

## WEST GERMANS REVALUE THE MARK

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BY JOHN SPENCER

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The gold price rise was contrary to prior expectations and indicates that the mark revaluation has solved nothing.

Despite assurances from Bonn, it is a mortal blow for the joint float of Common Market currencies and must make the common agricultural policy, already under strong American attack, almost entirely unworkable.

The Common Market governments will now more and more openly resort to violence to meet the enormous class battles which must result from the break-up of the credit superstructure and the intensification of trade war conditions both inside and outside Europe.

The revaluation will lead to big failures on the Euro-money markets, which involve some of the biggest banks in Europe.

The Bank of Italy was narrowly saved from bankruptcy earlier this month by the infusion of some \$4,000m from the US and EEC central banks.

Since then the main

Common Market central banks have spent another \$1,500m in a vain attempt to maintain the mark's parity within the EEC float.

The mark has been repeatedly revalued and since August 1971 the dollar's value against the mark has fallen by almost 45 per cent.

The decision to revalue was taken at a surprise meeting of the cabinet called by social-democratic chancellor Willy Brandt yesterday morning.

The new rate for the mark—defined not in gold but in so-called 'paper gold' special drawing rights—is 0.310. The previous rate was 0.294 SDRs to the mark.

Rumours that a devaluation was imminent caused a very big demand for the West German currency on Thursday and the Bundesbank bought 2,200 million marks-worth of European currencies in a single afternoon.

Announcing the revaluation at a Press conference in Bonn after the cabinet meeting, Finance Minister Helmut Schmidt said the mark would remain in the Common Market joint float at its new parity.

He said the Bundesbank had to buy European currencies worth 4,000 million marks during the past 12 days to support the margins

which the countries taking part in the joint float had agreed to adhere to among themselves while floating together against outside currencies.

But the central bank had not intervened in the same way to buy dollars on the foreign exchange market and had no intention of doing so, Schmidt added.

Schmidt told the Press conference the inflows of European currencies had forced West Germany to protect its domestic economic stability by revaluing.

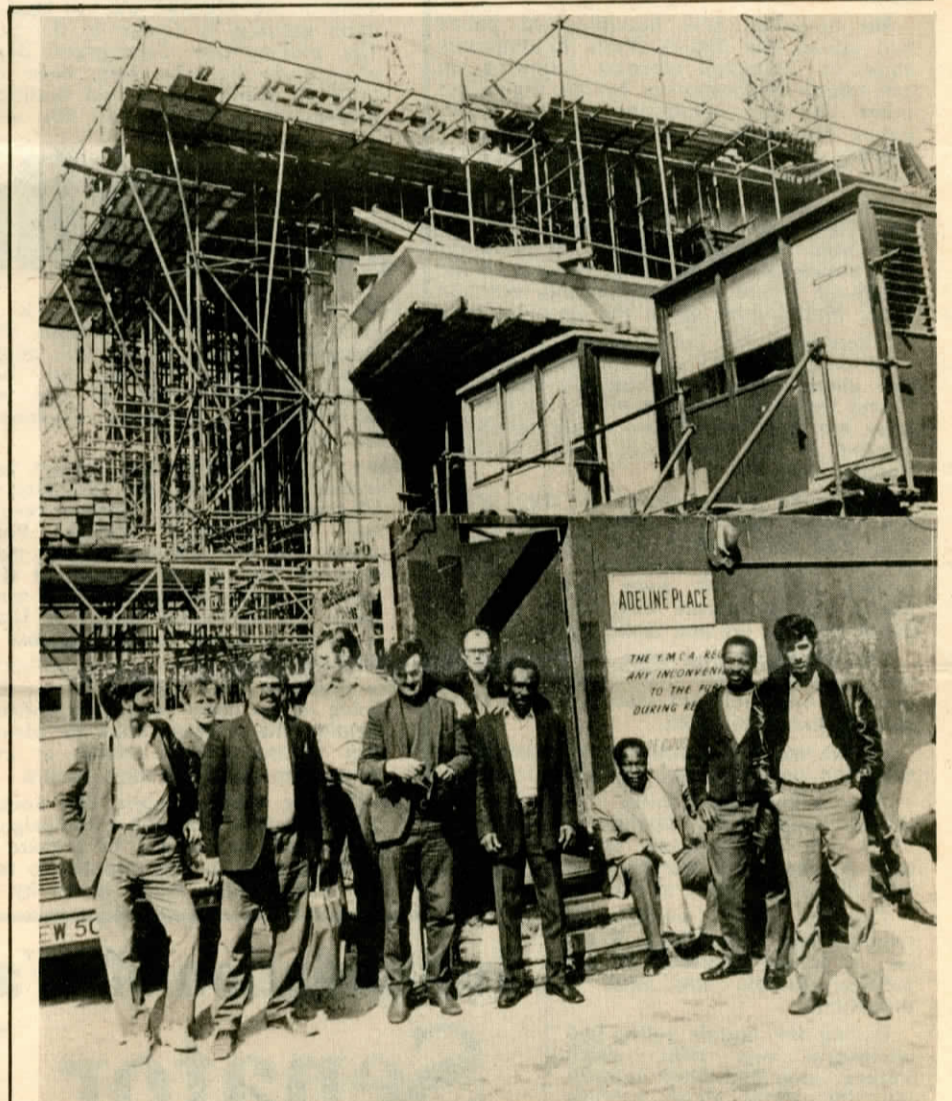
Bonn had never considered abandoning its partners in the joint float—France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Denmark and two non-EEC countries, Norway and Sweden—he claimed.

In fact, despite Schmidt's empty reassurance, the revaluation of the mark is a death-blow to the joint float and to any plans for monetary union within the EEC.

It demonstrates conclusively that the mark cannot carry the burden of maintaining the international credit system and financing world trade.

The paper mark, backed by paper SDRs, is in no way a substitute for the pre-1971 dollar which was linked to gold.

Yesterday's decision must destroy any lingering traces of this illusion once and for all.



Site stops over sacked spark p.12

### INSIDE PAGES TODAY

On our centre pages today — Quotes from Marx, Lenin and Trotsky on trade unions and the revolutionary party.

Special correspondence between our News Editor and George Matthews, Editor of the 'Morning Star' page 8

Great response to Belle Vue rally Sunday July 1

## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

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**O** 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.

### TRAVEL

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### FILM

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

### DISCUSSION

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.

### CABARET

After several hours discussion, the rally will end with a

satirical cabaret written and produced by Tom Kempinski and Roger Smith. It will be 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.

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.

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

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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# Ban is concern of labour movement

**AN APPEAL to all sections of the British Labour and trade union movement to oppose the ban on the Pabloite Ligue Communiste came yesterday from Gerard Vergeat, a former member of the organization's political bureau.**

In an interview with the Workers Press he said the ban, imposed on Thursday by the Pompidou cabinet, should be the concern of the European labour movement as a whole. Defence of the Ligue Communiste against these attacks was a question of international solidarity, he said.

He described how heavily-armed police had raided the Ligue's Paris headquarters early on Thursday morning following an anti-fascist demonstration by the Ligue and other left-wing organizations. The 6,000-strong demonstration was against a racist meeting organized by the fascist movement *Ordre Nouveau*.

'The police arrived between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. They came without warrants. The raid had been carefully prepared in advance. Two police cars blocked the entrance to the cul-de-sac where our headquarters are and Black Marias drew up in the main street.'

'There were 100 police outside the offices—60 uniformed CRS and 40 in plain clothes. Our guards—who were specially reinforced—kept them out of the premises for half an hour, but after consultation on the telephone decided it was useless to resist further,' Vergeat said.

'When the police moved in they broke down doors, destroyed shelves in the bookshop and even walked over the keyboards of our typesetting machines. The plain-clothes police took away two sacks of papers and documents with which they no doubt hope to try and make a frame-up.'

The 25 people who were on the premises were arrested. The women and all those under 21 were released after details of their identity had been taken.

On the way to the police station they were subjected to the foulest anti-Semitic abuse.

'The police told them: "For you we should reopen the Dachau camps" and "You are international Jewry",' Vergeat said. At the police station 14 were charged with illegal possession of firearms.

Thirteen were provisionally released and only Pierre Rousset, a former member of the political bureau, was held in detention.

During the search police had uncovered two rifles which Vergeat said had been brought into the offices about a week before by an unidentified man.

Internal disciplinary measures have been taken against members who failed to remove them from the premises, Vergeat said.

The charges against the 14 Ligue Communiste members carry sentences of up to two years imprisonment.

Rousset, who already has an eight-month suspended sentence hanging over him, could serve an even longer term in jail.

Attempts to hire halls for a protest rally against the ban had been obstructed by the authorities and when a hall was finally offered by a Socialist municipality just outside the capital, the meeting was banned out of hand.

The ban has evoked widespread protests in France, though the Communist Party has not condemned it.

Vergeat said the CP had refrained from abusing the Ligue Communiste in its articles about the demonstration and ban because it feared the impact of these events on its members in the factories and in intellectual circles.

**DOCKERS** at Avonmouth yesterday boycotted a French cargo ship as part of an international protest against the Pacific nuclear tests.

## WHAT WE THINK

# France today . . .

THE DECISION of the Pompidou regime to ban the Ligue Communiste is part of a co-ordinated attack on democratic rights which has direct lessons for Britain.

Signs have been multiplying since the March election the government of the Fifth Republic is returning to the purest style of Bonapartist rule. Pompidou himself has said that he sees his role as a barrier against the return to the regime of the parties, i.e. parliamentary government.

He had already made it clear at the time of the elections that in the event of a victory for the left-wing parties, he would appoint a cabinet of his own choice regardless of the wishes of the electorate.

The political role of the army as the defender of the bourgeois social order is being increasingly emphasized. The appointment of the notorious General Bigeard, commander of parachutist units in the Algerian war, to head the Paris garrison is a sign of the times. The para-military *Compagnies Républicaines de Sécurité* have been busy breaking strike pickets and beating up demonstrators. In the last few weeks

they have been in action against the Lip watch strikers at Besançon, striking constructional workers at Fos and against Peugeot and Renault car-workers.

A national fascist union, backed by big money from the employers, called the *Confédération Française du Travail*, is establishing a position in many factories. It uses strong-arm gangs and in factories where it is strongly implanted, such as the Chrysler-Simca plants, it operates a veritable reign of terror against members of other trade unions and particularly against immigrant workers.

Telephone-tapping, bugging, the use of spies and *agents provocateurs* in the labour movement has reached a high pitch in France and, indeed, has become a public scandal. The government has made it clear that it does not intend to abandon these practices. On the contrary, it is all the time trying to make them more efficient.

A further sinister development has been the encouragement of racist discrimination and even physical attacks against immigrant workers of whom there are over 3 million in France.

Although at the moment French capitalism cannot do without these workers, administrative devices are used to hold over their heads the threat that they will be sent back to their countries of origin if they do not behave themselves.

Racist attacks on immigrants have become increasingly frequent. Everything is being done to keep the immigrants in a ghetto and to divide them from the French workers.

It is no accident that the meeting of *Ordre Nouveau*, the pro-Nazi right-wing group—whose origins go back to the fascist movements of the 1930s—which gave a pretext for the government to ban the Ligue Communiste, was called over immigration. Not only did the government permit the meeting, but it gave it massive police protection.

The Communist Party, which two days before had held meetings all over France purportedly 'in defence of democratic rights' issued no call against the fascists. When 11 left-wing groups were banned in 1968 after the May-June event, it did nothing to wage a campaign against this threat to basic rights.

# . . . Britain tomorrow?

THE BOURGEOISIE of Europe is preparing for civil war in defence of its property and profits. For this purpose police forces in Britain are being equipped with 'some of the most up-to-date and powerful weapons in the world'.

They include a rifle with greater penetrating power than the *Armalite*, the US-made Smith and Wesson revolver and the German *Walther Polizei* pistol. The new CR gas is being manufactured 'for use in the United Kingdom'. A perfected apparatus of terror, using the experience gained in Ulster, is being prepared for use against the working class.

The attack on basic rights which has been going on for some years is intended to weaken the working class in advance. Not to resist these attacks at every stage is to assist the class enemy.

Recognizing these dangers, the Socialist Labour League initiated a campaign on January 20 last aiming to prepare the working class in this country to resist the preparations being made by the

Heath government for a Bonapartist dictatorship.

Letters were sent to the Communist Party, the International Socialists and the International Marxist Group proposing a joint campaign in the working class against police attacks and state interference. On behalf of the Communist Party John Gollan refused to have anything to do with this campaign.

The situation in France where behind a smokescreen of words about defending democratic rights the Communist Party refused to give any lead to stop the fascist meeting, is in line with this treacherous position.

Despite the fact that we are separated from the Ligue Communiste and its co-organization in Britain, the International Marxist Group, by fundamental political differences, we call upon the labour movement to fight by every means against Pompidou's ban. We see this fight as bound up inseparably with the campaign for the defence of democratic rights in this country.

In the Common Market the European bourgeoisie has lined up in a reactionary coalition to attack the working class. The Communist Party of France is shortly to join the European parliament in which the Italian Communist Party is already represented. Those who have illusions in the Stalinist parties and work in co-operation with them should be warned.

The Brezhnev visit to Nixon, at the very moment when Nixon's administration is totally discredited by the Watergate scandal, and the agreements made between the Soviet bureaucracy and the American ruling class, leave no doubt that the Stalinists are totally committed to the defence of the bourgeois social order.

Communist Party members who genuinely want to fight for the overthrow of capitalism must break with this policy. They can begin by calling on the leadership to say where it stands on the ban on the Ligue Communiste and on the proposals for a joint campaign which Gollan rejected two months ago.

## Intimidation of Watergate witnesses

# Senator hits White House

**THERE WAS a sensational climax to the Senate Watergate committee hearings on Thursday when a Republican Senator denounced White House attempts to intimidate himself and others taking part.**

In an impassioned outburst, the Republican Senator Lowell Weicker said that rumours had been spread that he had misused campaign funds, was considering becoming a Democrat and was a disloyal Republican.

He was loudly applauded when he said: 'There are going to be no more threats, no intimidation, no innuendo, no working through the Press to go ahead and destroy the credibility of individuals. The executive branch of government wants to meet the standards set for it by the American people.'

Weicker claimed that he had the support of the other Republican senators in resisting White House pressure and in repudiating the methods used in the Watergate operation.

He also launched a blistering attack on a White House memorandum sent to the committee with the intention of discrediting John Dean, formerly Nixon's counsel, who was the principal witness in the week's hearings.

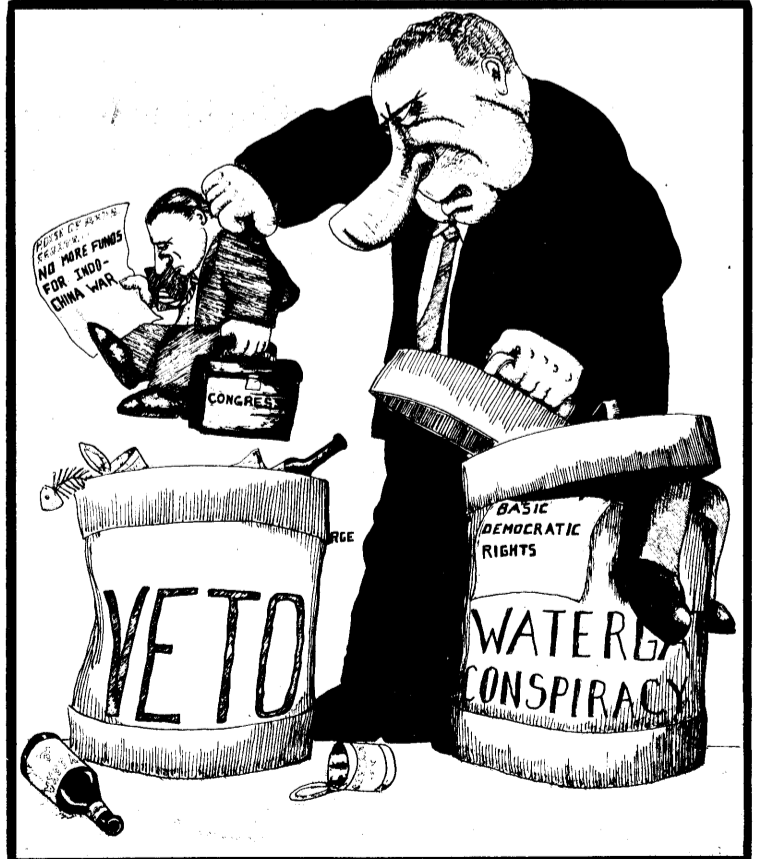
It claimed that Dean was the master-mind behind the Watergate cover-up, but its author, Fred Buzhardt, who now has Dean's old job, later said it 'does not represent a White House position'. Someone close to the Senate committee commented: 'I always thought a statement from the White House was a White House statement.'

Nixon's hold over his own party has taken a heavy blow since the Senate committee proceedings began. Dean's evidence showed that Nixon was aware of the cover-up at least as early as last September.

When asked if the President had advance knowledge of the break-in at the Democratic Party headquarters, Dean said that if White House aide 'Bob' Halde-man had such knowledge, it would have been passed along to the President. He told the Senate Committee that he had reported daily to Haldeman on the cover-up and his assumption was that 'this was going to the President'.

Speaking of a meeting with Haldeman and Nixon on September 15, he said that he did not keep notes because it would have been incriminating for the President.

A new aspect brought into the open by the hearings this week is the extent to which the White House was involved in black-listing, harassing and spying on political opponents considered to be dangerous. The Watergate break-in thus appears as only one of a great many illegal operations master-minded from Nixon's sanctum.



Nixon has refused to testify before the Senate committee and a spokesman said that an attempt to subpoena him would be 'constitutionally inappropriate'.

Senator Weicker said that he had submitted to the special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox evidence of possible White House violations of Federal laws against hindering governmental inquiries by threats.

**CIRCULATION**

01-622 7020



Eddie Noonan is a shop steward at English Electric, Kirkby, on Merseyside—part of the Weinstock GEC empire. His own plant suffered drastic redundancies when Weinstock rationalized electrical engineering with Labour government money and reduced the 12,000 workers at Eddie's factory to 5,000.

# Why I'm coming to Belle Vue

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

The state pay laws are the major prop of the Tory government. You can't get rid of one without getting rid of the other. No amount of coffee and tea swilling at 10 Downing Street will wash away this legislation. Feather is dedicated to the old formula of 'let's negotiate', but Heath has taken away the table.

There are quite a few in the working class asking what the trade unions are coming to when we have a situation where the government has taken away the

and see the militants tamed, but without the militants and the men who fight every day to keep the trade unions alive, these officials would do nothing.

I find there were a lot of lads who want to do something about it, but they are being held back by the general attitude of the leadership and the lack of fight at the top.

I think many people are now beginning to look on the TUC leaders as nothing to do with the labour movement. They are remote from the rank and file. They spend the bulk of their time with businessmen and the Tories in secret and select committees, driving to this and that function in their big cars, dining with the government.

**Do you think protests and one day strikes are enough to defend the basic rights of the working class?**

This is the typical approach of the officials. At the very most they are prepared to engage in protests. But the whole purpose is designed to enable the working class to let off steam not to develop the fight against the Tory government.

Beyond that you get the real right-wingers in the TUC who work against all the decisions taken by even the TUC. They are quite blatant about it.

At the next congress these people should be out of the movement altogether. It's amazing that at this stage of the Tory government, when the working class is in such great danger, that this type of leader is tolerated within the TUC.

The leaders as a whole do their utmost to isolate the working class by calling one-day strikes that they know are futile, and letting groups of workers be picked off one by one.

But there are a lot of people learning from this—especially on Merseyside, which was a high point of protest strikes and demos.

They go out on one-day strike, this is fairly solid, so they go back and analyse the situation. The Tories are still there, in fact they have grown to tolerate such attacks and even see the value of such harmless protests.

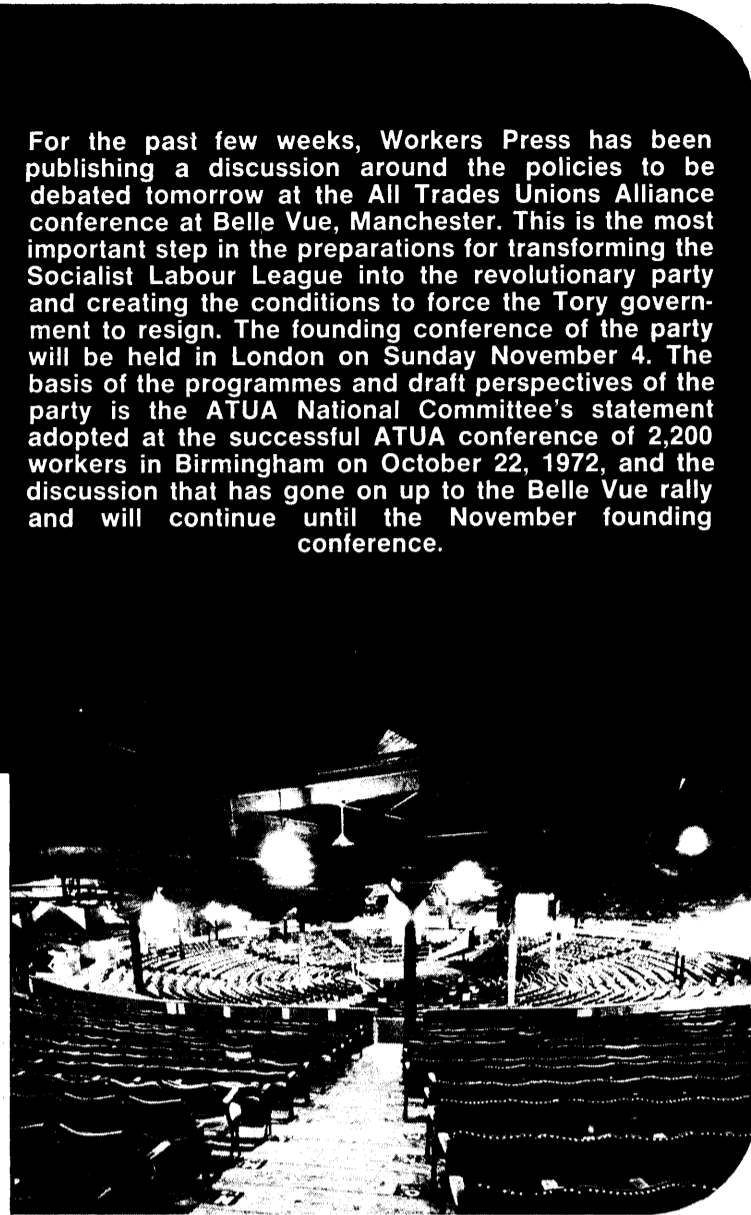
Many workers get demoralized from this position, but others see that a real challenge is needed, that the day of protest is over.

I have heard the argument that first you get a one-day strike and then build up to something bigger. But I don't accept this. In areas where the one-day strikes have been successful, there has not been this kind of follow up.

There are those workers who don't want to go on strike anyway, that want to let someone else do the fighting. But there are others who can see through the one-day strike. They want to see a real lead being given.

It's the lack of leadership, both in the trade unions and the Labour Party that forces the working class into the position of abstaining or voting for the Liberal Party. I would like to say some things about the Liberal Party. These people are real reactionaries. They are Tories to the core.

The workers are not voting for something new when they vote Liberal. It was, after all, the rejection of the Liberal Party by the trade unions at the turn of the century that gave birth to the Labour Party.



For the past few weeks, Workers Press has been publishing a discussion around the policies to be debated tomorrow at the All Trades Unions Alliance conference at Belle Vue, Manchester. This is the most important step in the preparations for transforming the Socialist Labour League into the revolutionary party and creating the conditions to force the Tory government to resign. The founding conference of the party will be held in London on Sunday November 4. The basis of the programmes and draft perspectives of the party is the ATUA National Committee's statement adopted at the successful ATUA conference of 2,200 workers in Birmingham on October 22, 1972, and the discussion that has gone on up to the Belle Vue rally and will continue until the November founding conference.

Now that the Labour leadership has proved incapable of defending the basic rights of the movement which fathered it, workers should draw the conclusion they need a new party, a new leadership—a revolutionary leadership. This is the great lesson of the history of our times.

I can give you one example of the need for a new party. When Weinstock took over the combine, he did it with government money handed over by the Labour Party. Then the sacking started and we were up in arms on Merseyside.

The man responsible, Anthony Wedgwood Benn, came up and the workers asked him on, the green—what was he going to do—he was a Labour MP, their man.

He just said he didn't know. That summed up the complete bankruptcy of the Labour leaders.

The answer to that question is nationalize GEC.

Now Benn talks about nationalizing 25 firms. But he had his chance when he was in power. And what firms are they going to be? Lemonade factories, or the big stuff that we really want?

**What experiences have you had that make you think getting rid of the Tory government is an urgent task?**

The experiences come thick and fast—the Industrial Relations

Act, the jailing of the dockers, the pay laws, the trials against picketing, the Common Market, the rent Act, the massive prices increase—all parts of the conspiracy to deprive every working-class person of his or her basic rights. Heath had no mandate or permission of the working class to do this and for it he must be removed.

**Are you in favour of building a new leadership in the working class to get rid of the Tories?**

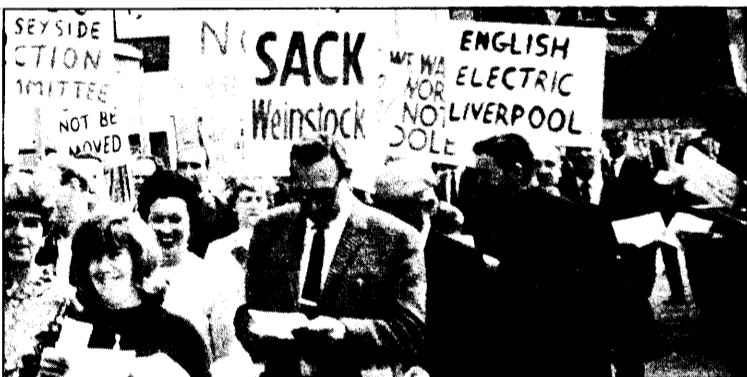
The only way is to go out and explain to the working class that if they maintain their allegiance to the present leaders, whether it's passive or not, all their basic rights will be taken from them.

We should also explain it's no use going for the Liberals and people like Dick Taverne. These are just off-shoots of the major parties and would vote with the Tory establishment when the crunch comes.

I am very optimistic over the possibilities. I don't think the British working class will go on accepting this situation.

The younger generation especially will not accept what their fathers and forefathers put up with. The working class learns from experience. So the new party will be built in the course of these major class struggles ahead.

The Belle Vue rally is the preparation for this essential task.



most basic right—the one of free independent negotiations.

If the working class stand by and allow this situation to continue and develop they will be slaves. They will be in a position where the master comes down to them and he will call the tune and the working class will have to dance to his tune.

Workers need to stand up and be counted. There is only one issue facing us all, do we agree with the state pay laws and Tory dictatorship and do we get rid of them?

**What do you think of the TUC collaboration over the talks with the Tory government?**

There is no leader or official in the trade union movement coming forward and mobilizing against the Tory government. The general attitude is 'Well lads, we know it's all wrong but there is nothing you can do about it for the time being'.

In a way the officials of our movement are turning into industrial policemen, because the thing they say accept 'for the moment' completely destroys trade unionism.

In a way it's a very short-sighted policy. Many of them perhaps would like to stand back

**What do you think about the role of men like Scanlon and Jones in the collaboration with the Tories?**

The 'lefts' are difficult to understand for a lot of the working class. These men can speak to a gathering of workers and condemn the enemy, condemn people like Victor Feather, but go out and spend most of their time rubbing shoulders with these right-wingers.

They have a great opportunity. They could say 'To hell with Feather. Let's take a lead against the government'. But they do not.

Hugh Scanlon is my own union leader and I am very pleased he has been pulled out of the talks. I agitated against him going there in the first place.

I think now that Jones should follow, and then they can form a powerful block of union—the bulk of the militant and industrialized factory workers, against this government and its policies.

But to me the 'lefts' seem to express very little faith in the working class by the way they behave. They seem to think that Downing Street talks offer a way forward instead of the power of the membership when mobilized.

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# STANDARD'S 'MEATY FACTS' TO BOOST TORIES

Among Tory papers, the London 'Evening Standard' is hard to beat for its 'unbiased' opinion survey. A recent poll 'investigated' how difficult it is for old age pensioners to buy meat with prices rocketing the way they are.

The 'Standard' was following up a comment from Harold Wilson: 'More and more housewives, and especially pensioners, are priced out of fish as well as every kind of meat.'

Wilson said his wife was



'I'm for Heath' at a 1970 election meeting in Bexley, one of the places visited in the 'Standard's' survey.

almost in tears after seeing a little old lady moving around a shop noting prices and finally leaving 'clutching a pathetic little plastic package of two slices of meat loaf'.

Reporter James Irvine began: 'Today I made my own inquiries into the plight of pensioners.'

His first stop was . . . Bromley, a very wealthy suburb of London, which always returns a Tory MP with a large majority. It was Harold Macmillan's safe seat.

'I questioned a number of pensioners shopping. Most were reluctant to tell a stranger about their financial situation, but widow Mrs Elsie Masters said: "I buy

meat, usually stewing steak or lamb chop. Fish is very dear, but I sometimes have a bit of cod".'

'Others also said they were still having meat, but some admitted that they bought less now because of the price.'

But not one word from Irvine about what the private means were of any of these 'pensioners'.

He called at Bexley, another wealthy suburb on the edge of London. The MP is Tory leader Edward Heath. Irvine found that the borough offers cheap meals, including meat and fish, to those who need it. An official told him: 'We don't find pride is a problem. It is not significant'.

Earnestly seeking the truth about the plight of the elderly, and no doubt bearing in mind the old woman found starved to death in Manchester recently with her stomach full of cardboard, Irvine journeyed on . . . to Sevenoaks, a fabulously wealthy country town in Kent with, of course, a Tory MP, Sir John Rodgers.

Irvine reported: 'A poorly-dressed old lady, living on her own, had just bought a quarter-pound of liver. She snapped: "I manage quite well on my pension. I don't know anybody who never has meat".'

He failed to say what kind of pension she was living on, or whether she voted Tory.

Determined to get at the real facts about old folk and malnutrition, Irvine consulted Tesco's, the big capitalist supermarket chain, who, it seems, 'have just carried out a survey to see if old people are avoiding meat', which is a very quaint way of putting it.

'Among the branches checked were' . . . wait for it . . . 'those at Herne Bay and Bournemouth, which have a high proportion of elderly residents'.

The fact that a good percentage of these special residents are retired colonels, bankers, duchesses, and the like somehow seems to have escaped Irvine's attention.

Herne Bay is part of a rich Tory constituency. Bournemouth has two MPs, both Tories with huge majorities. It is one of the richest towns

in all Britain, thanks to the retired millionaires who settle there.

Irvine continued: 'A Tesco official told me: "We did not find any downward trend in meat buying by the elderly. I find it slightly difficult to understand Mr Wilson's statement".'

Armed with the statistics of beef sales in Bournemouth, the good bourgeois can ease his troubled mind.

Concluding his fearless inquiry, Irvine ended: 'I could not find any reason why a pensioner should completely give up eating meat and fish. If you do, please tell your local council's Social Services Department, and it will be rectified'.

Just like that! The 'Evening Standard' also did a job on the Chrysler car dispute.

As a tailend piece to a story headlined 'Two workers defy Perkins pickets' which itself ignored the 5,698 of the 5,700 workers who did not defy the pickets, the 'Standard' reported the crashing through the Chrysler picket lines at 2 a.m. of picket-busting lorries, with one man assaulted and other pickets injured.

This very important story was run without any headline, on an inside page, and with nothing to draw attention to it whatsoever.

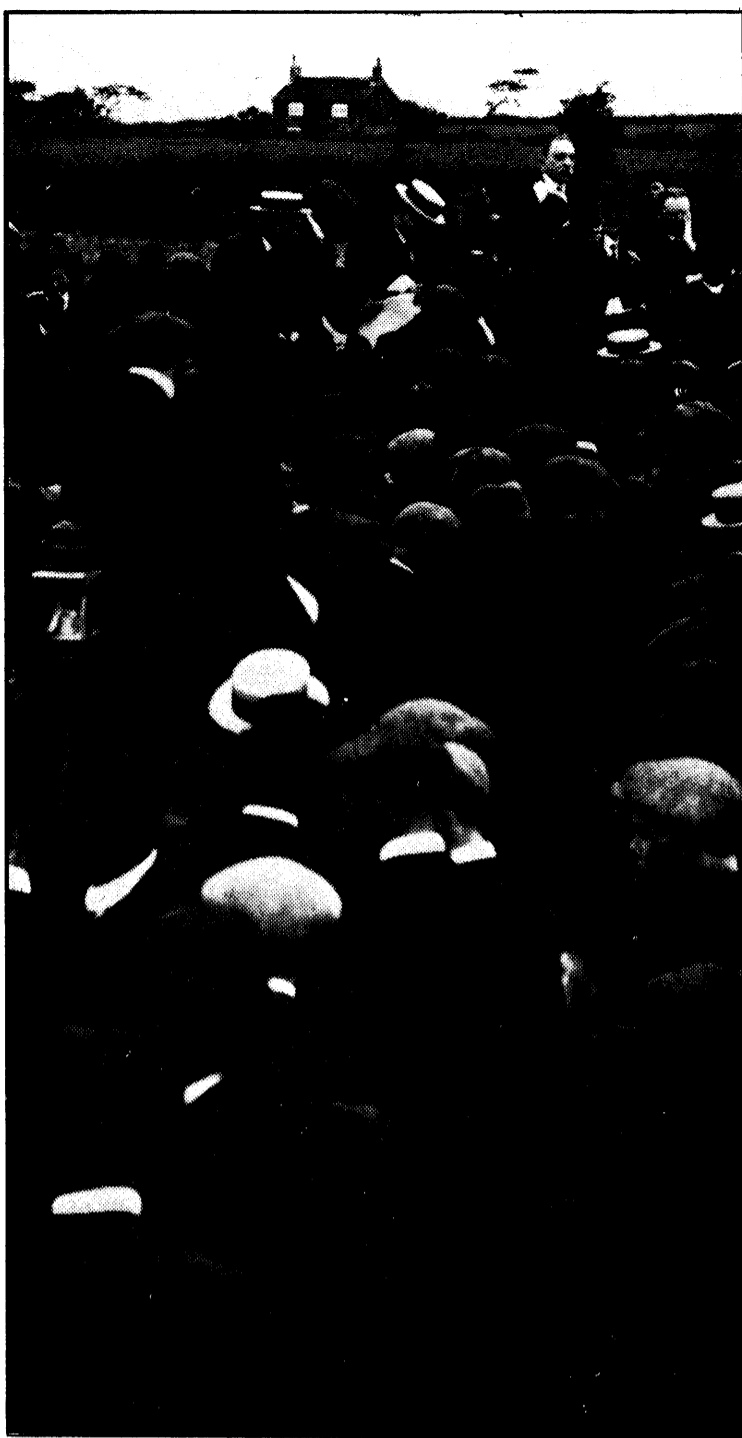
Other papers the following morning were forced to make it front-page news because of the serious new situation it had created. Many reports were sharply critical of the American-owned management for their 'gangster' tactics.

The next day, the 'Standard' led the front page with 'Let's stop this car violence — Mayor calls peace talks'.

When violence is done by the capitalist class to workers, the 'Standard' does not want to know about it.

When a reformist mayor calls on workers to forget the injury, turn the other cheek, and love the boss, the 'Standard' promptly makes it the front-page news!

**Below: Chrysler workers survey overturned lorries, spilling out 'black' engines which were sent crashing through picket lines.**



## 'WORK THE MEN UNTIL THEY DROP'

A Lancashire reader has sent us a clipping from a local newspaper of 1913. Farmworkers in the area were then on strike for higher wages, the introduction of overtime pay (after 14 hours a day in the fields!), recognition of their union, and shorter hours on Saturdays.

The farmer-employers' attitude reflects the 'good old days' to which present employers look back with so much nostalgia.

EVENTS on local farms took a new turn this week when labourers were issued with an ultimatum by the farmers' association. The move is the latest in a long dispute over shorter hours and more money demanded by the workers.

At a meeting held last Thursday, Mr T. Ramsbotham, chairman of the local farmers' council, spoke against the actions of the men and suggested a firm stand against their actions.

With regard to shortened hours on Saturdays it was agreed that the men should be given this 'tit bit' but the farmers refused point blank to recognize the Workers' Union saying it existed only to disrupt the happy conditions now existing on many farms. The men would turn out very happy if left alone to their task.

The demand for more money was turned down point blank

**Above: Strike meeting in Lancashire, 1913. Farm workers won half-holiday Saturday, 6d an hour for overtime work and union recognition.**

after shouts of 'robbery'. It was reasoned that old men were not worth as much as the young so that over a life time in the fields the money paid to labourers evened out a fair deal.

It was added that farmers could ill afford to be 'splashing out' on wage increases for a menial task.

Potato farmers claimed they were up to three weeks behind with cropping and that men who could not work should not be paid, and as for overtime pay, the men worked less after 14 hours and yet they wanted more money.

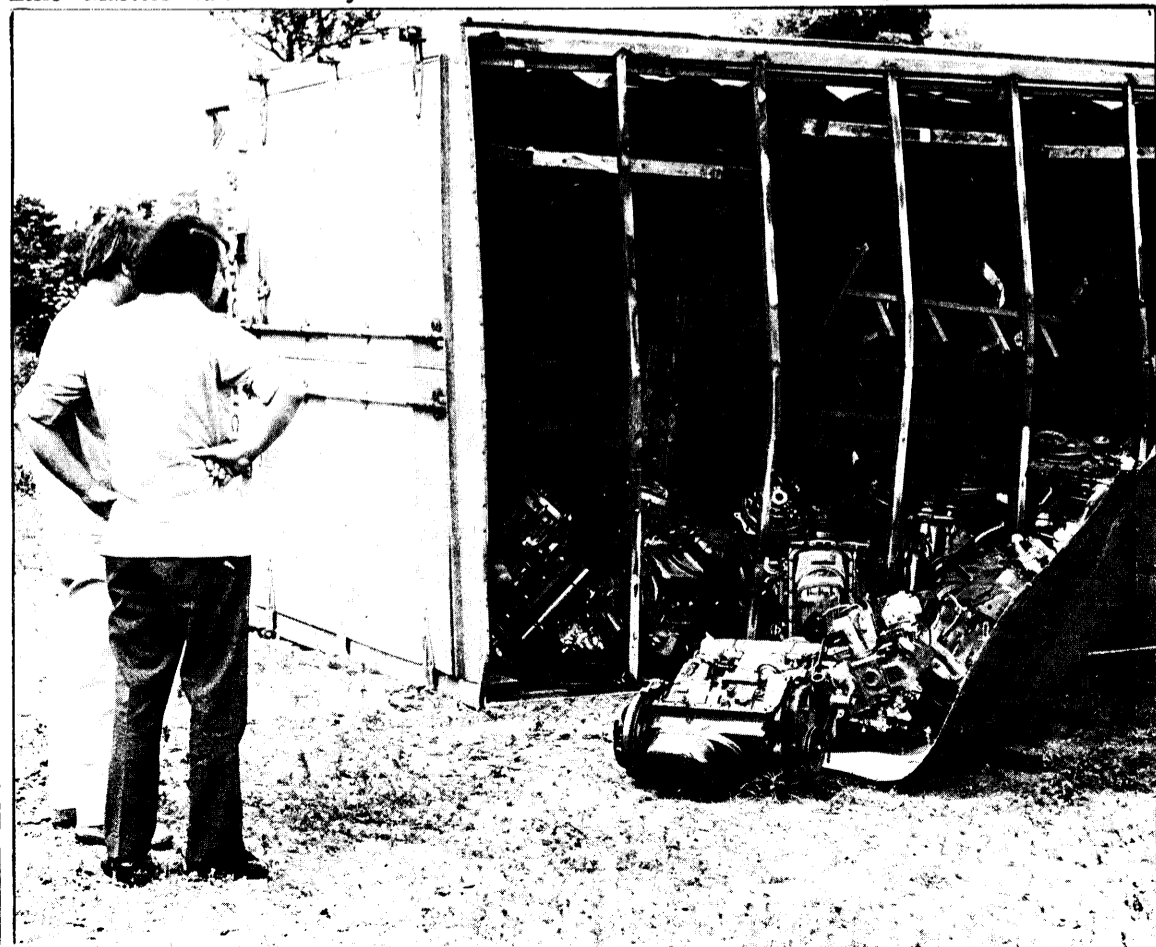
The farmers' meeting also noted the 'grand living conditions' enjoyed by farm workers.

And yet, the meeting felt, the men follow their union leaders towards a life of turmoil and strife after such happy years.

The farmers said they hoped that the men would, at the last, make the right decision.

But at Liverpool today, the men remained firm against the masters who they said were trying to treat them like a gang of 'woollybacks' and fool them into making a settled claim of little value.

The union standpoint was quite definite on the problem. Men would not return to work until all their demands had been met and they were happy. Leaders claimed that farmers wanted to work men until they 'dropped', for little or no money.



# STALINIST LIES, BASIC RIGHTS AND HISTORICAL TRUTH

Correspondence between Jack Gale, News Editor Workers Press, and George Matthews, Editor 'Morning Star'.

On May 17 and June 21 Workers Press printed letters from Mr Monty Johnstone of the British Communist Party. A reply to Johnstone's first letter was published in Workers Press on May 22, 23, 24 and 25.

His second letter was answered by Cliff Slaughter, Central Committee member of the Socialist Labour League, in Workers Press on June 22, 23, 25, 26 and 27.

Monty Johnstone, as his letters show, is an unrepentant defender of Stalinism and a bitterly hostile opponent of Trotskyism, which is represented in Britain by the Socialist Labour League, a section of the International Committee of the Fourth International.

Nevertheless, we granted him the right to express his views in our paper, just as we exercised our right to answer him.

This is something the Stalinists have never done. At no time has the 'Morning Star', nor its predecessor, the 'Daily Worker', ever extended to Trotskyists the right to answer the stream of lies and abuse poured out on them by Stalinism.

We challenged them to do that. On Thursday, June 21, our News Editor Jack Gale wrote to Mr George Matthews, editor of the 'Morning Star' as follows:

On Thursday May 17, Workers Press published a letter from Mr Monty Johnstone, a prominent member of the British Communist Party.

We understand you were preparing to publish that letter in the 'Morning Star' under the mistaken impression that it would be refused publication in Workers Press!

However, in the interests of democratic expression of opposing political views which are of importance to the working class, Workers Press not only published Mr Johnstone's first letter but also a subsequent letter from him. The second letter appeared in our paper on Thursday June 21.

We are prepared to publish the views of anyone concerned with the problems of the working class. Had we received a letter from yourself, it would have been given the same attention.

Cliff Slaughter, a member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Labour League, has now drafted a letter on the subject: 'That the policies of the British Communist Party are derived from the policies of Stalinism'.

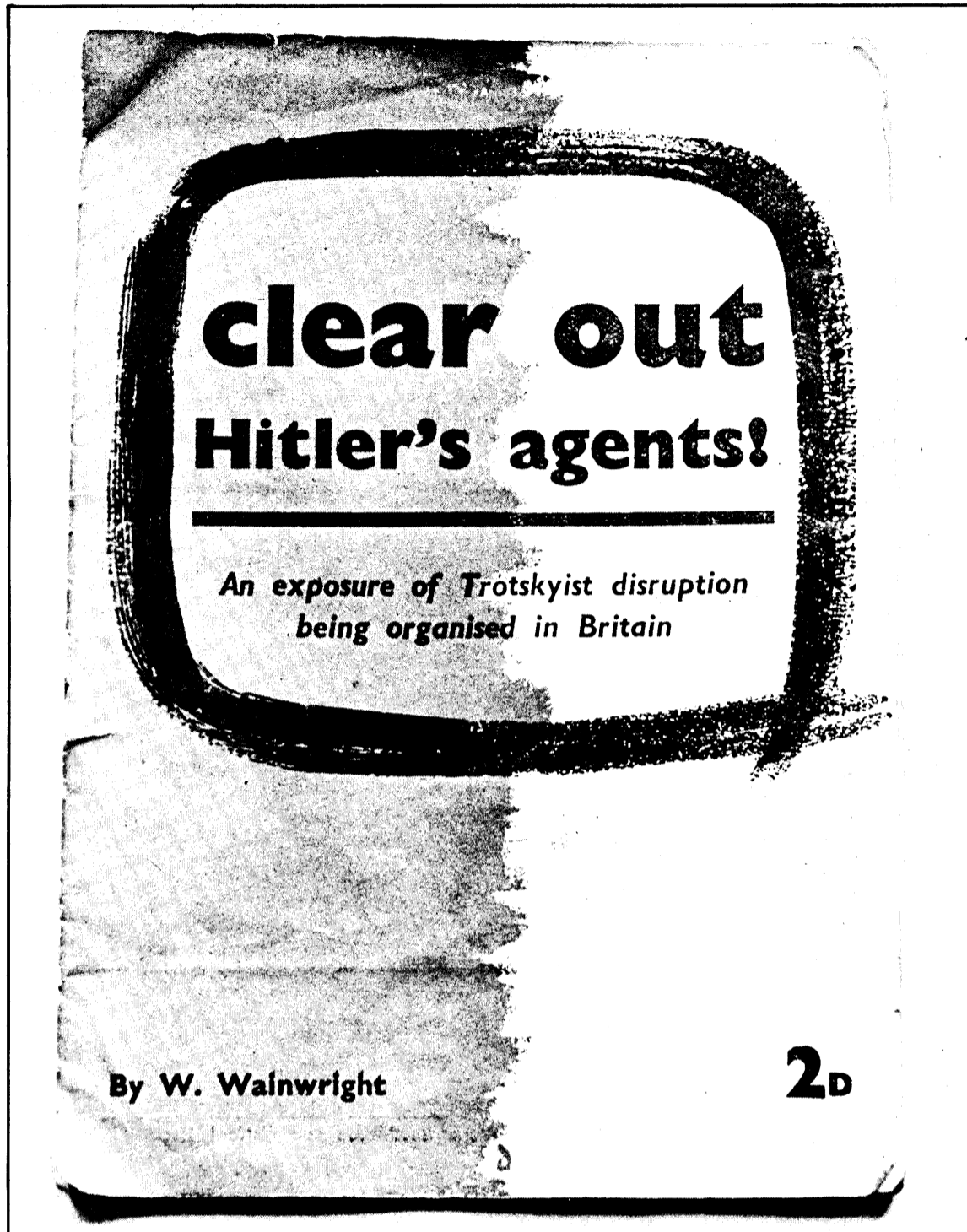
Cliff Slaughter's letter is the same length as the one from Monty Johnstone which we published on June 21.

Are you prepared to publish this letter in the 'Morning Star', as we published Monty Johnstone's letters in Workers Press?

We await your reply.

Matthews' reply reveals once again that the Stalinists continue to deny freedom of expression in their columns to Trotskyists.

The reason is simple—they are afraid to do otherwise. The mountain of lies piled up against Trotskyism and Trotskyists over almost half a century by the Stalinists cannot stand for a moment against honest criticism. Thus, the Stalinists have to make



the most desperate excuses to justify their refusal to grant the same rights to Cliff Slaughter as Workers Press gave to Monty Johnstone.

On June 22, Matthews replied to Comrade Gale's letter as follows.

Thank you for your letter of June 21.

Monty Johnstone wrote his letters to you because you printed a series of lies about him.

With regard to the letter which you say Cliff Slaughter has drafted, but which you do not enclose, we have no intention of giving him a free hand to tell lies about us in our columns.

That Stalinists should complain of Trotskyists telling lies about them is a monumental inversion of historical truth.

Accordingly Jack Gale sent George Matthews a second letter, drawing his attention to the political writings of his colleague, 'Morning Star' assistant editor William Wainwright:

Thank you for your letter of June 22.

I note that you consider Monty Johnstone to be entitled to space in Workers Press because you claim we told 'lies' about him, but that you refuse to give space to Cliff Slaughter in the 'Morning Star'.

You are well aware of course that for almost 50 years a steady stream of Stalinist lies about Trotskyists and Trotskyism has poured forth from the



Left: George Matthews, editor of the 'Morning Star'. Right: Matthews' colleague, assistant editor, William Wainwright, who is also the author of the pamphlet entitled 'Clear out Hitler's Agents' (shown above).

Stalinist Press in Britain as throughout the world.

In particular, may I remind you of a pamphlet issued in August 1942 by the British Communist Party and written by William Wainwright, present assistant editor of the 'Morning Star'?

Entitled 'Clear out Hitler's agents', Wainwright's pamphlet had this to say of Trotskyists:

'There is a group of people in Britain masquerading as socialists in order to cover up their fascist activities . . . They are called Trotskyists . . . You've heard of the Fifth Column. The Trotskyists are their allies and agents in the



ranks of the working class. The Home Guard has been taught a quick way to deal with enemy paratroopers 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. This book is a simple training manual. It will explain to you the tactics of the strange war Hitler is waging in your factory.'

Wainwright lied not only about the British Trotskyists but about Trotsky and two-thirds of the Central Committee of the Bolshevik Party which led the Russian Revolution.

'Trotsky was a Russian who gathered around him an unscrupulous gang of traitors to organize spying, sabotage, wrecking and assassination in the Soviet Union . . . They wormed their way into important army positions, working-class organizations, even government posts. They plotted with the Nazis to hand over large tracts of their country once they had weakened it sufficiently to make its defeat quite certain . . . Trotsky's men are Hitler's men. They must be cleared out of every working-class organization in the country.'

Wainwright then stressed that Trotskyists must not be permitted to express their point of view—a position to which you clearly still adhere:

'Be on the alert for the Trotskyist disrupters. These people have not the slightest right to be regarded as workers with an honest point of view. They should be treated as you would a Nazi. Clear them out of every working-class organization.'

Finally, Wainwright explained: 'What to do with the Trotskyists', in a clear appeal to misguided workers to silence and physically assault Trotskyists—a tactic which Communist Party members sought to carry out vigorously:

'First: Remember that the Trotskyists are no longer part of the working-class movement. Second: Expose every Trotskyist you come into contact with. Show other people where his ideas are leading. Treat him as you would an open Nazi. Third: Fight against every Trotskyist who has got himself into a position of authority, either in your trade union branch, local Labour Party or Co-op. Expose him and see that he is turned out.'

These, Mr Matthews, are real lies! William Wainwright has never retracted a single word of that pamphlet, which every honest worker and communist now knows to have been a tissue of lies from beginning to end.

Yet your distaste for 'lies' does not prevent you working alongside William Wainwright every day of your life.

This simply reveals you as a Stalinist moral humbug anxious to appear as a latter-day liberal.

What has changed is not the desire of Stalinists to lie about Trotskyism and its historical role in fighting for the principles of Leninism against Stalinism—both before and since the Khrushchev revelations of 1956—nor their wish to isolate the Trotskyists by unscrupulous and dishonest methods.

What has changed is their ability to get away with it.

We repeat our request that you print the letter of our Central Committee member Cliff Slaughter, thus extending to him the same facilities of democratic expression of views within the workers' movement as we extended to Monty Johnstone.

Matthews' ability to live with lies is documented. The real reason for closing the columns of the Stalinist Press to Cliff Slaughter, as to any other Trotskyist, remains a fear, not of lies, but of truth.

We repeat our challenge to the Stalinists to publish Cliff Slaughter's letter. We know that if they continue to refuse to do this, many people within their own ranks will begin to question their reasons

# TRANSFORM THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE INTO THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

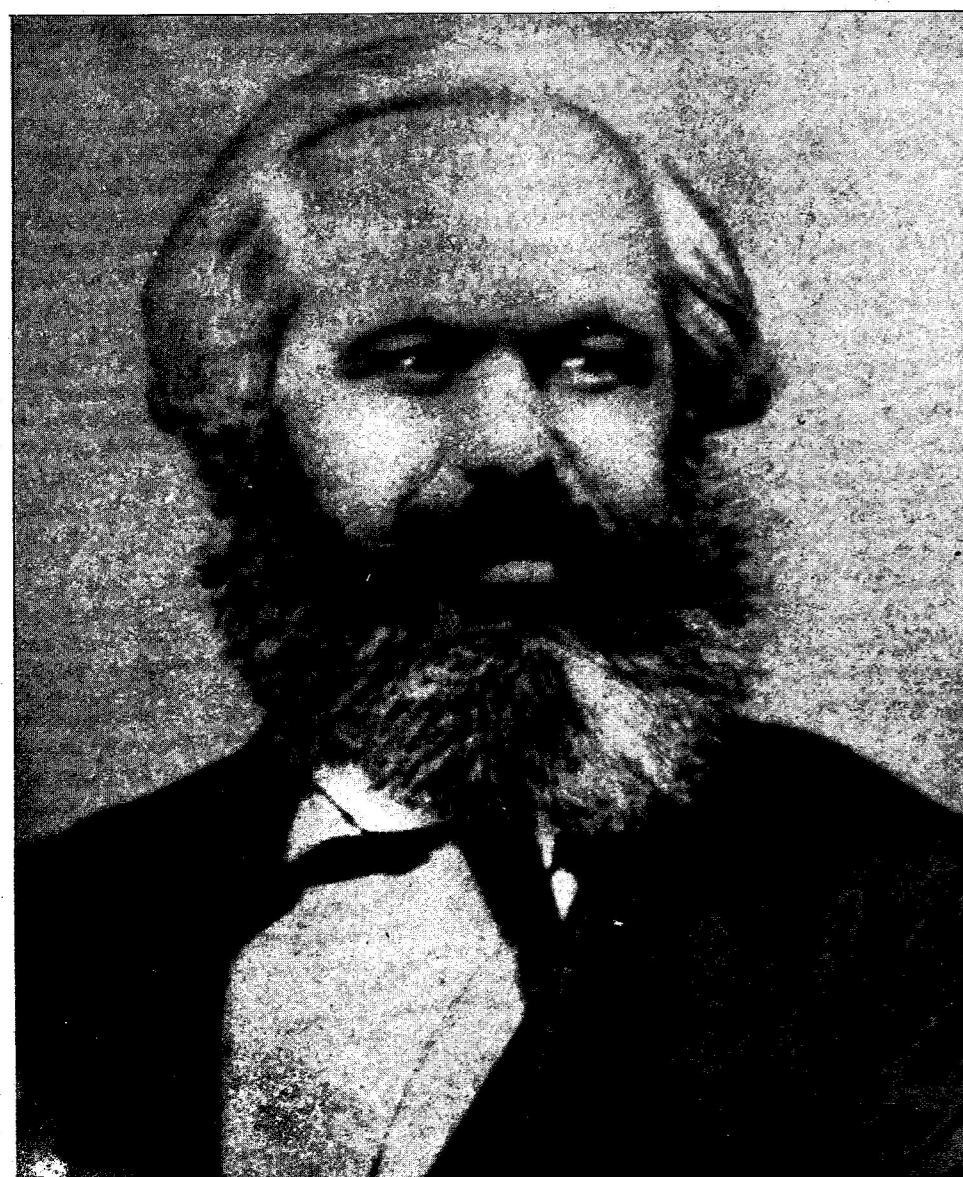
## MARX

Modern bourgeois society with its relations of production, of exchange and of property, a society that has conjured up such gigantic means of production and of exchange, is like the sorcerer, who is no longer able to control the powers of the nether world whom he has called up by his spells. For many a decade past the history of industry and commerce is but the history of the revolt of modern productive forces against modern conditions of production, against the property relations that are the conditions for the existence of the bourgeoisie and of its rule. It is enough to mention the commercial crises that by their periodical return put on its trial, each time more threateningly, the existence of the entire bourgeois society. In these crises a great part not only of the existing products, but also of the previously created productive forces, are periodically destroyed. In these crises there breaks out an epidemic that, in all earlier epochs, would have seemed an absurdity—the epidemic of over-production. Society suddenly finds itself put back into a state of momentary barbarism; it appears as if a famine, a universal war of devastation had cut off the supply of every means of subsistence; industry and commerce seem to be destroyed; and why? Because there is too much civilization, too much means of subsistence, too much industry, too much commerce.

The productive forces at the disposal of society no longer tend to further the development of the conditions of bourgeois property; on the contrary, they have become too powerful for these conditions, by which they are fettered, and so soon as they overcome these fetters, they bring disorder into the whole of bourgeois society, endanger the existence of bourgeois property. The conditions of bourgeois society are too narrow to comprise the wealth created by them. And how does the bourgeoisie get over these crises? On the one hand by enforced destruction of a mass of productive forces; on the other, by the conquest of new markets, and by the more thorough exploitation of the old ones. That is to say, by paving the way for more extensive and more destructive crises, and by diminishing the means whereby crises are prevented.

The weapons with which the bourgeoisie felled feudalism to the ground are now turned against the bourgeoisie itself. But not only has the bourgeoisie forged the weapons that bring death to itself; it has also called into existence the men who are to wield those weapons—the modern working class—the proletarians.

The Communist Manifesto 1848.



## LENIN

The fundamental law of revolution, which has been confirmed by all revolutions and especially by all three Russian revolutions in the 20th century, is as follows: for a revolution to take place it is not enough for the exploited and oppressed masses to realize the impossibility of living in the old way, and demand changes; for a revolution to take place it is essential that the exploiters should not be able to live and rule in the old way. It is only when the 'lower classes' do not want to live in the old way and the 'upper classes' cannot carry on in the old way that the revolution can triumph. This truth can be expressed in other words: revolution is impossible without a nation-wide crisis (affecting both the exploited and the exploiters). It follows that, for a revolution to take place, it is essential, first, that a majority of the workers (or at least a majority of the class-conscious, thinking, and politically active workers) should fully realize that revolution is necessary, and that they should be prepared to die for it; second, that the ruling classes should be going through a governmental crisis, which draws even the most backward masses into politics (symptomatic of any genuine revolution is a rapid, tenfold and even hundredfold increase in the size of the working and oppressed masses—hitherto apathetic—who are capable of waging the political struggle), weakens the government, and makes it possible for the revolutionaries to rapidly overthrow it.

'Left-wing' Communism — an Infantile Disorder', Volume 31 of Lenin's 'Collected Works'. 1920.



## TROTSKY

The world political situation as a whole is chiefly characterized by a historical crisis of the leadership of the proletariat.

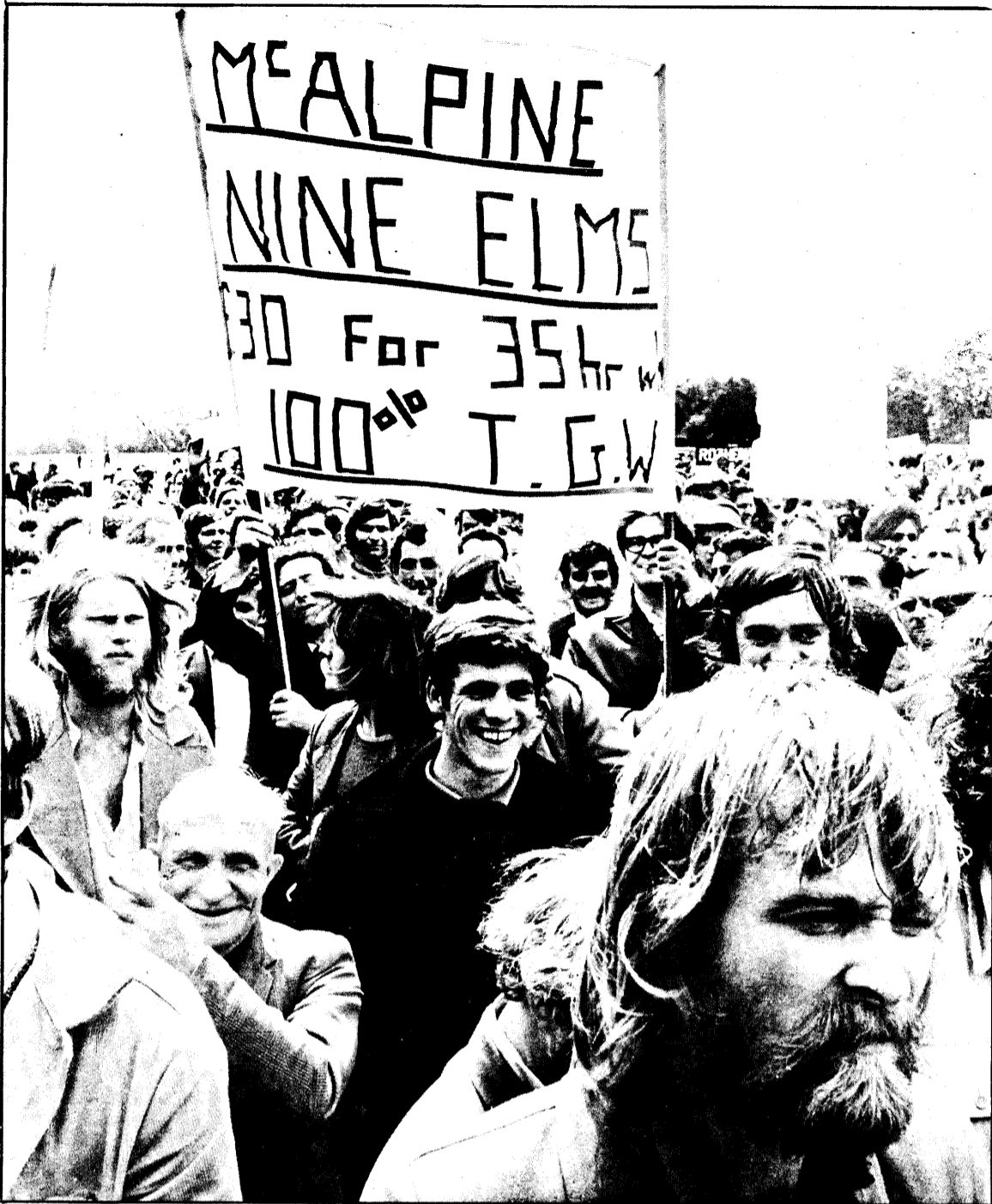
The economic prerequisite for the proletarian revolution has already in general achieved the highest point of fruition that can be reached under capitalism. Mankind's productive forces stagnate. Already new inventions and improvements fail to raise the level of material wealth. Conjunctural crises under the conditions of the social crisis of the whole capitalist system inflict ever heavier deprivations and sufferings upon the masses. Growing unemployment, in its turn, deepens the financial crisis of the state and undermines the unstable monetary system. Democratic regimes, as well as fascist, stagger on from one bankruptcy to another.

The bourgeoisie itself sees no way out. In countries where it has already been forced to stake its last upon the card of fascism, it now toboggans with closed eyes towards an economic and military catastrophe. In the historically-privileged countries, i.e., in those where the bourgeoisie can still for a certain period permit itself the luxury of democracy at the expense of national accumulations (Great Britain, France, United States, etc.), all of capital's traditional parties are in a state of perplexity bordering on a paralysis of will. . . .

All talk to the effect that historical conditions have not yet 'ripened' for socialism is the product of ignorance or conscious deception. The objective prerequisites for the proletarian revolution have not only 'ripened', they have begun to get somewhat rotten. Without a socialist revolution, in the next historical period at that, a catastrophe threatens the whole culture of mankind. The turn is now to the proletariat, i.e. chiefly to its revolutionary vanguard. The historical crisis of mankind is reduced to the crisis of the revolutionary leadership.

Transitional Programme adopted by the founding conference of the Fourth International in 1938.

# DEFEND BASIC DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS



# REVOLUTION OR REFORM

## Part 3: Ramelson puts his head in a noose.

By ROYSTON BULL

Jack Jones leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union lobbied Labour leaders to persuade them not to support the May 1 stoppage for fear of turning it into a General Strike. For months, and without making any secret of it, Jones has been going around saying: 'We must head off the revolution.'

Jones is pushing the most reactionary corporatist ideology within his own union by his policies for co-partnership with the capitalist class in industry as a permanent solution to the class struggle.

Hugh Scanlon, the engineers' president, has made himself notorious for advocating a corporatist deal with Heath accepting the Common Market, the pay laws, and the Industrial Relations Act in return for some trivial concessions.

It is an utterly false jibe to accuse the Socialist Labour League of calling Jones and Scanlon enemies of the working class, or the main enemy instead of the ruling class. No such thing.

What Jones and Scanlon do represent is the most effective expression of bourgeois-ideological influence within the workers' movement. They have

done the things listed. Workers Press has not made them up.

Because they talk 'left' and make militant gestures from time to time, they are the most valuable prop of reformism. They provide a priceless 'left' cover for the most reactionary moves by the TUC, such as the secret and now open talks with the Tory government about continuing the state control of wages into Phase Three.

### Workers kept isolated

These actions are not errors, but the deliberate moves of convinced reformists, totally hostile to revolution.

The Communist Party's support for Jones and Scanlon is the hallmark of Stalinism's counter-revolutionary role.

Ramelson challenges the SLL's position on the 1972 building workers' strike and the 1973 miners' pay dispute. But it was the Stalinists who played the reactionary role. They allowed the building union leaders to avoid calling a national strike.

Even now, the Stalinists are still trying to fob the building workers off with a policy over the 'lump' which will keep them away from a decisive confrontation with the employers and the government standing behind them.

A selective strike campaign against one employer means

another long haul which will not lead to a decisive conclusion, but which will exhaust and fragment the men's determination to fight, just as happened in the pay struggle.

What workers are asking is why repeat isolated long strikes, such as those by miners and building workers in 1972, to win gains which have since been eroded by inflation (and are prevented from being repeated by the pay laws) when a General Strike by all workers could, in half that

time, get rid of the Tory government responsible for workers' difficulties?

It was precisely this question that was in miners' minds in 1973. What made them ballot against strike action was not the 'reactionary role' of the SLL, as Ramelson has it, but the miners' grave doubts about the chances of defeating the government in view of Jones' and Scanlon's attitudes to the General Strike and the Communist Party's dogged support for their positions, echoed by the Stalinists on the NUM executive.

What miners' president Joe Gormley said about either declaring a General Strike or else accepting Phase Two was generally correct, as has been borne out by the facts, whatever his motives for saying it.

The real disservice to the working class was not Gormley's words or their being prominently reported in the Workers Press, but the confusion sown by the Stalinists, well documented, that Phase Two could be, and was being, beaten by pure militancy. This deception completely disarmed the working class.

### Gasmen's defeat put as victory

It was not the Workers Press 'parading Gormley as a hero' (untrue) which 'immobilized the miners and provided ammunition to the right wing in the railway and other unions to follow the miners' example', as Ramelson has it, but the dressing up by the 'Morning Star' of the gasmen's defeat as a partial victory.

Following the NUM executive meeting, Workers Press said: 'Gormley makes a stand then runs away' and stated:

'Gormley is clearly walking away from a repeat of last year's mighty strike by the miners' and 'Gormley, a prominent member of the Labour Party executive, quickly explained the reasons for his own less than full-hearted call to arms'.

Workers Press concluded: 'Having stated the case clearly, the reformist leader then failed on the crucial test. What kind of leadership will he and his colleagues give to the working class in such a confrontation with the Tories? Answer: NONE.'

The front-page article the same day said: 'At the end of the miners' executive, right-wing president Joe Gormley said the union was postponing any pay action until after the March 5 Congress.'

'It's either a General Strike or nothing, Gormley said.'

'So he is telling the miners to hold off for a month during which the Tories will be blasting against the gasworkers, hospital workers and lorry drivers day in and day out in the capitalist Press.'

The next day, Workers Press wrote: 'Into this situation Joe Gormley, the miners' president,

has injected some "blunt talking".'

'Gormley is a notorious right winger.'

'He has said that the situation facing the trade unions is either a General Strike or nothing. His statement is aimed directly at the Stalinists and 'lefts' like Lawrence Daly on his own executive as well as the TUC.'

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

The charge 'parading Gormley as a hero' is vintage Stalinist falsification.

On the gasworkers' strike, the 'Morning Star' wrote of 'crucial concessions being wrung from the Gas Corporation' and its editorial stated: 'Their industrial action has made a considerable dent in Heath's fraudulent incomes policy.'

A seven-week strike in order to win a few odd coppers above the Phase Two norm could be calculated to decide all right-wing union leaders that it was not worth the trouble.

The refusal of the Communist Party to utter one word of criticism of the TUC, or Jones and Scanlon, for their not offering to lift a finger to help the gasmen despite all the 'left' talk about how important it was to do so, convinced the miners and most workers that a complete sell-out over Phase Two was on the way.

And so it has turned out. And the betrayals are still continuing with Phase Three talks at Downing Street, which the 'Morning Star' has deliberately covered up for by calling them an 'error of judgement'.

Acquiescence in Jones and Scanlon's collaboration with the Tories, with permanent apologies in the editorial columns of the 'Morning Star', will not be the end of the matter; things will, and have already, become much more serious.

Eventually, it will lead to a complete capitulation to the right wing and the corporate state.

Already, because of further surrenders to the pressure of bourgeois ideology operating in the labour movement, a number of trade unions have begun witch-hunts against militants.

And now has come the final bitter irony, the persecution of the Stalinists themselves in a union where they could not have gone out of their way to be more placatory to the reformists — Tom Jackson's Union of Post Office Workers.

The post workers' leader has accused the Stalinists of planning a left-wing takeover. It isn't true.

But the pattern of capitulation to the right wing and reformism has been often repeated in Stalinist history and always with disastrous results to themselves and unfortunately to the rest of the working class as well. Hitler's Germany is only the most famous example, but there are many others.

The Communist Party is all set to repeat the pattern in Britain in 1973. The consequences could be just as grave as Germany 1933.

The crisis of capitalism is forcing the Tories inexorably towards the necessity of ruling through a corporate state. These developments make a challenge by the working class to the Tories for state power unavoidable.

The defeatist politics of Stalinism must be eradicated from the workers' movement.

This challenge must take the form of a demand for an end to all talks with the Tory government and instead mobilize a campaign to create the necessary industrial and political conditions to force the discredited Heath regime to resign from office.

These demands must now become the policy of every trade union.



Joe Gormley, right-wing president of the NUM. Workers Press pointed out how Gormley's statement of 'General Strike or nothing' was aimed directly at the Stalinists and 'lefts'. Above: The building workers strike of 1972. The Stalinists allowed the building union leaders to avoid calling a national strike.





## COMMISSIONER MARK'S 'ARMED BODIES OF MEN'

BY ALEX MITCHELL

*'Every effort is made to ensure that applicants are well-balanced and able to cope well with stress. There is no room for the "head-strong" type, or those that are liable to overreact to any difficult situations.'*

**You might be pardoned for thinking that the above description is recruitment material for nurses. Or preachers.**

It is in fact an extract from a New Scotland Yard circular on the development of the Special Patrol Group, the sinister armed branch of the police.

Would the Yard describe Pcs Stanley Conley or George Burrows as unlikely to 'overreact to any difficult situation'?

On February 20 last Conley and Burrows, both top SPG men, raced to India House in the Strand, London, where they shot and killed two teenage Pakistanis, Mohammed Hanif Hussain and Basharat Hussain, cousins from Watford.

Conley, who has since been proclaimed as some kind of 'hero' in the Fleet Street Press and by the coroner who investigated the two deaths, told reporters:

'I don't think my hand was shaking too much. It couldn't have been, could it? My shot went where it was aimed. I caught him straight through the heart.'

'When he fell I thought nothing but relief. It wasn't until five seconds later I realized his gun wasn't real. I went up and took it off him. He was still wearing his mask and he was still alive. He didn't say anything, but he looked at me and he looked surprised.'

Meanwhile, another SPG member was having a slightly more difficult time coping with the situation. He came out of the High Commission supported by two colleagues.

They helped him to a wall. He leaned against it looking pale. Then he was sick.

This weak-stomached fellow is clearly not the type of 'well-balanced' individual that the SPG wants. It is to be hoped that he has since been removed to helping old ladies cross the road!

Meanwhile, more detailed information about the SPG has surfaced. It was first under discussion as early as 1964, the year the Wilson government came to office. According to the Yard statement:

**'The then deputy commissioner, Mr Douglas Webb, CVO, OBE, asked the research and planning branch to study the possibility of a group of uniformed officers using their own transport and communications that could be organized for preventative patrolling of estates subject to hooliganism and housebreakings.'**

A police order calling for applicants was published on January 26, 1965, and it became operational on April 26, 1965—with the full approval of the then Labour Home Secretary, Sir Frank Soskice.

Its inaugural strength was 96, including four inspectors and 12 sergeants. Today the organization has more than doubled its strength to 204—and that's a conservative figure given by the Yard.

The head of the SPG throughout its eight years' history has been deputy assistant commissioner, John Gerrard, the man in charge of 'A' department operations. It also boasts a superintendent, eight inspectors and 18 police sergeants.

Backed by this considerable authority, the SPG has developed into a roving, freelance organization with wide-ranging powers. In his annual report, the new Police Commissioner, Sir Robert Mark, said the SPG's duties covered **'missing persons, combating soccer hooligans, aiding CID in house-to-house inquiries, aiding Serious Crime Squads, as well as combating reported terrorism'**.

Mark went out of his way to dispel public anxiety about this outfit, nicknamed in the

Yard as the 'Central London Commitment'.

'It's an emergency reserve. We've got to have them for all kinds of reasons. All sorts of emergencies arise. Any suggestion that it is "an armed body of men" is nonsense. It isn't.'

The same theme is echoed in the Yard Press release:

**'There is really nothing "Special" about this group. They are merely ordinary policemen doing an ordinary policeman's job, mostly walking the streets for the protection of the citizen and property and the prevention and detection of crime.'**

Yet the SPG can be called out at any time of the day or night and in less than an hour. More than 200 armed specialists, in and out of uniform, in civilian clothes and uniforms, can be deployed in 'emergencies'.

Average age of SPG officers is 31 years and average length of service is ten years. Members are expected to be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**'If any officers cannot maintain the professionalism and high standards of the group, they are asked to leave,'** the Press release says.

This means that one third of the group's members get out each year—one in three.

They operate from six areas of London: headquarters is at Hounslow and the sub-districts are Whetstone, Leytonstone, Balham, Caledonian Road and Gipsy Hill.

In 1972 the SPG was engaged in '14 divisional assignments' of an undisclosed nature and 166 other jobs. All this, according to the Yard, is 'merely ordinary policeman doing an ordinary policeman's job'.

We don't believe it.

The SPG is a secret strike force whose duties are unknown and whose public accountability for its actions is zero. The defence of the basic democratic rights of the working class means the exposure of these outfits so that the working class can be alerted to the insidious and violent preparations of this corrupt and bankrupt ruling class.

# Workers Notebook



## Rippon . . .

There was a recent get-together in Whitehall to discuss home loans. The official statement said that the ministers present were Patrick Jenkin, the Treasury Secretary, Paul Channon, Housing Minister, and Geoffrey Rippon, the Environment Secretary.

As a Cabinet member Rippon is the most senior minister, but his name came last. Why is this? Is Rippon losing favour because of some misdemeanour?

## . . . in the dark

Also noted the other day that Rippon has quit the right-wing Monday Club. Many West End night-goers are wondering if this will extend to other areas of his club life, namely Annabel's and the Berkeley Square.

## Dawdling Maudling

Tiny paragraph tucked away in the 'Sunday Telegraph' the other day caught my eye. 'Yard report on Fund' it said enigmatically. Turned out to be a reference to the marathon inquiry by Scotland Yard's Fraud Squad into the collapse of the Real Estate Fund of America.

Reginald Maudling, the unfortunate ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer and Home Secretary, was the first president of this amazing organization.

It was run by Jerome D. Hoffman, now serving two years in an Illinois prison for mortgage fraud. The crash occurred in December 1970 and apparently an 'interim' police report has just gone to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

It just makes you think how hard-working and mercurial the boys at the Yard really are!! Give them another couple of years and the whole thing might be wrapped up . . .



## Domestic assassination

As reported in a previous 'Notebook', one episode in the Radio 4 'Assassination' series was cancelled at the last minute. It was the episode dealing with the murder of Lord Cavendish in Ireland.

Now the BBC bosses have again decided to shield their customers from revolutionary activity. Last Sunday's BBC 1 television repeat showing of the film on the life of the poet Shelley was cut by ten minutes.

The original film, broadcast last year, showed Shelley in Ireland in 1812 pamphleteering for Irish freedom. It also showed him in an English market distributing tracts protesting against the appalling living conditions in the new English industrial cities.

Both these scenes were omitted on Sunday. Instead the film was allowed to sink under an accumulated weight of domestic groans.

## Pay rise

There's one law for the working class and another for top Tories. A worker can only get £1 plus 4 per cent under the state pay laws.

But Edward du Cann, former chairman of the Conservative Party has had a rise of £360 per week.

His salary as chairman of the Cannon Assurance Company (formerly International Life) has risen from £7,000 to £25,000 a year.

Du Cann is now chairman of the Tory backbench 1922 Committee.

The House of Commons authorities refused to allow a Labour MP to table a motion about the matter, although they had permitted one phased in exactly the same terms about the proposed salary to be paid to Don Revie, Leeds United's manager, if he had gone to Everton.

## Tourism

Enjoy the sunshine, the beaches, the ancient Buddhist ruins. Thus the posters entreat tourists to savour the attractions of South Vietnam. Yes, South Vietnam!

This grisly billing is finding some success in two countries—the United States and Japan. Already a wave of ex-US army officers have been seen combing through the devastation with wives and kids. 'Gee, Pop, this is a gas!'

The Japanese are less ostentatious. They wander about picking up war mementoes which fetch fantastic prices back home.

## Gift horse

Here's a sentimental little story to cheer you up. Poor old Louis Freedman was at home one day wondering what to do with himself when the postman arrived.

In one letter was a cheque for £3,000. It was the repayment of a debt which he had long written off. What would he do with the money?

Mr Freedman decided to buy his wife a racehorse. Lovely gesture. It won more than £30,000 in stake money—which no doubt helped to cheer up their lives. It's chickenfeed to the Freedmans, of course. His firm, Land Securities, is Britain's No 1 property-owning group with assets of £1,028m.

**SATURDAY TV**

**BBC 1**

12.15 Weather. 12.20 Trumpton. 12.35 Dr Dolittle. 12.55 Laurel and Hardy. 1.15 Grandstand. 1.20 Water-skiing. 1.35 Wimbledon. 2.50 Racing. 3.10 Wimbledon. 5.00 Final Score. 5.05 Wimbledon. 6.15 News.

6.30 **DAD'S ARMY.**

7.00 **FILM: 'Blue Murder at St Trinian's'.** Terry Thomas, George Cole, Joyce Grenfell, Alastair Sim.

8.25 **LOOK—MIKE YARWOOD.**

8.55 **A MAN CALLED IRONSIDE.**

9.45 **NEWS, Weather.**

10.00 **THAT'S LIFE.** With Esther Rantzen, Bob Wellings, George Layton.

10.40 **THE SPINNERS.** Meet the Farmers.

11.10 **INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS.** From Leipzig: East Germany v Great Britain v Bulgaria.

11.45 **SERGEANT BILKO.** Phil Silvers.

12.10 **Weather.**

**ITV**

9.00 Farmhouse Kitchen. 9.30 The Piano Can Be Fun. 9.55 Sesame Street. 10.55 Junior Police Five. 11.00 The Partridge family. 11.30 The Flaxton Boys. 12.00 World of Sport: 12.45 World Speedway Tournament. 1.10 News. 1.15 Australian Pools and Cricket Headlines. 1.20 The ITV Six. 3.05 Scottish Open Golf Championship. 3.50 Results. Scores. News. 4.00 Wrestling. 4.55 Results Service. 5.10 News. 5.15 Follyfoot. 5.50 The Rolf Harris Show.

6.35 **THE PROTECTORS.**

7.05 **FILM: 'Captain Pirate'.** Louis Hayward, Patricia Medina, John Sutton.

8.30 **NEW SCOTLAND YARD.** Diamonds Are Never For Ever.

9.30 **NEWS.**

9.40 **THE JULIE ANDREWS HOUR.**

10.40 **FILM: 'Man On A String'.** Former police lieutenant convicted for misuse of criminal evidence, aids government in rooting out local crime organizations.

12.00 **WHO CARES?** Film about Covent Garden by students of London Film School.

12.05 **AQUARIUS.** The Unknown Warrior: Dumbarton Oaks.



Thieves discuss the spoils of the raid in 'New Scotland Yard' on Independent channels tonight. John White, Susan Littler and Michael Culver surely cannot escape Chief Supt. Kingdom's net.

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**REGIONAL TV**

**CHANNEL:** 10.40 Film fun with ... 11.55 Puffin. 12.00 London. 5.20 Rolf Harris. 6.05 Persuaders. 7.00 Film: 'Gunfighters of Casa Grande'. 8.30 London. 9.30 News. Weather. 9.40 London. 12.00 Half a minute. Weather.

**WESTWARD.** As Channel except: 9.20 Farmhouse kitchen. 9.45 Exploring mind. 10.15 Survival. 11.55 Gus Honeybun. 10.40 Film: 'Sweet, sweet Rachel'. 11.55 Faith for life. 12.00 Weather.

**SOUTHERN:** 9.10 Exploring mind. 9.35 Piano. 10.05 Your service. 10.30 Stingray. 11.05 Cowboy in Africa. 12.00 London. 5.15 Fenn St. 5.50 Rolf Harris. 6.30 Film: 'Made in Heaven'. 8.00 Comedians. 8.30 London. 10.40 News. 10.45 Man in a suitcase. 11.40 Adventurer.

**HARLECH:** 9.00 London. 9.55 Hammy Hamster. 10.05 Sesame Street. 11.05 Flaxton boys. 11.35 Partridge family. 12.00 London. 5.20 Rolf Harris. 6.05 Anna and the king. 6.35 Film: 'Knights of the Round Table'. 8.30 London. 10.40 Mahler concert. 12.40 Weather.

**HTV Cymru/Wales** as above except: 6.05 Sion a Sian.

**ANGLIA:** 9.00 London. 9.55 Hammy Hamster. 10.05 Skippy. 1.35 Film: 'Viva Las Vegas'. 12.00 London. 5.20 Tarzan. 6.15 Rolf Harris. 7.00 Film: 'Portrait of Jennie'. 8.30 London. 10.40 Streets of San Francisco. 11.35 Theatre. 12.25 End of the day.

**ATV MIDLANDS:** 9.10 Exploring mind. 9.35 Piano. 10.05 Skippy. 10.30 Laurel and Hardy. 1.20 London. 5.20 Rolf Harris. 6.00 Film: 'Tarzan's Savage Fury'. 9.30 News. 9.40 Film: 'Becket'. 12.25 Epilogue.

**BBC 2**

8.55 Open University. 2.00 Wimbledon 1973. 3.30 Film: 'Blue Peter'. 5.00 Wimbledon 1973.

7.30 **WESTMINSTER.**

7.55 **NEWS, Sport, Weather.**

8.05 **TWO WOMEN.** Part 1.

8.55 **THE ASCENT OF MAN.** 9: The Ladder of Creation.

9.45 **ROBERTA FLACK, DONNY HATHAWAY.**

10.10 **MATCH OF THE DAY.** Wimbledon.

11.00 **NEWS ON 2.**

11.10 **FILM: 'Road House'.** Richard Widmark, Ida Lupino, Cornel Wilde.



Roberta Flack joins Donny Hathaway in a concert on BBC 2.

**ULSTER:** 10.15 Sesame Street. 11.15 Survival. 11.45 Assembly. 12.00 London. 5.20 Assembly. 5.50 Rolf Harris. 6.35 Partridge family. 7.00 Film: 'The Trackers'. 8.25 Results. 8.30 London. 10.40 Theatre. 11.30 Shirley's world.

**YORKSHIRE:** 9.15 Martial arts. 9.40 Exploring mind. 10.10 Bearcats. 11.05 Tarzan. 12.00 London. 5.10 News. 5.20 Rolf Harris. 6.05 Persuaders. 7.00 Carry on comedy. 8.30 London. 10.40 Name of the game. 12.05 Weather.

**GRANADA:** 9.10 Exploring mind. 9.35 Piano. 10.00 Camping. 10.30 Sesame Street. 11.30 Catch Kandy. 12.00 London. 5.20 Protectors. 5.50 Rolf Harris. 6.35 Film: 'The Gazebo'. 8.30 London. 10.40 Film: 'The Young Lions'.

**SCOTTISH:** 9.10 Exploring mind. 9.35 Piano can be fun. 10.10 Curly and Coconut. 10.20 Pebbles and Bamm Bamm. 10.35 Black beauty. 11.05 Jackson five. 11.30 Cavalcade. 12.00 London. 5.15 Partridge family. 5.50 Rolf Harris. 6.35 Film: 'The Last Safari'. 8.30 London. 10.40 Late call. 10.45 Mannix.

**GRAMPIAN:** 11.15 Ron and friends. 12.00 London. 5.20 Sky's the limit. 5.50 Rolf Harris. 6.35 Film: 'Houseboat'. 8.30 London. 10.40 Randall and Hopkirk. 11.35 UFO.

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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.

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**SUNDAY TV**

**BBC 1**

9.00 nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan. 11.00 Seeing and Believing. 12.50 Farming. 1.15 Made in Britain. 1.30 Teddy Edward. 1.35 Ring-a-Ding. 1.45 News, weather. 1.50 Ken Dodd. 2.00 Wimbledon 1973. 3.00 Film: 'Union Pacific'. 5.10 International Athletics from Leipzig. East Germany v Great Britain v Bulgaria. 5.40 The Witch's Daughter, Episode 3. 6.05 News, weather.

6.15 LET'S TALK IT OVER.

6.50 SONGS OF PRAISE.

7.25 EMMA. Part 2.

8.10 FILM: 'We're No Angels'. Humphrey Bogart, Aldo Ray, Peter Ustinov, Joan Bennett.

9.55 NEWS. Weather.

10.05 OMNIBUS FILE. The Mystery Plays; Regents Park Festival, Still Waters..

10.55 THE EDITORS.

11.35 Weather.

**ITV**

9.30 Morning Service. 10.40 Joe 90. 11.05 Funky Phantom. 11.30 Film: 'Bitter Springs'. 1.00 Thunderbirds. 1.50 The Brian Connell Interviews. 2.15 Sportsworld '73. 3.00 Film: 'Brothers in Law'. 4.45 Survival. 5.15 The Golden Shot.

6.05 NEWS.

6.15 SING A SONG OF SUMMER. Judy Mackenzie, Ian Knox.

6.35 SWEAT OF OUR BROW.

7.00 STARS ON SUNDAY.

7.25 FENN STREET GANG.

7.55 FILM: 'Where the Spies Are'. David Niven, Francoise Dorleac.

10.00 NEWS.

10.15 PLAY: 'Reckoning Day.' By David Ambrose with Noel Dyson, Reginald Marsh, Vanda Godsell, Norman Bird.

11.15 FOREIGN EYE.

12.05 WHO CARES?

12.10 IT'S ALL IN LIFE.

**BBC 2**

8.55 Open University. 1.30 Tales from Hoffnung. 1.50 Cricket. 6.45 News Summary, weather. 6.50 News Review.

7.25 THE WORLD ABOUT US. To Catch an Orchid — in Conan Doyle's Lost World.

8.15 MUSIC FROM GREAT HOUSES. Clarinetist Jack Brymer and the Aeolian String Quartet.

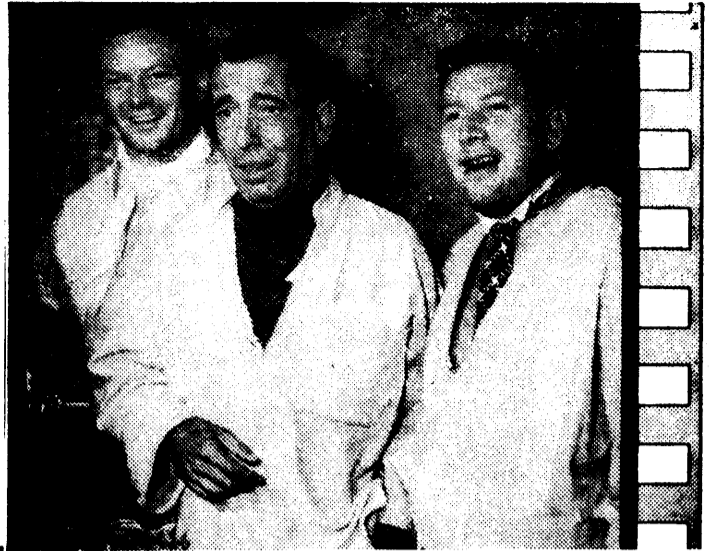
9.15 THE LOTUS EATERS. 6: The Climbing Wave.

10.05 M.A.S.H.

10.30 AN EVENING WITH NANCY WILSON.

11.15 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

Aldo Ray, Humphrey Bogart and Peter Ustinov are three 'angels' from Devil's Island on BBC 1 at 8.10.



**REGIONAL TV**

**CHANNEL:** 11.30 Film: 'On the Double'. 2.13 Weather. 2.15 Champions. 3.15 Film: 'The Stranger Wore a Gun'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 News. 6.15 London. 6.59 Weather. 7.00 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Moon is Down. 9.30 Who do you do? 10.00 News, weather. 10.15 London. 11.15 Dangerman. 12.10 Half a minute. Weather.

**WESTWARD:** As Channel except: 10.30 Sesame Street. 1.10 Chess. 1.25 National Health Service. 1.55 Acres for profit. 7.55 Film: 'Bomb at 10.10'. 11.15 Theatre. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather.

**SOUTHERN:** 9.30 Service. 10.30 Farming. 11.00 World War I. 11.30 Film: 'Tarzan's Savage Fury'. 1.00

Grasshopper island. 1.20 Flaxton boys. 1.50 Get this. 2.15 Sport. 3.00 Film: 'Viva Las Vegas'. 4.35 Golden shot. 5.30 News. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 London. 7.25 Romany Jones. 7.55 Film: 'Under Ten Flags'. 10.10 London.

**HARLECH:** 9.30 Service. 10.45 Farming. 11.15 Angling. 11.40 Profile. 12.10 Romantic v classic art. 1.00 University challenge. 1.30 Disco champions '73. 1.55 Cartoon. 2.15 London. 3.00 Film: 'Jumping Jacks'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Maracaibo'. 9.30 Mr and Mrs. 10.00 London. 12.00 Weather.

**HTV Cymru/Wales as above except:** 6.15 Llusern. 11.15 A Kind of Freedom.

**ANGLIA:** 9.30 Service. 10.30 Film: 'Come to the Stable'. 12.00 Doris Day. 12.25 Gardening. 1.55 Land of the giants. 1.50 Weather. 1.55 Farming. 2.30 Edgar Wallace. 3.30 Golf. 4.15 Bygones. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 London. 11.15 Champions. 12.10 Epilogue.

**ATV MIDLANDS:** 9.30 Service. 10.30 Farmhouse Kitchen. 11.00 Citizens' Rights. 11.30 Hello London. 1.00 Reflection. 1.15 Randall and Hopkirk. 2.15 Sport. 3.00 Film: 'Pork Chop Hill'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Grand Slam'. 10.00 London.

**ULSTER:** 1.00 Exploring minds. 1.30 Piano can be fun. 1.00 Houndcats. 2.15 London. 3.05 Film: 'Pardners'.

4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 London. 7.53 Results. 7.55 Film: 'Anna Karenina'. 10.00 London.

**YORKSHIRE:** 9.20 Chess. 9.30 Service. 10.30 Mr Trimble. 10.50 Untamed world. 11.15 Dick Van Dyke. 11.40 Whicker's orient. 12.05 Saint. 1.00 Farming. 1.25 Calendar. 1.55 Golf. 2.40 Cartoon. 2.45 Film: 'That Man from Rio'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'From Here to Eternity'. 10.00 London. 12.35 Weather.

**GRANADA:** 9.30 Service. 10.35 Farmhouse kitchen. 11.00 Addams family. 11.30 Film: 'Another Shore'. 12.50 Cartoon. 12.55 The Saint. 1.55 On the line. 2.25 Golf. 3.10 Cartoon. 3.20 Name of the game. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05

London. 7.55 Sylvester. 8.00 Film: 'The Bounty Man'. 9.30 Smith family. 10.00 London.

**SCOTTISH:** 10.10 Children to children. 10.40 Women. 11.10 Clapperboard. 11.35 Film: 'The Huggets Abroad'. 1.00 Champions. 2.00 Golf. 2.50 Film: 'The Secret of My Success'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Flaxton boys. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'From Here to Eternity'. 10.00 London. 12.05 Late call.

**GRAMPIAN:** 12.30 Farming. 1.00 Exploring mind. 1.30 Piano can be fun. 2.00 Golf. 2.50 Film: 'The Gift of Love'. 4.40 Golden shot. 5.35 Follyfoot. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame'. 10.00 London.

# White-collar equal pay campaign opens up

**A STRIKE** by the 30 clerical staff—25 women and five men—at the Derby factory of Prestige Limited has triggered a white-collar campaign for equal pay in the East Midlands.

The women, who have been on strike since Monday, were indignant to learn of Thursday's attack on the picket line at Salford Electrical Instruments.

The strike is 100 per cent solid. Many lorries have been turned back and members of the technical and supervisory section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers in the works are refusing to do clerical work. APEX (clerical union) East Midlands organizer Mr Alan Gillivant said:

'We object to government interference in collective bargaining. If we are prevented from getting a free settlement we insist on having every penny the law says we can have. The law says clearly companies can reduce the male-female differential by one-third in 1973. This amounts to £1.70 at Prestige. But the company only awarded 50p towards equal pay.'

'We are out for the extra £1.20. Our members are resolute. They are not going back until the company complies with the government. It is their government—they will have to stick with it.'

Mr Gillivant expects strike action to be extended to BDA, part of the GEC combine, at Lutterworth, Leicestershire, next Monday.

Negotiations are also deadlocked at the Barford plant of British-Leyland at Belton, near Grantham, Lincolnshire, and at the Swiss-owned British Manufacturing Research, Grantham.

## Home Office picket over jailing of Michael Farrell

MEMBERS of the People's Democracy group will picket the Home Office today in protest against the jailing of Michael Farrell.

Farrell, the PD's Press officer, was imprisoned for taking part in 'an illegal march'. In a leaflet being distributed, the PD compares the campaign for

the release of Rhodesian journalist Peter Niesewand with the silence surrounding Farrell's case.

'Michael Farrell has been deliberately singled out, like Niesewand, to be victimized because of the sharpness of his attacks on the system.'

# Firemen fear for conditions

COVENTRY firemen are facing a threat to their working conditions under a reorganization of regional council's fire brigades into metropolitan areas.

Pete Murphy, chairman of the Conley branch of the FBU, explained why there is deep apprehension among Coventry firemen.

'Basically, we want to stop on the duty system we have achieved. This also applies to fire stations in Walsall, Warley, Stourbridge and West Bromwich.'

'Our duty system consists of three days, three nights and then three days' rest. We work nine hours on days and 15 hours on nights.'

'The Birmingham system over a three-week cycle con-

sists of two days, two nights, one rest day, then two days, two nights and two rest days.'

'We would therefore clearly be losing rest days over a period if we were to accept the Birmingham duty system.'

'Yet the union executive man is attempting to force a ballot through in all five stations regarding the Birmingham method.'

'In addition we would also lose days in our annual leave. We have 21 days, which includes three rest days prior and after a 15-day holiday. Birmingham has 17 days which includes two days prior and after the holiday. We would therefore lose two days' holiday.'

'We are negotiating at the moment for four extra days' leave which we expected to be granted. We would lose this as well if we accepted the Birmingham method.'

'The Coventry area committee has voted unanimously not to take part in any ballot to accept the Birmingham method.'

'It would be a farce because the Birmingham method is also used in Dudley, Solihull, Wolverhampton, Aldridge and Sutton Coldfield stations, which clearly outnumber Coventry and its fellow brigades.'

'Coventry firemen have threatened to take militant action if we are forced to accept the outcome of the ballot.'

'And finally, under the Cunningham Report into firemen's pay and conditions, there was a national rate for all fire brigades and future rises were to absorb any plus payments.'

'We kept and have maintained a £3 increase based on the London rate. Birmingham, which had a £1 plus rate, had it absorbed.'

## Women fight speed-up

WOMEN WORKERS at a Burnley car-components factory are fighting a management speed-up bid. They say the owners of the factory, the big Joseph Lucas group, want to increase their production quotas by almost a third.

The dispute is at the group's Eastern Avenue factory, where 200 women walked out on Thursday in sympathy with 34 others who make switch-gear for British-Leyland's Morris Marina.

The strikers say management demanded that they up their quotas from 100 to 132 units an hour. After weeks of internal negotiation this figure was dropped to 129. But they claim it is physically impossible to do over 110.

All the women say that they are having to do more work for less money. Some claim they are

taking home an average of £1.50 a week less than previously.

A management spokesman would make no official comment, but confirmed there was a dispute over piecework values.

On Wednesday, 22 day-shift workers walked out. They were joined by 12 from the night shift.

The following morning, at a factory-gate meeting, it was said that there was discontent throughout the factory and that the women were fed up with being treated like schoolchildren.

There were immediate talks involving the district secretaries of the engineers' union and the General and Municipal Workers.

Allan Robinson, of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday a compromise formula had been reached which, in the opinion of the officials, would have allowed a return to work while investigation of the job in question took place.

But difficulty in contacting the strikers apparently prevented the officials making their recommendation yesterday. It is expected to be put to the strikers on Monday.

## Inequalities in education protest

TEACHERS and school students will march on Dulwich College, south London, today to protest against 'the inequalities of the education system'.

The protest is being supported by the year-old National Union of School Students. The organizers say: 'Dulwich College is reserved exclusively for the rich. It has more facilities and better teachers than the nearby Kingsdale Comprehensive, even though Kingsdale has more school students than Dulwich.'

'Both serve a purpose: Kingsdale to "educate" future workers into accepting their roles in society, Dulwich to educate future members of the ruling class, professions, etc.'

Some Dulwich students have joined NUSS in an attempt to expose the inequalities. 'Some of them struck on May Day and have been victimized. There has been a witch-hunt against the NUSS,' one of the organizers said.

### SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE LECTURES

#### Ellesmere Port

Given by Gerry Healy  
National Secretary  
of the  
Socialist Labour League

**Wednesday July 11**

The materialist conception of History

**Wednesday July 18**

Dialectical Materialism—a Marxist theory of knowledge

**Wednesday July 25**

Theory and Practice of Marxism

**Wednesday August 1**

Role of the Revolutionary Party

at

**Civic Hall  
Ellesmere Port**

7 p.m.

### 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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## Urges union chiefs to break conference decisions

# Wilson lifeline to Phase Three talks

BY DAVID MAUDE OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR LEADER Harold Wilson yesterday rushed to the aid of the Tories—pleading that the TUC talks with the government must continue. He told the Douglas, Isle of Man, conference of the colliery overmen's union that the General Council negotiating team should not be inhibited from playing its full part in the talks.

## Army revolt in Chile

THE ALLENDE regime in Chile was faced with civil war yesterday when two army regiments revolted and clashed with guards at the presidential palace in Santiago.

The rebel troops brought up tanks and artillery and surrounded the palace.

Tension has been rising in Chile for some weeks and there have been many rumours of a right-wing bid for power. Allende and his Stalinist backers have opened the way for reaction by their treacherous policy which has lost the support of large sections of the working class.

## Cash crisis hits Peronism

THE NEW regime of President Hector Campora in the Argentine faces a budgetary crisis little more than a month after coming to power.

The budget deficit for the financial year is expected to exceed \$3,000m, more than twice the previous regime's estimate.

Finance Minister, Jose Gelbard told provincial ministers: 'One great effort from the whole of the public sector will enable us to meet the challenge of a deficit which represents 12 per cent of the gross national product.'

He proposed the stock austerity remedy including cuts in government expenditure and also in private consumption of goods like cars, furniture and other durables.

But provincial representatives claimed cuts would cause serious harm to the economy in their areas.

The budgetary difficulties will make it impossible for the new Peronist regime to carry out its election promises.

No ban should be placed on the inclusion of union leaders who could play an essential part, he added.

Wilson did not directly mention the decision of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers last week to bar its president, Hugh Scanlon, from taking any further part in the talks.

Nor did he refer to Wednesday's vote by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions to press the TUC to call off the talks altogether.

But these were clearly in his mind. In other words, Wilson was deliberately setting his face against the official policy of 2.5 million engineering workers and calling for continued class-collaboration.

Even more important, Wilson's remarks were designed to confuse and behold the mass anti-Tory movement in the working class reflected in the AUEW and CSEU votes.

The unions' case must not be allowed to 'go be default', or be 'left to unscrupulous misrepresentation by the government', he said.

'If after the fullest consultations the government continue to reject the essential requirements of a fair and workable policy, the responsibility will be clearly placed where it belongs—upon an obdurate and ideologically-possessed government.'

In fact this characteristically tortuous, tricky argument is a lifeline for Heath.

What the Labour leader is really saying is that unless the union chiefs continue the talks at Heath's pleasure, the Tories will be justified in blaming the working class for inflation. So they must continue the talks and, if possible, strike a deal with the Tories.

Wilson places himself at the head of a right-wing conspiracy against the working class just at the point when this government's policies lie in ruins and there is visible proof that they can be forced to resign.

Besides showing contempt for the engineering unions' decisions, he betrays his hatred and fear of the determined struggles of the Chrysler, Perkins and all other workers battling the rocketing cost of living and speed-up in the factories.

Every working-class family knows that the responsibility for the 36-per-cent rise in the cost of living, imposed since this



Harold Wilson takes the Feather line on talks.

## Plain clothes soldier cleared of murder

DETAILS have emerged of a British army undercover force which is operating in Northern Ireland. It is called the Military Reaction Force and its members travel around in civilian vehicles in plainclothes.

Stories of the secret group's activities have been circulating for more than a year, but in a court case in Belfast this week a more definite picture of its modus operandi surfaced.

Sgt Clive Williams (26),

## murder

a squad commander with the Military Reaction Force, was charged with attempting to murder three civilians in Belfast last year.

The prosecution alleged that Williams opened fire with a Thompson sub-machine gun from a passing car on three unarmed civilians standing at the Glen Road bus terminus.

In evidence Williams admitted he was part of the special force which worked in unmarked cars in areas

where it was 'difficult' for uniformed soldiers to patrol.

Sub-machine guns were used by the unit as part of their anti-terrorist training.

He said he saw a man carrying a revolver standing at the terminus. Another man opened fire on the car and when Williams returned fire he saw two of the men fall.

He fired a burst of ten rounds.

He was acquitted on the attempted murder charges but was found guilty of maliciously wounding.

## TUC team meet without Scanlon

### New talks at Perkins

A FRESH round of talks between unions and the management of Perkins Diesels, Peterborough, have been called for Monday.

National officials of the engineering and transport unions will be there. The move came from the company.

Just over two and a half weeks ago the Perkins management shut down its four Peterborough plants and locked out 5,700 workers.

This followed an overtime ban to back a parity demand.

Deputy convenor Jeff Cain said picketing was continuing at all the gates and the lines were being respected by lorries.

The question of a cleaning contractor who was breaking the picket line would have to be considered later.

At Massey Ferguson's, where the workers are paid more, 2,500 assembly men will be laid off on Monday while the annual stock-taking gets underway. There are already 750 day and night shift lay offs. Supplies from Perkins have nearly dried up.

T. BAILEY FORMAN, yesterday closed the Nottingham 'Guardian Journal'. Management has rejected terms for a return to work from 300 newspaper workers from five unions who have been striking over the imposition of new printing methods. They were all sacked on Wednesday. A statement issued after emergency board meeting said: 'The paper has lost substantial amounts of money annually for a number of years and circulation has not been satisfactory. Recent events will inevitably have had a very adverse effect on sales of the paper and this board has no alternative but to close.'

government came to power, lies with the Tories and their system and nowhere else.

Wilson attempts to kick dust in these workers' faces, and help the Tories impose a sordid deal on the working class with the aid of the TUC leaders.

He told the colliery overmen: 'It is my hope that the TUC negotiating team will not be inhibited from playing their full part in the negotiations about Stage Three, and that no ban will be placed on the inclusion of trade union leaders who can play an essential part in these talks.'

This is a charter for the Tories to go on plotting the smashing of the labour movement and the imposition of the corporate state. It must be repudiated by every trade unionist.

## Site stops over sacked electrician

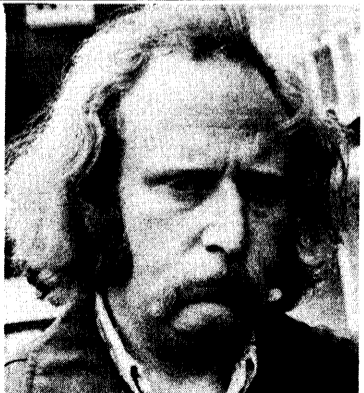
BUILDING workers at the YMCA site, Tottenham Court Road, London, struck yesterday in support of the site electrician, Patrick Fuller, who has been made redundant without any reason being given.

Mr Fuller is known to have spoken out on several occasions

about safety provisions on the site.

Relations with management have been deteriorating generally on the site for some time, he claims.

If Mr Fuller is not given his job back on Monday, the strike will continue.



Patrick Fuller

### £100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

WE'RE really shaken. Our fund seems to have been forgotten. Swindon branch has sent in £1. But apart from that not a penny piece.

What is the answer comrades? There has been a hard and a good fight up until now. We need to com-

plete the target by October 31. We now have £51,818.49. Are we going to do it? Only you can supply the answer. Post all donations to:

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

### BRIEFLY - BRIEFLY

SEVENTY staggers at the Cammell Laid shipyard, Birkenhead, are to return to work having won the right to representation by stewards of their choice.

PROSECUTION witness Henry James (35) has told the Mold conspiracy trial that the police had behaved like the Gestapo when they interrogated him. He was giving evidence in the continuing trial of eight building workers who have pleaded not guilty to intimidation and causing an affray.

ONE DAY  
AND £251.41  
TO RAISE!

WE ARE very anxious indeed. After one spurt our post yesterday only brought £32, which leaves us with just one day to raise the remaining £251.14 to complete our £1,750 target.

As we approach our great rally and conference at Belle Vue, Manchester, this Sunday, July 1, we can see from the response throughout the trade union movement that workers everywhere are looking for an alternative revolutionary leadership.

Only Workers Press fights for this. We therefore make one final appeal—help over this last day with our biggest effort yet to complete our June Fund. Please give something—whatever you can afford. Make sure we complete our target, but don't leave it too late. Rush everything immediately to:

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

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)

NEWSDESK

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