

What we think

Lord Thomson joins the anti-Trotskyist crusade

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The feature proves that Stalinists like Palme Dutt approved of the Moscow Trials, even though they knew Lenin's old comrades to be innocent of the charges heaped upon them. But it carefully refrains from any political analysis of the trials and purges. For Stalin had only one target when he staged the 1934 Kirov assassination, which then became the pretext for all the subsequent frame-up trials and purges. That target was Leon Trotsky and the Fourth International.

Trotsky was the main defendant in absentia at all three Trials. In each case, the theme, endorsed by the leaders of British Stalinism, was that Trotsky had collaborated with imperialism to overthrow Soviet power and restore capitalism in the USSR.

The feature tries to create the false impression that the Moscow Trials are a thing of the past, in which the present leadership are not implicated. Dutt and the 80-year-old Page Arnot are presented as the leaders mainly concerned with this phase of the Party's history.

Party Secretary Gorman, who in fact was one of the most servile Stalin worshippers in the entire leadership, is built up as a man who has stood up to the Kremlin.

But the most fulsome praise is reserved for the 'active young theorist' Monty Johnstone.

Johnstone, after joining the Young Communist League in 1940 at the age of 12, became a member of the Trotskyist Revolutionary Communist Party in 1945, and left it in 1946 to rejoin the Stalinists.

We asked Johnstone, in Workers Press of November 12, 1969, to explain his record publicly. Was he working in the RCP as a Stalinist agent? We are still waiting for an answer. And naturally, the 'Sunday Times' keeps well clear of this delicate question.

His obituary to Stalin, written for the YCL journal 'Challenge' in 1953, and his justification of the Slansky trial which sent 11 innocent Czech Communist Party leaders to their death in 1952 are not to be touched on. The role of 'liberals' like Johnstone is quite clear and conscious. In his own words he says:

'I believe it is only the Communist Party that can provide the kind of Marxist leadership that is necessary, but it has to find ways of convincing young people that it is a live, thinking, Marxist party.'

The 'Sunday Times' feature is designed to do just that. Johnstone, however, still maintains his allegiance to Stalinism intact. He upholds the Kremlin crushing of the Hungarian workers' uprising of 1956 as justified by 'geopolitical considerations', and naturally defends the Stalinist, anti-Marxist theory of 'socialism in one country'.

Lord Thomson, the millionaire reactionary owner of the 'Sunday Times' leaves no stone unturned in his attempt to discredit revolutionary Marxism.

In a section devoted to ex-Communist Party members, Peter Fryer is given prominence as a former editorial worker for the 'Daily Worker', who left the Communist Party after his dispatches from Budapest during the 1956 revolution were suppressed.

He then became editor of the newly-founded 'Newsletter', the forerunner of the Workers Press. Faced with struggle to turn the paper towards the working class and the fight against the Labour Party right wing, Fryer deserted the Socialist Labour League and, after visiting Portugal to write a book on that country, devote himself to the study of pornography.

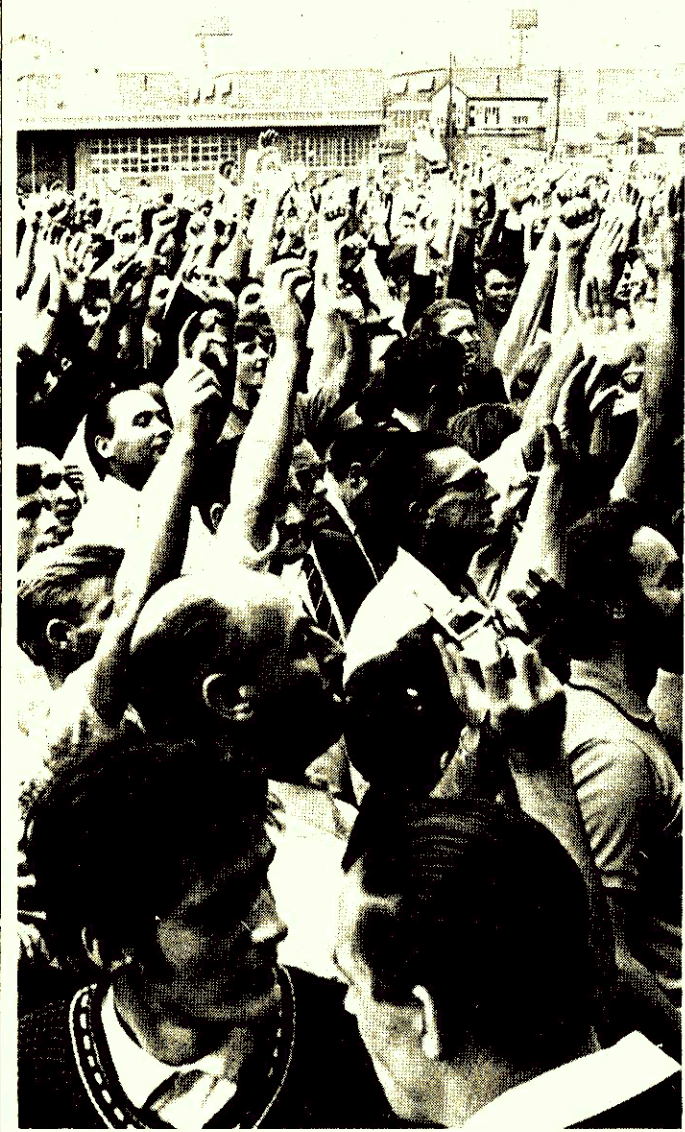
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Stalinism and Trotskyism are the same, says this renegade. The 15-year struggle of Trotsky against Stalinism, with its purges, show trials, betrayed revolutions and collaboration with the imperialists during the last war, are placed on the same level by Fryer. The victim is equated with the exe-

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GKN strikers state case

• SEE PAGE FOUR



Talks go on

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The Council is likely to meet today in London for talks on the men's claim for a 4s 3d-an-hour increase in basic pay.

Officials of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, to which the majority of the 5,000 strikers belong, are to meet shop stewards in Wellington tomorrow. The union has also arranged a mass meeting of its members to take place before the factory mass meeting on Friday.

Union officials are desperately trying to re-establish control over the strike. Many Sankey workers are now extremely wary of the official's efforts to reach a compromise settlement.

Last Friday's strike meeting

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Feather meets Heath today

TUC looks for Tory compromise

TRADE UNIONS can expect nothing but a squalid compromise when TUC general secretary Victor Feather meets Prime Minister Edward Heath today.

Having 'accepted' the Tory government, welcomed its economic approach and assured it of his willing co-operation, there is no reason to assume that Mr Feather will, at this late stage, dismay his friends in the Tory cabinet.

Whatever Mr Feather (and the Stalinists) may think about his pet panacea of 'expansion' and 'high wages', the Tories are in too deep a crisis to give his 'plan' more than a cursory glance.

The Tory government faces major decisions—and very far-reaching ones—in order to

ensure the survival of their system.

Foremost amongst these is the question of international liquidity, which is constantly being aggravated by the unprecedented militancy of the working class securing bigger and bigger wage increases. In response to this wave of militancy sweeping the capitalist world, the employers have up to now, continued with a policy of inflation.

This in turn has further exacerbated the monetary crisis, leading to depreciation of currencies and dramatic falls in profit rates with a consequent depression of equity prices.

All this has added up to a lack of confidence amongst financiers and industrialists, and a considerable scaling down of investment.

So when sections of the Tory press moan about wages causing stagnation they lie. The only reason for stagnation in Britain is not wages going up—but profit rates coming down.

The employers are losing confidence because of the determination of the working class to fight back.

Hampers

As the engineering employers prosaically stated: 'The lack of sufficient retained earnings [i.e., after paying dividends and interest charges of course] to finance investment, together with the general restraint on credit, severely hampers the efforts of industry to increase productive potential.' ('Current Economic Problems in the Engineering Industry', August 1970.)

The Tories are extremely concerned that the seasonal factors now unfavourable to sterling should coincide with a declining rate of balance of payments surplus.

A continuation of this trend could lead to a repeat performance of November 1967, but this time in an extremely disadvantageous situation for British capitalism.

Devaluation, without a definitive settlement with the trade unions, fills all sections of the Tories with apprehension.

The Tory Party right-wing has decided that there is no way out of the present impasse except to increase unemployment by intensifying the credit squeeze and to push through the anti-union laws as quickly as possible.

Their main aim is to 'discipline' the trade unions and, as GKN and Linwood show, to use the bureaucracy against the workers.

Competitive

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Heath

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Total raised £1,054 19s 6d

WE NEEDED £299 14s 9d and over the weekend you raised £354 14s 3d, giving us the magnificent total of £1,054 19s 6d.

Many, many thanks for this tremendous response.

This month, we not only raised more than £1,000 over the target for the Trotsky Memorial fund, we completed the Appeal fund and even went over the top!

Thank you once again for this tremendous support.

Now arms swoop in Ulster

BY A CORRESPONDENT

POLICE and troops raided houses in the Catholic Fall Rd district of Belfast yesterday in one of N Ireland's biggest yet arms searches.

Ten people were arrested after a search of more than 20 houses had revealed six pistols, one shotgun, 1,500 rounds of ammunition, ten hand-grenades, three walkie-talkie radio sets and material for making a bomb.

Three unemployed labourers aged 20, 19 and 21, were remanded in custody until Friday in Belfast yesterday accused of making petrol bombs.

A 19-year-old youth was also remanded in custody until Friday charged with possessing 1,000 rounds of ammunition and a revolver.

Undoubtedly emboldened by the Stormont government's continued swing to the right, the Royal Black Institution ignored the recent ban and paraded through Belfast on Sunday and other Orangemen marched in Rathfriland and Omagh.

CORDON

In Belfast, troops cordoned off Unity Flats when the Orangemen went past.

The N Ireland government yesterday announced the lifting of the month-old drinks curfew restricting liquor sales after 8 p.m.

'Peace' talks delay an Israeli ploy

By our Middle East correspondent

THE ISRAELI cabinet postponed until today a decision on the return of its representative Tekoah to the New York 'peace' talks.

An extraordinary session of the cabinet is taking place, at which the apparent division between Prime Minister Mrs Golda Meir and Defence Minister Moshe Dayan on the talks is to be discussed.

It is reported that Dayan threatened to resign if the talks went on without alleged Egyptian violations of the cease-fire being taken up by Washington.

While it is possible that Israeli internal differences do exist, the most likely explanation of the delay in resuming the talks is that it is aimed at squeezing further concessions from the Egyptians in any final settlement.

Meir, who only returned from Washington on Sunday, stressed in a TV interview at the weekend the basic friendship between Israel and the US, 'no matter how serious the problems over which we have misunderstandings'.

Nixon is meeting top-level US officials to discuss the Middle East today.

They are expected to review the proposals for a joint US-Soviet force to police the Middle East.

Despite statements that such plans were only 'under consideration', Moscow has not denied earlier reports that details had already been worked out.

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Speakers from the General Union of Arab Students, the Indian Workers' Association and 'PSC' itself, denounced the 'peace' talks as a stab in the back for the Arab revolution and the Palestine liberation movement, but avoided any discussion of Nasser's role.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

SOUTH-EAST LONDON: Sunday, September 6, 3 p.m., Kerfield Tavern, Grove Lane, Camberwell Green. The Tories and the unions'

Pop go the beautiful profits

BY JOHN SPENCER

THE ISLE of Wight pop festival broke up—in more than one sense—yesterday. Groups of anarchists demanding 'free music' tore down corrugated iron fencing round the field and gate-crashed the festival.

Others sat on the downs overlooking the arena and got free music anyway. The organizers, Fiery Creations, claim to have lost a lot of money on the event.

They planned the festival as what the trade calls a 'rip off' operation: taking £3 a head off the 'gentle people' for a three-day orgy of idealism.

Not so gentle

The gentle people turned out in force—and turned out not to be so gentle after all.

Contingents of 'Hell's Angels', complete with swastikas, and a large team of private security men patrolled the grounds.

It took ultra-right reactionary Tiny Tim leading the audience in 'There'll always be an England' and 'Land of Hope of Glory' to dissipate some of the bad vibrations.

Creations organizer Ron Foulk is quoted as saying: 'This free music scene makes me sick, but in a way I suppose it's inevitable. It may be that the spirit which created the festival—a defiance of convention—is now about to destroy the festival.'

But, as the 'Sunday Times' comments:

Bad vibrations

'When the economics of the affair dictate Alsatian guard dogs, teams of "heavies" in tie-dye shirts and frantic calls to the police, the bad vibrations tend to drive out the good.' Defiance of convention, the stock-in-trade of the idealist, is now a highly marketable commodity.

Escapists who hope to 'drop out' of the class struggle and join the 'gentle people' find themselves caught in the same not-so-tender trap.

Merchant banks and hard-headed City capitalists, with their fingers well into the pop festival pie, are not in-

'Model' port strike spreads

THIRTY THOUSAND Rotterdam dockworkers are now out on strike in support of an unsettled wage claim.

The strike began a week ago when 3,000 dockers walked out and this quickly drew support from the port's shipbuilding and engineering industries.

Rotterdam has often been held up as an example of a strike-free port in contrast with Merseyside and London docks.

Suharto's Dutch visit in doubt

PRESIDENT SUHARTO of Indonesia yesterday postponed his state visit to Holland after bitter clashes between Indonesian students and Dutch police erupted outside the official residence of the Indonesian Ambassador in The Hague.

One policeman was reported shot dead as students occupied the embassy, taking the Ambassador's family and the embassy staff hostage.

Suharto, a notorious and brutal reactionary, now holds over 100,000 left-wing political prisoners and is responsible for the massacre of many thousands of Communists.

Last week came the announcement that 50,000 Communists are to be interned on island concentration camps, in conditions which amount to sentencing many of them to death.

All Trades Unions Alliance Conference
MINERS
Sunday, September 6
Danum Hotel
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FOR FURTHER DETAILS WRITE TO: T. PARSONS, 61 DERWENT DRIVE, FERRY FRYSTON, NR CASTLEFORD, YORKSHIRE.

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SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE Trotsky Memorial Meeting

GLASGOW

Patrick Burgh Hall
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Starts 7.30 p.m.

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Sunday September 6



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Trotsky Memorial Lectures



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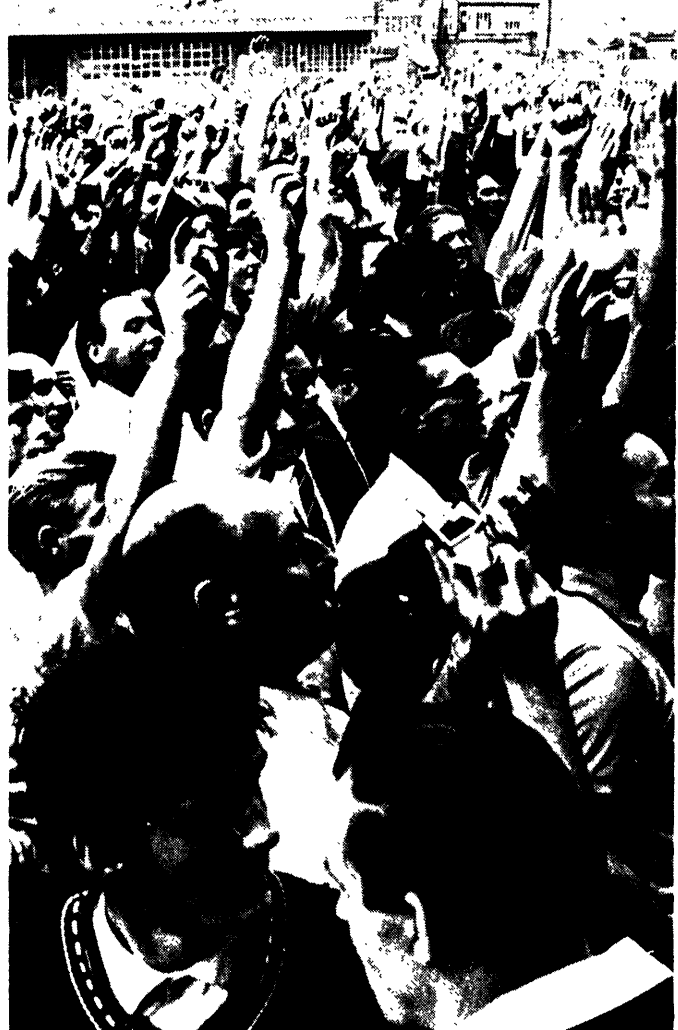
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If the situation in The Hague is 'normalized', said an Indonesian official, the Presidential Party may set out this evening.

Before the decision was taken to postpone the trip, Suharto held an emergency meeting with Foreign Minister Malik (just returned from Moscow) at the President's private residence in Jakarta.

The situation in The Hague is 'normalized', said an Indonesian official, the Presidential Party may set out this evening.

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Trotsky Memorial Lectures

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LAST MONTH'S
Prices and Incomes Board report, specifically aimed at 'a study of efficiency of the coal industry', made it abundantly clear there is to be no let-up in intensive exploitation of the miner and no end to job-decimation in the pits.

In fact, the process is now only coming to the end of its first stage.

The next stage—Phase Two, as it would be called were this the docks—is already in preparation.

Phase one involved mechanization and automation of many pit-operations, reduction of the labour force by half, elimination of piece-work, introduction of method-study and the closure of all pits unable to match up to fast and continuous production.

Much greater emphasis is now to be placed on control and discipline of miners themselves.

Run-down

The jobs run-down is to continue at a rate of 10 per cent per year and greater efforts will be made to straight-jacket wages using Measured-Day Work.

The PIB demands that the Coal Board gets on with exacting a second pound of flesh from mineworkers; its report is pre-occupied with an apparent 'decline in the rate of increase in productivity'. Output is not falling, just the rate of increase in output.

The PIB's concern, in other words, is not simply to maintain a higher level of output than say, seven years ago, but to continuously raise output... and at an accelerating pace.

To increase output by less this month than last means failure.

The answer so far as the report is concerned is a strengthened management 'better able to exert its authority in certain areas of operation'.

Up to the end of the Second World War, mining was still a pick-and-shovel operation.

In the period following nationalization in 1947, the drive was to cheapen coal with heavy investment in labour-saving machinery.

The amount of coal cut by mechanized methods increased from 20 per cent in 1955 to over 85 per cent in 1969.

New face-working, power-loading and roof-supporting techniques were developed, and, in the early 1960s, experiments were made linking these to remote-control systems including the use of closed-circuit television.

The enormous cost of new equipment—£100,000, for instance, to mechanize one coal-face and £250,000 to install remote control—meant that it was inevitable that the main aim of the employers would be to cut manning.

Eliminating

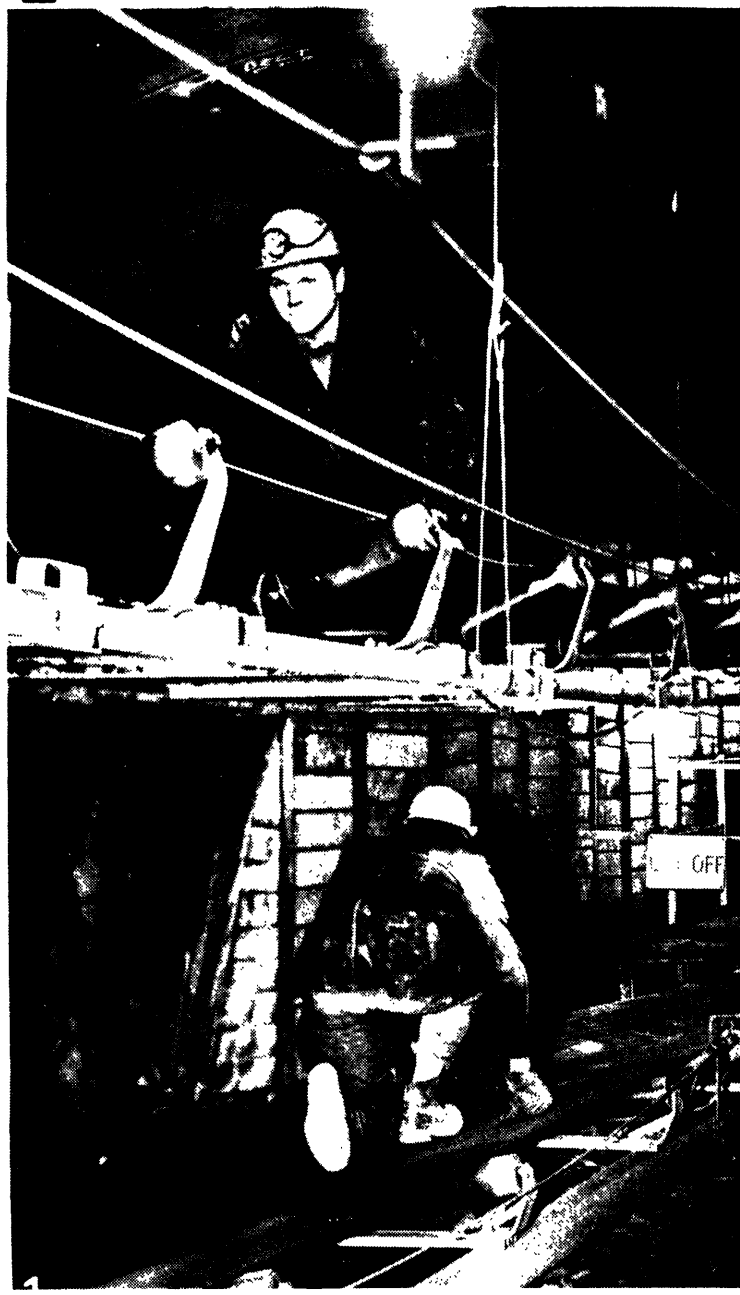
Such new systems were not directed towards assisting the miner in his dangerous and difficult job but towards eliminating him from the work-process altogether. It is in this continuing situation that the PIB calls for increased strengthening of management.

Also advised is increased use of method-study. The report states:

'Method-study techniques have an important role to play in such a labour-intensive industry as coal-mining. We found that ample scope existed for extending their use on face-work and our study of labour productivity among non-face workers also indicated scope for some useful gains in productivity by this means.'

'We therefore suggest that the Coal Board's method-study branch be strengthened.'

Speed-up the pits says PIB



Man-riding belts convey miners to and fro along the shafts.

Bernard Franks studies the latest Prices and Incomes report on the coal industry.

Method-study, as is well known, is merely a first step towards putting all work on a continuous basis in preparation for advanced time-study techniques to be introduced.

The PIB sees the elimination of piece-work, at a time when productivity is continually rising, as an essential basis for holding down wages.

Participation

'The introduction of new techniques is made easier if the possibility of associated

per cent—there is naturally no discussion of the enormous interest payments made by the industry. Like, for example, the 1968-1969 payout of £37.5 million which turned a surplus for the industry of £28.6 million into a deficit of £8.9 million.

The report goes on to suggest an extension of 'workers' participation'.

leave the industry prematurely and make it difficult to maintain projected rates of productivity growth.'

It further advises against introduction of any incentive scheme.

Instead, further increases in productivity should be brought about by 'improvement in supervision' and 'joint consultation' on the basis of the day-work system.

The history of coal-mining is one of starved and dust-

Lack of ventilation, constant seepage of water and a heavily dust-laden atmosphere caused rheumatic diseases and pneumoconiosis. Even now, every area has its memories of major disasters.

The growth of trade unionism and the fight back by the working class in the 1840s led to vicious repressive measures, arrests and lock-outs.

Engels, in his book, 'The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844' shows us that nearly all the Justices of the Peace in the coal-mining districts were either mine-owners themselves or relatives or friends of mine-owners and possessed almost unlimited power in these regions, 'acting as judges in their own causes'.

It was the same in other countries.

In the USA, miners on strike were barred from company stores and were beaten and shot up by the owners' private armies.

But with the rise of the unions, concessions and improvements were forced from employers and legislation on health and safety were wrung from governments.

Carnage

This slowed, but did not stop, the carnage.

In modern times—particularly with the advent of mechanization—aspects of the work changed, but the ruthlessness of the mine-owners remained. Now it became not only a question of exploiting the miner at work, but throwing him out of work altogether.

This special operation was carried out under capitalist 'nationalization'; generous compensation was paid to ex-owners and the industry became a cheap service to the 'private sector' of industry.

Nor is this process limited to Britain.

In Belgium, automation beginning in the late 1950s led to the end of 20,000 jobs in one area alone in the year 1959-1960. The total number of miners in the country dropped from 105,000 in 1958 to 64,500 in 1963. Production rose in the same period from 1,262 to 1,820 kilos per man-shift.

But possibly the most dramatic effects of modernization have been seen in the United States, where a \$200 million investment in mechanization put hundreds of thousands of workers out of work. In West Virginia alone, more than 200,000 subsisted on 'molly-grub'—a special handout of starvation rations—and 408,000 needed surplus foods to stay alive in the years 1960-1961.

Queues of 7,000 men, women and children were lining up

COALMINING OUTPUT PER MAN AND NUMBERS EMPLOYED

Year	Output per man-shift		Output per man year	Average number of wage-earners employed 000s	Number of colliers in production at end of year
	Amount	Percentage increase on previous year			
	cwt	%	tons		
1963-64	33.4	5.4	362	517	578
1964-65	34.8	4.2	373	491	543
1965-66	36.1	3.6	381	456	483
1966-67	36.6	1.4	390	419	438
1967-68	39.0	6.7	414	392	376
1968-69	42.5	9.0	454	336	317
1969-70	43.4	2.1	457	305	299

Source: NCB

waiting for their monthly portion.

A key factor in the employers' ability to bring about unemployment on such a giant scale has been the willing collaboration of the union leaders in all the schemes.

It was John L. Lewis, head of the United Mineworkers in the USA, who, more than any other man, made it possible for the mines to be mechanized in so short a time.

His policy was not to oppose mechanization so long as those left at work benefited with higher pay. He stated the loss of jobs would not be as great as the 'theorists' claimed.

A further argument was that failure to modernize would mean that pits would be uneconomical and have to close, causing unemployment.

Members of the US government and employers have paid tribute many times to Lewis's role in smoothing the way for a run-down of jobs.

The report notes the improvement in output made by the operation of 'spear-head' faces.

These are specially chosen fault-free faces which are intensively worked using all the most modern equipment available. The idea is that these should act as pace-setters for the entire industry.

Output

It is clear that the aim of the Tory government is not to close the industry down, but to produce coal with a very small labour force operating at top speed in a number of highly-mechanized pits.

Coal, in fact, is not an obsolete fuel source.

Research into new combus-

tion methods, particularly the fluidized burner system being developed in several countries, could lead to increased demand for coal to fuel new boiler-systems in many industries.

The Tories, with their plans to scrap workers like so many out-dated machines, must be defeated.

The current claim for higher wages and shorter hours is a vital struggle in the face of the Tories' aims to step up profits by speeding up production. But if this is not to end in defeat a new revolutionary socialist leadership must be built in the NUM.

This would end once and for all the record of retreat and enthusiastic collaboration with the employers.

JUST OUT

STALINISM IN BRITAIN

A TROTSKYIST ANALYSIS BY ROBERT BLACK

NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS

TV

BBC 1

12.30 p.m. Cricket. County Championship, Surrey v Worcestershire. 1.33 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 1.55-2.20 Dyna wall. 3.00-4.15 Cricket. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 The scissors and the little girl. 4.45 Horatio. 4.55 Animal magic. 5.20 Shazzan! 5.44 Babar. 5.50 News and weather. 6.00 LONDON. Nationwide. 6.45 THE SPINNER. With Julie Felix. 7.10 THE LAUGH PARADE. 'Pillow Talk'. With Rock Hudson and Doris Day. Romantic comedy. 8.50 NEWS and weather. 9.10 'TEST PILOT'. Behind the scenes of a test pilot's life. 10.00 MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS. 10.30 24 HOURS.

REGIONAL BBC

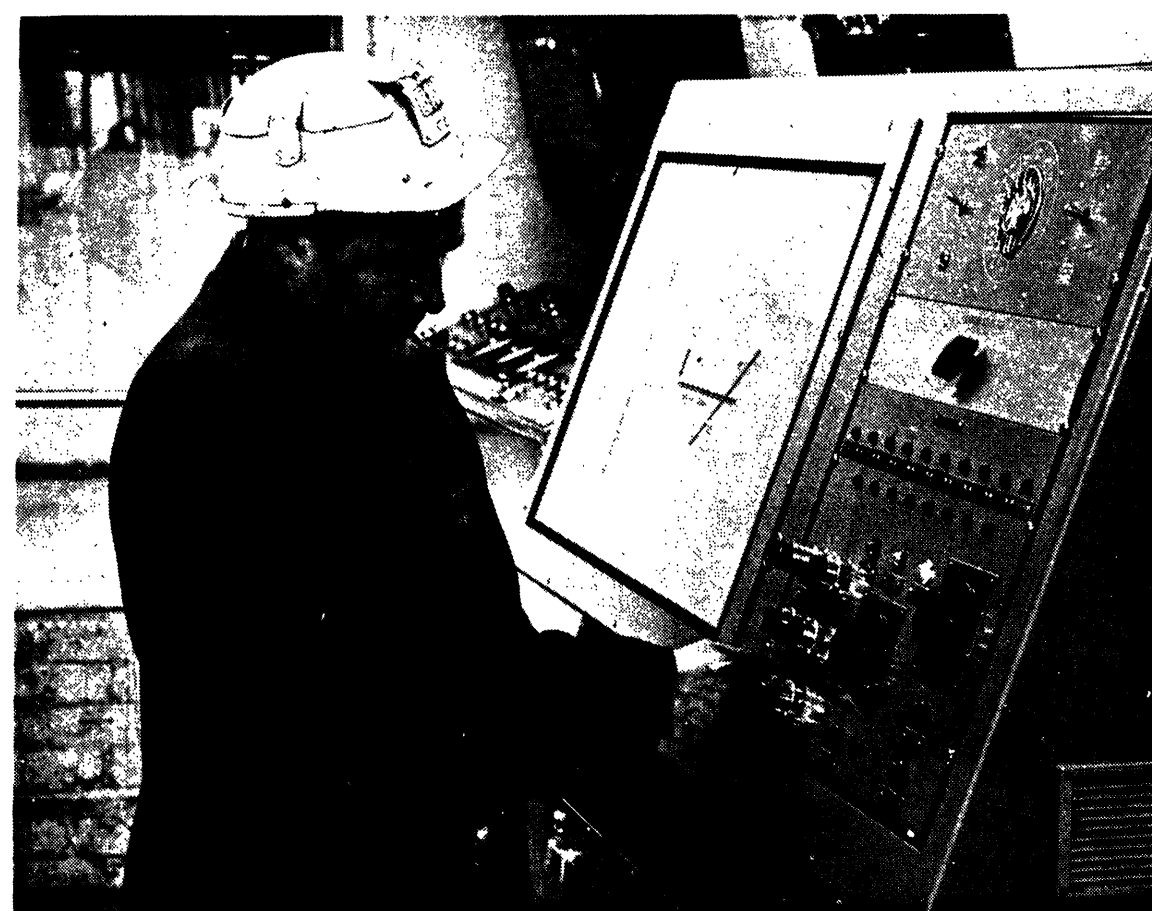
All regions as BBC 1 except: Midlands, East Anglia: 6.00-6.45 Your region tonight; Midlands today, look east, weather, nationwide. 10.00-10.30 Contact (Midlands). 11.12 News headlines and weather. North, North West, North East, Cumberland and Westmorland: 6.00-6.45 Your region tonight; Look north, weather, nationwide. 10.00-10.30 A right royal week (Sandale, Dliorth, Pontop Peak). 11.12 News headlines and weather. Wales: 12 noon-1.15 Cricket. 3.00-4.20 Cricket. 5.20-5.44 Teleview. 6.00-6.45 Wales today, weather, nationwide. 6.45-7.05 Heddlu. 10.00-10.30 Margaret. 11.12 Weather. Scotland: 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland, nationwide. 11.12 News headlines and weather. Northern Ireland: 6.00-6.45 Scene around us, weather, nationwide. 10.00-10.30 A hundred years of the Belfast Telegraph. 11.12 News headlines and weather. South West, South, West: 6.00-6.45 Your region tonight; Points west, south today, spotlight south-west, weather, nationwide. 10.00-10.30 Come to my party and buy! (Row, bridge, Brighton). 11.12 News headlines and weather.

BBC2

11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL. 7.30 p.m. NEWS AND WEATHER. 8.00 SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S SHERLOCK HOLMES. 'The Solitary Cyclist'. 8.50 LOOK, STRANGER. 'Selborne'. 9.10 PREMIER. 'The Sunshine Patriot'. With Cliff Robertson and Dina Merrill. A master spy is trapped in Eastern Europe. 10.45 NEWS and weather. 10.50 LINE-UP. 1.45-4.00 p.m. Racing from Epsom. 4.17 The enchanted house. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Bright's boffins. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.02 TODAY. 7.00 THE GHOST AND MRS MUIR. 7.00 TUESDAY FILM. 'Hue and Cry'. With Alastair Sim, Jack Warner and Harry Fowler. Comedy thriller. 8.30 NEVER SAY DIE. 'The New Sletter'. 9.00 SPECIAL BRANCH. 'Miss International'. 10.00 NEWS. 10.30 THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY. 'We are the Masters'. First programme in a new series looking at the years 1945-1963. 11.30 TURNING POINTS. 'Russia'. 11.50 VANTAGE POINT.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 2.20-4.25 London. 4.30 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.40 Origi. 4.55 London. 6.00 Channel news and weather. 6.10 Police file. 6.15 Channel lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Star movie: 'Shoot out at Medicine Bend'. 8.30 London. 11.25 Channel gazette. 11.30 Les Francis chez vous. 11.45 Weather. SOUTHERN: 2.45-3.55 London. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.40 Tuesday film: 'Foreign Intrigue'. With Robert Mitchum, Genevieve Page and Ingrid Thulin. Murder and mayhem in Vienna and Stockholm. 8.30 The Worker. 9.00 London. 11.30 Southern news. 11.40 Weather followed by Action 70. WESTWARD: 2.20 London. 4.25 Westward news headlines. 4.27 Gus Honey-bun show. 4.40 Origi. 4.55 London. 6.00 Westward diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Star movie: 'Shoot out at Medicine Bend'. With Randolph Scott. 8.30 London. 11.30 Faith for life. 11.35 Weather. HARLECH: 2.45-4.23 London. 4.25 Women today. 4.40 Origi. 4.55 London. 6.01 Report. 6.10 Parkin's patch. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 The Champions. 8.00 Mr and Mrs. 8.30 London. 11.30 Underwater swimming. 12 midnight Weather. GRAMPAIN: 1.45-3.55 London. 4.25 Survival. 4.55 London. 6.00 Grampain news, farming news, weather. 6.15 Vintage news and lookaround. 6.35 Tuesday movie. 'My Favourite Spy'. 8.25 Botby nights. 9.00 London. 11.30 A kind of living.



A modern control unit.

disputes over piece-rates is removed. The removal of wage drift resulting from local bargaining means that the Board has now a more effective means of controlling wage costs.'

While the PIB wants a wage freeze—and at the same time can advocate raising the price of coking coal by 15-16

Employers, of course, always want the best of both worlds.

On the one hand they expect total rights of hire and fire, of wage freeze and work control. On the other 'face conferences', participation committees, and various chummy get-togethers are arranged in which the employers can pick the brains of a section of workers on how to increase production and on how to fix redundancies with the least opposition.

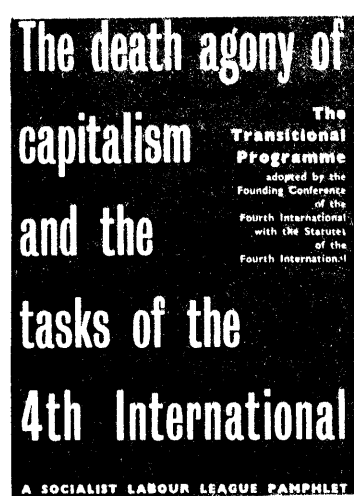
While the PIB wants a continuous run-down of jobs, it wants this to be done entirely at the employers' convenience.

The report makes this point clear as follows:

'The Coal Board has paid close attention to the problems of morale which accompany redundancies and has maintained that a planned manpower rundown which exceeded 10 per cent a year would damage industrial relations, cause able people to

choked men, women and children working the most arduous form of manual labour for avaricious employers.

Hundreds of miners died every year in roof-falls and explosions.



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Theatre

REVIEW BY
DAVID
BARNES

behind THE NEWS



Journalist GREY

Burying God

A scene from COUNCIL OF LOVE by John Bird currently showing at the Criterion Theatre directed by Jack Gold and Eleanor Fazan.



NEWSPAPER critics by and large have dismissed the play presently running at London's Criterion Theatre as childishly blasphemous.

Called 'Council of Love', the play is an adaptation by TV writer John Bird from an 1894 work by the German playwright Oscar Panizza.

EROS

The Criterion, appropriately enough, is 20 yards south of Piccadilly Circus's Eros statue and slightly to the left of his arrow's aim.

'Council of Love' is, on the surface, a satire on both men and God — with God given pride of place. It is set in heaven, hell and the Vatican.

The Holy Family, hearing reports that the world is approaching a moral relapse, decide to look in on the Court of Pope Alexander VI—one of the most dissolute of the Borgias — on Good Friday, 1495.

They discover scenes of the wildest licentiousness and God the Father, egged on by the Virgin Mary, resolves to do something about it.

The problem is—what? His creative genius has long since evaporated, and he therefore calls in Satan to devise an appropriate punishment.

The result is syphilis.

Panizza set about his work with real bitterness and produced a lasting satire.

CARICATURES

If religion is in reality the creation of men, then the Holy Personages of the official church must be faithful caricatures of the ruling class. So the Almighty is a senile, bronchitic Jehovah; an incompetent theologian constantly quarrelling with his hypochondriac Son.

The more sophisticated Virgin Mary keeps the peace between them and chats intimately with Satan — cunning, cynical, narrow; no longer



Warren Mitchell as Satan

lunch on the seventh. But the Germans, whose predecessors so tactlessly announced that He was dead, insist on trying to redeem themselves by digging up the corpse and pestering It back to life.

This goes, at least, for the 'respectable' section of the middle class.

On the question of religion the English contempt for theory reaches a high point: God is just a collection of wrong ideas, to be jettisoned as far as good form permits. And Bird's offering is made in the same spirit.

HOUSEWIFE

Mary is reduced to a prim, complacent housewife.

With Jesus, he tries his hand at a long-haired, self-pitying layabout ('A Second coming? He hasn't got over the first one yet!')

Only in Satan is there anything like a coherent character—a savage parody of the 'technocrat', prepared to turn his skills to the most monstrous requests ('the specifications') of those who licence him. Syphilis—the crime leading directly to the punishment—is just a neat solution to the problem set by a stupid master.

But God deserves better than this mistreatment.

From the first day on which man was able to scratch a fraction more from this planet than was needed to keep him alive, his finest and most deeply-felt work was placed at the feet of his dreams. In class society man's greatest sacrifices and best works of art have often taken a religious form.

It was the atheists Marx and Feuerbach who explained how this could be so.

Enslaved and held in misery in class society, man imagined himself liberated — projecting onto Gods the power, beauty and freedom that he lacked.

And in front of his own creations he prostrated himself afresh, and in their name accepted the cruelties of class rule. God is both the supreme slave master and the reflection of man's age-long struggle to make himself supreme.

In this sense 'he' is both wonderful and terrible.

This is why the fashionable middle-class 'atheist' (really an agnostic) can never write God's obituary, so that Bird's 'adaptation', seeing God as just 'nonsense' does not rise to the necessary heights.

Only an outlook based on the revolutionary working class, grasping the material basis of human ideas, can reveal the roots of religion.

But there is real strength in this production (by Jack Gold and Eleanor Fazan), and especially in Warren Mitchell's acting of Satan—with a thrusting limp, swivelling eyeballs, Mephistophelean glee and precision. Where Bird gives them human beings to get their teeth into, instead of 'foolish' doctrines turned into people and paraded as Aunt Sallies, they really bite.

And what they bite—quite properly — is the hand that condescendingly feeds them.

Even the 'public' was made useful.

The Vatican orgy scenes had young dandies of a peacock showiness which held up a mirror to make even the sophisticates of the first-night audience seem slightly dowdy.

'UBA THE KING'

Some time ago I saw another play—'Uba the King', by the Frenchman Alfred Jarry —also written at about the turn of the century.

Jarry inflates for all to see the 'logical', self-seeking destructive madness of bourgeois society and then pops it with words, again and again.

He is rich and agile in ideas, but he knows too that ideas —and particularly the ideas of the exploiter—make their way not only through the brain but also through the belly, the behind, the boot and even less mentionable parts of the anatomy.

So 'Ubu' is full of action: fisticuffs, slapstick and acrobatics. A play, as the impresarios say, for all the family.

The giant is killed; but first it is dissected, and its most loathsome and comic contradictions are laid bare.

If the talents held at bay in the production of 'Council of Love' could be set to work on such a play—there would be theatre to draw blood!

NOTHING IS so calculated to turn the stomach as a good dose of bourgeois hypocrisy over 'atrocities' committed by the workers' states.

Since 1917, when the working class of Russia committed the most unforgivable atrocity by violating the sanctity of capitalist property rights, imperialism and its agencies have waged an unceasing war against the Red devils with every means at their disposal.

And if the 'Red Menace' kick begins to pall, there is always (and nowadays more frequently) the 'Yellow Peril'.

The trials and tribulations of Reuter's Peking correspondent Anthony Grey was therefore good stuff and his forthcoming book 'Hostage in Peking' has been given the maximum boost in the press.

His 777 days in Peking, which began in August 1967, during the Cultural Revolution, and ended last year, is the subject of the tale.

He was knocked about by Red Guards—who 'had been building a reputation for intimidation and terrorization', sloshed with black paint and—horror of horrors!—his pet cat was hanged, an event to inflame the blood of any true Englishman.

Finally, he was placed in solitary confinement where he remained until his release.

Said Grey: 'I have turned more to God than ever before. I pray twice every day for deliverance from this.'

He was finally delivered, so we take it that God had his way on this particular occasion.

Recently, a professional Canadian Catholic god-brotherer, Bishop James Walsh, was released from China after 12 years and was received by the Pope 'with tears in his eyes'.

Which brings us back to the question of 'atrocities'... those committed by the Catholic church in the name of imperialist philanthropy.

Following the victorious Chinese Revolution in 1949, the reality behind certain missionary work, which had been carried out by teams of nuns was brought to light. Here is part of a report on three mission nurseries—one in Canton and two in Nanking — published in the April 16, 1951, edition of 'People's China'.

The Canton orphanage for infant girls was run by five Canadian nuns, headed by one Antoinette Couvrette and all Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

The investigators found the quarters for the children filthy and lice-ridden. The food was so rotten that it stank. Two of the children lay dead in their beds though the caretaker tried to pretend they were only ill...

From January 1950 to February 1951... the orphanage received 2,216 infants, and over 97 per cent died. Antoinette Couvrette has herself estimated that more than 4,000 died in the past two years'.

It was impossible for any outsider to record accurately the total number of infants and children who had died as a result of the criminal neglect of those in charge since the orphanage was set up in 1933.

On March 5, 1951, the Canton branch of the People's Relief Administration of China was authorized to take over the orphanage.

At this time there were only 48 infants under two still alive and 29 of these were seriously ill, most of them

from pneumonia. There were 47 above the age of two, and, besides the older charges, this number included blind, lame and dumb adolescent girls who looked after the infants.

All the charges were dressed in rags, and nearly every one suffered from severe malnutrition and skin and other diseases caused by neglect.

Even the most rudimentary rules of hygiene were ignored. Sick babies were not isolated, thus spreading the epidemics.

Three death-pits, about 30 feet deep and five feet wide, were found near the orphanage.

Two were sealed and filled. The trap-door of the third, still in use, was forced open. Inside, where they had been dumped, were the bodies of dead children.

Orphanage regulations required parents or relatives to sign a statement absolving the orphanage from responsibility in case of death.

Poor parents could never see their children nor find out what had happened to them. If word leaked out that their child had died, they were consoled by the nuns that it was the 'will of God'.

Those who survived worked in order to earn money for the orphanage.

They were told that all human beings were sinful and had to live a life of denial. Needless to say, the sisters had every comfort.

They obtained money for 'charity' from Canton business houses as well as from Canada, and, whenever possible, extracted payment from their charges' relatives, sometimes on a monthly basis.

The nuns were well fed, comfortably housed — with pianos in their living-rooms, dressing-tables in their bedrooms and carpets on their floors.

In Nanking, in the Tze Ai



UNDER THE NAME OF CHARITY

Top: Antoinette Couvrette, head nun at the orphanage. When the trapdoor (above), was opened heaps of dead bodies of children were found. 97% of the children received into the orphanage over a period of 13 months died.



One of the three death pits

Special Jordan units attack guerrillas

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

SPECIAL SECURITY units of the Jordan army have attacked Palestine guerrilla forces in Amman. This came less than 24 hours after King Hussein's TV statement that any attempt by the guerrillas to 'destroy the national unity' would be met by force.

500 Yorks textile jobs threatened

THREE HUNDRED workers employed at Carrington and Dewhurst's Mark Nutter Mill at Skipton, Yorkshire, are threatened with the sack. David Whitehead's is to close three mills in the Rosendale area, so a further 200 workers will have to go. The mills affected are Newhall Mill, Higher Mill and Broadclough.

Pop

FROM PAGE ONE inhibited by considerations of anything so other-worldly as universal love. Roman emperors used to lay on gladiatorial contests to keep their subjects amused—and keep them in subjection.

Selling dreams

Today the sale of dreams is more streamlined, but there are still what one paper called 'gamblers on the beautiful weather and the animation of the beautiful people' forthcoming to 'make a killing'. In the circles of the beautiful people, capitalist economics reigns supreme, and at £3 a head their dreams can be protected by Alsatian dogs, policemen, security guards and Hell's Angels.

The fighting followed the Palestine National Council emergency session, at which the guerrillas declared their intention of carrying on the fight, despite the US-Soviet 'peace' plan, and of making Jordan the base for their operations.

However, guerrilla leader Yasser Arafat avoided any open break with Hussein or Nasser, who are supporting the New York talks. Jordan army tanks and heavy artillery took part in Sunday night's battle. 'It is a wholesale attack,' said an Al-Fatah spokesman.

RE-CALLED

The special security units were supposed to have been disbanded after the fighting in Amman in June, and their organizer, Hussein's uncle Sharif Nasser, dismissed. However, when Hussein agreed to the US proposals for talks with Israel, Sharif Nasser was re-called.

WEATHER

London area, SE, SW central northern and central northern England, E and W Midlands, Channel Islands: Dry, sunny spells. Below normal. Max. 19C (66F). NW England, Glasgow area, N Ireland: Sunny periods, scattered showers. Below normal. Max. 16C (61F). Edinburgh: Cloudy, mostly dry, perhaps a few showers. Sunny periods. Below normal. Max. 15C (59F). Outlook for Wednesday and Thursday: Dry at first, but cloud and rain spreading from the west to all districts later. Temperatures near normal.

GKN strikers state their case

By a Workers Press Reporting Team

'WE'RE being paid agricultural rate and it's about time it was changed. It doesn't cost any less to live here than it does in Coventry or Birmingham: bread's 1s 3d a loaf here like it is anywhere else. But we're being paid far less than workers get for similar jobs in these other towns.'

Talk to almost any one of the strikers from GKN-Sankey's Wellington, Shropshire, plant and he'll tell you the same story.

Top rate for an engineer at the plant is 11s 9d an hour and production workers, who make up the bulk of the factory's 5,000 employees, get only 9s 8d.

Last Friday a mass meeting on the factory football ground contemptuously rejected the £2 package offer worked out in London by the Motor Industry Joint Council and union representatives.

AEF district secretary Joseph Diaz was shouted down and the workers voted overwhelmingly to stay out for their 4s 3d across-the-board pay demand.

Like a lot of other car component plants up and down the country, Sankey's has for many years been making high profits and paying low wages.

But workers there make it plain that they will no longer continue to be treated as the poor relations of the main car companies.

Though less than an hour's drive from the industrial heart of the W Midlands, Wellington wage rates are £10 or more behind those in the assembly factories.

'You can see Birmingham car workers driving through here any weekend,' one AEF shop steward said, 'with a caravan at the back of their cars, and as like as not a boat on top. I have to work all through the week-end just to equal their basic rate.'

'The employer here thinks we're all bloody farm labourers. The press call us "country bumpkins", but we're nothing of the sort.'

Talks

Sixteen months ago at Sankey's the workers struck for a wage increase but were persuaded to return after a week pending negotiations.

Eventually, officials of the unions concerned—chiefly the G&MWU with a membership of 3,000 and the AEF—achieved a £2 wage rise tied to job evaluation and productivity strings.

'We are now going to be taken for ride again,' one worker said after Friday's meeting. 'This time they won't be able to get us back to work with some useless formula.'

Inside the factory, discontent over the low wages, and what workers there describe as 'bad conditions'—machines dripping with oil, a high accident rate and generally primitive working conditions, as one press operator put it—has brought forward new young shop stewards, who have succeeded in unifying the factory around wage demands.

One such steward is G&MWU member Noel Byrne, who voted against the official recommendation to accept the 'peace' terms when local officials brought the matter back from the London meeting.

'This strike has discredited the local leadership,' he told Workers Press at the caravan-site home he shares with his wife and baby.

'At one time we had very little unity in the factory. We had our own claims, shop by shop and we won some gains. But now we've got a chance to make some real changes with everyone united.'

Determined

The press campaign against the strikers has only increased their determination. The taunts about country bumpkins from the 'Financial Times' and 'Daily Express' have failed to make a dent on the strikers' morale.

And the knowledge that they can put pressure on the major car firms to force Sankey's to settle has raised their spirits enormously.

'We've got a position of strength here and we intend to hold onto it,' Noel Byrne said. 'Until this strike began, I don't think any of us realized just what a key position in the motor industry Sankey occupied. Now that we know our strength we won't be go-

ing back without getting what we want.

'We seem to supply everybody with a bit of everything. The car companies can add lights and glass after they've completed assembly. But they've got to have a chassis and wheels to put the car on before they can get it assembled.'

Advert

'The men won't be talked back this time. They have been pushed into a position where they can go no further. That just shows you what this firm is really like. Despite what they claim, there is absolutely no trust between

the company and the workers.

'This company made £37 million profit last year. And they turned round and gave the Tory Party £68,000 and spent £2,000 on an advertisement in the "Shropshire Star" to indoctrinate us. This advert attacked the "unnecessary strike" at Sankey's.

The company's attempt to bring in job evaluation and productivity really sparked off the strike. They claim it means 'less absence, overtime and ineffective use of labour'.

'Obviously as far as absenteeism is concerned they want to wield the big whip and most of the men have to make up their money on overtime

anyway. In the same breath they offer "more leisure" and "increased overtime premium rates": to me that's completely contradictory. What's the point of offering "leisure" when the wages are so low?'

Noel Byrne asked: 'The attitude of local union officials has aroused the strikers' anger. They take the worker for granted, one striker said. "They say: "Oh, they'll be back on Tuesday", but they got the shock of their lives when they found we weren't going back. The union officials talk about anomalies. Well, the biggest anomaly is the £2 offer itself. It just isn't big enough by any standards. The man-

shift back to traditional systems of mixed farming and crop rotation with much more land given to grass and livestock. 'But even so, it will take years for these soils to recover,' he said.

Meanwhile, farmers will hardly take seriously Jones' hint that financial support may be forthcoming for

those farmers who want to make the switch back to the old methods.

In fact, quite the reverse. While farms are closing down at the rate of 5,000 a year in England and Wales alone, the workforce is expected to fall by a third within the next five years, the farmers look towards automation and intensive

with their 'expansionist' chatter. Today, however, the credibility of workers, already seriously taxed by six years of Labour and three months of Tory rule, will not permit this fraud to go unchallenged.

The era of pious platitudes and rotten compromises is being recognized by increasing layers of workers.

Today's compromise certainly will be followed by another rotten compromise at next week's TUC where all the 'left' union leaders will make all the usual demagogic gestures while remaining absolutely silent on the real question: what to do about the Tories?

The Tories, for their part, hope to use the compromise with the trade union leaders to pass their anti-union legislation and suppress union militancy.

Having secured these vital premises of their economic strategy they can then turn



G&MWU steward Noel Byrne, seen (above) outside his caravan home with his wife and daughter, was against the 'peace' terms originally agreed in London last week. He voted last Friday with those men (top) who refuse any longer to be poor cousins in the motor industry's wages league.

agement don't seem to have got the message yet that we're out for a really substantial rise and we intend to get it.'

'One thing that intrigues me,' Noel Byrne said, 'is why the General and Municipal are keeping so far in the background.'

'All the statements come from the AEF officials and yet the G&MWU is the majority union. Is this because of Pilkington's, Lucas and the other disputes? You can put a big question mark round that.'

'We're not out on strike for productivity deals and job evaluation. We're out for a living wage.'

'We don't care how much the company has spent on consultants. It's their loss. The unions never said at the end of the job evaluation exercise that we would accept it.'

The strikers see their fight as being part of a national struggle against low pay. They were extremely heartened by resolutions of support from the Coventry Standard Triumph workers, many of whom were laid off by the dispute.

As one shop steward put it: 'We can give a lead on wages throughout the GKN group.'

'There must be dozens of factories like Sankey's in the combine and I think this strike will enable them to push up their wages too. As well as that it's bound to lead to higher wages in this area, where Sankey's are the biggest employer.'

BORDEAUX

Schreiber to stand in by-election

IN THE Bordeaux by-election, where first-round polling is fixed for September 20, the most notorious political rogues of the Fifth Republic are now engaged in their habitual political manoeuvres and false promises.

BY A CORRESPONDENT

The decision of Chaban-Delmas, France's Gaullist Prime Minister, to defend his old fief (using a dean of Bordeaux University as a proxy candidate) brought the intervention of Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, the millionaire political freebooter, who has taken over the Radical Party and recently beat a Gaullist candidate in the Nancy by-election.

Servan-Schreiber, who spent the previous fortnight trying to organize a candidate of the 'non-Communist left'—to be supported by Radicals, Socialists and the Convention for Republican Institutions—announced, 15 minutes before nominations closed on Sunday night, that he would stand in person, and immediately resign if elected.

The Socialist candidate, party leader Alain Savary and head of the faction in favour of 'collaboration' with the Communist Party, had previously withdrawn and announced Socialist support for Gabriel Taix, the local Convention candidate.

The CP is standing an independent candidate. Servan-Schreiber, despite his demagogic promises of 'reforms' and of intervening to bring industry to regions in his political favour—a tactic crucial in winning him his seat in the depressed area of Nancy—remains a bosses' politician and the worst type of anti-Communist.

He has attacked the CP leadership as 'reactionary' and made cynical and shallow illusions and confusion which many militants feel with the Stalinist policies of reform.

But his crusade for the political isolation of the Party has not yet got the necessary momentum.

It has revealed, however, the political depths to which all Socialist Party factions are prepared to go.

Chaban-Delmas also succeeded in turning some of the wind out of Servan-Schreiber's sails with the announcement that the US Ford Company is to establish a factory employing 2,500 men in the area, and not in the Ardennes, as previously planned.

With his attempts to open a further 'safe channel' for working-class and middle-class anger against Gaullism, to form the possible basis of extremely reactionary movements in the future, Servan-Schreiber performs a useful service for the big monopolists of French capitalism, who still give their major support to Pompidou's regime.

He can only be fought through the building of a revolutionary leadership in the working class, capable of clearing him from the scene, together with the class-collaborators in the Communist and Socialist leaderships.

Two revisionist organizations, the Pabolite 'Ligue Communiste' and 'Lutte Ouvrière', have decided to present a candidate in the by-election, which is taking more and more the aspect of an enormous farce.

They have appealed for support from the left-wing United Socialist Party (PSU) as 'the largest party of the extreme revolutionary left'.

Evades issue

A statement in Saturday's 'L'Humanité' evaded the issue by saying: 'The measure of which A. London is the subject has been taken by the Czechoslovak Minister of the Interior. We have already said that we do not consider it our duty to give our opinion on each and every measure taken by the authorities of this or that socialist country, under their own responsibility.'

Not only does this statement represent shameful and hypocritical approval of the attack on London, but it proves the formula under which the Stalinist leaders will tacitly approve the frame-ups now being prepared of those prominent in the movement for reforms against the nationally and against the press and Tory attempts to break the unity of the strike.

Artur London loses Czech citizenship

BY A FOREIGN REPORTER

ARTUR LONDON, ex-Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister and one of the three surviving victims of the 'Slansky' trial in 1952, has been deprived of his Czechoslovak citizenship by the Stalinist regime in Prague.

This action is a direct result of his authorship of a book, 'L'Aveu' ('The Confession') which describes his

experience from his arrest in 1951 until he was brought to trial to make his forced confession of 'Stoicism and Trotskyism' with the 13 other victims.

A statement by the Czech Ministry of the Interior accuses London of 'causing damage [with 'L'Aveu'] to the important interests of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia' and 'deepening anti-Soviet and anti-Socialist tendencies'.

He is also accused of not condemning the film of the book which, the Stalinists say, was 'produced in an anti-communist manner'.

London, who has lived in France since his 'rehabilitation' in 1956, has denounced the move in an interview on French radio, as 'contrary to socialist legality and socialist morality'.

But the French Communist Party leadership, which has vilified the film 'L'Aveu' refused to take up his defence.

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Capitalist farming destroys land

THE LATEST report on the effects of modern farming techniques on farmland soils leaves little doubt that capitalist agriculture puts profit a long way ahead of the production of food for human consumption.

An official inquiry has revealed that the result of intensive farming with the latest equipment has reduced fertility and broken down soil structure to 'dangerous proportions'.

The deterioration of the soil in areas where there is a high proportion of clay, as in Warwickshire and Northamptonshire, has reached the stage where arable farming will probably have to be abandoned. The organic content of these heavy clay soils is often as low as 3 per cent, far below the recommended 8 per cent minimum.

Compressed

The weak soil is easily compressed in wet weather by heavy farm machinery and crops can get little nourishment.

The result has been that Midlands farmers had almost no harvests in 1968 and 1969 and face the same prospect this year.

According to Emrys Jones, chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture, the only cure is a major

Feather

FROM PAGE ONE

this 'solution' by the increasing ferocity of US competition even in such fields as the small-car market which, until now, was considered a privileged sanctuary for European and British exporters.

There is, therefore, no room, nor can there be any, in the Tory plans for the sublime capitalist Utopia of Mr Feather and the General Council.

We say confidently that Mr Feather, and next week's TUC, will not solve any of the problems facing the British working class and in particular the 600,000 unemployed who look with increasing anger and despair for the Labour bureaucrats' plans to materialize.

Ten years ago the TUC and the Communist Party might have convinced some workers

Thomson

FROM PAGE ONE

cuttioner, the theory of revolution with that of counter-revolution.

Fryer's cynical attack on Marxism rounds off the 'Sunday Times' as it began, with Fleet Street publicists, Stalinists and anti-communists all collaborating to protect Stalinism from its mortal enemy, Trotskyism.

The leaders of the British Communist Party—Gollan, Dutt, Arnot, Kerrigan, Johnston and the rest—all willingly collaborated in this undertaking with the millionaire press and professional anti-communists of the Conquest-Fryer variety.

Gollan and Johnston practise class collaboration in its most treacherous form, for it is consciously used by the ruling class to discredit Marxism and create political confusion in the minds of student and young workers trying to fight their way towards revolutionary theory.

This is how the ruling class has always used opportunism and revisionism within the workers' movement.

The Stalinists are playing Fleet St's anti-communist game, and every Communist Party member serious about the defence of principles must denounce them.

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LATE NEWS

AMBOINESE WANT SUHARTO MEETING GUARANTEED
(See page one)

The Hague, Monday—Fifteen young Ambonese who earlier today seized the residence of the Indonesian Ambassador here, threatened to shoot one of their hostages if they receive no reply to their demands, a spokesman for them warned.

Unconfirmed reports said the Ambonese, who come from Indonesia, were demanding a guarantee that their leader, Dr Manumusa, 'president' of the self-styled 'South Moluccan Republic'—which seeks independence from Indonesia—would be able to meet Indonesian President Suharto on a visit to Holland.

The President was scheduled to have left Jakarta today and was due here tomorrow, but he has now indefinitely postponed the visit.

A statement said: 'The Dutch government must compel Suharto to commence political discussions with our president within 48 hours, under the supervision of Holland and a mediator of the United Nations. If these talks do not come about, then there will be a second victim.'

Determined

The press campaign against the strikers has only increased their determination. The taunts about country bumpkins from the 'Financial Times' and 'Daily Express' have failed to make a dent on the strikers' morale.

And the knowledge that they can put pressure on the major car firms to force Sankey's to settle has raised their spirits enormously.

'We've got a position of strength here and we intend to hold onto it,' Noel Byrne said. 'Until this strike began, I don't think any of us realized just what a key position in the motor industry Sankey occupied. Now that we know our strength we won't be go-

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