

TUC AND THE MINERS

TALK, TALK

BUT NO ACTION

BY ALEX MITCHELL

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But a statement issued after yesterday's TUC General Council throws considerable doubt on these disclaimers.

The council felt, it said, that the reasons meetings with Robert Carr, Employment Secretary, had not yielded any productive results and why the dispute had run into a strike were 'largely to be found in the government's negative attitude.'

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- Why has he refused to summon every union to fight the Tory government alongside the miners?
 - Why has he consistently refused to call together even the transport unions to work out a common policy on halting coal, coke and oil supplies?
 - Is Feather angling with the Tories for a deal over the application of the Industrial Relations Act? These are the questions which must be answered immediately.
- Feather's talk of 'more cash' is a pipedream. In statements from Edward Heath, Robert Carr and John Davies it is absolutely clear that the Tories won't budge.
- The decision to fight the miners is a definite decision of government which can only be defeated by ending its reign.

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A statement from NUR headquarters said yesterday the council's decision does not have union backing.

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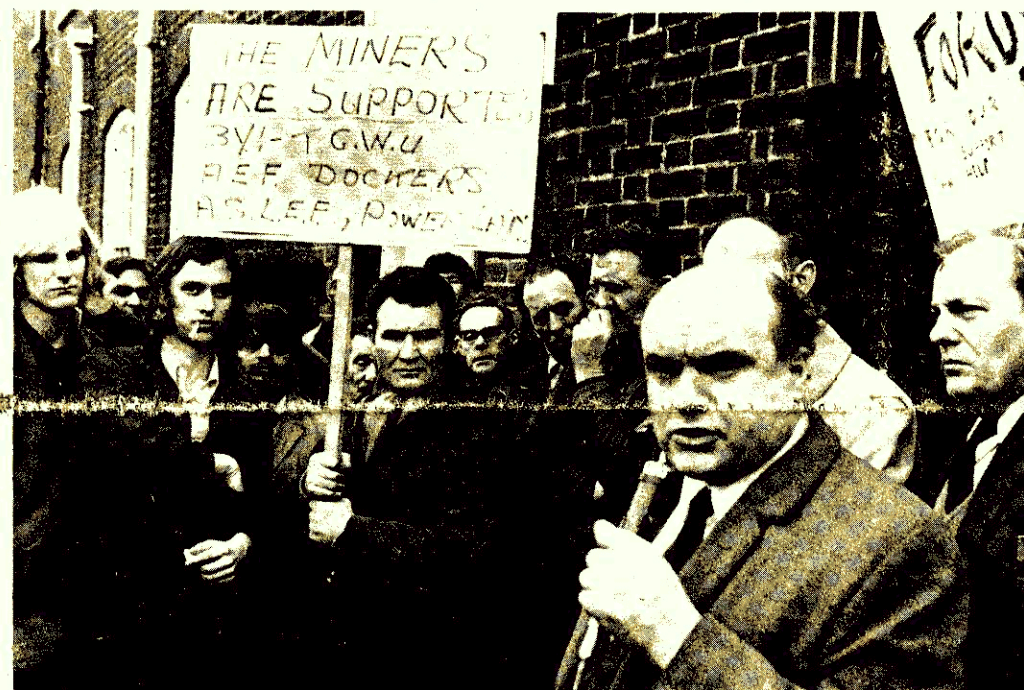
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Transport and General Workers' Union chiefs at their London headquarters.

Bernard Steer, a stewards' leader from London's Royal group of docks, said the purpose of the lobby was to hand over a nine-point programme for saving jobs from the national stewards' committee.

Neither he nor anyone else from either the London or Liverpool delegations, however, would say whether they intended to ask T&GWU secretary Jack Jones or Tim O'Leary, the union's national docks secretary, to explain their talks with the employers.

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TUC BACKING US —says Daly

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Speaking to Ford workers at Dagenham, he said: 'While we co-operated with closures hundreds of pits were closed and thousands of men thrown on the scrap-heap.'

But Daly, who came hot-foot from a meeting of the TUC General Council, said he was 'very pleased' with their attitude towards the strike.

He described a TUC state-

ment urging a 'more flexible' attitude on the part of the Tory government as 'a gesture of solidarity' with its members.

The miners' secretary added it was impossible for any arbitrators to be neutral.

He recalled the last arbitration in 1960 gave the miners 25p.

Body plant shop stewards presented Daly with a 'first instalment' donation of £100 after the mass meeting gave the miners' leader an enthusiastic reception.

MDW talks at Longbridge

MANAGEMENT at British-Leyland's Austin-Morris plant at Longbridge, Birmingham, are hoping that talks which start tomorrow are the first crack in opposition there to the Measured-Day Work pay system.

The talks follow a hush-hush decision by the shop stewards to negotiate on the company's proposals for changing over from present piecework arrangements.

Opposed by only ten of the 70 stewards, this decision is believed to have been taken after encouragement from union leaders at national level.

A strike of 134 women trim-shop workers against MDW has been called off following the new turn in events.

Originally out for a 15-per cent rise, aimed at bringing their pay to £26 for 40 hours, they returned yesterday on £25 pending settlement on the new pay system.

This was hailed as a victory in yesterday's 'Morning Star'. And the reason is not hard to find.

Opposition to MDW is policy of the British-Leyland national stewards' committee of which Longbridge Communist Party convenor Dick Etheridge is joint chairman.

Yet now he and his stewards have taken the first step along the road which led to MDW being signed for by union chiefs at Pressed-Steel Fisher in Oxford last year.

COLLIERY CLERICAL STAFF DEFY UNION—MEET PICKETS

From IAN YEATS

TWENTY members of the Clerical and Administrative Workers' Union defied their executive for the third successive day yesterday when police escorted them through jeering miners' pickets at the National Coal Board's W Wales headquarters at Tondy, near Bridgend.

About 500 miners and a dozen miners' wives blocked the entrance to the NCB offices yesterday shouting 'Scabs go home' as the clerical workers forced their way into work.

The CAWU national executive ruled on Monday that their members would not cross miners' pickets.

Yesterday a girl screamed



MOVING TO PIERHEAD MEETING

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There are over 50,000 unemployed in the Merseyside area.

Big contingents of Lancashire miners led the chant of 'Heath out, socialism in, workers' control in'.

They were joined by men from the occupied Fisher-Bendix factory, another 500 from Plessey's and workers from Lucas and Otis Elevators.

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Vauxhall steward Dave Thompson told Workers Press however, that workers were fed up with one-day stoppages and wanted to have a real go at the government.

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WIGAN Trades Council notes with deep concern the rising unemployment among all sections of the working class.

'The right to a decent job with decent pay is a basic right of the working class and in unity with employed and unemployed workers we pledge support for the "Right-to-Work" campaign. We must not allow the Tories to use unemployment and the Industrial Relations Act to smash free trade unions.'

'We see the "Right-to-

Work" campaign as a step towards bringing down this most reactionary Tory government and the replacement of this government with a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

'This Trades Council welcomes the support given to the "Right-to-Work" campaign from the Liverpool district committee AUEW and the BMC national stewards' committee, representing 100,000 workers, which is in line with the AUEW National Conference resolution on the "Right to Work".'

'This Trades Council therefore decides to set up a sub-committee to make preparations for the "Right-to-Work" campaign, with special attention to raising finance for the campaign, of finding accommodation and the running of a meeting when the march passes through Wigan on February 21 and preparations for sending contingents of workers to a mass "Right-to-Work" rally at Wembley Pool on March 12.'

'Everyone is threatened. A million unemployed to-

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'They are marching not for themselves, but for workers everywhere.'

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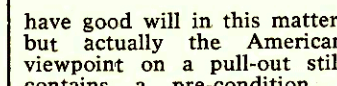
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NIXON

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8 pm

Speakers:
ROGER SMITH
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SARAH HANNIGAN (YS)

Plus showing of Workers Press film on Ulster

YOUNG SOCIALISTS

'Right to Work' campaign begins

We will be marching from
GLASGOW FEBRUARY 6 — LIVERPOOL FEBRUARY 19
SWANSEA FEBRUARY 19

To a mass rally at
EMPIRE POOL, WEMBLEY ON MARCH 12

WANTED URGENTLY

Loan of vehicles—road-worthy vans, cars (reasonable hire will be considered)

Accommodation

Cooking equipment

Tinned food

Finance

Brass/jazz bands

Please tick box where applicable.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

Please complete above form and post to:
Clive Norris, national secretary
Right-to-Work campaign
186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4.
Or phone 01-822 7029.

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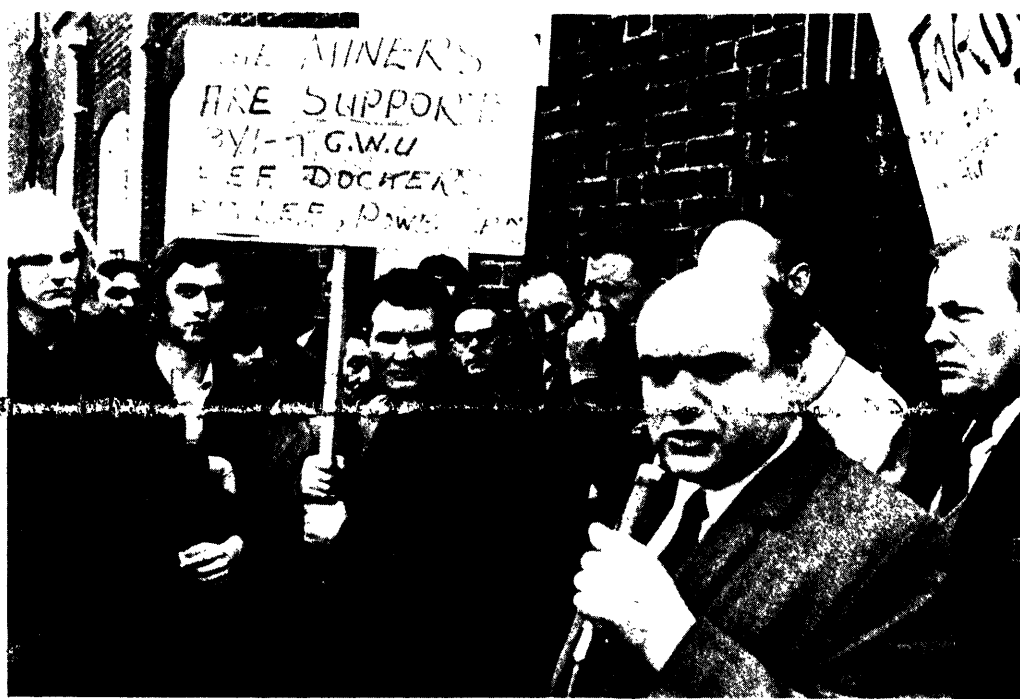
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Afterwards picket leader and Blaenau lodge chairman Ben Davies said: 'Less than 20 of the 440 clerical workers went in to the offices. With the whole industry at a standstill I don't know what they're doing in there anyway.'

'All this would be avoided if the CAWU officially called out their members in support of the miners.'

Angry pickets accused a four-man Harlech television crew interviewing the clerical workers of blowing scuffles up into violent

incidents on their news programmes and slurring the miners. Cables linking their cameras to sound recording equipment were cut and at one point NUM officials intervened to stop the crew being ejected from the NCB site. Preparations are well in hand for today's anti-Tory demonstration in Cardiff. Loudspeaker vans were touring the coalfield valleys yesterday and the giant Port Talbot and Llanwern steel works are expected to shut down completely as thousands of miners and other workers flock into the Welsh capital for the march organized by the TUC and the Labour Party.



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led to the resumption of the barbaric air attacks on N Vietnam and the stepping up of the air war over Indo-China.

But the bombing's failure to stop the flow of men and supplies to the S only compounded the domestic political crisis.

White House officials admitted as much when they complained to reporters that the 'peace' plan was revealed because the public debate had become distorted.'

American workers—subject to Nixon's vicious freezing and unemployment—are becoming increasingly sceptical of Nixon's opaque electioneering schemes.

Gen William Westmoreland, US Army Chief of Staff, is presently in S Vietnam consulting with US and Vietnamese generals on how to keep the war going—while Nixon talks peace.



NIXON

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1893: Featherstone deaths

'Shot through by soldiers who charged the locked-out miners'

By Philip Wade

IN JUNE 1893 the mine owners demanded a 25-per cent cut in the wages of about 480,000 miners after the selling price of coal had fallen by about 40 per cent. The Miners' Federation of Great Britain, which had about 250,000 members, resisted the demand and in the last week of July the employers locked the miners out.

crowds at the Doncaster race meeting. So he went off to Wakefield county police headquarters where the decision was taken to call troops from York.

Captain Barker and 28 infantrymen of the 5th Staffordshire Regiment arrived at the colliery at 4 p.m. but found no disturbance. Their arrival caused great excitement and by 6 p.m. huge crowds had gathered at the colliery after a march through the town.

Riot act

A deputation demanded that the military should depart.

After some rioting Captain Barker agreed to go if the miners would leave the colliery premises. The soldiers, followed by the crowd, marched back to the railway station shortly before 8 p.m.

But a Pontefract magistrate, arriving on the scene shortly after, ordered the soldiers back to the colliery. An enormous crowd gathered once more and the Riot Act of 1714 was read. The crowd was ordered to disperse. Remaining together for more than an hour meant they were liable to penal servitude for life.

By 9 p.m. the crowd had not dispersed. The magistrate ordered the troops to open fire. Two young men, James Gibb (22), and James Duggan (25), were killed and 16 others were wounded.

Troops called

The miners, employees of Lord Masham, were protesting against the continued use of surface workers to load 'smudge', an inferior class of coal, and the fact that some of it was sent away for sale.

On September 7, 1893, 200 miners marched up to the manager's office and demanded an end to the practice. The manager, Mr A. J. Holiday, at once fled ten miles to Pontefract to get some additional police protection.

He got no help as 269 police had been drafted to control



'Featherstone' Asquith—Home Secretary at the time of the shootings.

The two men are buried in a simple cemetery just outside Featherstone. On the gravestone of James Gibb the inscription tells how he 'was shot through by soldiers who charged the locked-out miners'.

The Featherstone shooting caused widespread anger among the miners. 'Featherstone Asquith' was the nickname given to the Liberal Home Secretary of the time.

Victorious

The miners' resolve strengthened and the lock-out lasted 15 weeks in all. In the end the miners were victorious. They returned on the old wage rates. No cuts had been inflicted. A step forward had been taken in the expansion and consolidation of mass trade unions.

Today, almost 80 years later, Acton Hall miners are again locked in bitter struggle for a decent living.

Lord Masham has gone. But the sign outside the colliery which says the pit is held by the NCB on behalf of the people is viewed with some justifiable cynicism by the men on strike.

The shootings are embedded in the consciousness of Featherstone miners. Underground worker Eddie Wilkes has worked at Acton Hall for 30 years and he told us precisely where the men were buried and the name of the colliery manager of 1893.

'The lesson I draw from 1893 is this. Whenever you have a

Tory government the working class is persecuted and hounded,' he told us.

'I think the Tories are setting upon us in the same pattern as they used to deal with Africans 100 years ago, with threats, starvation and blackmailing.

'We're being taken back to Lady Astor's days. She said miners were earthworms and getting too much. But I'd take 7 per cent of any MP's wages—7 per cent of mine is nothing.

'In my opinion the TUC is not giving us the backing we expect. It's fine talking about sympathy, but we want more than that. But the Labour Party also let us down when they were in power, in my view.'

Resigned

Eddie resigned from the Featherstone Labour Party management committee when 69 Labour MPs voted for Heath over Common Market entry.

'If those Labour MPs hadn't voted with the government, we wouldn't be fighting the Tories now,' he said bitterly.

'We're fighting for a decent living wage now,' said Eddie who takes home £15.50 a week.

'It's a disgrace when a man who has worked a full week has to get Family Income Supplement to make up his wages. It means taking his dignity away.

'Every man is entitled to his needs and the right to a job.'

The pits that close in on them

IT IS A truism to say that men living in small mining communities are dominated by the pits that close in on them. In New Ollerton, Notts, I know one miner who literally opens his front door, crosses the road and goes down the pit.

But it is more than just physical proximity that is involved. If you live in New Ollerton the only real jobs that spring to mind are those in Thoresby, Clipston or Ollerton pits; there is little else to do.

Clarence Sissons aged 57 has a grinding job loading coal wagons on the surface at Thoresby colliery, a few miles down the road. He has worked there 42 years. His father worked at Clipston for 52 years and his son Colin has worked at Ollerton pit for the past 17 years.

No reward

That makes 111 years that the Sissons family has churned out profit, first for the old coal owners and later for the coal board.

What reward have Clarence and his family had? What have the pits paid back for consuming their lives?

'Nothing! And I feel very bitter, wouldn't you? I've just got a home and a basic living. All my life people have got a lot of money out of me on the cheap,' Clarence declared.

Wage slip

To prove the point he showed us his wage slip.

Clarence's take-home pay was only £11.70 for working five shifts in the first week of 1972. His rent had been deducted by the NCB. For a whole week he was expected to survive on such a degrading sum.

'I've nothing to look forward to now,' said Clarence. 'In eight years' time I retire and I shall get a lump sum of £300 for a lifetime in the pit. That's pitiful isn't it?'

'You should get at least £15 a week when you retire, like the management. My father wasn't so lucky. He got nothing at all from the coal board after 52 years down Clipston.'

Yet Thoresby colliery is reckoned to be one of the most

profitable and productive pits in the whole of Europe. The 1,725 men who work there have produced between 1 million and 1.5 million tons of coal every year—almost 900 tons a man.

Clarence started work in March 1930 at 15. His first wage amounted to 2s 9d a shift and he took home about 15s a week. Thoresby pit was then owned by the Bolsover Colliery company.

'My father didn't want me to go to work at the pit. But there was nothing else to do. It was hard to find a job in those days. I heard they wanted men at Thoresby so I took the job.

Dangers

'It was very hard in the 1930s. The bosses used to put men on jobs they weren't trained for and accidents occurred. I remember one bloke who lost his leg doing a job he wasn't supposed to be doing.

'Another miner was killed coupling up some wagons in the fog. The train moved off without seeing him and he was crushed to death.

'But it seems more dangerous now with all the powerful machinery they have in the pits,' said Clarence who was working on loading wagons until five years ago when he had a slight stroke. He now works in the electric shop.

From 1936-1938 all the pits in the area went on a three-day week because of the slump. Clarence was still living at home but remembers how hard it was.

'The family had to survive on £2 or £3 a week in those days. We had to do without many things. Sacrifices had to be made all round. But somehow we managed to pull through. You had to, really.'

Rights

Clarence was earning 17s a shift when he was called up in 1940. But a duodenal ulcer put paid to his army service and he returned to Thoresby in 1942.

After the war, Clarence, now married with two children, found himself in the middle of the post-war production drive. For about three years he worked a staggering 10½ shifts of 7½ hours each, every single week.

In the end his ulcer was aggravated and he had to have an operation. 'But we had this feeling we were benefiting both ourselves and the country,' said Clarence.

In relation to the present



Clarence Sissons just walks across the road to work.

Pay Unit	IDENTITY No.	Week Ended
308	3052	080172
PAY RECEIPT		
NATIONAL COAL BOARD		
Signed		
Works No.		
Name		
SISSONS CH		
NET PAY	OFFICE USE	Pay Point
£ 11.70		308

His pay slip tells its own story.

strike Clarence had this to say: 'The last time we had a big strike, in 1926, the Tories were also in government. I blame the Tories for the strike. They should be kicked out.'

'The Tories think the miners are low but today's generation won't stand for that. They're fighting for their rights and a better standard of living.'

'The new generation is more educated and doesn't want to go

back to the 1930s. We will all have to stand together and try and get a Labour government back in.'

'Our union leaders neglected us for so long until we got to this position. But I remember the soup kitchens I used to go to after school when I was a kid. I don't want to go back to those days and I'll stop out with the rest of the miners until we get our rise.'

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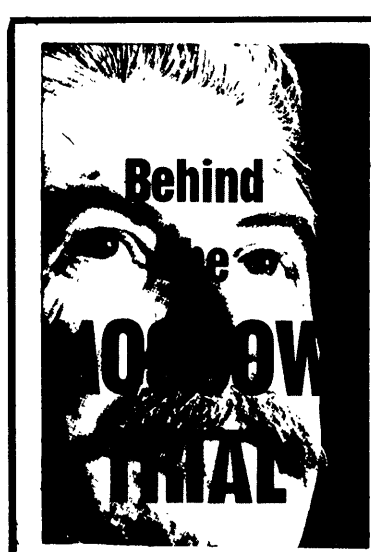
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IN DEFENCE OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION

Speeches and sabotage from Colombia's guerrillas

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READERS' LETTERS WELCOME

The Editor, Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St, London, SW4



Above left: Walter Dejaco and Fritz Ertl seated either side of a guard at their trial in Vienna.

The architects of Auschwitz

FORMER Nazi SS officers Walter Dejaco and Fritz Ertl are currently appearing before a Vienna court charged with helping to build concentration camp facilities at Auschwitz which killed millions of people.

Both have pleaded not guilty. Dejaco, an architect who has since been building cathedrals for the Roman Catholic Church, told the court: 'I just did what I was told.'

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Dejaco and Ertl admit building the gas chambers but put the blame on orders they received from their superiors.

The prosecution case is that without the complicity of experts, such as builders and architects, the Nazi extermination programme could never have been carried out.

The exact number of people slaughtered at Auschwitz will never be known. The camp commandant, Rudolf Hess, an executive, estimated in an affidavit that the total was 3 million—2.5 million gassed or incinerated and 500,000 from starvation and disease.

In his book 'The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich', William L. Shirer writes: 'Speed was an important factor, especially at Auschwitz, where toward the end the camp was setting new records by gassing 6,000 victims a day.'

To introduce these hideous facilities, the Nazis called for

tenders. From records found at the camp after the war, it was clear that the contracts were eagerly sought after. As one chronicler has stated: 'There had been some lively competition among German businessmen to procure orders for building these death and disposal contraptions and for furnishing the blue lethal crystals (used for gassing).'

The crematoria contract was won by the firm of I. A. Topf and Sons of Erfurt, manufacturers of heating equipment.

This letter from the firm, dated February 12, 1943, explodes the myth that the contracting firms did not know that the camps were involved in mass slaughter. It reads:

'To the Central Construction Office of the SS and police, Auschwitz:

SUBJECT: Crematoria 2 and 3 for the camp.

We acknowledge receipt of your order for five triple furnaces, including two electric elevators for raising corpses and one emergency elevator. A practical installation for stoking coal was also ordered and one for transporting ashes.'

The designers from the Didier Works, Berlin, wrote to the camp suggesting a superior product:

'For putting the bodies into the furnace we suggest simply a metal fork moving on cylinders. Each furnace will have an oven measuring only 24 by 18 inches, as coffins will not be used. For transporting the corpses from the storage points to the furnaces we suggest using light carts on wheels, and we enclose diagrams of these drawn to scale.'

C. H. Kori countered the Didier proposals with a letter which pointed out that it had provided furnace facilities at Dachau and Lublin which had given 'full satisfaction in practice'.

The letter said:

'Following our verbal discussion regarding the delivery of equipment of simple construction for the burning of bodies, we are submitting plans for our perfected cremation ovens which operate with coal and which have hitherto given full satisfaction.

We suggest two crematoria furnaces for the building planned, but we advise you to make further inquiries to make sure that two ovens will be sufficient for your requirements.

We guarantee the effectiveness of the cremation ovens as well as the durability, the use of the best material and our faultless workmanship.

Awaiting your further word, we will be at your service,

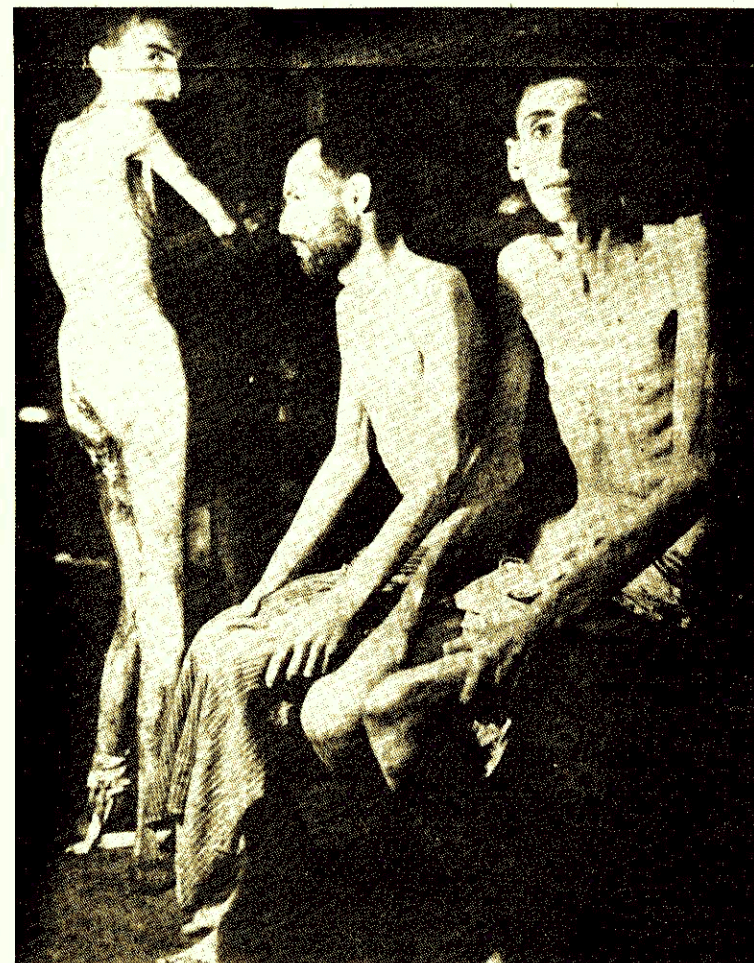
Heil Hitler!
C. H. Kori GmbH

The Zyklon-B crystals used for mass extermination were registered under the patent of I. G. Farben, the giant chemical firm which is today one of W Germany's most powerful pharmaceutical firms.

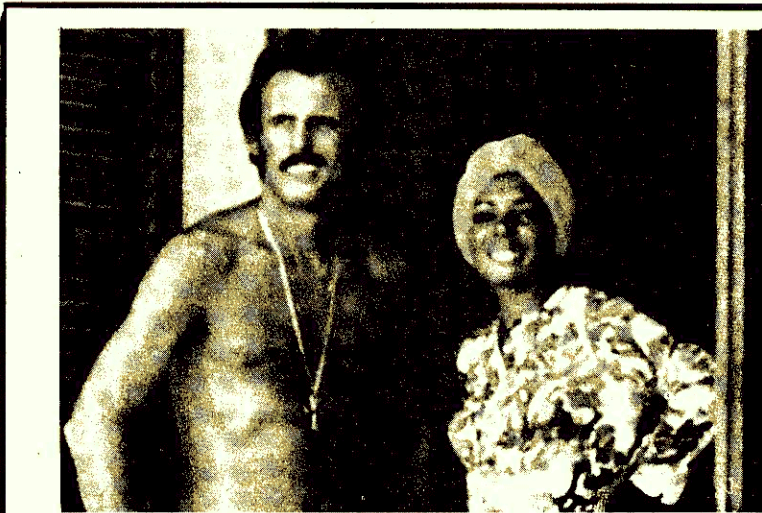
Complicity

In concluding his chapter on the 'final solution', Shirer writes: 'Before the post-war trials in Germany it had been generally believed that the mass killings were exclusively the work of a relatively few fanatical SS leaders.

'But the records of the courts leave no doubt of the complicity of a number of German businessmen, not only the Krupps and directors of the I. G. Farben chemical trust, but smaller entrepreneurs who outwardly must have seemed to be the most prosaic and decent of men, pillars—like good businessmen everywhere—of their communities.'



Victims of Auschwitz



ITV 9.00, Sez Les with Shirley Bassey

BBC 1

9.38 For Schools. 12.55 Tresarr. 1.30 The Herbs. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 For Schools. 3.45 Conflict at Work. 4.15 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Dr Dolittle. 5.44 Sir Prancelot. 5.50 News, weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE. Your Region tonight.
6.50 TOM AND JERRY.
7.00 OWEN MD. God's Acre Part 2.
7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.
8.00 THE GOOD OLD DAYS. Old Time Music-Hall.
8.50 DO YOU REMEMBER? Robert Robinson looks back at July 1958.

9.00 NEWS, Weather.
9.20 PLAY FOR TODAY. 'The House on Highbury Hill'.
10.20 24 HOURS.
11.15 PEOPLE LTD.

TODAY'S PROGRAMMES

BBC 2

11.00 Play School. 5.35 Open University. 6.35 Rosla and After.

7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.
7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather.
8.00 THE SHADOW OF THE TOWER. The Crowning of Apes. The pretender to the English crown prepares to invade.
8.50 EUROPA. 'Lelisure'. 'Pace of Life'.
9.20 SHOW OF THE WEEK. Dave Allen at large.
10.05 NEWS, Weather.
10.10 WORLD CINEMA: 'THE MIND OF THE CHILD'. 'Les Oivados'. Young thug determined to show his proficiency in crime in the slums of Mexico City. Directed by Luis Bunuel and winner of the Grand Prix at Venice in 1951.
11.25 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

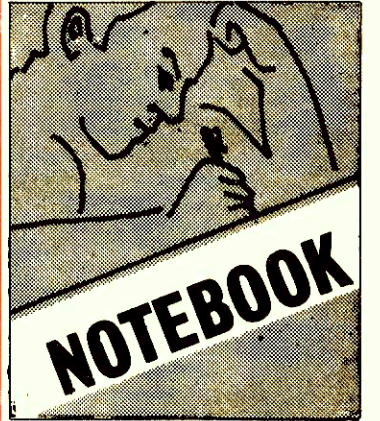
ITV

10.20 For Schools. 2.32 Yesterdays. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.10 Tea Break. 3.40 Marcus Welby. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Atom Ant. 5.20 Mappie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.
6.45 CROSSROADS.
7.10 FILM: 'TIP ON A DEAD JOCKEY'. Robert Taylor, Dorothy Malone, Jack Lord. Smuggled currency.
9.00 SEZ LES. Les Dawson, Shirley Bassey.
9.30 THIS WEEK.
10.00 NEWS.
10.30 CINEMA.
11.00 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING.
11.30 SCOTLAND YARD MYSTERIES.
12.00 THE POLARIZED SOCIETY.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 10.20 Schools. 4.05 Origami. 4.18 Puffin. 4.22 Nanny. 4.50 Joe 90. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 What's on where. 6.15 Farming news. 6.20 Sports roundup. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Gamma People'. 8.30 This is your life. 9.00 London. 11.02 British museum. 11.30 News, weather.
WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.18 News. 6.00 Diary. 10.59 News. 11.30 Faith for life. 11.35 Weather.
SOUTHERN: 3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Tea break. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Cartoon. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Joe 90. 5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film: 'Very Important Person'. 9.00 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 British museum. 11.40 Weather.
HARLECH: 10.20 Schools. 3.50 Holidays abroad. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Huckleberry Finn. 5.30 Mappie. 5.50 News. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 10.10 Film: 'The Adventures of Quentin Durward'. 9.00 London. 11.30 Songs for your delight. 11.00 Marcus Welby. 12.00 Weather.
HTV Wales as above except: 6.18-6.35 Sport West.
HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 5.20-5.50 Dilyn-Dobyn. 6.01-6.15 Y Dydd.
ANGLIA: 3.40 News. 3.45 Women Today. 4.10 Rupert Bear. 4.25 Tea break. 4.35 Bush boy. 5.20 Mappie. 6.00 About Angela. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Dick Van Dyke. 7.30 Film: 'High Hell'. 9.00 London. 11.30 Living and growing. 12.00 End of day.
ATV MIDLANDS: 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Family affair. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Film: 'The Diamond Wizard'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Marcus Welby.
ULSTER: 10.20 Schools. 4.00 Yoga. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Forest ranger. 5.20 Mappie. 5.30 News. 6.00 UTV Reports. 6.15 Tommy. 6.55 Crossroads. 7.00 Dr Simon Locke. 7.30 Film: 'Rogues March'. 9.00 London. 11.00 What's it all about. 11.20 British museum.
YORKSHIRE: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 Matinee. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Lone ranger. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Film: 'Somewhere in the Night'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive-in. 12.00 Weather.
GRANADA: 10.58 Schools. 3.40 Another world. 4.05 Here's Lucy. 4.35 Once upon a time. 4.50 Arthur. 5.15 Mappie. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. Police File. 6.25 Peyton Place. 7.00 Villains. 9.00 London. 11.00 On the line. 11.30 British museum.
TYNE TEES: 10.20-10.38 Living and growing. 11.00 Schools. 2.32 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 British museum. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 London. 4.55 Capt Scarlet. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Film: 'Somewhere in the Night'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive-in. 12.00 News. 12.15 Epilogue.
SCOTTISH: 10.20 Schools. 3.30 Once upon a time. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 Fireball XL5. 5.20 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.15 Women today. 6.10 Lesley Blair. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Sitting Bull'. 8.55 Police news. 9.00 London. 11.00 British museum. 11.30 Golf. 12.00 Epilogue.



African slavery

THE MINERS' strike in Namibia (SW Africa) continues.

Namibia has been described as the most exploited territory in history'. British companies involved heavily in that exploitation include Shell, BP, Barclays and Standard Banks, Stewarts & Lloyds and Wimpeys.

By far the largest profiteering company is Rio Tinto-Zinc which was given permission by the last Labour government to open a uranium mine near the coast. The head of RTZ is Sir Val Duncan who, also under Labour, prepared a report on the re-organization of the Foreign Office.

The International Court of Justice has ruled that S Africa's presence in Namibia is illegal and that members of the United Nations should recognize the fact. Britain continues to ignore the ruling as does America whose companies also operate in the area.

That was some party

SOME people just have to celebrate in style.

And millionaire art dealer Reese Palley is no exception.

His birthday party guests danced in the aisles of two specially-hired jumbo jets during their trip across the Atlantic.

When Mr Palley and his 730 friends, clients and employees flew into Orly, the Paris airport was swamped by the sheer weight of the number of revelers.

It was the start of the biggest birthday party the city had seen in years.

No introvert, Mr Palley ordered the two huge airliners to be parked nose-to-nose in front of the passenger terminal at Orly.

He then mounted a rostrum to display his birthday cake to the assembled guests.

But disaster struck and torrential rain made them flee the farcical scattering behind them Palley's specially-produced party face-masks.

A cavalcade of 35 buses and four luggage trucks took the dishevelled merry-makers in convoy to the Paris Intercontinental Hotel which Mr Palley virtually took over for four days.

'I got the idea seven months ago and I've been working on it ever since. This little party cost me \$250,000 (about £100,000)', he told reporters.

The guests had to endure four days of parties all over Paris, a reception hosted by US ambassador Arthur Watson and a final birthday splash taking up two hotel ballrooms.

Mr Palley organized the birthday bonanza to coincide with the opening of his new Paris art gallery which will specialize in porcelain 'birds of peace'.

He is said to have amassed his fortune from selling the birds.

Woman's own

WOMEN'S liberationist and globetrotter, Germaine Greer, has announced in Australia that she hopes to start an international newspaper staffed entirely by women.

The paper would be financed by the proceeds of her highly lucrative book 'The Female Eunuch', she said.



Greer

Speeches and sabotage from Colombia's guerrillas

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The prosecution case is that without the complicity of experts, such as builders and architects, the Nazi extermination programme could never have been carried out.

The exact number of people slaughtered at Auschwitz will never be known. The camp commandant, Rudolf Hess, an ex-convict, estimated in an affidavit that the total was 3 million—2.5 million gassed or incinerated and 500,000 from starvation and disease.

In his book 'The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich', William L. Shirer writes: 'Speed was an important factor, especially at Auschwitz, where toward the end the camp was setting new records by gassing 6,000 victims a day.'

To introduce these hideous facilities, the Nazis called for

tenders. From records found at the camp after the war, it was clear that the contracts were eagerly sought after. As one chronicler has stated: 'There had been some lively competition among German businessmen to procure orders for building these death and disposal contraptions and for furnishing the blue lethal crystals (used for gassing).'

The crematoria contract was won by the firm of I. A. Topf and Sons of Erfurt, manufacturers of heating equipment.

This letter from the firm, dated February 12, 1943, explodes the myth that the contracting firms did not know that the camps were involved in mass slaughter. It reads:

'To the Central Construction Office of the SS and Police, Auschwitz:

SUBJECT: Crematoria 2 and 3 for the camp.

We acknowledge receipt of your order for five triple furnaces, including two electric elevators for raising corpses and one emergency elevator. A practical installation for stoking coal was also ordered and one for transporting ashes.'

The designers from the Didier Works, Berlin, wrote to the camp suggesting a superior product:

'For putting the bodies into the furnace we suggest simply a metal fork moving on cylinders. Each furnace will have an oven measuring only 24 by 18 inches, as coffins will not be used. For transporting the corpses from the storage points to the furnaces we suggest using light carts on wheels, and we enclose diagrams of these drawn to scale.'



Victims of Auschwitz

C. H. Kori countered the Didier proposals with a letter which pointed out that it had provided furnace facilities at Dachau and Lublin which had given 'full satisfaction in practice'.

The letter said:

'Following our verbal discussion regarding the delivery of equipment for the burning of bodies, we are submitting plans for our perfected cremation ovens which operate with coal and which have hitherto given full satisfaction.

We suggest two crematoria furnaces for the building planned, but we advise you to make further inquiries to make sure that two ovens will be sufficient for your requirements.

We guarantee the effectiveness of the cremation ovens as well as the durability, the use of the best material and our faultless workmanship.

Awaiting your further word, we will be at your service,

Heil Hitler!
C. H. Kori GmbH

The Zyklon-B crystals used for mass extermination were registered under the patent of I. G. Farben, the giant chemical firm which is today one of W Germany's most powerful pharmaceutical firms.

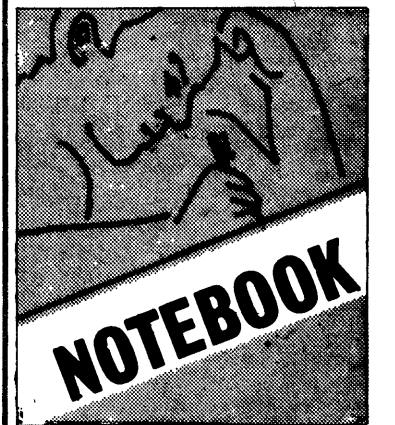
Complicity

In concluding his chapter on the 'final solution', the Shriver writes: 'Before the post-war trials in Germany it had been generally believed that the mass killings were exclusively the work of a relatively few fanatical SS leaders.

'But the records of the courts leave no doubt of the complicity of a number of German businessmen, not only the Krupp and directors of the I. G. Farben chemical trust, but smaller entrepreneurs who outwardly must have seemed to be the most prosaic and decent of men, pillars—like good businessmen everywhere—of their communities.'



WHILE the trial of ex-SS officers Walter Dejaco and Fritz Ertl continues, other Auschwitz veterans live in comfort and security. One is Franz Bernhard Lucas, a gynaecologist and specialist in women's ailments. He is alleged to have selected thousands of Jewish women for the gas chamber. He volunteered for the Brown Shirts as early as 1933 and was sent to Auschwitz in 1944. He now runs a private practice in N Germany.



African slavery

THE MINERS' strike in Namibia (SW Africa) continues.

Namibia has been described as 'the most exploited territory in history'. British companies involved heavily in that exploitation include Shell, BP, Barclays and Standard Banks, Stewarts & Lloyds and Wimpeys.

By far the largest profiteering company is Rio Tinto-Zinc which was given permission by the last Labour government to open a uranium mine near the coast. The head of RTZ is Sir Val Duncan who, also under Labour, prepared a report on the reorganization of the Foreign Office.

The International Court of Justice has ruled that S Africa's presence in Namibia is illegal and that members of the United Nations should recognize the fact. Britain continues to ignore the ruling as does America whose companies also operate in the area.

That was some party

SOME people just have to celebrate in style.

And millionaire art dealer Reese Palley is no exception. His birthday party guests danced in the aisles of two specially-hired jumbo jets during their trip across the Atlantic.

When Mr Palley and his 730 friends, clients and employees flew into Orly, the Paris airport was swamped by the sheer weight of the number of revelers.

It was the start of the biggest birthday party the city had seen in years.

No introvert, Mr Palley ordered the two huge airliners to be parked nose-to-nose in front of the passenger terminal at Orly.

He then mounted a rostrum to display his birthday cake to the assembled guests.

But disaster struck and torrential rain made them flee the tarmac scattering behind them Palley's specially-produced party face-masks.

A cavalcade of 35 buses and four luggage trucks took the dishevelled merry-makers in convoy to the Paris Intercontinental Hotel which Mr Palley virtually took over for four days.

'I got the idea seven months ago and I've been working on it ever since. This little party cost me \$250,000 (about £100,000),' he told reporters.

The guests had to endure four days of parties all over Paris, a reception hosted by US ambassador Arthur Watson and a final birthday splash taking up two hotel ballrooms.

Mr Palley organized the birthday bonanza to coincide with the opening of his new Paris art gallery which will specialize in porcelain 'birds of peace'.

He is said to have amassed his fortune from selling the birds.

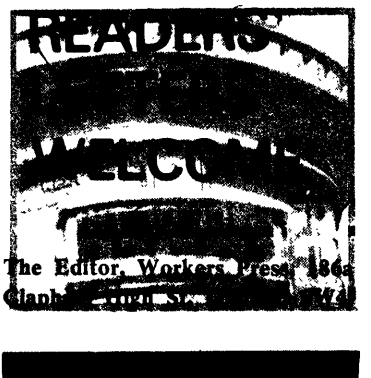
Woman's own

WOMEN'S liberationist and globetrotter, Germaine Greer, has announced in Australia that she hopes to start an international newspaper staffed entirely by women.

The paper would be financed by the proceeds of her highly lucrative book 'The Female Eunuch', she said.



Greer



ITV 9.00, Sez Les with Shirley Bassey

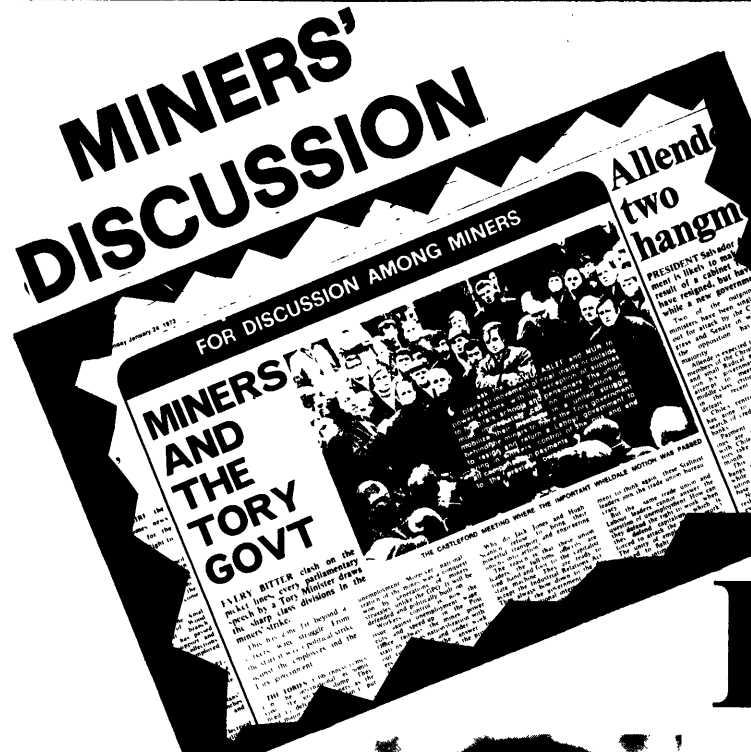
BBC 1

- 9.38 For Schools. 12.55 Tresarn. 1.30 The Herbs. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 For Schools. 3.45 Conflict at Work. 4.15 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Dr Doolittle. 5.44 Sir Prancelot. 5.50 News, weather.
- 6.00 NATIONWIDE. Your Region tonight.
- 6.50 TOM AND JERRY.
- 7.00 OWEN MD. God's Acre Part 2.
- 7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.
- 8.00 THE GOOD OLD DAYS. Old Time Music-Hall.
- 8.50 DO YOU REMEMBER? Robert Robinson looks back at July 1958.
- 9.00 NEWS, Weather.
- 9.20 PLAY FOR TODAY. 'The House on Highbury Hill'.
- 10.20 24 HOURS.
- 11.15 PEOPLE LTD.

TODAY'S PROGRAMMES

- BBC 2**
- 11.00 Play School. 5.35 Open University. 6.35 Rosla and After.
- 7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.
- 7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather.
- 8.00 THE SHADOW OF THE TOWER. The Crowning of Apes. The pretender to the English crown prepares to invade.
- 8.50 EUROPA. 'Leisure'. 'Pace of Life'.
- 9.20 SHOW OF THE WEEK. Dave Allen at large.
- 10.05 NEWS, Weather.
- 10.10 WORLD CINEMA: 'THE MIND OF THE CHILD'. 'Les Ovidados'. Young thug determined to show his proficiency in crime in the slums of Mexico City. Directed by Luis Bunuel and winner of the Grand Prix at Venice in 1951.
- 11.25 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.
- ITV**
- 10.20 For Schools. 2.32 Yesterdays. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.10 Tea Break. 3.40 Marcus Welby. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Atom Ant. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News.
- 6.00 TODAY.
- 6.45 CROSSROADS.
- 7.10 FILM: 'TIP ON A DEAD JOCKEY'. Robert Taylor, Dorothy Malone, Jack Lord. Smuggled currency.
- 9.00 SEZ LES. Les Dawson, Shirley Bassey.
- 9.30 THIS WEEK.
- 10.00 NEWS.
- 10.30 CINEMA.
- 11.30 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING.
- 11.30 SCOTLAND YARD MYSTERIES.
- 12.00 THE POLARIZED SOCIETY.

- REGIONAL ITV**
- CHANNEL: 10.20 Schools. 4.05 Origami. 4.18 Puffin. 4.22 Nanny. 4.59 Joe 90. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 What's on where. 6.15 Farming news. 6.20 Sports roundup. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Gamma People'. 8.30 This is your life. 9.00 London. 11.02 British museum. 11.30 News, weather.
- WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.18 News. 6.00 Diary. 10.59 News. 11.30 Faith for life. 11.35 Weather.
- SOUTHERN: 3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Tea break. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Cartoon. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Joe 90. 5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film: 'Very Important Person'. 9.00 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 British museum. 11.40 Weather.
- HARLECH: 10.20 Schools. 3.50 Holidays abroad. 4.15 Tinkertail. 6.00 About Anghar. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Dick Van Dyke. 7.30 Film: 'High Heels'. 9.00 London. 11.30 Living and growing. 12.00 End of day.
- ANGLIA: 3.40 News. 3.45 Women Today. 4.10 Rupert Bear. 4.25 Tea break. 4.55 Bush boy. 5.20 Magpie. 6.00 About Anghar. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Dick Van Dyke. 7.30 Film: 'High Heels'. 9.00 London. 11.30 Living and growing. 12.00 End of day.
- ATV MIDLANDS: 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Family affair. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the Limit. 7.30 Film: 'The Diamond Wizard'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Marcus Welby.
- ULSTER: 10.20 Schools. 4.00 Yoga. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.00 UTV Reports. 6.15 Tommy. 6.55 Crossroads. 7.00 Dr Simon Locke. 7.30 Film: 'Rogues March'. 9.00 London. 11.00 What's it all about. 11.20 British museum.
- YORKSHIRE: 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 Maitree. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Lone ranger. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Film: 'Somewhere in the Night'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Yorksport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive-in. 12.00 Weather.
- GRANADA: 10.58 Schools. 3.40 Another world. 4.05 Here's Lucy. 4.35 Once upon a time. 4.50 Arthur. 5.15 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.00 News. Police File. 6.25 Peyton Place. 7.00 Villains. 9.00 London. 11.00 On the line. 11.30 British museum.
- TYNE TEES: 10.20-10.38 Living and growing. 11.00 Schools. 2.32 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 British museum. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Lone ranger. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Film: 'Somewhere in the Night'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive-in. 12.00 News. 12.15 Epilogue.
- SCOTTISH: 10.20 Schools. 3.30 Once upon a time. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dataline. 4.35 Fireball XL5. 5.20 London. 6.00 Dataline. 6.15 Cartoon. 6.30 Who do you do? 7.00 Film: 'After the Fox'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Ken Goodwin's golden year.
- GRAMPIAN: 11.00 Schools. 3.38 News. 3.40 Dick Van Dyke. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Rainbow country. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Lesley Blair. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Striving Bull'. 8.55 Police news. 9.00 London. 11.00 British museum. 11.30 Golf. 12.00 Epilogue.



IN MONDAY'S Workers Press, Wheldale colliery miner and Socialist Labour League member Brian Lavery opened a discussion on 'Miners and the Tory government'. Here two Yorkshire pit workers express their views



MINERS' STRIKE DAY 19

Defeating Tories is a question of leadership

'Right-to-Work' shows someone bothers



DERRICK CUTTS

GEOFF CARTER has worked in the pits for most of his life. An underground miner at Wheldale, Yorkshire, Geoff is 29 and married with a four-year-old daughter. 'I hadn't read the Workers Press until the strike. Now I get it every day, although I can't afford it. But it tells the truth', said Geoff. 'The thing that is most important in Brian Lavery's article is the idea of workers having the run of the pits. The NCB subsidizes private firms and that's all wrong. Power stations and the like should pay the full price. It's right what he says in that the only way to win the strike is to get the Tories out. It's all right saying put Labour back in, but it's a different matter when they're in.

GOLDTHORPE PIT, near Barnsley, Yorkshire has maintained a picket outside the colliery gates since the first day of the strike. Their aim has been to make sure no NUM safety men go down to deal with seam heating. Derrick Cutts has worked as a fitter at Goldthorpe for the last eight years and in all for 17 years in the pits. The first time he saw Workers Press was during the strike. 'If the Tories make concessions to miners, millions of other workers will follow us. So they have to stand firm against us. In the first two weeks of

the strike I thought they might concede. But when they never came up with anything last week I realized for the first time really that it was a fight to the finish with the Tory government', Derrick told us. 'The truth is now that we'll have to get the Tories out. That's a difficult job and the problem is how to go about it. We could have done with dockers, railwaymen and power-workers coming out with us.' Derrick agreed there was much support for miners from the rank and file in other unions. But what about their leaders? 'I agree with Brian Lavery when he says these people are privileged men who are

always looking for a compromise. When Vic Feather came on TV I thought he was going to announce support for the miners. When he didn't I felt really upset. All I can say is that he and other leaders who won't support us must be on the other side. 'Even our leaders don't want to fight. Gormley calls Ezra Derek and it seems they're friends. And they haven't said they'll stay out until they've got the full demand, but left the door open for compromise. 'But I'm not sure what sort of new leaders we want. There must be some people willing to stand up against the government without going over to the other side. We

need leaders who can stand up straight', he added. 'It's true what the article says about anything we win will be worthless if the Tories stay in power. I went to France for a day and the prices amazed me. 'The Labour government will have to do something to secure us a better future and stop unemployment. I never really thought about nationalizing all big industries, but it seems right to me. 'But I certainly agree with putting the pits under our control and ending compensation. Down at Goldthorpe we've got more chiefs than Indians with overmen, deputies and undermanagers running all over the place. 'It's no wonder we can't

get a rise and don't forget they get 10 per cent more on whatever we get. 'We want the profits out of our work if they say the pits are nationalized and owned by us. All this subsidizing of private industries with cheap coal has to stop.' What did Derrick think about the Young Socialists' 'Right-to-Work' marches? 'If you're marching on the policy of getting the Tories out I think it's a good idea. It must be tough for those who can't work. My nephew left school last Easter and can't find a job anywhere. 'They told him at International Harvesters, Doncaster, that he was too young and he cried with disappointment when he came out. It's no future for a young bloke. 'All I can say is that if we don't get support we'll lose this strike and other workers will suffer. The Tories will try and starve us back. There's a lot at stake here.'

'Then they seem to forget who put them there and look after themselves instead. Look at Wilson. He promised miners this and that and we abided by his word. We've been faithful and look what we've got. 'The next Labour government should be given the terms that are put in this article. For me every firm should be nationalized and the profits shared out among the working class. Then there would be work for everyone, because we'd all be working for each other.' Could these aims be achieved with the present Labour and trade union leadership? 'No, definitely not. We should have the lot out—make a clean sweep of it. There are too many hangers-on sitting pretty and not wanting any trouble. These leaders seem to be well looked after. 'One thing that should happen is that any leader should come up for re-election regularly. That's what we wouldn't have much time to go over and can't be bought. 'At the moment our leaders, instead of putting the miners and the working class first, they put themselves first. New leaders would have to go the way, not breaking down or worrying who they offend. 'I can't really understand why the trade union leaders don't rally round and support the miners. All workers have the same interest. Their leaders have good secure jobs and they're not feeling the pinch and feel apart from us. 'Men like Brian Lavery wouldn't sell us down the river if they got in. He says what he thinks and sticks to his principles. That's the sort of leadership we need. 'The "Right-to-Work" marches show that someone is bothered. If we're still on strike I'll join it. I would march from here and London if I thought it'd do any good. 'I'm only a young man, yet already it's not much of a life. It's only an existence. Kick the Tories out — the sooner the better.'

Ours is the test case for pay

IF THE Tories keep digging in their heels, the TUC will have to call a General Strike, says George Peters (55), a miner since 1931.

Mr Peters was invalided out of the pits six years ago with a double hernia and now drives for Ogmore and Garw council. 'I believe this government is determined to keep to their ceiling of 7 per cent against the sympathy of all the people of this country. There is a recession throughout the world. The slump started when Britain devalued. Now America has devalued the dollar. From now on we'll be living on a shoe-string. 'The Tories' 7 per cent is quite unrealistic. They're taking the miners as a whipping dog because they see so many other rises in the pipeline. The miners are a test case. 'If the miners don't win this claim it won't just be their living standards which will be reduced. It will be the same for all workers with a pay claim coming up. 'What we want now is action. I hate the Tories, but



GEORGE PETERS



EDDIE JACKSON

I think there should have been explicit directions from Vic Feather [TUC general secretary] at the outset of this strike. If he's really so concerned about our living standards he should have called in all the big chiefs of the unions and promised their full co-operation and support for the miners. 'I was brought up a Labour man, but I'm disillusioned with the Labour Party. The Labour MP who got up to speak in the debate in the House of Commons on the strike, Lever, was closer to the City than to us. 'From 1964 to 1970 we were faithful and responsible supporters of the Labour Party, but now we've got to speak to the miners except closing down the pits. The Tories' policies are a follow up to Labour's. 'What we want now is action. I hate the Tories, but

I'm disillusioned with Labour. I think there should be some third party. How can I explain it? Let's say an honest party that's for the working man and for the protection of workers' rights. So that you could say sincerely 'This is my party.'

is S Wales, believes the miners cannot win their strike alone. 'We are taking on the Tories' pay policy and we want the support of men in all the larger industries. All the power unions, in fact all the big unions, should act as one. 'A lesson was learnt from the Post Office workers. They were beaten hands down because they were on their own. 'The TUC are definitely letting us down. They should give the unions more guidance. I don't think the men will ever think about going back under £5 a week and if the strike goes on attitudes will get harder. 'I think the TUC should call a General Strike. I

We can't win alone

EDDIE JACKSON who handles scores of compensation cases for men at Wyndham and Western pit

Ayrshire miners: Slow off the mark but raring to go now

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS IN SCOTLAND

THEY S Ayrshire miners are 100 per cent behind the strike, it has taken them over three weeks to form a committee to run it. The delay is partly blamed on the lack of initiative from the top. But now the Ayrshiremen want to make up for lost time. John Rafferty, a 48-year-old committee member of Killech pit, the biggest on the Ayrshire field, has his eye particularly on Barrony power station. 'This has been closed because of the strike, but there are reports of coal being smuggled through the gates at night. Last week pickets chased a coal ship up the Ayrshire coast after dockers at Heysham, Lancashire, had refused to unload its cargo. 'They talk about violence on the picket line. I don't believe in violence, but if it's used against you, you have to hit back. 'This whole industry is built on violence and starvation. Our fathers and mothers starved to get the miner what he today. 'He has old owners round here were virtual slave drivers. People lived in tied houses and if you stepped out of line it was the death sentence—their graves are out there now.' 'About the formation of the strike committee, John said: 'We were definitely slow in getting off the mark. But this went right to the top. I think there was a lot of wishful thinking on the executive that it might not come to strike action. 'But the miners are in no mood for talking or arbitration. They wanted money and you don't get money by sitting around talking.' Ayrshire has been the scene of some of the most bitter confrontations around the social security offices. When they tried to make a claim, single Ayrshire miners were told over the loud-speaker system that there was no point because there was no money for them. 'They've been trying to break our strike with the social security. There is no doubt now that they are trying to starve us back,' says John. 'Starvation is not too strong a word. John told me of one 18-year-old miner: 'This lad has a wife and one kid. He gets £7.20 from the national assistance, from this he has £5.20 to pay out in rent and his hire purchase commitments are £4 a week of which he pays about £1.50. Now the other day he found a purse with £7.50 in it—it was handed straight over to the police—and this boy had 25p in his pocket at the time to feed his wife and child. You don't hear these tales in the Tory press.' 'John was a dedicated member of the Independent Labour Party—and he believes the Labour Party failed to legislate on the pits in the way that ILP insisted. 'Nationalization at the time the ILP looked at it would have meant that the miners were for the miners. At the time we thought it a great thing—an end to all the bitter struggling and striking and scraping to live. 'But it's meant very little—the industry is bled white by the middle men, we supply private enterprise with coal cheaper than what it is produced for. 'The Labour Party and TUC

are all trying to walk down the middle road. You can't do this any more, not with a government that is trying to break up the trade union movement by attacking the miners and threatening to use the Industrial Relations Act against unions that help us. 'Strikes can't be "nice" any more and this strike can't be "nice" either. There are some on our executive that would have liked a "nice" strike. But war is war. 'Personally I would like to see a national strike of all the unions. If the Tories were pushed back on this claim, they would have to go to the country for a mandate and then they would lose.' 'John and his strike committee meet today and they plan to get stuck into the picketing. They meet in the village of Auchincleuch where miners tore up the railway tracks in the General Strike. These men were put in Barlinnie jail for this act of defiance—John and the committee hope to revive this fighting tradition once more.

Author hits at My Lai probe

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

THE INITIAL US army investigation into the 1968 My Lai massacre centred more on an armed confrontation between Lt William Calley and a helicopter pilot than on the killing of Vietnamese civilians, states prize-winning author Seymour Hersh.

In the second of two articles in the 'New Yorker' magazine this week, Hersh says he bases his statement on the transcript of the Peers Commission investigation of the incident. The Pentagon has never published the report of the Commission, headed by Lt-Gen William Peers, claiming it would be improper to do so while Calley's murder conviction is being reviewed. Hersh won the Pulitzer prize for his inquiry into the My Lai case.

Hersh writes that testimony taken by Peers investigators described a confrontation when Hugh Thompson, a chief warrant officer, landed his helicopter near My Lai on March 16, 1968, to evacuate wounded civilians. Calley protested and Thompson ordered his helicopter crew to train their machineguns on Calley while the civilians were loaded aboard. Thompson, says Hersh, who was apparently the first person to raise the question of excessive civilian killings at My Lai, reported the armed confrontation and the shootings to superior officers that night.

His report, including civilians being shot in a ditch, was relayed the next day to Brig-Gen George Young, one of the Assistant Commanders of the Americal Division. It was reported later that Young was most concerned over the confrontation, commenting: 'We didn't want Americans shooting Americans.'

Divisional Commander, Maj-Gen Samuel Koster reacted in the same way. The two generals told the Commission that an estimated 20 civilians had been killed when they were caught in cross-fire between American and N Vietnamese troops. Col Oran Henderson, who was assigned to investigate the My Lai operation, also claimed he thought he was to investigate the confrontation, not the report of civilian deaths.

The outcome of this and of a tangled maze of reports which have since conveniently got 'lost' was a report saying no indiscriminate killing has taken place at My Lai. Hersh says among other reports of massacre received by army authorities was one from a S Vietnamese officer claiming more than 400 civilians were slaughtered. Calley was convicted of killing 22 civilians. His company commander Capt Ernest Medina, was acquitted of responsibility for 'more than a 100 deaths' and Henderson was cleared of covering up the massacre.

HUNGARY has become the sixth E European country to recognize Bangla Desh. The others are the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Poland. Jenkins said he had 'come here to express my friendship with the new regime and to talk with the Sheikh'. He would give his views to the Tory government when he returned home, but that it 'would be quite wrong to see me as an emissary of the government.'

When asked whether Britain was making a mistake in delaying recognition of Bangla Desh he said: 'I believe the British government will recognize Bangla Desh. I wish it had done so already.'

THE UNIFORMED bodies are believed to be mainly of officers and men of the E Bengal regiment of the Pakistani army, many of whom joined the Bangla Desh movement. Comilla's District Commissioner reported finding 24 bodies in the first layers of the grave alone. The state of decay of the bodies suggested they died some time last month.

LOCKHEED Aircraft Corporation is to borrow a further £10m under government loan guarantees. The company has borrowed £40m of £100m allowed under a government plan to rescue it from threatened bankruptcy. Lockheed said last August it needed cash to continue building the TriStar airliner for which Rolls-Royce is making the RB211 engines.

SE LONDON: Thursday January 27, 8 p.m. Room 2, Deptford Engineers' Club, opp New Cross Stn. 'The Right-to-Work campaign.' LUTON: Thursday January 27, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Rd, Luton. 'Right-to-Work campaign.' N LONDON: (Please note change of date.) Thursday January 27, 8 p.m. Town Hall, Edmonton. 'Support the miners.'

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS Make the Tory government resign! Return a Labour government pledged to restore full employment and repeal all laws against the unions!

SW LONDON: Tuesday February 1, 8 p.m. Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4. 'The General Strike.' W LONDON: Tuesday February 1, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Rd, off York Way, King's Cross. 'Right-to-Work campaign.'

CROYDON: Thursday February 3, 8 p.m. Ruskin Hse, Coombe Rd. 'Stalinism and Trotskyism.'

Socialist Labour League Special course of lectures In line with the decision of the ATUA November 6 conference to build the revolutionary party.

Mid-Hall Woodside Hall, St George's Cross GLASGOW, 3 p.m. SUNDAY JANUARY 30 Economics and Politics Lecture Hall 1 Dighbeth Hall, Dighbeth BIRMINGHAM, 8 p.m.

gives by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

Sadat promises weapons

PRESIDENT Anwar Sadat of Egypt has responded—with words—to demands for renewed war against Israel.

War is inevitable, Sadat said, 'not mere talk, but a reality'.

He was prepared to go to Moscow to seek more weapons to counter recent US shipments of aircraft to Israel. All contacts with Washington had been broken off, he said. Cairo was quiet yesterday after two days of violent clashes between police and students. But 30 students are to be tried before the state security court.

He also asked whether their feelings on the Vietnam war would prevent prospective jurors from arriving at an impartial verdict. Several replied that they had strong feelings about the war.

Harrisburg trial—still no jury

NO JURORS have yet been seated in the trial of a Roman Catholic priest and six other anti-war activists in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

So far 21 people have been excused jury service. One of the issues raised by Judge R. Dixon Herman yesterday was whether newspaper reports about the case had affected the opinions of those reporting for jury duty.

The 'Harrisburg Seven', as the accused are known, are said to have planned to kidnap White House aide Henry Kissinger, and blow up the heating systems of government buildings in Washington.

It was reported later that Young was most concerned over the confrontation, commenting: 'We didn't want Americans shooting Americans.'

Dam burst kills 60

SEVENTY million cubic feet of water smashed into peasant homes between the towns of Toledo and Labateca, Colombia, on Tuesday, killing between 50 and 60 people when a dam burst near the country's border with Venezuela.

Rescue operations were hampered by the mass of mud which covered the flooded area. 300 people were evacuated from their homes as more water from the dam—situated on the river Chitaga—threatened their homes.

Oil trip

AN OFFICIAL Mission on International Resources Problems left Japan yesterday for Europe after the United States officials and the major oil companies information mainly on oil reserves and oil price increases. Recent Soviet overtures to Japan have included an offer to jointly prospect for Siberian oil.

WEATHER ALL DISTRICTS will have showers and sunny intervals and over Scotland and N England the showers are likely to turn to sleet or snow especially over the hills. SE England, sheltered from the strong NW winds, will have few, if any, showers. It will be rather cold and noticeably colder in England and Wales than yesterday.

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