# Morkers aress

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER . THURSDAY JUNE 21, 1973 . No 1104 . 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

#### Engineering delegates' rebuff to Phase Three

# MADICIALS

HUGH SCANLON was yesterday instructed by his union conference here to pull out of the current TUC talks with the Tory government on Phase Three of the state pay laws.

After a four-hour debate, which Scan-lon himself insisted should be 'sharpened up to a point that there's going to be no ambiguity', an amendment approving the engineers' president's attendance at Downing Street was defeated by 35 votes to 33 with one abstention.

A composite motion declaring continued opposition to any form of wage-restraint and calling on the trade union movement 'to

FROM DAVID MAUDE IN EASTBOURNE

withdraw from dealing with the government on any prices and incomes policy' was then carried by 39 votes to 30.

At this point, Scanlon announced: 'This means I do not attend the talks.'

Throughout the debate, which spread over two days, Communist Party and 'left' speakers fought to interpret this composite as meaning Scanlon could continue taking part in the TUC-Heath talks.

But Scanlon himself challenged the AUEW

Day-long Chrysler talks see page 12

delegates to make a clear decision about his attendance. He said that if a particular amendment was passed, which simply 'emphasized' its opposition to wage restraint when dealing with the government, then he would attend.

This crucial amendment to let Scanlon again go to Downing Street was supported by the right and the centre.

The Stalinists, faced with the issue despite all their efforts to avoid it, had to vote

On Monday, the Communist Party members and supporters had deliberately dropped a motion, demanding the end of all the talks, in favour of the composite.

Yesterday the only delegates to oppose unequivocally Scan-lon's participation in the talks were two engineers' section men

mere two engineers section men from the north east, Andy McKay and Jackie Crystal.

Arthur Scott, President of the technicians' section, said that if the motion was carried unamended it would mean the union should set an example and not go to talks.

union should set an example and not go to talks.

Then, under pressure from Scanlon to state clearly the implication of his motion, Brian King the technicians' delegate from Hull stated: 'If the President is to align himself with the policies of the union as an individual member he should not take part in talks with the Tory government.'

Immy Hamilton, the Glasgow

Jimmy Hamilton, the Glasgow delegate, expressed a typical view of the Stalinist and 'left' groupings. It was difficult for him to accept that discussions and talks should take place, he said, 'but that's the stage we're at and we

have to accept that.

Andy McKay, from South
Shields, however, insisted that
there should be no 'acrobatics'
or 'riding of two horses'.

not Ior the solve the economic problems of the Tory government, he said.

If at the end of the day there was even half a compromise deal between the Tories and the TUC leaders, there would be no return of a Labour government.

TURN TO BACK PAGE

#### £100,000 PARTY **BUILDING FUND**

PUILDING FUND
YESTERDAY'S post brought £8.40. £6.40 from Leicester and £1 from OAP Mr Johnstone from Renfrewshire and another £1 from OAP Mr Kennedy from Manchester. Many, many thanks to you. With the cost of living so high, we do appreciate the great sacrifice that is being made for our Party Building Fund. So come on comrades—let's give our total which now stands at £51,413.22 a big boost before this weekend. Post all donations to:

Party Building Fund
186a Clapham High Street London, SW4 7UG.

#### TROTSKYISM AND STALINISM

Today on page 8 we print second letter from Monty Johnstone of the Communist Party. A fivepart reply will begin on Friday.

# Sentence

MRS KATHLEEN HOSEY. whose son John was yesterday sentenced to five years' jail under the notorious South Afri-can Terrorism Act, said yesterday she was deeply shocked and

appalled at the savage sentence.

She appealed to the labour and trade union movement Britain to demand the with-drawal of investment from South Africa and the release of all political prisoners.

See page 2.

Members of the Chrysler workers' negotiating committee were locked in daylong negotiations with the management in Coventry yesterday. Seen entering the talks at the municipal buildings are (l. to r.): Frank Lake, chairman of **AUEW** stewards; Albert Demaelly, NUVB convenor; and Joe Molloy, chairman of the joint shop stewards.

All Trades Unions Alliance Conference: To discuss defence of democratic rights

Kings Hall: Belle Vue Zoo Park: Manchester—Sunday July 1: 3 p.m.—9 p.m. Special showing of the Pageant film 'THE ROAD TO WORKERS POW ER' and songs and scenes from history

Tickets £1: Available from R. Smith, 60 Wellington Street West, Salford 7, Manchester.

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • THURSDAY JUNE 21, 1973 • No 1104 • 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

#### **Engineering delegates' rebuff to Phase Three**

# SCANLON BARRE MNOINTA

HUGH SCANLON was yesterday instructed by his union conference here to pull out of the current TUC talks with the Tory government on Phase Three of the state pay laws.

After a four-hour debate, which Scan-lon himself insisted should be 'sharpened up to a point that there's going to be no ambiguity', an amendment approving the engineers' president's attendance at Downing Street was defeated by 35 votes to 33 with one abstention.

A composite motion declaring continued opposition to any form of wage-restraint and calling on the trade union movement 'to

FROM DAVID MAUDE IN EASTBOURNE

withdraw from dealing with the government on any prices and incomes policy was then carried by 39 votes to 30.

At this point, Scanlon announced: 'This means I do not attend the talks.'

Throughout the debate, which spread over two days, Communist Party and 'left' speakers fought to interpret this composite as meaning Scanlon could continue taking part in the TUC-Heath talks.

But Scanlon himself challenged the AUEW

delegates to make a clear decision about his attendance. He said that if a particular amendment was passed, which simply 'emphasized' its opposition to wage restraint when dealing with the government, then he would attend.

This crucial amendment to let Scanlon again go to Downing Street was supported by the right and the centre.

The Stalinists, faced with the issue despite all their efforts to avoid it, had to vote

On Monday, the Communist Party members and supporters had deliberately dropped a motion, demanding the end of all the talks, in favour of the composite.

Yesterday the only delegates to oppose unequivocally Scan-lon's participation in the talks were two engineers' section men from the north east, Andy McKay and Jackie Crystal. Arthur Scott, President of the

technicians' section, said that if the motion was carried un-amended it would mean the union should set an example and

not go to talks.
Then, under pressure from Scanlon to state clearly the implication of his motion, Brian King the technicians' delegate from Hull stated: 'If the President is to align himself with the policies of the union as an individual member he should not take part in talks with the Tory government.'

Jimmy Hamilton, the Glasgow delegate, expressed a typical view of the Stalinist and 'left' groupings. It was difficult for him to accept that discussions and talks should take place, he said, 'but that's the stage we're at and we

have to accept that'.

Andy McKay, from South Shields, however, insisted that there should be no 'acrobatics' or 'riding of two horses'.

not solve the economic problems of the Tory government, he said.

If at the end of the day there was even half a compromise deal between the Tories and the TUC leaders, there would be no return of a Labour government.

TURN TO BACK PAGE

#### £100,000 PARTY **BUILDING FUND**

YESTERDAY'S post \$28.40. £6.40 from Leicester and £1 from OAP Mr Johnstone from Renfrewshire and another £1 from OAP Mr Kennedy from £1 from OAP Mr Kennedy from Manchester. Many, many thanks to you. With the cost of living so high, we do appreciate the great sacrifice that is being made for our Party Building Fund. So come on comrades—let's give our total which now stands at £51,413.22 a big boost before this weekend. Post all donations to:

Party Building Fund
186a Clapham High Street London, SW4 7UG.

#### TROTSKYISM **AND STALINISM**

Today on page 8 we print second letter from Monty Johnstone of the Communist Party. A fivepart reply will begin on Friday.

# Sentence

KATHLEEN HOSEY. whose son John was yesterday sentenced to five years' jail under the notorious South African Terrorism Act, said yesterday she was deeply shocked and appalled at the savage sentence.

She appealed to the labour

and trade union movement Britain to demand the with-drawal of investment from South Africa and the release of all political prisoners.

See page 2.

Day-long Chrysler talks see page 12



Members of the Chrysler workers' negotiating committee were locked in daylong negotiations with the management in Coventry yesterday. Seen entering the talks at the municipal buildings are (l. to r.): Frank Lake, chairman of **AUEW** stewards; Albert Demaelly, NUVB convenor; and Joe Molloy, chairman of the joint shop stewards.

All Trades Unions Alliance Conference: To discuss defence of democratic rights

Kings Hall: Belle Vue Zoo Park: Manchester—Sunday July 1: 3 p.m.—9 p.m. Special showing of the Pageant film 'THE ROAD TO WORKERS POW ER' and songs and scenes from history Tickets £1: Available from R. Smith, 60 Wellington Street West, Salford 7, Manchester.

#### WHAT WE THINK

# Mobilize for nationalization

THE CALL from the AUEW conference for the nationalization of major industries without compengiven banner headline treatment in yesterday's 'Morning Star' — is meaningless without the mobilization of the class to bring down the Tory government and return a Labour government pledged to implement such policies.

The engineers' union has been passing resolutions on nationalization for years. And specific plans for the nationalization of the engineering industry were adopted by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions more than 20 years ago — and remain official policy.

Yet the Wilson governments of 1964-1970 did nothing to implement this and the union leaders never even raised the question.

Bill Simpson, current chairman of the Labour Party and general secretary of the foundry section of the AUEW, said yesterday that he was 'happy' with the amendment calling for no compensation because conference had made it clear that 'it could be interpreted with some flexibility'.

The flexibility with which union leaders seek to apply conference resolutions is well known.

But the rapidly-worsening economic crisis of capitalism leaves little room for such 'flexibility'. The workers must either fight or accept the corporatist plans of the Tories which will take away the basic democratic rights and living standards won by the working class over 200 years.

Today nationalization is the vital issue facing the working class, whose concrete interests can only be served by dispossessing the employers. Thus, the call for nationalization without compensation is a revolutionary demand. It is a question of power.

The working class can no longer be satisfied with empty words, left phrases and high-sounding resolutions that the leaders can ignore.

In 1971, the AUEW national conference passed a resolution declaring: 'This National Conference instructs National Executive Council to support the right to work as the most important aspect in the struggle against this Tory government.'

Since then the union leaders have permitted the Tories to legislate the Industrial Relations Act, institute state control of wages while the cost of living is driven up, and haul strike pickets before the courts.

The leadership, despite a multitude of resolutions like the one quoted, have put up no fight whatsoever against the government, but have openly collaborated with it.

Meanwhile miners, dockers, engineers, car workers, builders, hospital workers, gasmen, teachers and many other sections of the working class have been allowed to fight isolated, piecemeal battles against the employers and their government.

Policies must be not only voted on,

but enforced. To remove the property from the property-owners means bringing down the Tory government whose central function is to protect that property.

It means committing the Labour Party leaders to legislate nationalization without compensation and under workers' control — measures which those leaders have just affirmed that they will not carry out.

It means, therefore, exposing these leaders before the working class and breaking the class from reformism.

Above all, revolutionary policies require a revolutionary party. All workers who wish to see such policies carried out should join with us in transforming the Socialist Labour League into the revolutionary party this year.

We urge them to come to the All Trades Unions Alliance Conference at Belle Vue, Manchester, on July 1 to discuss the defence of democratic rights and the building of the revolutionary party.

# I VOTED TORY— *NORMA*

CALL GIRL Norma Levy, a key figure in Britain's vice scandal. said in an interview published vesterday she voted for the Tories in the last election 'because they are my best clients'.

The interview appeared in the West German Weekly, 'Stern', which also printed a double-page photograph of Mrs Levy in bed with a man.

'Stern' said the picture was taken through a hole in the bedroom wall by her husband, Mr Colin Levy. The man's face was blanked out. Mrs Levy, who 'Stern' said was living

at a hideaway rented villa somewhere on the Mediterranean coast, was asked what she talked about with Britain's former Air Force Minister, Lord Lambton, who resigned over the scandal.

The magazine quoted her as saying: 'For example, he gave me investment

Mrs Levy claimed Lambton recommended she buy shares in an

tronics firm, it reported.

'I invested a few hundred pounds. I don't know whether the shares have gone up or down.' She added.

The Levys, interviewed at the three-room villa which 'Stern' said they had rented for £70 a month, told the magazine they would not be returning to Britain 'for the time being'.

But according to 'Stern'

But according to 'Stern' editor Norbert Sakowski, in a statement yesterday, they were prepared to meet Scotland Yard detectives anywhere else in the world.

A British commission of in-quiry is probing the 'call-girl affair' which also led to the resignation of Britain's Lord Privy Seal, Lord Jellicoe, to establish whether security risks were involved.

'Stern' quoted Mrs Levy as saying: 'I had as a regular client

a well-known Duke who is one of England's richest men.'

'Stern' said the Levys had travelled widely since they left Britain to avoid the police and the Press.

In Casablanca, they disguised themselves with veils and long robes to look like Moslems, and in Munich they hired a Mercedes 280 saloon, which they still had with them.

Asked about her political views, Mrs Levy told 'Stern': 'Last time I voted for the Tories, because they are my clients.'

In her opinion, politicians had a right to an undisturbed private life, and she regretted that the two Ministers had to resign 'because of her', 'Stern' said.

But her husband, asked what he thought of the affair, told the magazine: 'an elected politician should not do such things. He could leave himself open to blackmail.'

#### Laird & Kissinger implicated in deals

# Two new scandals hit Nixon

A NEW WAVE of scandal is about to break over the Nixon cabinet engulfing Melvin Laird and Dr Henry Kissinger, two men so far largely untouched by Watergate. Laird was brought into the White House as 'Mr Clean' after the departure of Nixon's top advisers.

#### Lira threat to EEC

ITT shares dropping fast

HUGE CREDITS have been mobilized by the United States and other Common Market governments to support the

Italian lira. There has been a major wave of selling against the Italian currency since the Andreotti government fell last week.

On 'Black Thursday', June 14, the lira fell by 4 per cent against the US dollar and there was a rush of panic selling. Huge sums of money were transferred out of the country.

There were rumours that the Bank of Italy was about to fail and that Guido Carli, the bank's governor, was on the verge of resignation.

To bolster the existing \$5.670m Italian currency reserves the US and the EEC between them have contributed credits totalling \$3,050m.

These credits or commitments will completely exhaust the Common Market's short-term \$1,630m for currency support tions. The United States operations. has sent \$1,250m.

The special fund was estab-lished by the six EEC countries which are jointly floating their currencies.

Italy was excluded from the

Britain-because it was feared they would become a heavy burden on the other member countries.

The fact that the six have now dipped into their own support fund demonstrates the extreme urgency and gravity of the crisis in the Italian banking system.

According to rumours in banking circles, Italy had to pay 13,000 million lire in foreign currencies to various international organizations, but asked the US Federal Reserve Board to make the foreign exchange available indicating that Bank of Italy reserves were exhausted.
YESTERDAY, Christian Demo-

crat leader Mariano Rumor was summoned to the presidential palace to take charge of a new coalition government slightly to the left of Andreotti's regime. HEAVY demand for the West German mark has driven it to the top of the 'tunnel' in which the six currencies are jointly pledged to maintain their parities. It is now pulling some of the other currencies up with it against the dollar, losing them trading advantages.

The break-up of the joint float would deal a powerful blow to the cohesion of the Common

Now, according to the 'New York Daily News', investigators from the Securities and Exchange Commission are looking into accusations that he tried to intervene in a stocks fraud investigation.

Laird is said to have acted on behalf of railway tycoon, Edward Ball (80), who is accused of masterminding an 'insider's scheme' of share manipulation.

Court documents, according to the 'News', show that Laird's role in the case was discussed last Friday before a district court

A high Pentagon official, John Dressendorfer, is said to have 'actually made phone calls on behalf of Ball to the highest levels of the SEC'. He is said to the highest levels of the SEC's He is said to the highest levels of the SEC's He is said to the highest levels of the SEC's He is said to the said to to have been acting for Laird, who was then Defence Secretary.

charges are a savage blow to Nixon, who put enormous pressure on Laird to join his staff Watergate the midst of revelations.

But as Nixon plays host to Soviet Stalinist chief Leonid Brezhnev, an even more serious scandal is emerging over the

A Senate investigation into the huge wheat sale to the Soviet Union last year has uncovered a saga of diplomatic bungling, incompetence, corruption and perjury which is certain to do severe damage to both Nixon and his aide Dr Henry Kissinger.

The Senate harshly attacks in its preliminary report the role played by Kissinger.

American farmers heavily in the sale while the big corporations — who were tipped in advance — made profits.

Huge subsidies were paid to the USSR for buying a product they desperately needed.

In turn this sent food prices rocketing and added to the economic crisis in the United States.

Key government decisions were made by people with concealed vested interests in the grain companies.

At the subsequent inquiry staged by the administration outright lies were told, witnesses were not required to testify on oath and the Nixon government declared itself exonerated. Now it has been forced to admit the possibility of criminal fraud.

The new wave of scandals could hardly have broken at a worse time.

Nixon is under a temporary reprieve from Watergate hearings until Brezhnev leaves Washington.

But no sooner is Watergate temporarily off the agenda, than other scandals start to raise their

#### CP member's son jailed in A COURT in Haifa, Israel, **Israel**

yesterday convicted the son of a Communist member of the Israeli Knesset (parliament) and another Jew on charges of contacts with a foreign agent working for the Arab guerrilla organization Al Fatah.

The three-man court found Rami Livneh (27), the son of Mr S. Levenbraun, of the Israel Communist Party, Maki, and Mali Lerman (27), also guilty of possessing newspapers published

by the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The two were the last of six

Jews to be found guilty of belonging to a spy and sabotage ring alleged to have been operated by Syria. Earlier this year four other Jews, including a former paratrooper, Ehud Adiv, were sentenced to long prison

#### The Pretoria 6 sentenced

SIX MEN known as the Pretoria six were sentenced in South Africa, yesterday to prison terms of between five and 15 years

under the Terrorism Act.
Four African men, who Mr
Justice Wessels Boshoff said had been trained in guerrilla activities and were therefore guilty of

crimes 'akin to treason,' were each sentenced to 15 years' jail.

Alexandre Moumbaris (34), naturalized Australian of GreekFrench parentage, who found to have assisted banned African National Congress (ANC) supporters into the Republic as part of a conspiracy to create revolution, was sentenced to 12

John Hosey (24), Dublin born, who has spent most of his life in Britain was given the minimum of five years for bringing in false documents. He has been given leave to appeal.

national Telephone and Telegraph Corporation has dropped by half in the last six months on the New York stock exchange.

THE PRICE of shares in Inter-

'Business Week', a widely read financial magazine, reports that five mutual funds—the American equivalent of unit trusts-and two large New York banks sold millions of ITT shares between January and April.

Recently ITT plotted with the Central Intelligence Agency to overthrow the Allende govern-ment in Chile.

Vice-President Spiro Agnew has acted virtually as a public relations man for the firm.

ITT is also under investigation by the special Watergate prose-cutor Archibald Cox, the Internal Revenue Service and US Justice Department.

The speculator rises in ITT profits—from \$63m to \$476m in the last eight years—are said to be due to tax credits, capital gains, share manipulation and sales of assets.

# £6.5m shares deal joins notorious list

QUESTIONS are to be asked in parliament about how a City baronet and his friends pulled off a £6.5m shares coup.

Harold Lever, the Labour MP, himself a millionaire, is asking the Tory government to set up a Department of Trade inquiry into the affair.

Already the department's investigators are looking into Lonrho, chaired by former Colonial Secretary Duncan Sandys, and the Real Estate Fund of America, whose first president was Heath's deputy Prime Minister, Reginald Maudling.

The central figure in the £6.5m deal is Sir Denys Lowson, a former Lord Mayor of London. Between June and September last year Lowson and his fellow directors bought a controlling interest in the National Group of Unit Trusts which Lowson had founded in the 1930s. They bought the shares at between 62p and 63p each.

In January this year, only six months later, Lowson sold the National Group to the Triumph Investments Group. Triumph paid a staggering £8.67 a share. In other words the value of National had risen

from £500,000 in June 1972 to £6.5m in January 1973, a leap of 1,200 per cent!

Just how much Lowson collected from this astonishing deal is unclear, but it is thought to be considerable.

It was Lowson, his family and associates who bought up the stock at 62p. He purchased them from the First Reinvestment Trust and the Nelson Financial Trust.

Shareholders in these trusts were not told of the transactions.

The man who paid £8.67 for the National shares is Mr Tom Whyte, head

of the adventurous Triumph Investment Trust. The National group controls funds estimated to be around £120m. It is the country's fourth largest unit trust company.

John Roberts of the 'Investors Chronicle', who made the first investigation of the deal, said: 'Somewhere I discovered £6m had changed hands and I wanted to know why.'

So will millions of workers whose standard of living is being obliterated by Heath's Phase Two state pay laws with its derisory £1 plus 4 per cent.

# -Who is the shares baronet?

IN THE City of London, Sir Denys Lowson is a big shot. Baronet Sir Denys has more than 20 directorships with major British and international companies.

He became Lord Mayor of London in 1951 at the time of the Festival of Britain. He paraded through the City streets in his golden carriage and rubbed shoulders with royalty and visiting celebrities.

At his side was his wife, Patricia, 13 years his junior, who is a daughter of Baron Strathcarron. She was fêted in the women's magazines as London's glamorous and youngestever lady mayoress.

Denys Colquhoun Flowerdew Lowson was born 68 years ago in Stratford-upon-Avon, the descendant of the Scottish landowners, the Lowsons of Westlaws, Perthshire.

#### **Offices**

He was educated at Winchester and Oxford and called to the bar. He holds an inordinately large number of public offices and the following is just a random but representative selection.

Member of the Royal Company of Archers (Queen's Body Guard for Scotland), Church Commissioner for England, Life governor and almoner of St Bartholomew's Hospital, past vice-president of the League of Mercy, former Master of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers, former Master of the Worshipful Company of Loriners, former Master of the Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, past Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England, vice-president of the St John Ambulance Brigade, ex-governor of the Honourable, the Irish Society, former president of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, life governor of University College, Dundee, and of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, High Steward of Stratford-upon-Avon.

#### Overseas

His overseas honours are also measured in sackfuls. He is Grand Officer of the Order of Orange Nassau (Netherlands), Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Dannebrog (Denmark), Knight Commander, with star, Royal Order of St Olaf (Norway), Knight Commander of the Lion of Finland.

When he lists his public offices, Lowson leaves out the most important of them all—the chairmanship of the National Group of unit trusts.

National was once Britain's largest money-gathering institu-

BY ALEX MITCHELL

At the Plaisterer's Hall dinner Sir Denys Lowson with the premier of British Columbia, the Hon David Barrett (I) and the High Commissioner for Canada. Below: At the same dinner, the TUC general secretary Victor Feather with Mr Percy Lovely.



tion in the unit trust field; it has subsequently slipped as the more racy and publicity - conscious individuals have come on the

One of his competitors is the Unicorn Trusts run by Edward du Cann, Tory MP for Taunton and former Tory Party chairman. Du Cann received his training in unit trust management while serving with Lowson.

#### Luxury

Lowson has become a millionaire on the strength of share dealings. He lives at a luxurious estate called Brantridge Park in Sussex where he enjoys his favourite sport—shooting.

He has another fabulous asset—he owns one of the world's largest stamp collections.

He is a lavish entertainer and hosts many of the City of London's big affairs. Two weeks ago, for example, he was host of a dinner given in honour of the 'socialist' premier of British Columbia, David Barrett.

It was held at the Plaisterers' Hall and the guest list veritably shrieked with reactionaries.

There was Lord Boyd Carpenter, recently appointed chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority; Sir Burke Trend, secretary to the Heath Cabinet; Sir Dennis Greenhill, permanent head of the Foreign Service and the man in charge of the security services (MI5 and 6); the Earl of Bessborough (the former Frederick Edward Neuflize Ponsonby), a former Tory Minister and

ATV director; and Carel de Wet, the ambassador for the racialist republic of South Africa.

Also mingling with these 'dignatories' was none other than Victor Feather, general secretary of the TUC

In his speech Lowson paid a generous compliment to the TUC leader. He referred to Feather's 'outstanding success' when he recently spoke to the Australian Society luncheon.

'He's got his heart in the right place,' said the egregious Lowson to Feather who smiled coyly.

Feather is persistently consorting with Heath, Common Market bureaucrats, bankers and Press lords. And as the ruling class makes millions in share deals and other speculations, the working class has to suffer the consequences of state pay laws.

Feather and the other TUC leaders, like Hugh Scanlon and Jack Jones, must be forced to break off all talks with these people.

#### **Answer**

They must be mobilized to force this hated Heath government out of office so that in its place can be elected a Labour government pledged to socialist policies including the nationalization of banks, insurance houses and basic industries.

That must be our answer to the Lowsons, Lonrhos, and Slater Walkers of this world.

FOOTNOTE: Lowson's family motto is: 'God gives increase'.

# Lorry stewards try to locate Chrysler 'thugs'

The London Road Transport Shop Stewards' Committee (T&GWU) has issued a statement following incidents during the Chrysler dispute in Coventry.

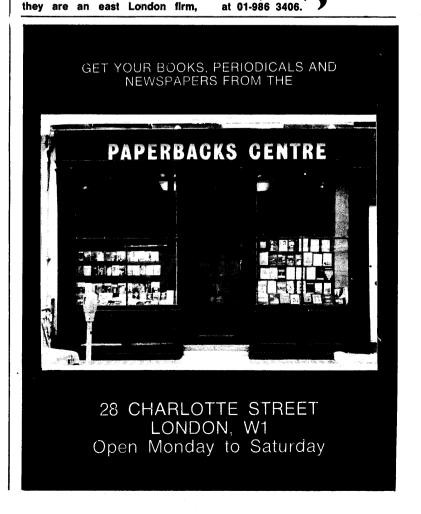
This committee is concerned and angry at the news that hired thugs have been used against workers' pickets outside the Stoke, Coventry, plant of Chrysler's. We are anxious to discover who these people

If and when we find out that

we will use the strongest methods to have them blacked in east London and we will approach our colleagues in the docks to black them also.

Our members will not work with such scabs nor will we permit work to be carried out for the firm which used them.

Any information that would help to identify the firm should be phoned in to Eric Rechnitz, chairman of the London Road Transport Shop Stewards' Committee (T&GWU) at 01-986 3406.



# WE'RE COMING TO BELLE VUE

A discussion around the policies which will be debated at the All Trades Unions Alliance conference at Belle Vue, Manchester, Sunday July 1st—3 p.m.

THE NATIONAL Committee of the All Trades Unions Alliance has called a national rally of trade unionists at Belle Vue, Manchester, for July 1, as a further step in the preparations for building the Revolutionary Party.

This follows on the very successful ATUA conference of 2,200 workers at Birmingham on October 22, 1972, which launched the campaign.

The founding conference of the Party will be held in London at the end of October 1973. The basis of the draft perspectives and programme for the Party, which are currently being discussed in the pages of the Workers Press, was the ATUA National Committee's statement adopted at Birmingham last year.

In a statement adopted on May 13 by the ATUA in preparation for the July 1 conference, the National Committee declared:

The further turn in the grave economic crisis caused by the political and economic effects of the Nixon scandal will have a profound influence on the inflationary boom in Britain and the policies of the Tory and Labour leaders.

The Tories have laid plans for a corporate state, but the sharpening class struggle resulting from the intensification of the crisis

will more and more disrupt these plans and expose Phase Three of the state pay laws.

It is this massive class basis for the launching of struggle which forms the Revolutionary Party.

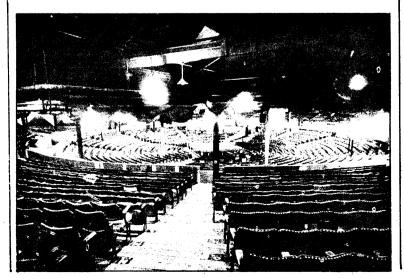
Therefore it is vitally urgent that these new developments, which greatly assist the launching of the Revolutionary Party, should be discussed by the largest possible number of delegates and visitors to the July 1 conference.

Arrangements are in hand to provide appropriate facilities for such a discussion at the Belle Vue, Manchester, one of the largest assembly halls in the north of England. Invitations to delegations have already gone out.

The ATUA calls upon all those workers, who want to end the state pay laws and restore free negotiations for wages between trade unions and employers, to join the demand for breaking off all talks with the government on Phase Three.

The fight for the defence of basic democratic rights is now inseparable from the struggle to build the Revolutionary Party.

We believe that the July 1 rally can be an important landmark in the struggle to unite the working class on the basis of socialist policies to create the necessary industrial and political conditions for forcing the Tory government to resign.





Ian Meyers is typical of many young workers. He lives with his wife at his father-in-law's. A private house is beyond their income and the council list is very long.

Ian is a foundry worker who had to leave Teesside to secure employment. Even this has alluded him. His foundry employed 200 workers three years ago, less than a quarter of that number work here today.

#### Do you think it is possible to get rid of the state pay laws without getting rid of the Tory government?

These laws on wages were really brought in to smash the working class. If one section of the working class go in for a pay rise, the Tory government must resist.

If they don't it would create an example and all other workers would follow in demanding their won increases.

So politically the Tory government is bound to resist all demands. It is an issue on which they have staked their own future. Anyone who thinks otherwise is living under a terrible illusion.

The working class have not entirely woken up to this yet. You can talk to some people who don't even know there is a freeze on.

At our place we are going to have an increase, but it will be the £1 plus 4 per cent. To me that's a cut in my wages, considering the cost of living.

#### Do you think the present Labour and trade union leaders want to get rid of the Tory government?

You have to take a man like Wilson as an example. If the working class won a victory over the Tories by forcing them out, they would find themselves on top of a volcano.

They would face a working class which is far stronger than they are. They don't want to release these forces, they are frightened of mobilizing the working class.

I have always voted Labour, because it's the only party for the working people, but the leadership is definitely working against the interests of the working class. You only have to look at their performance over Lambton and Jellicoe to see that they did nothing to

push the Tories over the brink. It's the same with the TUC leaders. They are just feathering their own nests and getting on with their concerns at our expense.

It's been just one big collaboration. Judas got 30 pieces of silver, but they do it for nothing.

I expected them to act this way though. It is obvious they are dedicated to the capitalist system. They are not trying to break the capitalist system—just trying to patter on.

In the meantime, the capitalist system is trying to break

# What do you think of Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon's support for talks with the Tories?

These people are described as left wingers, but I can't see that. As far as I am concerned, they don't have a record at all.

Take the engineering industry. Over the last few years there has been massive redundancies at my place. The labour force has slumped from 200 to 30.

Despite these incredible sackings, there has been no real, nationally-led campaign against the sackings.

The employers have been quite blatant. While the going was good, they got money from the government for investment, then they used this money to make a quick profit. There has been no real long-term planning in the industry, but the unions let them get away with it.

The right wing of the TUC are right behind the Tories. There is no doubt about that. But the left, like Scanlon and Jones, follow on behind—the working class get almost no say at all.

The Communist Party and others confine their struggle to trade union questions only. They don't fight on the political issues—that's relegated to the far distant future.

I started getting suspicious of UCS before I came into contact with the League. It was a fantastic struggle by those shipyard workers, but I began to get suspicious when the work-in began to fall off and lads began to go down the road.

Now I think it was a complete sell-out. But I don't blame the men.

Politically I would say the CP put forward a reformist position. They seem like a left addition to the Labour Party, not at all the party the workers need in this situation.

# What experience have you had that makes you think getting rid of the Tory government is an urgent necessity?

I come from Teesside. I used to work in the steel industry there and over the years I have watched about 12,000 men being made redundant. There were ten people to every job at one time, the dole queues are massive.

They say new jobs are coming to the area and they are building a new complex which will employ 10,000 people. But the people who will get these jobs are the ones left in the industry because the plant they work in is being phased out.

It's all push-button anyway. There aren't the jobs there used to be. On top of this you have the crisis brewing. This will bring really massive unemployment back.

It's a question of getting rid of the Tories or going back to the dole for workers in a place like Middlesbrough.

#### Are protests and one-day strikes enough to defend the basic rights of the working class?

The true leadership of the working class should always work towards calling a General Strike. The occasion to get rid of the government this way has come several times. The miners struck last year, the jailing of the dockers, and May

The need for such a struggle is desperate. We have seen the Lambton-Jellicoe affair and the way these Tories behave. They have resigned, but they're laughing.

Lambton owns a £15,000 house in Durham and he retires in luxury. A worker goes into poverty when he is jailed. I never believed in one-day strikes. They just put off the day of reckoning.

# Are you in favour of building a new leadership which will force the Tories to resign?

The building of the party and the Belle Vue rally is not just a trade union task; it's something much bigger.

The working class have to fight on this situation or they will be beaten. And if they are beaten they will go back to before the industrial revolution. They will be serfs again.

If we get 5,000 people to this rally, the word will spread to thousands more. It will be the start.

Paul Kelly is a Liverpool worker now fighting for his re-instatement at a Liverpool plastics factory. He was fired for reading the Workers Press at work.

#### Do you think it is possible to get rid of the state pay laws without getting rid of the Tory government?

No, the issue of wages raises politics. It was even the case under the Labour government in 1968. We were out on the buses for more money and the Labour government were refusing. I myself thought that the main demand at the time should have been on Wilson to carry out proper socialist policies for the working class.

Anyone now who says workers can defend their living standards without fighting the government is a sheer fool.

The workers in Liverpool have always been great believers in militancy, they say stick together, stick it out and we will win. A lot of shop stewards are to blame for spreading this kind of attitude. But this militancy now works against them, I think it's a big block, instead of taking them forward it takes them back, because militancy alone cannot defend the rights of the workers—that day is past.

The formula of stand together, beat the boss, doesn't work any more because the boss has got the government behind him.

# Do you think the Labour and trade union leaders want to force the Tory government to resign?

These people are traitors to the working class. To my mind are in it for their own interests. They have never really led the fight against this government there are many occasions when they could have brought them down, one that still stands out in my mind was the vote over the Common Market, where Jenkins and the rest were allowed to break ranks and save the Tories. They have not been disciplined by the Party to this day.

Party to this day.

The TUC are exactly the same. They are leading the working class into a corporate state. None of them want to buck the system—they talk left but act right.

# What do you think of the talks between the TUC and the Tories and the role of so-called lefts like Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon in this collaboration?

I see it simply as them selling out my own basic rights. They are sacrificing my standard of living, so their behaviour concerns me directly. Jones says he has 'passion' for the working class, well when I hear a man say he has passion for me I keep my hand firmly on my wallet. These talks are dipping into my wage packet. I get the £1 plus 4 per cent but what's that to me? It's a wage cut, with the rise in rents and the cost of living.

#### The Communist Party and others describe these people as 'lefts' and cover up for their collaboration. What do you think of this?

The CP are an anti-revolutionary party, their whole aim in line with Moscow is to keep this system going. Right now you see Brezhnev palling up with Nixon who's in the middle of the greatest crisis of American capitalism, nothing could express the rela-



tionship better than this.

Workers can see that something is wrong with what they think is communism, but they can't really understand it politically, they go with the myths and take a general anticommunist line. This is very unfortunate for the revolutionary movement, but something we have to go out and explain.

# So far much of the struggle against the Tory government has taken the form of protests, one day strikes and so on. Are these adequate?

It's not a question of them being adequate, they are a waste of time. The one day strikes were just a show, and then things went back to normal. All that happened is that the Tories got annoyed and the men lost money.

and the men lost money.

Whenever the working class looked like going beyond protests, like over the jailing of the dockers and the miners strike, the leadership usually acted to head the movement off—this shows how genuine they are about the opposition to the Tory government.

The only possible step is for all out action, a General Strike, all trade unionists who care at all about the future should be working towards this perspective in their own organizations—what else is going to shift this government out?

We either beat them, or



Paul Kelly: 'Whenever the working class looked like going beyond protests, like over the jailing of the dockers and the miners' strike (above), the leadership usually acted to head the movement off—this shows how genuine they are about opposition to the Tory government.'

they give us the beating of the century. What is happening now is that employers are provoking strikes, like at Chryslers, on their own terms ready to smash the working class. It's best to be prepared for this and build for our own action.

The other form of protests has been the way union leaders have confined pay battles to one section only—the gas workers, the hospital workers and so on, knowing full well that on their own they would be defeated. This is almost deliberate.

# Are you in favour of building a new leadership to force the Tories to resign?

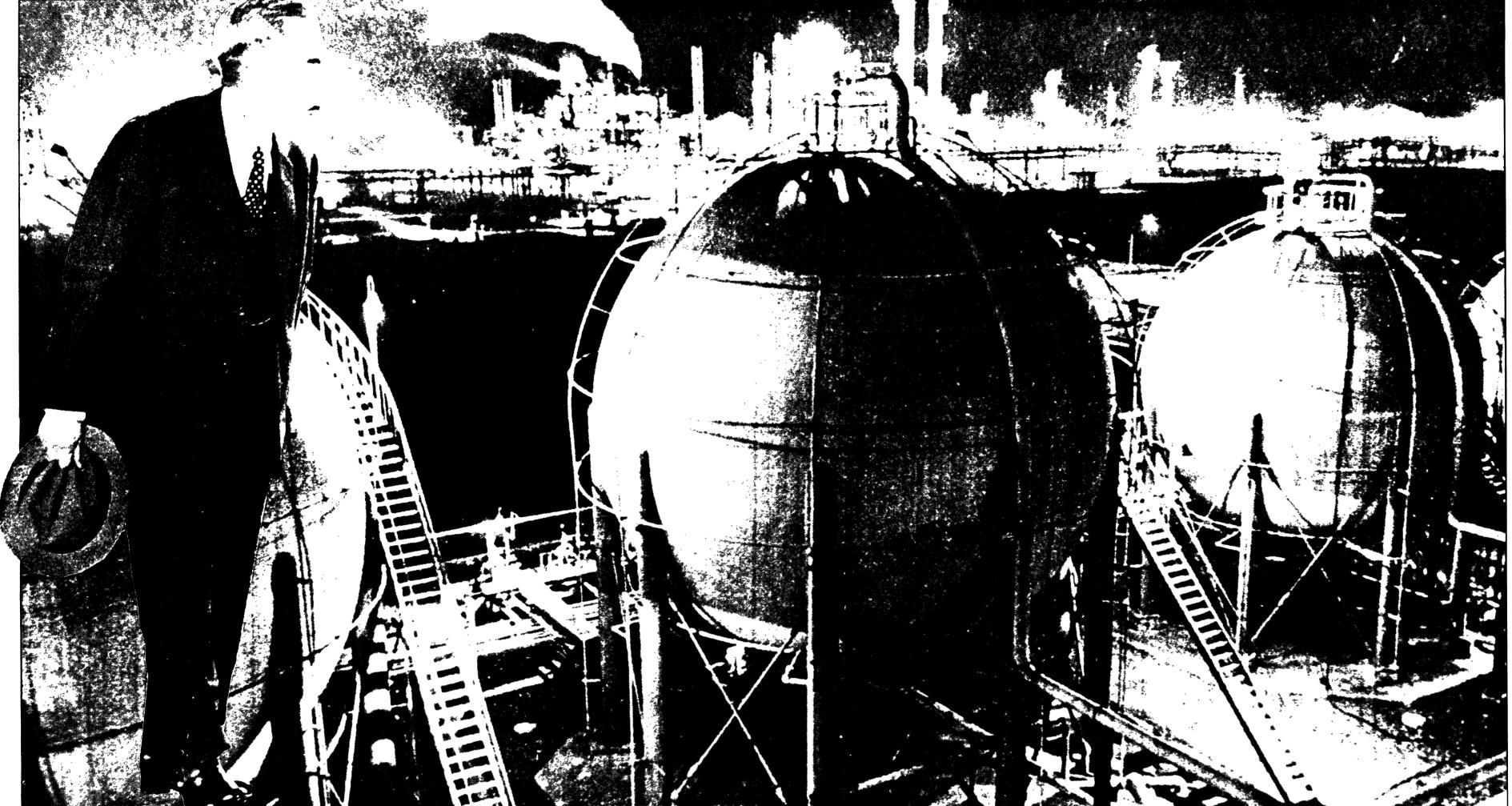
This is the only possible alternative facing the working class. In the boom period when there was money to pass on as a concession the reformists had a role. But things have radically altered, the crisis has transformed these people into the direct messenger boys for the Tories.

This has put the new leadership right on the agenda. We know the Labour Party leadership are inadequate. They were in last time and they could have passed socialist policies. But this would have meant a real challenge to capitalism and they cap

to capitalism and they ran.

It is only by a General
Strike and a new leadership
that the working class can go
forward in the period of
crisis.

Workers Press, Thursday June 21, 1973 PAGE 7 PAGE 6 Workers Press, Thursday June 21, 1973



# THE WORLD'S MOST OIL HUNGRY ECONOMY

#### FAR EAST REPORT BY ALEX MITCHELL

businessman what single question haunts him most, he will probably reply 'Oil'.

For one of the contradictions of the world's third most powerful economiesafter the US and the USSRis that it has stockpiles of oil for only 45 days. And because oil provides 70 per cent of the nation's energy, the result of an oil stoppage would be clearly catastrophic. The country's massive industry would be forced to a standstill in six weeks.

Whereas the US and the USSR have their own oil resources and access to politically amenable sources of supply, the Japanese, the third largest oil consumers in the world, have to rely exclusively on imports.

In 1971 Japan depended on

for 84.7 per cent of the annual total, though Middle Eastern crude oil accounted for only 46 per cent of imports in 1950. To lubricate these supply lines the Japanese government is engaged in an impressive campaign to make

friends with the oil sheikhs. One Minister after another is seen on Japanese television tumbling off aircraft to greet cloaked sultans hiding behind sun glasses. There was even a rumour that the holy of holies, Emperor Hirohito. would comport himself to the Middle East as part of this

goodwill seasoning. But along with the bowing Ministers has gone a good deal of hard cash. As the Keidanren, the Japanese CBI, says in its economic review for

'There is a rising inclination to go a step further than the past practice of merely depending on imports, and to Saudi Arabia and offered a participate positively

jects in various parts of the world.'

One such scheme is the Iran Japan Petrochemical Company (IJPC) capitalized, at \$50m. The project involves the construction of a giant petrochemical plant in Iran. The Japanese equity is being put up by Mitsui and Company Limited, Toyo Soda, Mitsui Chemical, Mitsui Toatsu Petrochemical and Japan

Synthetic Rubber. There have been other recent examples of the Japanese intervention in the Middle East:

• In early January the japanese oil industry bought a 22.5 per cent interest in British Petroleum's (BP) rich offshore field in Abu Dhabi, paying a staggering \$780m, about twice much as the previous

• In April a delegation from the Japanese Petroleum Development Corporation visited

If you ask any Japanese imports from the Middle East petroleum development pro-Mitsubishi conglomerate would build a huge petrochemical complex in return for 200 million barrels of crude oil over an extended

period. In mid-February, Japan Line startled the oil world by agreeing to pay \$2.38 per barrel for top quality Abu Dhabi oil, considerably higher than the price western oil companies had just agreed to pay the Abu Dhabi regime. In the same deal Japan Line tied up 730 million barrels of crude oil over eight years-most of Abu Dhabi's output over the next few years.

In May the first Abu Dhabi oil was discharged in Japan from the 160,000-ton English Bridge'. The Tokyo Press boasted: 'This is the first-ever shipment made by any oil exporting nation without the intermediary of a western oil concern. Japan Line, the nation's biggest oil tanker

operator, outbid major wes-

These deals indicate that the Japanese are preparing to 'go it alone' in the Middle East oil race.

During a visit to Tehran in April, International Trade and Industry Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone made clear that Japan would not join a consortium of oil-consuming countries. He told Iran's Finance Minister Jamshid Amouzegan that Japan would help the country's five-year development plan. In return Iran would continue oil supplies 'on a stable basis'. (About 40 per cent of Japan's oil consumption comes from Iran.)

Japan's unilateral dealing with the leading member of OPEC, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, has caused an outcry from the US oil 'majors'.

The 'Washington Post' said recently: 'Unless some approach is devised, the likel. hood is an all-out scramble for Middle-East oil resulting ness. Whole chunks of land tons of liquified natural gas in the doubling and redoubling of prices in coming years.'

The State Department's top energy planner, Mr James Akins, went further: 'The bidding is already starting.'

When asked why they refused to join a US-sponsored oil consumers' summit to protect their common interests. a spokesman for Keidanren said:

'All the blame is being put on us. We are not the only people causing a disturbance. While the Americans talk of multilateral plans, they are trying to grab the market for themselves. What we have done is self-protection.'

While launching joint schemes in the Midale East. Japanese big business is stepping up its search for oil in south-east Asia to aimost frantic proportions.

The allotment of exploration licences has been a wildly irresponsible and corrupt busiand sea have been carved up among the highest bidders with Japan, fighting for its economic survival, willing to pay almost any price to search for the liquid gold.

#### **INDONESIA**

Standard Oil Company's 50per-cent-owned affiliate, P. T. Stanvac, has acquired a 2.8 million-acre corridor block in southern Sumatra. The venture, in which three Japanese companies have a 20 per cent interest, is being operated under a production-sharing arrangement with the Indonesian government oil corporation

Two big deposits of natural gas have been found in north Suma'ra by Mobil Oi' Indodesia. The company has estimated it will be able to supply Japan with 5 million

each year.

Five major Japanese firms have expressed interest in joint participation with the oil company in a development project to get the gas from the ground, pipeline it, process it and carry it by special tankers to Japan.

The fleet of tankers alone is expected to cost \$975m.

The country's oil production is currently at 1.2 million barrels a day-most of it going to the fiercely competitive Japanese. Sales are expected to soar over the \$1.000m mark by the end of this year.

There are 48 oil companies looking for oil and gas throughout the archipeligo. This search has already cost \$720m and is expected to consume a further \$500m the next couple of years. The cii hunt is not without costly failures. Mobil recently surrendered 1.1 million acres in the Strait of Malacca after drilling a number of dry wells.

#### THAILAND

Since applications were first made in 1968, nine foreign oil companies have now secured offshore oil exploration rights in the Gulf of Thailand. These vast tracts of sea and swamp have only a gambling chance

of yielding oil. To attract companies to the area the Thai regime reduced royalties from 12.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent. Nevertheless, competition for the lots has been fierce and allegations of bribery have been flung back and forth. Among the higgest ot holders are:

• Union Cil Com, J Thailand, which is negarity :ship with the Souther's Asia Petroleum Exploi. . Com pany. Union Oil sidiary of the Union Oil Conpany of California with headquarters in Los Angeles The

works that refines crude oil imported from Middle East. Far left: Emperor Hirohito—planning goodwill trip to the oil sheikhs

Southeast Asia Petroleum, Union's partner in the concession, is owned by Maruzen Oil, Nippon Mining and Daikyo Oil Company, all of Japan.

Apart from substantial holdings in the gulf, they have some 12.6 million acres on the Korat Plateau. Their first offshore well was inconclusive at 8,000 feet.

Continental Oil Company (CONOCO) of Thailand has a 50-per-cent partnership with Mitsui Oil Exploration Company Limited of Japan. Cumulative expenditure by the joint venture has so far amounted to about \$3.8m.

Amoco Thailand Petroleum Company has a 50-50 partner-ship with Idemitsu Exploration Company, a wholly-owned Iapanese subsidiary. About \$1m has been spent in preliminary surveys; drilling in earnest starts next month.

In the past four years a total of \$1 billion has been spent in the south-east. Asian oil hunt-much of it Japanese. 'Half that amount,' according to oil specialist Andrew Berry of the Singapore branch of the Chase Manhattan Bank, 'was expended on recoverable failures.'

For the fact remains that, despite all the optimistic forecasts and Press headlines, the South-East Asia 'play' has been bitterly disappointing. There were enthusiatic claims that oil production would now be 4 million barrels a day. In fact the figure is less than half this from both on and offshore wells.

A recent United Press International (UPI) survey concluded: 'Oil economists for American banks helping finance the industry see little hope of dramatic new discoveries leading to anything like a doubling of production.'

Says Andrew Berry: 'The boom in offshore oil is over. It's a viable business, but on a select basis.'

Even at full production by the rosiest predictions, southeast Asia can't produce enough oil to ease the reliance of either Japan or the U.S on Middle-East oil.

R. Kenneth Merkey, oil expert for the First National City Bank in Singapore, illustrates the point by citing the fact that single counties in Oklahoma have more oil wells operating than in all southeast Asia combined, and yet the US still can't produce enough oil for its own needs.

The US imports 3.5 million barrels a day now to meet its 15 million barrels a day requirement and by 1980 imports are expected to rise

to 12 million barrels a day. As for Japan, which imports all but a fraction of the 4.2 million barrels a day it consumes, the south-east Asian discoveries have meant only fractionally less reliance on the Middle East.

For example, almost 90 per cent of oil imports came from the Middle East five years ag while today the figure is 84.7 per cent. Although about 15 per cent comes from south east Asia, the realists in the Japanese oil industry frankly admit that there is little chance of this 15 per cent growing significantly larger. Which brings us back to

the strife-torn Middle East . . . The area is rapidly becoming an arsenal of horrific proportions in which war and civil war is only a hair-trigger

It should be remembered that it was the oil and iron boycort imposed by the United States. Britain, Australia and Holland that drove one notion into suicidal world 10-17 1tz 7.51 2 attacked Pard Harbour, China, south-east Malaya, Burma, Sugapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, New Guinea

#### TROTSKYISM AND STALINISM:

# **A FURTHER** LETTER FROM MR MONTY **JOHNSTONE**

Workers Press today prints a further letter from Mr Monty Johnstone of the British Communist Party. (Johnstone's first letter appeared in Workers Press on May 17, and a reply was published on May 22, 23, 24 and 25.) An unrepentant defender of Stalinism—as his letter shows—Johnstone is a hostile opponent of Trotskyism, which in Britain is represented by the Socialist Labour League, a section of the International Committee of the Fourth International.

Nevertheless, we accord him the right to express his views, just as we exercise our right to answer him. This is something the Stalinists have never done. At no time has the 'Morning Star', nor its predecessor the 'Daily Worker', ever extended to Trotskyists the right to answer the stream of lies and abuse poured out on them by Stalinism.

We challenge them to do that now. We challenge the 'Morning Star' to open its pages to a Trotskyist, in the way we have opened ours to Johnstone, the Stalinist.

Your four-part reply to my brief letter (May 17) fails to refute a single one of the facts adduced there to set the record straight. However, not being prepared to admit that you are mistaken on any point, you try to divert the discussion to whole number of other questions, ranging from the Communist Party's opportunist mistakes in 1947 (admitted and corrected in 1948) to the procedure for handling resolutions at Communist Party congresses (on which you exhibit the most lamentable ignorance).

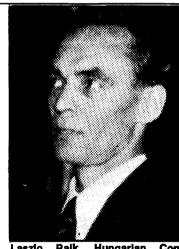
I trust, therefore, that you will allow me to bring your readers' attention back to the points of objective fact that are at issue.

1. Daniel and Sinyavsky and Moscow Trials. You totally ignore my repeated public condemnation of the trial and sentence of these Soviet writers (see the transcript of my statements on BBC television on November 19, 1967). Flying in the face of the record you blandly assert in both text and caption that my 'attempt to dissociate' myself from their imprisonment 'is not only disingenuous, but very uncon-

vincing'! What is really disingenuous is your article's statement that I had confined myself to 'a single oblique reference to the [pre-war Moscow] Trials in an obscure statement', when in fact my Trotsky 'Cogite' devoted a whole section of many hundreds of words to demonstrating why they should be revised.

2. The Rajk Trial. Realizing that your original extraordinary assertion that I still supported this trial cannot be sustained, you state that the 17 years for which I have condemned it as a frame-up 'do not take us further than the official positions of the Communist Parties'.

Not a word of self-criticism, let alone of apology, for having totally distorted my position. Instead we are offered a vulgar and quite un-Marxist play on words to try to convince us that it was not the Hungarian



Rajk, Hungarian Com-who was executed in Laszio munist 1949 after a frame-up trial.

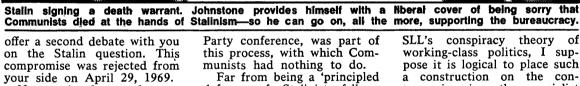
state (admitted to workers' state, although a deformed one) that carried out the judicial murder of Rajk but 'the agents of a new privileged bureaucracy' apparently separate from it!

 $\star$ 3. The 1969 Communist Party Congress. Completely disregarding my assurance that all the Congress delegates from branches calling for a funda-mental analysis of the invasion of Czechoslovakia will testify to the utter falsehood of your anonymous 'inside' report about my alleged efforts to persuade them to withdraw their resolutions, your 'reply' quotes at length from this very report! report!

4. Public debate. Your argumentation makes it abundantly clear that Slaughter's allegation that the Communists would not entertain a public debate with the SLL/YS, which I refuted, was indeed quite mis-

leading.
The YCL explained officially, in the correspondence to which you refer, that it was anxious to hold such a debate on Trotskyism, but could not agree to the title 'Trotskyism and Stalinism' with its implication that we would be defending Stalinism in the same way as the SLL/YS would be defending Trotskyism. In his letter of April 2, 1969,

the YCL national secretary did



Nor was it taken up the next year when, in response to a student socialist society invitation for a Communist-SLL debate, the proposal was put forward from our side for two consecutive debates on Trotskyism and Stalinism respec-

It is not clear from the loose and ambiguous phrasing of your recent article (May 25) whether you are now prepared to agree to two such consecutive debates—or whether you continue to dig your heels in for one debate on the politically unacceptable title of 'Trotskyism and Stalinism', preferring to block the possibility of public confrontation on major political themes.

5. Trotskyists in the Labour Party. It is just not true that the measures against Trotskyists in the Labour Party were 'begun by the British Stalinists ... in 1954' with two articles published then in

News', as is alleged.

A reading of 'Tribune' and 'Socialist Outlook' for 1950 shows that measures were actually being taken already at that time in the Labour Party against Trotskyists and those associated with them in their activities in the Socialist Fellowship (proscribed shortly afterwards) and around the 'Wandsworth programme' for the Labour League of Youth.

My information is that the suspension of the Yiewslev and West Drayton Labour Parties, against which Gerry Healy spoke at the 1950 Labour Party conference, was part of this process, with which Com-munists had nothing to do. Far from being a 'principled

defence of Stalinist fellow-travellers in the Labour Party in 1950', Healy's speech makes it quite clear that it was not to such 'fellow-travellers' that he referred, but to people whose opinions 'may, from time to time, coincide with those of people who are classed as fellow-travellers', but many of whom he pleaded, were 'loyal members of the Labour Party and have nothing whatsoever to do with the Communist Party or any of its organiza-

Such a coincidence of views rotskyists and those dubbed 'fellow - travellers' occurred on the Korean war and the colonies. But here again Healy thought fit to play to the anti-communist gallery (or platform), remonstrating with the Labour imperialist leaders at the same conference: 'It is all very nice saying that we have to fight against Moscow, but by lining up with American imperialism we are handing over the colonial peoples on a plate to Moscow.' (Conference Report, p. 117.)

\* 6. SLL Conspiracy Theory. It would be utterly sterile to follow you into your makebelieve world of communist 'sham fights', 'behind the scenes' manoeuvres and junior 'special agents' (whether aged 14 or 16). This sort of stuff, as you know full well, does not lend itself to normal methods of verification, and serves only to debase and envenom political debate.

If one proceeds from the

SLL's conspiracy theory of working-class politics, I suppose it is logical to place such a construction on the controversies in other socialist organizations and on the activities of their members (though one is left perplexed as to what their motives might

be).

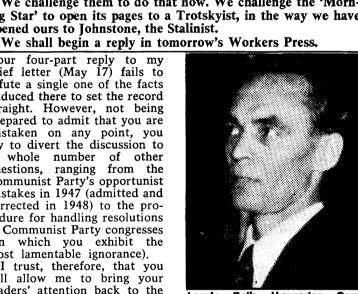
But this method really reaches a new apogee of absurdity, when my attendance at a public SLL lecture on a subject into which I am researching is construed as a 'shady enter-prise' designed 'to provoke a scandal'. When Cliff Slaughter -thanks, no doubt, to super-X-ray eyes effective from Bradford to Poplar, or perhaps 'special agent' in my confidence!—asserts without offering a shred of evidence (and quite wrongly, as it happens) that I was carrying a concealed tape recorder.

(But then, what agent would be complete without one?) And when the whole object of this opaque operation turns out to be . . to enable me 'to produce [my] tape recording as proof that [I] had not disrupted Comrade Kemp's first lecture'!

It is true, happily, that the SLL does not enjoy state power. But its paranoid suspiciousness towards others on the left represents precisely the kind of attitude that went with the vilification and liquidation of so many honest Communists in the Stalin-Vishinsky period.

It would appear that Cliff Slaughter has not broken with the agentomania of that time. He has merely transferred it to other quarters.

Monty Johnstone



# HIGHLAND HISTORY AND THE

PROTEST THEATRE

'The Cheviot, the Stag, and the Black, Black Oil'. By John McGrath. Performed in Scotland by the 7.84 Theatre Company.

The latest fad among the theatre-going intelligentsia of Scotland is this 'Ceilidh play' about Highland history.

It has been performed since early April, reportedly to rapturous receptions, at a conference on 'What Kind of Scotland?' organized by the magazine 'Scottish International' in Edinburgh; in the university towns of Aberdeen and Sterling; at the Scottish National Party conference in Oban; and in various towns and villages in the north and west of Scotland.

To undertake this venture, McGrath formed a Scottish section of the 7.84 Theatre Company, the name of which derives from the fact that 7 per cent of the population owns 84 per cent of the wealth.

'The Cheviot . . . ' is about the Highlands of Scotland since the brutal clearing of men from the land to make way for profitable sheep in the early 19th century, and subsequently for dear-forests to serve the sporting requirements of the Victorian aristocracy.

The play is an uneasy mixture of serious historical and political documentary and satire on the one hand, and music hall jokes and Gaelic sentimentality on the other.

It has some good moments, such as the dialogues between the 'improvers' who ruthlessly carried out the clearances — James Loch and Patrick Sellar; and a song attributed to Lord Polwarth, "I am the Lord of the Oil, Said He."

It uses some excellent documentary material, such as the reply made to the Duke of Sutherland when he visited his depleted estates to recruit fresh forces for the Crimean War: 'Since you have preferred sheep to men, let sheep defend you.'

But its analysis of the relationship between the present and the past is based on an idealist conception, the very opposite of a dialectical grasp

of history.
What is, on the surface, a progressive, anti-capitalist and thoroughly noble play leaves its audiences with nothing but a few good laughs, an opportunity to join in some of the songs, but with the reactionary illusion that 'nothing very edifying can be learnt from

history', which is how Engels described the idealist view of history.

The parallel which the play makes between the Highland clearances and the effects of the so-called oil boom on established patterns of life is unhistorical and abstract.

Marx analysed the 19th-century clearances in 'Capital' and elsewhere as part of his struggle to lay bare the objective laws of development of capitalism as a particular stage in the history of human society.

Fundamental to this analysis was the scientific demonstration of the revolutionary role of the working class.

Starting from the defence of the basic principles and theoretical gains of Marxism against revisionism, as the necessary reflection of, and guide to, the practical struggle to build revolutionary leadership, Lenin developed the Marxist method through his demonstration that capitalism had entered its final, imperialist phase in which the choice is historically posed between fascism and world war, and the proletarian revolution.

The defence of the method of Marx and Lenin by the Trotskyist movement in struggle against Stalinism and revisionism has enabled it to analyse the present situation and understand that what has now occured is the complete break-up of the post-war inflationary boom and the end of all stable class relationships.

This understanding is the essential starting-point for a genuinely progressive—that is, scientific—grasp of any aspect of this present crisis, including those things which the capitalists and reformists are desperately anxious to paint as the 'good sides' of the situation, such as the North Sea oil boom.

But McGrath and his cothinkers seem more concerned to establish their socialist credentials and the sincerity of their intentions rather than to use the theatre and their own talents in the objective struggle for the revolution.

Reference to Brecht cannot conceal the fact that 'The Cheviot . . .', far from challenging the ideological assumptions of the audience, establishes a thoroughly cosy atmosphere in which players and audiences are united not as opposites in conflict, but as a group of individuals who protest about the evils of capitalism without anything really being disturbed.

It is not surprising therefore that, despite the much stressed reference to Scottish capitalists being as much to blame for the ills of the Highlands as English, the play received a standing ovation at the SNP conference.

This conference marked a decisive swing in the direction of a puritan crusade to purify capitalism by dissociating Scotland from what MP Donald Stewart called the 'moral corruption' of England.

Thus McGrath and his associates, despite their socialist intentions, find themselves transformed into an adjunct of a reactionary, bourgeois movement which is striding rapidly in a neo-fascist direction.

direction.

The 'Scottish International' magazine, which organized the conference at which 'The Cheviot . . ' was first performed, is an intellectual forcing-house for this transformation of the 'progressive' middle class into its opposite.

It is the meeting-ground for all writers who will proclaim their good intentions to work for a better Scotland—from liberals, nationalists, Stalinists and revisionists, to Gaelic poets and Catholic priests.

They unite in a common hostility to the Marxist science of the class struggle and to the revolutionary movement of the working class.

A recent number of the magazine (VI, May 5, 1973) made a great point of attacking the analysis in 'Workers Press' of the book by journalist Jack McGill on the UCS

The aspect of the review singled out for the nervous humour of 'Scottish International's' editor was our highlighting of McGill's evidence of the preparations made by the Tories to use the troops in the event of civil war breaking out on the Clyde.

The bringing out of the realities of the crisis in this way is anathema to those sections of the middle class who are rapidly retreating from the real tasks of the present into a reactionary unity with sections of the capitalist class, their agents in the workers' movement, and with the methods of thinking which they encourage.

McGrath's latest attempt to take the theatre 'to the people', for all its noble intentions, belongs to this tendency.

The conception that art can be taken to the oppressed masses by some sort of autonomous process, separated from the struggle for the pro-



John McGrath-latest attempt to take the theatre 'to the people'.

letarian revolution — which was the illusion of playwrights like Arnold Wesker in the period of the boom — today becomes openly reactionary.

To sustain it McGrath, unlike Wesker, has turned not to the working class and the trade union movement, but to the diminutive remnants of the Highland peasantry.

If the Russian Narodniks of the late 19th century had some excuse for their Utopian turn to the peasantry as the force which could bring about socialism, the same cannot be said of Scottish socialists in 1973.

It is no coincidence that much of the research for 'The Cheviot . . ' was done by Ray Burnett, not long ago a leading member of the International Socialism group in Scotland, and proponent of the IS brand of protest politics.

Burnett writes in the programme some reactionary rubbish about the lessons of the land leagues and crofter resistance to the troops sent in to enforce evictions in the 1880s and later.

He implies that a combination of militant resistance by the crofters and parliamentary pressure can save the people of the Highlands from the powerhungry oil moguls of today.

Before taking to the heather with claymore and dirk, the crofters will do well to remember that the same Mr Burnett was four years ago the first member of the IS to welcome British troops to the

Bogside as a 'peace-keeping' force.

Burnett now appears to have retired to the Highlands to preach his unstable blend of adventurism and reformism.

Talented artists like Mc-Grath can contribute to the struggle for socialism only in determined conflict with such people and by devoting their creative abilities to the task of building the revolutionary party.

The 'Pageant of Workers' History' presented by the Socialist Labour League and Young Socialists, at Empire Pool, Wembley, on March 11, was an historic demonstration of the party's need and ability to harness such talent.

A future Scottish version of this pageant will have to include an episode on the clearances because they played a crucial part in the formation of the Scottish working class.

Beginning from the revolutionary requirements of the working class today and from the scientific study of history developed by Marxism, this will make an important contribution to an understanding of the revolutionary traditions of Scottish labour.

It will require artistic talents such as McGrath and the 7.84 company undoubtedly possess.

But it will be done in conflict with the method which is leading them rapidly along those paths of reaction, which are paved with the best of intentions.

#### WORKERS NOTEBOOK

#### **Made where?**

Cotton prints bearing the label 'Made in Israel' may soon be arriving in African countries, as a move by South African capitalists to get around the boycott of their goods.

Mr Benny Weinstein, leading a South African delegation to an economic conference in Jerusalem, told a Press conference that a South African company—which he would not name—was planning to set up a £400,000 textile factory in Israel, which would import raw materials, and export cotton prints to South Africa... and also, to African countries which at present deny access to South African goods.

Israeli Minister of Commerce Haim Barlev said that Israel had reservations about companies being set up there to get around the boycott of South Africa, but he did not think these would apply to the textile plant.

Textile firms were singled out for mention as exploiters of African labour in recent exposés in South Africa.

#### No prizes

We are offering no prizes to readers who identify the authors of the following complaints:

1. The man who said that 'a tiny group of revolutionaries' had set out to destroy him and that a small group of men were working 'night and day to destroy the spirit of cooperation in the college'.

2. 'A group of sociologists within the was prepared to use sociology as a

means of overthrowing the ——and as a training ground for the complete overthrow of society.'

of stockey.

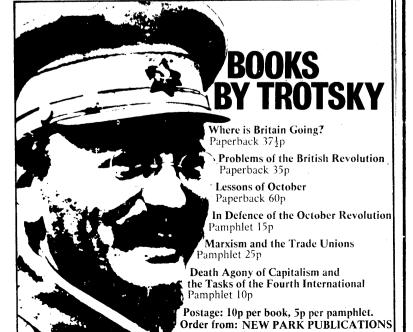
It is a fact of observation that a small, energetic and exceedingly loudmouthed group of students and teachers in the higher educational system is dedicated to undermining and eventually taking over that system.'

4. The man who diagnosed the boycotting of classes and sitins as the work of 'a handful of trouble-makers who sit on the steps in institutions of higher learning waging psychological violence on the overwhelming majority of students'. ANSWERS:

1. Mr John McIntyre, Principal of Peterborough Technical College.

2. Mr Terence Miller, Director of the Polytechnic of North London.

Mr Terence Miller (again).
 Mr George Papadopoulos,
 Prime Minister of Greece.



186a Clapham High Street,

London SW4 7UG

#### TODAY'S TV

#### BBC 1

9.42-11.20 Schools, 11.25 Cricket, England v New Zealand, 1.30 Mr. Benn, 1.45 News, Weather, 1.50 Ar gais carwyn, 2.15 Cricket and racing from Royal Ascot, 4.30 Deputy dawg, 4.35 Jackanory, 4.50 Blue Peter, 5.15 Robinson Crusoe, 5.40 Wombles, 5.45 News, Weather,

#### 6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.55 FILM: 'Girls! Girls! Girls!'. Elvis Presley. Fisherman Elvis loses his girl and his boat.

8.30 BURKE SPECIAL. James

NEWS. Weather. 9.00

WARSHIP. Off Caps. 9.20

10.15. NIGHT MUSIC. McKellar and Roddy McMillan.

10.45 MIDWEEK.

11.30 LATE NIGHT NEWS.

BEFORE THE ARK. Rise of

Weather.

9.30 Schools. 10.00 Children to children. 10.30 At your service. 11.00 Wild life theatre. 11.25 Galloping gourmet. 11.50 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Witches brew. 12.40 First bow. 12.25 Witches brew. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Jokers wild. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Film: 'Madison Avenue'. Eleanor Parker, Dana Andrews, Jeanne Crain. Big business life. 4.25 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 5.20 Wait till your father gets home. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.

6.30 CROSSROADS.

6.55 FILM: 'Sea Wife'. Richard Burton, Joan Collins. Four people are stranded on a small dinghy in the Pacific in 1942.

8.30 THIS WEEK.

9.00 THE WHITEOAKS OF JALNA. 10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 CINEMA.

11.00 SOMETHING TO SAY.

12.00 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

12.15 PERISCOPE.

Subscribe now!

#### BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 4.05 Play school. 4.30 Cricket.

6.40 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather. WILDLIFE SAFARI TO THE ARGENTINE. Tierra Del Fuego.

WORK IS A FOUR-LETTER WORD. Merseyside — 47,000 Unemployed. If the economy catches a cold Merseyside gets pneumonia.

THE SONG OF SONGS. Part

HORIZON. The Telly of To-morrow? Cable TV.

JANE AUSTEN LIVED
HERE. Lord David Cecil visits
Chawton, Hampshire
where Jane Austen
some of her most famous
novels.

11.00 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.

11.30 REAL TIME.

#### **REGIONAL TV**

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Film: 'My Friend Irma'. 4.25 Rainbow country. 4.55 Osmonds. 5.20 Doris Day. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Lucy show. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The Halliday Brand'. 8.30 London. 9.00 Kung Fu. 10.00 London. 11.02 Scotland Yard mysteries. 11.35 Facts are these. 12.00 Actualites et projections. 12.15 Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.30 London. 9.55 Rovers. 10.25 Beyond the pack ice. 10.45 Vision USA. 11.15 Saint. 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.58 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 10.59 News. 12.00 Epilogue.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 10.00 Enchanted house. 10.10 Yoga. 10.35 Dr Simon Locke. 11.00 Danger man. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 Film: Tarzan and the Amazons'. 4.25 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day 6.35 University challenge. 7.05 Doctor in charge. 7.35 Hawaii five-o. 8.30 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Guideline. 11.15 Name of the game. 12.40 Weather.

HARLECH: 9.30-9.57 London. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 Film: 'Go, Man Go'. 4.25 Pretenders. 4.55 Elephant boy. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.05 Film: 'The Green Man'. 8.30 London. 9.00 Persuaders. 10.00 London. 10.30 Secret Mendips. 11.00 Journey to the unknown. 12.00 Weather.

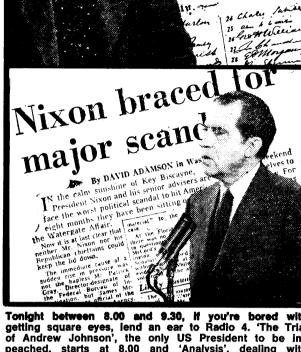
HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.25 Miri mawr. 4.40-4.55 Cantamil. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd.

HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Sport West.

ANGLIA: 11.00 Cartoon, 11.10 Galloping gourmet. 11.35 Shirley's world, 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Let's face it. 3.00 London. 3.25 Show jumping. 4.25 Romper room. 4.50 Houndcats. 5.20 Lucy. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The People'. 8.30 London. 9.00 Longstreet. 10.00 London. 10.30 Glass conscious. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Baron. 12.30 Epilogue.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30-9.57 London. 10.45 Saint. 11.35 Galloping gourmet. 12.00 Guide. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women today. 3.00 Film: 'Tomorrow at Ten'. 4.25 Lost in space. 5.20 Elephant boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.05 Columbo. 8.30 London. 9.00 Streets of San Francisco. 10.00 London. 11.00 Angling. 11.30 Spyforce. Weather.

ULSTER: 12.05 London, 1.00 Indoor league, 1.28 News, 1.30 London, 2.30 Cartoon, 2.40 Romper room, 3.00 Film: 'The Iron Glove', 4.23 News, 4.25 'Primus, 4.50 Joe 90, 5.20



MOLLAND CHICALINA

MAY 16 TH AND 26 TH 1868.

siting as a High Court of Impeach

11th 2nd and 3rd Articles.

President of the

Internal Socretary.

Tonight between 8.00 and 9.30, if you're bored with getting square eyes, lend an ear to Radio 4. 'The Trial of Andrew Johnson', the only US President to be impeached, starts at 8.00 and 'Analysis', dealing with governmental scandals on both sides of the Atlantic, at



Paul Harding plays Renny in Independent's The Whiteoaks of Jaina' at 9.00.

Galloping gourmet. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Doris Day. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Escape in the Sun'. 8.30 London. 9.00 FBI. 10.00 London. 10.30 Assembly platform. 11.30 What's it all about? 11.50 Cinema.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 10.00 Play better tennis. 10.30 Ed Allen time. 10.55 Hammy Hamster. 11.05 Land of the small. 12.05 London. 3.25 Lincolnshire show. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 Houndcats. 5.20 Doris Day. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The World

Was His Jury'. 8.30 London. 9.00 FBI. 10.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Jason King. 12.35

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 9.55
Hammy Hamster. 10.05 Bugs Bunny.
10.05 Film: 'Robinson Crusoe on
Mars'. 12.05 London. 3.00 Film: 'The
Ballad of Andy Crocker. 4.20 Bush
boy. 4.50 Houndcats. 5.10 Nature's
window. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Put it in writing.
6.30 Partridge family. 7.00 Film: 'The
Adventures of Sherlock Holmes'. 8.30
London. 9.00 Hawk. 10.30 London.
11.00 What the papers say. 11.20
Danger man.

TYNE TEES: 9.25 Guilty M'Lud. 9.30 London. 10.00 Play better tennis. 10.30 Ed Allen time. 10.55 Hammy Hamster. 11.05 Land of the small. 12.05 London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Let's face it. 3.00 Film: 'The Magnetic Monster'. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 Stingray. 5.20 F troop. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The World Was His Jury'. 8.30 London. 9.00 FBI. 10.00 London. 10.30 Sports. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 News. 11.50 Man who never was. 12.20 Greatest fights of the century. 12.25 Lectern.

SCOTTISH: 10.55 Galloping gourmet. 11.20 Bellbird. 11.35 Last stand. 12.00 Ba bar. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 3.25 Show jumping. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Film: 'In the Nick'. 8.30 London. 9.00 Department S. 10.00 London. 11.00 Angling. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 Baron.

GRAMPIAN: 11.15 Saint. 12.00 Midday roundup. 12.05 London. 3.00 Film: 'It's That Man Again'. 4.25 London. 5.20 Julia. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Try for ten. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'The Silver Fleet'. 8.30 London. 9.00 Persuaders. 9.55 Police news. 10.00 London. 11.00 Department S. 11.55 Meditation.

FRIDAY SATURDAY

**THURSDAY** 

Full subscription (six days) for .....months. Name .....

Address

Do you get WORKERS PRESS

regularly? If not, why not take

If you want to take Workers Press twice a week the rates

Circulation Dept., Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St.,

WEDNESDAY

out a subscription now?

£20.28 for 12 months (312 issues) £10.14 for 6 months (156 issues)

£5.07 for 3 months (78 issues)

£1.56 for 3 months (24 issues) £6.24 for 12 months (96 issues)

London SW4 7UG.

Days required

(Please tick)

Fill in the form below NOW and send to:

I would like to take out a subscription to Workers Press. MONDAY

Amount enclosed £

NOW AVAILABLE

#### **Fourth** International

A journal of international Marxism published by the International Committee of the Fourth International Spring 1973

Contents include:

Ceylon: The Centrism of Bala Tampoe

By a Ceylon correspondent

April Dictatorship: The Tasks of the Greek Trotskyists .....

> Resolution of the 5th Congress of the Workers International League

Several translations of articles from the German Trotskyist newspaper Der Funke

Italy's New Fascists ..... By Stephen Johns

LENIN AND TROTSKY WRITING ON EUROPE

and six International Committee statements

I would like information about

## THE SOCIALIST

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

Name.	٠.	•		•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•	•	•	•
-------	----	---	--	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	---	---	---	---

Address.....

#### ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

LANCASTER: Thursday June 21. 7.30 p.m. The Trades Hall, Fenton Street, near the Post Office.

MIDDLETON: Thursday, June 21, 7.45 p.m. 'Ring O' Bells'. 'Forward to Belle Vue. Build the Revolutionary Party.'

CORBY: Thursday, June 21, 8 p.m. 'The Corby Candle'. 'Force the Tories to Resign.'

FULHAM: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. 'The Swan', Fulham Broadway. 'Trade unions and the Tory government'.

GOOLE: Thursday, June 21, 8 p.m. The Station Hotel. 'The Revolutionary Party and the Fight against the Tories'.

HOLLOWAY: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. Inflation and the crisis of capitalism'.

KINGSTON: Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Norbiton Hotel, Clifton Road. Force the Tories to resign. Labour must nationalize the major industries'.

LEEDS: Thursday p.m. Peel Hotel, Boar Lane. Defence of Trade Unions and democratic rights. Forward to the ATUA conference.' Speaker: Cliff Slaughter.

HULL: Wednesday, June 27, 8 p.m. Windmill Hotel, Witham. 'Forward to the Belle Vue conference.

LANCASTER: Thursday June 28, 7.30 p.m. The Trades Hall, Fenton Street, near the Post Office.

# Coventry toolroom workers win-

district support

FROM IAN YEATS in Coventry

A SPECIAL recall conference of toolroom and toolroom-related stewards is to be held in Coventry to consider ways of backing 211 GEC, Stoke, men on strike for 12 weeks.

The decision came at a meeting of Coventry AUEW district committee on Tuesday night.



DOUGLAS SADLER, shop steward . Incentive from

The Stoke men had asked the union to mobilize districtwide action in support of their pay claim.

Within hours of the district committee's decision GEC management agreed to meet the strikers for the first time in three months at 10 a.m. today for exploratory discussions.

The toolroom men stopped work three months ago after management refused to pay a £2.88 award at the rate of 1.2p an hour per month instead of a lump sum.

They claim GEC pays them up to £7 a week below the Coventry rate for toolroom workers and that their plan would have given

them an advantage in negotia-tions for next year's pay claim. AUEW shop steward Mr Douglas Sadler told Workers Press: 'GEC has a reputation for being inflexible in negotiations. Their usual attitude is "Here is our first and final offer".

Despite persistent picketing, until recently lorries were getting in and out of the Stoke plant with supplies—not least, the men claim, because the



Toolroom pickets question a van driver entering the GEC Stoke plant in Coventry.

Transport and General Workers' Union has instructed its drivers

Union has instructed its drivers to cross picket lines.

'The T&GWU claims their members are not in dispute with GEC,' said Mr Sadler.

He added: 'We've tightened things up recently. This week we've stopped everything going in and out. Our incentive came from the Chrysler men's blockade at Stoke. ade at Stoke.

'We think GEC are taking a tough line, like all the other employers. It could even be a directive from the Tory govern-ment. It's all part of the state pay laws.'

'Really I don't think workers

can do any good in isolated groups. It's the duty of the TUC to mobilize the labour move-ment against this government and the pay legislation.'

#### SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

#### **Barnsley**

Given by Gerry Healy National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League

Sunday June 24 Dialectical Materialism-a

Marxist theory of knowledge Sunday July 8

Theory and Practice of Marxism

Sunday July 15 Role of the Revolutionary Party

The Red Lion Worsborough **Near Barnsley** 

# No let-up on Perkins picket line

THERE HAS been no let-up in the determination of the 5.700 workers at Perkins Diesels, Peterborough, fight for parity with fellow workers in Coventry.

Picketing is being arranged on a carefully-prepared rota basis and the lines are being respected by lorry drivers.

There has been no further attempt by blacklegs to enter the works. On Monday two men went to work, but they have since changed their minds. But to read the Tory Press you would think 2,000 had gone

Jeff Cain, deputy convenor at Perkins, said yesterday the stewards were always willing to reenter negotiations with the man-

SOCIALIST LABOUR

FROM ALEX MITCHELL in Peterborough

agement. But the talks would have to be 'meaningful'.

'We've been led up the garden path before,' Mr Cain said. 'When we went to London last week we thought there would be meaningful discussions. But it was a fool's errand.'

The work force of the four Perkins plants were locked out by management eight days ago in the climax of a fight for parity with the wages of Massey Ferguson men in Coventry.

Perkins is a subsidiary of Massey Ferguson and most of the Perkins output is supplied to

the giant tractor-making group.
One issue particularly incensing the Perkins men—apart from the refusal of the labour exchange to pay dole money—is the full-page advertisement which Perkins chief, Sir Monty Prichard, took in the local 'Evening Telegraph'.

In the closing paragraph, Prichard says: 'Without a resumption of normal production, employees, the community, our customers and suppliers all suffer for no purpose. The decision to resume normal production con-tinues to rest with the employees and their local representatives.'

This is a colossal misrepresentation of the facts. As Mr Cain points out: 'We are all prepared to work 40 hours. But we have been locked out from normal production by management. What's Prichard talking about?'

Nor is the community 'suffering', as Prichard says. Many trade unionists I spoke to said that they fully supported the 'If they win at Perkins we will all be able to campaign for better wages. Peterborough has been in the backwater for too

Ian Yeats reports from Coventry: More than 300 men have been laid off for the second week at Massey Ferguson, Coventry, be-cause of the lock-out at Perkins

Transport and General Workers' Union shop steward Mr Peter Wooldridge said: 'I think they are taking on Peterborough because they have not put up a fight in the past.

'Next year it will be tougher for us to get something out of this company. Last year we did not accept Measured-Day Work, but the management has said they want it discussed at the next negotiations in April.

'It was not until the 11th hour that they backed down last April and they are getting ready for next year's fight now.

'The Peterborough men are asking us for help, but we can only give them moral support because of our lay-off agree-

#### 7.30 p.m.

Leicester lectures given by Cliff Slaughter

(SLL Central Committee)

The Socialist Revolution in

2. The roots of capitalist crisis: Marxism and the contradictions capitalism. Britain and the world crisis. The state and revolution.

Reformism and revolution in Britain. The fight for democratic rights today means preparing for working-class

Sundays June 24, July 8 Stockingfarm Community Centre, Stockingfarm 7.30 p.m.

#### SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

#### Liverpool

given by Peter Jeffries

Sunday June 24 Trade Unions and political struggle in Britain

Sunday July 8 Chartism, yesterday and today

Sunday July 15 The Revolutionary Party and the British working class

Stanley Halls **Upper Parliament Street** 

3 p.m.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

#### Manchester

given by Peter Jeffries

Sunday June 24 Trade Unions and political struggle in Britain

Sunday July 8 Chartism, yesterday and today

Sunday July 15

The Revolutionary Party and the British working class

at **Black Lion** Blackfriars St/Chapel St near Salford Bus Station

7.30 p.m.

#### LEAGUE MEETING **BLACKBURN**

'The Peel Hotel (Town Centre)

June 25, 8 Monday (Please note date change) 'Build the Revolutionary Party'

> SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE PUBLIC MEETING

> > **Preston**

Friday June 22, 8 p.m.

The Windsor Castle Egan Street

'Build the revolutionary

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office, Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham, High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Newsdesk: 01-720 2000. Circulation: 01-622 7029.

## **Essex Monday Club** defies expulsion

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ESSEX branch of the Monday Club is to defy the expulsion order just passed by the club's national executive committee.

Essex chairman Mr Leonard Lambert declared yesterday the branch would 'carry on as

Lambert was expelled from the national membership of the club a few weeks ago for refusing to withdraw an invitation to National Front chairman Mr John Tyndall to address the

Lambert told branch members: 'We will institute court action if the executive committee attempt to interfere with the running of the Essex branch.' He attacked Mr Jonathan Guinness, the club's chairman, who successfully moved the expulsion of the branch at Tuesday night's meeting.

Lambert said: 'This is the most outrageous form of political chicanery I have ever seen. Before the meeting started I have been told that four new, pro-Guinness members were co-opted onto the executive committee to form a Guinness majority.'

The split between the national leadership and the Essex branch began when the executive asked for a list of the branch members to see if there were any members of the extreme right-wing National

Essex and a number of other branches refused, Lambert said. So far support for Essex has come from North Kent, East Midlands, Yorkshire and Birmingham branches.

Lambert spearheaded the witch-hunt of the Young Socialists' summer camp in Essex last year.

# Trotskyists put on trial

THE PERUVIAN military dictatorship has begun court proceedings against the leaders of the Trotskyist Liga Comunista who were imprisoned at the beginning of last month and savagely tortured.

Latest reports from Peru say that preliminary hearings against José Carlos Ballon and Sergio Barrio took place on June 11 and 12. They were charged with plotting against state security, against the nation, the constitution and the law of the freedom of the Press.

The final charge levelled against them is 'outrage to the nation and patriotic symbols'. These charges are cynical even by the standards of the Peruvian junta, which has confiscated the Liga Comunista's Press, taken away all its basic rights and subjected its members to torture in plain violation of the constitution.

These attacks by the Peruvian military regime have the full approval of the Stalinists. Our picture shows Cuban President Osvaldo Dorticos relaxing in Lima with the Peruvian dictator General Juan Velasco Alvarado during his recent tour of Latin America. Cuban doctors recently amputated Velas-

RESOLUTIONS and letters of protest from working class organizations demanding the release of the Peruvian Trotskyists should be sent to the Peruvian Embassy, 52 Sloane Street, London, SW1.



#### Cowley plant attendants to return

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

THE 80 PLANT attendants who have been on strike for almost three weeks closing all production at British-Leyland plants at Cowley, Oxford, voted by a majority of 13 to return to work on the offer rejected a week ago.

The offer to the men-who were claiming to be upgraded from a semi-skilled to skilled B
—was 2p an hour when legislation permits and a joint investigation into their jobs.

The decisive point of the meeting was the intervention of Reg Birch, the AUEW executive member, who strongly recommended the offer.

He said the AUEW executive had discussed the dispute on Tuesday and would give full support in the future if the pro-posed investigation did not pro-

Birch's appearance at the meeting was a surprise; he travelled from the national conference at Eastbourne to make his intervention.

The dispute had caused the lay-off of some 12,000 workers.

-ATUA MEETINGS-

#### Crisis in the **Motor Industry** COVENTRY

**MONDAY JUNE 25** 7.30 p.m.

**Gosford Park Hotel** St. Georges Rd/ Northfield Rd nr Chrysler (Stoke) plant

#### **BASILDON**

Thursday June 21, 8 p.m. Civil Aid Centre (small hall) **Great Oaks** 

#### **DUNSTABLE**

Sunday, June 24, 10.30 a.m. The United Services Club High Street South

# **Bolton sit-in '85** per cent success'

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS in Manchester

THE OCCUPATION of Hawker Siddelev's Bolton factory ended vesterday with workers claiming an 85 per cent victory after a four-week dispute.

At a mass meeting of 2,000 engineers, who produce missile components, a shop stewards' recommendation to return to work on Monday was accepted with only a handful of votes

The dispute at Hawker Sid-

deley's plant at Lostock, near Bolton, Lancs, concerned a decision by management to put semi-skilled workers into the milling section.

After workers occupied the plant on Monday the firm agreed that the men should operate under the jurisdiction of setters in the milling room.

It will be up to skilled men to make sure they do not do scab work.

The deal is to have a six-month trial run. The factory gates were reopened by cheering workers at 2 p.m. yesterday marking the end of the first prolonged dispute in the factory's 36-year history.

Convenor Dave Jameson said

after the meeting:

'The most important result of this dispute has been the soli-darity shown by the men.

'Sectional grumbles have been forgotten in this fight. This is the first time the factory has got together in this way. We as stewards hope to keep this spirit alive and go forward.'

#### Dangers in Phase Two deal

BIG DANGERS face the workers at Gestetner, Tottenham, following the decision of the shop stewards' com-mittee on Tuesday to argue their pay claim under the Phase Two provisions of the government's pay laws.

This is a reversal of their

previous position of non-recognition of Phase Two.

On May 1 there was a total shut-down as workers followed the call for a one-day strike and there was extreme dissatisfaction with the TUC because everyone knew a one-day strike would not be enough to defeat the govern-

stewards also passed The

Gestetner

resolutions condemning the statements of Hugh Scanlon that the government had won on Phase Two and that he would be prepared to accept pay laws and the Industrial Relations Act with some amendments.

A claim was put in for £5 and other benefits which challenged the pay laws. However, because of the continued collaboration between Feather, Scanlon, Jones and the government, which has resulted in many settlements of £1 plus 4 per cent over the last few months, the works committee have set their course for accepting a Phase Two deal.

Acceptance of the pay laws only strengthens the Tories and management will probably now press home their advantage by attacking the workers in other ways—for example, through the bonus scheme. This will mean speed-up.

The management may also pick on individual shops and seek to isolate them, thus divid-

Last year the work force was reduced by some 350 people. The reason given by the management was the effect of Nixon's economic measures. Gestetner's main overseas customers are in the United States.

The new measures now being prepared by Nixon must hit sales even more.

#### JUNE FUND STILL NEEDS £1,206.13 IN **TEN DAYS**

WE NEED to raise approximately £120 a day from now until the end of June if we are to complete our £1,750 target in time. it certainly is a tough assignment and leaves us not a second to waste.

second to waste.

But we must not fall. Never
before have there been such
opportunities to expand and win
support for Workers Press.
Watergate, Poulson — each
affair shows the enormous crisis

affair shows the enormous crisis within the ruling class.

Use our paper, therefore, to build a revolutionary leadership throughout the working class and show the way forward today. Now is the time to fight —so let's all go into action right away.

Help us immediately change the position for our June Fund. Take special collections at work and where possible try and give something more yourself. Rush every donation to:

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

#### **Day-long** discussion at Chrysler

FROM IAN YEATS IN COVENTRY

CHRYSLER had not changed its demands that no negotiations could take place until the 4,500 Ryton strikers went back to work, the company's UK managing director-designate Mr Donald Lander warned yesterday.

'But we are prepared to discuss a basis for negotiations', he said after leaving summit talks arranged by Coventry's Labour Lord Mayor Mr William Sheridan

after only an hour.

But a strong bid to reach a settlement was clearly being



Donald Lander, Chrysler managing director designate,

made and the two sides went into separate session for the second time at 4.30 p.m.

When the two sides had broken

for lunch, T&GWU district sec-retary Mr William Lapworth revealed that the morning had been spent trying to establish whether Chrysler intended a deliberate provocation by employing contractors to break picket

lines last Monday.
'If they did there is not a cat in hell's chance of getting the men back to work,' he said.

### SCANLON BARRED FROM No 10 TALKS

FROM PAGE 1

Sid Harraway, Stalinist secretary of the Ford convenors' committee, said that the issue was not one of the conference determining the personalities taking part in committee meet-

Eddie Marsden, the secretary of the construction section of the AUEW, and also a Communist Party member, said that he himself had been opposed to going into talks in the first place. But, he added, the mover of the resolution had made clear that the resolution in no way intended to stop the talks.

Jackie Crystal, from Prudhoe, said that when he voted for the motion he would be saying 'talks have got to cease'. He had believed this to be the force of the motion carried at the AUEW engineers' section conference in

Conference then went on to oppose all forms of incomes policy under any government. Speaking after the debate, a

slightly shame-faced Scanlon said: 'I not only disapprove, but am in disagreement with the decision, but my job is to give effect to it.'

He would not say what he thought the likely effect would be on the remaining five of the TUC negotiators with the Tories.

After the debate, Jackie Crystal told Workers Press: 'There shouldn't have been talks in the first place. I felt when we left National Committee in April that there would be no talks, but there were. Now we've taken the right decision—although there was a lot of attempting to avoid

'Some delegates were trying to make it an issue of Scanlon's integrity. Personally I hold Scanlon in very high regard, but I don't go down on a prayer mat. The decision had to be on the principle of whether we talk to the Tories, and I do not think the members I represent want

This development is a great victory for the strength of the working class, shown so vividly in the determined struggles of the Chrysler and Perkins workers against the vicious attacks of management.

It is an important blow against the whole record of collaboration between TUC leaders and the Tory government over the past eight months.

But it is only the first step of many.

The next important stage is the

Transport and General Workers' Union conference next month. Jack Jones, the other 'left' pillar of collaboration with the Tories, must also be instructed to quit the Downing Street talks and take up the light to defend basic rights.

The great anti-Tory rally of trade unionists at Belle Vue, Manchester, on July 1 called by the All Trades Unions Alliance must now become the focal point for developing the movement to end all collaboration with the Tories and instead mobilize a campaign to bring down the Tory government.

The working class should be warned that the struggle against the Tories cannot be left as a paper fight over conference resolutions. The AUEW leader-ship must be made to go into action in defence of basic rights.