

SHREWSBURY 24 TO LEAD BIG PROTEST

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS IN MOLD, FLINTSHIRE

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The accused men will head a march leaving London ten days before the trial starts. They will hold rallies in major industrial centres on the way culminating in a mass protest at Shrewsbury the night before the Crown Court trial opens.

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Workers Press unhesitatingly gives full support to the proposed countrywide march. It will have the effect of mobilizing the greatest possible support in the working class for the accused men.

But this protest must not be used to obscure the central political question in the show trial—the Tory government.

As Arthur Murray said in court at Shrewsbury on June 15, this is 'a dirty political trial'. The Tory government is behind this persecution of workers: it is Tory class justice that is being wielded.

There can be no defence of the basic democratic rights of the working class while this government remains in office.

A major step in the campaign to defend basic rights and to get rid of the Tories will be taken at the national conference of the All-Trades Unions Alliance at Belle Vue, Manchester, this Sunday.

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Carworkers were represented by stewards from the Vauxhall factories at Ellesmere Port and Luton and a delegation from the joint shop stewards' committee at Morris Motors, Cowley, in Oxford.

The Merseyside All Trades Unions Alliance plus a London contingent were present with banners. Political groups on the lobby and march included the International Marxist Group and the International Socialists.

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Mr Justice Gwyn Talbot said: 'I don't suppose you will be influenced in the slightest degree whether there is one policeman or several.'

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and protests from the public gallery.

This is the first comment from the bench of the police dragnet which has been in operation at every stage of this 'political trial' which involves building workers arrested following last year's strike.

Counsel for three of the eight, David Turner-Samuel, QC, protested about the police activity.

'This court is surrounded shoulder-to-shoulder with the police and I don't know what the effect on the jury will be. Certainly it gives the appearance of being under seige.'

TURN TO BACK PAGE



Demonstrators outside the Mold court hearing yesterday.

**Great response
to Belle
Vue rally
Sunday
July 1**

THE BIGGEST and most open discussion ever organized in defence of basic democratic rights will be held at Belle Vue, Manchester, on Sunday from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The All Trades Unions Alliance has called this conference in order that trade unionists from all over Britain can come together to discuss the way forward for the working class in face of the growing dangers from inflation and the anti-union legislation of the Tory government.

Only on the basis of well-worked-out policies can the labour and trade union movement unite to restore the right to free negotiation for wages and to organize in trade unions independently of the dictates of the police and the courts.

The central question that must be dealt with is how to fight the Tory government and how to fight the collaborationist trade union leaders who are trying to do a deal with the Tories at the expense of the working class.

To debate these questions fully, the ATUA has hired the largest arena in the north west

Belle Vue has seating capacity for 5,000.

Shop stewards committees all over the country have been electing delegations to go from their factories, docks, shipyards, mines, and other places of work, in response to the invitation from the ATUA.

Two special trains are going from London direct to Belle Vue station, and another from Southampton and the West Country. Coaches will be travelling from other towns throughout Britain. Trade unionists making their own way to the rally will be welcome.

To facilitate discussion, special sound equipment has been installed in the arena, with 15 different speaking points. Every section of the auditorium will have its own microphone.

As a curtain raiser, a film will be shown in colour of the great Pageant of labour history performed by hundreds of workers and professional actors at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on March 11. Some highly sophisticated machinery will enable the film to be projected simultaneously on two screens so as to overcome the problems of viewing in a circular arena.

After several hours discussion, the rally will end with a specially written satirical cabaret performed by Tom Kempinski, Corin Redgrave, Kika Markham, Matthew Robertson, Mike Cronin, Vanessa Redgrave, Tom Marshall, and Victor Brox of Music Force, who wrote and played much of the music for the Pageant.

The cabaret, written and produced by Roger Smith, Tom Kempinski, and the rest of the company, will take a humorous look at some of the difficulties the Tory government and the ruling class have been running into recently.

Belle Vue will mark a decisive stage in the campaign to transform the Socialist Labour League into the Revolutionary Party through building a new leadership in the labour and trade union movement, to put an end to the abject surrenders to the vicious acts of a weak Tory government, and instead bring forward socialist policies as the only solution to the capitalist crisis.

TICKETS at £1 are still available from 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

BOOK NOW. Or telephone for details. 01-622 7029.

workers press

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● WEDNESDAY JUNE 27, 1973 ● No 1109 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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Levy Betting Board gets a Wiggling

WHO WOULD have thought that the undiscussable would have been discussed in the House of Lords? Yes, her name—sschh, you know who—was mentioned in that most hallowed of chambers on Monday. And it almost caused a riot.

Lord Wigg began it. He asked Lord Carrington, the Defence Secretary and Tory Party chairman, what he had to say about Lord Lambton giving her share tips.

Carrington, a banker by trade, wasn't impressed by Lambton's share-tipping, or so it seemed. He said the one tip Lambton gave her was not related to 'the avionics industry'.

Who thought it had been?

Anyway, this didn't satisfy Wigg. He revealed he had spoken to Lord Lambton, who had said the only company he had recommended to her was Hepworth Ceramics.

The board of Hepworth immediately put out a statement denying any connection with Lambton. I don't know why. It could be a tremendous publicity coup.

'Hepworth Ceramics—the shares that people are falling into bed to buy.'

As far as the rest of their lordships were concerned, Wigg, the former chairman of the Horse Race Betting Levy Board, was flogging a dead horse. Or something.

Lord ('Boofy') Arran jumped to his feet.

'Many people in this country are becoming sick and tired with this continuing witch-hunt. This is persecution and not in keeping with the tradition of fair play.'

Wigg was unhorsed, to coin a phrase. 'Is it proper for the member of any administration to be giving share tips to people like her?' he asked again.

Dear old Dora Gait-skell, the queen of innumerable Labour Party conferences from Blackpool to Brighton pier, couldn't restrain herself.

'Would it not be true to say that any statement made by Mrs Norma Levy would be extremely suspect because she has even brought prostitution into disrepute?'

One only wished

BY ALEX MITCHELL

that Norma herself was in the House as a fully-fledged member — Baroness Levy of Maida Bed — so she could defend herself.

Then it was the turn of Lord Avebury. Heard of him? You probably know him best as Eric Lubbock.

He was 'Mr Orpington' in the 'great Liberal revival' that never happened back in the 1960s.

Lubbock was a bitter opponent of the Lords. He said it should be done away with. Those were heady days. . .

Listen to him now: 'It is deplorable that questions of this kind should be pursued in our House. Would it not be better to drop this whole thing?'

Note the 'our House'. It doesn't take them long to join the club.

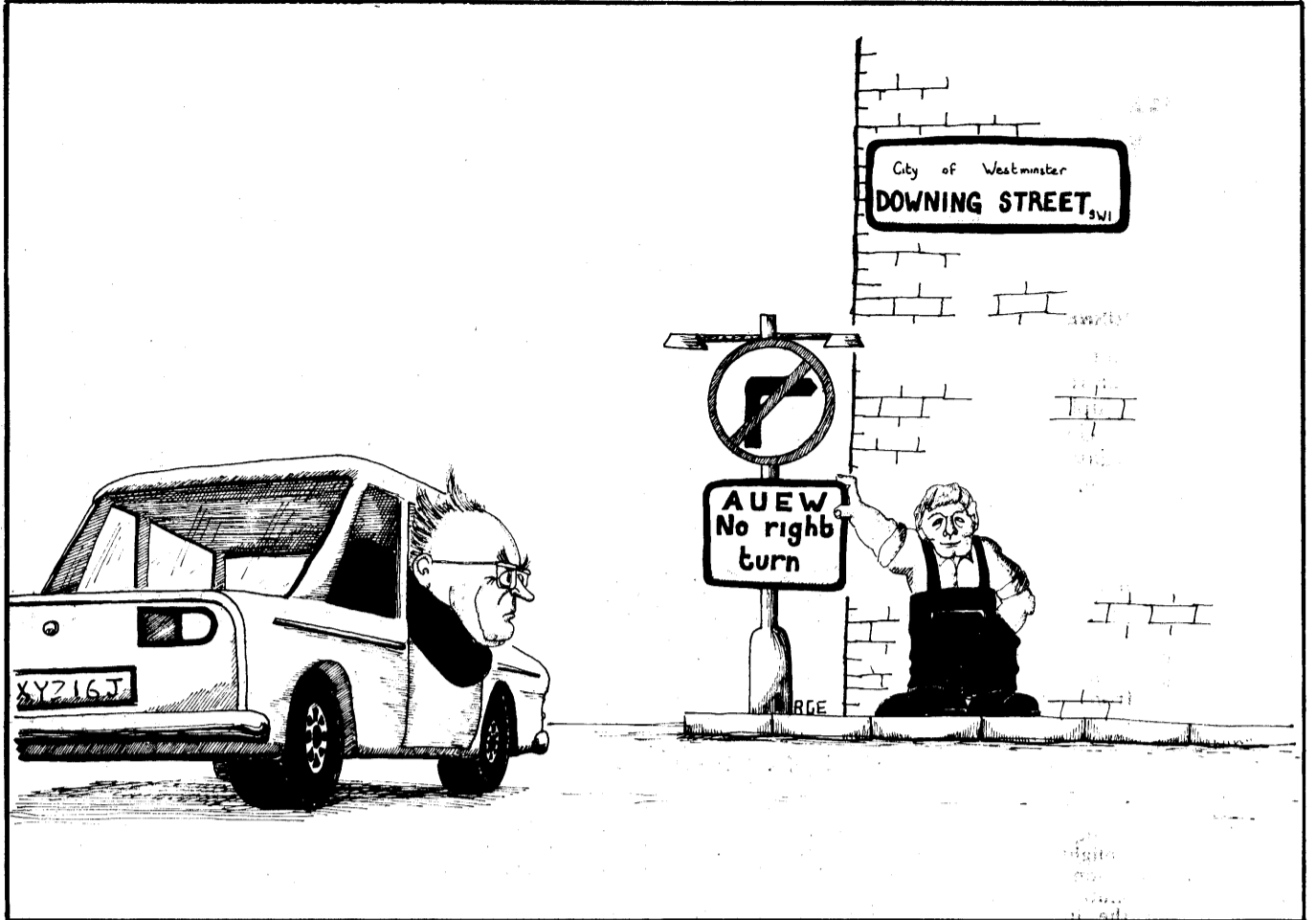


Norma . . . sschh

Wigg was furious. 'I am not satisfied. I shall continue with this or cease to be a member of this House if I am to be gagged by some obscure back-bencher in what I want to say.'

There were mumbles of 'rhubarb, rhubarb' as Wigg, the former head of security in Wilson's government, retreated into a huff.

Which all goes to prove that share tips from a Tory peer are likely to be more troublesome than horse race tips from a that inveterate Labour tipster, George Wigg.



WHAT WE THINK

After the Washington booze-up

THERE is no more direct demonstration of the counter-revolutionary character of world Stalinism than the week of junketing and secret diplomacy which has just ended in Washington.

At a time when the thoroughly corrupt and completely reactionary President is fighting for his political life, he is receiving unstinted backing from the Soviet bureaucracy and the Stalinists everywhere.

They are conspiring with Nixon to try and beautify the rotting features of imperialism and deceive the masses of oppressed people all over the world that a new era of peace has arrived.

The joint communiqué issued after the talks says 'the current process of improvement in the international situation creates new and favourable opportunities for reducing tensions, settling outstanding international issues and creating a permanent structure of peace'.

Nothing could be further from the truth: the capitalist system is in mortal crisis and to survive it must give rise to militarism, war and the most savage attacks on the world working class.

The continuation of the war in Indo-China, where Nixon is defying Congress and the Senate to rain millions of dollars-worth of

bombs on Cambodia and Laos, is positive proof of this situation.

The Soviet bureaucracy has betrayed not only the Indo-Chinese, but also the workers of the United States and the Soviet Union itself.

As the Watergate revelations demonstrate, Nixon is at the centre of a criminal conspiracy against all basic democratic rights.

His administration set out systematically and illegally to form vast network of informers and spies in the labour movement, to corrupt the trade unions and to overthrow governments considered too left-wing, like the Popular Unity of Chile.

Yet some sections of the Stalinist Press in eastern Europe have even proclaimed that there is really no further need to defend the nationalized property relations won by the working class because, if you please, Nixon has agreed to make 'a lasting peace in Europe' his paramount goal.

Not since Stalin signed his treacherous pact with Hitler in 1939 has there been such a concentrated attempt to present an imperialist butcher as a friend of peace.

Brezhnev swilled champagne and hobnobbed with the President and his aides,

with generals, gangsters, film-stars and CIA agents.

He went to absurd lengths to demonstrate his loyalty and support for the Nixon administration.

The Stalinist bureaucracy lives in mortal fear that the working class will forcibly regain the power that has been usurped from it in the USSR and eastern Europe.

It correctly sees working-class strength as the chief danger to its privileges and positions.

It needs American grain to stave off the consequences of chronic agricultural crisis. It needs American capital to try and overcome the failure of its plans for consumer goods production.

In a desperate effort to avoid the consequences of its own disastrous policy, the Brezhnev leadership is opening the USSR to foreign capital on an unprecedented scale, supplying US businessmen with cheap fuel and minerals in return for credits.

The Washington jamboree was a necessary adjunct to all this.

But as Brezhnev flew back to Europe, John Dean began to sing — and even the Stalinist 'Morning Star' had to carry the headline 'Nixon knew about cover-up—Dean'.

The 'Star' even allowed itself a little burst of moral indignation. Dean's evidence, it says, was 'damning' and the Nixon inner circle dis-

played 'a paranoid attitude to power'.

Like Brezhnev, the 'Morning Star' believes that the continued rule of Nixon and his 'paranoid' inner circle is the best guarantee of world peace!

That is why there is not a word of criticism in the entire paper about Brezhnev's visit.

Right next to the lead story under the heading 'We Say', the paper described as 'very important and significant' the agreements between the US and the USSR, 'especially on the prevention of nuclear war which will help improve relations between the two major powers and contribute to the cause of peace'.

The 'Star' said: 'The labour and peace movement in Britain should welcome the outcome of the Soviet-American talks. But it should keep up the pressure both on the British and American governments for peace in Indo-China, an end to Israeli aggression in the Middle East, and an agreement on European security.'

The US imperialists have every reason to be grateful not just to Brezhnev, but also to his satellites and lackeys in the British Communist Party who have become the most servile apologists for world Stalinism.

Americans desert Euro-currency market

BY FOREIGN EDITOR JOHN SPENCER

AMERICAN banks have practically deserted the Euro-currency market, which has been hard-hit by the upheavals of the world monetary system.

By last October, US banks accounted for only 43 per cent of total lending in the Euro-money markets, compared with 56 per cent in July 1969.

The most dramatic effects have been felt in the market for Euro-bonds, which have become a prime source of credit for many large international corporations.

Here the volume of activity in the second quarter of this year has fallen over 30 per cent on the record pace of the first quarter.

For the first time there is not a single United States bank among the top ten managers and

co-managers of Euro-bond issues. According to the Credit Lyonnais there are now only two US banks in the top 25 Euro-bond operators.

Euro-bonds are a special form of share sold to holders of Euro-currency. In the main these are multi-national firms and institutions which have foreign currency holdings outside the control of the countries involved (e.g. Middle East sheikhs with dollar accounts).

Firms which wish to raise funds from the pool of Euro-currency (estimated at more than \$100,000m) can issue interest-bearing bonds in conjunction with a group of banks. The banks then sell the bonds to individual investors or other banks.

The day-to-day operations of the Euro-bond are shrouded in

considerable secrecy, but estimates put out by some of the leading participants show that the market has been extremely hard hit by the successive monetary crises.

The 'International Herald Tribune' says the market has been 'traumatized' by fears that the continuation of floating currency exchange rates will lead the situation to degenerate into a trade war and that runaway inflation is about to engulf the capitalist world.

The paper says: 'The slowing of activity in the bond market is putting many [banking] houses in a profit squeeze and most experts are anticipating a shake-out in which only the largest trading houses will remain in the market.'

The dollar accounts for a

continuous decline of the business in Euro-bonds. Bonds denominated in dollars, paying dollar dividends, are not regarded as a good investment at a time when the dollar is depreciating at breakneck speed.

In the last six months dollars accounted for only 57.3 per cent of total business on the Euro-bond markets, compared with 61.3 per cent a year before and 66 per cent in 1971.

On the other hand, there has been a big rise in issues of Euro-bonds denominated in marks. These have risen in the past two years from 22.9 per cent to 29.5 per cent.

The proportion of American companies raising money on the Euro-bond market has declined even more spectacularly than the participation of American banks.

European borrowers were res-

ponsible for 65 per cent of the business in the last three months, while the US share was down to 14 per cent. In 1972 American borrowers made up 38.2 per cent of all borrowers on the Euro-bond market.

But though market-denominated bonds are in great demand, there is a lengthy waiting list due to stringent exchange restrictions imposed by the Bonn government. The mark is not a viable alternative to the dollar as far as the Euro-bond market is concerned.

The pull-out of the powerful American banks, who were once the mainstay of the Euro-bond market, leaves the European bankers at the centre of the crisis.

The question is how much more punishment can they absorb before one or another of them can no longer meet its obligations?

Confed cannot avoid Phase Three vote

FROM DAVID MAUDE
IN EASTBOURNE

A MOOD of quiet contemplation settled over the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions conference yesterday morning, as delegates were urged to look 'deeper' at the problems facing their members.

Under the influence of CSEU president Jack Higham, the representatives of 3 million engineers and shipyard workers turned their attention away from 'stupid' government economic policies and 'bad' bosses to the 'other issues [that] have brought frustration into the life of the modern worker'.

Higham waxed eloquent on the subject of the blight in the towns, the despoliation of the countryside, the pollution of the environment and the increasing pace of modern life.

All these things, he complained, had 'disturbed the security and stability upon which peaceful conditions can survive and grow'. What was more, takeovers, mergers, redundancies, new techniques, job speed-ups and a general malaise in management did not help to provide an atmosphere of calm in which reason could prevail. When not presiding over the CSEU, Higham, who is an MBE, runs the 6,000-strong, Rotherham-based National Union of Domestic Appliance and General Metal Workers.

But the strange, contemplative note which he tried to introduce into the CSEU conference was not just a whimsical oddity, the meanderings of a small union chief far removed from the burning issues confronting the mass of union members.

It appeared precisely because the issues are so sharp—precisely because, as Hugh Scanlon burst out angrily last week, there can be 'no ambiguity'. Hence the attempt to turn away.

Higham claimed that the hard-line policies of the Tories in industry were 'obvious stupidities'.

Combined with the other problems he had mentioned, he said, they caused unease and dissatisfaction among workers with their style of life.

The unrest would flourish so long as these problems persisted.

The CSEU president's philosophizing, however, will not get union chiefs off the hook in today's debate on the TUC talks with the Tories.

They must decide either to follow the lead of the engineers union and come down in opposition or to back these class-collaborationist discussions to the hilt.

Besides the talks, the conference is today expected to discuss a new approach from the Engineering Employers' Federation for talks on a national procedure agreement for the industry.

The CSEU executive has postponed a decision on the new approach until after the conference debate.

Jones uses prices to excuse attending Phase Three talks

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

THE AVERAGE household's food bill went up by 10.9 per cent during the first quarter of this year compared with the same period in 1972. The average spending on food—excluding sweets and soft drinks—was £2.59 per person per week as against £2.33 a year ago.

During the period wage increases were banned by Phase One or allowed to go up by the derisory amount of £1 plus 4 per cent under Phase Two.

The TUC will shortly embark on Phase Three talks which are expected to cut the Tory pay ceiling.

By slashing workers' wages the Tory government is insisting that the working class pays for the economic crisis. In order that the world of Lonrho, Poulson and Lawson should continue to flourish, the standard of living of workers must be driven down.

MIGHTY BLOW

The TUC is up to its armpits in this conspiracy against the working class. A mighty blow against this class-collaboration was taken last week when engineers' delegates told their president, Hugh Scanlon, that he could not go to Downing Street again to discuss Phase Three.

Now the delegates at the

Food bill up 11 per cent in three months



Jones . . . Prices diversion

Transport and General Workers' Union conference in two weeks' time must follow this lead. Jack Jones must be told too.

On television on Monday night Jones complained about the cost of living and its impact on the pensioners.

'Fresh meat has disappeared from the poor man's table,' he said. But then he went on: 'The

sooner we get down to talking the better. Therefore I'm in favour of talking with the government in order to convince them of our right to negotiate and for collective bargaining.'

Jones obviously hasn't read the Counter-Inflation Act. There is no collective bargaining any more. The Tories have seized powers to arbitrate on wages for the

next two years. You either accept the Tory pay limits or face criminal charges if you defy them.

Jones must be forced to break off talks with Heath and to lead his union in a fight against the Tory government and its pay laws. There can be no return to collective-bargaining, no control on the soaring cost of living, no end to the housing scandal, without this hated government being thrown out of office.

NATIONALIZE

In its place must be elected a Labour government pledged to the repeal of all anti-working-class legislation and the nationalization of banks and basic industries without compensation and under workers' control.

FOOTNOTE:

The Prices Commission yesterday announced sweeping increases in the prices of chocolate and cream biscuits, cooked meats made by the Walls group and margarine. The average increase is about 7 per cent. This is the third time since the pay laws started that cooked meats have risen in price.

Cavenham has reported a record profit of £22.5m in the year to March 31. This compares with a profit of £5.2m a year ago.

Cavenham, run by multi-millionaire Jimmy Goldsmith, is Britain's largest retailing group. It controls the following outlets: Maypoles, Home and Colonial, Liptons and Moores. Total turnover last year was £269m.

Right wingers likely to ignore conference decision

Registration still on Equity's agenda

By Royston Bull

A MAJOR split among the reformist leaders of Equity, the actors' union shows how deep is the crisis in the industry.

The union's annual conference was treated to the astonishing spectacle of Marius Goring, the darling of the right wing, accusing another pillar of the establishment, Hugh Manning, of joining forces with the Trotskyists.

On the surface, the split is about deregistration. The old guard want to stay on the Tory register of state-controlled unions set up under the Industrial Relations Act.

Other elements on the outgoing General Council finally wavered last week after growing attacks from the left wing in the union and voted by 12-11 to change Equity's policy.

The reasons offered, read out by Gerald Croasdel, general secretary, who personally opposed the change, were that the union's effectiveness depended on its remaining within the broad trade union movement.

Therefore, to remain on the register in defiance of the TUC's policy, which led to Equity's expulsion, was wrong in basic principle and ultimately detrimental to the members' interests.

But behind the belated acceptance of TUC policy by these reformists, stands the enormous effect of working-class strength on every aspect of political life in Britain.

The determination of the mass movement to defy Tory government policies—in cases like the miners' strike, the five jailed dockers, the railwaymen's and building workers' disputes, and the hospital workers' strike—has left a deep imprint.

The betrayals of the TUC bureaucrats, who were called on to collaborate with the Tories precisely because of working-class resistance to government policies, has not succeeded in heading off the growing opposition to the effects of the capitalist crisis.

The Midlands carworkers' reversal of management attacks and the AUEW delegates' vote to bar Hugh Scanlon from Downing Street have shown that the fight is only just beginning.

In this atmosphere, the predominantly middle-class membership of Equity begins to identify with the strength of the working class as a solution to their problems.



The platform at the Equity conference

Some sections of the union leadership have moved with them. Others are simply trying a new tactic of heading off the movement for change by apparently supporting it.

But the fight for de-registration is far from over. The right wing will go all out to reverse the last Council decision and ignore the 198-102 vote of annual conference to de-register. Some of the 'reformed' reformists will join them.

Their likeliest ploy is a new referendum, but the right wing may even decide to block that, their own chosen tactic, and argue that Council and conference have acted unconstitutionally and that the previous referendum result still stands.

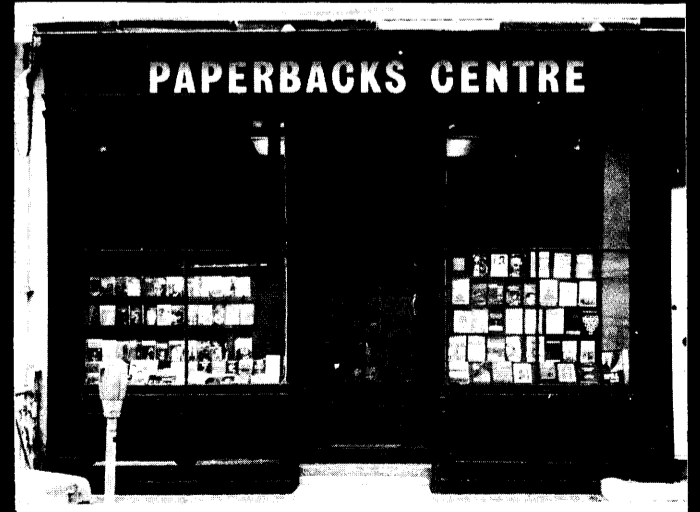
Goring warned conference that 'the new Council will honour the pledges given to the membership and will not be dictated to by a puerile faction'—meaning that Equity would stay registered and conference be ignored.

The left, which is growing in influence all the time, must be prepared for a stiff battle ahead.

Socialist Labour League and International Marxist Group
JOINT MEETING
Defend Basic Democratic Rights Support Shrewsbury 24
FRIDAY JULY 6, 8 p.m.
Acton Town Hall High Street, Acton
Collection will be made for Shrewsbury 24
Speakers:
DAVE JACKSON (Chairman Shrewsbury Defence Committee)
BOB PENNINGTON (IMG)
GERRY HEALY (SLL)

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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. ☛



'At the time of the dockers' jailing . . . there should have been a straight call for a General Strike.' In fact it was only the Socialist Labour League that issued such a call.

Brian Robinson is a shop steward at a Manchester rubber and chemical firm. He first became an active trade unionist when he began a battle at the factory to improve wages and conditions. Management still do not fully recognize the union.

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

You obviously have to get rid of one to get rid of the other. I don't think they will be modified at all. If they are changed after Phase Two comes to an end it will be towards the Tory side.

I don't think Phase Three will be any easier at all. They will be modified to improve the position of profits and not of wages.

I saw Campbell Adamson on the 'Money at Work' programme with a couple of trade union leaders. He was quite adamant; wages, must be held back, while prices and profits rise because of the need for more investment.

To my mind this is completely wrong. The best part of the profit goes in dividends anyway, not true investment. There is no possible reason why the working man should accept this kind of situation.

The pay freeze has obviously had a powerful impact on the conditions most people live under. The prices going up at such a fierce rate have meant a declining standard of living.

In our plant negotiations have always been carried on by a joint committee with two trade unionists sitting on it with the employers.

But they are in a minority and therefore it is almost impossible to get a solution in favour of the workers. I think this government want to spread this kind of system throughout industry.

What do you think of the way the TUC leaders have been collaborating

with the Tory government over the state pay laws?

At first the leaders seemed to be against the Tory policy. But they always seem to back down. There seems to be a pattern to it. They will make all kind of statements about how wrong it is, but then go ahead and talk with the government. When it comes to the point of action, they do nothing. It's almost deliberate.

I think the trade union leaders could have taken a stand. If the situation had been put over to their members there would have been a great response.

Instead they stood aside and watched the hospital workers get defeated and driven back to work. This proves how serious they are about defending the membership.

After this the rest followed. It happened very quickly. There were all these blash, fighting statements from the union leaders about support and solidarity, then one night you came home and it was all over—the freeze had succeeded. There was just a total lack of leadership.

What do you think of the role of so-called left-wing TUC members like Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon in the talks?

I think that Jones should be kicked out of the talks as well. It seems farcical he should remain after Scanlon has been forced to come out. There should be solidarity on this issue of opposition to the government policy now. If this was done I think a great deal of the ground we have lost could be recovered.

What experience have you had that makes you believe getting rid of the Tory government is an urgent task?

The Industrial Relations Act had a big impact on me. This should definitely go. The Labour government were the first to try and introduce

something like this, but they just could not do it.

The classic case of triumph and failure was the dockers last year. This was a golden opportunity for the trades unions to do something about the government. They had the Act virtually in pieces, but there was no follow up at all.

But the Tories have gone from strength to strength. It was because they were not defeated at the time of the incident with the dockers that they brought in Phase One and now Phase Two.

So far most of the struggles organized by the leadership have been protests, one-day strikes, etc. Do you think this is enough?

I think this kind of struggle is a waste of time. If there was greater solidarity about it and not just a few coming out, they might have a more serious impact. But it's hard to get men out on the basis of a one-day stoppage.

At the time of the dockers' jailing and also with the miners there should have been a straight call for a General Strike. But I think the TUC leaders are frightened of this kind of situation, so they did their best to cool things down.

Why do you think the Belle Vue rally of trade unionists is important?

I am very interested in this rally. The Transport and General Workers' Union organized a conference on Vietnam and I decided to go. But they only got about 25 people interested in it, so they cancelled it.

I have heard about the SLL-YS rally in Empire Pool, Wembley. That sounded very impressive and it's made me interested in the nature of the movement.

I think the main aim should be to fetch out the solidarity among the working class. There are many different unions and groups of workers in different industries, but they need a common policy if they are going to defend themselves against the Tories.





At first you had the big demonstrations and the speeches against the Industrial Relations Bill. They came and went and the TUC ended up co-operating with the Court. You had the same performance with the pay laws—emergency conferences and more words. But it meant nothing in the end. They are back around the table. This is a betrayal of our interests.

Now Scanlon has been pulled out of the talks. But withdrawing in itself does not mean the slightest difference. Scanlon and the people who pulled him out now have to back this up with some action.

It will make no difference unless they start now and put up a fight.

But I don't think these men will fight. Their record proves it. I think they are afraid of the working class. If a revolutionary move occurs in the rank and file, it won't only mean the end of capitalism, but it will mean the end of the compromisers and collaborators as well.

What experiences have you had which make you believe that getting rid of the Tory government is now an urgent task?

I have never needed convincing about the Tories. I always knew that we were exploited. You see the millionaires and the way they live and at the same time see the working class and old people struggling.

You hear about how we have to sacrifice for the nation, then the next day comes Lonrho and men getting £100,000 just for redundancy money.

I myself have felt it. The rise in the cost of living is shocking. I have to buy my own work clothing, boots and tools, when this is done and all the other expenses connected with work are paid for, I have hardly anything left. I have been trying to save up for my holidays, but I can't. It's impossible.

But the thing that really clinched it I think was reading the Workers Press. We bought it in a pub and it seemed to be on the right lines—the lines we were thinking along. So we wrote off to join. Since then the YS and the meetings have made us more certain.

What do you think about the Communist Party? They protect people like Jones and Scanlon and describe them as lefts.

There was a time when we were very interested in the Communist Party. One of my mates even applied when he got one of their election leaflets, but he got no reply.

But I think that they are a parliamentary party now. That's what they appear to me. I was very suspicious of their role at UCS. The work-in was not a success and it was their tactics which led to it.

Why do you think the ATUA rally at Belle Vue is important?

It will be very good if they can bring thousands of trade unionists together. I think out of this you will get the movement the working class needs.

From this conference I think you can get a lot of people genuinely interested in the SLL. The conference will also show people that it is possible to build this movement, that there are lots of other people who are interested in politics who want to do it.

I think the young workers will play a very important role in this. They are going to be the leaders of the future.

I think it's vital we get gangs in the movement like the skinheads. They are only expressing their dissatisfaction against the capitalist system, but if they are not brought into the movement they can easily become involved with fascism, which is very dangerous.

John Wilson (16) is an apprentice plumber from Stockport. He earns £10 a week. The sharp decline in his own standard of living and the grave dangers facing the trade union movement are the two influences that decided him to join the Young Socialists and come to Belle Vue with his brother Dave.

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

I don't think you can get rid of the state pay laws without getting rid of the Tory government. The first thing to realize about this Tory government and all Tory governments is that they represent the capitalist class, the big employers, like the millionaire who comes up to us when we are building his house and gives us a bottle of beer.

A few cheap gifts are OK, but the rich put their foot down at a decent wage—and they do nothing to earn most of their wealth.

The Tories act for these people and to survive the capitalists have to hit out at trade unions and push down the wages of the working class. That's the basic reason behind the state pay laws. To shift them, you have to shift the



John (left) with his brother, Dave. Above: Jimmy Reid on the platform with trade union chiefs Scanlon and Feather. Says John. 'I was very suspicious of the role [of the Communist Party] at UCS. The work-in was not a success and it was their tactics which led to it.'

government that works for the capitalists.

So far the trade union leadership has kept the fight back against the Tories to the level of protest, one-day strikes, and so on. Do you think these are adequate?

We have to recognize that the one-day strikes did nothing at all. They merit a few lines in the Press, some publicity. The Tories just grit their teeth and keep on going at the working class. And a lot of workers realize they are a useless protest.

A lot of people talk about the apathy of workers. Well this does not just appear out of nowhere, it has a cause. One is the fact that they can't see any worthwhile men at the top to lead them into battle. The other is the demoralizing effect of protests that go up a blind alley. A General Strike is the only answer. This should have been called long ago against this government.

What do you think of the way the Labour and trade union leaders have collaborated with the government? Do they want to get the Tories out?

How can the TUC claim to be representing the working class when they are in league with the government talking about the economy? This is nothing but the action of traitors.

Far from the boardroom

DEATH AND DISEASE FACES THE WORKERS

'We got him to the settee and the perspiration was running off him. I had a terrible night on the Monday. He was beating his pillow, the pain was so awful. Wednesday night he couldn't even hold a cup of tea. Later when we phoned the doctor again that Tom was losing the use of his arms and legs the doctor said: "We'll have to get him to hospital." But Tom died. He died on the floor. He didn't die on the bed because he couldn't breathe if he laid down.'

(Durham miner's widow describing her husband's death. 'Sunday Times', April 29, 1973)

'My father died of it. He spent the last six years of his life in hospital, sitting up in bed day and night because if he lay down he couldn't breathe.'

(Welsh miner's wife)

Pneumoconiosis — the dust disease which affects 40,000 miners — is incurable. One man dies from its effects every day, after suffering years of intermittent pain and increasing disability—the equivalent of a Lofthouse colliery disaster each week without the newspaper headlines.

Those, at least, are the official figures. The National Union of Mineworkers claims they should be much higher.

But miners are not the only workers who are maimed, crippled and murdered by the conditions under which they have to work. The drive for profits and the insatiable greed of the employers destroy the health and lives of thousands of men and women year after year.

As the Chief Inspector of Factories put it in his latest annual report: 'Perhaps the greatest obstacle in the way of further improvement is the sheer indifference of some companies to the safety of their workers.'

This carnage is a regular part of the daily life of capitalism. If all the victims were lined up against a wall and shot by an employers' firing squad, there would be a violent outcry. But unless there is a sudden terrible disaster such as at Lofthouse, little is heard in the Tory Press about the human sacrifices which industry demands from the working class.

In fact, workers get less regard than the machinery which, after all, is expensive to replace.

It has only been the determined struggle of the working class through its trade unions which has forced the establishment of minimum safety regulations in many industries. That these are still totally inadequate is obvious from even the official statistics.

Modern industrial practices, far from improving safety conditions for the working class, are in fact increasing the incidence of disease, disability, injury and death.

For every dangerous substance or practice which is outlawed (such as the use of B-naphthylamine to harden tyre rubber which resulted in bladder cancer in every single one of the workers engaged in its distillation) new chemicals and machines are brought into use, often without any real tests to determine their effects on the men and women who have to use them.

New coal-cutting machines, by cutting faster and finer, are in fact increasing the amount of dust in the mines and, as a result, the number of new cases of pneumoconiosis. This may well be the reason why the Tory government set up a committee of inquiry which has recently reported that the disease is not totally disabling and that not all the deaths attributed to it can definitely be laid at the door of pneumoconiosis. It has recommended that the disablement pensions now paid to men with less than 50 per cent of their lungs affected should be stopped.

The National Union of Mineworkers is preparing to fight a bitter battle against these reactionary recommendations.

It is not only miners who face the dangers of dust, though. Lungs can be just as badly affected by dust from wood, grain, asbestos, pottery clay, cotton, and metal workings especially where beryllium and cobalt are used in metal alloys. In 1971 alone, 2,612 new cases of fibrosis of the lungs were reported in England, Scotland and Wales, caused by exposure to dust at work.

There is also considerable danger of explosion and fire where dust is allowed to float in the atmosphere without proper control.

Fears have often been expressed about the risks of storing dangerous substances in old buildings without adequate safety precautions being taken. Oxygen cylinders, various chemicals and toxic substances, acids, highly-inflammable foamed plastics and radioactive materials are frequently kept in large quantities with little thought for the lives of the workers or people living in the vicinity.

Asbestos is still used in



Above: death in the mines. Rescue workers at Lofthouse colliery, March 1973, when seven men died. Right (top to bottom) Dermatitis of the hand, leaving swollen fingers and ulcerated thumb, caused by a dye in fur processing.

many processes, particularly in heating and insulation, although it is now well known that exposure to even small quantities can, and frequently does, cause asbestosis, leading to a slow and horrible death as long as 20 years later.

Even where its use has been stopped, men demolishing old buildings still face dangers from the release of asbestos dust, although protective clothing or breathing apparatuses are rarely if ever provided.

Radioactivity is a fairly new hazard in industry. There have been many protests about the possibility of leaks which might affect the public, but among workers actually engaged in handling the dangerous substances the number of reported cases of over-exposure shot up from 76 in 1969 to 136 in 1971, although not all the symptoms were conclusively proved to be related to radiation.

X-rays and other radioactive sources are used for a variety of purposes today, besides hospital work, and often the safety conditions and training given to those who have to handle them is rudimentary.

In one particularly horrible case a 23-year-old assistant radiographer who tested for cracks in gas pipelines was affected. His work consisted of using radioactive isotopes, encased in a sealed lead box, to emit gamma rays which can pick up flaws in the pipes.

One evening after work he put the lead box on the back seat of his car as usual and began to drive home. He had been issued with a box on which the usual padlock was missing and had been replaced with a piece of twisted wire.

On the way the car broke down and it was three hours before help came and he was able to continue his journey. When he got home he found to his horror that the wire had broken, the lid of the box had sprung open and he had been unknowingly receiving the full effects of the gamma rays without any protection.

He went to the doctor next day who took a blood count, but everything seemed normal.

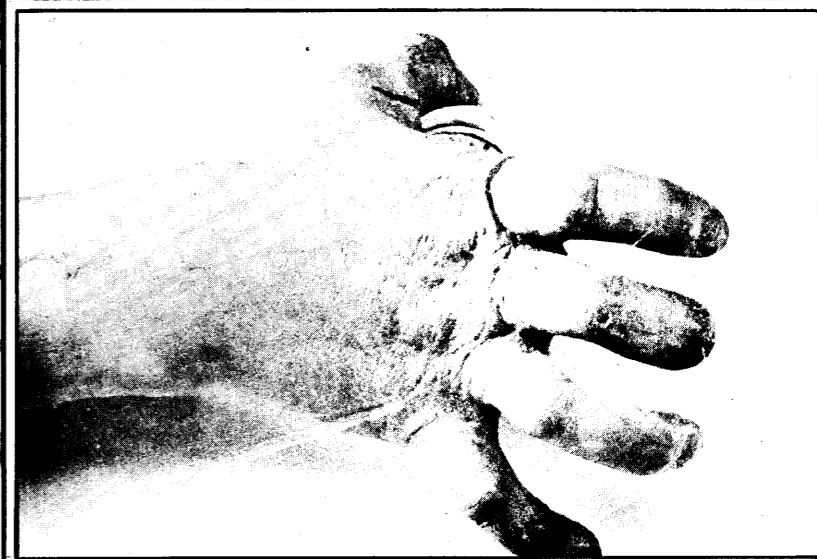
It was two weeks before the first signs of radiation exposure began to show. A blister appeared on his chest which became increasingly

painful. It was over two months later that doctors were able to confirm the diagnosis. By that time his ribs had begun to crumble.

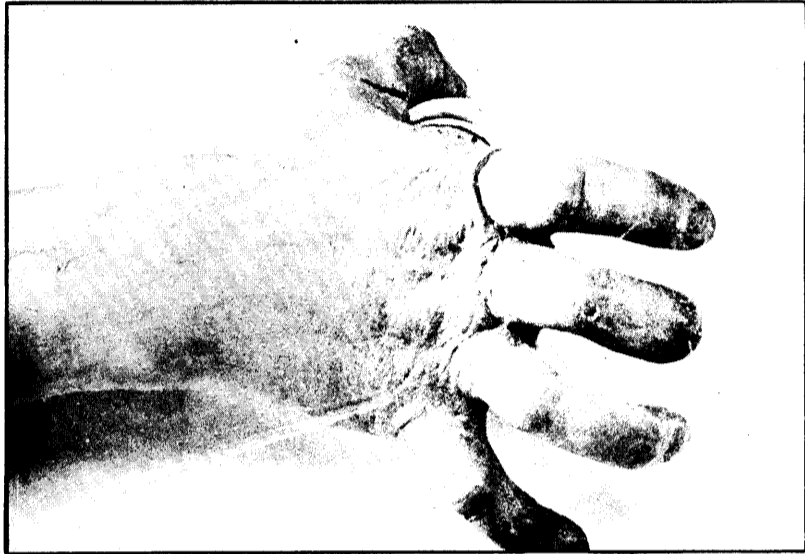
He has since had several major operations to remove dead tissue from around his heart and plastic surgery to replace the burnt skin on his chest and back. He now weighs only nine stone and is almost certainly sterile. Doctors will not hazard a guess as to how much longer he is likely to live.

Since he came out of hospital he has been unable to work. In any case, anything involving mixing with other people is extremely dangerous. There are no ribs left covering his heart, which can be seen throbbing under his chest like the pulse in a toad's throat. Even the slightest accidental nudge could damage his heart and kill him.

Doctors have for some time been expressing fears about the carcinogenic (cancer-forming) effects of pitch, tar and mineral oils. The first two are known to cause various types of skin tumours. Mineral oils, widely used for lubricating machines, can be responsible for cancer of the genitals. Men



Above: death in the mines. Rescue workers at Lofthouse colliery, March 1973, when seven men died. Right (top to bottom): Industrial diseases. Acne on neck caused by contact with wool. Deformed hand due to lead poisoning, which can eventually lead to death. Dermatitis of the hand, leaving swollen fingers and ulcerated thumb, caused by a dye in fur processing.



Light (top to bottom): Industrial diseases. Acne on neck caused by contact with wool. Deformed hand due to lead poisoning, which can eventually lead to death.

But they all require money. And at a time when the employers are striving to save their disintegrating profit system at the expense of the working class, there is no possibility at all of their agreeing to such expenditure just to save human lives.

It is against this background that the Socialist Medical Association (SMA) has produced a pamphlet entitled 'The Development of Occupational Health Services' as a discussion paper for the formulation of a future policy on the Health and Social Services for the Labour Party.

Out of the 22 million people employed in Britain, only 2 million are covered by full-time doctors at their places of work. A further 3 million get part-time medical coverage. These are mainly restricted to the largest companies.

Such medical attention, however, is almost entirely confined to patching up bodies after injury or illness has occurred.

It is no accident that when the Labour government set up the National Health Service in 1948, in spite of demands from bodies such as the SMA and the trade unions, they specifically excluded an occupational health service.

To include it would be to challenge the very basis of capitalist production methods, to declare that workers' lives must not be placed in jeopardy in order that the employers can make their money unhindered and that industry must be run for the benefit of the majority of mankind and not just for the profits of the few.

In other words, the establishment of such a service requires the expropriation of industry and its organization along socialist lines.

The SMA, tied as it is to the reformism of the Labour Party, cannot make this point. Their pamphlet remains nothing more than so many words—interesting from the point of view of how such a scheme could be organized in a socialist society, but totally meaningless in the face of the reality of the class relations under capitalism and the deepening of the world crisis.

The Tories, who are busy planning to destroy even the limited gains of the existing National Health Service, will certainly not extend it to cover occupational health. They have, in fact, just defeated a proposal from the Labour Opposition along those lines.

And the Labour Party, which refused to set up such a scheme in the post-war boom period of the 1940s, will be helpless to oppose the employers as long as it accepts the leadership which openly and contemptuously declares that it will veto any decision to nationalize the major companies.

What is required to satisfy even such a simple demand as proper safety conditions at work is an all-out struggle to defend the trade unions and their gains from the attacks of the employers and their Tory government; to create the industrial and political conditions to force the Tories to resign; to drive out the Tory-collaborators from the leadership of the Labour and trade union movement and return a Labour government which must be pledged to socialist policies, including the nationalization of industry without compensation and under workers' control.

Above all, it means transforming the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party to lead the working class to taking power. Only then can industry be taken out of the ruthless and irresponsible hands of the employers and the working class be able to control its own conditions of work and enjoy the full benefits of its produce.

who have to lean over machines in order to clean and oil them are particularly at risk.

In recent years doctors have begun to organize conferences on industrial stress. It is now recognized that men who work on fast-moving assembly belts can be driven to the edge of madness by the never-ending, relentless monotony of the work. Nervous breakdowns are not infrequent.

In fact, more working days are lost through illness due to industrial stress than through strikes.

Noise is also now being regarded as an industrial hazard. The Chief Inspector's report estimates that some 500,000 workers are exposed to noise levels which could lead to either serious loss of hearing or even total deafness.

In many cases the dangers extend far beyond the confines of the factory or workplace involved to include people living in the area. Recently there was wide Press coverage when a number of children living in south London were found to have levels of lead in their blood in excess of the usual safety margins. The cause was

traced to a local factory where the safety precautions were completely inadequate.

Lead poisoning, which increased from 70 notified cases in 1970 to 123 in 1971, brings on severe abdominal pains, nausea, vomiting, constipation, headaches, loss of weight, liver damage and, if not halted, eventually to death. In young children it can impair the development of the brain and lead to possibly permanent brain damage.

Deepsea fishermen face the greatest dangers of all. In 'normal' times they stand 17 times more risk of death and injury than any other section of workers. Their lives are now being further endangered by being placed in the front line of the 'cod war'.

Agricultural and forestry workers are not only among the lowest-paid workers in the country, they also have more than their fair share of disabling or fatal accidents. They are, at the same time, exposed to the dangers of the toxic and allergic effects of chemical fertilizers and the risks of handling hormone foodstuffs for fattening animals which can cause impotence.

Building workers are not far behind. The building boom, the consequence of property speculation and rocketing property prices, and the use of 'lump' (non-union) labour, have pushed up the accident rates enormously.

Big profits are made by the contractors but, as the Factory Inspector's report states: 'The price for this during the last ten years is the lives of 159 men killed in excavation collapses. This means that part of our industrial activity is being conducted on the wholly unacceptable basis that 15 men will meet their deaths each year by being buried alive in circumstances which should never occur.'

'Wholly unacceptable' to whom? To the men and their families, but certainly not to the building contractors who drive them to working faster and harder in order to maximize profits.

Men fall from hastily-erected scaffolding. Buildings and bridges collapse. One of the biggest killers on the sites is attempting to start up dumper trucks on cold mornings when there is a tendency for the machine to jerk for-

ward unexpectedly. A modified engine would easily stop that one.

This is only a small sample of the dangers which millions of working men and women face day after day. And very few of these accidents and diseases need happen.

Simple safety precautions could eliminate the major part of the risks. Properly constructed buildings with adequate ventilation systems and fire precautions can easily cope with most of the problems of dust diseases, fire and storage.

Face masks, protective clothing, careful laundering of working clothes to remove harmful substances, proper washing and shower facilities at work—simple measures which could save the lives of thousands of people.

The development of non-carcinogenic lubricating oils, of more machines to handle the more dangerous substances; careful training programmes; stringent safety measures and regular medical tests for workers engaged in the use of substances such as radioactive materials—all perfectly possible and easy to carry out.

MONTY JOHNSTONE: 'LIBERAL' APOLOGIST FOR STALINIST BUREAUCRACY

Trotskyism and Stalinism: A Stalinist Agent Exposed. Part five of a reply by Cliff Slaughter to a letter from Mr Monty Johnstone.

We now turn to the question of a public debate between the Socialist Labour League and the Communist Party. As we have shown in previous articles, the Stalinists would not agree to the terms of a debate which focused on the main question: the meaning of Trotskyism and Stalinism politically.

Johnstone implies in his latest reply that we are preparing to 'dig our heels in' on a title unacceptable to the CP, 'preferring to block the possibility of public confrontation on major political themes'.

Johnstone says that the YCL national secretary on April 2, 1969, offered a second debate 'on the Stalin question' and that he favours 'a public confrontation on major political issues'. Presumably, therefore, he would welcome the letter sent on Monday June 4, 1973, by the London Area Committee of the SLL to the Communist Party Secretary John Gollan: 'Dear Comrade,

In view of the considerable interest in the political differences between the Socialist Labour League and the Communist Party, the London Area Committee of the Socialist Labour League invites a representative of the Communist Party to debate. "That the policies of the British Communist Party are derived from the policies of Stalinism". Awaiting your reply, Yours fraternally
Sheila Torrance
London Area Secretary of the SLL'

Now, the objection to our earlier proposed title 'Stalinism and Trotskyism' was that it implied Communist Party commitment to Stalin and Stalinism just as we are certainly and proudly committed to Trotsky and Trotskyism.

Any grounds for this objection in the heads of the CP leadership is removed by our latest proposal. It would give them the opportunity to argue that their policies are not Stalinist and to attack the Trotskyist case. But how did the Communist Party respond? Here is its reply.

Dear Sheila Torrance,
Your letter addressed to John Gollan regarding a debate between representatives of our two organizations has been passed to me.

We see no point in having such a debate.

Yours fraternally,
Gerry Cohen
District Secretary'

It is now clear and indisputable who wants a 'public confrontation on major political issues' and who wants to avoid it.

It only remains to return to the point from which this correspondence began. Following Johnstone's intervention at a public lecture by SLL Central Committee member Tom Kemp, Johnstone was told by the London Area Committee that he would in future be excluded, until he answered the question of how he came to leave the YCL,



Left: Monty Johnstone. Right: Banners of the ATUA at the lobby in support of the Shrewsbury 24, whose trial brings into question the right to picket. The Communist Party rejects any co-operation in the struggle for defence of basic democratic rights.

join the Trotskyist movement during World War II, and then return to the CP and occupy leading positions.

JOHNSTONE'S 'NAIVETE'

In one letter after another Johnstone raises trifling questions of the exact date on which this happened, and makes remarks about 'agentomania' by the SLL, but he never explains politically what he was doing, and how he was able to return into the CP leadership in the blissful naiveté which he now claims prevailed uninterrupted from 1936 to 1956 in relation to the Moscow Trials!

We told Johnstone in no uncertain terms that his presence in our meetings with a tape recorder taken together with his intimate relations with King Street and its workings against the SLL, and his own part in relation to our own movement, could not be tolerated until certain political questions were clarified.

We consider that this action of our London Area Committee, and the forcing of Johnstone out into the open, have served a very useful purpose. Johnstone's replies to our questions, with all their evasions, are extremely revealing politically. And it is vital that the way Stalinism works should be exposed in detail in this period of preparation for working-class power.

For this reason—that it is essential to facilitate the political education of thousands of workers seeking to build alternative leadership—the London Area Committee of the SLL published the following statement in Workers Press for May 18, 1973:

The London Area Committee of the Socialist Labour League considers that the letter from Monty Johnstone (Workers Press, May 17) is unacceptable from the standpoint of the struggle for Marxist principles.

Johnstone's letter, however, opens the door for serious political discussion on vital matters concerning the political implications of the history of Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism.

Mr Johnstone is therefore free to attend any public meetings and lectures organized by the Socialist Labour League, provided he obtains permission of the meeting if he so desires to use a tape recorder.

The London Area Committee proposes to the Executive Committee of the Communist Party a public debate: 'That the policies of the British Communist Party are derived from the politics of Stalinism.'

DEFENCE OF DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Monty Johnstone has taken advantage of the columns of Workers Press to object to the decisions and policies of the Socialist Labour League, as is his right. Every reader will be able to draw his or her own conclusion.

We have called upon the Communist Party to begin discussions for the joint defence of left-wing organizations and in the struggle for defence of all democratic rights.

The International Socialists and International Marxist Group have responded positively. But the Communist

Party rejects any co-operation.

We want to make it quite clear that our advocacy of co-operation on these questions has the purpose of protecting the possibility of the fundamental differences between our parties being hammered out to the benefit of the working class. It was for the same reason that we took up the differences with Johnstone.

Johnstone's claim that he has broken from the frame-up methods of Stalinism can be easily put to the test. In the King Street leadership of the Communist Party he works alongside William Wainwright, who is assistant editor of the 'Morning Star'.

This same Wainwright was author of a pamphlet published on August 1942 entitled 'Clear out Hitler's Agents! An exposure of Trotskyist disruption being organized in Britain'. If Johnstone sincerely believes what he himself wrote, i.e. that we know enough to reject the lies of the Moscow Trials about Trotskyists working for Hitler, let him now repudiate Wainwright!

What is the use of Johnstone's opinion about the mendacity of the Moscow Trials, if he continues to work with those who based, and still base, their politics on the Trials?

Wainwright said in his pamphlet: 'The Home Guard has been taught a quick way to deal with enemy para-troops and spies. You must train yourself to round up these other, more cunning enemies, on whom Hitler depends to do his work for him in Britain.'

And further, 'Trotsky's men are Hitler's men. They must be cleared out of every

working-class organization in the country.'

Wainwright based his case entirely on the forced confessions and framed evidence of the Moscow Trials. He wrote:

'Trotsky' was a Russian who gathered around him an unscrupulous gang of traitors to organize spying, sabotage, wrecking and assassination in the Soviet Union.' And from this he concluded: 'Be on the alert for Trotskyist disrupters... They should be treated as you would treat a Nazi!'

Johnstone cannot have his cake and eat it. He cannot dismiss the Moscow Trials as a frame-up and continue to work with Wainwright and his politics.

To repudiate and expose Wainwright and his wartime pamphlet, and all the politics that go with it is the road open for Johnstone to begin a political accounting with his own Stalinist past, instead of the liberal posing to which he has resorted up to now.

We consider that his reply must be rejected because it is politically totally unacceptable. Johnstone's record as an individual in the movement flows entirely from his Stalinist politics.

He is a leader of the Stalinist Party in Britain, and he is called upon to give a political accounting for the record of that party and his own part in it.

This he cannot do. Behind all the moral pleading stands this political reality. Stalinism's counter-revolutionary role, its need to defend itself more and more against the Trotskyist movement, the alternative revolutionary leadership—this is the basis of the politics of Monty Johnstone.

CONCLUDED

Last Friday Mr Michael Foot, the Labour MP for Ebbw Vale and a leading 'left', published letters in two national daily newspapers.

In the spirit of outrage and indignation he said that reports of last Wednesday's Shadow Cabinet meeting were completely inaccurate. In the 'Daily Telegraph' letter he stated:

'The report which you published on June 21 of a meeting of the Shadow Cabinet is inaccurate in several particulars and generally misleading. I fear this is the result of basing reports on rumours, gossip or leakages which cannot be verified.'

The 'Telegraph' very correctly asked Foot:

'Why does not Mr Foot tell us and other newspapers what, in his view, really did happen?'

Workers Press has also posed this question to Foot. Are all the newspaper reports of the meeting 'inaccurate'? (We publish on this page a summary of many of the reports from the leading dailies.)

Foot is called upon to answer to his Welsh constituents who are facing massive redundancies because of the Tory plan to shutdown sections of the local steelworks; he is called upon to answer the readers of 'Tribune'; he is called upon to answer to the rank and file of the labour movement who are demanding that the next Labour government should go into action with socialist policies of nationalization.

Foot says the Press reports of the meeting are untrue. After detailed checking we are convinced they are true. But they tell only part of the story.

Not only did Foot browbeat Benn, but he revealed a treacherous plan to divert this year's Labour Party conference away from the question of nationalization.

Foot is helping the right-wing leadership of Wilson and Edward Short to prepare a fraudulent diversion—pensions—to put before the conference.

In making pensions the focal issue they have the complete support of Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Foot admitted at Wednesday's private meeting he had already been in touch with Jones to prepare the way for this phoney campaign to derail the movement's fresh impetus for socialist policies.

Is such a deal being cooked up? Are Foot and his 'Tribune' colleagues—Orme, Atkinson, Allaun, Heffer—preparing such a betrayal?

The normally gregarious Foot and his equally talkative marionette, Richard Clements, editor of 'Tribune', must both speak out.

WILSON'S LEFT-FOOTED POODLE



Above: Michael Foot—says Press reports are untrue. Right: Wedgwood Benn—under attack.

And why the silence down at the 'Morning Star'?

Why doesn't editor George Matthews rebuke Foot for his outrageous attack on Benn, which opens the door for the sabotage of a socialist platform in the next election.

As the economic crisis worsens for Toryism it is doubly diabolical for the reformists whose survival depends on the well-being of the master.

The working class must place no faith whatsoever in this discredited collection of demagogues and do-gooders.

That is why the construction of uncompromising, principled revolutionary leadership is the most pressing question in the workers' movement. A stride in the building of such a leadership will be taken at Belle Vue, Manchester, on Sunday July 1 when the All Trades Unions Alliance stages its national conference in defence of the basic democratic rights of the working class.

Every trade unionist who is sickened and appalled by the conniving of the reformists and the Stalinists should be at Belle Vue.



'Daily Telegraph': Rowland Summerscales, political staff:

Mr Wedgwood Benn, Shadow spokesman for trade and industry, was the subject of re-crimination when the Shadow Cabinet met specially yesterday to consider long-term strategy, the economy, and what the Prime Minister has called the 'unacceptable face of capitalism'.

Chief accuser was Mr Michael Foot, the Labour Party's leading militant. He has been trying very hard recently to help Mr Wilson, leader, and Mr Short, deputy leader, unite the party. Mr Foot's speech against Mr Benn's activities was later described as 'a brilliant individual demolition effort' and there is no doubt that Mr Benn is now isolated in the Shadow Cabinet. At the height of his oratory, Mr Foot stopped, turned to Mr Benn, and asked him if he wanted the Labour Party to win the election?

'Financial Times': John Bourne, Lobby Editor:

An effective attack by Mr Michael Foot, the titular head of Labour's left wing, against Mr Wedgwood Benn, the man who hopes to inherit Mr Foot's mantle, was the main diversion at a meeting yesterday of the Shadow Cabinet.

The meeting, called to discuss the parliamentary party's medium and long-term strategies, is said to have come to life when Mr Foot criticized Mr Benn for pushing ahead with the proposal that the next Labour government should nationalize 25 of the country's largest 100 companies, when it was discussed by the party's national executive.

Mr Foot is also said to have asked rhetorically whether Mr Benn wanted Labour to win the next General Election.

'Guardian': Ian Aitken, Political Correspondent:

Labour MPs were agog last night about reports leaked from the party's Shadow Cabinet of a confrontation between Mr Michael Foot and Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn over the party's latest proposals for the nationalization of up to 25 major companies.

Mr Foot, the standard bearer of the party's traditional Bevanite left wing, is said to have sharply criticized Mr Benn for his determined advocacy of a firm commitment to the '25 companies' proposal.

According to some witnesses, Mr Foot asked Mr Benn whether he was really interested in winning the next election. Mr Foot was one of those who voted in the minority against the proposal in the National Executive Committee earlier this month.

A new English edition of the 'First Five Years of the Communist International' incorporating hitherto unpublished material from Volume XIII of Trotsky's 'Works'

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WORKERS NOTEBOOK

Ministry for the employers

While dockers throughout the country are concerned about the growth of unregistered ports and the use of casual labour in the industry, it seems that the Ministry of Employment is helping the employers to develop this practice.

The Fishers' fruit wharf at Heysham, Lancashire, employs casual labour for the most part, taken on a day-to-day basis.

One of the main users of this port said earlier this year that the great advantage of using Heysham was the cheapness of unloading there by comparison with, say the cost of using Liverpool. He also re-

ferred to the 'lack of labour trouble'.

Readers, particularly dockers, will therefore be interested in the following exchange which took place in Lancaster Labour Exchange the other day. As you will know, a person who refuses to accept 'suitable employment' can be refused dole money.

Worker: But I'm experienced in the building trade. I'm also a trained telephonist. Surely, you are not saying that casual work at the docks is 'suitable employment'?

Ministry officer: Oh yes, it is. And the money's good. You won't get more round here.

Worker: Do you mean to say that if a skilled engineer, or a fitter, say, was to come in here, you'd send them for casual labour at Heysham?

Officer: Yes, anybody, so long as they've not got a bad back or something, if they're fit, we're sending them down there.

We've got to. The employers are crying out for men.



THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL

TV REVIEW

David the Goliath

REVOLUTIONARY artists have a horrid fascination for academic art historians, which years do little to soften. Thus the first in the series of ITV programmes (Wednesdays, 10.30) by Sir Kenneth Clarke on 'Romantic versus Classical Art' had a double interest.

It showed the finest pictures of the great painter Jacques-Louis David, herald and chronicler of the French revolution, and also the insipid, butterflies-in-the-tummy reactions of one of today's chief liberal aesthetes.

David's strength consisted in cutting his way out of the decorative charm and domestic moralizing of French 18th century art—whose favourite subject

was the rural flirtation—to create an openly political art of the revolutionary bourgeoisie.

At the same time his main subjects were classical: he went back to Roman and Greek history for episodes which could express the new determination of the insurgent Third Estate in a recognizable artistic language.

In the first of these, 'The Oath of the Horatii', all the secondary figures, attendants and so on which crowded earlier historical paintings are eliminated.

The Horatii brothers themselves stand almost as a single figure. They are pledging themselves to defend Rome in combat with her enemies—one of whose leaders is married to their sister, weeping on the right.

There could scarcely be a clearer warning that revolutionary

war is at hand, that the demands of class and nation will chop the ties of family and subjective feeling.

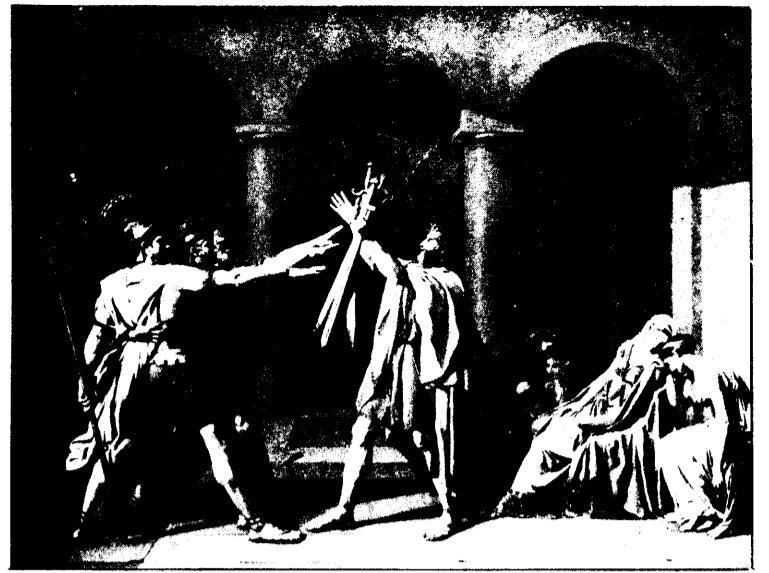
David's composition, simplified down to the bone, is nothing less than a cipher for a class which has become a class-for-itself, conscious of the tasks and sacrifices which face it. The standing male figures are entirely made up of straight lines and tensions, putting the passivity of the woman into the background.

But according to Clarke's programme commentary the essence of the picture 'lies in the conflict of the masculine and feminine spirit'. More than just a misunderstanding is involved here.

For bourgeois art historians, form is everything, content almost nothing. Art, they think, makes progress by ceaselessly changing its forms. So, though Clarke cannot deny the picture has a political significance, he feels the irresistible pressure to discover at its heart something reassuringly 'permanent'—the 'battle of the sexes'.

In fact David did more than express something new—he painted what had not then even come into existence. 'The Oath of the Horatii' was painted five years before the revolution of 1789. Like a skilled surf-rider he sensed the power of the wave before it had begun to break.

His painting, therefore, was not only a reflection of the revolution, it was a popular



David's 'The Oath of the Horatii' . . . frightening aspects for bourgeois art historians.

sensation as soon as it was exhibited and it became—like the contributions of those who made the pageant of 'The Road to Worker's Power'—part of the political preparation of the revolution itself.

And this is why Clarke is mesmerized by David. As he commented on another canvas ('The Death of Marat'): 'The fact that it is a great work of art makes it singularly dangerous.' It is now the hallmark of such intellectuals that they find even the revolution that brought them into being a terrifying event.

Yet David's brush was the revolutionary instrument of an exploiting class. The 1789 revolution was made in the name of certain ideas—of reason and of 'liberty'. But by 1793 this liberty had become violent reaction, and David himself later became the

court painter of the Emperor Napoleon.

Shortly after David's death the French bourgeoisie was shooting down the Paris workers in the revolution of 1832.

Perhaps it is this that explains a strange contrast in 'The Oath of the Horatii'. In the foreground reason nerves itself to action, and the scene is brightly lit to show the figures in which this is expressed.

But beyond, behind the columns, is a great dark space into which David could not see.

Nonetheless he was truthful, and he painted it into the picture. Clarke's programme did not mention it. But I think it is not an exaggeration to say that it represents the future of human society beyond capitalism. It will be the task of other revolutionary artists to light and to paint this space.

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TODAY'S TV

BBC 1

- 9.38 Schools. 11.20 Cricket. Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final. 11.40 Schools. 12.00 Cricket. 1.00 Nai zindagi naya jeevan. 1.25 News. Weather. 1.30 Barnaby. 1.45 Wimbledon 1973. 4.50 Boss cat. 5.15 We are the champions. 5.40 Wombles. 5.45 News. Weather.
- 6.00 YOUR REGION TONIGHT.
- 6.15 WIMBLEDON 1973.
- 7.10 WHERE IN THE WORLD? SON OF THE BRIDE. Anything But the Truth.
- 8.00 SUTHERLAND'S LAW. The Dutchies.
- 8.50 ROBBIE. In search of . . . Fun. Fyfe Robertson.
- 9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.
- 9.25 ANDRE PREVIN'S MUSIC NIGHT. With Radu Lupu and the London Symphony Orchestra.
- 10.15 JOURNEY THROUGH SUMMER. P. J. Kavanagh in Limestone Country.
- 10.45 MIDWEEK. 11.30 NEWS.
- 11.35 LOOKING TO EUROPE. Have satchel, will travel.
- 12.00 Weather.

ITV

- 9.30 Schools. 10.03 Yoga. 10.30 Film: 'Living It Up'. Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Cuddles and co. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Scotch corner. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 Harriet's back in town. 2.30 Good afternoon. 2.55 Looks familiar. 3.25 Hine. 4.20 Sooty show. 4.50 Kids from 47A. 5.20 University challenge. 5.50 News.
- 6.00 TODAY. 6.35 CROSSROADS. 7.00 DUDLEY MOORE — THIS IS YOUR LIFE.
- 7.30 CORONATION STREET.
- 8.00 . . . AND MOTHER MAKES THREE. The Honeymoon's Over.
- 8.30 THE BEST OF FATHER, DEAR FATHER. The Opposite Sex.
- 9.00 SPECIAL BRANCH. Hostage.
- 10.00 NEWS AT TEN.
- 10.30 ROMANTIC V CLASSIC ART. BARRIE WITH LOVE. 'The Twelve-Pound Look'. By J. M. Barrie. With Michael Denison, Gwen Watford, Judy Cornwell.
- 11.30 FILM: 'Death Takes a Holiday'. Yvette Mimieux, Monte Markham, Myrna Loy. Thriller.
- 12.50 WHO CARES?

BBC 2

- 11.00-11.25 Play school. 1.35 Cricket. Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final. 4.50 Wimbledon 1973.
- 7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.
- 7.35 LOOK, STRANGER. The Free Miners.
- 8.00 MAN ALIVE. Rodeo. Story of a part Indian, part Canadian cowboy.
- 8.50 FILM: 'Mickey One'. Warren Beatty. A Chicago night-club owner who thinks he has committed a crime takes refuge on skid row.
- 10.20 MATCH OF THE DAY. Wimbledon.
- 11.10 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.



Warren Beatty in 'Mickey One' on BBC 2.

- Songs. 12.05 London. 5.15 Nature's window. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. What's on? 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 Police surgeon. 7.30 London. 8.30 Here we go again. 9.00 London. 11.30 Evil touch.
- TYNE TEES: 9.25 Ordination of women. 9.30 London. 10.05 Cook book. 10.30 Ed Allen. 10.55 It's fun to be fooled. 11.05 Funky phantom. 11.35 Shirley's world. 12.05 London. 12.25 Hammy Hamster. 12.40 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Mr and Mrs. 7.30 London. 8.30 Who do you do. 9.00 London. 11.30 News. 11.45 Times four. 12.15 Scales of justice. 12.40 Lactern.
- SCOTTISH: 10.55 Yoga. 11.20 Bellbird. 11.35 One Northern summer. 12.00 Ba-bar. 12.05 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 University challenge. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 10.30 Odd couple. 11.00 London. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 Blue light.
- GRAMPIAN: 11.15 UFO. 12.00 Roundup. 12.05 London. 5.15 Wildlife theatre. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Thompson. 6.35 London. 7.00 Luck show. 7.30 London. 10.30 Scales of justice. 11.00 London. 11.30 Hogan's heroes. 12.00 Meditation.

REGIONAL TV

- CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Gourmet. 2.55 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Hogan's heroes. 6.35 London. 7.00 Treasure hunt. 7.30 London. 8.30 Anna and the king. 9.00 London. 11.33 Angling. 12.00 Half a minute. News, weather.
- WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.30 London. 10.00 Rovers. 1.30 It's one way of helping. 10.50 Highways to splendour. 11.15 Saint. 12.05 London. 12.25 Hammy Hamster. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 11.30 News. 12.00 Epilogue.
- SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 10.00 Hammy Hamster. 10.15 Yoga. 10.40 Film: 'Spanish Affair'. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 10.30 Your men at Westminster. 11.00 London. 11.30 News. 11.40 Odd couple. 12.10 Weather. Guideline.
- HARLECH: 9.30-10.03 London. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 2.55 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Cuckoo in the nest. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 10.30 Time was. 11.00 London. 11.30 Cinema. 12.00 Weather.
- HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.20 Miri mawr. 4.35-4.50 Cantamil. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd.
- HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Report West.

- ANGLIA: 11.00 Cartoon. 11.10 Gourmet. 11.35 Dr Simon Locke. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London. 7.00 Anna and the king. 7.30 London. 8.30 Adventurer. 9.00 London. 10.30 Royal Norfolk show. 11.00 London. 11.30 Romantic v classic art. 12.00 Primus. 12.25 Music at night.
- ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30-10.03 London. 10.45 Jason King. 11.35 Gourmet. 12.00 Guide. 12.05 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 8.30 Our kid. 9.00 London. 10.30 Citizens' rights. 11.00 London. 11.30 Baron. Weather.
- ULSTER: 12.05 London. 1.28 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Cartoon. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Viewfinder. 6.35 London. 7.00 Adventurer. 7.30 London. 8.30 Odd couple. 9.00 London. 10.30 Splendour falls. 11.00 London. 11.30 You and your golf.
- YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 10.03 Cook book. 10.30 Ed Allen. 10.55 Sean the leprechaun. 11.05 Women. 11.35 Rovers. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 London. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 London. 8.30 Who do you do? 9.00 London. 11.30 You and your golf. 12.00 Adam. 12. 12.30 Weather.
- GRANADA: 9.30 London. 10.00 Hammy Hamster. 10.05 Pete Smith. 10.25 Lidsville. 10.45 Rainbow country. 11.10 Supercar. 11.35 Gourmet. 12.00

STILL AVAILABLE

Fourth International

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

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- By a Ceylon correspondent
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- Resolution of the 5th Congress of the Workers International League

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Mersey shipyard workers picket for basic union rights

PICKETS are back at the gates of Cammell Laird's shipyard, Birkenhead, they returned there on Monday only hours after a resumption of work by 70 stagers.

The men threw up the picket line after hearing terms of the weekend settlement.

Last Friday the company closed the yard and dismissed the 70 stagers who had been on strike for three days. The strike resulted from a dispute over union membership and recognition of the men's nominations for shop stewards.

A conference has been arranged with the Merseyside Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

The stagers dispute goes back 12 months ago when they de-

cidated to get out of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, because of its lack of militancy and join the Boilermakers' Society.

At first the move was successful. But then after complaints from the G&MWU leaders a TUC inquiry ordered the stagers to quit their new union, which had, in the meantime, negotiated a substantial pay increase.

But the men refused, even though the Boilermakers' leaders were forced to disown them.

The 14 workers who had tried to make the switch were left in

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS

no-man's land, without a union, while a further 58 who joined the Boilermakers from being non-unionists, were allowed to stay put.

But the stagers' patience broke when management refused to recognize shop stewards elected by the men from the Boilermakers' Society.

One of them, Sam Ball, explained: 'We were very tolerant. Myself and another steward, Pat Mearney, agreed to step down

in case we were an obstacle to progress, but it was just no use. Management still refused to recognize the new men we chose to represent us. This dispute is for the right to be represented by stewards of our choice and to belong to the union of our choice. We are determined not to give in.'

The management, of course, claims that they are quite blameless—facing one more inter-union dispute.

The dispute has brought a number of complaints and issues to the surface.

Militants at the yard have long been dissatisfied with the official ten-man shop stewards' committee which operates under the wing of the Merseyside Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

'Conditions at the yard have been deteriorating for some time', said Norman Roberts.

'We are the lowest-paid shipyard workers in Britain outside of Belfast. Apart from wages, our conditions allowances have not changed for decades.

'They are trying to defeat these stagers by pitting the yard labour force against them. Well they won't succeed. I would not like to say much about the inter-union issue, but these workers have a perfect right to demand the representation they chose. We back them 100 per cent.'

Multi-millionaire Lawson unperturbed by DTI probe

BY ALEX MITCHELL

Sir Denys Lawson, the ex-Mayor of London involved in the £6m share coup, is totally unperturbed about the affair. When questions were first raised about the transaction, Lawson is reported to have said that it was 'a lot of fuss about nothing'.

A £6m share operation may be 'nothing' to Lawson, who is reputedly one of Britain's wealthiest men, but to the working class, forced to live under the terms of Heath's £1 plus 4 per cent, it is scandalous.

This week the Department of Trade and Industry investigators will start their examination of the deal which is believed to have netted Lawson and his family a cool £4m.

Sir Denys, a baronet and holder of the Order of Dogwood of British Columbia, is the chairman of the National Group of Unit Trusts. Between July and September last year Lawson, his son and other family interests bought shares in National at 62p.

He purchased most of them from two publicly-quoted investment trusts, First Re-investment Trust and Nelson Financial Trust.

But it so happens that Lawson is chairman of First Re-investment and is a director of Nelson. In other words, he was buying the shares 'internally' from himself, for himself.

SOLD SHARES

In January this year Lawson agreed to sell his 70 per cent controlling interest in the National group to Mr Tom Whyte's Triumph Investment Trust.

The selling price was £8.67 a share. That is to say, in a period of less than six months, the price of National stock had skyrocketed from 62p a share to £8.67.

This meant that the overall value of the group had risen from £474,000 to £6.6m.

Accordingly, Lawson and his family made a profit of just under £4m. This would have gone to First Re-investment, Nelson and the other Lawson companies had their chairman not made his fortuitous purchases!

According to the City pages of the Fleet Street Press, Tom Whyte's Triumph Investment Trust is 'horrificed'.

REFUSE OPTIONS

There are rumours that Triumph will refuse to take up options on the remaining 30 per cent balance of National shares next year.

Hints have appeared that Triumph may demand recompensation from Lawson.

Last week Whyte with fellow director, Lord Chelmer, suggested that independent account-

Shares coup inquiry due

ants be brought in to conduct an inquiry. This would have kept the affair in secret and in the family of the City of London.

Lawson was contemptuous of the suggestion. The 'Sunday Times' commented: 'Sir Denys gave short shrift to requests for an outside look at the books and showed no signs of penitence.'

What is uniformly characteristic of the Tory Press reports is that they look to Lawson for some sign of humility or apology. They don't get it because Lawson is only conducting his affairs in the way he has done for three decades.

He was one of the first operators into the unit trust business after the war. His National group has always been regarded as 'cavalier' in its approach to business traditions.

STABLE TRAINED

One of the young men of finance trained in the National stable was Edward du Cann, Tory MP for Taunton, ex-chairman of the Tory Party, and present-day chairman of the influential 1922 Committee.

On leaving National, du Cann went on to found the Unicorn Trusts and became associated with other business deals like Rolls Razor, Vehicle and General, Rolls-Royce, Investors Overseas Services (IOS) and Lonrho.

Lowson is reported to have a personal investment fortune of some £200m. He is a director of more than 50 companies and chairman of most of them.

John Gordon in the 'Sunday Express' said: 'I suppose he can be said to be at the peak of the City establishment.'

His largest interests are overseas and include the Anglo-Thai Corporation, Algoma Central Railway, Australian Estates (which has vast land holdings in

the Australian outback second only in size to the Vestey family's) and Kulim.

He has a penchant for railway investments: apart from Algoma, he is also chairman of Costa Rica Railway and was formerly a director of Antofagasta (Chile) and Bolivia Railway, both of which are now nationalized.

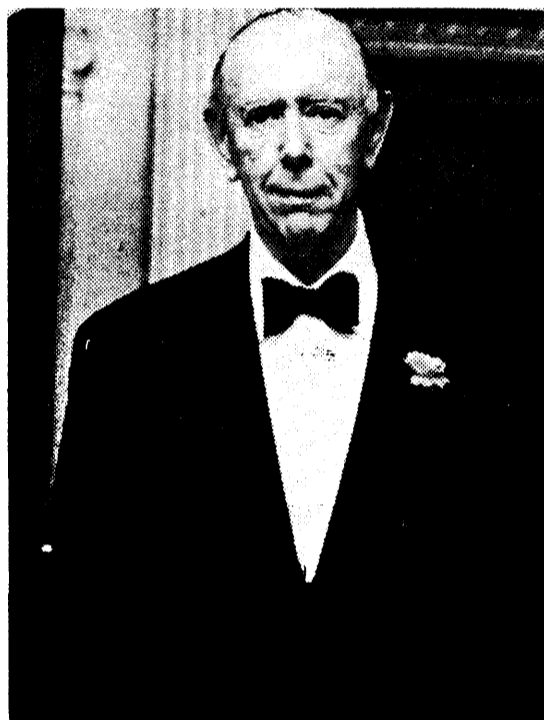
STRIP-MINING

One of his most notorious ventures is strip-mining in Tennessee. He is chairman of the American Association which is flattening and scouring whole chunks of the countryside searching for coal.

The environmental destruction inflicted by the company was documented by Granada Television's 'World in Action' last November in a programme called 'The Stripping of Appalachia'.

The film deplored the ruining of the countryside as well as the danger of tips to the local inhabitants.

What was financially socially



Sir Denys Lawson . . . 'A lot of fuss'

'acceptable' in the past, is no longer today. Lowson's is what even certain Tories have called the ugly face of capitalism—acquisition of enormous wealth by share manipulation and exploitation of workers here and abroad.

Sections of the Tory Press are making out that Lowson is completely impervious to criticism because he is such a big wheeler dealer. He is in five livery companies and as past Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England is a 'very big shot freemason indeed'.

AUTHORITY GONE

But all his grandiose connections mean nothing to the working class. The impact of Lonrho, Lambton-Jellicoe, Poulson and Polwarth has stripped these ruling class gents of any authority.

The first demand of the revolutionary party will be the expropriation of the Lowsons of this world.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

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

STOKE-ON-TRENT: Wednesday, June 27, 8 p.m. 'The Sea Lion', Town Road, Hanley. 'Force the Tories to resign.'

CAMBRIDGE: Thursday June 28, 8 p.m. Mawson Hall, Mawson Road, off Mill Road. 'Forward to ATUA Conference on July 1.'

FELTHAM: Thursday, June 28, 8 p.m. 'The Three Horse Shoes', High Street. 'The struggle for the Revolutionary Party.'

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

FELTHAM: Thursday, July 5, 8 p.m. 'Three Horse Shoes', Feltham High Street. 'Report-back from the Belle Vue rally and conference.'

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Barnsley

Given by Gerry Healy
National Secretary
of the
Socialist Labour League

Sunday July 8

Theory and Practice of
Marxism

Sunday July 15

Role of the
Revolutionary Party
at

The Red Lion
Worsborough
Near Barnsley

7.30 p.m.

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SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

Liverpool

given by Peter Jeffries

Sunday July 8

Chartism, yesterday and today

Sunday July 15

The Revolutionary Party and
the British working class

at

Stanley Halls
Upper Parliament Street
3 p.m.

Manchester

given by Peter Jeffries

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.

Leicester

lectures given by
Cliff Slaughter

(SLL Central Committee)
The Socialist Revolution in
Britain:

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

Sunday July 8

Stockingfarm Community
Centre, Stockingfarm
7.30 p.m.

Watergate cover-up 'a way of life'—Dean

JOHN DEAN III, the former counsel to the White House, said yesterday he believed plans to break into the Democratic Party headquarters would have been reported to President Nixon.

Dean was being cross-examined before the Senate Watergate enquiry on the sensational 6½-hour testimony he read to the committee on Monday.

In that document Dean publicly accused Nixon of involve-

ment in covering up the Watergate scandal. He said the President had offered to provide \$1m to buy the silence of the convicted burglars.

Yesterday Dean began by answering questions from Samuel Dash, chief counsel to the Watergate committee.

He said he believed plans for the Watergate break-in would have been reported to the President by H. R. Haldeman, the White House chief-of-staff.

Dean described the White House chain of command leading

from the President's office into the Committee to Re-elect the President.

He said Haldeman would have received reports from CREEP's deputy chief, Jeb Stuart Magruder, via the assistant White House chief-of-staff Gordon Strachan.

Magruder has already testified that he reported on the Watergate plans to Strachan before the break-in took place. He has admitted complicity in the plot to bug the Democrats' headquarters.

Asked yesterday for an opinion on whether Haldeman would have reported to the President the information he received from Strachan on the Democratic break-in plan and the break-in itself, Dean said: 'I believe he probably would have reported it.'

Dean said the cover-up became 'an instant way of life' at the White House from the day five of the Watergate conspirators were caught red-handed in the Democrats' headquarters.

It was, he said, 'a massive cover-up'.



Massey-Ferguson stewards deny Press reports

No pay leap-frog

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

MASSEY-FERGUSON shop stewards at Coventry yesterday denied that they plan a 'leapfrogging' pay claim if Perkins diesel engine workers at Peterborough are granted parity. The stewards, whose members are paid up to £20 a week more than their Perkins counterparts, said that reports that such a claim would be made had bolstered the company's hard line in the dispute at Peterborough.

They have complained to the 'Sun' about Monday's completely false report.

Perkins stewards, who with 5,700 other workers have been locked out for the last two weeks, are also incensed by the reports.

They sent a telegram to Bob Wright, executive council man of the engineers' union, asking why when he visited Peterborough last week he had hinted that Coventry might seek to have their present differentials restored.

Yesterday afternoon, Wright attended a meeting at Eastbourne of the Massey-Ferguson joint negotiating body.

Although a routine meeting of the committee, both management and stewards at Perkins felt the lock-out was certain to be discussed.

After a meeting of senior Perkins stewards yesterday morning, deputy convenor Jeff Cain said all sections of workers were co-operating fully with pickets.



A DISPUTE has broken out in the Olympia exhibition centre in west London following a shock management decision to disband the paint shop permanently.

Twenty-eight men were paid off on the spot without any prior consultation with the unions involved. This caused an immediate stoppage of all trades in the hall and pickets were out yesterday (above).

On Monday 50 stewards representing London's 3,000 exhibition workers decided unanimously to black all work at Olympia and Earls Court, both owned by Sterling Guarantee Trust.

A £28m takeover bid was made for Sterling by Town and City Properties yesterday. Directors of Sterling, their families and Slater Walker Securities have agreed to accept the bid for more than half their shares. The bid values Sterling shares at 312p. At one time last year they were 168p.

BRIEFLY ● BRIEFLY ● BRIEFLY

STAGERS on strike at Cammell Laird's shipyard on Merseyside attacked union officials yesterday after Bill Crighton of the Merseyside Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions condemned their dispute. A Confederation leaflet said the dispute 'is not directed against the management but against the rest of the workers in the yard'. Ex-shop steward Sam Ball said: 'The officials are trying to turn the men against us. Our dispute is with management.'

● See page 11.

MYSTERIOUS court proceedings at Old Street magistrate's court yesterday involving strip club owner, James Humphreys, who is being held by police in Holland. Fifteen witnesses appeared before a magistrate to swear statements. The mystery developed when Humphrey's name was not mentioned and court officials would not discuss

the matter. Later it was learned that to comply with Dutch law, the extradition statements for Humphreys had to be sworn in court in front of a magistrate. Humphreys has been in custody for two weeks in connection with allegations of attempted murder and causing grievous bodily harm.

BACKING for 300 newspaper workers locked out by T. Bailey Forman, publishers of the Nottingham 'Guardian Journal' and 'Evening Post', came yesterday when the Nottinghamshire council of the National Union of Mineworkers issued an immediate directive to all lodges that miners and colliery workers should not buy the blackleg 'Post' or advertise in it. The printworkers were locked out following company attempts to steamroller production workers into using new equipment on its terms.

Take-over creates jobs scare at Olympia

**JUNE FUND
FOUR DAYS
TO RAISE
£767.41**

IT LOOKS like it is going to be a fight to the last day to complete our £1,750 June Fund. There are now only four days left, dear readers, so it is into action right away.

The fight for our Fund is vital this month. The enormous economic crisis is forcing the ruling class to attack every basic right of the working class. Workers Press must be used to lead the fight to defend these rights and to campaign to bring thousands of workers to our conference at Belle Vue on July 1 to discuss these vital issues.

So don't waste any time. Take collections wherever you can. Let's have our biggest campaign yet and complete our target by this coming Saturday. Rush every donation immediately to:

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

Trial protest

FROM PAGE ONE

But the judge, flanked by the chaplain in frock coat, dismissed the protest.

Yesterday's hearing marked the start of six separate jury trials in Mold and Shrewsbury involving building workers arrested while picketing.

The climax will come in October at Shrewsbury when the Shrewsbury 24 appear before the Crown Court there.

Five of yesterday's defendants will be appearing in this trial.

The eight all pleaded not guilty to joint charges of making an affray, intimidation and damage to property.

They are Derrick Hughes, Colin Kelly, William Michael Pearce, Gwyn Edward Roberts, John Kenneth Seaburg, Gwynfor Williams, Edward Leonard Williams, Kenneth Desmond Francis O'Shea.

Mr Hughes pleaded guilty to throwing a rock at a dumper truck and Mr O'Shea to damaging a window.

All the offences are alleged to have taken place at Brenig Reservoir, Denbigh, on September 11 last year.

There were 12 challenges before the jury was selected.

The case was adjourned until today because one of the defence counsel was involved in an accident on his way to court.

ATUA MEETING

Lessons of the Perkins Lock-out Peterborough

WEDNESDAY JUNE 27

7.30 p.m.

The Still Cumbergate

Speaker: Ken Tyrrell
Shop steward Massey Ferguson (in personal capacity)

BARDON HILL, the last of the National Coal Board's pits in West Northumberland, will close in September, putting 240 miners out of work. The drift mine was opened 33 years ago and produces some 60,000 tons of coal a year. The NCB says that there was a loss of £4 on every ton produced last year.

Row expected over 'casual' dockers

BY DAVID MAUDE

THE FIRST of 500 'casual', supplementary dockers has started work on Liverpool docks—with just three days to go before the national port shop stewards' committee is due to decide its policy on supplementaries.

So anxious were the employers to push the initial batch of 39 supplementaries out onto the quays that they were virtually 'crammed' with the skills they need to perform dock work.

The normal docker's training course, run by the National Dock Labour Board, takes three weeks. In the case of the supplementaries the course was concentrated into just one week and they reported for allocation to their employers on Monday morning.

This week another batch of 70 men—nominated by docks branches of the Transport and General Workers' Union and employers from a big waiting list—is being trained, mostly at the NDLB training centre at Prince's Half-Tide Dock.

Saturday's meeting of the national stewards' committee could be stormy.

Dockers in a majority of the ports who will be represented have already declared their opposition to the attempts of the Tory government and a majority of employers to expand the supplementary register.

Unlike permanent dockers, who enjoy a form of job security under the 1947 Dock Labour

Scheme, supplementaries can be sacked at a week's notice either by their immediate employer or the Dock Labour Board.

Employers and the DLBs thus always hold a disciplinary whip over their backs, which they cannot use against permanents.

In ports such as Southampton, where there is a large percentage of supplementaries, this is already being used as a lever for speed-up.

Sir Humphrey Browne, who chairs the British Transport Docks Board which runs Southampton, has envisaged a further growth of the supplementary register. He joins the chorus of praise for the system from Tory Ministers John Peyton and Maurice MacMillan.

The Liverpool stewards, however, have already given notice that they do not intend to change their decision to accept recruitment to the supplementary register.

On the other hand, Tilbury Dockers have called for a national campaign against it. And their stewards could well be joined in this call by men from Hull, Manchester, London's Royals and some smaller ports.

● Talks are expected later this week on the manning dispute which has held up the new timber-handling facilities at Liverpool's multi-million-pound Seaforth Dock. The Mersey Docks and Harbour Co says it hopes for 'an early meeting' on the disputed manning of the Seaforth grain terminal.

£100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

IT'S STILL coming in, and there is little doubt that our readers will do their utmost to see we make the £100,000 by October 31.

Yesterday we received £16.57 — Swindon 50p; Bracknell £10; north London, sub district SLL £6.07. The total is now £51,783.66. Post all donations to:

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