'Surprise'

jailings

in Ulster

-SAYS GOVT

BRITISH troops

mounted their biggest-

yet security clamp-

down yesterday,

searching more than 2.000 vehicles at road-

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Stormont premier James Chichester-Clark is under growing right-wing pressure

to intern all known repub-

licans and create para-military Protestant organizations to

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If internment—a provision of the Special Powers Act—

is decided on, it will be done

suddenly so as to surprise the republicans before they can

escape or resist, government

The Tory press campaign

of Belfast.

sources say.

Fight to nationalize motors

Answer Ford-Heath Chairman of the union negotiating team Moss Evans (in glasses and dark coat) sur-

anti-union alliance

BY A POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SPEECHES by car baron Henry Ford II and likely assurances by Prime Minister Edward Heath at their luncheon meeting today reveal their unanimity—in fighting the working class.

Ford II threatened to



currender aui i Giiugi

WEEKEND speeches from Tory leaders should smash once and for all the Trades Union Congress fantasy that if workers are very, very polite about the govern-ment's anti-union Bill it will be quietly watered down or

They showed premier Edward Heath and Employment Minister Robert Carr arrogantly determined to press full speed ahead both with their attack on wages and jobs, and with their Industrial Relations Bill at maximum strength.

Both men made it provoca-tively clear that each partial retreat of the union leaders only serves to strengthen Tory confidence that they can and will continue backing down all along the line. However if curiosity killed the

cat, this premature confidence can be made the death of the Tory govern-

Heath claimed that the government's struggle to slash the level of pay settlements had 'turned in our favour'. Speaking in Newcastle on Saturday, he will have been anxious to hit the headlines with a bang before his meeting today with Henry Ford II—stepping up his war of nerves on the union leaders

at the same time. The Tory leader clearly hope he can frighten Thursday's special TUC into accepting the Bill under cover o unanimity behind the General Council's pernicious, do-nothing report.

He is crowing too soon, how-The more the Tories' employing-class arrogance is fed by betrayals such as that in the Post Office, the more government spokesmen chart the course to the General Strike by boasting

the real anti-working-class nature of their programme. Every day brings further proof that the working class must replace the Tories with a Labour government pledged

to socialist policies. Thus Heath-after insisting at Newcastle that 'reform of industrial relations...will become law during the summer' — went on to tell Teesside faithfuls at Thornaby that not only had pay escalation been stopped, it was 'turning in the other

In other words, wage-cutting becomes the admitted Tory

Tory contempt for the so-pliable union leaders is also PAGE FOUR COL. 9

withdraw from further capital investment in Britain in order to get Ford strikers to go back. And, as the 'Sunday Telegraph' commented: 'Mr Heath is expected to

give him a firm assurance that Britain's current strike fever will be brought under control'. Arriving at the weekend Ford commented:

'It is becoming increasingly difficult [exporting] due to labour problems. The problem is a British one no matter what industry it

And he went on:

'I wasn't bluffing either when I said Ford's would re-invest elsewhere . . . We can't recommend any more capital investment in a country constantly dogged with labour problems,'

Ford II has revealed to British workers two aspects of monopoly capitalism which only Trotskyists have so far stressed and which the Stalinists have consistently tried to conceal and

• FIRSTLY he has revealed the true nature of the Anglo-American imperialist

Unanimity

No matter what differences may separate Heath there is unanimity when it comes to fighting the working class and undermining the unions.

In Vietnam and in Dagenham this imperialist soli-darity remains unbroken. US and British capitalism,

no matter what the Stalinists may argue, prefer to hang together than hang separately. This is the sole purpose of Henry Ford II's visit.

To fight Ford is to fight the Tory government and to defeat Ford is to give a mortal blow to the Tories. • SECONDLY Ford II

confirms everything Marxists have said about the nature of monopoly capitalism and the politics of the present dispute.

The logical conclusion from what Ford II said is that he is in business to make a profit and not merely to produce cars for mass consumption.
So if he has decided to

make a stand and direct capital investment else-where, it is because his profit rates are declining through union militancy and the spate of unofficial disputes on grading schemes.

This is what makes this present dispute into a and unprecedented dispute in the entire history of Ford's. Faced with increasing

competition in a stagnant market, Ford's would rather put up the shutters and

PAGE FOUR COL. 8

Food prices will rise

PRICES of milk, eggs, sugar and meat will jump this year as the Tories cut subsidies to farmers.

Initially dairy farmers will get another 2½p a gallon for milk from Minister of Agriculture James Prior's £138m farm price review, due out on Wednesday. This will put 1p on a pint by September.

the yearly 'ritual dance' of price haggling over subsidies. He plans instead to control cheap food imports later this year to allow home farmers to push up prices near the level of gov-

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Laos rout:

New threat

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SAIGON'S Laos invasion

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The evacuation of Tchepone

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The entire 20,000 invasion

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end of March, leaving the

strategic 'panhandle' region

totally dominated by guer-

Without massive US air

support, the Saigon ground forces would never have

But American imperialism

cannot afford defeat in Indo-China and military pressure for a direct US attack on N

moved into Laos at all.

Minh trail' is in ruins.

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National Union of

Furniture Trade

Operatives

Calls for teachers' strike

CALLS for strike action are now certain to be debated at next month's conference of the National Union of

With militant teachers in ondon planning to stop work for between half a day and two days this week over the 345,000-strong union's present pay claim, there is likely o be considerable support for he strike resolution selected for debate at the conference.

The resolution says that all neans, including strike, should be used to back last year's conference pay target of a £1,250-£2,200 basic scale.

'We're not bluffing either'-Ford men

'WE'RE NOT bluffing either, Henry—we want parity'. Ford workers at Dagenham yesterday had this message for boss of the bosses Henry Ford II, chief of the worldwide motor company.

THREE HUNDRED workers marched through Edmonton, N London yes-terday to a meeting called by the Enfield District Com-mittee of the AUEW against the Industrial Relations Bill addressed by Reg Birch of the AUEW executive, Nor-man Atkinson, MP for Tottenham, John Cousins, national officer of the T&GWU, and Audrey Wise of USDAW

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'I have worked too long for £17.62½ take-home pay.' This worker summed up the feeling of a mass meeting at Dagenham, which voted overwhelmingly to continue the

strike.

'Parity now'

Before the meeting, officials from the trade union national negotiating team were greeted by thousands chanting 'We want parityl'

But the motion put to the men made no mention of this essential part of the claim— pay equality with the car-workers of the Midlands, who earn up to £15 more than the Dagenham men.

'Ford workers now stand solidly behind their trade unions and fully support the negotiators in their determination to achieve once and for all a wage increase that rewards the Ford worker for the contribution they make both to the Ford Motor Com-pany and to the economy of the country', said the motion.

Word missing

'But where is that magic word "parity", that's what I want to know, said one Ford steward after the vote.

The SLL needs your help

THE CAMPAIGN against the Tory government and its antiunion laws is building up.
Millions of workers will be out on strike on March 18.

There are encouraging signs that the right-wing Trades Union Congress leaders can be defeated and the way opened for a General Strike to make this Tory government resign. Whether this is possible or

not, every single trade unionist must do his or her best to win support for such a policy. Few sections of the labour movement have worked harder than the members of the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists along these lines over the past few

The Alexandra Palace rally, attended by 4,500, was a high point in our efforts to defeat Toryism. In turn, we have been

rewarded by our readers who

have increased the net daily

sale of Workers Press by 1,000 copies. This is a firm achievement which we are confident will be exceeded in the coming

But let us put the facts straight: there is absolutely no room for complacency. The Tories are going all-out to make their Bill law by July. Every left-wing publication will then be in danger of legal action if it supports strikes. The next two months are

absolutely decisive. The YS Conference on April 3 and 4 will play a big role in this Meanwhile the Socialist Labour League is now preparing the campaign decided at the Alexandra Palace rally to transform itself into a revolutionary party later on this

The fight to make this government resign is a central part of this campaign. We campaign of leaflets and propaganda over the next few weeks. This will consist of public meetings in all the important industrial centres in addition to widespread educational lectures and classes on the meaning of the present crisis of the capitalist system. The SLL Central Com mittee has decided to launch an appeal for £3,000 to be

Motor Company had grown up completed by May 1 in order on anti-trade unionism, and that this had been challenged to defray the cost of expenses of this campaign. in Britain. We need the support of every single reader of Workers us have no break in unity now, let us go on to win our

Press. Without your help we cannot carry out this work. We are confident that you will give us all the assistance you can. Start immediately by sending a substantial donation to:

Socialist Labour League May Day Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street,

total subservience to British

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

Earlier, the crowd, estimated

15,000 strong, was addressed by Moss Evans, chairman of the union negotiating team,

who said that Ford workers

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Judgement

'Now if that is not for the good of the company and the

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After the meeting, Evans said he was sure Henry Ford

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The question of possible redundancies did not enter into the unions' consideration

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Take over

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Terror directed against the troops is bound to follow the military terror against the people of N Ireland.

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Troops have no right to be there and their military masters bear the entire responsibility for the consequences.

The demand for withdrawal of British troops from Ulster is right at the centre of the struggle against Toryism both in Britain and in its oldest

• See LATE NEWS

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Tuesday March 16, 8 p.m. 'The Old Plough, Kilburn Lane, W.10

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ALL TRADES UNIONS

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Force the TUC to call a General Strike to make the **Tory Government Resign!** Lobby the TUC meeting-Fairfield Halls, Croydon,

Demonstration—Assemble 2 p.m. outside Fairfield Halls, Croydon.

March-2.30 p.m. through Croydon.

Meeting-3 p.m. Top Rank Suite, London Rd,

Speakers from the All Trades Unions Alliance.

LIVERPOOL TRADES COUNCIL LOBBY

of Special Trades Union Congress at Croydon

Special train: Tickets £2 return

MASS PROCESSION AND **DEMONSTRATION**

Thursday March 18 ASSEMBLE: Islington Square 10.30 a.m.

Join the demonstration Kill the Bill

Fund reaches

WHATEVER the ultimatum from Henry Ford, backed up by the Tory government, the working class will not allow their wages and jobs to be

£1,250 March

The Tories are gaining confidence from the continuous rise in unemployment as more and more firms are forced to follow in the footsteps of Rolls-Royce.

Any retreat by union leaders today, in the face of this vicious Tory offensive, opens up serious dangers for the whole working class. We must build a revolutionary leadership inside the unions. The strength of the working class can defeat the Tories.

Every effort must be turned to forcing the TUC to call a General Strike to make the Tory government resign. Only the Workers Press

fights for such a policy. Give us all your support on these most vital issues. Immediately help us raise the target for the March

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over the dead soldiers is sup-plemented by the Communist Party, which, according to Saturday's 'Morning Star', strongly condemned the deaths. 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4. But their pleas to the Tories not to blame the IRA without

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gains a foothold in the frustrated middle class.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

Lessons of the post workers' strike

Unitarian Church Hall, Effra Rd, SW2 (opposite Lambeth Town Hall)

Speaker at both meetings:
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ALLIANCE

March 18

rounded by Ford strikers and

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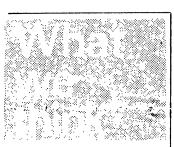
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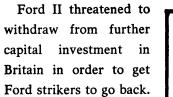
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National Union of

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ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

March 18

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March—2.30 p.m. through Croydon.

Meeting-3 p.m. Top Rank Suite, London Rd,

Speakers from the All Trades Unions Alliance.

LIVERPOOL TRADES COUNCIL **LOBBY**

of Special Trades Union Congress at Croydon

Special train: Tickets £2 return

MASS PROCESSION **AND DEMONSTRATION**

Thursday March 18 ASSEMBLE: Islington Square 10.30 a.m.

Join the demonstration Kill the Bill

Khrushchev remembers

A review by Robert Black

PART FOUR

Stalin used



Kalinin, Kaganovich, Ordzhonikidze, Stalin, and Voroshilov.

purges to hide failure THE STALINIST purges



On an inspection tour in the 1930s.

of the 1930s were not the result of defects in Stalin's 'personality'.

This official Soviet version of the purges, was in fact, first propounded by Khrushchev in his 1956 'Secret Speech'.

'Khrushchev Remembers' gives, at least, a glimpse of the eco-nomic and political crisis behind

Khrushchev saw with his own eyes some of the terrible sufferings visited on the Soviet peasantry by Stalin's sudden switch of policy in 1929.

With his former allies, the rich peasants (Kulaks) in revolt and pressing hard for the complete restoration of capitalism in farming and trade, Stalin swung to the extreme left and launched his campaign for the collectivization of privately run farms.

The Kulaks were to be 'liquidated as a class'—a line that contrasted starkly with Stalin's earlier insistence that Trotsky had been exaggerating the dangers of Kulak pressure on the

Naturally, Khrushchev does not go into the political background to the 1930 grain crisis, but his description of what he aw is frank enough:

'We spent only a few days at the collective farm and were appalled at the conditions we

The farmers were starving to death.... They literally begged us to give them food.... I'd no idea that things were this bad.

'At the Industrial Academy we'd been living under the illusion promoted by "Pravda" that collectivization was proceeding smoothly and everything was fine

BBC 1

Aghast at the havoc wrought by Stalin's rural policy, which drove millions of poor and middle as well as rich peasants to rebel against the regime, many former oppositionists such as Zinoviev and Kamenev again began to discuss the removal of

Stalin from the Party leadership. But not Khrushchev. Commenting on Stalin's famous speech 'Dizzy with Success', which laid the blame for the sufferings caused by his policy on bureautrits he minor bureaucrats, admits:

'I remember being bothered by the thought: if everything has been going as well on the collective farms as Stalin has been telling us up until now, then what's the reason for the "Dizzy with Success" speech all of a sudden?'

And he was dumbfounded by the news that the famine had reached the Ukraine, the 'breadbasket of Europe':

'I couldn't believe it. I'd left the Ukraine in 1929, only three years before, when the Ukraine had pulled itself up to pre-war

'Food_had been plentiful and cheap. Yet now, we were told people were starving. It was

Corpses And according to Kiev party

chief Demchenko, says Khrush-Kiev loaded with corpses of people who had starved to death. It had picked up corpses all the way from Poltava to Kiev . . .'

Khrushchev swallowed whatever criticisms he may have had of Stalin's line, and joined in the attacks on those who came out for a change of leadership and policy.

But what he has to say on this period is nevertheless very inter-esting, because it points directly to one of the main motives

behind Stalin's frame-up trials a few years later.
One of the hallmarks of a Bonapartist regime is the infallibility of its leader.

His underlings, even his closest associates, may make mistakes, even be found guilty of treason when the situation calls for the sacrifice of scapegoats, but the 'leader' himself must be spotless, even to the extent of blotting out all his past blunders from the history books.

This was clearly understood by Khrushchev, as can be seen from his comments on Stalin's 'Dizzy with Success' speech, as well as the following passage:

'The conditions that existed under collectivization have been described by Sholokhov in "Virgin Soil Upturned".

'Sholokhov wrote his book while Stalin was still alive, so he had no choice but to describe collectivization according to the Stalinist interpretation lindicating how Stalinist Bonapartism even determined the style and

content of literary works.] 'When the failure of the collectivization became widely known, we were all taught to blame scheming Kulaks, rightists, Trot-skyists and Zinovievites for what was happening. There was always the handy explanation of counter-revolutionary sabotage.' (Emphasis added.)

"... Perhaps we'll never know how many people perished directly as a result of collectivization, or indirectly as a result of Stalin's eagerness to blame its failure on others.

'But two things are certain: first, the Stalin brand of collectivization brought us nothing but misery and brutality; and second, Stalin played the decisive role in the leadership of our country

at the time.

'Rykov [shot with Bukharin in 1938 after the third Moscow 'trial'], Zinoviev and Kamenev [both shot in 1936 after the first]

had already been removed from their posts, and Trotsky was in

'Therefore, if we were look-ing for someone to hold respon-sible, we could lay the blame squarely on Stalin's own shoulders . . .'
Khrushchev demolishes here

the frame-up technique employed by Stalin and his allies at the infamous Moscow Trials of 1936-

Terrorism

In fact the main charges at the first (the Zinoviev-Kamenev ing, sabotage and terrorism.

By using the closest comrades of Lenin as the bureaucracy's scapegoats, Stalin killed two birds with one stone.

Not only were the half-starving, underclad over-worked and poorly-housed Soviet masses given an official explanation for all the ills of the Soviet economy (every set-back had been the work of Trotskyist 'wreckers') the same trumped-up charges enabled Stalin to eliminate in four batches all real or potential alternative leadership to his own

Into the highest posts of party and state swaggered opportunists and yes-men, drenched with the blood of Lenin's central committee and the General Staff of the Red Army.

And here, too, Khrushchev (or somebody using his name) is surprisingly frank.

'The flower of the Party was stamped out in the savage vio-lence. . . . Many of the original leaders of our Party and our country were wiped out.

'Where were men like Molo-tov or Kaganovich or Voroshilov or Mikoyan when Zinoviev, Kamenev, Trotsky, Bukharin and Rykov were running the country?' (Emphasis added.)

CONTINUED.

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6.00 LONDON THIS WEEK.

6.20 YOUNG SCIENTISTS OF THE YEAR. Bishop Auckland v Littlehampton v Holyhead.

6.45 A QUESTION OF SPORT.

7.05 Z CARS. 'Little Girl Lost'.

7.30 OH BROTHER! 'A Stone of Stumbling'.

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather. 9.20 DOOMWATCH. 'The Logicians'.

10.10 COME DANCING. 10.40 24 HOURS.

11.15 ROAD SENSE.

11.40 Weather. **BBC 2**

11.00-11.20 a.m. Play school. 6.35-6.50 p.m. OPEN UNIVERSITY. Social sciences.

7.05 CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL. 'Young Offenders'. 7.30 NEWSROOM and weather.

8.00 LANCER. 'Lifeline'.

8.50 GENTRY. Bobbie Gentry.

9.25 HORIZON, 'What Kind of Doctor?' A look at the methods of training our next generation of doctors.

10.10 THEATRE. 'No Charge for the Extra Service'.

10.40 'FOUR WITH BETJEMAN'. Victorian architects and archi-

11.10 NEWS ON 2 and weather. 11.15 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV

11.00 a.m.-2.58 p.m. Schools. 3.45 Yoga for health. 4.10 Once upon a time. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 Lost in space. 5.45 News. 5.55

6.40 OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!

7.30 CORONATION STREET. 8.00 WORLD IN ACTION.

8.30 FOR THE LOVE OF ADA. 9.00 THE MISFIT. '... On the National Health'.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 FILM: 'APPOINTMENT WITH CRIME'. William Hartnell,

Robert Beatty, Herbert Lom. A robbery goes awry.

12.15 a.m. SURVIVAL IN THE CITY. Ivor Mills talks to a psychiatrist specializing in community problems.

All regions as BBC-1 except:

Midlands, E Anglia: 6.00 Midlands today. Look East, weather. 11,42 News, weather. North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland: 6.00 Look North, weather. 11.42 News, weather. Wales: 1.30 Ar lin mam. 6.00 Wales today. 6.20 Gwlad a thref. 6.45 Heddiw. 11.42

REGIONAL ITY

CHANNEL: 11.00-2.58 London.
3.55 Once upon a time. 4.05
Puffin. 4.15 Moment of truth.
4.45 Forest rangers. 5.10 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 5.55 News,
weather. 6.10 What's on where.
6.15 International detective. 6.45
London. 10.30 Conversation piece.
11.03 University challenge. 11.26
News. weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 News. 4.05 Gus Honeybun. 5.55 Diary. 6.15 Sport. 6.35 Horoscope. 11.32 Faith for life. 11.36 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.00-2.58 London. 3.25 Horoscope. 3.30 Women. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.12 Felix. 4.20 Lucy. 4.50 London. 5.55 Day by day. 6.45 London. 10.30 Challenge. 11.00 News. 11.10 Tom Jones. 12.10 Weather. It's all yours.

HARLECH: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.09 Moment of truth. 4.34 Women. 4.50 Woobinda. 5.14 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 5.56 Report West. 6.22 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 10.30 Strange report. 11.30 What are you doing after the show?

ANGLIA: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.00 News. 4.05 Women. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 Felix. 5.10 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 5.55 About Anglia. 6.40 London. 10.30 Probe. 11.00 Department S. 11.55 Farming.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-2.58 London, 3.10 Houseparty, 3.20 Stars. 3.25 Women today, 4.00 Peyton Place, 4.30 Cartoon, 4.35 Once upon a time, 4.50 Showtime, 5.10 Timeslip, 5.45 London, 5.55 ATV today, 6.40 London, 10.30 Challenge, 11.02 Speaking.

HTV (West): 4.07-4.09 This is the West this week.
HTV (Wales): 5.56 Cymraeg i bawb. 6.00-6.22 Y dydd.

HTV (Cymru/Wales): 5.56 Cymraeg i bawb. 6.00-6.22 Y dydd. 8.00-8.30

REGIONAL BBC

Weather.

Scotland: 1.00 Jesus and the circle. 6.00 Reporting Scotland. 11.42 News, weather.

N Ireland: 6.00 Scene around six, weather. 7.30 Folk meets folk. 11.42 News, weather.

SW. South, West: 6.00 Points West. South today. Spotlight SW, weather. 11.42 News, weather.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00-2.58 London.
3.30 Saber. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.10
London. 4.25 Matinee. 4.50
Skippy. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 5.55 Calendar, weather. 6.15
Hogan's heroes. 6.45 London.
10.30 Name of the game. 11.55
Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.05 News. Peyton Place. 4.35 Once upon a time. 4.50 Skippy. 5.10 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 5.55 Newsday. Put it in writing. 6.10 Hillbillies. 6.40 London. 10.30 Challenge. 11.00 Human jungle.

TYNE TEES: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.00 News. 4.05 Women. 4.35 Paulus. 4.50 Skippy. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 6.00 Today. 6.25 Sport. 6.45 London. 10.30 Face the press. 11.00 What are you doing after the show? 11.45 News. 12.00 Call to share.

BORDER: 1.38-2.48 London. 3.50 Houseparty. 4.03 News. 4.05 High living. 4.35 Once upon a time. 4.50 Forest rangers. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 5.55 News. Lookaround. 6.10 Horoscope. 6.15 University challenge. 6.45 London. 10.30 Edgar Wallace. 11.35 Makem. 12.05 News, weather.

SCOTTISH: 10.15 No easy answer. 11.00-2.58 London, 4.00 Date-line. 4.10 London, 4.25 Castle-haven. 4.50 Gulliver. 5.10 Time-slip. 5.45 London. 5.55 Date-line. 6.35 Popeye. 6.40 London. 10.30 Debate. 11.20 Jesse James. 11.45 Late call.

VLSTER: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.25 Romper room. 4.45 News. 4.50 Phoenix five. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.45 London. 5.55 UTV reports. 6.15 Hillbillies. 6.45 London. 10.30 Monday night. 10.35 Film: 'Violent Road'. Brian Keith, Dick Foran, Merry Anders, Effrem Zimbalist Ir.

Stalinists fear Prague

BY ROBERT BLACK

CZECHOSLOVAK press and radio are giving very little information about the trial in Prague of 19 young anti-Stalinists, all members of the Revolutionary Socialist Party.

It is easy to see why. Unlike 'liberal' oppositionists linked in one way or another to former Party leader Alexander Dubcek, they have called for working-class action to remove the bureaucracy, and not for a series of 'reforms' reflecting mainly the interests of the middle

The present ultra-Stalinist leadership of the Czech Party has been able to point out the obviously social-democratic nature and inspiration of many 'liberal' oppositionists, and has not hesitated to quote extensively from their writings.

The Husak regime has even used quotations from Lenin's writings to expose the opportunist content of the Dubcekinspired liberal opposition. (Lenin's works on the right of nations to self-determination, crudely violated by the Kremlin occupation, understandably

have not been used in this context.) But the Stalinists have not been able to use the same technique against the 19 on trial in Prague.

And that is because the group has been fighting for a Leninist policy against the bureaucracy. Naturally, their prosecutors charge them with 'Trotskyism'!

All that the Czech public officially know about the trial is the brief statement made on the Prague Home service on Tuesday morning, which said: 'The trial of the accused Peter Uhl and others, charged with

the criminal offence of subversion against the Republic, is currently in progress before the bench of the Prague City Court. 'The accused have been conducting subversive activity against the Republic between November 1968 and December 1969 (when the 19 were arrested), viz. compiled, duplicated and

distributed various written materials and leaflets of anti-state



Dubcek

tendency in which they attacked the socialist order of the Republic and attempted to frustrate efforts at a consolidation of political and economic conditions.

We see that here, there are no quotations from these duplicated materials, exposing the group's alleged 'anti-state tendency'. Can it be that no copies have actually fallen into the hands of Husak's ever-vigilant secret police?

We know that is not the case, for one of the defendants at the trial, Pavel Lukacovic, has already exposed the role of a police provocateur within the group. A certain Cechal leaked the text of a planned leaflet to the

police, who promptly duplicated it themselves, and later used its

circulation as evidence of the group's subversive activities. The reason for the Husak regime's silence on the real views the group is that their ideas are political dynamite. Jan Frolik, another defendant, has told the court:

'Never in our discussions did we consider the possibility of a restoration of capitalism. 'On the contrary, our only aim was to help socialism. Our criticism was not directed against the socialist system, but

against certain action and certain methods'. So much for their 'anti-state tendency' and 'attacks on the

Thrown into crisis

The group's position is basically that taken by millions of Czech workers and youth during the crisis of 1968.

They were utterly opposed to the Stalinist bureaucracy, but they were equally determined that the gains of the early post-war period—the nationalization of industry and finance, and the land reforms—should not only be defended, but enhanced by democratic workers' control over the economy. This is why the 19's views cannot be so much as referred

to by the Czech press and radio. Instead, Prague Radio broadcasts lengthy diatribes against obvious anti-communist figures in the West, and then links them in a classic Stalinist 'amalgam' to those fighting Stalinism in various ways from a socialist point

One such broadcast included in the 'anti-Czech' front such varied figures as David Floyd of the 'Sunday Telegraph', Victor Zorza of 'The Guardian', the *émigré* writer Kuznetsov, Roger Garaudy (expelled from the French Communist Party), Jean-Paul Sartre, the existentialist philosopher and writer, Ernst Fischer, the expelled art critic of the Austrian CP, and the Soviet opposition writers Solzhenitsyn and Daniel. Crudely lumped together here are professional anti-communists from Fleet St and heroic fighters against the Kremlin bureaucracy,

liberal critics of Stalinism like Garaudy and avowed enemies of socialism like Kuznetsov. The Prague trial is obviously creating serious difficulties for

the Czech bureaucracy, and it is fast becoming a focal point of opposition to the Husak regime. The sons of two old Party leaders murdered after the 1952

Prague frame-up trial, Slansky and Sling, have joined supporters of the 19 on vigil outside the court. This stand required courage, as Czech leaders are now saying the purges of the early 1950s were justified, and that those condemned were indeed enemies of socialism.

After a period of surface calm, the Czech bureaucracy has again been thrown into crisis, one sign of this being a press and radio campaign in defence of Husak's ambiguous role during the Kremlin invasion of August 1968, when, after a period of opposition, he went over to the hard-line Stalinists.

This is clearly being used against him by his die-hard Stalinist

A big factor deepening this split has been the revolt of the Polish workers, against the Gomulka regime, which at once

rivals Bilak, Strougal and Indra.

provoked hard-liners to speak out against 'liberal' dangers in These tensions reflect the pressure of the working class and youth on the entire regime.

By campaigning for the release of the Prague 19, we also strike hammer blows at world Stalinism.

behind THE NEWS

SOCIALISTS WIN FREEDOM FOR THE 'PRESS'

seeing red last week.
For the Libraries committee are to buy and display the militant

A cutting from a St Helens paper

Popular demand for Workers Press'

ST HELENS workers have been demanding copies of the Workers Press at their town library and from now on it will be displayed in the read-

The Libraries Committee decision to buy the Trotskyist daily from Tory councillors.

Ald. Jim Hand said: 'It's not a newspaper. Its a political broadsheet pushing an extremist point of view.

'If the organization concerned want to give us a free copy I've no objection to it being put on

'I totally disagree with buy-

Independent Labour councillor John Potter retorted: 'All papers are putting over a political point of view in their editorial leaders. 'The Library already buys the "Morning Star" so you might as well say the St Helens council is contributing to the Communist

'I do not agree with the views of the Workers Press, but I think people have a right to read

from an unusual quarter.

It is, of course, significant that the 'Morning Star' does not appear to be regarded as 'extre-mist' either by the Tories or the Labourites the Labourites.

Clearly the policies of the Socialist Labour League, particularly in relation to the sacked Pilkington men, are having a

the paper 'interesting' reading.

Said Canon Harry Bradshaw, ve should buy it and put it on

to reading it.'

We hope the Canon does find

Party.

it if they want to.' Coun. Potter received backing

Rural Dean of Prescot: 'I think display rather than silence it. 'I look forward with interest

big impact in the town.

Seamen may link

THE NATIONAL Union of They were clearly designed to Seamen may be taken over by the Transport and General Workers' Union.

with T&GWU

The seamen are about to ask for a pay rise and it may well be that the proposed link-up reflects a new determination to avoid

Certainly the implications have not been lost on the deputy chairman of the Cunard Line, who has warned:

'This could be a very serious matter for the whole British Mercantile Marine.'

Not that his comments were intended to be taken as a warn-

frighten seamen about the state of the industry.

He told the Royal Society of

Arts: 'The NUS is neither a large or rich union nor does it carry great political weight.

'But its affairs are in the hands of men who, although rightly concerned first and foremost with the well being of their own members, are also familiar with the financial and commercial problems of the shipping industry as a whole, and they can read a balance sheet.

'They know, for instance, that the last seamen's strike cost Cunard £3½m and that another such strike could do irreparable harm to the whole industry and put thousands of their members

out of work.
'I doubt whether the T&GWU will think along the same lines."

Nazi camp victim heads goverment

TRYGVE BRATTELI, Norway's new Labour Prime Minister, was once an inmate of a Nazi concentration

Arrested in 1942 for organizing resistance to the Nazi occupation of Norway, Bratteli was sent to a camp in Germany, where he spent the last three years of the war.

On his release, he weighed only seven stone six pounds. First elected to parliament in 1950, he became Finance Minister under Labour Premier Einar Gerhardsen the next year, and served in this post—with a break in 1955—until 1960, when he took over at the Ministry of Communications. In 1965, he was elected chairman of the Labour Party, suc-

ceeding Gerhardsen, who had just led the Party to its first election defeat for over 30 He, too, was defeated in the 1969 General Election, but by

only two seats. Labour government pledged to take Norway into the Common Market, the very decision that his predecessor, Agrarian Party leader Per Borten, would not

Crossman will not seek re-election

MR RICHARD CROSS-MAN, 63, former Labour cabinet minister and until 1968 leader of the House of Commons under Wilson's premiership, has announced that he will not be standing

at the next General Election. Crossman was Minister for Social Services until the Tories elected with a 12,265 majority,

took up his seat and also accepted editorship of the 'New

He has always liked to be seen as some sort of political maverick in the reformist ranks, but he can be relied on to keep the 'New Statesman' in its traditional Fabian role.

The fact that he says he will be nearly 70 by the time of the next General Election is a perfect indication of his real perspectives. He expects the Tories to last their full five years.

AS RECESSION DEEPENS

Class forces polarize

FASCIST AND neofascist strong-arm gangs are increasingly taking to the streets in Italy, France and Germany.

As post-war parliamentary democracy crumbles and demonstrates its inability to cope with the worsening recession, such extra parliamentary groups will become more common.

They reflect the polarization of class forces. They mark the break-up of the old political

In Italy mobs sacked offices of left-wing parties, in W Germany neo-Nazis are breaking up Social Democratic Party meetings and in France last week right and left-wing demonstrators fought in the streets of the

Despite the miracles the Common Market was supposed to perform—and which the Tories depression is biting hard among

Raymond Barre, vice-president of the Brussels EEC Commission, said last week that 1971 would be a 'very average' year for business with industrial growth slipping from 6.5 per cent in 1970 to barely 4 per cent.

'Co-operation'

He criticized employers for buying their way out of indus-trial trouble by conceding big wage demands and called for 'co-operation' between unions and management.

Inflation threatens to get out of hand and attacks on wages -and therefore living standards and jobs are an urgent necessity for the capitalist class.

Wages in W Germany went up by 37.2 per cent between 1968 and 1970, in Italy by 35.7 per cent and in France 30.4 per cent. The European working class is now a serious obstacle to the

bosses' inescapable and ruthless need to destroy capital and restore falling rates of profit.

But to smash the trade unions, the political parties and the press of the working class will require far more than mere parliamentary methods.

Neo-fascist mobs are start of this movement. The Gaullists and any other EEC governments will maintain the fiction that they are determined to preserve law and order, but strong-arm gangs are absolutely indispensable to the development of fascism.

Both the Pompidou and Colombo regimes have declared their determination to preserve 'law and order' in the streets and just as in the day of Hitler's rise to power, are turning a blind eye to the fascists' violent

Gangs

These gangs will try to break up working-class organizations as similar mobs succeeded in doing in pre-war Italy and Germany. Only then will the road be clear for fascism. No amount of legislation could perform this

The fact that they are beginning to appear is a measure of the distress which the bourgeoisie and petty bourgeoisie are

The decline of British industry is creating a whole army of unemployed executives, man-agers, ruined small investors, shop keepers in 'one industry' towns, small craft firms and the

These layers have for genera-tions automatically identified their interests with those of British capitalism. But now their supposed ally rounds on them viciously, and threatens them with ruin. Which way will

Either the fascists will capture these frustrated masses, and direct them against the working class to smash the trade unions—or they will be drawn into a struggle for socialism.

'White collar redundancy', as it is now called, is recognized as a growing problem by trade

The jobless rate in DATA now runs at 5 per cent—nearly twice the national average. The educated unemployment rate is soaring in France and Italy, although the recession is only now having serious effects in W

In Britain there are signs that the middle class is turning towards the trade union movement to defend itself.

European

Membership of the Clerical and Administrative Workers' Union increased by 17 per cent last year, and in ASTMS, the managers' union, by 22 per cent.

Not enough

But this trend, encouraging though it is, will not be enough.

Stalinist and reformist leadership was remorselessly exposed during the defeated postmen's

It also showed that trade union militancy is not enough to defeat the capitalists.

Middle-class bankruptcy and ruin lay behind the meteoric rise of Hitler's Nazi party from barely 800,000 votes in 1928 to more than 6 million in 1930 and nearly 14 million two years

It is no accident that the fascist thugs who clashed with left-wing demonstrators in France and Italy both belong to

groups with the same name-

They are demanding that the government act to clean up the 'leftist mess' — by which they mean strikes, and all the organizations the working class has built up in its struggle against capitalism.

Every capitalist government in W Europe is now moving towards a showdown with the working class.

In Germany the trial of lawyer Horst Mahler, an anarchist, is being used to smear the entire left movement by associating socialism with terrorism.

In France, as the attacks on socialists as well as demonstra-tions mounted by student adven-turers gather speed, the Gaullist Party is being forced to the right and the moderates are being driven out.

Break-up

The Italian government crisis which seems almost perpetual is a symptom of the break-up of the old mass parties—a break-up which has created a power vacuum into which the military and the police backed by the fascist MSI are increasingly step-

Fascist gangs have attacked socialists in L'Aquilla and Reggio are said to have fought battles with military and para-military forces in the last few weeks.

Side by side with these developments, reformist and Stalinist leaders of the European labour movement are doing nothing to prepare the working class to

Italy and France have the two Communist Parties in Europe. Yet in France in May-June 1968 they did everything to ensure the defeat of the workers' and students' move-

In Italy massive strikes and workers' demonstrations have been diverted, muted and turned into mere protests.

In this situation the need for, and the role of, the mass revolutionary party becomes important.



The picket line at Dagenham

Nationalization: answer to 'crude threats'

FORD WORKERS at Dagenham are under no illusion about what lies behind the attempted witch-hunt of Tory MP Timothy Fortescue.

Workers Press reporters talked to Body group shop steward Terry Barton about the attempted witch-hunt and the course of the Ford strike.

'Hammer'

'I couldn't use strong enough words to condemn this Tory Fortescue without using libel,' he 'Of course we can see what

the government is trying to do now. The Tories have defeated the postal workers and they now believe it's time to hammer us. 'If my machine broke down I

couldn't leave the floor. It would be repaired within half an hour. There is no chance of sabotage, even if we wanted to do this, with the numbers of supervisory staff on the lines. 'If a man sabotaged a machine

pocket. These accusations are nonsense', said Terry. 'If they want to sort out the militants as these three Halewood men suggested, then they will have to sort out all 50,000

he would be only hitting his

of us because we are all militants.'

Terry said he was not at all worried about Henry Ford's threats of redundancies.

'What Ford is saying is that he doesn't like the British situa-tion because labour over here is not cheap and the workers do not live under the neo-fascist regimes that they live under in the Far East.

'The answer to these crude threats is to demand nationalization of Ford's British invest-

'I endorse that last statement about nationalization', Maurice Allen, another shop steward and Ford worker, with six-and-a-half years' experience, told us.

'I am only surprised that this kind of witch-hunt has not come earlier.

Victimized

'They are trying to get us back to 1962 when they victimized and sacked all the militants at Dagenham but the situa-tion has changed now and we won't let the Tories or the company do this again.

'They are trying to get us back to work by pushing around erroneous rumours that men are ready to give in elsewhere. But how did Halewood vote last

'They voted by 3,000 to four to stay out on strike. That is the answer I give to Fortescue, and if he wants the answer from Dagenham, let him come down here to our mass meetings."

CEYLON

Coalition is counter revolutionary

THE STATE of emergency declared in Ceylon a few days ago indicates the treacherous objectives of the counter-revolutionary coalition government.

Paris: A gang of fascists of the 'New Order Party' charge left-wing demonstrators who had attempted to break up their meeting.

It brings out, too, the bankruptcy of the Maoist-oriented Peoples Liberation Front, which has no faith in organizing and leading the working class to defeat capitalism and to

The Peoples Liberation Front (PLF) is organized under pettybourgeois leaders who had their initial political training first in pro-Moscow and then in pro-Peking Stalinist parties.

Therefore they inherit the anti-working-class political tendencies prevailing in the Stalinist communist parties throughout the world.

With their talk about the armed struggle and quotations from 'Mao's thoughts', PLF leaders try to divert the unemployed youth away from the working-class struggle. Their theories about a peasant uprising and an armed struggle

independent of the working class naturally helps the bourgeois sections to prepare to attack the workers. They were preaching against the trade union struggles from the very beginning of their movement. They were really hostile to the Tamil workers employed in the plantations.

While the Trotskyist Revolutionary Communist League opposed the middle-class politics of the PLF and waged a theoretical struggle against them, the Pabloite revisionists ran after them —and compromised with all their weaknesses and betrayals. There is a growing determination today, among whole layers of the Singhalese masses to break away from the imperialist

The local bourgeoisie, led by Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike tries to exploit this hatred against imperialism by strengthening the state apparatus in order to repress the masses in the guise

of a Buddhist Singhalese 'socialist' system. PLF, on the other hand, tries to exploit this anti-imperialist sentiment among the youth to drive them away from the working class and to lead them to some isolated terrorist activities.

PLF does not have a clear understanding of the real class nature of the coalition. They still hope they can push Mrs Bandaranaike to take up socialist measures. Even when the police shot dead two workers who were engaged in a strike along with other trade unionists in a plantation estate, PLF leaders invited Mrs Bandaranaike to bring forward regulations to defend workers from the plantation owners and the police. Pabloite Bala Tampoe also supported this same

Again when the government issued a verbal protest against the American invasion in Laos they thought they could push the government more towards the left by attacking the American

But, Mrs Bandaranaike took immediate measures to defend not only the American embassy, but the whole imperialist set up in Ceylon by suppressing all revolutionary activities in the country.

The coalition can play only one role—counter-revolution. We have seen how Sukarno in Indonesia, with all his verbal criticism of imperialism, opened the door for a CIA-sponsored govern-

PLF always tried to by-pass the working class and its organizations and trade unions and to find adventurist methods to

Their counterparts, the Maoists, in Britain, also try to do the same things. That is why they are opposed to a Labour government returned to power through a General Strike. They are opening the door for the Tories to attack the British

Revolutionary Trotskyists in Ceylon today fight among the workers to build up a movement to force the Sama Samajist and Stalinist leaders in the coalition government to break away from

At the same time they fight to build up revolutionary cadres to lead the masses against reformism and revisionism and towards a successful socialist revolution.

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MARXISM AND TRADE UNIONS 17‡p Please tick those books required -That is why the Revolutionary Communist League agitated to force the two working-class parties in the coalition to break plus 3p postage for each pamphlet 10p postage for each book.

ist Party and sell out. He knew he would have to leave

But at least 12 of Devey's fellow CP members in Sheffield knew exactly what he was do-

CROWNED

Devey is not the first such case within the CP.

the political development of William Paynter, whose long career inside the National Union of Mineworkers was

crowned with a well-paid post

on the Commission on Indus-

Peter Kerrigan, played a simi-lar role in the ETU ballot-

Ramelson stated at the LSE that the Liaison Committee

could claim all the credit for

the movement against the Industrial Relations Bill. It

would be more correct to say

that leading members of this

body are prepared to accept the Bill, even before it is on the statute book!

November 14 conference,

demand for the TUC to call

a General Strike were des-

cribed as 'living in a dream-

At the Liaison Committee's

who raised the

predecessor,

trial Relations.

Ramelson's

rigging scandal.

Trotskyists

Ramelson also presided over

ing and agreed with him.

the CP'.

Thus Ramelson condemns

the campaign to force the

Tories to resign and advances

instead the opportunist illusion that the Tories can be

Ramelson's attacks on the

SLL reflect his own deep fear

of the mass movement in the

working class, which is dis-

rupting all the established opportunist trade union rela-

tionships and placing the CP

The case of Terry Devey,

the Stalinist convenor who accepted a £3,000 pay-off to end a reinstatement strike, is

the writing on the wall for Ramelson and his Party.

Devey was the Sheffield sec-

retary of the Liaison Com-mittee for the Defence of

Trades Unions, an organization

which Ramelson claims 'accepts guidance' from the

He was convenor at Batchel-

or's Foods and a leading local

At the end of a seven-week strike Devey accepted the

employers' pay-off, a funda-

mental feature of the Industrial Relations Bill, and shortly

No political explanation of this series of events has been

forthcoming from Ramelson

or any other leading Stalinist.

Ramelson later explained

that 'Devey knew he couldn't

be a member of the Commun-

after resigned from the CP.

Communist Party.

CP member.

on trial as never before.

persuaded to 'kill the Bill'.

Sombre

results A SOMBRE note was struck by Indian Congress President Jagiiyan Ram vesterday.

Commenting on Mrs Indira Gandhi's sweeping General Election victory, he said: 'It is a real evolution brought about by the masses. The people will not permit

Latest returns from W Bengal yesterday showed Congress trailing the United Left Front by 86 seats to 89, with Jyoti Basu's Communist Party of

India ('Marxists') once again

emerging as the main force in

the Front with 80 seats.

any complacency.'

Stalinists slander SLL policy as

General Strike demand gains wider support

ON THE 18th anniversary of Stalin's death, Bert Ramelson, the Communist Party's socalled, industrial organizer, decided to launch a fresh round of slander against Trotskyism.

He told students at the London School of Economics that 'the Socialist Labour League has never been able to get a response for its demands in the working class'.

Slander and distortion against revolutionaries is, of course, the stock-in-trade of

this ageing Stalinist functionary, whose entire political life has been devoted to licking

He and his colleagues in the ommunist Party leadership supported every act of brutality and murder committed under Stalin. They have never changed their positions on these crimes.

Ramelson knows very well that his statement about the SLL is a lie. He is all too well aware that just a month ago, at Alexandra Palace, 4,500 unionists answered the SLL's call for a mass rally against Tories and demanded the TUC call a General Strike to force the Tories to resign.

He knows that this policy commands widespread support inside the trade unions, having been endorsed in dozens of union branches all over the country. (See below.)

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Monday March 29

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Wednesday March 17 Wednesday March 24

Indian Workers' Association Hall,

18, Featherstone Rd, Southall

Given by Robert Black

LUTON

Monday March 15

Trades Union Club, Crescent Rd, Luton

Given by Tony Richardson

BEXLEYHEATH

Monday March 15 Monday March 22

'Lord Bexley', Broadway

(nr Clock Tower)

Given by Peter Jeffries

W LONDON

Wednesday March 17 Wednesday March 24

Room 3a, University of London Union Malet St, WC1

Given by Michael Banda

AN UNIDENTIFIED Ameri-

can plane vesterday attacked

in S Laos, killing 10 and wounding 12, US military command announced.

incident in the past few days.

Last Wednesday, American helicopter-gunships killed four S Vietnamese marines and wounded 33 inside Laos.

ULSTER premier Maj. James

Chichester-Clark may face a vote of censure from the

Council when it meets in two

weeks' time (see page one

organized by extreme right-

wing elements in the Party,

who want to institute an even

tougher campaign of terror

Ulster's

The attack on him is being

Ulster Unionist

Catholic

Vietnamese troops operating

It was the second such

By John Spencer

He knows that large numbers of workers demanding a siders the role of the working class to be to protest against General Strike heckled Victor Feather and the union leaders in Trafalgar Square on February 21. He knows that the same thing happened in Glasgow last Sunday.

It is precisely the wide-spread support for this de-mand that terrifies Ramelson and leads him to attack the

The League is the only organization which has consistently fought for a General Strike to defeat the Tories. The SLL has always maintained that no amount of protest will persuade the Tories to drop their attempts to smash the unions and that the Tories must be forced out of

CONFIRMED

This policy has been abundantly confirmed by the defeat of the postal workers' sevenweek struggle, which plainly demonstrated the bankruptcy of reformist trade unionism in the face of a government ruthlessly bent on destroying workers' basic organizations.

Post Office chairman Maurice Styles, a leading CP member, is one of four Stalinists on the executive which recommended the return to work without a single lp increase in wages, in return for binding arbitration by a special three-man committee.

In accepting this principle, which forms part of the Tory Industrial Relations Bill, Styles made 'an error of judgement', Ramelson says.

Ramelson plans to take no ction against Styles in the Party, however.

He is just one more of the leading CP members who accept the principles of the Tory laws even before they are on the statute book. That is how the Communist

Party 'fights' the Industrial Relations Bill—by openly par-ticipating in the defeat of the postal workers. The ending of this strike

emonstrated the impossibility of defeating the Tory government through sectional, trade It raised very forcibly the

the Tories to resign. This is now the only perspective for defending living standards, jobs, wages and basic rights.

labour movement to force the

CONFINE

But it is not and never has been the policy of Ramelson's party. The CP bases itself on the concept of 'peaceful coexistence' with capitalism.

It has all along tried to confine the movement of the working class to protest channels and, above all, avoid calling into question the fate of the Tory government.

Like the Labour leaders, it accepts that the Tory government is here to stay and con-

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Lessons of the postmen's

NUNEATON: Monday March 15, 7.30 p.m. Camp Hill Working Men's Club, Camp Hill Estate. READING: Tuesday March 16, 7.30 p.m. Trades and Labour Club. SWANSEA: Wednesday March 17, 7.30 p.m. Swansea Working Men's Club, Alexander Road.

strike.

EDINBURGH: Thursday March 18 8 p.m. Railwaymen's Hall, Restal-rig Rd, Jocks Lodge.

NEWCASTLE: Thursday, March 18, 7.30 p.m. Connaught Hall, Blacket Street. LUTON: Friday, March 19, 8 p.m. AEU House, Dunstable Road.

GLASGOW: Sunday March 21, 7.30 p.m. Workers Press Rooms, 46 W Princes St, St George's Cross. ACTON: Monday March 22, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Rd, W3. CROYDON: Thursday March 25, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Rd.

WEATHER

E AND C England will be cloudy with periods of rain, moderate at times, bu' becoming brighter over central S and SE Scotland, but will become generally cloudy with rain from the S later in the day. Central Scotland, N Ireland, Wales and W England will have showers and bright or sunny intervals

Showers will become heavy in places with hail and perhaps thunder in the NW.

intervals.

It will be rather cold over E England, but temperatures will be near normal elsewhere. Outlook for Tuesday and Wednesday: Cold with showers or longer periods of rain and with snow over high ground on Tuesday, becoming mostly dry on Wednesday.

to call a General Strike to force the Tories to resign. Brodsworth branch of the National Union of Mineworkers has decided to support a resolution on these lines already submitted by the coalfield's Wheldale colliery

YORKSHIRE miners' leaders will be asked today to endorse a call for Thursday's

special Trades Union Congress

branch to the union's York shire area council. Leeds busmen and SW London cierical workers are also

backing the call. SW London branch of the Clerical and Administrative Workers' Union says the lesson of the postal strike is that wage struggles can only be won as political fights against the Tory government.

Large numbers of workers heckled Victor Feather in Trafalgar Square on February 21 demanding

Only three weeks later, the Committee itself was forced to change its line of one-day protest strikes and call for industrial action of general

Devey himself said that Barry Bracken, the local CP strike proportions'. city secretary, advised him to accept the money. But nothing has been done, either Since November 14, the Liaison Committee has held no more conferences, though its policy has changed considerbout Bracken or about the other Stalinists involved.

> These changes alter the form of the Committee's policy, without in the least changing its basic aim of confining the movement to pro-

CONTENT

The more the fight against the Bill has stepped up the more silent the Liaison Committee has become.

For March 18, it contents itself with supporting the engineering union's strike call. It offers no perspective to

carry forward the fight against the Tories. It even makes the absurd statement that 'At all these magnificent demonstrations...the call rings out to General Council of the TUC "Mobilize the unions for national industrial action to defeat the Bill"'.

Nobody, of course, is shouting this mealy-mouthed and evasive Stalinist formula. Many workers, on the other hand, are demanding that the TUC call a General Strike and defeat the government.

The Communist Party does

its best to hide this uncomfortable fact. When 11,000 Liverpool workers voted on January 12 for the TUC to call a General Strike, this resolution went unreported in the 'Morning Star'.

On February 21, when the entire capitalist press noted the widespread demand for a General Strike, the 'Morning Star' ignored it.

The Stalinists hope that if they keep this demand out of the columns of their ailing newspaper, it will go away.

CHEAT

At every opportunity, they attack the Socialist Labour League demand forward. They want to cheat history

with lies and distortions. They will not succeed. Not only is the Socialist Labour League's policy

winning wide support—it is the only answer to the Tory onslaught on the working The time for protest has

long since passed The class struggle now

opening up will ruthlessly expose the opportunist bank-ruptcy of Stalinism and reformism, and create conditions for the rapid building of a mass revolutionary Trotskyist party in Britain. All the lies of Stalin's boot-

lickers will not be able to halt

move elsewhere than concede 'parity', which would lower its profit rates enor-

mously.
In the 1930s Ford's got round the problem by keeping out unions with an army of 8,000 thugs — known euphemistically as 'Service men' — which gave Ford's the highest rate of exploita-

tion in the US.

But even this failed in the end.

In Britain today Ford's, deprived of their 'Service' department, can and must rely on Heath's union-bashing legislation as the only way to restore their profit rates and increase the intensity of exploitation on the assembly line.

Solidarity

The ony way to defeat the Heath-Ford alliance, the only way to protect wages from Tory inflation and the only way to secure real 'parity' of wages and the flight of capital is to replace the Tories with a Labour government pledged to the expropriation of all industry — including the

motor car industry—and its operation under control.

Ford workers must not be left to fight on their own like the postmen.

We urge all workers to demand that the TUC immediately raise massive funds for the Ford strikers and call on other car workers to show their solidarity

 Price rises ranging from £29 to £60 are announced by Renault_today on their cars sold in Britain.

through industrial action.

The increases—due to 'continuing cost inflation' - are proportionately least, at just over 3 per cent, in the two best selling models, the Renault 12 TL and the Renault 16 TL.

clearly expressed for every

worker to see—posing the urgency of building the revolutionary alternative. Hence Carr's praise yesterday afternoon for the TUC General Council's fight to prevent political

While attacking the TUC's 'signally misleading' propa-ganda campaign against the District and Border Tories at Carlisle that the March 1

called against its advice.
All credit then to the TUC for standing out against such unconstitutional and destructive action,' he said. And he went on to make clear that nothing less than complete surrender Thursday will satisfy the

Tories.
The TUC had not succeeded in stopping the March I strike and it was palpably unable to prevent the big unions calling out two million workers on Thursday. So everyone, he argued, could see how useless it would be

to leave industrial relations in the hands of the TUC. These speeches are an un-mistakable challenge to the labour movement, and the best possible argument for the maximum turnout at Croydon on Thursday behind the policies of the Socialist Labour League.

CORRECTION

LORD Delacourt-Smith, whose interview we published on Saturday, would like to point out that when he talks of a 'backlash' to the Industrial Relations Bill, he means that in his opinion there will be primarily a political backlash to the Bill and not an indus-

US interest cuts THE ROLE of the United States dollar, kingpin

of the world financial system, is now causing acute anxiety in capitalist circles in Europe.

Leading financial journals of Europe noted last week that 'unofficial' trading in dollars had sharply increased, and that sharply increased, and that the margin between official and unofficial prices (in other currencies) for these dollars was now very high, higher even than for the pound.

So the dollar has become the major focus for largescale financial speculation and is a source of great instability in the international capitalist system.

Then came the news last Thursday in one day's trading, the amazing total of \$660m flowed into W Germany alone. It came at the end of a fortnight during which an estimated \$2,000m entered Europe from the US.

'EARNS' MORE

The motive of the capitalists who transfer these sums is quite straightforward. Money placed in the European countries, where basic bank rates and other borrowing rates are high, 'earns' more than if left in the US, where interest rates have been

whittled down over the past few months. On the same day, America's third largest bank, Chase Manhattan, reduced its prime rate (the lending rate to its most favoured customers) by ½ per cent to 51 per cent.

This means that businessmen can borrow from the bank at ½ per cent lower rates, but those who put their money in the bank, and make their money by this money being lent, get less in return. So the tendency to ship money abroad becomes even more pronounced. Why this cut in the interest

rates, and similar cuts in recent months? Because, owing to the US recession, industrialists are not borrowing so much money to invest in new plant.

General Strike demand

on Thursday's Congress

in order to discourage borrowing and spending, increase unemployment, and carry out tion in unemployment will help him win the 1972 elec-

BY A POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

tion, is also encouraging these interest rate cuts. Now the cuts are worrying some bankers. So slow are the industrialists to respond that the interest rate may go below what is necessary for the bankers to make a profit.

First Pennsylvania Banking and Trust Company (Philadelphia) reacted to the Chase Manhattan reduction: 'Rapid prime rate reduc-

Chase Manhattan is trying

encourage them. Nixon, who thinks a reduc-

tions have begun to erode banks' profit margins. We are at rock bottom now and feel that a reduction of a quarter of a point is enough.'
Thus, one of the biggest

indicators of a major slump is showing through: the squeeze on the rate of profit makes it impossible for any except the biggest firms to survive (and some of them will also go). This applies to banks capitalists.
What will be the effect of

the flood of dollars into Europe? First of all, it makes non-

sense of the fixed parities between the currencies of the different capitalist powers. and introduces instability into the world financial system by which international payments are settled.

In the European countries, the influx of dollars puts on a big pressure to reduce their own interest rates and discourage the inflow of 'hot' money (capital seeking the highest interest rate).

However, these European capitalists need high interest rates (as in Britain) at home

their strategy of disciplining the working class. These capitalists fear that if they reduced interest rates and stimulated the economy, the working class would get even greater confidence and strength and the pressure

would be put back on profits. Their costs of production would rise and they would be priced out of world markets. The US capitalists are utterly ruthless about this and will do nothing to ease the

They are well aware that a

tion has arrived, and it suits them to see the squeeze put on their rivals. They consider that the capi-

talists of the world will not threaten the dollar again by turning to gold, as they did in early 1968, thus risking an uncontrollable world crisis. **PIPE-DREAM**

They are confident that the will have to put up with it.

talk about a new all-European currency to rival the dollar is a pipe-dream. So far as they are concerned the world is on

dollar standard and they Nixon's concern about the

will be government encouragement of all these trends. Nixon must win, and the Tories of Britain and Europe must find their own way!

The ruling US capitalists are seeking to temporarily solve their domestic political problems by economic measures which threaten stability in the international system and pose problems for the capitalists within every other country. There is no solution to these

They force the ruling classes towards slump, fascism and

They make inevitable revolutionary struggles in which revolutionary leadership is the decisive question.

The Marxist movement must be prepared to respond to the most explosive and expected developments in such

period of intensified competitrial one, as stated. SCARBOROUGH 19



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LATE NEWS