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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

NIXON RISKS NUCLEAR WAR

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The South Vietnamese puppet regime is now on the edge of complete collapse with its armies breaking up, 'defeatist' generals sacked by the government. The workers and peasants of Vietnam have within their immediate grasp the victory which was snatched from them by the Geneva agreement of 1954.

Behind the latest war moves is the desperate crisis of US and world capitalism. It would be suicidal for the working class to ignore or underestimate the real dangers. Nixon and his advisers understand that a total victory for the people of Vietnam would strengthen the working class in every capitalist country against their own ruling class.

Already thousands of youth and students have demonstrated against Nixon's decision and the police have shot and seriously wounded one of them. What is necessary in every country is for the working-class movement to be mobilized

BY CLIFF SLAUGHTER

in millions to stop the imperialist escalation of the war.

Only this can save the Vietnamese people from mass destruction and from a sell-out through secret diplomacy. There is speculation everywhere about Nixon's motives. The middle-class cynics who write in the press and inhabit the Houses of Parliament can afford such speculation; the working class cannot! Mass action to stop the imperialists is urgent; speculation breeds inactivity and leaves Nixon's hands free.

Ever since the decisions last August to scrap the world monetary agreements, the danger of extreme reaction and world war has accelerated. Those decisions were necessary because of the great strength of the working class in the United States, forcing 'inflationary' settlements in the steel and motor industries, following on the great struggles in France, Italy, Germany and Britain.

The coming together of this strength, with that of the colonial peoples, strikes the death-knell for imperialism.

That is why the latest escalation resulted immediately in a severe weakening of the dollar and an unprecedented rise in the price of gold in the last two days. Speculators are anticipating a rush into gold as the dollar slumps.

Anyone in the working-class movement who thinks that, in face of such a crisis, imperialism will hesitate to use the H-bomb when it is considered the only resort, would be guilty of the ultimate irresponsibility.

Inevitably, the Stalinist bureaucracy will stand in the way of every effective working-class action. They will respond to Nixon's threats by doing their utmost to impose a sell-out on the Vietnamese people.

The time to act is now! Only the international solidarity of the working class, mobilized independently of the Kremlin bureaucracy and its secret diplomacy, can stop the imminent drift to large-scale war.

This means supporting in every possible way the victorious offensive of the Vietnamese forces against Saigon and the American imperialists. Any concession to Nixon would feed the appetites of a system hungry for war because of its insoluble crisis.

The British working class must play its part in the urgent struggle of the world's working class to mobilize every support for the Vietnamese workers and peasants. Demonstrations and expressions of opposition to the Nixon war measures, directed against the complicity of the Tory government, must be organized from every factory and trade union organization and from every section of the youth and students.

Every victory by the Vietnamese people is a blow struck on behalf of the working class in Britain and every other country. Every blow struck against the Tory government is a blow which helps the people of Vietnam in the struggle for liberation against US imperialism.

**SPECIAL FEATURES
FRIDAY**



Ford Motor Company plans to cut back on its British operation. Exclusive details

SATURDAY



A drawing of Angela Davis in court, exclusive to Workers Press.

The Angela Davis Trial:

A report from our own correspondent at the court in California.

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If the talks break down, a second work-to-rule will go into effect at midnight tonight.

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It is clearly important that once again I should seek to

● TURN TO P. 12.

NCB to cut staff 10 p.c.

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The cuts are part of the reorganization of the board's operations throughout Britain.

Between 2,500 and 3,000 white-collar jobs will be cut from the total of 30,000 non-industrial workers employed.

The reductions are to be made in the rest of the 1972-1973 period.

T&GWU discipline judgement tomorrow

A JUDGEMENT on whether the Transport and General Workers' Union will be required to discipline or dismiss its shop stewards will be given tomorrow by the National Industrial Relations Court.

This was announced at yesterday's court hearing by the president, Sir John Donaldson.

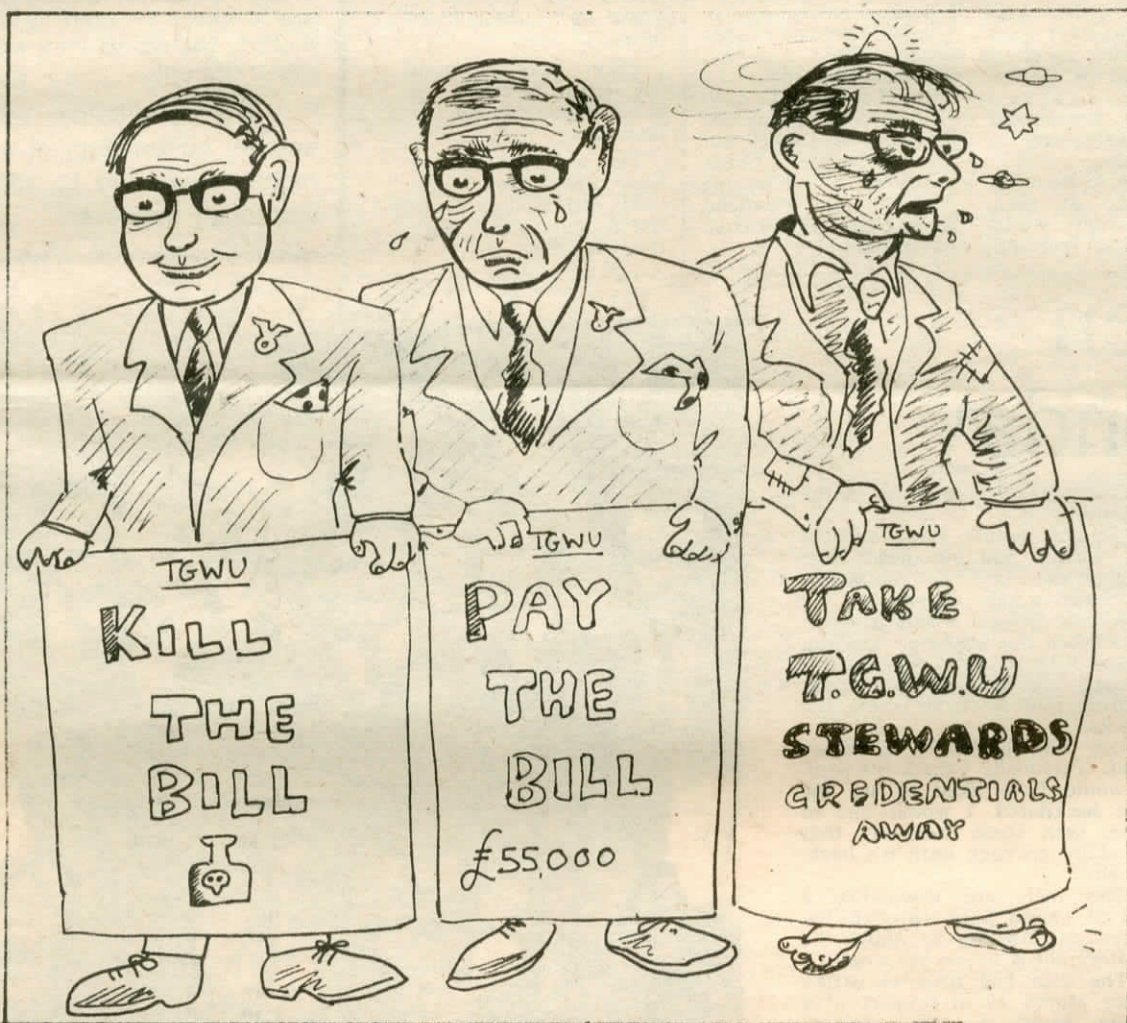
The T&GWU is answering contempt charges arising from the blacking of containers on Liverpool docks.

The court has said the union will not face further penalties for disobedience of the order to stop the blacking.

But it could face a further instruction on the action it must take against shop stewards.

The union has argued that it is not responsible for shop stewards who act outside union instructions. Already this line of argument has exposed stewards to attacks.

Today in the Court the first case brought against a shop steward will be heard when the chairman of the Hull docks shop stewards committee, Walter Cunningham, will be named by a road haulage firm.



Keeping up with the Jones's

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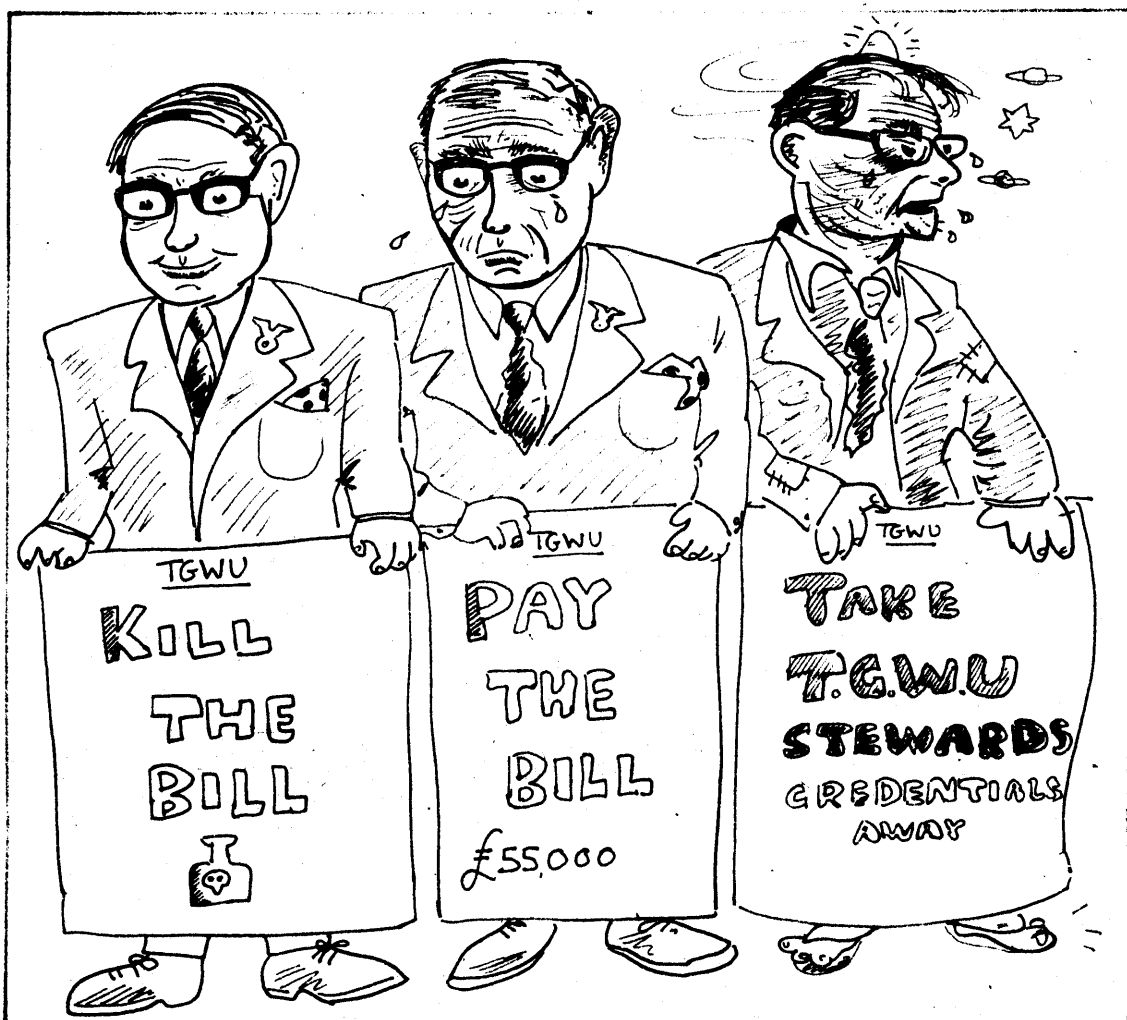
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● Full Court story Page 12.

Keeping up with the Jones's

Irish YS member is shot in Belfast

JAMES DOHERTY, a member of the Irish Young Socialists, was yesterday undergoing an emergency operation at Belfast's Mater Hospital, Northern Ireland.

Jim (21) was gunned down at 2 a.m. on Sunday

April 30 as he came out of the Venice cafe in Crumlin Rd. When he was admitted to hospital his condition was described as serious.

The circumstances of the shooting indicate that he was being trailed. He had only been in the cafe for a short

time. As he left he was shot three times from a black Vauxhall car which then sped away.

This shooting is believed to be of a political nature, in line with a spate of other selective shootings in the Belfast area recently.

AROUND THE WORLD

'Ostpolitik' watered down

CHANCELLOR Willy Brandt yesterday assured the Bundestag that the Soviet Union had accepted an all-party resolution which modifies the Moscow and Warsaw treaties signed two years ago.

Brandt was opening the debate on ratification of the treaties, which are central to his so-called 'Ostpolitik' policy of detente with the Soviet and East European Stalinists.

The all-party resolution said the treaty did not create a legal foundation for the present borders in Europe. It also said that nothing in the treaties would affect the rights of the US, Britain, France and the USSR in Germany.

The resolution was drafted on Tuesday night at a meeting of parliamentary leaders attended by the Soviet ambassador Valentin Falin.

Throughout the night there were conflicting rumours about

down



BRANDT

whether the Kremlin had accepted the revisions proposed at the meeting.

- Christian Democratic leader

Rainer Brazel met the Soviet ambassador yesterday morning in an attempt to clarify the Soviet position, but said afterwards there was still confusion about the situation.

Yesterday morning, the Christian Democrats moved to strike the treaty debate from the Bundestag agenda, but the house split 259-259 and under German parliamentary rules the motion fell.

It was still not clear yesterday whether the opposition would vote with the government over the treaties.

The Soviet concession is important because it leaves the West German government free to challenge the division of Germany and the post-war frontiers between East Germany and Poland.

The Polish government wanted to settle the future of the Oder-Niese frontier once and for all through the treaties.

The treaties are vital to the Soviet government's plans for a European Security Conference.

Japanese dockers in 4th walk-out

JAPANESE dockers began a five-day strike yesterday — their fourth walk-out in a month — to back demands for higher wages and security of employment.

The 80,000 dockers are demanding a monthly increase of 18,000 yen (£22.5) and have rejected a management pay offer ranging from 9,000 to 12,000 yen (£11.25-£15).

The strike coincides with a 26-day-old seamen's stoppage.

The 160,000-strong

seamen's union has refused to man outgoing vessels or handle cargoes at night. It wants a monthly increase of 16,000-22,000 yen (£20-£27.5).

Professor banished

SECURITY police yesterday arrested a former deputy governor of the Bank of Greece who has protested against the banishment of seven Athenians to remote villages.

According to his wife, police called at their house yesterday morning and asked Professor

Hostages held for peasant demands

MORE than 200 peasants took over the courthouse in the Chilean town of Mepilla, near Santiago, on Tuesday and held the local judge and 17 court officials

hostage for nearly four hours.

They were demanding the release of 36 peasants awaiting trial.

The 36 peasants were arrested after occupying a local ranch in protest against the Popular Unity government's failure to implement promised agrarian reforms.

They have accused the local judiciary of being dominated by the landlords.

The occupation ended after government officials had rushed from the capital to talk with the peasants.

Battery men return Monday

WORKERS at the Birmingham Battery and Metal Company called off their nine-week strike yesterday and agreed to a return from next Monday.

At a mass meeting of 300 AUEW members nine votes were cast against the acceptance of a package deal involving a £3 rise for all grades of men, £2 for women workers and one day's extra holiday.

The rises are payable from the date of resumed working. In addition, the firm has granted improved holiday pay and shift allowances, details of which have still to be negotiated.

Among those who voted against acceptance was local AUEW branch president Alf Fellows. He said:

'I did not want the company to think we were unanimous in a return to work. It's a reasonable settlement, but they would not come across with the full amount to the women, and that

was a bone of contention in the meeting.

'Several points have still to be decided and our negotiating committee have a reasonable platform to fight on now.'

Kieran Quinn, a fitter's mate, said after the meeting: 'I'm not happy with it. But I suppose it's a start. The union is on a firmer footing now to fight inside the works.'

Len Tisdell, AUEW convenor said: 'Personally I think it's poor. I would have liked to see the rise backdated. I would like to have seen these men say they wouldn't go back until it's backdated.'

The men are discussing a united march back through the gates on Monday to show the Battery battle is not over.

The men had been on strike since March 15 in support of a claim based on the national engineering claim. Until yesterday's meeting the company had made no offer to the men.

WHAT WE THINK

THE ITALIAN GENERAL ELECTION

THE SWING to the right in the new Italian parliament is a sharp warning to the entire European working class. It demonstrates that without revolutionary leadership, the working class is exposed in the present period to great dangers, created by the treachery of reformism and Stalinism.

Last Sunday's General Election has produced substantial gains for the fascist Italian Social Movement, led by Giorgio Almirante, a former member of Mussolini's murder squads. The party doubled its Senate representation and took 56 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, compared with 30 in the last parliament. It is now the fourth largest party in Italy.

The alliance of the Communist Party and the Proletarian Socialists, however, lost 21 seats in the Chamber, largely because of a big decline in the Proletarian Socialists' vote.

The Italian election was the first major parliamentary test of the new situation resulting from President Nixon's economic measures of August 15 last year. These have disrupted the boom-time relations between the classes in every major capitalist country, forcing every employing class to try and take back what the working class has won.

The election was held against a background of falling investment, a decline in industrial production and rising unemployment, described by leading industrialist Renato Lombardi as an 'evident recession'. It was this crisis which brought about the downfall of Emilio Colombo's centre-left coalition government at the beginning of this year. Colombo faced demands from big business for tough action against the workers who have displayed great will to fight in the big strike struggles of the last three years.

The Stalinist leaders of the trade unions have held back these struggles to purely economic demands, hoping for a place in a Popular Front coalition with 'left' Christian Democrats. The Communist Party's reformist policies have not produced a swing to the left in Italy, despite the powerful spontaneous upsurge of workers' struggles.

The Party supports the Common Market, is not for Italian withdrawal from NATO and has dropped demands for nationalization of major industries from its programme. But these efforts to conciliate the middle class will not win the CP a place in a new coalition. Despite their proclaimed opposition to collaborating with the fascists, the Christian Democrats, with the largest parliamentary representation, are certain to lean to the right. The fascists have already indicated they will support such a government in parliament.

The new Italian parliament can only throw up another government of crisis. But it will be a government determined to attack the working class more vigorously than ever.



The Birmingham Battery men when they were on picket duty

Fighting the Tories' Rent Bill

Islington protest as Labour votes for rent Bill

BY MARTIN MEYER

SEVERAL hundred council and private tenants demonstrated outside Islington Town Hall on Tuesday night in protest against the council's decision to implement the Housing Finance Bill. There were continuous chants of 'Out with the Bill!' outside the hall, and inside nearly 100 tenants were ejected from the public gallery by a strong force of police.

Two weeks ago the council, which apart from six Tory aldermen is 100 per cent Labour-controlled, split 28-18 in favour of implementing the Bill when it becomes law.

The majority argue that they can only try to soften the blow because if they openly defy it they will lose a £14m housing subsidy and each member of the council will be liable to a surcharge of £500.

All the speakers at the meeting, which was organized by the Islington Council Tenants and Private Tenants' Association, condemned this attitude as cowardly.

Harry Weston, chairman of the Association said: 'This Bill is going to be a landlords' charter, a landlords' bonanza. It is going to decide how poor we are going to be. The rent rebate scheme will be intolerable. It will mean that any wage increases won by workers will be negated by loss of rebates. 'To begin to fight this Bill, we must first fight our own council. How can any Labour council say that it is best to implement this Bill? These men are nothing more than collaborators and Quislings. They should resign and make way for those who are prepared to fight.'

Victor Cordwell one of the minority group of councillors and also secretary of the Tenants' Association emphasized afterwards that one of the main aims of the Bill was to crucify the trade unions.

Sooner or later, he said, all wage-earners up to about £30 would be on rebate so the hard struggle of unions to increase wages would be simply neutralized by cutting the rebate.

An emergency resolution from the minority group on the council calling for non-co-operation with the Bill was finally ruled out of order in the early hours of Wednesday morning, after the demonstrators had gone home.

The minority group will now be arranging an emergency council meeting to discuss the Bill publicly.



An Islington tenant uses a newspaper-megaphone to voice his protest

Bleak future warning for British-Leyland in new report

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH-LEYLAND Motor Corporation, Britain's largest motor manufacturer, has been warned it faces a bleak future after 1974 unless radical policy changes are made.

This is the sobering advice for Lord Stokes, Leyland's chairman, from Dun and Bradstreet and the Economist Advisory Group.

Their findings are contained in a survey, 'The Motor Industry', produced by a team led by Graham Bannock, former economist with Ford and Rover.

The main recommendation is that Leyland should cut back its product range and concentrate on fewer markets.

Although Leyland can claim 45 per cent of the vehicle sales in Britain, the company is 'relatively weak' overseas.

This weakness could be restored by a link with a foreign manufacturer, 'possibly Japanese'. Within hours of the report being

published, Leyland issued a strong denial that it was contemplating any tie-up with the Japanese motor industry.

A spokesman said: 'Much of the information on which the report is based is out of date and consequently is often irrelevant and occasionally inaccurate.'

Despite the official denials, there is no doubt that the company is dangerously vulnerable to overseas pressures, particularly from the Japanese.

Only a few days ago the rumour was being punted around the stock markets that Leyland was engaged in merger talks with Chrysler, part of the General Motors group.

The report also highlights the heavy dependence Leyland has on the recovery of its Austin-Morris divisions for future growth and viability.

It adds: 'In the absence of changes in its policy, its outlook is unfavourable compared with that of its overseas competitors.'

'The corporation does not have the management resources for its diversification, nor is it likely to want to divert scarce capital resources to this purpose.'



Above: A new protest T-shirt. Below: Victor Cordwell, Labour councillor and tenants' association leader



ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

SLOUGH: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Slough Community Centre, Farnam Rd. Speakers, Frank Tomany, ex-convenor Omes Faulkner, Brian Bailey, AUEW (in a personal capacity). The Industrial Relations Act.

GLASGOW: Tuesday May 16, 7.30 p.m. Woodside Hall, St George's Cross, Glasgow. The Industrial Relations Act.

Recall the TUC
Expel the traitors
Make the Tories resign

CROYDON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Rd.

LUTON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. St John's Ambulance Hall, Lea Rd.

N LONDON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Bricklayers Arms, Tottenham High Rd (nr White Hart Lane).

SE LONDON: Thursday May 11, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, New Cross Rd (opp New Cross station).

WILLESDEN: Monday May 15, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, Willesden High Rd, NW10...

Stewards in final curtain talks with Marathon

BY IAN YEATS

WITHIN 24 hours, Communist Party shop stewards at Glasgow's Clydebank shipyard will ring down the final curtain on their ten-month long saga of betrayal at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders.

The stewards, union officials and executives of the Houston-based Marathon Manufacturing Co., are expected to reach final agreement on the takeover of the yard by tonight.

The stewards have already agreed 'in principle' to the Texas oil rig firm's conditions of working which include an American-style pay and productivity deal and a four-year, no-strike pledge.

The Stalinists were thought to be so eager to put their signatures to a final contract that boilermakers' leader Danny McGarvey felt free to leave Glasgow for York on 'other business'.

Before he went, McGarvey told reporters: 'With the goodwill already expressed by local officials and shop stewards, we'll find our way round the toughest snags.'

And Eldon Muss, senior Marathon vice-president, said he expected no 'stumbling blocks' in reaching a deal with the unions.

Maintaining to the bitter end the fiction that an uncompromising fight had been waged to defend the 'not a man down the road' policy they began with, Stalinist Clydebank convenor James Reid said on Tuesday:

'The real talks on the vital issues start tomorrow. These issues are redundancies and disputes procedures.'

The stewards are demanding that none of the existing 2,300 strong workforce lose their jobs as a result of the takeover. Marathon want to sack 300.

But whatever agreement is reached about these 300 jobs, the fact remains that when UCS collapsed, Clydebank employed about 3,200 men.

During the Stalinists' 'fight', 900 jobs have already been axed.

And under the proposed deal, some of those left in the yard will almost certainly be fired.

Marathon is prepared to guarantee the size of the workforce, but it cannot guarantee that the men presently employed have the skills it will need to build oil rigs.

The only other stumbling block to agreement is whether Marathon will agree to the rules of disputes procedure of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions applying under their management.

With all sides, including the Tories and the liquidator, so obviously confident, it is unlikely that either of these issues will prevent the Stalinists from clinching a deal with Marathon before tonight's deadline.

THE CASE OF THE EXPELLED POWER WORKER

BY ALEX MITCHELL

A militant power worker, expelled by the Edinburgh district committee of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers for backing the miners' strike, has been reinstated.

The man, Ron Brown, a local Labour councillor, has now been fined £5 by the district committee and had his right to hold office as a shop steward withdrawn.

EVIDENCE

The most astonishing feature of his treatment is that the district committee's 'evidence' was based on a letter from the management's chief personnel officer at the South of Scotland Electricity Board (SSEB).

Workers Press has obtained copies of the internal documents which factually trace the history of Brown's dismissal from the SSEB and his subsequent expulsion from the union.

We reveal the contents of the letters because they provide a sharp lesson in the tactics of the right wing in the trade union movement.

On February 16, three days before the miners' strike ended, the SSEB chief personnel officer, Mr R. Ansty, wrote to Mr E. Leslie, the AUEW's divisional organizer in Edinburgh.

The letter was headed: 'Mr Ron Brown—Edinburgh' and began:

'I wrote to advise you that the Board have been increasingly concerned at the continuing unconstitutional activities of the above mentioned member of your union who is presently a trade unions' side member of the Edinburgh works committee and is in fact chairman of that committee in this current year'.

The letter went on to describe the 'unconstitutional activities'.

'As you are aware, Mr Brown was one of the employees associated with an unofficial letter issued to all "SSEB workers" exhorting them to take strike action in support of the miners and to join miners' picket lines.

'In addition Mr Brown personally issued these letters in Kirkcaldine Power Station on Friday, February 11, 1972, where he was observed to be present between 2.45 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. having entered the station without permission.

'I would also confirm that, having regard to all the circumstances, the Board are of the opinion that Mr Brown has

clearly shown that he is no longer a suitable person to act as a trade unions' side member of the works committee.

'I shall be glad to know what action you propose to take on this matter.

Yours sincerely, R. ANSTY'.
Did the district committee tell Ansty to mind his own business?

Did the district committee tell Leslie that the AUEW fully supported the miners' fight for a living wage and that, in fact, the union completely endorsed solidarity action with the miners?

Nothing of the kind.'
The district met shortly after receiving the letter and passed a resolution that 'this district committee recommended to the executive committee that Brother R. Brown be expelled from membership of this union . . .'

In other words the district committee enthusiastically carried out the Board's wishes.

Minutes from the meeting state:

'DO [district organizer] reported further of references of members employed in various establishments SSEB within the Division No. 3 making complaint of the actions of Bro. R. Brown in press statements and TV interviews purporting to be speaking on behalf of members throughout the division employed in this industry, this being a direct misrepresentation.

FALSE

'Concern was expressed by DC member, particularly in regard to the misrepresentation in the electricity supply industry in this division, and at the false view presented to other trade unions and the general public, of our union's policies during the present coal industry dispute.'

The motion to expel Brown was moved by Bro. A. Malcolm and seconded by Bro. J. McNichol.

After appealing to the AUEW headquarters, Brown had his union membership restored. Brown and another dismissed power worker, Rab Jeffrey, are now appealing through procedure to get their jobs back.

Two questions still remain about the Brown incident:

● Is the district committee to be allowed to take away a shop steward's credentials without a fight from the rank and file?

● Is the executive council of the union going to let right-wing district committees continue to purge militants at the explicit request of management?



Above: Pickets at a power station during the miners strike earlier this year. Below: Sections of the letter which the Electricity Board personnel manager sent to the AUEW and which led to Ron Brown's expulsion for supporting the strike.

16th February, 1972

Mr. E. Leslie,
Divisional Organiser,
A.U.E.W.,
1 Blenheim Place,
EDINBURGH,

Dear Mr. Leslie,

Mr. Ron Brown - Edinburgh District

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I shall be glad to know what action you propose to take on this matter.

Yours sincerely,
R. Ansty
Chief Personnel Officer.

ALLENDE BECOMES POLICEMEN'S BEST FRIEND



On Thursday afternoon, April 27, in a distant South American Republic, thousands switched on their radios to listen to the following presidential eulogy of the Carabineros — the crack section of the nation's police force — on the 45th anniversary of their creation:

'Not for nothing is the motto of the Carabineros "Order and the Fatherland". Order, based on moral authority, in the correct carrying out of duties, which in no way implies the negation of hierarchy.

'In fact, you have a sense of discipline and hierarchy which grows on the conception that this government has of social discipline and the use of public force.'

The president then presented a television-set to the Carabineros who make up his palace guard and received in return a frame of 15 photos of his personal guards.

The centre piece of this moving tribute to the armed forces of the state was that epigone of the Stalinists, Salvador Allende.

In the days before, Santiago, the Chilean capital, has seen first thousands of right-wingers and then thousands of workers demonstrate on its streets as the country moves towards major class confrontations.

In such circumstances, Allende's embrace of the Carabineros is a sign that, with all his rhetoric about Chilean socialism, he is prepared to look to some of the most reactionary forces in the capitalist state machinery of Chile.

The Carabineros were created by the first administration of General Carlos Ibañez del Campo in 1927, and, in homage to their founder, their training school still bears his name.

Formed on the basis of the Carabineros of the Chilean army and different regional police bodies, they have always been one of the best organized and modern sections of the Chilean police force. When in need, Chilean capitalism has always been able to rely on the Carabineros to repress movements of workers and peasants.

Only recently at the end of March, 70 families of 'Manuel Rodríguez' Committee in Chilean were brutally beaten up and moved off the unoccupied land which they had taken over.

It was five o'clock in the morning when the settlers and their wives and children began

to put up makeshift homes on the site in the Francia Avenue.

Within half an hour, they were violently interrupted by the mobile section of the Carabineros; the families were back on the street and 17 squatters, including two women, were imprisoned.

Among those imprisoned was the 71-year-old squatter Jose Hidalgo Cruces. Despite his age, he was one of those most cruelly beaten in the police station. A week after his release he began to suffer intense stomach pains: within 24 hours he was dead.

Under Allende, the Carabineros keep to their anti-working-class traditions!

When Ibañez took power in 1927, he created the paramilitary Carabineros to wage war on all opposition to his dictatorship. They continually raided the headquarters of trade unions and workers' political organizations.

They know they still have nothing to fear from Allende and the Chilean Communist Party. In 1938, Ibañez, who backed the Chilean Nazi Party, was considered at one stage as a possible 'anti-oligarchy' presidential candidate for the Popular Front.

The Popular Front candidate was in the end Aguirre Cerda, the leader of the Radical Party who was elected with the backing of ex-dictator Ibañez.

The reason for the support soon became clear. In 1941, the Popular Front Minister of the Interior Arturo Olavarria Bravo obliged the Jewish community of Santiago to pay for the installation of the city's traffic light system.

Olavarria then thought out a plan to have all Jewish immigrants engaged in commerce deported to the remote southern province of Chiloe.

The history of this anti-Semitic Popular Frontism throws some light on the corrupt opportunism of police-loving 'socialist' Allende.

Olavarria was the Popular Front campaign manager in 1938. After the war he organized an anti-communist militia with rifles and machine guns. In 1952 he served as campaign manager for Carlos Ibañez. In 1964, he acted as campaign manager for the Socialist - Communist - Radical candidate . . . Salvador Allende!

Allende's celebration of the Ibañez Carabineros is a reminder that 'Don Salva' has another face, obscured behind demagogic speeches about a peaceful road to socialism, which defends capitalist law and order—those armed bodies of men whose business it is to repress the masses Allende claims to represent.



Top: street fighting in Chile between Allende supporters and the right wing. Above: Allende with miners. Below: poverty in Santiago de Chile in a quarter on the outskirts of the city.



THE FOREBEARS OF SIR JOHN DONALDSON AND HIS COURT

BY BEN JONES

'Without freedom under the law,' observed Sir John Donaldson, President of the National Industrial Relations Court, on March 28, 1972, 'there would only be tyranny.'

That was an observation of some importance, because he was explaining his reasons for imposing the first fine on the Transport and General Workers' union for contempt of court.

His observation, in his judgement in the railway unions' case imposing a 14-day 'cooling-off' period is of similar importance. He said that without the rule of law there would be no freedom, there would only be licence for a few powerful persons to impose their will on the majority. It was particularly important since the Court was for the first time directly intervening in a wage negotiation between unions and management, and was prohibiting the unions from carrying out actions it had—until the passing of the Industrial Relations Act—been their right to carry out.

What he said raises important questions. He referred to 'freedom under the law.' We need to know what that means and for whose benefit it is intended to exist.

Freedom is not an absolute concept, and freedom under the law even less so. The law changes. What a man could do yesterday, he may not be allowed to do today. It depends upon whether he is free within the law today to do so.

But law is not made by some neutral force standing outside our society. It is made by a government representing class forces, and it has to follow that freedom becomes conditional, and that the law cannot be neutral in areas such as the one under discussion, where it intervenes in the struggle between employers and workers.

The mystique of the law has always been that it is the embodiment of justice—but it is not. It is primarily, in this society, the embodiment of the right to private property. The often-quoted phrase 'possession is nine points of the law' is correct and it can only make sense in the context of the supremacy of private property.

That being so, it is easy to understand that the relationship of the law, and particularly the judges, to trade unions has been a tense one, and that it has been governed from year to year by the strength of the class forces and class identifications, rather than by any concept of abstract justice.

Before the passing of the Industrial Relations Act, 'experts' in the field of 'industrial relations' used often to say that the most significant aspect of those relations was their lack of regulation by law.

It is true that there had not been any attempt at a codification of all the aspects of the law into one Act, and that some areas of rights permitted by the legislature remained obscure—dependent as they were on interpretation by the judges. Nevertheless, it would be misleading to think that there had been few Acts or cases over the years.

A glance at any legal text book covering the subject will make that clear. They are there in abundance and are a signpost to the struggles of the working class over the years, its achievements and its setbacks which have always led to greater advances.

The Taff Vale decision of 1901 (discussed in Workers Press on May 6), at the time the greatest legal set-back the unions had endured, was the prelude to their forcing the passing of the Trades Union Act of 1906, which was their greatest legal advance.

It is important, therefore, to look back at the views of the judges in the cases (particularly up to the General Strike) as expressed in their judgements, to find out what they mean when they speak of freedom and individual liberty, as they often have done.

From 1349, there was wage-fixing in this country. The Black Death depleted the labour force and left the survivors in a relatively strong position against their employers, so the Acts of 1349 and 1351 fixed wages at the pre-Black Death level and imposed penalties for workmen refusing to work for those wages.

Over the next 300 years, those enactments were extended and strengthened, with the justices of the peace fixing the rates for all workmen. Combinations of workmen acting in defiance of the enactments were illegal, and the men were guilty of criminal conspiracy.

It is not surprising to find the judges hot on the concept of individual liberty in cases of the time. That is to say the liberty of the employer not to have a union in opposition to him, and the liberty of the individual worker to starve if he so chose, but not to take action to alleviate his condition.

In a case of 1721, the judgement said: 'The refusal to work was not the crime, but the conspiracy to raise wages. . . . It is true it does not appear by the record that the wages demanded were excessive, but that is not material because it may be given in evidence.'

These enactments were not repealed until 1831, and an assessment under them was made as late as 1801. But early unions nevertheless started to become established in the form of friendly societies and the ruling class—apprehensive of the results of the French Revolution and the Industrial Revolution—responded by passing the Combination Acts of 1799 and 1800, prohibiting all combinations of workmen to regulate the conditions of their work (as the old legislation had petered out, informal attention had sometimes been paid to the views of the friendly societies in these matters), and even attending meetings for this purpose was made a crime.

Employers' associations were also banned. The Combination Acts failed to prevent combinations of workers, in spite of the criminal sanctions. In 1824 they had to be repealed. The Act of that year, and one of 1825 permitted combinations, but retained penal sanctions for violence, threats, intimidation, molestation and obstruction. It was for the judges to interpret the meaning of these words. It is again no surprise to find that in some cases, their interpretation was somewhat wide. In a case in 1861, the judge said:

'I think that several workmen have no right to combine to procure the discharge of persons obnoxious to them by threatening to leave the employment at once in a body, unless those persons are forthwith discharged. It is a matter of common learning, that what a man may do singly he may not combine with others to do to the prejudice of another. . . . [The Act of 1825] . . . by repealing all previous statutes on the subject, appears to me to have re-established the common law as affecting combinations of masters and workmen.'

Another judge held in 1851, that it was unlawful for persons to combine to induce others, even by peaceful persuasion, to leave their employment with the object of forcing their employer to improve conditions. A further result of such decisions was that peaceful picketing was illegal.

Yet another judge held in 1867 that the publication by strikers of advertisements asking others not to take work with an employer until the dispute was settled, was criminal intimidation. It was during this period, in 1834, that the Tolpuddle Martyrs received seven years transportation for contravening a statute of 1797, which prohibited 'unlawful oaths' for 'seditious purposes'. The Prime Minister of the time, Lord Melbourne, was anxious to discourage growing agricultural trade unionism.

The area in which the unions encountered the greatest disapproval from the judges during this period, was that of the unions' civil status. They were considered to be unlawful bodies, and the law would not be prepared to protect their funds. In 1867, a union tried to bring a prosecution against a branch treasurer who had embezzled funds. The judge held it had no right to do so. Decisions such as these laid the seeds for the decision in the Taff Vale case, in 1901.

The first great Trade Union Act was passed in 1871. It conferred partial legal status, and made it clear that unions would not be liable to criminal prosecution because their purposes might be in unlawful restraint of trade. Within four years, however, the Conspiracy

and Protection of Property Act of 1875 was passed, making breach of contract a criminal offence for workers in the public supply of water and gas, where the loss of supply was likely to result. These provisions, with the addition of electricity, still apply.

The wording of this Act also appeared to confirm the legality of peaceful picketing. The judges, however, thought otherwise. In the famous phrase of a judge in a case in 1896:

'You cannot make a strike effective without doing more than is lawful.'

The Act of 1875 was also intended to exclude conspiracy from trade disputes, but again the judges thought differently. They continued to find unions liable in civil conspiracy, holding that the Act referred only to criminal conspiracy. This led to the famous case of *Quinn v. Leatham*, and also directly to the Taff Vale decision.

In their judgements in the House of Lords, the judges made their positions clear. Lord Brampton said: 'The legislature in conferring upon the trades unions such privileges as are contained in the Trades Union Acts of 1871 and 1876, does not empower them to do more than make rules for the regulation of their own conduct and to provide for their own mutual assistance . . . and most certainly it has not conferred upon any association or member of it a licence to obstruct or interfere with the freedom of any other person in carrying on his business or bestowing his labour in the way he thinks fit. . . .'

It is at all times a painful thing for any individual to be the object of hatred spite and ill will of anyone who seeks to do him harm. But that is nothing compared to the danger and alarm created by a conspiracy formed by a number of unscrupulous enemies acting under an illegal compact, together and separately, as often as opportunity occurs regardless of law, and actuated by malevolence to injure him and all who stand by him. Such a conspiracy is a powerful and dangerous engine, which in this case has, I think, been employed by the defendants for the perpetration of ruinous oppression.'



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Lord Lindley was even more direct: 'That they acted as they did in furtherance of what they considered the interests of the union men may be fairly assumed in their favour . . . but that is all that can be said for them. . . . A combination not to work is one thing, and is lawful. A combination to prevent others from working by annoying them if they do it is a very different thing, and is *prima facie* unlawful. Again, not to work oneself is lawful so long as one keeps off the poor rates, but to order men

and barons because the defence rested upon the law which they administered; it is not possible for the courts to do so when the legislature alters the laws as to destroy liberty for they can only administer the law. The legislature cannot make evil good, but it can make it not actionable. . . . I regret the conclusion, because I think it inflicts a cruel hardship on the plaintiff and it is no consolation to him that far greater hardship will doubtless be inflicted in the future on persons even more innocent than himself. . . . the conduct of the defendants is " . . . an unjustifiable molestation of the man, and improper and inexcusable interference with the man's ordinary rights of citizenship", but those rights have been cut away and the remedy for them destroyed by the legislature.'

It is probable that judges have not often considered their decisions in class terms, but the more sensitive of them have sometimes been aware of some of the problems. In 1923, Lord Justice Scrutton wrote an article, which is quoted in part in Professor Wedderburn's book 'The Worker and the Law'. In it, he said:

'The habits you are trained in, the people with whom you mix, lead to your having a certain class of ideas of such a nature that when you have to deal with other ideas, you do not give as sound and accurate judgements as you would wish. This is one of the difficulties at present with labour. Labour says "Where are your impartial judges? They all move in the same circle as the employers, and they are all educated and nursed in the same ideas as the employers. How can a labour man or a trade unionist get impartial justice?" It is very difficult sometimes to be sure that you have put yourself into a thoroughly impartial position between two disputants, one of your own class and one not of your class.'

How much more impossible then, for judges to deal with a situation where the working class threatens the security of the ruling class with 'impartiality'.

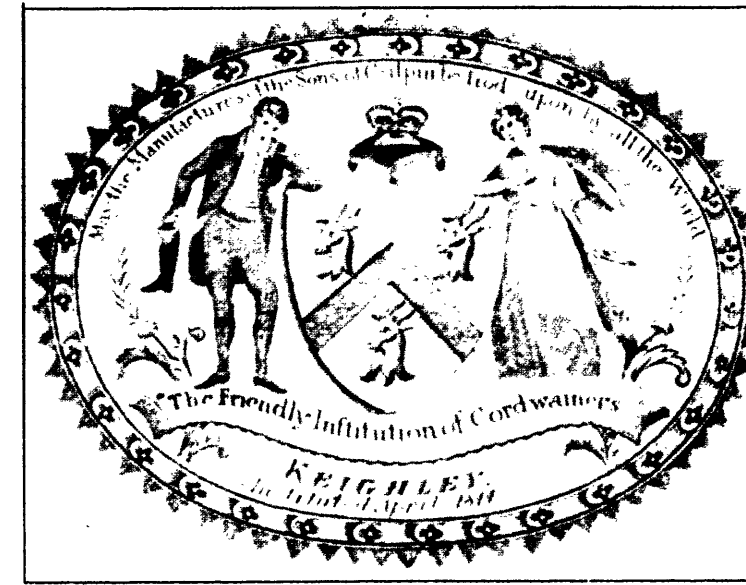
Lord Donaldson's words are relevant to the quotations in this article, for they come from that tradition. The National Industrial Relations Court is becoming a government wage-fixing agency. It is not so very far removed from the early legislation described at the beginning of this article.

The uneasy peace made by the judges during some of the years of the 1930s—when after the defeat of the General Strike the unions presented no great threat—and during the post-war inflationary boom are over. The legal tradition is reasserting itself. English law is a law of precedent. It might well be that we will hear the following judgement being quoted again in the future. It was made on May 11, 1926, the eighth day of the General Strike:

'The General Council [of the Trades Union Congress] has called a so-called General Strike and the defendants have kindly explained to me the nature of that strike which has been so called. . . . The so-called General Strike called by the Trades Union Congress is illegal and persons inciting or taking part in it are not protected by the Trades Disputes Act 1906. No trade dispute has been alleged or shown to exist in any of the unions affected, except in the miners' case, and no trade dispute does or can exist between the Trades Union Congress on the one hand and the government on the other. The orders of the Trades Union Congress above referred to are therefore "unlawful, and the defendants are acting illegally in obeying them. . . .'

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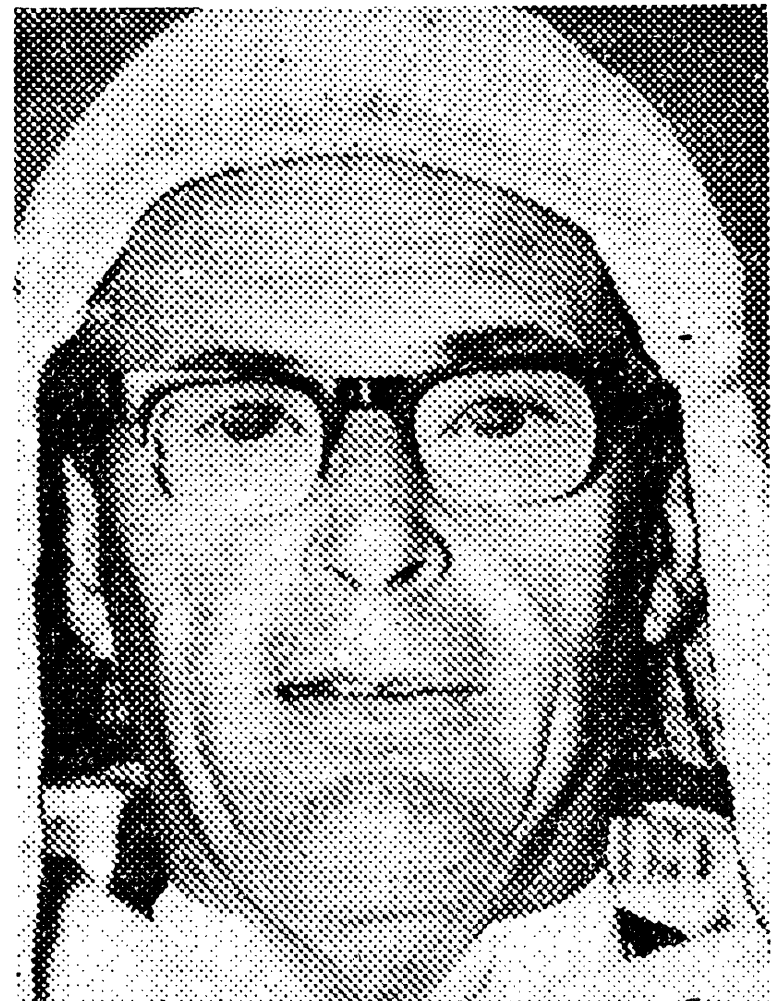
Top: Police charge during the General Strike, 1926. Above: Trade Union Card of the cordwainers, 1844.

not to work when they are willing to work is another thing.

He added that: 'Your Lordships are asked . . . to destroy that individual liberty which our law so anxiously guards.'

Lord Lindley, still concerned about personal liberty, was one of the judges who heard the Taff Vale case. In that case, he said:

'I entirely repudiate the notion that the effect of the Trades Union Act is to legalize trades unions and to confer on them the right to acquire and hold property, and at the same time to protect the unions from legal proceedings if their managers or agents acting for the whole body violate the



Sir John Donaldson: 'Without freedom under the law, there would only be tyranny.'

THE REFORMIST SETTING

Pages from Railway History 1839-1972 by Ian Yeats. Part one.

If there ever was a maxim to characterize 100 years of National Union of Railwaymen's leadership it would be 'when the enemy advances we retreat'.

Not that the 12 general secretaries of the NUR and their successive executive committees have themselves seen their decisions as retreats or their employers as the enemy.



J. H. Thomas: Joined MacDonald

At least one general secretary, J. H. Thomas joined 'the enemy' by accepting a post in Ramsay MacDonald's 1931 coalition government.

Habitually described as a conservative by nature, Sir Sidney Greene has no sense of political inconsistency in being a director of British capitalism's financial heart—the Bank of England.

What today's pundits call moderation has always characterized the leadership of a union founded with the patronage of a millionaire brewer and a philanthropic clergyman; a union whose leaders saw their role as representing servants to their masters with whose fate they were, ultimately, inextricably involved; a craft union whose leaders in the beginning could count on the active sympathies of members of the ruling class equally outraged by the excesses of brute capitalism.

Over the years the union's aims have changed little from the objectives set out in Rule 2 agreed by 62 delegates at the first conference of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants held in June 1872:

'That the objects of this society shall be the improvement of the general condition of all classes of railway employees, temporary assistance when thrown out of employment through causes over which they have no control, legal assistance when necessary, and to provide a superannuation allowance to old and disabled members.'

And the union's first general secretary, George Chapman,

wrote in the annual report for 1872:

'I would take this opportunity of stating that the council is decidedly opposed to strikes, the council being of the opinion that if railwaymen will only come forward and be firmly united, they would gain that to which they are entitled without having recourse to any cessation of work.'

A combination of friendly society benefits and seeking to do the best they can for railway employees has unvaryingly dominated the policy first of the ASRS and, from March 29, 1913, the National Union of Railwaymen.

The election of railway MPs within the Labour Party—in 1909 there were 50 of them—has never been more than an extension of the representational attitude characteristic of reformism.

It was the reformist belief, that the market in which industries, including railways, rise and fall is no part of the concern of trade unions, that led to the wholesale acceptance of Beeching after 1961.

Reformism permitted the NUR leaders to accept pay rises often less than a half or two-thirds the figure their members were demanding every year since nationalization on January 1, 1948.

It also led the NUR to accept a series of wage cuts in 1926, 1927, 1928 and 1929 to 'help the railway companies'.

It was reformism which led J. H. Thomas to shift heaven and earth to break the General Strike of 1926 and with it a decisive threat to the bourgeois order to which he was tied hand and foot.

The same J. H. Thomas had welched on the Triple Industrial Alliance in April 1921 rather than see it turn into a threat to the capitalist state.

Previously Thomas settled the 1919 national rail strike on terms no better than the railwaymen had before they withdrew their labour rather than allow the spirit of 1917 in Russia dominate the working class movement in Britain.

It was reformism inherent in his every action which led the NUR executive committee to call for a return to work in 1911 empty handed after the government has flung down the gauntlet of civil war.

This same reformism led to the rout of successive all-grades pay campaigns in the 1890s by railway companies determined not to give an inch.

It was reformism which resulted in the dismal failure of the nine-hour day campaign of the 1880s which consisted of little more than sending memos to the bosses—which they ignored.



Sir Sidney Greene (top) present secretary of the NUR: 'We are law abiding and hope we can find a formula that can meet the situation and satisfy the court.' George Chapman (below), first general secretary of ASRS: 'If railwaymen will only come forward . . . they would gain that to which they are entitled without having recourse to any cessation of work.'

It is reformism which allowed Sir Sidney F. Greene JP and 'natural conservative' to say on April 22, 1972, after he with the leaders of the two other railway unions had agreed 'with great reluctance' to obey the Tory Industrial Relations Court:

'I am very concerned about satisfying the Court. We are all law-abiding organizations and we hope that we can find a formula that can meet the situation and satisfy the court.'

The history of the NUR—the largest of the three railway unions—is the history of reformism.

But it has not been without cost . . . Membership is low at 200,000 not least because the union has co-operated in the cut down of the railway labour force from 641,000 in 1948 to 242,630 today. Membership has also always reflected the disillusionment of its members with one retreat after another.

ASLEF, the footplaten's association, formed to preserve its sectional craft character in 1879, has fared little better than the NUR and on April 30, after their leaders surrendered to the Tories' use of the National Industrial Relations Court, talk of a breakaway union was rife, especially among militant Southern Region drivers.

The history of both unions has been punctuated time without number by waves of militant unofficial strikes as much against the leadership as against the employers.

The first real test of the fledgling rail unions came during the depression of the 1870s.



CONTINUED TOMORROW

TITO OPENS THE DOOR

BY JOHN SPENCER

Foreign investment is entering Yugoslavia at a rapid rate following the US government's decision to extend insurance cover to businessmen investing there.

The American decision follows similar action by the West German government, which decided in June 1970 to underwrite non-commercial risks on investments in Yugoslavia.

Holland, Belgium, France and Italy have already taken similar steps, giving their own capitalists a guarantee against expropriation of their investments in Yugoslavia.

Their Yugoslav holdings are also guaranteed under the recent amendments to the constitution. Amendment 22 reads: 'The right of an alien party to the resources that he has invested in an organization of associated labour in the country cannot be diminished by law or by any other act upon having entered into the contract.'

This was designed to close loopholes in the original law of 1967 which first opened Yugoslavia to foreign investment. Many businessmen were at first reluctant to take advantage of the new conditions because they feared expropriation of their capital.

According to the ultra-conservative 'Journal of Commerce', 'the system of internal and foreign guarantees... indubitably produces a favourable climate for investments in Yugoslavia's industry'.

And over the past few years, more and more foreign firms have been moving in. In 1968, five capital investment contracts were entered into by Yugoslav enterprises with foreign firms. Since January this year there have been more than 45.

According to figures from the Yugoslav Ministry of Industry, 462 agreements on long-term co-operation between Yugoslav firms and foreign capitalists were registered between 1968 and 1971.

The aggregate foreign investment amounts to more than 1.1m dinars—or 4.4m dinars when the share invested in the enterprises by Yugoslav partners is counted in.

Agreements signed in the past few weeks include one between the New York firm, Bieler National Industries and the Sevojno copper rolling mills concerning the establishment of two mixed companies both of which will have great freedom to operate inside Yugoslavia.

Similarly, a French consortium recently entered a joint deal to provide credit and finance for nickel mining at Kavadarci, Macedonia. Soviet companies also participate in these arrangements—one Moscow firm has concluded a deal with Energoinvest of Sarajevo for the construction of a second aluminium plant in East Bosnia at a total cost of 4,000m dinars.

Most of the foreign investment goes into the metal goods, electrical engineering



Stalinist
crisis



Above: Yugoslavia's Marshall Tito with Nixon in Washington. Below: More and more foreign investment and firms moving in; a German business symbol goes up in Belgrade.



and electronics industries.

In the first two years of the foreign investment scheme, enterprises in the metal-goods industries signed 151 agreements with foreign firms, while electrical and electronics firms signed 65.

The penetration of foreign capital into Yugoslavia is taking on an extremely wide scope. It means that a considerable section of the country's industry is operating

for the profit of foreign stockholders. Yugoslav bureaucrats welcome this development as a means of overcoming pressing problems of credit and foreign exchange.

But it poses an enormous threat to the nationalized property relations established by the revolution, and is one of the causes of the intensification of social antagonisms which has brought Yugoslavia to the brink of civil war.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

WORK IN?



Reid, 'the Communist who is a fan of Christ', with Wilson.

Alasdair Buchan, the Glasgow reporter, has just divulged about 50,000 words genuflecting to the Stalinist leadership at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders.

Stephen Johns adequately dealt with Buchan's apologia for Stalinism in a recent Workers Press review of Buchan's book.

Now young Alasdair has been joined by his mother, Janey Buchan, in worshipping Reid and company. In an article in the recent 'Tribune', she writes about 'the victory for the UCS workers'. She goes on to lavish praise on Reid for his rectorial address at Glasgow University.

'To see the Senatus, the press benches, local dignitaries and students alike rise to acclaim it gave some indication of the intensity of feeling that the UCS work-in has aroused.'

What work-in? But Mrs Buchan is untroubled by the deal Reid and his cronies have

just consolidated with the Tory government. She gushes on:

'It has been a curious ten months of the work-in. The strain on the stewards has been enormous with the health of Reid and others giving cause for concern.'

No doubt another trip to the Isle of Islay on the 'Daily Express's' private plane to relax with Archibald ('Cash-down') Kelly could see them through.

Not a word in this melodramatic article about the 2,000-odd shipyard workers who will lose their jobs when the Tories have completed their surgery on the yards.

But then Reid, recently described in the 'Express' as 'The communist who is a fan of Christ', can always find his peace with the lord... and the 'Tribune'-ites.

P.S. Mrs Buchan is the wife of Norman Buchan, MP, a member of Harold Wilson's front-bench team.

BOOKS



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Property man and merchant banker in charge



J.G. CUCKNEY

John Cuckney, merchant banker (above) and Peter Walker, formerly of Slater Walker, now Minister for Environment (below) will head Heath's agency.

Heath sets up real estate agency

BY A POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE TORY government is moving into the property boom in a big way—with the establishment of a departmental property agency.

Announcement of the agency was made, significantly, by Prime Minister Edward Heath himself in reply to a written question.

He has put Peter Walker,

Minister for the Environment, in charge.

This is a wise appointment. Before becoming a Cabinet minister Walker was co-head of Slater Walker Securities, one of the fastest flyers in the property market. Walker was a millionaire by the age of 35.

Handling the day-to-day affairs will be John Cuckney, chairman of the Anglo-Eastern Bank, a small but vigorous merchant bank. Cuckney is also closely connected with a larger banking group, Lazards.

Last year Cuckney took over the bankrupt Mersey Docks and Harbour Board at the request of the Tory government.

Cuckney took a keen interest in the large acres of land held by the board in Liverpool.

He recently resigned as chairman saying he had other pressing business to attend to.

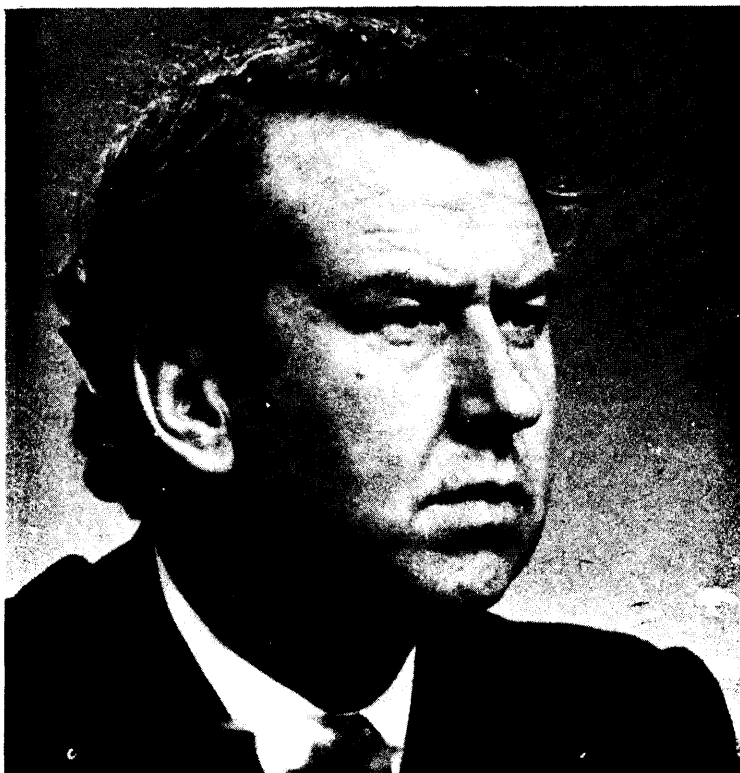
During his part-time appointment over the next two years Cuckney will receive a salary of £16,000.

The creation of the agency means that the government is now fully engaging in the property boom—which it has deliberately created.

Heath said the agency would begin operations on September 1. It would provide management services, undertake building construction and maintenance.

Heath said the intention was to concentrate government property management as far as practicable to ensure land and building were put to the 'best use'. Like selling it off, perhaps? The most important asset in the Tory land portfolio will be the huge tracts held by the Ministry of Defence.

Along with the railways, the defence lands are some of the prime real estate in Britain.



Recall TUC: Engineers

THE Kilbowie branch of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers at Clydebank has passed a resolution demanding a recall of the TUC to discuss the Industrial Relations Act.

The resolution states: 'We demand the recall of the TUC to reaffirm last September's decision of non co-operation with the Industrial Relations Act. The TUC must prepare for a General Strike, force the Tories to resign and the elected Labour government must repeal all anti-working class legislation—the rent Bill, Industrial Relations Act, etc—and nationalize the means of production without compensation and under workers' control.'

This emerged yesterday after a day of talks between management and representatives of TASS, the technical section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

Work-to-rule to end?

IT IS likely that workers at C. A. Parsons, Newcastle, will call off their work-to-rule by the end of this week in exchange for a management promise to reinstate 600 dismissed technical staff.

This emerged yesterday after a day of talks between management and representatives of TASS, the technical section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

N London railmen back EC

THE Communist Party dominated North London district council of the National Union of Railwaymen did not comment at its meeting on Tuesday on Sir Sidney Greene's General Council vote against recalling the TUC to discuss the Industrial Relations Act. Nor did it comment on the

decision of the union's executive committee to bow before the order of the National Industrial Relations Court and call off the work-to-rule a fortnight ago. Instead a resolution was passed pledging full support for the policies of the NUR leadership.

Bank licence revoked

THE BAHAMAS government has revoked the licence of the British American Bank Limited which operated for a short time in Hope St, Glasgow.

The bank's operations in Britain have been the subject of intense fraud squad investigation. Summonses have been served on three men, including Dr Federico Cruz, president of the bank, described as a Puerto Rican chiropodist, the bank's

local representative and a legal agent.

They were charged under the Protection of Depositors Act. The case is listed for hearing at Bow St on June 8. The bank was widely advertised in such distinguished capitalist journals as 'Time' magazine, the 'Financial Times' and the 'Economist'.

The advertisements stated that British American was 'one of the fastest growing banks in the world'.

Since the police activity it has become one of the fastest disappearing.

MEETINGS

Cliff Slaughter, Central Committee member of the Socialist Labour League, will give a series of lectures on Marxism and the Socialist Revolution in Britain on the following dates in Sheffield.

Monday, May 15, at 7.30 p.m.—Economics

Monday, May 22, at 7.30 p.m.—History

Monday, June 5, at 7.30 p.m.—Philosophy

at the

Burngreave Vestry Hall
Barnsley Road

SHEFFIELD

Lancaster staff lose faith in AUT

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

SOME 30 angry teaching staff at Lancaster university may resign this week from the Association of University Teachers after a meeting last Friday refused to oppose recent political witch-hunting on the campus.

The academics' 'union' meeting, attended by a large number of professors and Heads of Department, passed a resolution attacking a 'minority' of staff and students for alleged 'disruption'.

Many of those who may resign are from the university's troubled English Department. Senior lecturer Dr David Craig, a Communist Party member, has recently been demoted from the Department because of his alleged support for a student sit-in last year.

Last week's AUT meeting also voted against a resolution condemning the university administration for banning the university magazine 'Lancaster Comment'. A joint staff-student publication, it was eventually duplicated by the Students' Representative Council after its usual printers, the university library, had been instructed not to accept it.

Most of those who walked out of the AUT meeting are already members of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs. This union has been increasing in strength among Lancaster teaching staff ever since the trouble over the English Department.

Lecturers who have joined ASTMS point out the AUT is not affiliated to the TUC and tends to be dominated by professors and Heads of Department—even vice-Chancellor Charles F. Carter is a member and has attended recent meetings.

They think the AUT is too concerned with such questions as 'professional status', instead of treating the university authorities as 'management', as ASTMS does.

In fact, last year, when the women cleaners at Lancaster were in dispute with the university management, an AUT officer, Professor Harold Perkins, was also acting as an officer of the university administration, negotiating for the management side with the cleaners—Transport and General Workers' Union members.

Following the dispute, in which the cleaners were backed by the students, Perkins wrote a letter to the local press in which he attacked left-wing staff, who he alleged had encouraged the cleaners and the students.

At the beginning of this term, teaching staff in ASTMS staged a one-day strike against moves by the authorities to dismiss Dr Craig.

The ASTMS Academic Group has also passed a resolution calling on the university to drop charges against nine students arising from their part in a student sit-in last term over the Craig affair.

Although some of the junior lecturers who have joined ASTMS are not members of the other union, many others retained dual membership, hoping that they could continue to work inside the AUT and attempt to change its policies. But after Friday's meeting, with its display of reaction, they are no longer inclined to consider it worthwhile remaining in this body.

One said that ASTMS members had tried to point out last Friday that the ban on 'Comment' contravened one of the university's own rules, which forbids the 'denial of free speech' to any member of the university.

The University authorities were hoping last year to be able to recognize the AUT as sole negotiating body for teaching staff, but the growth of ASTMS membership, and the union's involvement in the Craig dispute and related issues have compelled some measure of recognition for it.

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Four arrested in picket clash

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

FOUR MEN were arrested and one policeman hurt yesterday when non-union workers tried to cross a 200-strong picket line at the Caterpillar Tractor Co, Tannochose, Lanarkshire.

The 1,400 men at the

factory decided yesterday to continue their two-week-old strike in support of a £7-a-week pay rise. Management has offered £4.50 spread over 15 months.

Thirty policemen with arms linked tried to hold back the pickets as staff tried to run a 30-yard gauntlet to the factory.

The police had been called in by management in an attempt to

get 100 clerical staff through the picket lines.

The strikers directed most of their fury against car drivers who tried to force their way at speed through the picket lines.

Cars were kicked and spat on and some were rocked violently.

During the clashes, hats were sent flying, people fell to the ground and strikers chanted 'scab, scab', as non-union workers ran the gauntlet.

Four men were detained and taken to Bellshill police station. Later a police spokesman said one man had been charged with assault and three men had been charged with breach of the peace.

A police spokesman said that the arrested men would appear at Airdrie Sheriff Court today.

Norfolk strikers win £3

SIXTEEN hundred workers at the Norwich factory of Laurence Scott and Electromotors went back to work yesterday after a six-week dispute over pay.

They have accepted a £3-a-week pay rise and extra holidays. Talks are continuing to settle another dispute affecting 260 technicians and draughtsmen who have not been at work for nearly eight weeks.

It is expected that agreement will be reached on their pay claim in time for them to go back to work on Monday.

Troops ring Armagh jail

ARMED POLICE and troops ringed Armagh jail yesterday after more than 60 remand prisoners refused to return to their cells after an exercise period.

Several soldiers took up roof-top positions in the area, but the prisoners later went back to their cells.

A delegation of prisoners saw the deputy governor, and later persuaded their fellow prisoners that it would be sensible to go back to their cells before force was used.

Throughout the incident a platoon of Gordon Highlanders and riot police were standing by. Last month ten remanded prisoners tried to escape from Armagh jail after holding a policeman and two prison officers hostage in a bid to get safe conduct to the Republic.

They were overpowered after five hours when soldiers fired CS gas.

FIVE HUNDRED men and women ranging from £20,000-a-year company directors to men on the dole take a jobs' 'shopping list' to London tomorrow.

Target for the vast lobby will be government departments, MPs, private and nationalized industries, the TUC, banks and foreign embassies.

The job-hunters are travelling by special train from Teesside, where the unemployment figure is 16,500.

NATKE wants film industry inquiry

AN OFFICIAL inquiry into the ownership and structure of the British film industry has been called for by the annual conference of the Association of Theatrical, Television and Kine Employees (NATKE).

Albert Carnall, a member of the union executive, told delegates at Bournemouth:

'I suggest that for many years the film industry has needed government support in one shape or another. Whether we believe in nationalization or not, we have to consider whether it may assist or solve the problems. It seems that the employers have been unable to supply us with our bread and butter in a consistent manner.'

He referred to the threatened closure of Shepperton Studios, where, in the past 18 months, the work force has dropped from 800 to 350.

The NATKE call for yet another inquiry into the film

industry is a complete evasion of the political fight now necessary to end unemployment and exploitation in the industry.

There is no mileage whatsoever in 'pressuring' the government into handing out a few crumbs to the film industry. Only three days ago a Tory minister announced that no more money would be given to the National Film Finance Corporation.

As the Tories react to the economic crisis, even bodies as anaemic as the NFFC must go to the wall.

Police Federation is freer, but it will not join the TUC

A BILL which lifts the ban on the Police Federation associating with bodies outside the police service completed its committee stage in the Commons yesterday.

Alfred Morris (Labour, Wythenshawe), sponsor of the Bill, said the Federation did not intend to affiliate to the TUC.

Morris, parliamentary adviser to the Police Federation for England and Wales, said that his Bill, which had all-party backing, was also supported by the Scottish Police Federation.

The laws now restrict the activities of the Federations by stipulating that they must not be associated with any body or person outside the police service.

This made 'no sense in the circumstances of today,' he said.

Mark Carlisle, Minister of State at the Home Office, welcoming the Bill, said: 'There is no suggestion in it which would in any way affect the impartiality of the police.'

Hospital sparks summoned

NINETY electricians from London's St Thomas's Hospital building site have received individual letters summoning them to a special meeting this morning.

The letters were signed by Albert Gray, area organizer of the Electricians' and Plumbers' Trade Union. The men are

wondering where Gray obtained a list of their addresses, as he did not consult shop stewards before calling the meeting.

The only list outside their hands, stewards say, belongs to Phoenix Electrical with whom they are in dispute. The men have been on strike for three weeks against the sacking of a militant on the site.



The Goodies are on BBC 1 tonight at 8 p.m.

BBC 1

9.20 Mr Benn. 9.38 Schools. 12.55 Arall Fyd. 1.30 Joe. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 Schools. 3.45 Working with Youth. 4.10 Parsley. 4.15 Play School. 4.40 Jack-anory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Boss Cat. 5.44 Hector's House. 5.50 News, weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE. 6.45 WHERE IN THE WORLD. Travel quiz. 7.00 SPY TRAP. Redmayne—episode 2. 7.25 TOP OF THE POPS. 8.00 THE GOODIES. 8.30 THE FRENCH WAY. The day it rained on the Fete at Carennac. 9.00 NEWS, Weather. 9.20 PLAY FOR TODAY: 'WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS'. By Tony Parker. 10.35 24 HOURS. 11.20 MISTRESS OF HARDWICK. 4: My Jewel Arbell.

TV

ITV

10.20, 1.40 Schools. 1.10 Remember. 2.32 Racing. 3.45 Marcus Welby. 4.40 Nuts and Bones. 4.55 Secret Squirrel. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY. 6.45 CROSSROADS. 7.10 FILM: 'THE PRESIDENT'S LADY'. Charlton Heston, Susan Hayward, John McIntire. 9.00 LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR. 9.30 THIS WEEK. 10.00 NEWS. 10.30 CINEMA. Mel Ferrer. 11.00 SOMETHING TO SAY. 12.00 ONE POINT OF VIEW.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School. 5.35 Open University. 6.35 Working with Youth. 7.05 Open University.

7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather. 8.00 EUROPA. 8.30 THE GOLDEN BOWL. By Henry James. Dramatized in six parts. 9.20 HARRY SECOMBE SHOW.

With Vera Lynn, Ronnie Barker, New Seekers, George Hamilton IV, Julian Orchard.

10.05 NEWS, Weather. 10.10 WORLD CINEMA: 'THE DEATH OF A BUREAUCRAT'. Second of three films made in Cuba since the revolution. 11.30 LATE NIGHT LINE UP.

REGIONAL TV

SOUTHERN: 2.30 Racing. 3.45 Cartoon. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 Sean. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Richard Lionheart. 5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Simon Locke. 7.15 Film: 'Britannia Mews'. 9.00 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Drive-in. 11.40 Ceilidh. 12.10 Weather. Matter of life and death

WESTWARD: 10.20 Schools. 2.32 Racing. 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.05 Yak. 4.18 News. 4.20 Funny face. 4.50 Skippy. 5.20 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Blueprint for Robbery'. 8.30 This is your life. 9.00 London. 10.30 Report. 10.59 News, weather. 11.03 Theatre of

HTV: 10.20 Schools. 2.32 Racing. 3.20 Cook book. 3.50 Dr Simon Locke. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Huckleberry Finn. 5.20 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.10 Film: 'The Wrong Box'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Giselle. 11.00 Saint. 12.00 Weather. HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/

Wales as above except: 4.15 Miri Mawr. 6.01 Y Dydd.

HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Sport West.

ANGLIA: 2.30 Racing. 3.15 Randall and Hopkirk. 4.05 News. 4.10 Jimmy Stewart. 4.40 Paulus. 4.55 Capt Scarlet. 5.20 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Ten Gentlemen from West Point'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Tales of an exotic plant hunter. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Avengers. 12.30 End of the day.

ATV MIDLANDS: 2.32 Racing. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women. 4.10 Family affair. 4.40 Rupert. 4.55 Secret service. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.30 Film: 'Nightfall'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Horse show.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00 Schools. 2.30 Racing. 3.40 Ugliest girl in town. 4.10 News. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Nuts and bones. 4.55 Bugs Bunny. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Shirley's world. 7.10 Film: 'Do Not Disturb'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive-in. 12.05 Weather.

4.10 News. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Nuts and bones. 4.55 Rovers. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Shirley's world. 7.00 Pop-eye. 7.10 Film: 'Do Not Disturb'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive-in. 12.00 News. 12.15 Revolving chair.

SCOTTISH: 11.00, 1.40 Schools. 2.32 Racing. 3.30 Once upon a time. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 Fireball. 5.20 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.15 Cartoon. 6.25 Stuart Gillies. 6.55 Film: 'Robinson Crusoe on Mars'. 9.00 Short story. 9.30 London. 10.30 Love thy neighbour. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Conservative Party conference. 11.15 Cinema. 11.45 Beagan Gaidhlig.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00 Schools. 2.32 Racing. 3.34 News. 3.55 Job look. 3.45 Women. 4.10 Julia. 4.40 Nuts and bones. 4.55 Rumble jumble. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.05 Folk afore us. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Andy. 7.30 Film: 'Drum Crazy'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Conference report. 11.10 Viewfinder. 11.40 Horse show. 12.00 Epilogue.

TYNE TEES: 11.00 Schools. 2.32 Racing. 3.40 Ugliest girl in town.

