice-president Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco told the council of the National Movement on Tuesday.

The 68-year-old Admiral made an outspoken reaffirmation of fascist principles to the council, which heads Spain's only legal political organization.

Thanks to Franco's chieftainship, he declared, Spain was in a better position to face the world's grave crisis.

Holding out a hand to the Spiro Agnews of this world, he wondered what was to happen to the non-communist countries in the face of the increase in 'pornography, drugs and denial of spiritual values and denigration of religious sentiment'.

# No China deal with US

## Chou assures N Vietnam

CHOU EN-LAI is believed to have given assurance of full Chinese backing 'until total victory' in Indo-China.

The Chinese Premier's promise came in a meeting with N Vietnam Prime Minister Pham Van Dong and exile Prince Sihanouk of Cambodia.

They feared Peking

was doing a deal with Nixon behind their backs.

Speaking in Shanghai, Sihanouk claimed Nixon drew a blank in his efforts to wind up his Indo-China problem.

Chou had told Nixon China could not act as an intermediary between the US and the Indo-Chinese liberation movement.

'Mr Chou told me it was China's duty to

support the resistance movement until total victory', said Sihanouk. CAMBODIA is headed for a new political shake-up aimed to settle the dispute between Prime Minister Marshal Lon Nol and his opponents.

A new republican constitution is being debated by a special convention of former senators and deputies.

The aim is to have it

ready for March 18, second anniversary of Sihanouk's overthrow, although much of the country is not under the control of the Cambodian army.

The convention is expected to end its work by laying down rules for the appointment of a provisional president and assembly.

The changes are expected to strengthen Lon Nol's hand.



PREMIER CHOU

# Sten-gun police shoot Ovambos

AFRICANS are being shot down by soldiers and police in Namibia (SW Africa), an Anglican bishop said in London yesterday.

Speaking at Heathrow Airport, Bishop Colin Winter said martial law was now operating in the country.

The bishop, who has just been deported by Vorster's apartheid regime, said it was impossible to tell police from soldiers.

'They wear the same khaki combat uniform and carry sten guns,' he said. Four of his parishioners had been shot dead by police and soldiers as they walked home from a church meeting.

The official version of the incident, which took place in Ovamboland on January 30, was that the police had opened fire after being attacked by 100 tribesmen armed with pangas and bows and arrows.

He spoke from information provided by members of his church who were present. One youth of 19 who took fright was shot at point-blank range by a S African police captain.

'Immediately the rest of the patrol opened fire and the youth's head was splintered by bullets,' the bishop said.

When other Africans began to run away, police fired on the crowd killing three more and wounded others, one of whom later died. Emergency regulations are in force in Ovamboland following the strike of 13,000 mineworkers.

Hundreds of people have been arrested and are being detained without being charged or the chance of legal aid.

The bishop is travelling to New York to seek United Nations help.

But the new UN secretary-general Kurt Waldheim, is at present in S Africa holding talks with Vorster on the illegal seizure of Namibia by the apartheid regime.

# PARTY OF ORDER AND ORANGE BOOKS

THE FRENCH Communist Party claims that over 640,000 copies of its programmes have now been sold and that orders amount to nearly a million.

No means of publicity and propaganda has been neglected in an effort to sell the 'little orange book', including cut-price offers in supermarkets.

Most of the party's activity in recent months has been directed to 'selling' the programme and at the same time build up the image of the party as a responsible organization well able to run the affairs of the bourgeois state as part of a coalition government.

That is why the leadership has responded so violently against the activity of left-wing organizations following the shooting of former Renault worker Rene-Pierre Overney.

According to the French CP, all those who disturb the established order, whether in the factories or in the universities, are playing into the hands of the government, which is preparing to launch a repression.

It is desperately afraid of a repetition of the revolutionary events of May-June 1968 and tries to appear as the party of order.



# US CORPORATIONS TO MOVE HQ—WARNING

MANY American multi-national giants may move to neutral Swiss or Lichtenstein headquarters to avoid US laws.

This startling forecast was made by Carl A. Gerstaecker of Dow Chemical Co. in a speech to a White House conference on 'The Industrial World Ahead'.

Subsidiaries abroad were, to some extent, an instrument of American policy—an arm of what is called "American imperialism", he said.

On occasions this damaged business interests.

US firms operating in Canada couldn't compete with local firms trading with China because of legal restrictions imposed by Washington.

The changeover from national to foreign status could cost a 25 per cent capital gains tax on the transfer or sale of share capital involved.

In their drive for profits the multi-national corporations are looking for a way round such obstacles, according to Gerstaecker.

His threats may be something of a try-on to persuade the Administration to relax anti-trust and tax laws to prevent the corporations from moving their bases to other countries.

But it is probable that many of them will do so if they think it will give them scope for broadening their international interests and making bigger profits.

# BASQUES PROTEST TO FRENCH

BASQUES and Spaniards living in Britain are picketing the French embassy in Knightsbridge, London, to protest against the expulsion and harassment of political refugees.

Following a recent visit to Paris by the colonel-in-chief of the Spanish security forces, France has tightened up its controls over Spanish political refugees.

Among those expelled from France as a result of the collaboration between the French and Spanish security services is Santiago Carrillo, general secretary of the Spanish Communist Party.

FOUR young Basques—Luis Aracama, José Luis Uribarri, José Iriarte and Francisco Cabases—are staging a protest hunger strike in a church in the Rue Vaugirard, Paris, against the French government's actions.

# Student shot

ANKARA police shot and killed a wanted left-wing student in a flat where he was hiding yesterday after he had refused a call to surrender. Gogan Koray, a student of architecture, had been on the run for a year from martial law authorities.

# Sarajevo VW

VOLKSWAGEN is to set up an assembly and accessory plant in Yugoslavia at Vogosca near Sarajevo. It will have a capacity of 10,000 cars per year.

# Phantom downed

THE US command in Saigon yesterday admitted the loss of a Phantom jet in strikes at gun batteries along the Ho Chi Minh trail in Laos. The two crewmen were listed as missing.

N Vietnam has built up heavy air defences along the route over which troops and supplies move S. The US source claimed to have hit two ground batteries which fired on reconnaissance planes.

# Licensed accidents

YUGOSLAV holiday town, Skopje, once the centre of a tragic earthquake, has more recently been the focus of a trial of 15 officials for accepting bribes to issue driving licences.

Most of the driving test commission and instructors were selling licences to people who failed the test as many as 15 times. In addition they received expensive presents from the 'successful' candidates.

It is alleged that holders of false driving licences caused several traffic accidents in Macedonia and even several deaths.

# Oil talks

A TEAM of Japanese officials and experts from business firms is to make a three-week survey of Siberian oilfields.

The 15-man team is to inspect the oil reserves in the Tyumen district and consider the possibility of a pipeline to link up with a Siberian port facing the Japan seas.

It will also hold talks in Moscow about the technical problems involved.

If the team makes a favourable report, the Japanese government is expected to approve \$1,000m bank loans to cover one third of the cost. The exploitation of Siberian natural resources by Japanese capitalists would then go ahead.

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# THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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

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# SECURITY MEETING DEPENDS ON BONN

MOSCOW launched another attack on the W German opposition in yesterday's 'Pravda', accusing it of opposing a detente in Europe.

The attack appeared in a lengthy front-page article calling for the convocation of a European Security Conference. It accused the Christian Democrats in Bonn of being 'unwilling to abandon the ill-fated road to revenge-seeking', by which is meant a revision of existing frontiers as drawn up after the German defeat in World War II.

Moscow's foreign policy hinges very much on a reconciliation with W Germany as the basis for a general settlement with the European capitalist states to accept the existing division of the continent.

This aim has been supported by Social-Democratic Prime Minister Willy Brandt who, as part of his 'Ostpolitik', signed agreements with the Soviet Union and Poland.

Without a ratification of the treaties in Bonn, there is no prospect of a European Security Conference being held. Hence the growing concern in Moscow at the delay.

# SINISTER US MOVES -GANDHI

WASHINGTON is planning 'something sinister' for India by re-arming Pakistan, claimed Mrs Indira Gandhi at a big election rally in W Bengal.

Referring to the US annual foreign policy report, she pointed out that it accused India of responsibility for the war with Pakistan last December.

'I wonder why they should repeat these lies', she said. 'I think they want to do something sinister in the future and are only preparing the ground.'

Mrs Gandhi also attacked the reference to Kashmir in the Sino-American statement issued after Nixon's visit to China, as an intolerable interference in Indian internal affairs.

Adapting herself to the radical political climate in Bengal, Mrs Gandhi praised the 'courage and determination of the people of N Vietnam' fighting for their freedom. Her main emphasis was on the need for a strong India.

The Bengal election campaign has been stormy with ten deaths so far. Polling takes place tomorrow.

# Tillon in Overney attack

'POLITICAL madness' is how Charles Tillon, a former communist Minister in the French government describes the Communist Party attitude over the killing of Rene-Pierre Overney by a Renault security guard.

In a letter to 'Le Monde' saying that he had taken no active part in the calling of the demonstration at the Charonne metro station last week, Tillon compares the CP's policy with Stalinist denunciation of the social-democrats as 'social fascists' in the period before Hitler took power.

'In the name of Pompidou's order', he goes on, 'the Communist Party has invented "leftist-fascism". In its eyes, all those who criticize its appreciation of the political situation become anti-communist. This form of political madness is Stalinist.'

'But if to say so is to participate "in a vast enterprise of political provocation on behalf of the power" I must take my share of the abuse of the leading group of the French CP beside all those sufficiently free to salute with head held high the memory of the worker Rene-Pierre Overney.'

BY AN INDUSTRIAL REPORTER

THE TUC has advised the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers to refer key bargaining areas to the Commission on Industrial Relations. It has also advised the union to submit evidence on wage councils in the clothing industry to the Department of Employment.

This completely contravenes the 1971 TUC decision not to co-operate with the CIR or any other body with powers under the Industrial Relations Act.

In a recent case involving the National Industrial Relations Court, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) sent a long document to the Department of Employment, again with the TUC's blessing.

So, the Industrial Relations Act is already being applied—with TUC blessing. Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Labour Party has abandoned the fight against Common Market legislation. Michael Foot intervened to stop Labour's blocking tactics on March 2 and four days later the Tories were allowed to coast to a comfortable 47 majority on a censure debate.

And trade union 'left' Jack Jones, of the Transport and General Workers' Union, pleads for a 'dialogue' with the employers, as the engineering employers' leaders, Bamford and Barrett, spit venom at the working class. (See Workers Press, March 7.)

The Governing Council of Equity has reversed a decision not to register under the Act, without even consulting its members.

It is clear that reformists of all varieties have called off the fight against the Tories just as the government was on the point of collapse after the miners' strike and the Common Market split.

With the economic crisis intensifying, unemployment rising and Common Market entry leading inevitably to massive price increases, the reformists now act consciously to rescue the Heath government and preserve capitalism.

# TUC accepts the anti-union Act

Throughout its history, this has been the role of reformism—to seek a few crumbs during boom periods, but to sacrifice the working class to the requirements of capitalism when it faces collapse.

They did this, above all, in Germany under the Weimar republic when they co-operated with successive right-wing governments, even to the lengths of seeking to co-exist with Hitler after he came to power. But, unfortunately for them—as Trotsky pointed out—'the laws of history are more powerful than the bureaucratic apparatus'.

A class-confrontation is on the cards and neither Heath nor the reformists can avoid it.

As Workers Press explained on March 6, it was a head-on collision between the big employers and the government which forced Heath to settle the miners' strike. Heath had to pay up, because sections of the big employers were preparing to go to war on the working class, without waiting for their parliamentary representatives.

These employers are out of line with the government. Some of them—like Engineering Industries Association president Ernest Bar-

rett—have violently condemned the miners' settlement and are extremely hostile to any possibility of wage settlements in the nationalized industries above the 7 to 8-per-cent norm.

This is the class reality which lies beneath the desperate retreat of the Labourites and Stalinists and the soothing words of Heath.

It is this reality which has produced the unprecedented support for the Trotskyists' Right-to-Work marches and Sunday's Empire Pool rally.

Despite the right wing and the Stalinists openly lining up with Tories to try to disrupt the campaign, Labour and Communist Party members and supporters in the unions have flocked to its support.

This is the result of the political situation developing today. The working class, blocked by its official leaders, expresses its hostility to the Tories by supporting the campaign.

That is why the building of the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party this year will mark a huge leap forward for Trotskyism.

## 20 pc too many dockers

AT LEAST 20 per cent of London's dock labour force will be surplus to requirements by July, according to figures issued by the employers.

This figure will increase with the scheduled transfer of African and Far Eastern trade to Southampton's container port.

Up to 30 per cent of the present work force will not

be needed by the end of this year.

This is why the bosses are so determined to stick to their decision to send 40 Tilbury dockers back to the unattached pool. They intend that hundreds more shall follow them — with the consequent halving of wages.

In addition, the employers are bound to seek changes in the Dock

Labour Scheme in order to introduce compulsory redundancy, which they cannot do under present arrangements.

There have so far been three one-day strikes against men being sent back to the pool and a national stoppage is threatened for next month.

The employers see this as the pay-off for Devlin and they mean business.

# NUT SLATES JAMES COMMITTEE

THE TWO-YEAR Diploma in Higher Education, recommended by the James Committee on the reform of teacher education, would 'lower the education and professional standards of colleges of education', says the National Union of Teachers.

In a statement issued today, entitled 'James: A Critical Appraisal', the union calls for three-year degrees in education followed by a 'rigorous' period of professional training.

It suggests a 'more comprehensive system' of higher education, which could be attained by merging colleges of education with local universities or polytechnics.

Instead of this, the James pro-

posals 'seek to continue, indeed reinforce the divisiveness that so debilitates the teaching profession today'.

The NUT devoted two years of research into ways of bringing teacher training into the mainstream of higher education and is concerned at 'the cavalier way in which the James Committee proposes to deepen and perpetuate existing divisions'.

The so-called 'progressive' proposals of the committee—an all-graduate profession, in-service education, etc—lose their significance, the NUT says, because they are yoked to proposals which isolate teacher-education in an already divided higher education system and which deny future teachers the courses and opportunities they need.

# BIG CLASSES 'GOOD' FOR CHILDREN

JULES FEIFFER once drew a cartoon showing how 'experts' proved that H-bomb fall-out was beneficial. They just kept putting up bigger and bigger posters screaming 'Big Black Blobs are GOOD for You!'

Since Minister for Education and Science Margaret Thatcher resolutely refuses to decrease class sizes in schools, similar obliging 'experts' are busily (and profitably) 'proving' that big classes are good for you.

It's all been done before, but along comes another one.

Dr Ronald Davie, deputy director of the National Children's Bureau, has 'discovered' that infants in classes over 40 gain three months' advantage in reading age over children in classes of 30 or less.

If anyone was to say that Dr Davie was ignorant of the fact that a three-month's difference in reading age at the age of seven was absolutely meaningless, he could probably sue them for professional defamation.

The test probably used was one of the 'word recognition'-type which, as the name suggests, consists of simply 'reading' lists of words without any meaningful context and without necessarily understanding them.

What happens, as Dr Davie must know very well, is that with overlarge classes teachers are forced to use more formal methods of teaching which in the short run might give a slight advantage on such tests, but which in the long run are far less valuable than the freer methods which can be used with smaller classes.

And just one thing which Dr Davie ought to explain. If big classes are good for you, why don't the rich put their children in the state schools where these are to be found?

Why send them to the private schools where the ratio of staff to children averages out at one to 12?

Or should we start a scheme for the underprivileged children of the wealthy?

# BOOKS



- Moscow Trials Anthology Paperback, 62½p
- MAX SHACHTMAN: Behind The Moscow Trial Paperback 75p
- ROBERT BLACK: Stalinism In Britain Paperback £1.12½—cloth £2
- LEON TROTSKY: Death Agony of Capitalism (The Transitional Programme) Pamphlet 5p
- Class Nature of the Soviet State Pamphlet 20p
- In Defence of the October Revolution Pamphlet 15p
- The Theory and Practice of Revisionism Pamphlet 15p
- Postage 10p per book, 3p per pamphlet. Order from: NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG.

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**YOUNG SOCIALISTS**

# NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK CAMPAIGN

There are now well over one million people out of work in Britain, the highest joblessness for a quarter of a century. These huge levels of unemployment are as a direct result of Tory policies. The Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign is a challenge to these policies and, therefore, the continued rule of this government.

## MARCHERS ARRIVE

**SATURDAY MARCH 11**

The marchers will arrive at the outskirts of London and will be greeted at:

- EAST INDIA HALL**, East India Dock Road, E14. 7 pm
- HANWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE**, Westcott Crescent, W7. 7 pm
- LIME GROVE BATHS**, Shepherds Bush, W12. 7pm

## MARCH THROUGHOUT LONDON

**MONDAY MARCH 13**

Assemble: 10 am, Speaker's Corner, Marble Arch  
March: 11 am through West End to the Temple.

## MARCHERS' LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT

Lobby your Labour MP: 2 pm  
Meeting: 4.30 pm Central Hall, Westminster

## RALLY EMPIRE POOL WEMBLEY

**SUNDAY MARCH 12, 3 p.m.**

Speakers: **G. HEALY** (SLL National Secretary)  
**CLIVE NORRIS** (National Secretary of Right-to-Work Campaign)  
**JOHN BARRIE** (YS leader of Glasgow march)  
**CHRISTINE SMITH** (YS leader of Liverpool march)  
**MIKE BANDA** (Socialist Labour League Central Committee)

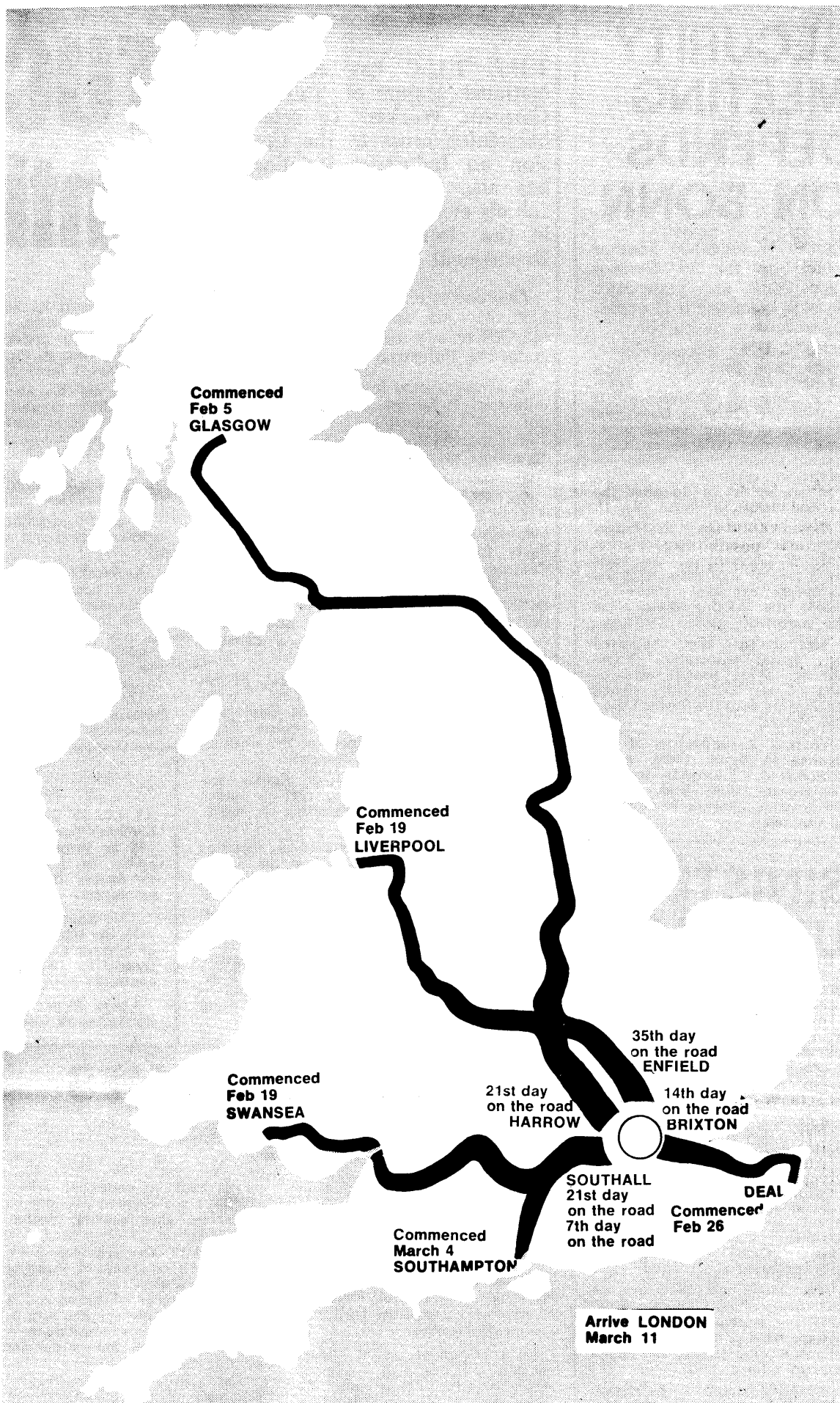
The following in a personal capacity:  
**ALAN THORNETT** (Deputy senior steward, Morris Motor)  
**BRIAN LAVERY** (National Union of Mineworkers, Wheldale colliery)  
**SIDNEY BIDWELL**, MP

Chairman: **CLIFF SLAUGHTER** (Socialist Labour League Central Committee)

**TOP LINE ENTERTAINMENT, 7.30 p.m.**

Larry Adler. McGuinness Flint. Ram John Holder. Paul Jones. Vinegar Joe. George Melly. Spike Milligan. 'Rock 'n Roll All Stars'. Slade. Comperes Joe Melia and Stuart Henry

Tickets: £1, unemployed 50p.



Spike Milligan



McGuinness Flint



Joe Melia

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# WHO OWNS WHAT IN BRAZIL

A group of American businessmen visited Brazil at the beginning of the year to study possibilities for new investment in the police-state of General Emilio Garrastazu Medici. Cabinet Minister Costa Cavalcanti escorted them to the exploitable Amazon.

The fourteen-strong American delegation was headed by Fowler Hamilton, a one-time adviser of President Kennedy and a creator of that instrument of American imperialism, the Alliance for Progress.

As they made their way into the Amazon region, Cavalcanti told them of the huge opportunities for foreign capital. The government has begun the construction of a highway which cuts Brazil in two from the jungle to the coast, opening the region up for exploitation.

Cavalcanti stated that the jungle could best be handled through the creation of mixed enterprise ventures. This formula has already been used to hand over to US steel the iron reserves in the Para state.

But the Amazon has many other riches. In the Naraba zone, on the banks of the Rio Tocantins, there are deposits of diamonds, iron, manganese. The biggest gold deposits are in the Itatuiba region in the N and in Alto Xingu there are major copper and lead deposits. To the S of Para there are huge manganese deposits.

Several foreign consortia have already started working on the Rondonia tin and Brazil will soon be a major exporter. The quality of tin from Malaysia, the world's top producer, is seven times lower than the Amazon deposits.

Brazilian companies have formed 'associations' with foreign companies to exploit the metal. In these companies the foreign firm provides the capital and technology and in return receives big tax concessions.

These are so high that practically half the investment funds for any project come from the state. The other major attraction is the virtual slave-labour conditions in many parts of the region.

Apart from tin and iron ore, major corporations have already been granted concessions for the exploitation of the wood re-



Medici: keeps Brazil an open-house for Imperialist powers

sources in the Amazon, and Deltec Finance Corporation, part of the Rockefeller Empire, is preparing to exploit the region's considerable livestock resources.

Foreign capital is already firmly installed in the other sectors of the Brazilian economy.

The motor industry is entirely in foreign hands. The Ford Motor Company is to use new production methods to keep pace with the rising demand for cars and commercial vehicles in Brazil.

Volkswagen have purchased land in the Taubate in the Paraiba valley where they aim to build a second factory. They plan to invest \$200m in the establishment of the new plant and in building extensions to their present one in San Bernardo.

General Motors has registered \$8.3m profits in its second year of operations in the country.

Foreign capital controls many other important sectors of the economy. Recent figures show that direct foreign capital in Brazil totals \$2,500m, of which 42 per cent comes from the US. Half of this is reinvestment of profits made in Brazil.

The next biggest investors are W Germany, Canada, Britain, Switzerland and Japan.

Japanese capital is displaying an increasing interest in Brazil. Recently the Nippon Usiminas company decided to extend its holding in the Brazilian Usiminas Steel Company to \$63m. This represents Japan's biggest foreign investment ever.

The state-controlled Petroquisa

Company, an offshoot of Petrobras, has just announced agreement with the Goodyear Tyre Company for the production of rubber, latex and special resins. Takeover bids have been announced for the Usufarma and Inquibras laboratories: the Brazilian pharmaceutical industry is already principally in foreign hands.

British capitalists, rather lagging in the queue for fat profits in Brazil, have outlined plans for the exploitation of minerals and sugar with the installation of factories to make sugar derivatives, plastics and detergents in NE Brazil where the government offer big tax incentives.

The Power Gas Company of Britain and the Mitsubishi Kaisha of Japan have been awarded a licence for setting up a methane plant in Bahia.

Brazilian entrepreneurs are a bit worried about the situation. The plan for the methane plant sparked off a protest in Guna-bara where a Brazilian company already operates a plant.

Coffee industry bosses told Cabinet Minister Pratini de Moraes that foreign interests were threatening to take over the internal market. The government has just withdrawn 30 per cent of the subsidies enjoyed by Brazilian coffee manufacturers who replied that the market was being handed over on a plate to American firms.

As far as Medici is concerned, there is open-house for the different imperialist powers in Brazil.



## WHEN BREZHNEV WON THE WAR!

Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev is being built up as a great war hero, greatly concerned for the welfare of his troops.

The boost came in a serial in 'New Times' about the Soviet 18th army in which Brezhnev served as political commissar.

A soldier recalls how he went to the front with Brezhnev when it was under heavy enemy fire with many casualties. Col Brezhnev calmed a hysterical young lieutenant who was calling on his men not to retreat, seized the only available machine gun and, sitting in a pool of blood, began firing it at the Germans in short bursts.

When the ammunition ran out he ordered the troops to get their grenades ready and prepare

for hand-to-hand fighting.

On another occasion when a superior officer ordered him out of the thick of the battle for his safety's sake he replied: 'My place is where the situation demands the speediest execution of military duty.'

Praise of this sort, reminiscent of the adulation bestowed on Stalin, and continued in a minor key under Khrushchev, has generally been muted since 1964. It has now been decided to bring Brezhnev into sharper focus and build him up as an outstanding personality capable of matching up to President Nixon!

Leonid Brezhnev during the Second World War. Above: with comrades of the Soviet 18th army.



## IT'S ALL OVER

'If the United States continues its present external monetary policy there is no chance of getting back to a stable system' French Finance Minister Valéry Giscard d'Estaing (left) told a European and American businessmen's conference at Versailles last week.

He warned that failure to implement the international monetary agreement made at Washington on December 18 could have grave political consequences. Giscard d'Estaing went out of his way to emphasize the differences between France and the US on monetary questions and showed his lack of confidence in American policy.

The prevailing feeling among the top businessmen was that there should be a speedy return to a stable world monetary system and world trade. But there was no agreement on what poli-

cies were likely to produce this happy state of affairs.

Meeting in the shadow of depression and a year of monetary chaos the business chiefs were agreed that they would like to see stability restored to the world monetary system. They called for an early return to a freely convertible dollar and for the manufacture of a mass of new 'paper gold', based on special drawing rights.

David Rockefeller, Chairman of Chase National Bank, admitted afterwards that few new suggestions had been made to cope with threatening monetary disturbances.

In the talks on trade the most contentious issues such as the Common Market preferences and agricultural policy were not brought up. But the businessmen were agreed that there should be freer movement for investment capital which could only take place if there was harmony on trade and monetary policy.

The Americans present departed with Giscard d'Estaing's challenge ringing in their ears: 'The era of joint floating or revaluation by European countries is over. The era of massive dollar support by European Central Banks is over too.'



# GI REVEALS A-BOMBS STORED IN JAPAN

BY JOHN SPENCER

A former United States Air Force sergeant has caused a storm of criticism against the Japanese government by revealing that nuclear weapons have long been based in Japan together with troops trained to operate them.

The question of nuclear weapons is ultra-sensitive in Japan where two atomic weapons were used against Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Under the US-Japanese security treaty of 1958, the Americans are obliged to consult the Japanese government before introducing nuclear weapons into the country.

The 36-year-old former GI, Al Hubbard, was a master-sergeant in the US Air Force stationed at Tachikawa air base from 1963 to 1965. His job as flight navigator involved transporting nuclear weapons to various US bases in America, Europe and Asia, using C124 planes.

Altogether he flew more than 200 missions with nuclear weapons. More than 20 of these missions were to the Yokota, Misawa, Johnson and Kadena air bases in Japan.

The nuclear weapons were of two kinds. One was about 12 feet long and five feet high, called the B43, and the other was contained in a cage called the 'bird cage' about two feet high. He said that as a flight engineer he had not been in a position to know whether the weapons were stored in Japan after delivery.

Hubbard, who is now active in the anti-war movement, made his shock revelation at a rally organized to commemorate the 18th anniversary of the

US H-bomb explosion at Bikini Atoll, which poisoned crew members of the Japanese fishing boat 'Lucky Dragon'.

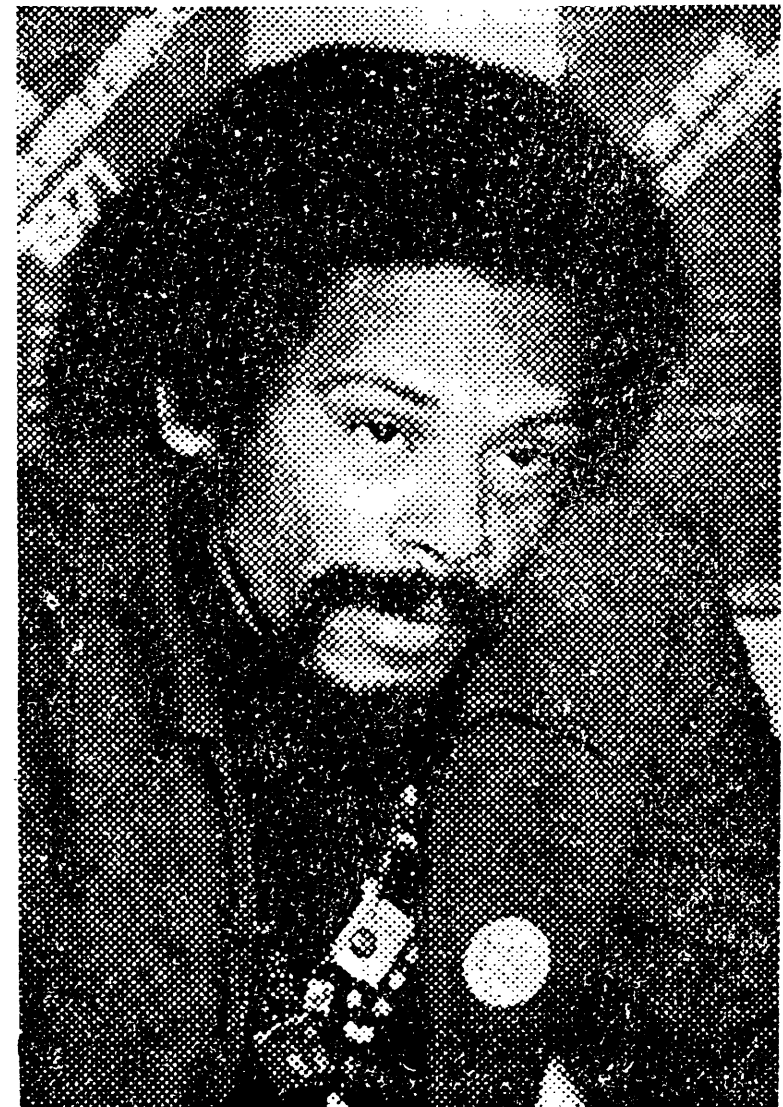
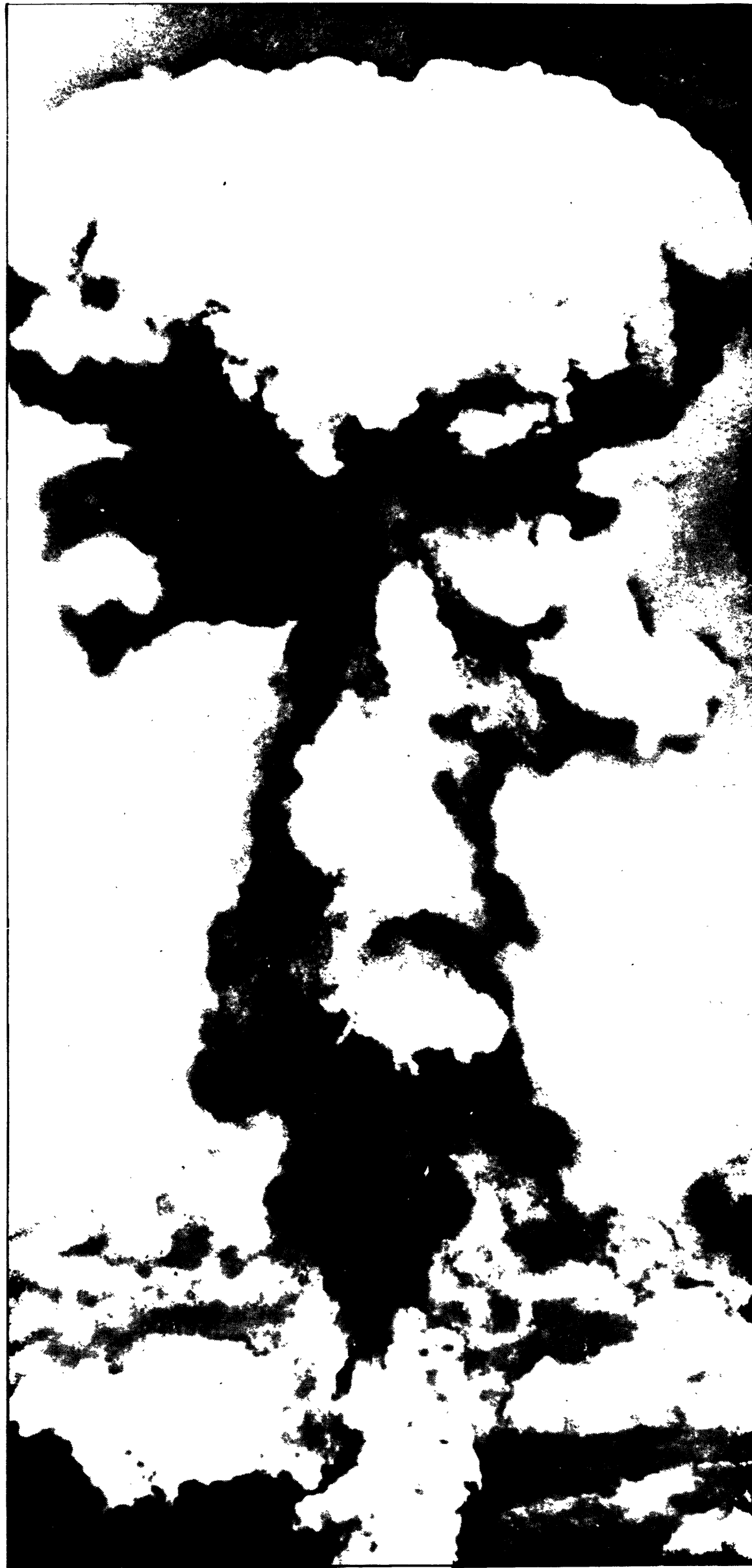
US military spokesmen declined to comment on Hubbard's charge. Capt Tony Brown, public relations director at the Yokota base, said the report was incredible. He said he had never heard that nuclear weapons had been brought to the base. At Misawa and Kadena bases, however, the authorities kept their mouths shut. One official said he would like to study the context of the remarks.

Later the US embassy produced an unconvincing denial. It said the US had never violated the prior consultation agreement concerning the transport of nuclear weapons, although the embassy refrained from contradicting the detailed charges made by Hubbard.

This implies that nuclear weapons were brought in with the connivance of the Japanese government. Indeed Prime Minister Eisaku Sato himself said that he was convinced the US would not attempt to bring in nuclear weapons without prior notice to the government.

Opposition deputies in the Diet (parliament) grilled Foreign Minister Takeo Fukuda last week on the charges raised by Hubbard. Socialist Party deputy Yano-suke Narazaki told the Diet that nuclear troops were stationed at a fifth base in Iwakuni equipped with nuclear weapons, though the US authorities claimed they were only undergoing training.

The US military has admitted that nuclear troops were stationed at the Iwakuni



Al Hubbard: revealed that nuclear arms have been flown to Japan

base, but said they were merely undergoing training,' Narazaki said. 'But actually they are not merely undergoing training. They are combat troops.' He added that US troops were also undergoing nuclear weapons training at other bases in Japan.

Defence bureau director Takuya Okubo said he had no knowledge of such troops stationed at US bases. Narazaki replied that: 'The US military's replies to the Japanese government on this question showed there were nuclear troops stationed at US bases other than the Iwakuni base.'

'The US military said, however, that the presence of nuclear troops at the bases did

not necessarily mean the presence of nuclear weapons.' He added that there was evidence to show that nuclear weapons were stored at the Iwakuni base. In addition, the telephone directory of the Iwakuni base listed an NBC (nuclear, biological, chemical warfare) platoon.

'The directory also lists an engineer corps, a supply officer, an operation officer and an officer assigned to check nuclear weapons,' Narazaki said. 'This means nuclear weapons do exist at the Iwakuni base.'

The 15th corps to which this unit belongs, is thought to have arrived in Japan from Vietnam early in 1969. Similar units are stationed at

Yokota and Misawa bases.

Masumi Ezaki, director of the Defence Agency, said it was quite in order for the US to station nuclear troops in Japan as long as the troops were undergoing training for defence rather than attack [sic].

The Japan Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, a Communist Party front organization, has given four reasons for believing that nuclear weapons were stored in Japan after delivery by Hubbard and his fellow pilots.

In the early 1960s, when Hubbard's C124 was delivering the bombs, the Vietnam war had not yet escalated to its present intensity and the US had no incentive to send

the bombs on to Vietnam from Japan.

If the bombs were on their way to Vietnam, the US military could have sent them via Honolulu and Guam, which is the 'shortest and safest' route.

Japan constitutes part of the US military 'umbrella', and there is every indication that the US would have found strategic value in stationing nuclear weapons so close to China and the Soviet Union. This would make better military sense than deploying the bombs in vulnerable S Korea which has already once been overrun by N Korea.

The whole controversy has burst at a most embarrassing moment for the Japanese

military and the Sato government. Sato is busy building up and expanding the Japanese army, despite constitutional obstacles. His relations with the US have come under heavy fire recently as a result of the Okinawa reversion treaty which has sparked violent opposition both on the island of Okinawa and on the mainland itself.

The painful revival of memories of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is not at all to the liking of Sato and his colleagues, who are already dreaming of establishing another 'Greater Asian Co-prosperity Sphere' as a way out of the financial and economic problems crowding in on Japanese big business.



Top: Nagasaki 1945. Above Sato, busy building up and expanding the Japanese army. Right: students demonstrate against US military bases on Okinawa.



Who is General Chiang Kai-shek? Part 3

# WHAT TRUMAN SAID TO STALIN

After World War II, imperialism was saved by Stalinism. In Italy and France, armed workers under Communist Party leadership handed their arms over to the state while their leaders joined coalition governments to shore up capitalism.

The Stalinists in Yugoslavia and Russia stood by while the communist revolution in Greece was bloodily suppressed.

Churchill recounts a private session with Stalin in October, 1944:

"I said 'Let us settle about our affairs in the Balkans. Your armies are in Rumania and Bulgaria. We have interests, missions and agents there.

"Don't let us get at cross-purposes in small ways. So far as Britain and Russia are concerned, how would it do for you to have 90 per cent predominance in Rumania, for us to have 90



Chiang Kai-shek

per cent of the say in Greece, and 50-50 about Yugoslavia?" While this was being translated, I wrote out on a half sheet of paper:

Rumania: Russia 90 per cent

The others 10 per cent.

Greece: Britain (in accord with USA) 90 per cent.

Russia 10 per cent.

Yugoslavia: 50-50 per cent.

Hungary: 50-50 per cent.

Bulgaria: Russia 75 per cent.



Stalin persists in collaborating with the nationalists. Portraits on display in February 1946 show Stalin, Lenin, Sun Yat-sen and Chiang Kai-shek

The others 25 per cent. 'I pushed this across to Stalin, who had by then heard the translation. There was a slight pause. Then he took his blue pencil and made a large tick upon it . . . I said "Might it not be thought rather cynical if it seemed we had disposed of these issues, so fateful to millions of people, in such an offhand manner? Let us burn the paper." "No, you keep it", said Stalin.'

By this time, of course, Stalin had already abolished the 'Communist' International. That rotting corpse had been laid in its grave in May, 1943.

In America, the Communist Party leader, Earl Browder, took this to its logical conclusion and proposed the liquidation of the American Communist Party.

The line of Stalinism everywhere was full co-operation with capitalism, along the lines laid down by the Big Three—America, Russia and Britain—at the conferences of Yalta, Potsdam and Tehran.

In Britain in 1945 the Communist Party campaigned not for a Labour victory over the Tories,

but for a continuation of the wartime coalition under Churchill. Britain, said 'Labour Monthly' in April, 1945, 'will require national unity of a strong and united Britain . . . by a government . . . which will be representative of the entire country and not only a section. It would be dangerously unrealistic for the labour movement and progressive opinion to dismiss without consideration the need for a national government in the transition years following victory in Europe.'

In Asia, imperialism faced—even possible—even worse dangers than in Europe. The rout of the British army in the early years of the war had greatly encouraged the colonial masses so long oppressed by it. The French were to be involved in a bloody war which was to end in them being driven out of SE Asia.

And in China?

The imperialists—especially America—were worried because the real fighters against the Japanese had not been Chiang Kai-shek's troops, but the Red Army of Mao Tse-tung. The at-

titude of Russia, therefore, was vital.

President Truman sent Harry Hopkins, a former close adviser of Roosevelt, for confidential talks with Stalin during the Potsdam Conference.<sup>1</sup>

Hopkins reported that Stalin supported the American contention that China should be a unified, integrated state—i.e. not split between the communists and Chiang. Stalin also stated that he felt the United States should play the largest part in helping China get on its feet.

As Hopkins said: 'By such open and amiable consent to American aims and stardom in China, he had months before he convinced our Ambassador in China, Patrick J. Hurley, that we could count on his aid.'

Truman's representative, Harriman, then asked Stalin a series of pointed questions: What would Stalin's attitude be if China was not unified when Soviet troops entered Manchuria? Would the Marshal (Stalin) consider it possible in that case to make the necessary arrangements with Chiang Kai-shek?

Stalin, says Hopkins, answered without pause:

'The Soviet government did not propose to alter the sovereignty of China over Manchuria or any other part of China and the Soviet Union had no territorial claims on China.'

This was reassuring to the Americans, since Hopkins' mission had been to extract from talks with Stalin information that would be of use to the Americans in deciding whether it was to their advantage to continue to place their trust in the secret agreements already reached at Yalta.

The Americans continued to question the so-called 'leader of the world revolution': Was Stalin going to ask Chiang Kai-shek to organize a civil administration when Soviet troops entered Manchuria? He would, Stalin replied:

'In Manchuria or any other part of China where Soviet troops went, the Chinese civil administration could be set up by Chiang Kai-shek.'

'Chiang could send his representatives to set up their Kwantung (nationalist) regime in any areas where the Red Army was,

and the Soviet government was prepared to talk with the Chinese. If Chiang wanted representatives in the area where the Russian Army would be, they would be quite prepared to accept them.'

Stalin was as good as his word. He supported the Americans in their insistence that all Japanese forces should surrender to Chiang's forces and not to Mao's Red Army. Stalin overrode the protestations of Red Army leader Chu Teh, who had large units of Japanese forces ready to surrender.

Stalin kept his forces in Manchuria after the Japanese surrender and handed over control only when the US navy had shipped half a million Chiang troops round communist-held territory and into Manchuria.

And when the Civil War erupted, Stalin supported Chiang. Even after the fall of Peking on January 31, 1949, Stalin refused to recognize the communists as the new rulers of China.

And in April when the new nationalist capital of Nanking fell to Mao's Red Army, the only country not to withdraw its embassy was the Soviet Union. Even then Russia concluded a 'pact of lasting co-operation' with the Chiang regime.

As Hopkins had reported:

'In regard to the Generalissimo (Chiang), Stalin said he knew little of any Chinese leader, but he felt that Chiang Kai-shek was the best of the lot and would be the one to undertake the unification of China. He said he saw no other possible leader and that, for example, he didn't believe that the Chinese communist leaders were as good or would be able to bring about the unification of China.'

So, as Chiang Kai-shek ekes out his last days on Taiwan, he can recall the days of glory provided for him by Stalin and reflect on the fact that, if Stalin had had his way, there would have been a different host for Nixon in Peking.

## CONCLUDED

<sup>1</sup> W. S. Churchill 'Triumph and Tragedy', pp. 227-228, quoted in 'Stalinism in Britain', Robert Black, p. 193.

<sup>2</sup> See Black op. cit., p. 204.

<sup>3</sup> A full account of these talks can be found in Herbert Feis' 'Between War and Peace' pp. 112f.

<sup>4</sup> Feis op. cit., p. 114.



Stalin, Truman and Churchill at Potsdam in July 1945





Unemployed queuing for jobs in Los Angeles, USA. Levinson attempts to tie inflation and unemployment to the investment policies of the giant 'multinational' corporations.

# A RICH MAN'S GUIDE TO CAPITAL

The slick style, the apparently new and attractive thesis and general air of fashionableness about this book has already achieved for it some influence in 'left' circles.

But while it rejects some of the common dogmas of bourgeois economics, its level is very much that of reformist trade unionism, which is not surprising as the author has worked for many years as an economist for American unions.

It offers a new explanation for the inflation of the past decade or so and ties it in with the growth of the 'multinationals' and with automation and the advance in technology. It is peppered with facts and figures and features revealing quotes from economists and businessmen which apparently give substance to the argument of the book.

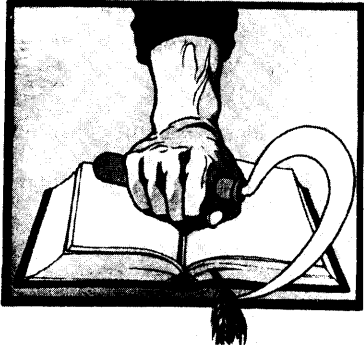
Levinson rejects the view that inflation has been a result of pressure for wage increase or excess public spending. In his view it is bound up with the investment policies of the giant multinational corporations and the structural changes which capitalism has undergone under the influence of advanced technology.

He sets out to explain why inflationary pressures have persisted despite deflationary policies and industrial stagnation or recession and why unemployment has not been reduced by inflation or anti-cyclical government policies. He finds the answer in the policies of the giant corporations which dominate the capital-intensive industries. These firms, he claims, because of their monopoly position in the market, are able to fix prices to maximize profitability and provide funds for investment.

But, because they employ advanced technology, wage costs form only a small part of their total outlay. They push up prices, not in response to wage pressures, but to increase the cash flow which permits continued growth.

Machinery is substituted for labour, productivity increases and wage rises are easily absorbed. If demand falls off, prices are not cut to increase sales, but raised to restore income. The emphasis is on maintaining and

## BOOK REVIEW



BY TOM KEMP  
'CAPITAL, INFLATION AND THE MULTINATIONALS', by Charles Levinson. George Allen and Unwin. £1.50.

increasing investment, the bulk of which is financed from sales.

According to this theory the main reason for continued inflation is the investment and price policy of the giant firms. The continued rapid rate of technological advance means that equipment rapidly becomes obsolete and has to be replaced. Highly-skilled and trained workers are made redundant so that prices continue to rise even while technology and structural change create unemployment.

Levinson is good at describing certain of the features of monopoly capitalism and even makes the future for people living under this system sound pretty horrifying.

But he is a reformist trade union adviser, not a Marxist or a revolutionary. He assumes that capitalism will go on and on. He says nothing about the working class or its revolutionary role. The conclusions he draws from his analysis is that a few reforms are needed, not to replace the system, but to make it work better.

He minimizes the international monetary crisis of recent years, discounts the monetary forces behind the inflation and the strength of the working class and assumes that growth is now built into the system. He sees not the essence of the crisis, but a few symptoms and ignores altogether the Marxist analysis of capitalist development.

That is why his book remains superficial. He has seized upon some aspects of modern capitalism and magnified them out of all proportion. He has taken past trends and assumed their indefinite continuation into the future. He does not see the conflict and the contradiction nor any sign of capitalism's decay and collapse.

What it boils down to, then, is a few arguments for trade union negotiators confronting management. What he says is that big corporations can afford higher wages and they will be beneficial all round; they would even, he maintains, help to moderate the rate of inflation.

This conclusion he arrives at by claiming that higher wages mean bigger sales, which mean greater utilization of capacity and lower unit costs. Consumer prices could be lower, wages could be higher and investment rates still maintained.

For Marxists this argument contains elementary fallacies. Workers do not 'buy back' what they produce; it ignores the distinction between Dept. I (means of production industries) and Dept. II (means of consumption industries); it ignores the labour theory of value and the basic contradictions of capitalism.

Levinson's reformism comes out in the final chapter. He justifies pure trade union militancy and puts forward a programme of structural reforms which includes such soporifics as workers' shares and saving funds and 'participation by workers in the decision-making process, through sharing in the power which ownership of assets confers on management'.

Implicitly he rejects the struggle to wrest control of the instruments of production from the ruling class and instead calls on trade unions to 'update their analyses and reactions to match the modern shape of industrial activity'.

The gloss of modernity on this book, and the fact that it has some interesting observations to make about modern business, should mislead no reader into thinking that it is anything but the old reformist stuff which has been peddled in the trade union movement for years by enemies of Marxism and revolutionary politics.

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## BALL

Bernie Cornfeld, the tycoon behind the ailing Investors Overseas Services (IOS), is still making headlines in America. The irrepressible Cornfeld



Cornfeld: police suspicious

is just about to open a gigantic ballroom.

It features all the usual trendy trimmings — flashing colour lights, crazy paintings on the ceiling. But one item is pure Cornfeld. It is a parlour called simply 'The Hashish Room'. The local police are believed to be suspicious.

## FAMILY

Jobs for the boys department. Dr Rui Patricio, Portugal's Foreign Minister, received a laudatory press in Britain last week. But he is not so popular back in the ruling establishment in Lisbon.

It appears that as part of Portugal's 'outward-looking' policy, Patricio decided that his country's United Nations delegate should be up-graded from chargé d'affaires level to full ambassador. Who did he choose for this nice little number? Why, his brother Antonio.

## DICKENS

The Right-to-Work marchers will be pleased to know that a Mr J. K. Gordon of Crowborough has an answer to their campaign.

In a letter to the 'Sunday Times' he says: 'Could not a fraction of them learn to clean windows, sweep chimneys, mow lawns, deliver milk, sharpen garden tools quickly and do a thousand other

things for which housewives may be prepared to pay good money?'

Why stop at these Dickensian policies?

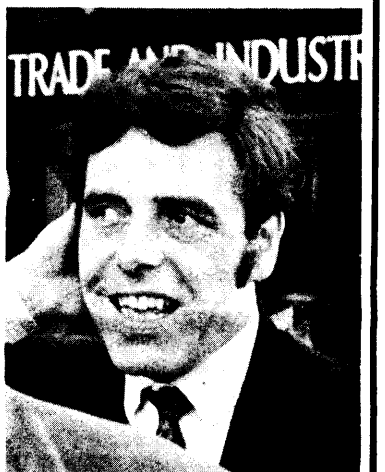
Why not put the teenage unemployed down the pits? Why not make them galley slaves in the armed forces?

And, if they misbehave, we could always re-introduce the stocks!

## FOLLOW?

At a recent meeting of the Central London branch committee of the National Union of Journalists, Mr Neal Ascherson of the 'Observer' said that Ron Knowles's views 'did not get a fair showing in "The Journalist"'. 'The Journalist' is the NUJ's official newspaper.

Allen Hutt, editor of 'The Journalist' and a Communist Party member, replied: 'In fact, every item of copy re-



Reid: cheers from Ascherson

ceived from Knowles since the annual delegate meeting has been printed as received and with prominence — three-column or two-column heads in each case.'

Knowles is a member of the International Socialist group and writes a regular column in 'Socialist Worker'.

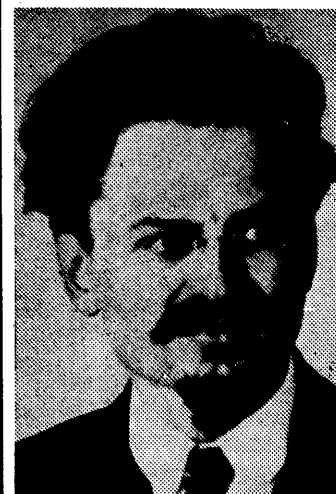
Ascherson is communist affairs correspondent of the 'Observer' and a senior writer on E Europe.

Ascherson was recently seen at the annual Communist Party conference. When Clydebank shipyard convenor James Reid ended his demagogic speech, Ascherson leapt to his feet at the press table and cheered the rector.

Now read this article again and see if you can follow what's going on.

I can't!

# BOOKS



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AND GARY GURMEET

Right-to-Work

# DIARY

WE DEMAND  
THE  
RIGHT  
TO  
WORK



# Woolwich 'siege' stirs Labourites into backing action

AFTER AN hour-long 'siege' of the town hall by chanting Young Socialists, Woolwich Labour council defied Transport House and the TUC and gave hospitality to the jobs marchers.

Earlier Woolwich Labour Party secretary N. Stevens ordered a YS deputation asking for support out of the Party's offices. The Co-op also refused any help.

But at lunchtime a double column of more than 20 Young Socialists in high spirits after their walk from Belvedere, where they had spent the night, marched to the town hall.

Within an hour of an initial cold-shouldering, Woolwich Labour leader and prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Bexleyheath Mr John Cartwright intervened.

The marchers were invited into the town clerk's department for coffee and then news came that the council would lay on a free three-course meal in their canteen.

In addition they opened a section of stage three housing used for London's homeless so the marchers could stay the night and mattresses and bedding were supplied.

Said marcher John Strand: 'I was really impressed. The council's decision shows we can do something. Men like these have got all the power and we're just a relatively small group of people, yet we frightened the hell out of them.'

And John Quilty added: 'It was fantastic. I've never seen anyone shake me so much as the men who we spoke to at the town hall.'

By mid-afternoon after a march round Woolwich town centre, collecting tins were heavy with cash and sellers once again sold out of the Workers Press.

Shoppers were donating 10p a time for single sheet leaflets advertising the Empire Pool rally.

## Sympathetic

The overwhelming majority of people were sympathetic. Clippies on London Transport buses gave the thumbs up sign, workers waved from those shops still open in the High street lined with shuttered businesses and housewives particularly gave funds for the campaign generously.

Hostility from stallholders in Woolwich market was stifled when dealer Mike Adams ran from his stall, seized a huge red YS banner and led the marchers round the market. 'I support them', he told me. 'They've got a right to demand work.'

And an overawed building worker in Woolwich High street turned sharply on a group of women sniggering at the marchers. 'They're asking for work and people laugh', he snorted angrily.

Woolwich is one of London's hardest hit unemployment black spots alongside neighbouring Erith.

Woolwich Arsenal, which once employed 20,000 people, has been levelled to the ground and the council is looking desperately for ways of promoting jobs as one factory after another closes down or rationalizes.



A WOOLWICH OFFICIAL SUPPLIES MARCHERS WITH COFFEE AND GETS ON THE PHONE TO ARRANGE ACCOMMODATION

## Reading incensed by LP manoeuvres against marchers



RIGHT-TO-WORK NATIONAL SECRETARY CLIVE NORRIS SOAKING HIS FEET AFTER A DAY ON THE ROAD

TRANSPORT workers, engineers, railwaymen, postmen and Labour Party members in Reading all welcomed the Right-to-Work marchers from S Wales and the West.

Their support came despite a campaign of slander and obstruction by the Communist Party and the Labour Party right wing.

We were comfortably fed and housed in the University Students' Union under the auspices of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Tom Hibbard, T&GWU district organizer and Fred Roberts, a railwayman and prospective Labour council candidate, marched with us on the last leg of our 19-mile hike from Wallingford.

And at an evening meeting in the city centre a broad cross-section of trade unionists turned out to greet the marchers.

Unemployment has only recently started to come back to Reading in a big way—increasing by some 40 per cent in the last year.

Tom Hibbard, who started work down a S Yorkshire coal mine in 1934, remembers what mass unemployment is like even for those who have a job. 'We had three days work and three days idle', he told me.

'The fight to defend wages, then and now, is inseparable from the fight against unemployment.'

'That's why we have to support a campaign of the kind you are mounting. It's absolutely essential to protect the working man, whether he has a job or not.'

He later told the marchers: 'I congratulate your guts and your courage.'

'If, at the end of the day, you bring home the message that you have the right to work, then it's all worthwhile.'

Christchurch ward Labour Party overwhelmingly supported the Right-to-Work campaign in the teeth of Transport House opposition.

And Fred Roberts, the ward's prospective council candidate, condemned attempts to block the march and cast a slur on it.

'They say it's a proscribed organization', he told me. 'But

when "left" Labour MPs marched with members of the National Front on an anti-Common Market demonstration, not a word was said. Presumably they consider these extreme right-wingers more acceptable than unemployed youth.

'They've let the right vote for the Common Market, but they don't want us to support you.'

Fred, a member of the No. 1 branch of the National Union of Railwaymen, also condemned as 'a complete manoeuvre' the attempt by Communist Party delegates to the Reading Trades Council to stop support.

'Every self-respecting trade unionist must back this campaign', he added.

Railwaymen from the city's NUR No. 2 branch have also backed the marchers, with the No. 2 branch of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, AUEW West Reading, T&GWU 1/163 branch, the local branch of the Woodcutting Machinists' Association and the Reading branch of the National Graphical Association.

On the road to Reading a meal was provided for the marchers by Tilehurst ward Labour Party.

And with this backing the marchers—now joined by the Southampton marchers—moved confidently into the city.

For about three miles, they chanted continuously the same slogans against the Tory government they have kept up for the last two and a half weeks.

At the meeting, they were met by Don Courtneage, a member of the T&GWU national executive, who is demanding a special meeting of the Trades Council executive because of the 'violation of trade union democracy' it had practised against the campaign.

And it was there also that Gerry Healy, national secretary of the Socialist Labour League, threw down the gauntlet to the opponents of the march.

'The Labour Party is more frightened of 50 to 60 'Right-to-Work' marchers than it is of the Tory government', he said.

'When we campaign for the right to work we campaign against all aspects of Tory policy, from the Industrial Relations Act to rising rents.'

He challenged local Communist Party leaders to come forward and debate their reasons for opposing the marches in the open.



# Redundancy threat in Herts new town

LIVERPOOL-London marchers are well into Hertfordshire now and only about 20 miles from London.

On Wednesday we marched through St Albans on our way to Hemel Hempstead.

For most of the day we came through high Tory areas where

enough people seemed to have time to play golf in the middle of the afternoon. When they saw the marchers they turned their clubs on us as mock machine guns.

Hertfordshire police were certainly on their guard. As soon as we crossed the county border, the chief inspector

appeared with five motor cyclists and several foot police.

Not for one minute did they leave our side until we reached our Hemel Hempstead resting point.

Hemel is a new town in the worst sense of the word. On one side of town you have the big working-class housing estates. Another sector contains the factories and the centre a few shops.

There's very little to do for the youth as in the case of most new towns.

On Thursday morning we got up at 6.30 a.m. to go down to Alfred Alder's which produces suspensions for British-Leyland. A number of workers had defied management on the Wednesday and had come out to greet us, but missed us because we were delayed.

Sid Smith, secretary of the shop stewards' committee, told me:

'We need more leadership from the Labour leaders. In this particular factory we're living under the threat of redundancy day by day. And in the area 100 schoolchildren have applied to go back to school. I've never known a time so short of jobs', he said.

Another worker, Reg Rowell said:

'It seemed that we'd got rid of unemployment and that the 1930s would never return. But now a General Strike is needed to get the lying Tory government out.'

Our thanks to all the workers at Alder's for donating over £8 at the factory gate.

A big talking point on our march has been Skelmersdale, Lancs, Labour chairman Phil Bond's expulsion from the Labour Party. We all remembered the fine reception he laid on for us on the second day of our march.

'It's wrong he should have been expelled because he stood up for the basic rights of the working class', said march leader Christine Smith.

'It shows the Labour Party right wing is not willing to fight for the working class against the Tory government.'



ALDER'S CONVENOR ERIC CAMBRIDGE



STEWARDS' SECRETARY SID SMITH



LIVERPOOL-LONDON MARCHERS OUTSIDE ALFRED ALDER'S PLANT

## Stevenage fighting losing battle to keep 'prosperous façade'

STEVENAGE is the kind of town you see in the TV adverts. The people are young, the houses the proverbial 'little boxes' and the shops still have a brash air of affluence.

But after a day's campaigning by the Glasgow-London marchers in the town, I can report that Stevenage is straining hard to keep up this prosperous façade.

Things are changing. As one ICI shop steward told me: 'The honeymoon in Stevenage is over.' And he was there at the beginning 21 years ago when the new town was started.

Chick Watson from the ICI subsidiary British Visqueen handed over a £15 cheque to the Right-to-Work march.

The contribution was particularly impressive because the men there only heard about our

campaign the day we came to Stevenage.

'I know we can't say that unemployment is as bad here as it is in places like Glasgow—but it's starting. A couple of years ago you could tell management to stuff it and walk into another job. These days if you go out of that door you go onto the dole.'

Industry in the town is computers (ICL), chemicals (ICI), aircraft (BAC and Hawker Siddeley) and a variety of light industry.

The ICL workers suffered in the holocaust which struck the firm when the computer market slumped last year—several hundred of the Stevenage workers lost their jobs in autumn.

The other threat to the ex-Londoners who live in the town is the slump in government contracts.

Because of this, Hawker Siddeley fired a half of its production workers in December and at the BAC missile plant that familiar process of 'natural wastage' is in full swing.

Stevenage employers have already begun to take full advantage of this rise in unemployment. At Kodak's, management has begun a company union that will register under the Industrial Relation Act.

Chick Watson told me that up to half the Kodak labour force had joined this organization.

In other firms racialism is beginning to flourish. In one factory with a large immigrant work force the shop stewards rejected an appeal for finance with these words: 'Sorry lads, you won't get anything out of these Pakkies'.

He suggested we appeal to the foreman for a donation from the firm and then we were escorted from the premises by a security officer with a N Ireland accent who looked like a fugitive from the B Specials.

Elsewhere the response was much better. At the St Nicholas building site, workers gave an immediate £5 donation and promised a collection and the nearby Carlton site did the same.

The staff at the swimming bath held a spontaneous collection and handed over £1.50 to some of the marchers as they left the baths which they had used free.

In all, over £30 was raised in one day and we got several promises to attend Sunday's rally. Efforts are being made to run a coach from Stevenage to the Empire Pool.

Our thanks to the Stevenage Labour Party who backed us unanimously and all the workers in the town.

### Try and expel me, Stevenage Party secretary

ANOTHER leading member of the Labour Party rank and file has challenged the Party's campaign against the Right-to-Work march.

Jack Pickersgill, secretary of the Stevenage Labour Party and the trades council, told a meeting of marchers:

'I am disgusted to hear of the reception you received from some elements in our Party. These are the people who ought to be dealt with.'

And he had this to say about the expulsion of Phil Bond—Skelmersdale's Labour chairman

who incurred the Party's wrath when he welcomed the marchers.

'If they want to come and try to expel me, I would be delighted. It's a fantastic state of affairs when socialists who have fought all their lives for this Party are kicked out because they support unemployed youth.'

At their meeting on Wednesday, the Glasgow marchers extended their warmest thanks to the whole Stevenage Labour Party and comrade Pickersgill who gave us such a warm reception and arranged excellent accommodation.

# TV

## BBC

9.38-11.55 Schools. 12.55-1.25 Canu'r bobol. 1.30 Mr Benn. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.55 Schools. 3.50 Your obedient servant 4.15 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Crackerjack 72. 5.35 George Best. 5.44 Crystal Tipps. 5.50 News and weather.

### 6.00 MAGAZINE.

6.20 TOM AND JERRY.

6.30 THE VIRGINIAN. 'The Substitute'.

7.45 THE LIVER BIRDS.

8.15 THE BROTHERS. 'End of the Beginning'.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather.

9.20 THE WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

10.00 COME DANCING.

10.35 24 HOURS.

11.15 FILM: 'NIGHT AND THE CITY'. Richard Widmark, Gene Tierney. Small-time spiv challenges London's leading wrestling promoter.

12.35 Weather.

## BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.35-6.30 Open University.

6.35 WHICH WAY?

7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWSROOM and weather.

8.00 THE MONEY PROGRAMME.

9.00 GARDENERS' WORLD 1972.

9.20 REVIEW. 'Ashton in Camera'.

10.10 CLOCHEMERLE. 'The Awful Awakening of Claudius Brodequin'.

10.40 NEWS ON 2 and weather.

10.45 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

## ITV

10.20 Schools. 2.30 Racing from Sandown. 3.10 Tea break. 3.40 Drive-in. 4.10 Scotland Yard mysteries. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Arthur. 5.20 Bright's boffins. 5.50 News.

6.30 BEWITCHED. 'Samantha on the Keyboard'.

7.00 THE SKY'S THE LIMIT. Hughie Green.

7.30 FILM: 'SUBMARINE COMMAND'. William Holden, Nancy Olson, William Bendix. A submarine skipper is plagued by doubts about himself.

9.00 SPYDER'S WEB. 'Lies and Dolls'.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 ALEXANDER THE GREATEST. 'Kicking the Filthy Habit'.

11.05 THE BARON. 'So Dark the Night'.

12.00 COVER TO COVER. 'Heart-throb'.



A new ten-part series starts on BBC 1 tonight. Robin Chadwick (l), Glyn Owen and Richard Easton as 'The Brothers' who jointly run the family haulage business after the head of the family dies.

## REGIONAL ITV

—REGIONAL ITV—

CHANNEL: 10.20-3.50 London. 4.05 Pinky and Perky. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 Dick Van Dyke. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Ask Westward. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 I spy. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Weather. 10.32 Name of the game. 11.50 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sports desk. 10.30 Report. 10.58 News. 12.20 Faith for life. 12.25 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 10.20-3.15 London. 3.55 Tea break. 4.05 Houseparty. 4.18 Paulus. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.40 Out of town. 7.00 London. 7.30 Saint. 8.30 Both ends meet. 9.30 Spyder's web. 10.30 Weekend. 10.35 Film: 'The Strange Door'. 12.05 News. 12.15 Weather. Discoverers.

HTV: 10.20 London. 3.50 Women only. 4.15 Catamil. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 5.50 London. 6.01 Y dydd. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Bonanza. 7.30 Film: 'The Thirteenth Letter'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Outlook — enterprise in industry. 11.00 Skilful Rugby. 11.30 Avengers.

HTV Channel 10 and HTV West as above except: 6.01-6.18 Report West. 10.30-11.00 Press call.

ATV MIDLANDS: 10.20-3.15 London. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Julia. 4.40 Hatty town. 4.55 Lost in space. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Comedians. 7.30 Jason King. 8.30 Jimmy Stewart. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Man Without A Body'. Weather.

ULSTER: 10.20-2.30 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 Persuaders. 8.30 Both ends meet. 9.00 London. 10.30 Food of love. 11.00 Film: 'Behemoth the Sea Monster'.

YORKSHIRE: 10.20 London. 3.20 Houseparty. 3.35 News. 3.45 Holidays. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Parkin's patch. 7.00 London. 7.30 It takes a thief. 8.30 On the buses. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Witchcraft'. 12.00 Jimmy Stewart. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 10.18-3.20 London. 3.40 Yoga. 4.05 News. Odd couple. 4.35 Magic ball. 4.50 Captain Scarlet. 5.15 Rainbow country. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Kick-off. 6.25 Peyton Place. 7.00 Film: 'McMillan and Wife: Murder by the Barrel'. 8.30 Both ends meet. 9.00 London. 10.30 Open night. 11.10 Dangerman. 12.05 See our next thrilling instalment.

TYNE TEES: 10.20-3.15 London. 3.35 News. 3.45 Holidays. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Nanny and the professor. 7.00 London. 7.30 Calling Dr Gannon. 8.30 On the buses. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Hysteria'. 12.00 News. 12.15 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 10.20 London. 3.30 Kiri. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 Get this. 5.20 Tightrope. 5.50 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.20 Mr Magoo. 6.30 Jimmy Stewart. 7.00 London. 7.30 Strange report. 8.30 Both ends meet. 9.00 London. 10.30 In camera. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Film: 'I Married a Monster From Outer Space'.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00-3.20 London. 3.38 News. 3.40 Dr Simon Locke. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.05 Mr and Mrs. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 It takes a thief. 8.30 Stuart gillies ceilidh. 9.00 London. 10.30 Points north. 11.00 Film: 'The House on Haunted Hill'. 12.20 Epilogue.



# SLADE WILL BE THERE

The five Right-to-Work marches from Glasgow, Liverpool, Swansea, Deal and Southampton converge on London for next Sunday's

**GIANT RALLY** at the **EMPIRE POOL, WEMBLEY**

At 3 p.m. the marchers will be welcomed at a meeting. At 7.30 p.m. there will be top-line entertainment

Introduced by Joe Mella and Stuart Henry.

Latest addition to the star-studded bill is the sizzling, stomping group at present nearing No. 1 in the Top Ten with

**'Look Wot You Dun'**

**SLADE**

Details of tickets, p. 4.



NODDY HOLDER



DAVE HILL



JIM LEA



DON POWELL

## LATE NEWS

### GREET THE MARCHERS WHEN THEY REACH LONDON

**Saturday March 11**  
**GLASGOW-TO-LONDON**

arrives 10.30 a.m. Scotland Green, Labour Exchange, Tottenham High Rd

**MARCH** through Tottenham to Stoke Newington

**LIVERPOOL-TO-LONDON**

arrives 10.30 a.m. Woodlands Ave, opposite Police stn, Acton

**MARCH** through Acton and Shepherds Bush

**SWANSEA-TO-LONDON**

arrives 10.30 a.m. Hayes Bridge, opp Hambrough Tavern, Uxbridge Rd

**MARCH** through Southall

**DEAL-TO-LONDON**

arrives 10.30 a.m. Elmington Rd, Camberwell Green

**MARCH** through Brixton

### Bullders strike for bonus

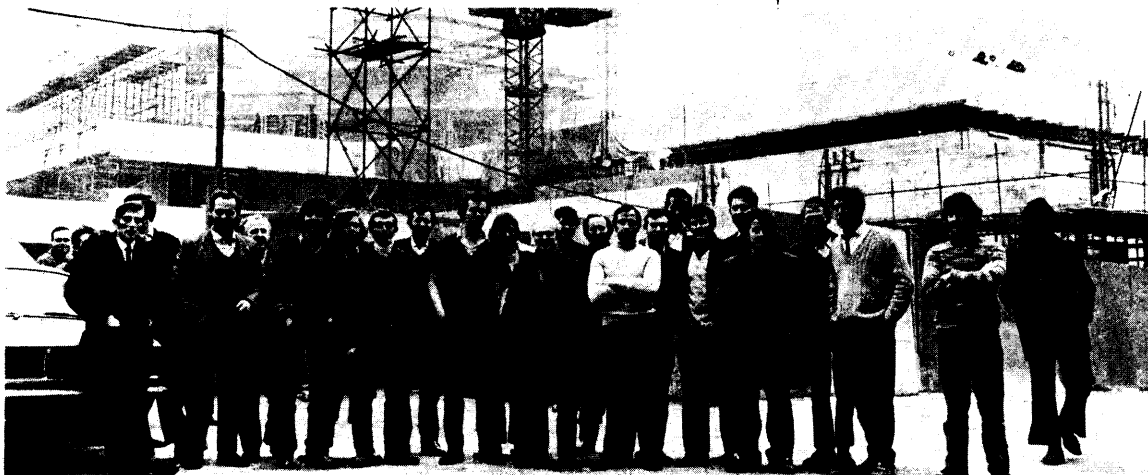
OVER 200 building workers at McAlpines National Theatre site, near Waterloo, S London, struck work yesterday morning in support of a bonus increase.

Federation steward Michael McEvoy said management had been approached on the claim on Wednesday, but 'they didn't want to know.'

'So the men decided to stop work today until we get some satisfaction,' Mr McEvoy added.

The men are demanding a 20-per-cent, all-round increase and in particular increases on the bonus targets.

'This used to be a six-day a week job', one steward told me. 'Now it's been cut to five.'



## ALMOST THERE— SUPPORT STILL FLOWS IN

TODAY sees all four Young Socialists' Right - to - Work marches on the outskirts of London, only a day's march from their destination Empire Pool, Wembley.

Support for the determination and courage of these youth is still mounting.

Dame Peggy Ashcroft, the internationally famous actress, who last appeared in 'Sunday, Bloody Sunday', has given her support to the campaign.

Television and film actor and actress Ralph Bates and Jo van Gysegan have donated £40 jointly.

Film, television and stage actor Colin Blakeley has also made a donation and given his moral support.

At Paddington station railway workers have collected £30 and railwaymen at Durnsford Rd depot, Wimbledon, S London, have collected £16.

Workers at Rotax Precision Products, Hemel Hempstead, have donated £20. From the S Wales area of the National Union of Mineworkers comes £10. Also in S Wales, the joint shop stewards at BP Chemicals, Baglan Bay, Port Talbot, have donated £5.

The joint shop stewards' committee at Morris Motors, Courthouse Green, Coventry, have sent £10. A shop stewards' levy at Lewis' Shipyard, Aberdeen, raised £4 for the campaign.

Aberdeen College of Education sent £5 to be used for accommodation only. A Right-to-Work flag day in Nottingham raised £38.45.

The National Union of Vehicle Builders, Ellesmere Port, No. 4 branch have sent £10. In London, post office engineers in the POEU Metropolitan W branch donated £10.

Barrow NUM sent £6. The Bradford area Fire Brigades Union donated £2 and a collection at International Alloys Ltd, Aylesbury, raised £3.

W London Young Socialists' Right-to-Work Rally collected £14 and gas board workers at Camden, W London, depot collected £2.50 and tenants in the Agar Grove Tenants' Association gave £1.30.

After hearing a member of the YS Right-to-Work committee, Southwark dustmen voted unanimously to support the campaign.

They decided to impose a 25p levy and this was collected yesterday afternoon by stewards when men received their pay.

Workers at the Rolls-Royce Ansty factory, Coventry, have agreed to send delegates to the rally at Wembley.

And the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' district committee has appointed its delegate to Sunday's rally.

### Print talks on Monday

FULL negotiations between print unions and employers will be held in London next Monday.

The four unions involved—the NGA, SOGAT, SLADE and NATSOPA—are seeking awards of up to £7 a week.

A spokesman for the NGA which is operating an overtime ban said: 'All I can say is that we have agreed to meet on Monday. We have been sounding out people, but we hope to make progress on Monday.'

There has been no new offer from the employers, the Newspaper Society and the British Federation of Master Printers.

# St Helens men sit-in for right to work

A GROUP of St Helens workers have occupied their plastics factory and placed a poster outside which says: 'We demand the right to work'.

The men work for St Helens Plastics Limited in Reginald Road.

They took over the fitting shop a week ago after being told that the whole workforce was to be made immediately redundant.

The company has security guards and savage Alsatian dogs patrolling other parts of the plant.

Each day the 24-hour occupation is maintained by men arriving and leaving via a fire exit.

The company is owned by Reed, Medway, Sacks of Maidstone in Kent, which is a subsidiary of the giant Reed paper group.

Reed has a controlling interest in the 'Daily Mirror', Britain's largest daily newspaper.

Early in January the work force of 55 was told that a take-over bid had been made by Linpac Plastics of Featherstone in Yorkshire. The bidder personally told the men that not only was the workforce assured, but new equipment would mean more employees.

But last Friday when they arrived for work, men were asked to go to the canteen. The company's chief executive announced that the factory was closing down.

By 9.30 a.m. everyone had been paid off. But some of the men claim they had been short-paid by amounts from £4 to £14.

They occupied the fitting shop and demanded the correct money. Although the management gave assurance the money would be sent through the post within 48 hours, the men decided not to budge.

Breen Kelly, one of the men occupying the factory, told Workers Press:

'We want jobs: We want the right to work. We're staying in the factory until it reopens and men are given their jobs back.'

Asked what would happen if management attempted to shift equipment, Mr Kelly replied:

'We won't let a paper bag move out of here.' He said the men's action had received full support from miners at the Bold Colliery.

The men occupying the factory, all members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, have held preliminary talks with Liverpool dockers.

**£1.250 MARCH FUND NOW £151.53**

THESE last few days are vital for mobilising mass support for the great Right-to-Work rally next Sunday at the Empire Pool, Wembley.

As the marchers approach London this weekend, more and more trade unionists everywhere are deciding to back them up all the way.

Workers Press must be used to keep the Right-to-Work campaign right in the forefront of the struggle to force this government to resign.

Go all out, therefore, with a big effort for our March Appeal Fund. We are nearly halfway through the month and so let's step up the fight. Post all your donations to:

Workers Press  
March Appeal Fund,  
186a Clapham High St,  
London, SW4 7UG.

## TALK OR WE ACT— ASLEF

THE LOCOMEN'S union has given British Rail a five-day ultimatum to re-open pay talks or industrial action may start.

By six votes to two the ASLEF executive decided in London yesterday that if talks are not resumed by next Tuesday, the executive will meet on Wednesday 'when the matter can be reviewed.'

ASLEF general secretary Ray Buckton said: 'The appropriate action would be industrial action and the type will be decided next Wednesday.'

By the same margin—six votes to two—the executive turned down a call for action on March 17 if there is no acceptable offer by then.

The board of British Rail met yesterday following the rejection of the final 9.7 per cent offer made on Wednesday.

## Machine tool orders 53 p.c. down

DURING the first nine months of 1971 new orders for machine tools for both home and export markets were 53 per cent down on the same period in 1970.

In figures released today the Department of Trade and Industry also states that orders in the final quarter of 1971 were 30 per cent below the 1970 level.

The latest figures show the annual orders for 1971 were worth £134.8m—a third down on the 1970 figure.

Home new orders were down 37 per cent for the year and deliveries to the home market were 12 per cent lower.

Orders on hand at the end of the year stood at £41.6m—50 per cent lower than a year earlier. Net new export orders also continued on a downward trend; the provisional fourth quarter figure of £12.3m was the lowest for four years.

A SPECIAL delegate conference of the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions will be held in London on March 18 to decide whether to accept a 7.7 per cent pay rise offered to 50,000 teachers at the Burnham Further Education Committee this week.

The teachers' original claim was for 25 per cent increases, but the ATTI executive is recommending acceptance of the Burnham Committee's offer.

APPRENTICE miner James Stitt was fined £13 at Dunfermline sheriff's court, Scotland, for allegedly causing a breach of the peace at the entrance to Longannet power station on February 17 and assaulting a policeman.

He denied the offences, and told the court that he had been detailed for picketing duties and was arrested 15 minutes after arriving at Longannet. After hearing evidence from a policeman Sheriff John Mowat told Stitt: 'I prefer the police evidence to that of the defence.'

E ENGLAND, E and N Scotland will be cloudy with occasional rain but with some sleet or snow over high ground.

N Ireland and central Scotland will be cloudy with occasional, mainly light, rain but some bright intervals may develop in N Ireland later. NW Scotland will have scattered showers with bright or sunny periods.

Mist or fog patches over W England and Wales will soon clear followed by a mainly dry day with clear or sunny periods.

Temperatures will be near normal in the W, but it will be cold or rather cold in the E.

**Outlook for Saturday and Sunday:** Mainly dry. Some wintry showers over E and central England. Temperatures near normal in the N and W, but it will continue cold over E England.