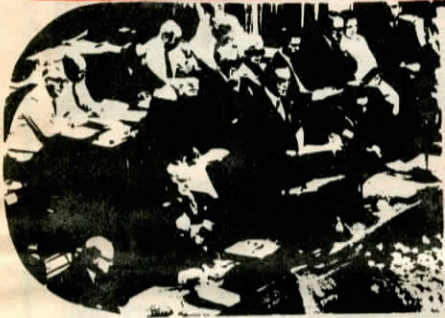


# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 1972 ● No. 863 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE



UNDER  
THE  
DOME

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS IN BRIGHTON

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Hence industrial action against the anti-union laws was outlawed and any fight to bring down the government and its legislation specifically abandoned.

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The working class moved in the opposite direction. The miners, the railway workers and the dockers put up stubborn resistance and demonstrated their contempt for a court that challenged basic rights.

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Angry  
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# What we think

# Munich: the day of the police



FOR ISRAELI premier Mrs Golda Meir to lead her nation in prayer for the 11 athletes slain at Munich is an act of unparalleled cynical hypocrisy.

Only hours earlier the same Mrs Meir sent warm personal thanks to the West German government for their efforts to free the Israeli hostages from their Arab captors and Foreign Minister Abba Eban said his country approved their decision to use force against the guerrillas.

Immediately after the deliberate and cold-blooded massacre at Furstenfeldbruck military airfield by Bavarian police the Israeli Minister of the Interior called on all governments to stamp out every branch and cell of the Arab terrorist organizations.

Police forces in West Berlin and in the ten West German states launched a massive nationwide manhunt for Arabs suspected of belonging to Palestinian guerrilla organizations. In Munich the banners of young communists protesting at the killings were torn down and trampled underfoot by mobs at an anti-terrorist, right-wing rally.

After the initial deception by the Bavarian police that the Israelis were safe, police chief Manfred Schreiber admitted police snipers were told to pick off the Arabs if they could and warned that the airport was the last chance they would have.

Despite Mrs Meir's crocodile tears the Israeli capitalists from the start stood shoulder to shoulder with their counterparts in West Germany in their determination to annihilate the guerrillas and the threat they and others like them pose to the rule of capital.

Now, while the capitalist governments of Europe are being invited to witch-hunt Palestinian organizations, the Israelis are hinting at a new blitzkrieg against neighbouring Arab states suspected of harbouring guerrillas. In anticipation even the so-called friends of the Palestinians in Egypt and Lebanon have denied them. Stalinist friend and butcher of communists Anwar Sadat even refused to allow the guerrillas to land at Cairo from West Germany.

Against this line-up the principled and selfless heroism of the Arab guerrillas was of little avail. Nor could it ever be. The international rule of capital will only be ended by the revolutionary action of the oppressed masses and not by the actions of individuals, however courageous.

International liberal opinion has been outraged and shocked by the manner in which the trigger-happy state police slaughtered hostages and even their own pilot in their eagerness to mow down the Arabs. Many would have liked to see the Games called off in homage to the Israeli dead. But as they had won at the airfield, so big business triumphed again with Avery Brundage's announcement that the 20th Olympiad would go on.

As worrying to many West Germans as the death of the Israelis was the immediate acceptance in official circles at home and abroad of the police action. Eyewitness accounts leave no possible room

for doubt that their intention was always to trap the Arabs on the airfield and slaughter them. The landing area was ringed in advance by heavily-armed police and even armoured cars.

In recent months police not only in Bavaria, but throughout West Germany, have shown a tendency to shoot first and if necessary ask questions later.

● In 1971 Bavarian police opened fire on a bank robber using a pretty female clerk as a shield. Both died and police said afterwards the killing was necessary to prevent even more bloodshed.

● In June this year Scottish businessman Mr Iain McLeod was shot down in his own flat by police using official issue machine pistols. It was thought the flat harboured anarchists associated with the Baader-Meinhof gang, but it was assumed that the next time anyone left the building they would simply be gunned down.

● In July in Duisberg police shot and killed a drunken moped rider after he refused to stop.

● Increasingly anarchists, bank robbers and even drunk moped riders have been lumped together as lawbreakers and dealt with by the police in summary fashion, irrespective of which innocent people got in the way, and with impunity.

Their behaviour undoubtedly reflects the growing tensions in West German society with the collapse of the post-war economic miracle.

More important, official willingness to arm the police and other para military forces with everything short of nuclear weapons actively to sanction their actions is a grave warning of the attitudes and preparations of the right wing in Germany—more advanced than even in the late 1920s when Hitler prepared for power.

## S Koreans pull out of war in Vietnam

SOUTH KOREA is to withdraw all its 38,000 troops in South Vietnam within six months from December. Foreign Minister Yong-Shik Kim announced in Seoul that this decision was due to 'the much-improved war capabilities of the South Vietnamese government forces'!

South Korea joined the war in Vietnam in 1965.

AMERICAN B52 bombers dropped 200 tons of explosives on suspected North Vietnamese troop concentrations around Thanh An in one night this week.

North Vietnamese anti-aircraft crews shot down seven US jets over the central and coastal areas of North Vietnam and one more over Haiphong.

This brings the number of American planes shot down in the Vietnam war to 3,882.

North Vietnamese activity on the coastal strip has intensified since they opened their push out of the mountains late last month and heavy fighting is taking place near Kontum.

South Vietnamese forces are under heavy pressure on Hill 211 near Tien Phuoc town, south of the Que Son Valley after five days of shelling and ground attacks.

A South Vietnamese convoy of 45 lorries carrying supplies and ammunition along Route 19 from Pleiku towards the Cambodian frontier has been ambushed near Thanh An Tow and broken up.

# IMF stirs trade war

REACTIONS to the latest International Monetary Fund report on possible changes in the world money system indicate that antagonisms between major capitalist countries are getting increasingly bitter as they prepare for a vicious trade war against each other.

The report, presented by the IMF executive, could come up with no clear answers to the crisis which has existed since August 15, 1971 when President Nixon broke the link between gold and the world currency system.

The document was supposed to smooth the way for the full IMF meeting, due to take place later this month in Washington. In fact it has only sharpened already existing differences which threaten to turn the Washington assembly into a full-scale battle.

Two key questions remained unanswered by the IMF executive:

BY PETER JEFFRIES

● What, if anything is to replace gold as the basic unit for world trade?

● Should the US be subject to the discipline of other capitalist countries in relation to its balance of payments deficit?

On the first issue, the report argues that greater prominence should be given to Special Drawing Rights. These are paper assets, created by the IMF, and in use for the past three years. But the basic question of their relation to gold was studiously avoided.

The only warm support for this proposal came from the Governor of the Bank of Japan, Jadeshi Saskaki. He thought gold was 'losing its value' in the world currency system and being replaced by SDR. This Utopian view is hardly surprising, given the extremely low proportion of gold in Japan's reserve assets.

Equally predictable was South Africa's reaction as the world's leading gold producer. Finance Minister Dr Nicolaas Diederichs said he was glad that the report had dealt with the question of gold at length and recognized 'its importance as a unit of account and as a major reserve asset.'

He went on to urge an immediate increase in the gold price as an essential step in any world monetary reform plan.

On the question of the growing US payments deficit, there are equally clear divisions. At one point the report refers to 'one view' (clearly that of the Americans) that any pressure to make the US deal with its payments deficit could lead to dangers of a world recession.

Here the US is clearly warning France and the Common Market that any continued speculation against the dollar will be answered by an all-out trade war. That is why US Treasury Chief Paul A. Volcker, asked if divisions were as deep as the report indicated, answered: 'At least that deep.'

It is against this growing international crisis that all trends in the British economy must be measured. The latest Department of Trade and Industry investigation into the engineering industry has revealed a sharp drop in orders, particularly in the export field.

According to the DTI, export orders in this sector were 17.5 per cent down in the three months up to April compared with the previous 12-week period.

Here is the clearest expression of the growing crisis of capitalism in one of the most basic industries.

## Tokyo talks to curb Japanese goods to Britain

OFFICIAL-level talks aimed at curbing sharp increases in Japanese exports to Britain opened in Tokyo yesterday. Tory Trade Minister John Davies visited Tokyo last June and warned that he was under 'industrial pressure' to impose import restrictions on a number of Japanese products.

Particularly feared are cars, ball-bearings, television sets, tape-recorders, polyester yarns, electronic desk-top calculators, metal tableware and a few other items.

But as the two-day conference began, Toyota announced that it has reached a business



John Davies

tie-up with three caravan makers in Britain to supply chassis for 2,500 motor caravans a year.

The firms concerned are Danbury Conversions Ltd, Dormobile Ltd and Caravans International (Motorised) Ltd.

The British delegation at the talks is led by Sir Max Brown, Secretary of Trade in the Department of Trade and Industry, while Kiyohiko Tsurumi, deputy Foreign Vice-Minister, heads the Japanese delegation.

The conference will also discuss reduction of import tariffs on some British exports to Japan, opening up of Japanese distribution business to British firms and other measures to increase Japanese imports of British goods.

## Crash relatives are sued

THE ITALIAN state airline Alitalia is suing relatives of some victims of an air crash near Palermo in which 122 people died.

The aircraft, an Alitalia DC8 travelling from Rome to Palermo, smashed into a mountainside in darkness near the Sicilian capital's airport and a government inquiry later placed the blame on the pilots.

The suit is due to be heard in Rome on December 18. The airline is suing 41 relatives of 15 victims who have not so far concluded a compensation agreement in out-of-court dealings with the company.

An Alitalia spokesman has said the action was intended to

establish legally the existence or not of a state of guilt on the part of the company and to allow an 'objective assessment' of the damages due in unsettled cases.

The Italian Pilots' Association has criticized the government inquiry saying it had failed to take account of the alleged inadequacy of radio navigation equipment at Palermo airport.

Had Alitalia not started proceedings in Rome, there is a strong likelihood that the victims' families would have opened a criminal case in Palermo, where feelings run high about the crash.

## Right-wing riots against Chile's Allende

MORE than 100 people have been arrested, dozens injured and one killed in nightly clashes in Santiago, Chile, this week as right-wing forces demonstrated against the Allende regime.

The dead man is student Mario Aviles Oyarce (18), a member of the neo-fascist Freedom and Fatherland movement.

After police sealed off the city centre, right-wing demonstrators regrouped in the middle-class High Ground residential suburb.

'Marxist' President Salvador Allende announced that Chile was going through a 'hard, difficult and grave' time and warned his opponents that if his government was overthrown it would

mean the wrecking of the country. He also warned left-wing forces that they would not be allowed to 'dictate' the policies of his Popular Unity coalition.

In Santiago and other major cities, thousands of workers downed tools on Monday to celebrate the second anniversary of Allende's election.

## Lancs builders demand fighting leaders

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

LANCASHIRE strikers in Preston and Blackburn are again raising the vital question of the union leadership.

At a mass meeting earlier this week Preston builders heard UCATT district organizer Tommy Lawton tell them it was the 'the waiting-time period'. And if they wanted to win they had to do something themselves.

But many of the militants have become disillusioned with the lack of a clear call by their union leaders for an official national strike.

They are particularly angry that the Transport and General Workers' Union has suspended strike benefit because UCATT were not paying any.

One picket told Workers Press: 'They should have given the money to the hardship fund or shared it among all the single men. If they can pay over £50,000 to the National Industrial Relations Court they must have lots of money.'

Mike Gallagher, local UCATT branch secretary, who chaired the meeting, told the men: 'The only way we can win is by picketing. It will only take a few weeks if we come out together and picket. Then we'll win.'

'The only way we can change our society,' he added, 'is by working through the branches to change the leaders.'

IN Blackburn the men were equally angry at union leaders and local officials. Strikers picketing a small builder in the town who had employed two scab union men told Workers Press:

'We want the union to call an official national strike. We can get everyone out if they did, but some men refuse to come out as they say it's not a national strike. We need a new leadership.'

Blackburn's corporation builders were also eager to come out, they said, but their union representative had gone on holiday.

## Camden builders defy officials

CAMDEN CORPORATION builders decided on Wednesday to stay out. Their move was not only a victory for the rank and file, but a defeat for union officials and Communist Party 'leaders'.

A full-time Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians' official told the meeting they should all go back to work because corporation

workers had separate negotiations of their own. Speakers from the floor rejected this proposal, saying to return would be divisive and all building workers were involved in this fight.

Then leading Stalinist Max Beyer, a Camden steward, jumped in with a proposal that they stay out, but begin immediate negotiations with Camden council for the claim. But the ranks

threw this idea out for the rotten compromise it was and voted by 295 to 175 for the following motion:

'This meeting of Camden borough's direct labourers calls for an all-out, official national stoppage, including all local authority building workers, no retreat on the full claim and no return to work until the claim is met nationally. Further we continue strike action in line with this demand.'

# Builders forge ahead

## But beware of CP and leaders

BY PHILIP WADE

DESPITE the hysterical Tory press campaign against them, the building workers remain more determined than ever to win the full claim of £30 for a 35-hour week.

But union leaders yesterday announced they would meet the building employers at the national joint council next Thursday. The rank and file will have to be on their guard against any attempts to betray the fight.

Five pickets were arrested outside the Globe Construction site at Basildon, Essex, yesterday morning while police escorted sub-contract workers to their jobs

in Shrewsbury the day before.

Only halfway down the article it is reported that a shotgun was found by police in one of the 'subbies' cars. A director of a building firm said it got there 'quite innocently'.

Demands are still coming in from the rank and file for the union leaders to take up a fight and call all-out, national strike action.

At the same time, any



Recruiting at a south London site.

suggestion that the claim should go to the TUC-CBI conciliation service is being strongly opposed by the building workers.

Meanwhile, the Stalinist leadership of the London action committee, continues to cover up for the union leaders' retreat before the employers and the Tories.

It saw the call by the Master Builders' Federation for TUC-CBI intervention as a sign that 'the smaller firms are begin-

ning to crack and that the unions were right in calling for a second-phase concentration of action against them'.

Building workers will note the welcoming of the 'second phase', but will have to look hard for talk of national strike action. The 'Morning Star' and the Communist Party are instead right behind the union leadership in their selective strikes strategy.

On the other hand, the feeling among the rank and file is opposite to the sentiments expressed in the 'Star'.

Almost 500 Camden corporation building workers in north London, have rejected pleas to return to work and will continue their nine-day strike in support of the pay claim. They also called for a national strike. Union officials have tried twice now to get them back to work. (See above.)

Yesterday, pickets were again out at the industrial estate site of J. L. Eve in Streatham Lane, South London. Only about one-quarter of the men on the site are now working.

Despite the police encouraging men to go into work, the pickets have persuaded the vast majority to join the strike. Some have joined the union immediately.

The alleged neutrality of the police in these matters was firmly squashed by the horse's mouth itself: 'If everyone was like those men in there [the "subbies"],' a police officer told pickets, 'this country would be right back on top again.'

Pickets were then told to be courteous to those they were trying to bring



Tony Bergin: Watch Feather

out—despite earlier threats with an iron bar—and to limit their numbers.

'If they settle for Vic Feather in our dispute, he'll do the same as he did to those Pilkington men from St Helens,' said Tony Bergin, UCATT deputy steward at the Cubitt's World's End site who was picketing Eve's.

'It was his action that enabled them to sack the militants. I don't think anything of this arbitration idea, and nor does anyone else.'

'We have so many panels in our industry and we never win any of them. This lot would surely find for the employers.'

'At the moment we're being isolated in this strike. Although the TUC was being lobbied for funds, it's still a question of a national strike.'

'The fight we're fighting is for more than money. It's for 100-per-cent trade union organization. All unions should be united in action as a matter of course in a dispute like this.'

'We know how our leaders act,' said Tony Bergin, 'and if it hadn't been for us lobbying them we would have been sold out.'

'Building workers have got to hold out. And we want a national agreement and nothing else—no company agreements.'



Blackburn pickets get angry with workers going into a site.

## Open-cast shut

ALL South Wales opencast mining sites, which produce 60,000 tons of coal a week, are now shut. Over 3,000 men—all covered by the same agreement as the building workers—have come out on strike in support of the claim.

In Scotland, the building union leaders' policy of sending men back to work on company agreements seems to have run into trouble.

One leading employer is believed to be refusing to pay all men the new £30 basic unless they earn a £5 bonus.



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# SPIES IN THE PICKET LINE

Part 9 of a series on Picketing by Bernard Franks

The capitalists have never been satisfied with the regular police and army alone as a means of repressing the working class. They have called into existence all manner of spies and strike-breaking organizations as well as private police, armies, and in the last extreme, the fascists.

On the basis of 'know your enemy' some of these forces, past and present, which the employers use in order to defeat pickets, demonstrators, workers' defence and political organizations and revolution are looked at here.

It should be added though that Marxists have always been contemptuous of those who mechanically list all the supposed forces of capital and pronounce it too strong, too well-armed to even consider a confrontation. Trotsky wrote in 1934:

'The pacifists have long hoped that the growth of military technique would make war impossible. The Philistines have repeated for decades that the growth of military technique would make revolution impossible. However, wars and revolutions continue. Never has there been so many revolutions, including victorious revolutions, as there have been since the last war which uncovered all the might of military techniques.' ('Whither France?')

## Spies and provocateurs

In the early part of last century when trade unions were illegal, political and labour spies were so thick on the ground in Britain that they often betrayed each other to the authorities by mistake. Payments to spies were a regular feature of early Home Office records and magistrates also frequently employed them on a permanent basis.

Criminals and ex-convicts were often used as spys. They did not merely report what had taken place at workers' meetings — discussions on resistance to wage-cuts, political speeches and so on—but made up tales of conspiracy and proposed insurrection in order to justify their pay.

In many cases they acted as agent provocateurs, encouraging violent acts and riot so that workers' leaders could be got safely out of the way by transportation, prison or hanging.

One spy named Fletcher who operated a team of agents was getting £226 for a half-year in 1816. Between 1812 and 1818 parliament spent £9,526 0s 9d on this type of spying activity. The police also paid out large amounts. Metropolitan police records contained a bill for £986 6s 3d paid to a firm of shorthand writers in 1848 for attending Chartist meetings and taking down speeches. The Chartists were well aware of the problem and any police agents discovered would be ejected with much violence.

In 1817, 'Oliver the Spy', a paid Home Office informer,

toured industrial districts of the north posing as a delegate from the London Physical Force Party and inciting local radicals to an insurrection which he assured them was about to break out in the rest of the country.

Very few people were taken in, but in Derbyshire he managed to get a few starving textile workers to take up arms and march to Nottingham in support of the Pentridge 'rising'.

They were quickly rounded up by a small detachment of troops and 35 were subsequently tried for high treason.

Of these, 11 were transported for life, three for 14 years, and four, including their leader, Jeremiah Brandreth, were hanged.

Another notorious agent called Edwards travelled from town to town joining societies and reporting to the authorities lurid descriptions of treasons about to be committed.

In 1819 he alleged that in an interview William Cobbett had enthused over the actions of the Luddites and had deplored the fact that there had been no general uprising.

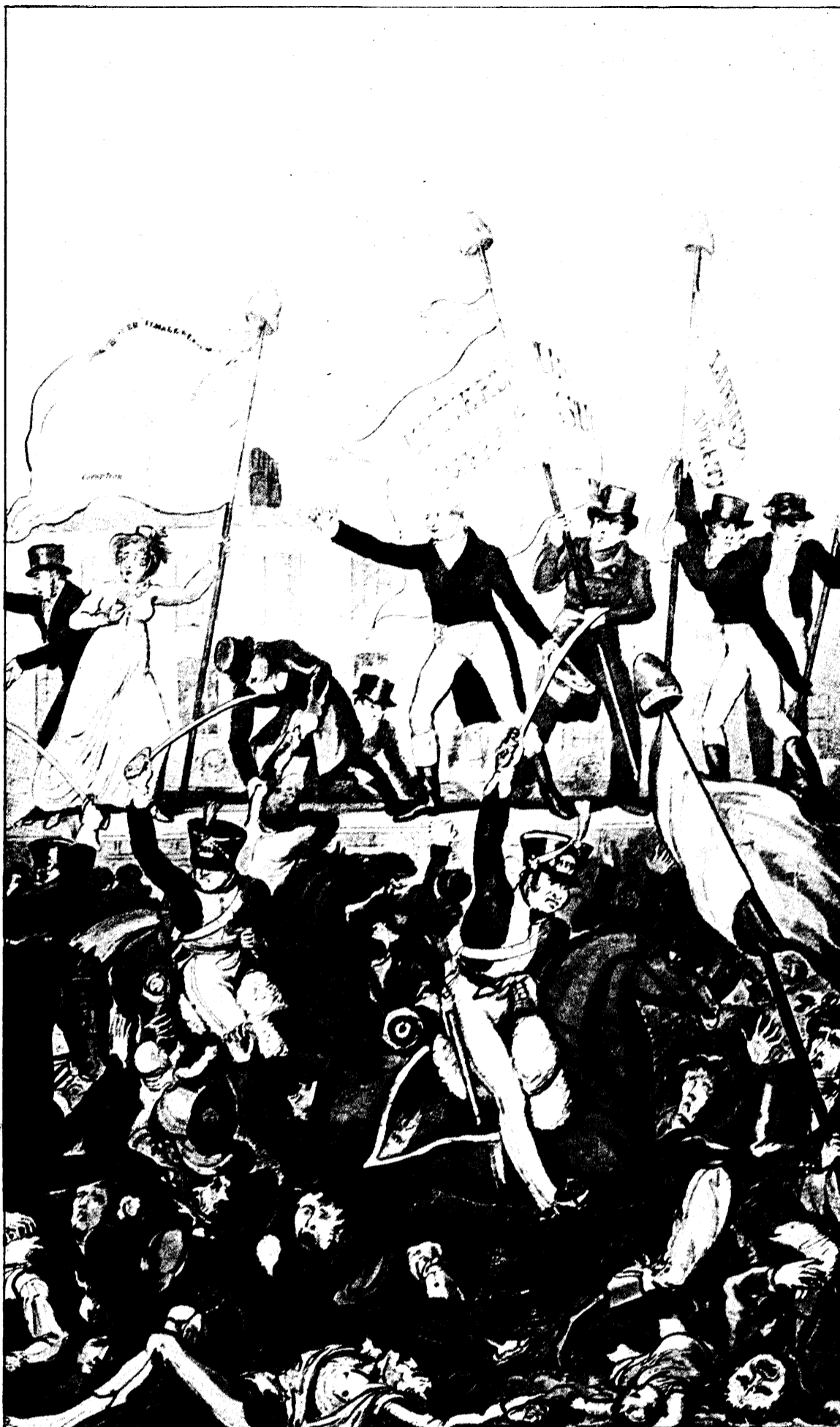
During the age of Chartism a comprehensive government espionage system existed. Postmasters were required to report all untoward occurrences in their districts and factory inspectors, appointed under the Factory Act of 1833, in addition to their inspection duties, reported from time to time 'respecting the state of the trade, the wages of labour, and the state of tranquility or excitement in the district in which you act'. (Home Office letter, May 1837.)

Two years later they were asked to 'report weekly respecting the Chartist meetings'. The same year a magistrate complained of newspaper reporters who refused to make depositions or come forward as witnesses in cases arising out of Chartist meetings.

In 1848 a Metropolitan police spy, Thomas Powell, was in the witness box to give evidence against Chartist conspirators. Under stringent cross-examination, however, he admitted to drawing up plans to assassinate police, making implements to cripple cavalry horses, inducing incendiarism and casting bullets. He finally admitted: 'I entered the association for the purpose of getting information and communicating it to the police commissioners. I encouraged and stimulated these men in order to inform against them.'

For the safety of their own skins, spies were naturally reluctant to appear in court. In any case, the authorities did not want their best agents advertised. Nottingham's town clerk argued in 1814 that not producing a spy as a witness in court would keep 'the source of our information pure and uncontaminated'. Workers protected themselves against all spies and informers by taking severe oaths of allegiance to their cause and making it extremely hot for anyone breaking the vows.

Today, examples frequently



The yeomanry, a mounted volunteer force, was regarded as the most reliable force to suppress minor riots and industrial disturbances. It was used in the notorious Peterloo Massacre (above) where it charged a peaceful crowd of workers and their families listening to radical speakers in St Peter's Fields, Manchester.

come to light of factory spies, blacklisting and activities of the Special Branch which show that such private and state labour and political spying is on a more comprehensive scale than ever, and is using methods in keeping with the latest developments of modern technology.

## Militia and yeomanry

Two organizations which, in addition to regular troops, could be called upon in the early 19th century to break up political demonstrations, food riots and strikes were the militia and the yeomanry. The militia was a non-professional military force, mainly conscripted and not permanently embodied, but made available in times of internal unrest or invasion. A certain amount of training was given each year and the force paid for by a county levy.

It was not reliable for dealing with internal unrest because its part-time nature meant that members, often workers and shopkeepers, spent most of their lives in the communities which they might be called upon to repress. They were not to be compared with the professional soldiers who were kept somewhat isolated from the popu-

lace in specially-built barracks.

As one writer comments: '... Militia units were usually stationed outside their own counties when embodied, because the men's ties with the people of their own county might make them take the wrong side in civil disturbances.' ('The English Militia in the Eighteenth Century' by J. R. Weston, 1968.)

The Hammonds in 'The Town Labourer' give a number of examples of militia refusing to shoot rioters, and even changing sides during the early 1800s.

The yeomanry was totally different. A mounted volunteer force formed in 1794, it was made up almost entirely of small landowners, tenant farmers and businessmen, officered by the landed gentry and aristocracy. Solidly Tory, it was regarded by the state as the most reliable force to suppress minor riots and industrial disturbances and to keep order in other cases until the military arrived.

The Hammonds cite a report to the Home Office about a seamen's strike in 1816, saying that the local militia could not be relied on but that a corps of yeomanry could be raised without difficulty at Holdness, which would

be 'worth more than all the regiments of militia in the West Riding'.

The yeomanry's most notorious action was their cavalry charge on a peaceful crowd listening to radical orators in St Peter's Fields, Manchester in 1819.

The local yeomanry — consisting of Manchester businessmen — along with the Cheshire yeomen and a section of the 15th Hussars drove into the gathering of 60,000 people, which, reports of the time said, contained 'an unusually large proportion of women and children'. Brutally cutting and slashing with sabres they murdered 11 people, including two women and a child and injured 600 more, including 113 women. This was the Peterloo Massacre.

Both the militia and yeomanry declined in their importance to the capitalist state in the middle of the last century. For regular forces the British ruling class has preferred to concentrate on developing fully-trained and entirely full-time professional troops and police, highly disciplined and under tight control of the authorities at all times.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

## TINGES OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN CZECH PURGE

The world's largest museum of Jewish ritual objects and culture is likely to be reorganized along 'anti-Zionist' lines following the dismissal of its director, Dr Vilem Benda.

Dr Benda headed the Czechoslovak State Jewish Museum for ten years until the Prague city council sacked him last month — a decision which he first heard of in the newspapers.

Dr Benda, a long-standing Communist Party member expelled from the Party in 1970, was a driving force behind the reorganization of Jewish cultural life in Czechoslovakia after the Nazi occupation of World War II.

Today the museum attracts nearly 750,000 visitors each year — more than any other museum in the country.

### Ominous

He helped establish its unique permanent exhibitions of Jewish silver and ritual cloth, which were originally brought to Prague from all over Czechoslovakia by Nazi looters. They now figure prominently in official city guide-books.

But the Stalinist leaders of the Czechoslovak Communist Party are now complaining that the museum was not sufficiently 'politically engaged' and have been pressing for its presentation to promote 'the struggle against Zionism', according to Jewish sources.

The authorities also want the museum to play down the ethnic and cultural particularities of Jews and stress their assimilation into modern Czechoslovakia.

All this has an ominous ring for those who are familiar with the history of Czechoslovak Stalinism. Twenty years ago the frame-up trial of Rudolf Slansky and other leading Communist Party functionaries was replete with references to the accused as 'Zionist agents'. Eleven of the 14 defendants, including Slansky, were Jews.

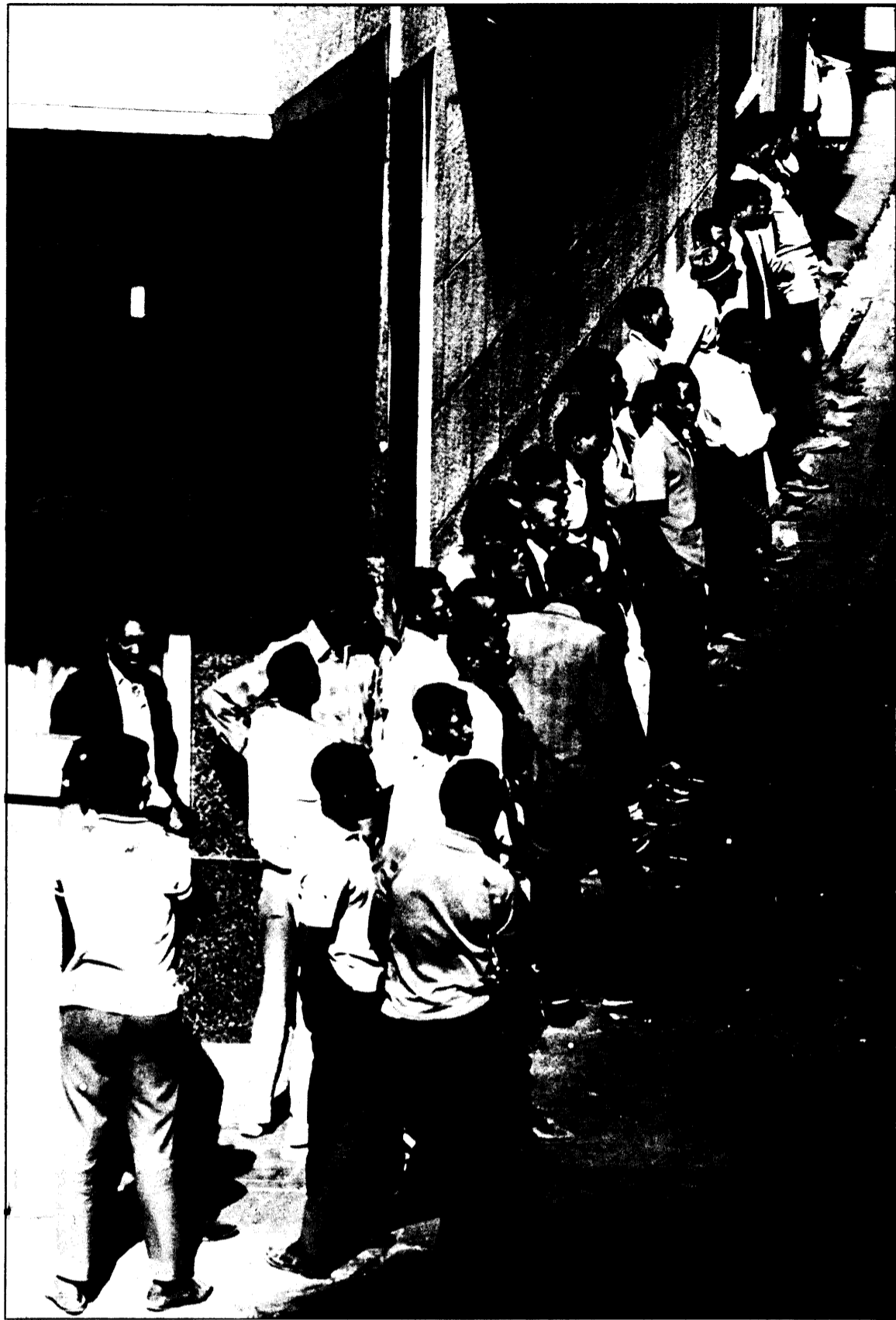
The bureaucracy then used anti-Semitism, veiled behind a thin-smokescreen of phrases about 'anti-Zionism', as a means of whipping up popular support among the most backward sections of the population and pinning blame for its own failings on the Jews.

### Anti Semitic

The sacking of Dr Benda who was a supporter of the ousted Party chief Alexandr Dubcek, has all the flavour of a new anti-Semitic drive. It coincides with the wave of purge trials in which over 40 oppositionists have been sent to prison.

His successor as director of the museum is Erik Klima, who previously headed the section in the Czechoslovak State Library, where forbidden books are kept.

This fact alone indicates Klima's standing as a hard-line Stalinist. He has been given the job of sacking employees who were expelled from the Communist Party after the Warsaw Pact invasion. This purge is expected to affect about eight of the museum's 40-odd employees.



## LABOUR PROBLEMS FOR AFRICAN APARTHEID BOSSES

Photograph by Abisag Tüllmann

Against the opposition of the extreme racialists of the ruling nationalist party, the big South African monopolists have for some time been clamouring for less restrictions on the use of black labour.

The big mining corporations, for example, find apartheid has created an artificial shortage of skilled labour, because black workers can only be employed on the most menial tasks.

They also find that workers who are worked for long hours on starvation wages, isolated from their families in vast barracks and deprived of all amenities, are less than willing to put themselves out for their masters.

This hits the mining magnates where it hurts—in the pocket book—and explains their

eagerness to introduce more effective methods of exploitation in the interests of higher profits.

Among the most fervent supporters of the government policy, however, have been the leaders of the all-white 'trade unions' which are in reality little more than exclusive associations to ensure the continued privileges of the white labour aristocracy.

However, the leaders of these bodies are just as servile in their attitude towards the employers as their counterparts in other countries.

When William Wilson, deputy chairman of the giant Anglo-American Corporation told a businessmen's meeting that his company paid its black mineworkers far too little compared with its white staff, the union chiefs dutifully sang the same tune.

Arthur Grobbelaar, general secretary of the Trade Union

Above: unemployed men waiting for jobs in Salisbury, Rhodesia, with little hope of being paid more than starvation wages.

Council of South Africa (TUCSA) said Wilson had clearly tackled 'the problem of revolutionary improvement as vital, bearing in mind that revolutionary chaos is the only other alternative'.

He added his own 'sincere welcome' for 'the fact that a section of South Africa's primary industry, with a far from perfect record of meeting human and social aspirations, is facing up to the need for radical change in the interests of a prosperous South Africa'.

The belated awakening of Grobbelaar's hitherto dormant conscience may be regarded as a big event in TUCSA circles, but the black helots of Anglo-American will undoubtedly treat it with the contempt it deserves.

## STOKES SHAKES UP HIS SOUTH AFRICAN DIVISION

British-Leyland may be in trouble in Britain but its South African operation is possibly in even worse straits.

Between September 1970 and September 1972 it made \$2m profit, but the figure for the first six months of the current financial year was a pathetic £22,000.

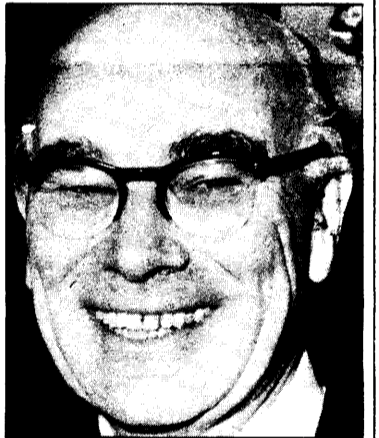
£670,000 of this drop was attributed to the currency realignments resulting from the August 15, 1971 dollar measures of the US Treasury.

But this was by no means the whole problem and many of the company's difficulties are continuing ones. Shareholders have been warned to expect little improvement on the half-year's figures.

Sales of all classes of vehicle in South Africa were depressed by 13 per cent last year as a result of the recession in the economy coupled with restrictions on consumer spending.

The cost of home-produced components is going up as manufacturers are forced into long-delayed, but nonetheless heavy capital spending. And imported components are going up in price, too, as a result of the US measures.

All this resulted three months ago in a major management shake-up following a visit by company chief Lord Stokes from Britain.



Above: chairman Stokes

Chairman Jack Plane stepped down to be replaced by Stokes and in as deputy chairman and chief executive came Basil Landau, a 42-year-old accountant from the Japanese Toyota company's subsidiary.

It has now become clear that Landau's policy is to be almost a carbon-copy of that now embarked on by chairman Stokes in Britain.

A number of the company's more diverse assets—it has interests in such industries as bookbinding and fibreglass—are to be sold off. 'We're dropping them', as Landau succinctly puts it.

Then Leyland is to move in to squeeze the last drop of surplus value from the 2,000 African workers at its main plant at Blackheath, near Cape Town.

Blackheath is badly situated. It is the furthest of any manufacturers' plants away from the main car market in the Transvaal.

'Setting up another plant could cost us £10m', Landau says, however, with brutal simplicity.

So car making will stay at Blackheath, at least for the time being. Presumably most of the workers will retain their jobs. But Stokes and Landau are preparing to drive them even more mercilessly than they are driven now in order to pay for the crisis their company is in.



# WHOSE FESTIVAL?

BY PHILIP WADE

Last Sunday the Festival of Light brought to a close its second London crusade against 'moral pollution' with a Trafalgar Square pray-in by about 5,000 assorted petty bourgeois, trendies and American Jesus pop groups.

Almost a year ago, shortly after the movement was launched by Malcolm Muggeridge, Lord Longford and Mary Whitehouse, they were able to muster some 20,000.

That in itself is an indication that the vast majority of lower middle-class people are waiting on the sidelines, watching the ebbs and flows of the class struggle, before

taking the plunge on the side of reaction.

The enormous potential power of the working class organized in its unions, has been demonstrated time and time again although still in a limited way, since the Festival of Light's first event in September 1971.

The biggest demonstrations have been those in support of the miners and the jailed dockers. Although the middle class didn't always have newspapers to see the events, they were undoubtedly glued to their televisions.

Nevertheless, a hard core of middle-class youth, together with a section of the Knights-bridge set and some businessmen, have been brought together to 'fight the enemy within'.

To be at one of the several

rallies held in London over a five-day period was no joke. The crudity of the 'Festival for Jesus' was easy to laugh at. But the deadly seriousness of those present meant there was more to it than that.

It was a most hostile environment for any socialist to be in.

We were told the invisible enemy residing in the hearts of men, the 'destroyers of society', had to be wiped out.

And for a movement created for the middle class—stricken by the break-up of capitalism, who have seen the Empire disappear, the pound float, money lose value daily, and the working class on the move—it just can't stop there.

Two things stood out in the reincarnation of the 'Dunkirk Miracle' which the Festival of Light attempted in London

last week.

The first was relatively simple; the response to a Major-General who fervently tried to whip the strident nationalism of the Empire days: 'Is this the Britain for which my friends gave their lives in Burma?' he asked to wild applause.

The second was more complicated, but in its implications more indicative of the kind of movement some very conscious people are trying to put together here.

This is the fantastic assertion that the entire rescue of the stranded British Expeditionary Force in 1940 was somehow the work of God, who with a mighty hand delivered the valiant British from the dastardly Hun.

Even the most pea-brained bourgeois historians do not

F. J. ARKELL



Above left: Lord Longford on the 'Day of the Dunkirk Miracle' at Battersea Pier. Above right: Trafalgar Square pray-in. Left: Tower Hill rally.

make that claim. The story is well known how the British army escaped from France in an armada of rowing boats, pleasure steamers and ocean liners. Hitler prevented his generals from moving in with tanks and Goering attempted the impossible of trying to wipe an army out from the air.

But to the Festival of Light it was a miracle.

This is not just bunk, it is bunk which by implication rejects reason, history and all the most basic conquests of human culture. It is very sinister bunk.

And around and about the London Festival I encountered some even more sinister ideas. One organizer talked to me seriously about the creation of 'supernatural men on earth'. Here we really are back to the Herrenvolk.

None of the real ideologues of the movement led by Whitehouse and Muggeridge, put in an appearance on

SEAN HUDSON

the platforms during the festival. They seemed content to remain in the background and let the newly-converted American pop groups and folk singers have their way. This time the speakers were insurance men, estate agents and other representatives of the petty bourgeoisie.

But a 24-page edition of 'Buzz', put out especially for the festival, devoted two pages to the campaign for 'The Nationwide Petition for Public Decency'.

And in a speech by Mrs Mary Whitehouse, which formed part of the feature, were to be heard loud and clear the anti-communist tones of the Moral Rearmament Movement, which Whitehouse joined when she was 24.

The campaign petition urged the reform of the obscenity laws to become an instrument for the 'maintenance of public decency' and the inclusion of television within these laws. The further reactionary demand was made for the banning of sex education books for schoolchildren.

Without, naturally, explaining what 'public decency' actually is, the article

launched straight into a speech made by Mrs Whitehouse to a 'prominent Bonn audience' last year in which all her virulent anti-communism and defence of capitalism comes straight out, clear as a bell.

'We would be foolish indeed not to realize that decadence within western culture plays straight into the hands of those who work towards the destruction of parliamentary democracy,' she said.

In evidence she cited an alleged directive by the Italian Communist Party which encouraged Party members to place no obstacles in the path of pornographers because they 'eat at the very roots of bourgeois society'.

She praised Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew who described licentiousness as 'an attack on the body and soul' and it was criminally negligent to permit it.

Here the main enemy is revealed as the forces of socialism. Licentiousness turns out to be an attack on capitalism.

Here is another passage which we are sure few of those taking part in the London Festival for Jesus would disagree with:

'The fight against pollution of the mind must be waged simultaneously with the training of the body. Today the whole of our public life may be compared to a hot-house for the forced growth of sexual notions and incitements. A glance at the bill-of-fare provided by our cinemas, playhouses and theatres, suffices to prove this is not the right food, especially for our young people.'

'Hoardings and advertisement kiosks combine to attract the public in the most vulgar manner. Anyone who has not altogether lost contact with adolescent yearnings will realize that all this must have very grave consequences.'

'This seductive and sensuous atmosphere puts notions into the heads of our youth which, at their age, ought still to be unknown to them... But if for reasons of indolence or cowardice this fight is not fought to a finish we may imagine what conditions will be like 500 years hence.'

'Little of God's image be left in human nature, except to mock the Creator.'

The book? 'Mein Kampf'. The author? Adolf Hitler.

# MAN AND NATURE

Part 5 of a series on Science and the Environment by John Crawford

In his unfinished essay 'The Part Played by Labour in the Transition from Ape to Man', ('Dialectics of Nature', pp 180-184), Engels speaks about the relation of industry to nature.

'In nature nothing takes place in isolation. Everything affects and is affected by every other thing, and it is mostly because this manifold motion and interaction is forgotten that our natural scientists are prevented from gaining a clear insight into the simplest things.'

Both animals and man change the world around them by their activities.

'But animals exert a lasting effect on their environment unintentionally and, so far as the animals themselves are concerned, accidentally. The further removed men are from animals, however, the more their effect on nature assumes the character of premeditated, planned action directed towards definite preconceived ends.'

'Let us not, however, flatter ourselves overmuch on account of our human victories over nature. For each such victory nature takes its revenge on us. Each victory, it is true, in the first place brings about the result we expected, but in the second and third places it has quite different, unforeseen effects which only too often cancel the first.'

'Thus at every step we are reminded that we by no means rule over nature like a conqueror over a foreign people, like someone standing outside nature—but that we, with flesh, blood and brain, belong to nature, and exist in its midst, and that all our mastery of it consists in the fact that we have the advantage over all creatures of being able to learn its laws and apply them correctly.'

The results of the post-war boom have made Engels' words of great importance for our time, together with his remark that 'the individual capitalists, who dominate production and exchange, are able to concern themselves only with the most immediate useful effect of their actions'.

The development of the multi-billion dollar petrochemical industry, for example, meant that thousands of tons of organic chemicals were produced—detergents and plastics, for example—which are not found in nature. Bacteria, which have evolved so that they can break down paper, cloth or soap—all produced from naturally occurring substances—can do nothing with the new materials.

But the manufacturers are not concerned with such questions. So long as they can sell what they produce at a profit, the monopolies are not responsible for 'side-effects'.

Natural processes tend to perpetuate themselves through the occurrence of cyclic movements of matter and energy. Man interferes with these processes, sometimes breaking the cycles completely. But modern industrial and military technology operate on such a scale that whole areas of the globe on which man himself depends can be devastated.

In effect, the boom used up large chunks of our planet. The monopolies 'financed' their expansion at the expense of man's future. What the environmentalists cannot face is that this implies not a cutting-down of industry, but its conscious planning on an



international scale and that this demands the victory of socialist revolution.

The middle-class protest movements which have grown up around the environment issue—even when they pose as being 'anti-capitalist'—really evade the question through their idealist outlook, just as their predecessors of the anti-H-bomb movement did.

At worst, these tendencies' frenzied opposition to 'affluence' and industrial growth place them alongside the most reactionary forces of monopoly-capitalism. At best, they criticize the effects of capitalist anarchy from a purely individualistic standpoint, that of the isolated individual with a 'social conscience'. None of them—even Barry Commoner—comes anywhere near the conception of the working class as the revolutionary force.

The petty bourgeois regards himself as a social atom, for which society exists merely as a mechanism to provide him with the means to live. His life and opinions are his personal affairs, his private property. So he is incapable of grasping his

relationship with the natural environment.

In his head, the crisis of capitalism appears in the fantastic form of a threat to his existence as a private citizen, not as a contradiction expressed in the struggle of the working class for conscious collective control over production.

In cutting himself off in his thinking from the social relations in which he is moulded, the individualist isolates himself from the collective struggle of man with nature.

In one of his Economic-Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844, the one called 'Private Property and Communism', the young Marx wrote:

'The human essence of nature first exists only for social man; for only here does nature exist for him as a bond with man as his existence for the other and the other's existence for him—as the life-element of the human world; only here does nature exist as the foundation of his own human existence . . .

'Industry is the actual, historical relation of nature,

and therefore of natural science, to man. If, therefore, industry is conceived as the esoteric revelation of man's essential powers, we gain an understanding of the human essence of nature, or the natural essence of man.'

Thirteen years later, in his manuscript known as 'Grundrisse', Marx discusses the destruction of capitalism in these words:

'The result is the creation of a basis that consists in the tendency towards universal development of the productive forces—and wealth in general, also the universality of commerce and a world market. The basis offers the possibility of the universal development of individuals, and the real development of individuals from this basis consists in the constant abolition of each limitation once it is conceived of as a limitation and not as a sacred boundary.

'The universality of the individual is not thought or imagined, but is the universality of his real and ideal relationships. Man therefore becomes able to understand his own history as a process,

and to conceive of nature as his own real body.'

The threat to man's future posed by the continued capitalist exploitation of industry and of the working class is very real. It is part of the crisis of an entire world social order, of a particular mode of production, of a particular form of the relation of man and nature, and the socialist revolution is another aspect of the same crisis.

In the struggle for revolutionary leadership, the working class becomes conscious of its historical role: to open the way for the conscious planning of modern industry.

Communism will plan the use of the resources of this planet—and others too—for the benefit of all. The production and distribution of food, the disposals of wastes, the conservation of stores of energy and materials—all such problems will be tackled as aspects of man's collective relationship with nature.

The limitations which the environmentalists see as 'sacred boundaries' will be leaped over once the real barrier—capital—has been smashed.



# US ROUND- UP

## UNION AIDS THE JOB SLASHING IN US STEEL

Since the signing of the 1971 contract in basic steel between the major US steel producers and the United Steelworkers of America, the corporations have undertaken a sweeping campaign of job-slashing, mass layoffs and speed-up.

US corporations have hidden behind the Pay Board's formula which permits wage increases, if 'justified' by productivity.

In other words, while the wage guidelines are steadily pushed down, jobs are eliminated and the workers speeded up.

In steel, the success of the employers' productivity drive was given by the Pay Board as the reason for allowing a wage increase at all.

At the same time, Nixon has preferred to avoid the possibility of a confrontation with the union which an outright slash might have meant at this time, biding his time until after the elections.

But the productivity drive which is eliminating thousands of jobs and which poses the decimation of the steel labour force, has been undertaken with the full co-operation of the USWA leadership under president I. W. Abel.

The green light for this drive was given by the establishment of the so-called productivity committees as a concession to the employers in the 1971 contract.

### Investments

While these committees themselves, according to the 'Wall Street Journal', have 'accomplished little,' they represent the agreement of the USWA bureaucracy to allow the employers unilaterally to improve productivity.

At the same time, every new investment in productive facilities that is developed in the US is geared to the most productive furnaces available as developed by modern engineering, furnaces which mean a constant expansion of productive capacity with fewer men.

Thus, the plans for the Q-BOP furnace which is 25 per cent more productive than the ordinary BOP (basic oxygen process) furnaces which were announced last year, are not even the latest.

Just recently a plan to bring in a new process, known as SIP (submerged injection process) was announced by a Pennsylvania engineering corporation.

This process will allow for the reconversion of the outmoded open hearth furnaces,



but producing at a tremendous saving in production time, and at a lower cost of investment, than other new furnaces.

In mill after mill, steel workers are learning a bitter lesson as technology and production slowdown wipe out jobs, while speed-ups in other departments make working conditions intolerable.

The closure of the US Steel mill in Duluth and the probable shutdown of the huge Lackawanna works of Bethlehem Steel threaten to turn industrial cities into ghost towns and create conditions of massive unemployment and poverty.

The Lackawanna mill is one of the major employers in the Buffalo area and as recently as two years ago employed 20,000 men.

But since last August's contract settlement, 11,000 men have lost their jobs, reducing the work force to between 4,000 and 8,000 men. One can see from the almost empty parking lots and lack of activity in the mill that operations are virtually at a standstill.

The BOP facility is the only basic steel producer in operation, and of the 35 open-hearth furnaces previously operating, 14 have been completely dismantled.

In the coke ovens, which generally employ the most workers, only two of the seven batteries are in operation.

Already unemployment has reached 12 per cent in Buffalo and the growing poverty can be seen in the deteriorating conditions in the downtown section where empty stores and 'For rent' signs on once-busy main streets bear witness to the decline of an industrial town.

In particular, departments in mills where there have not been complete production stoppages and automation, such as in the machine-shops, there is vicious speed-up.

The steel companies are hiring brazen new managers whose job it is to crack the whip.

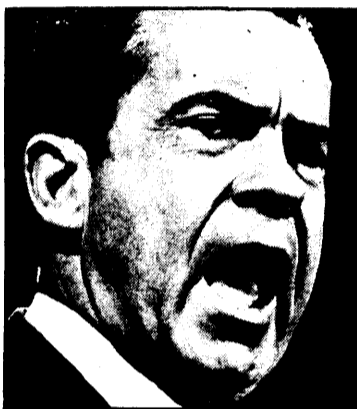
At the Lorain, Ohio US Steel works, this drive has taken on particularly arrogant and vicious proportions, as a letter written by a general foreman in the machine shop indicates.

This letter, published in the 'Lorain Labour Leader', the organ of USWA Local (branch) 1104, exposes the intent of the steel owners to squeeze every ounce of work out of a man.

Speaking to other managers, the foreman writes:

'It is your responsibility to get out into the shop and spend time observing—not only safety activity—but what each man or group is doing and how they are doing it.

'Begin checking on the rate



Top: I. W. Abel, president of the steelworkers' union who is cooperating with the productivity drive. Above: Nixon.

of progress of each job on your turn. Where you find people who are not performing to expectations, you are going to have to begin to 'kick a few asses, and, if that doesn't work, assess time off.'

Disciplinary layoffs, forced overtime and general harassment by the hirings of the steel owners is what workers in mills across the country can now expect.

### Pressure

One worker at the Lorain mill told the 'Bulletin', paper of the US Workers' League:

'Since the last contract there has been a lot of pressure from the management and especially since we got these two new bar mills.

'A lot of the guys here are getting pushed beyond the normal limits.'

An older worker at the mill told the paper:

'The old time foremen, little by little, are getting pushed out. They're bringing in the young ones with the whips in their hands.

'You know what I believe in?

'We ought to have a revolution and set up the American form of government. If you go by the constitution you haven't got any rights. Corporations make plenty of money—but the work gets done by machines and they cut you out.

'I don't care if they have 100 per cent automation as long as we're guaranteed work. We have to have money to live on.

'Is the shorter work week needed? You bet. The shorter the better.

'They're getting rid of men here under the guise of automation, but it isn't even automation. It's automatically out!

'The managers get a percentage for "saving," by getting rid of men. They don't come in here to manufacture—they come in here to save money—clip, cut, chop.

'We're non-deductible, them bastards are definitely deductible'.

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## PRINCIPLES

Alderman Philip Hartley, chairman of the Labour-controlled Brent Council, north London, was born in Germany and was a member of the German Social Democratic Party until he was forced to leave his country because of Hitler's persecution of socialists.

At a recent public meeting called by Brent Trades Council he attacked members of the Communist Party by recalling the way in which the Stalinist policy of 'social-fascism' had split the German working class and helped the fascists come to power.

It would appear, however, that Alderman Hartley has by no means fully absorbed these lessons.

Following a meeting of the council's education general services sub-committee, Alderman Hartley said that if Ugandan Asian families come to Brent, their children may be refused places at the borough's schools.

He said that the council would not allow classes to be overcrowded 'to the detriment of our own children'. Brent was trying to limit classes to 25 children in secondary schools and 30 in primary schools and 'we are not prepared to throw this away for the benefit of an influx of immigrants'.

Brent may have smaller classes, but Alderman Hartley failed to mention that he presides over a Labour council which has a housing list nearly 9,000 strong, does very little council building, and has some of the highest council rents in the country.

It also has the highest immigrant population in London. But instead of tackling the problems of housing and unemployment on which racialism feeds, the council has failed singularly to take up any fight against the landlords, employers or the Tory government. The Labourites decided long ago to do the Tories' dirty work for them and implement the Housing Finance Act which will mean raising rents.

The National Front has swung into action in Brent, issuing leaflets with hysterical warnings about old ladies being mugged by black men and British people being made

second-class citizens by the 'teeming millions' of rapidly breeding immigrants.

Alderman Hartley's answer to these attempts to split the working class is—silence. And then he adds his own warnings about overcrowded schools.

At the end of the Brent Trades Council public meeting he told a member of the Socialist Labour League that he considered the Trotskyists to be the most principled people in the labour movement. Principles are certainly in short supply in Brent.

## FRAUD

You may have been yawning recently at the idiot antics at the World Youth Assembly in Manchester.

This completely futile and powerless jamboree has been the scene of a silly battle of words with the British and American delegations walking out over alleged plots by the 'Third World' to 'take over' this great talk-in.

The biggest fraud of all, however, is the title of the event—especially the word YOUTH.

A recent article in the 'Manchester Evening News' unconsciously exposed this.

We were told of the new president, 42-year-old Thomas Sandiford; the general secretary was described as 36-year-old Carlos Carasco from Bolivia, and at the same age we had Desire Edoh of Dahomey.

The Northern BBC described some of the delegates as over 50—as one of our northern correspondents commented: 'A bunch of frauds.'

## PEACE

Raguhbir Singh (28) has had a busy time. Four years ago he set off from New Delhi to cycle round the world in the cause of peace.

After being captured twice by the National Liberation Front in Vietnam, held up at gunpoint in Chicago, attacked by machete-wielding Indians in Colombia and arrested in Tahiti, he has just peddled into Belfast. There, he was guest of honour at a lunch given by the 1st Battalion of the Royal Green Jackets - Regiment.

Mr Singh, who holds a degree in political science, says he is going to 'study the situation' in Belfast.

## BOOKS



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# First redundancy notices in Weinstock's wind-down in Lincoln

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ENORMOUS dangers lie ahead of employees of the four GEC plants in Lincoln who are involved in a fight for jobs. With 2,999 on the dole this month, the Lincoln area has an unemployment rate of 5.6 per cent. Of the youth who left school last month, 220 went straight onto the dole.

GEC is the major employer in the town and with their jobs at risk there is little future for workers. Chamber of Commerce President Peter Lingeman revealed last month that 1,000 people a year are quitting the city.

The threat of big redundancies in the Lincoln plants started with the takeover of the Ruston factories by English Electric in 1966.

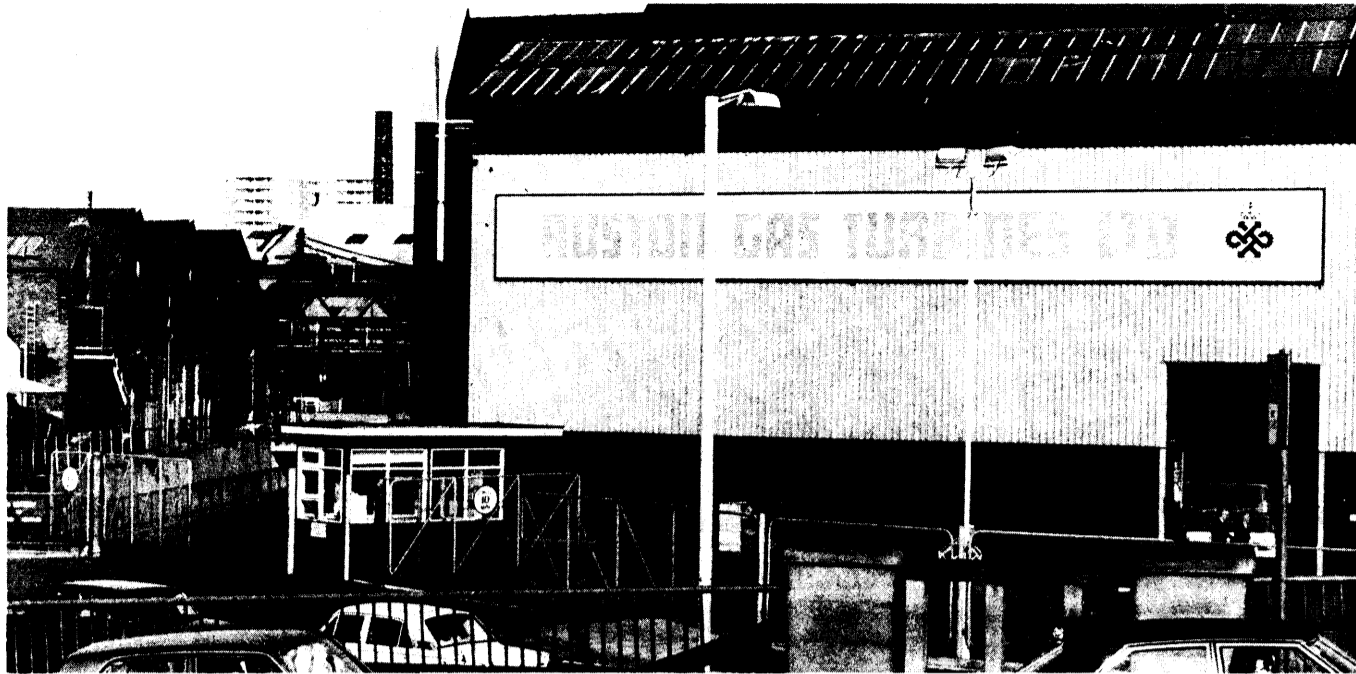
By 1969 English Electric had combined with Sir Arnold Weinstock's GEC and a huge programme of sackings was under way nationally. Lincoln GEC workers greeted a proposal to move work on the AO diesel engine to Newton-le-Willows, Lancs, with a 3,000-strong protest march to the Guildhall.

Already in October 1967, when the merger was still a rumour in the city, 'The Newsletter' (forerunner of Workers Press) had warned:

'Here, as on the docks with the Devlin plan and in shipbuilding with the Geddes report, the Labour government is using all the resources of the capitalist state to equip the monopolies for battle on the world markets. . . Mergers such as these already going through on the Clyde and the north east are certain to result in shipyard redundancies. The same is true of the Devlin plan, which has reduced employers on the docks from hundreds to a handful of the most powerful. There is no reason to believe that the electrical industry will prove to be the exception.' ('The Newsletter' October 7, 1967.)

Sure enough, by February 1968, the new GEC-AEI combine was planning to sack 6,000 workers, mainly at the Woolwich factory.

In the absence of a political



A gas turbine plant in the Lincoln GEC-owned group of companies.

# Lesson from GEC jobs fight

fight against the betrayals of Wilson's reformist government, the Woolwich works committee was unable to save the plant, despite vehement protests and widespread publicity. When local AEF leaders called for nationalization to save the jobs, 'The Newsletter' pointed out:

'To call for nationalization now means essentially to take up a political struggle against the Wilson government and its Industrial Reorganization Corporation. It means a fight for alternative socialist policies and leadership, to replace the existing leadership with MPs pledged to policies of nationalization.' ('The Newsletter' February 10, 1968.)

Then in August 1969 the combine, by then including English

Electric, announced over 3,000 redundancies on Merseyside.

A big movement developed immediately for a sit-in strike of all Merseyside's 12,000 GEC workers. But when challenged politically from the right, the stewards caved in and all the fighting capacity of the men was frittered away.

Now in Lincoln the first 380 workers at Dorman Diesels face the sack.

These are by no means the last victims in Lincoln of Weinstock's preparations to go into Europe and of the general slump.

Early in August, GEC chairman Lord Nelson warned that turbine orders from 1974 onwards are at half the level of previous years, blaming the cutback in capital investment by the CEBG.

The fight in GEC Lincoln is therefore a life-and-death fight to defend the right to work. There will be no future for any worker in the town unless this fight is taken up.

But despite a decision by the stewards to fight the redundancies taken early in July, full-time union officials managed to manoeuvre a ballot against action on the issue.

By a margin of 1,683 to 1,085 the ballot went against action.

Last week the first few redundancy notices were issued and stewards from all four GEC factories in the town met and decided to reject the redundancy terms, planning all-out action.

The lessons of Woolwich and Merseyside are clear. The Lincoln stewards must campaign immediately to reverse the ballot and win a mandate to fight for the right to work. But most of all they must fight politically to remove the traitors in the labour movement who are shielding the Tories from this fight.

The removal of pro-market MP for Lincoln Dick Taverner shows that this fight will gain support in the city. What is required is the setting up of a Council of Action to unite the whole working class in the town to lead the campaign to force the Tory government to resign and replace it with a Labour government pledged to a socialist policy of nationalization of the electrical industry under workers' control without compensation.

## N London engineers want Council of Action

OVER 150 shop stewards at the Enfield, north London engineering shop stewards quarterly meeting have voted unanimously to set up a Council of Action in the area to prepare a fight to remove the Tory government. The meeting on Wednesday night also decided to send representatives to a conference on September 21, called to form the Council.

The shop stewards, representing engineering workers in the Tottenham, Enfield, Edmonton and Walthamstow districts, expressed their anger during the discussion at the TUC's retreat on opposition to the Industrial Relations Act and the role of leadership in the fight against the Act.

## Vauxhall assembly men walk-out

VAUXHALL assembly workers at Ellesmere Port, Merseyside, walked out yesterday over the dismissal of 35 of their colleagues.

The walk-out followed a similar one on the night shift. Then the 35 had reported for work, but were suspended pending

the outcome of a works' committee meeting on a dispute which arose on Tuesday night.

Workers from both shifts—members of the Transport and General Workers' Union—are to hold a mass meeting today.

The dispute started over a transfer of labour problem.

## POCKET LIBRARY

**Why a Labour Government?**

*A reply to some centrist critics*

By Cliff Slaughter

A series which appeared in Workers Press in June, 1972 is now available as a pamphlet in the Socialist Labour League Pocket Library.

**'WHY A LABOUR GOVERNMENT? A Reply to some centrist critics.'** By Cliff Slaughter Price 5p

Other titles in this series include: **The Case for a General Election** By Alex Mitchell.

**The Ulster Dossier**  
**The Social Security Swindle** which includes the All Trades Unions Alliance Draft Manifesto and the Charter of Basic Rights.

All are available from 186a Clapham High St, London SW4 7UG. Or The Paperback Centre, 28 Charlotte St, London W1.

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## £80,000 bungalow

ESTATE AGENTS Knight, Frank and Rutley are making a modest contribution to solving the housing shortage up in North Wales. They are putting up a bungalow-style, five-bedroom residence with seven acres of land, a water frontage of 400 yards, a boathouse and a dock in the Menai Straits. In the Menai Straits? Well the house has its own island—Ynys y Big, the Island of the Beak. . . And it's going for a song at only £75,000-£80,000!

**SOUTHAMPTON: Friday September 8, 7.30 p.m.** 'The Glebe', Corner of Brittons Road and Northam Road. Speaker: Alan Thornett (deputy senior steward Morris Motors, Oxford, in a personal capacity). 'The lessons of the docks strike and the fight for jobs.'

**BRACKNELL: Monday September 11, 8 p.m.** Priestwood Community Centre.

**HULL: Monday September 11, 7.30 p.m.** Church Hall, Wayne Road, Bransholme (opp 'The Swallow'). 'Fighting the Tories' Rent Act.'

**MEDWAY: Wednesday September 13, 8 p.m.** 'The Greyhound', Rochester Avenue, Rochester. 'Defeat the anti-union laws. Force the Tories to resign.'

**SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday September 14, 8 p.m.** Deptford Engineers' Club, opposite New Cross Station. 'For the Tories to resign.'

**SWINDON: Sunday September 17, 7.30 p.m.** 'Locomotive Inn', Fleet Street. 'Join the fight to force the Tories to resign.'

**Socialist Labour League LECTURES**  
**THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MARXISM** given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

## LONDON

**Marxism as the theory of knowledge** Sunday September 17  
**Development of Marxism through working-class struggle** Sunday September 24  
**Nature of the capitalist crisis** Sunday October 1  
**Historical materialism today** Sunday October 8  
**EAST HAM TOWN HALL** Lister Room Barking Rd, 7 p.m.

## LIVERPOOL

**Development of Marxism through working-class struggle** Tuesday September 12  
**Nature of the capitalist crisis** Tuesday September 19  
**Historical materialism today** Tuesday September 26  
**AEU HOUSE** Mount Pleasant Liverpool 1, 7.30 p.m.

# TV

## BBC 1

9.15 Camberwick green. 9.30 Robinson Crusoe. 9.55 Magic roundabout. 10.00 Olympic grandstand. 5.30 News.  
 7.00 NATIONAL NEWS. Weather.  
 7.45 THE VIRGINIAN. A King's Ransom.  
 9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.  
 9.25 TODAY AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES. Athletics, basketball, volleyball, fencing.  
 1.00 Weather.

## BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 4.15 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Monkees. 5.20 Ask Aspel. 5.45 Magic roundabout. 5.50 Undersea world of Jacques Cousteau.  
 6.40 BIRD'S EYE VIEW. Beside the Seaside by Sir John Betjeman.  
 7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.  
 8.00 A FAIR DAY'S WAGE... First of a new series.  
 9.00 GARDENERS' WORLD.  
 9.25 BEFORE THE MAST.  
 10.25 ON THE RIM. In Spitzbergen.  
 10.55 NEWS ON 2. Weather.  
 11.00 FESTIVAL 26.

## ITV

11.00 Trades Union Congress. 12.25 Women today. 12.50 Freud on food. 1.15 Bellbird. 1.25 Dan. 1.40 Bush boy. 2.00 Castle haven. 2.25 Racing from Doncaster. 3.10 Delta. 4.05 Happy house. 4.20 Gulliver. 4.50 Magpie. 5.20 Olympics and news.  
 6.00 TODAY.  
 6.30 ARNIE. Strangeness in the Night.  
 7.00 THE BEST OF PLEASE SIRI Cup Fever.  
 7.30 THE FBI. The Conspirators.  
 8.30 SHUT THAT DOOR!  
 9.00 HOLLY. Episode 2.  
 10.00 NEWS AND OLYMPICS AT TEN.  
 10.50 POLICE FIVE.  
 11.00 WICKED WOMEN. Alice Rhodes. Joanna Dunham. Ralph Bates. Gillian Raine. Jean Anderson.  
 12.00 THE FRIGHTENERS. 'Bed and Breakfast'. Ian Hendry. John Welsh. Wendy Gifford.  
 12.30 ADDICTION.



Bright Forsyth and Paul Moriarty as the young married couple whose lives are in danger in the second of the six-part ITV thriller 'Holly'.

## REGIONAL TV

**SOUTHERN:** 11.00-12.30 London. 12.40 News. 12.45 Let's face it. 1.10 Beverley hillbillies. 1.40 Common Market cook book. 2.05 Bellbird. 2.25 London. 3.40 Weekend. 3.45 Houseparty. 4.00 Stingray. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.30 Who do you do? 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Sale of the century. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.55 Film: 'Mr Sardonicus'. 12.40 Weather. Guideine.  
**HARLECH:** 11.00-12.30 London. 2.20 London. 3.45 Women only. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Saint. 7.30 Shut that door. 8.00 Double jeopardy. 9.00 London. 10.50 Cinema. 11.20 Film: 'The Man Who Liked Funerals'. 12.30 Weather.  
**HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except:** 4.15-4.25 Cantam. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd.  
**HTV West as above except:** 6.15-6.30 Report West.

**ATV MIDLANDS:** 11.00-1.00 London. 1.45 Racing from Doncaster. 3.25 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Forest rangers. 4.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Persuaders. 8.25 Please sir. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'A Study in Terror'. Weather.  
**ULSTER:** 11.00-12.30 London. 1.45 Racing from Doncaster. 4.00 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Viewfinder. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 Jason King. 8.30 Shut that door. 9.00 London. 10.50 Short story. 11.20 Film: 'Talk of a Million'.  
**YORKSHIRE:** 11.00-12.30 London. 2.10 Bellbird. 2.25 London. 3.40 Mad movies. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35

Crossroads. 7.00 Comedians. 7.30 Shut that door. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'The Chapman Report'. 12.55 Weather.  
**GRANADA:** 11.00 London. 12.30 Galloping gourmet. 12.55 Stingray. 1.20 All our yesterdays. 1.50 Racing from Doncaster. 3.40 Towards the year 2000. 4.10 News. Happy house. 4.20 Skippy. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 OK. 6.30 Preston Guild. 6.50 Sylvester. 7.00 Shut that door. 7.30 Protectors. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.50 Film: 'The Criminal'.  
**TYNE TEES:** 11.00-12.30 London. 1.40 Yoga. 2.10 Bellbird. 2.25 London. 3.40 Jimmy Stewart. 4.09 News. 4.10 Make a wish. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Comedians. 7.30 Shut that door. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 Lon-

don. 10.50 Film: 'The Chapman Report'. 12.50 News. 1.05 Epilogue.  
**SCOTTISH:** 11.00-12.30 London. 1.45 Racing from Doncaster. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Cartoon. 4.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Love American style. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 7.30 Saint. 8.30 Shut that door. 9.00 London. 10.50 Festival. 11.20 Late call. 11.25 Name of the game.  
**GRAMPIAN:** 11.00-12.30 London. 1.45 Racing from Doncaster. 3.10 News. 3.20 Yoga. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Happy house. 4.25 Rumble jumble. 4.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.05 Mr and Mrs. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Odd couple. 7.30 Jesse James. 8.00 Benny Hill. 9.00 London. 10.55 Film 'The Curse of Frankenstein'.

## SPECIAL ATUA MEETINGS

**CENTRAL LONDON:**  
 Inaugural meeting of the entertainments and press unions.

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 7 p.m.**  
 'The crisis of technology and unemployment.'  
**SHAFTESBURY HOTEL MONMOUTH STREET, WC2.**  
 Speakers: Roy Battersby (ACTT. In a personal capacity). A London docker.

**KENT:**  
**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 8 p.m.**  
 'Victory to the Creffield workers. Defeat the anti-union laws. Make the Tories resign.'  
**THE GEORGE AND DRAGON SHIPBOURNE ROAD TONBRIDGE, KENT.**

**LIVERPOOL:**  
**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 10.30 a.m.**  
 'Crisis in the car industry. Fight for the right to work.'  
**STORK HOTEL QUEEN'S SQUARE**  
 Speakers: Alan Thornett (deputy senior steward Morris Motors, Oxford. In a personal capacity). Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee).



## UNDER THE DOME

An interview with an AUEW delegate by STEPHEN JOHNS

# 'Anti-union law motions weren't sharp enough'

**BRIAN NORTHEY**—a machine-tool worker from Bolton—is a member of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' delegation.  
 Like most militants in the Congress he would have liked to have seen a sharper and more specific motion on the Industrial Relations Act.  
 But he accepts that compromise had to be reached to get the support of the Transport and General Workers' Union.  
 'There was some ambiguity in the final composite', he said. 'It was not entirely clear what "facilities" under the Act meant, and of course, there was a provision for payment of fines.  
 'But we had to get the support of the T&GWU. But my feeling, and the feeling of my delegation, was that there should be no payment of fines or court appearances.  
 'The motions from our technical and supervisory section and the cinema technicians had a more definable line, but I think to try and



Bolton engineer Brian Northey

get the final motion through was better than nothing at all.  
 'I am satisfied that our union will not go before the court, but I'm not sure whether this will apply to other unions.  
 'It amazes me that the trade union movement has allowed this to happen anyway. But all you can do is to fight it out at the next Congress.'  
 Personally, Brian said, he was proud of his own union's position on the Act. He thought it was only the

AUEW which had given any lead on the issue over the last year or so.  
 'If we did go before the court it would be a very sad let-down', he added.  
 As a machine-tool worker, Brian understandably sees the second big issue facing the movement as unemployment.  
 He works for Thos Ryder, Bolton, heavy machine-tool manufacturers. Over the last 18 months the engineering industry in the area has lost 3,000 jobs.

He points out that to save machine-tools heavy investment is needed, but this cannot happen under the Tory government.  
 He commented on yesterday's economic resolution which called for shorter hours, longer holidays and condemns any talks on wage restraint, but does not outlaw further collaboration with the Tory government:  
 'I fully agree with the demand for a 35-hour week and four weeks' holiday, and I quite agree with the paragraph on no wage restraint.  
 'But I am not so sure about talks with the government anyway.  
 'It's obvious that the Tories and the employers have no intention of reducing or stabilizing prices.  
 'I am facing one example now: my rent is going to go up from £4 to £5 this month. I certainly support the resolution on the Housing Finance Act—it is a scandal the way Labour councils have abandoned the fight on this issue.'

## Scrubs patient 'used as political tool'

THE WIFE of the 35-year-old Taiwanese extradited from Sweden to America who is being held by British authorities in Wormwood Scrubs prison hospital, flew into London early yesterday morning.  
 Mrs Cecilia Cheng had been given special permission to see her husband. She was met at the airport by representatives of Amnesty International.  
 When Mrs Cheng arrived she said: 'My husband has been treated very badly. He has been used as a tool in a political affair. My husband has always claimed he is not guilty and I believe him,' she told reporters.  
 The Swedish Labour government—which is maintained in power by the votes of Communist Party MPs—agreed last week to the US government's demand for Cheng's extradition.  
 But efforts were still being made in Sweden yesterday to have the order rescinded and for Cheng to be given political asylum.

## Cashing in posthumously

SOME PEOPLE can make money even after they are dead, it seems. Sir Headley Dymoke White, who shot himself in February last year, aged 56, after a quarrel with a woman friend, has just raked in another £225,017. The money comes from a second grant of probate land. It makes the total value of his estate £1,239,317.

**HEADING FOR  
CORPORATE  
STATE  
FROM PAGE 1**

**STEPHEN JOHNS AND JOHN SPENCER REPORT FROM  
THE 104th TUC IN THE DOME, BRIGHTON**



**UNDER  
THE  
DOME**

# We keep talking to Tories—TUC

**Steel debate: Lord Melchett is praised**

other calls for entry if the terms are right and after a referendum. On this key issue, therefore, the movement is facing both ways and is still not committed against entry.

A second victory is being celebrated over Frank Chapple's step towards suspension from the Congress.

The Stalinists portray this as a further isolation of the right. The estimation is an extremely dangerous one.

Chapple's move is not a flight into oblivion, but only the most explicit indication of the general trend towards corporatism within the upper echelons of the organized labour movement.

Victor Feather and the bulk of Congress are now firmly committed to this policy. The working class will thus be

**THE SO-CALLED left of the Trades Union Congress have no objection to the TUC General Council's treacherous talks with the Tories. This was clear from yesterday's set-piece debate on economic policy, in which delegates unanimously accepted a lengthy motion from the Transport and General Workers' Union calling for :**

- Planned expansion of the economy.
- Full employment to be made a national priority.
- A 35-hour week in all industries with the target of a 32-hour, four-day week without loss of earnings.

The resolution instructed the General Council to refuse any discussions with the government or the CBI which had wage-restraint in view, but in no way blocked the continuation of the present round of talks.

And from the platform General Council spokesmen made clear this has already been discussed with the Tories.

Sir Sidney Greene, for the General Council, said the TUC was not going into the talks to sell out the unions or to make agreements and come back and 'be crucified by you'.

He claimed the government was now trying to 'change gear as fast as they decently can'.

Greene went on: 'If the last year has proved anything it is that the government and the CBI now realize they have to do business with us. And I am not saying that in any critical way. I welcome it very much. Let's see how far we can get.'

The railwaymen's leader said the government had made their demands obvious in the talks.

'They would dearly like to see wage and salary increases in single figures—instead of double figures. But equally we have to tell them that if they try to impose a figure, the only result will be even more industrial conflict than at the present time.'

Against advocates of breaking off the talks, he said 'the economic issues will be there when the Industrial Relations Act is dead and buried'.

Transport and General Workers' Union secretary, Jack Jones, proposing the resolution, described Greene's report as 'quite good'. He called for a 'massive mobilization of resources' to put the unemployed to work and deal with low pay.

It was up to the government to set an example, said Jones. If



**Striking journalists from International Publishing Corporation magazines in London yesterday lobbied TUC delegates at Brighton. They are seen here talking to journalists' union chief Ken Morgan (right). The strikers are demanding a £495 increase in their next year's salary.**

sacrifices had to be made to ensure equality, the trade union movement would make them. The government had failed badly on unemployment—it did too little and it did it too late'.

Jones' motion was so vague as to attract the support of open advocates of wage-freezing on the extreme right.

Alex Donnett, of the G&MWU, declared support for wage restraint and said it was 'madness' to imagine wage increases

in double figures could be obtained without increasing output.

What was needed was a set of assumptions agreed by the government and the unions, linking the 'awards' to output.

Donnett referred to Upper Clyde Shipbuilders as an example of the increasing Tory 'flexibility'.

And Stalinist George Guy from the sheet metalworkers, praised UCS as a 'salutary and great struggle'.

He stressed that among the UCS leadership were 'one or two who have been referred to at this Congress as so-called subversives'.

Another Communist Party member, Eddie Marsden, of the AUEW's constructional section, said wage rises were not responsible for inflation. He referred to 'considerable worry within the movement' that wage restraint would be the outcome of the TUC-government talks.

The resolution, which was carried unanimously, calls for 'planned economic growth' and for full employment to be made a major national priority. It also calls for a 35-hour, four-day week without loss of earnings, longer holidays and earlier retirement on full pension.

It reaffirmed 'opposition to wage restraint in any form' and instructed the General Council to 'refuse discussions with the government or the CBI that have this in view'.

But it is clear from the debate that the General Council sees this motion as a mandate to continue and intensify its secret talks with the Tories.



**Chapple: Recognized breakaway**

beheaded of leadership during the most crucial 12 months of its history.

This is the enormous challenge facing the revolutionary left.

It is a fact—and Brighton has proved it—that the more the Tories attack the more the trade union leadership join with them and conspire to defeat the militancy of the working class.

Brighton 1972 was not the year of the left but the year of the new corporate-state TUC, when union leader after union leader went over to the camp of reaction.

## Hostile crowds shout down race march in London

**BY IAN YEATS**

A 400-STRONG march against immigration was given a hostile reception by lunchtime crowds in London yesterday.

In the Strand, workers tore up racist leaflets and threw them on the ground. At Charing Cross others gave mock fascist salutes and shouted 'Nazis'. Asked to join the march, a printworker in Fleet Street shouted angrily: 'If I join you we'd all end up in a concentration camp.'

Last week holiday crowds had watched a similar march with good-natured amusement, but yesterday workers stared silently from shops and offices and on-lookers shouted 'fascists' and 'gorillas' as the demonstrators

passed by behind a loudspeaker van blaring out 'Rule Britannia' and 'Land of Hope and Glory'.

The march, led by about 100 of Smithfield's 2,000 meat-porters, was backed by a strong National Front contingent, teddy boys, Hell's Angels and about 60 housewives and children from Brixton, Lambeth and Tower Hamlets.

Leader Ron Taylor, a Smithfield porter, handed in letters at Smith Square, headquarters of the Transport and General Workers Union and the Conservative Party, demanding action to halt immigration.

Police hustled the demonstrators past Transport House as they tried to stop outside chant-

ing 'Jones out' and 'Red scum out'.

There were no other incidents throughout the 90-minute march, with leaders chatting amiably with their police escort. Other police lining the road smiled and nodded sympathetically.

Earlier, at a meeting at Smithfield, Mosleyite Danny Harmston and National Front organizer Martin Webster were joined on the platform by Air Vice-Marshal Donald Bennett, who had flown back from a holiday in fascist Spain to be at the meeting.

Bennett led the special Pathfinder force during World War II and he said: 'Britain is cursed with a softie government that puts everybody else's interests before our own.'

### SEPTEMBER FUND £102.25

**NOT A day must go by without pushing up our September Fund. Our target is £1,750 by the end of the month and we are determined, not only to raise it but to try and collect a record amount over the top.**

**Everything you can raise will be used to expand and develop our paper. Just at a time when thousands of trade unionists everywhere are moving into action against this Tory government, no lead for such a fight comes from the TUC conference at Brighton this week.**

**Workers Press must continue to show the way forward. Our paper, therefore, must reach out to more and more readers. But we need your help to carry this out. Help us with a big effort, starting today, for our September Fund. Raise as much as you possibly can. Post every donation immediately to :**

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