

AS LABOUR LEADERS RETREAT

BY PHILIP WADE Our Housing Correspondent

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In Northwich, Cheshire, 4,400 tenants are now paying no rent at all and a further 975 are paying less rent than before last Monday's increases. In London's East End, thousands of Hackney tenants are refusing to pay any rent at all for two weeks and there are moves for further action at the end of the fortnight.

In Yorkshire, Monk Bretton tenants, near Barnsley, are still refusing to pay despite threats from council staff. The Labour implementors of the Act on the local council have reinforced the threats. Said Barnsley council leader Ald B. Varley:

'If council officers are pressing tenants to pay their rent, which includes the new increases, then they are only doing their duty.'

All these struggles of the tenants against the Housing Finance Act are proceeding in the face of enormous and continual betrayal by the Labour leadership both nationally and locally.

And now, in fact, so-called leaders of Labour-controlled town halls—many elected on pledges to oppose the Act—up and down the country are launching savage denunciations of the rent strikers, as in Barnsley.

The same is true of the Labour Party National Executive Committee. Throughout the year it has urged Labour councils to 'obey the law' and implement the 'fair rents' Act.

Then at last week's Labour Party conference, the true relationship between the Labour leaders and the Tory government was revealed for all to see.

A motion urging non-implementation and support for Labour councillors defying the Act was defeated after the intervention by the NEC in the shape of 'left' MP Frank Allaun.

Although a motion supporting the councillors was carried against the NEC the next day, it was already clear that the Labour leaders could not give a fig about the demands and will simply ignore the resolution if they have the chance.

In essence, the Labour leaders have entered an open coalition with the Tory government on rents and all other questions just as the TUC collaborates with Heath's wage-cutting proposals.

At local level it is the same story, with virulent attacks on the tenants now being made. Two further capitulations to the Tories could take place this week among the 41 Labour-controlled councils still defying the Act.

Camden council in London has for some weeks been negotiating concessions from the Department of the Environment, as already revealed in the Workers Press. Tomorrow the policy and resources committee meets to decide whether to reverse its non-implementation policy.

This will then go before Wednesday's full council meeting. Mrs Millie Miller, council leader, told tenants at Trafalgar Square on October 1, that her council felt isolated in the stand they were taking. By the end of the week they may feel they have some friends.

Salford, in the north-west, is holding an emergency Labour group meeting on Wednesday to review their position. Last week a motion for implementation was lost 18 to 16.

Just listen to Cllr I. Zott, Labour chairman of the housing

TURN TO BACK PAGE

RENTS FIGHT GATHERS STRENGTH

OCTOBER FUND £93.85
STEP UP THE FIGHT

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While trade union and Labour leaders remain silent, workers are becoming more vociferous than ever against the Tory government.

There is no doubt that Workers Press can win a wide circulation in every district. Ours is the only daily paper to expose the absolute retreat of these reformist leaders and instead show the way forward in these decisive struggles.

We know that you, our readers, are also hit by these huge increases, but we appeal to you all. Our Fund is vital to help us to expand and improve the coverage of our paper. We must therefore make a very special effort for our October Fund. There is no more time to waste. Collect extra amounts wherever you can. Post all donations immediately to:

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CAV men occupy closure-threatened plant

MORE THAN 1,000 Liverpool workers at CAV, Fazakerley, yesterday occupied their factory and declared a sit-in strike against a management closure threat.

The men are not 'working-in'—production is at a standstill. They will continue the strike until the multi-million pound parent Lucas empire scraps its plan to close the plant in April next year.

'We are determined to win this fight,' convenor Dave Martin told me yes-

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS ON MERSEYSIDE

terday. 'This closure is part of the Lucas strategy for the Common Market and we are the first victims.'

The shop stewards declared the occupation at 9 a.m. yesterday.

'We decided to take the factory over,' said Mr Martin, who is chairman of the joint shop stewards' committee. 'We told the management to get out of the factory and they went.'

He said that management had been offering all

kinds of incentives to step up production and clear the factory. 'We had to put a stop to this right away.'

Lucas workers learnt of the closure last week when the firm told them that car-pump production at the factory was being phased out.

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Workers at the Lucas

plant on the Fazakerley site have already voted to support any action taken by the men. The Liverpool trades council has also pledged to mobilize support on Merseyside.

Yesterday sub-committees of workers were being set up to deal with canteen and sleeping arrangements and plant maintenance.

The Fazakerley men say the closure is part of the Lucas plans for entry into Europe. The firm already

owns factories in Spain and has interests in German car part plants.

When Lucas workers in nine Birmingham factories struck earlier last year, supplies from Germany were imported to break the dispute. The firm has a monopoly on fuel injection systems.

This evening delegates from all Joseph Lucas plants in the north-west will meet in Liverpool to discuss the situation.

● See centre pages for background on Lucas combine.

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● TUESDAY OCTOBER 10, 1972 ● No. 890 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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What we think

A Tory witch-hunt

'NO GOVERNMENT in its right senses wants conflict for conflict's sake and that is why we are anxious to tackle inflation by agreement with the employers and the trade unions.

'But those with whom we talk know that we are in earnest, we shall not be turned aside from our objective.'

This statement, issued by premier Edward Heath yesterday, shows that the more conciliatory the Labour leaders become, the more the Tories intensify their offensive.

Nationwide, workers are fighting the government on wages, jobs and rents. The huge price increases that will

accompany Common Market entry can only intensify this conflict.

Yet the Labour Party and trade union chiefs refuse to fight the Tories on these issues. The working class is left leaderless in these decisive struggles.

The TUC General Council, meeting today, is desperately seeking a wage-freeze agreement with the Tories and the employers.

And the Labour Party leaders, at their recent conference, put forward no major differences with the Tories on such crucial questions as Ireland, rents, wages and the Common Market

(See opposite page).

As these leaders move towards coalition government, the Tories prepare for a witch-hunt against socialists and militants. This is the meaning of Heath's threat that he would isolate the 'bullies'.

By 'bullies', this spokesman of the ruling class means all those who lead workers' resistance to Tory attacks and Labour sell-outs.

Heath's declaration is intended to reassure the middle class, which makes up the grass-roots membership of the Tory Party, on the eve of their Black-pool conference.

It fits in with the right-wing drive on 'law and order', 'morality' and hostility to the working class.

There are 77 resolutions on law and order on the Tory conference agenda, several of which refer to pickets' 'violence'.

These, of course, are strengthened by attacks on so-called 'extremists' by labour leaders like Jack Jones of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Heath's plan is to play upon middle-class fears in order to create the atmosphere for victimization of workers' leaders under new 'law and order' legislation.

With the TUC eager for continued class-collaboration and Wilson and company heading for coalition, this would leave the working class leaderless and open to serious defeats.

How we can build alternative leadership makes attendance at the October 22 All Trades Unions Alliance conference in Birmingham all the more urgent for workers, tenants and housewives (See delegates' form p. 11).

Peron provides an election diversion

JUAN PERON, the 77-year-old ex-Argentine dictator, continued talks yesterday with a delegation of his supporters who have flown to Madrid from Buenos Aires to plan his return to Argentina.

This latest set of Peronist manoeuvres follows the welcome given to Peron's 'Plan for National Reconstruction' by President-General Lanusse who described it as 'a positive contribution to the solution of Argentina's problems'.

The plan is full of demagogic calls to set Argentina free from imperialist domination and for the release of all political and labour union prisoners there.

Peron's concern for imprisoned

trade unionists can be measured by his statement at a press conference last Thursday in which he remarked:

'Undoubtedly, I have to go to Argentina. But I shall go to do something. If I am not going to do anything, I shall stay here in Madrid where I am very comfortable.'

Since Franco lifted the ban on Peron's public pronouncements the ageing ex-dictator has provided a series of press-statements, conferences and 'summits' like the one he is engaged in at the moment. They are aimed at diverting the Argentine working class, large sectors of which support him, from a real fight against the military junta.

Japanese rearming linked to trade war

BY JOHN SPENCER

JAPAN will almost double its military spending over the next five years under a rearmament programme approved yesterday. The National Defence Council agreed to an outlay of £5,800m for the Fourth Five-Year Defence Build-up Programme.

The money is to be spent on more sophisticated weapons for the Japanese army, navy

and air force. The sum involved is more than twice the amount spent on new equipment by the British government last year.

It is also nearly 100 per cent more than the cost of Japan's previous five-year build-up programme, despite persistent opposition demands for drastic cuts.

The council, presided over by premier Kakuei Tanaka, said it would continue to rely on the American nuclear 'umbrella'—an indication that Japan is not yet developing its own A-bombs.

The increase in weapons includes another 280 tanks and 154 helicopters for the army, 13 destroyers and five submarines for the navy and 173 new jets for the air force. The military manpower will remain just over 250,000.

The council decided on the massive military budget because it was 'not reasonable' to rule out the possibility of local armed conflicts, even though a general war 'seemed highly unlikely'. It noted that despite the relaxation of tension in Asia, the region had not yet achieved 'stable detente'.

Japan has just renewed diplomatic relations with its old enemy, China, and is currently negotiating towards a peace treaty with the USSR. But these moves do little to disguise the growing appetite for Asian markets and raw materials among the big monopolists in Japan.

Since the 'Nixon shocks' beginning last August the American market has been progressively closed to many categories of Japanese goods and the US is mounting pressure on Tokyo for

another revaluation of the yen. The Japanese currency was revalued over 16 per cent in December last year, but Japan is still running a huge payments surplus with America.

To avert another revaluation, the Finance Ministry in Tokyo is working out proposals for cuts in tariffs and expansion of quotas for imports from abroad. Its previous proposals — for a tax on exports — were rejected by Tanaka.

The Ministry has scraped together ten items — including integrated circuits, beans, peas

Several Japanese firms are combining with a West German group to develop an automatically-propelled container ship. The programmed 52,000-ton vessel will be provided with an integrated pressurized water reactor. Construction is expected to start in 1978.

and tomato juice — on which tariff reductions can be made. The list is unlikely to impress the United States, which has already witnessed the farce of previous schemes proposed by the Keidanren, the Japanese employers' association.

Japanese big business is simply playing for time, trying to stave off another disastrous revaluation while building up the military might it requires to force its way into overseas markets. The resurgence of Japanese militarism, foreshadowed by the huge military budget, is far more real than the detente with China and the moves to make peace with the USSR.

Indian crisis hits jobs and production of food

THE INDIAN army was put on the alert throughout the state of Assam yesterday as language riots spread through several districts. In Nowgong and Hojai towns 24-hour curfews are in operation and there have been reports of more than 100 arrests.

The riots began with student demonstrations against the decision to establish a university in a predominantly Bengali-speaking area. Assamese is the state's main language. The Assam riots followed demonstrations in the Punjab, where five students were shot dead by police.

The rapidly worsening economic situation is one of the main causes of the unrest: according to a report published yesterday the country's industrial production is virtually stagnant and agricultural output is likely to be down on last year's.

Unemployment among graduates in India has reached unprecedented proportions leading to continual upheavals in the universities.

When the Delhi offices of the Indian National Reserve Bank advertised 50 vacancies for graduate clerks at salaries of between £10 and £13 a month they received 22,000 replies. The Finance Minister blandly commented that 'it illustrated the

unemployment problem in India'.

The National Council of Applied Economic Research, an independent organization, said in its mid-year review of the economy it was no longer possible to hope that industrial growth would be anything like 9 or 10 per cent.

'In fact, it will be a matter of satisfaction if it turns out to be 6 or 7 per cent', the report said.

Such a growth rate was far from sufficient to contain inflation which had sent prices soaring by 8.5 per cent in the past year.

The report was issued as the policy-making body of the ruling Congress Party met to chart future economic policy.

It said food grain production in 1972-1973 was likely to be 2 to 3 million metric tons below the 1971-1972 figure of 106 million tons.

Fears that the loss of Kharif (summer) crop due to the poor monsoon would be about 15 million tons were exaggerated. The shortfall might be only 6 million tons.

Equally unrealistic was the belief that an additional 15 million tons could be grown during the winter and spring. The increased yield would be 3 to 4 million tons, the report said.

Food prices have risen about 14 per cent overall, the report said. The cost of fish, eggs and meat has gone up by 35 per cent and sugar by 40 per cent in the last year.



Unemployment has hit all sections: These women are from the textile trade.

Sihanouk calls for uprising

PRINCE Norodom Sihanouk, head of the Cambodian government-in-exile and his premier, Penn Nouth, have issued a call for a general uprising in the country to overthrow the Lon Nol dictatorship.

This is the first such call from Sihanouk since his government was overthrown with CIA backing in 1970. It follows a series of daring attacks which brought the Cambodian liberation forces into the heart of the capital, Phnom Penh.

More than 100 liberation troops battled it out at the weekend in the streets with units of Lon Nol's US-financed army. They blew up the longest bridge in Cambodia, the so-called Japanese Bridge over the Tonle Sap River.

Liberation forces control country areas very close to the capital, which is defended in a half-hearted manner by Lon Nol's forces. The weekend attack shows that Sihanouk's forces have considerable support in the capital itself.

Several times they have come close to capturing the town, but they have refrained apparently because they fear the US air force would be brought in to reduce Phnom Penh to rubble if it is taken.

The attack on the city appears to be part of a co-ordinated offensive throughout Indo-China. In recent days the liberation forces in South Vietnam have been pressing closer to Saigon and other towns, including Kontum in the central highlands.

Kaldor and Healey—same words

Who wrote that speech?

WHEN A Labour Party big-shot like Professor Nicholas Kaldor starts praising Tory economic strategy, the working class should be extremely attentive. It announces that large scale treachery is afoot.

In his 'Sunday Times' article, Kaldor examined Heath's proposals for state control over wages and concluded: 'I view this plan with admiration.' And he went on: 'For these new proposals in structure and conception are far superior to anything ever thought of, let alone put forward, in the days of George Brown or during the whole administration of Harold Wilson.'

Kaldor and his 'twin', Lord Balogh, were the economic luminaries behind the Wilson government. They were brought out of universities into Whitehall to help frame Labour's so-called economy strategy.

During last week's Labour Party conference Kaldor was in Blackpool staying at the Imperial Hotel with Harold Wilson and the other Labour leaders. He still retains a powerful influence over the party's economic policy.

We have identified deep similarities between the speech to conference on the economy made by Denis Healey, the shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer and the 'Sunday Times' article by Kaldor. Both began their analysis by describing Heath's attitude to economic matters as antediluvian; both said he had been forced to change his mind; both said agreement on an incomes policy could only be achieved by creating a socialist environment; both said a Labour government had a better chance of persuading the working class to accept such a policy.

The question to ask is did Kaldor write Healey's speech?

In the reproduced extracts on this page it is inconceivable that some form of collaboration did not take place.

link

Why is it important to show a link between the thinking of these two men?

By calling for a £2 wage-curb Heath is launching a huge attack on the standard of living of the working class. By accepting the £2 limit as a basis for negotiations the unions and the Labour Party have accepted in principle the issue of state control over wages.

Fearing the strength of the working class who have won all the major wage battles this year—with the exception of the engineers—the Labour reformists are rushing to the class enemy and offering their assistance. Just as Kaldor supports the Heath plan, so does Healey, but in a less obvious way.

When the package was first announced, Healey said it was 'a step in the right direction'. He continued this theme at the Blackpool conference by saying he did not want to be unfair to what Heath is attempting. Such fair play

BY ALEX MITCHELL

After Healey's speech the conference went on to support a resolution calling for a prices and incomes policy.

This was passed only because the Transport and

General Workers' Union abstained. The bankrupt Labour leadership supports the Tory wage plan because it is afraid of the militancy of its own supporters.

Coalition politics is the order of the day.

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS KALDOR, top economic adviser to the Wilson government, writing in the 'Sunday Times':

Heath, I am sure, really believed that inflation can be cured by monetary measures: by market disciplines, by labour 'pricing itself out of the market'. He really believed that by redistributing the burden of taxation to the masses from the better-off, by abolishing or curtailing universal social benefits and all instruments of price control a new healthy vigorous climate would be created, generating increased investment, greater efficiency, more wealth and even full employment. The pressure of events in the course of this year has finally forced him into an abandonment of most of these beliefs and indeed led him to put forward an entirely new policy which in its ultimate implications is the very opposite of everything the new Toryism stood for. For these new proposals in structure and conception are far superior to anything ever thought of, let alone put forward, in the days of George Brown or during the whole administration of Harold Wilson.

DENIS HEALEY, shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to the economic debate at the Labour Party conference, Blackpool, on Thursday, October 4, 1972.

But Heath clearly believed in these theories which were developed 100 and 200 years ago. He has really tried to take the government out of the economy. He really believed that the major economic decisions should be decided by the brutal clash of market forces. He believed that you could only create incentives for economic growth by widening the gap between rich and poor, and he believed that in order to achieve an effective market economy he must first break the power of the trade unions by legal sanctions supported by mass unemployment. He has tried to apply these policies and, as we could have told him, they have been a total failure at every single point. Toryism has been tried this time and it has been proved to fail. Now I do not want to be unfair to those proposals because, let us face it, they do represent a total reversal of everything Heath has said and done in some field of inflation for the last two years.

South Wales call for farm picket

A CALL for picketing of milk factories, animal feed stuff mills and docks has been made at the South Wales Agricultural Workers' Conference by Bill O'Kelly, a delegate from Gower.

The National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers has submitted a claim for a £25 minimum wage for a 40-hour, five-day week. The present minimum is £16.20 for 42 hours.



Denis Healey reading his speech at Blackpool last week.

Barmaids stop beer supplies

PICKETING Glasgow barmaids yesterday claimed a complete victory in their bid to stop beer supplies going to 350 pubs and hotels owned by Tennant Caledonian Brewers, the brewery chain.

The 1,000 barmaids and barmen began their strike yesterday in support of a claim for a £6-a-week rise to give them £21 for a 40-hour week.

At present they receive a basic of £15 for a 50-hour week. The strike is officially backed by the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Picketing barmaids arrived at the gates of the Tennant Caledonian Wellpark brewery early yesterday. All vehicles were turned away.

David Cairns, the T&GWU's food and drink trade group secretary, said some of the firm's pubs would not open today because of the impact of the pickets. 'If the strike goes on all the pubs will be dry

in a matter of days,' he said.

In addition to picketing the main breweries, pickets would also be stationed at depots at Inverness, Dundee and Fife.

Relations man quits Unionists

ULSTER'S ex-minister of Community Relations, Dr Robert Simpson, has resigned from the Unionist Party. He said yesterday that his resignation had been tendered in a letter to Unionist leader Brian Faulkner.

Dr Simpson added that he had no immediate intention of giving up his Mid-Antrim seat at Stormont. As yet, he had no plans to join another party.

Social workers demand special duty pay

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

SOCIAL WORKERS in six London boroughs are refusing to do voluntary night stand-by until some agreement is reached on their claim for increased pay for emergency duties.

The social workers in Camden, Hackney, Southwark, Tower Hamlets and Wandsworth already refusing to do the emergency duties were expected to be joined yesterday by staff from the Newham borough which covers the East London and Dagenham areas.

In Manchester, where a recent ballot of social workers showed overwhelming support for industrial action, staff will stop stand-by work from next Monday if no settlement is reached.

Staff are extremely dissatisfied with the present payment system for stand-by duty which is carried out on a rota system varying from once every four to once every ten weeks.

At the moment maximum payment for the 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. stand-by duty once every four weeks in London is £104 annually—£2 for a week's duty on stand-by.

If a worker is called out he is paid a locally-agreed sum varying between £1.20 in the provinces and £2 in London.

During negotiations in February this year National Association of Local Government Officers' representatives demanded a joint payment for stand-by and call-out.

The London social workers' co-ordinating committee are asking for £7 a session and in the provinces the demand is for £4.

Since this demand was put forward, negotiations have been practically at a standstill. The employers have refused to consider a joint payment, and have offered a £2.20 increase in call-out payment in the provinces and £4.50 in London.

Tomorrow the national negotiating committee meets again and many social workers expect that the employers will insist the claim goes to arbitration.

And if nothing is agreed then inner London staff may well go ahead with their threat to stop all stand-by in the area by Christmas.

Hospital workers to march

MANUAL workers in the United Manchester Hospitals Group are to march through the city on October 19 in support of their pay and conditions claim.

The manual workers are claiming an increase of £8 a week across the board for men and women, four weeks' annual holiday and a 35-hour week.

Support from other trade unionists is being sought for the march, which will coincide with a half-day stoppage by the hospital workers.

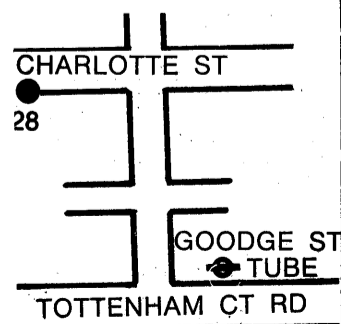
DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the French Employment Services M. Jean Quesnel arrives in London today for discussions on the British and French employment services. The visit forms part of the discussions which are preceding Britain's entry into the Common Market. In the Market there is complete mobility of labour between the member-states.

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THE JAY LOVESTONE STORY

From Stalinism . . . to the CIA. By Charles Parkins. Part Three

STALIN'S PROTEGE

'I was not only a personal friend of Bukharin, but I had fundamental agreement with him on international questions, though on Russian questions I had agreement with Stalin and not with him.'
—Jay Lovestone, testimony before Dies Committee, 1939-1940, Investigation of Un-American Propaganda Activities.

On May 22, 1966 Victor Reuther, international affairs director of America's United Automobile Workers' union, alleged that the leaders of the AFL-CIO unions had 'permitted themselves to be used by the Central Intelligence Agency as a cover for clandestine operations abroad'. Reuther, whose brother Walter was leader of the auto workers, and a prominent figure in the AFL-CIO, went on to say:

'The tragedy of AFL-CIO activities in foreign affairs is that they are a vest pocket operation of Jay Lovestone.'

The following year, when disclosures about CIA involvement in the National Student Association, and through it in student affairs around the world, sparked off considerable controversy, Reuther told the press:

'There is a lot bigger story in the CIA's financial and other connections with the AFL-CIO than with students . . . I did my best to try to lift the lid on it. And some day it will all come out.' ('New York Post', February 16, 1967.)

Since then it has been revealed that the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFL-CIO), received at least \$60,000 annually from CIA sources to finance international activity between 1958 and 1964. Together with the Public Service International, to which it is affiliated, this American union was directly involved in the CIA-supported intrigues to overthrow the Jagan government in British Guiana.

The International Association of Food and Allied Workers' Association, affiliated to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, was used as a cover for CIA activity in Panama.

General secretary Juul E. Poulson confirmed in 1967 that this charge, originally made by Reuther, was true. Poulson said that eight men in Panama and another one active in Colombia had posed as representatives of the International Association, although its headquarters, in Geneva, knew nothing about them.

He added that these men were taking their orders from Andrew C. McLellan, AFL-CIO director for Latin American Affairs who, in turn, was working under Jay Lovestone.

Suspicions about this CIA network can sometimes be exploited by old-style Stalinist bureaucrats prepared to use a bit of demonology to keep the ranks in hand.

More often, particularly in university circles, exposures about CIA connections can arouse a reaction in the form of slick, sick humour, about CIA agents everywhere, which serves as a defence mechanism against facing up to the implications of genuine exposures.

The main danger, however, of a lot of the 'exposures' of the CIA that have been published, is that they often tend to cover up for the rest of the American government and system.

American political leaders, including so-called 'liberals' like the late John F. Kennedy, much venerated by the fake-lefts, share every bit in the responsibility for the actions of the CIA and other agencies.

CIA conspiracies, like the aggression of the 'Green Berets' (who were set up as an 'élite' unit by Kennedy), are part of the maintenance of US imperialism.

The hypocritical pretence that the US government is not involved has been impossible to keep up; but those liberals and 'lefts' who try to ascribe such operations as the Bay of Pigs invasion solely to a conspiracy by 'bad' CIA villains, behind the backs of the US government, are doing their best to provide the US ruling class with an alibi.

Clearly, it is important to expose the connections between the CIA and its servants within the leadership of the workers' own organizations. It is not enough to depict this as a simple conspiracy, as though perfectly good workers' leaders who had been fighting for the working class and for socialist principles were suddenly tempted one day to sell out to the enemy class.

GO-BETWEEN

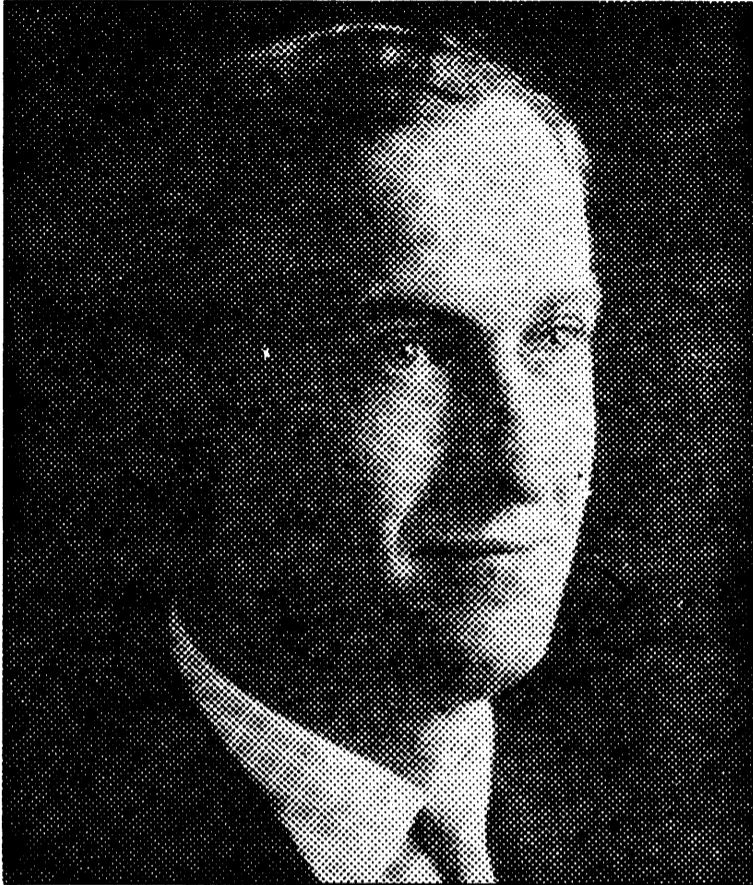
Betrayal is not such a simple process! It generally takes a little longer. The buying-off begins a little more subtly; and if you examine the leaders' pasts, you are likely to find that they were not so hot on principles in the first place.

In the case of the top leadership of the AFL-CIO in America, most of them have always believed in the American system anyway, being content to obtain what crumbs they could for the American workers from the imperialist table. They have made their whole way of life within the system in this go-between position.

The tradition which culminated in outright collaboration with the CIA can be traced back, at least in part, as far as Samuel Gompers' support for the Spanish-American war, in 1898, the beginning of American imperialism. It is always the consequence of wanting peace with your bosses that you must be prepared to support your bosses' wars overseas.

The collaboration of the AFL-CIO right-wing leadership with the CIA can be seen as developing from earlier positions, although the actual way in which this took place is worth analysing. However, the man who has been at the centre of CIA-labour movement intrigues, Jay Lovestone, is worthy of more special attention.

He is not an 'old-fashioned' right-winger, or 'labour-faker', but a former leader of the American Communist Party!



Lovestone in the 1920s became the leader of the infant American Communist Party, with the full backing of the Stalinized bureaucracy in the Soviet Union.

Lovestone took part at one time in the meetings of the Communist International and had private meetings with Russian leaders, including Joseph Stalin.

In all the exposés that have been written on the CIA, whenever the issue of its involvement in the American labour movement is discussed, Lovestone's name inevitably crops up.

Yet, although his past background is sometimes mentioned, there is never more than a passing reference.

In his book 'CIA and American Labour', for example, George Morris, a veteran journalist for the American Communist Party's 'Daily Worker', says:

'Jay Lovestone, who has been described as very influential in US policy-making, and in the framing of the AFL-CIO's foreign policy, is invariably referred to as a "former communist". In 1929 he was expelled after a long struggle within the Communist Party.'

This simply will not do! Lovestone was not just a 'former communist'. He was the general secretary of the American Communist Party. As for the 'long struggle', if it was so consistent then how did Lovestone get to be general secretary?

The truth is that not only was Lovestone able to take the leading Party position and to have his supporters dominate the executive, but he had the express approval and support of the Moscow bureaucracy and Joseph Stalin.

The present Communist Party of the USA is a Stalinist party and, like its counterparts elsewhere, it cannot face the working class with a truthful account of its history. This is why the Stalinists cannot really account for the renegade Lovestone and prefer to dodge the issue.

Lovestone embarked on his career of treachery when he took to the theory of 'socialism in one country', on which Stalinism is based, and remains based to this day.

He entered political life from a background fairly typical of

many American socialists and communists in the period of the Russian Revolution. His parents were poor Jewish immigrants who arrived in the United States from Lithuania when he was nine. In New York, where the family struggled to make a living, the young Lovestone was attracted by the socialism of street-corner speakers. He was attracted first to the De Leonite Socialist Labour Party, then to the Socialist Party.

Having got to the College of the City of New York, he became head in 1917 of the college's chapter of the Intercollegiate Socialist Society. After leaving college, he attended law school for a time, then did various jobs, including a drugstore manager and a social worker.

Late in 1919 he was a delegate to the founding convention of the Communist Party, where he apparently made an impression for his drive and aggression. Although still young, he was elected to the new party's programme committee and to its first Central Executive Committee.

In 1921, he was appointed to his first full-time position—editor of the then underground party organ 'The Communist'. Four months later, he became the underground party's assistant secretary, and for most of 1922 he was national secretary.

ISOLATION

The young American Communist Party had to struggle against tremendous difficulties. There was vicious anti-communist witch-hunting and persecution in America just after the Russian Revolution. There was the problem of isolation, both as a result of the underground phase, and of the opportunism of the early 1920s boom years, when on the surface American capitalism seemed tremendously strong.

There was also the difficulty inside the Party itself of overcoming theoretical as well as practical problems, of assimilating Marxist theory and applying it correctly in the

American situation.

The difficulties which the new Party had in understanding and being able to intervene successfully in American history and the labour movement have often been attributed to the high percentage of foreign-born members. Obviously, this did pose problems; but what was more important was the party's theoretical weakness, its lack of a mastery, not of the English language, but of Marxism.

The Russian Revolution had inspired the militants who formed the Party to follow Lenin's example. But they had yet to develop Lenin's method. Even the best of the CP leaders, such as those who later founded the American Trotskyist movement, tended to start from their existing forms of consciousness and to adopt, in the manner of American pragmatism, what seemed to be useful 'ideas' from the Bolsheviks to add to their existing armoury of militancy.

As long as Lenin and Trotsky remained at the head of the Russian Revolution, there was the possibility of a struggle by them successfully transforming the US Party into a revolutionary party capable of the historical tasks before it.

The onset of the bureaucratic degeneration of the first workers' state that was to give rise to the dictatorship of Stalin reinforced the weaknesses in the American Party and set in motion the process out of which emerged the renegade Lovestone.

As the bureaucracy consolidated its grip on the Soviet Union and the Comintern, it abandoned Lenin's concept of the Soviet Union as a stronghold of world revolution and adopted the nationalist theory that socialism was being established and would be built in the Soviet Union, on its own, with the world communist movement and proletariat being, at best, subordinate allies. This theory of 'socialism in one country' was, and is, the ideology of the bureaucracy.

Explaining what was meant, Stalin said on January 25, 1926: ' . . . the possibility of the proletariat seizing power and using that power to build a complete socialist society in our country, with the sympathy and support of the proletarians of other countries, but without the preliminary victory of the proletarian revolution in other countries.'

The reactionary consequences of this theory for the international working-class movement were that the requirements of the working class and the building of revolutionary parties in each country were firmly subordinated to the short-term bureaucratic considerations of gaining useful allies and friends for the Soviet Union while it went about 'building socialism'.

In Britain there were some apparently strong 'left' leaders in the TUC who could be sympathetic to the Soviet Union.

In China, there were the nationalists of the Kuomintang. In each case, the independence of the Communist Party was subordinated and its ability to present a challenge for the leadership of the masses was destroyed.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

TASS SETS THE TONE FOR KAUNAS TRIALS

BY JOHN SPENCER

Eight young workers in the Soviet Republic of Lithuania have just been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and corrective labour in the first batch of fake trials following disturbances in May and June this year.

When a political protester burned himself to death, the youth of Kaunas took to the streets and rioted for two days.

Disturbances began on the day of 20-year-old Roman Kalanta's funeral. Soviet paratroops and KGB units were rushed to reinforce the police garrisons.

One policeman was killed and several hundred demonstrators were arrested.

Opposition among youth and workers to the Stalinist bureaucracy in the Baltic states has been fermenting for many years.

Although it has often taken a nationalistic and religious form, in essence it was a reaction to the bureaucracy which denies the republics the right to self-determination, carrying out to the letter a policy of Great Russian nationalism. This has meant imposing the Russian language on the various nationalities, alien officials, the stamping out of local customs and the freedom to worship upheld by the Soviet state under Lenin.

For that reason the Kremlin has gone out of its way to malign those involved in the street fighting as 'hooligans' and 'drunkards' who, presumably, just all happened to be on the streets at the same time.

The falsification began soon after the riots when Kalanta's suicide was found by an 'expert commission' not to be politically-motivated, but followed a 'fit of depression'.



Brezhnev and the Kremlin have gone out of their way to malign those involved in street fighting, as 'hooligans' and 'drunkards'.

At the trials themselves, the same line was taken. Look at this statement from TASS broadcast over the radio on October 3:

'A group of eight people appeared before the Supreme Court of Lithuania in an open trial. They are a motley company, with only drinking habits, criminal past and desire for street adventures in common.'

The charges themselves were fantastic, considering what did take place in May and June. All eight were accused and found guilty of 'taking active part in an incident in the street, resulting in a disruption of public order and obstruction of the normal operation of traffic'.

If it really was a case of a few drunks holding up the traffic why did they get such heavy sentences? Four of the eight got three years' jail, two more two years, another 1½ years and the last—a young girl—one year of corrective labour.

Of course, the broadcast tried its best to cover up the real nature of the events in Kaunas:

'The young hoodlums decided to settle accounts with the militia,' it said.

Why eight people not acting as a co-ordinated group in any way decided to set upon the militia is not explained.

Naturally enough, there was no mention of the presence of the para-troopers and the KGB units in the city.

All the defendants pleaded guilty and volunteered ridiculous statements to 'explain' their behaviour.

'I met an old prison-mate and we drank five bottles,' said one.

The trials and sentences in Kaunas are only just beginning. It is reported that up to 200 youths are being held in jail awaiting trial. Some 20 of them are said to be students at the Technical and Medical Institutes of Kaunas. More 'hooligans', as TASS would have us believe.

CZECH THEATRE BECOMES NORMALIZED

Another milestone in the Stalinist 'normalization' of Czechoslovakia was the creation last week of a Union of Czech Theatre Artists. Over 230 delegates were present at the meeting in Prague which established the new body.

Earlier this year, the Gustav Husak regime forced the disbandment of a number of theatre companies whose members had opposed the 1968 Warsaw Pact occupation.

DECAY

Official speakers brought in to launch the new organization made it clear these people and others like them will not be eligible for membership.

Jan Fojtik, speaking for the Czech CP's Central Committee stressed that the artists' unions

are 'ideologically selective organizations'. He said it would be rather strange if they were to let their opponents back 'after all the disruption which the right wing caused in this sphere.'

'It does not worry us or deflect us from our purpose if we are reminded that many people are still outside our union,' he said. The foundation of the union marked the end of the hopes of those who had thought that 'with their own departure from public life there would set in a decay of society, of culture and of art...'

The purpose of the new union was spelled out unmistakably by Klement Gottwald prizewinner Jaroslav Huzera, one of the union's deputy chairmen. He thanked the state for its aid during the 'difficult' period of 'consolidation' and pledged Czech theatre workers to adhere to the method of socialist realism.

TO ORDER

In case anyone missed the point, it was reiterated in 'Rude Pravo' which said: 'We expect from creative workers in the domains of films, television and radio, from workers in culture and education in state, trade union and other bodies and institutions a high degree of responsibility, party-mindedness and a principled attitude in spreading art among the widest groups of the population.'

In other words—too the line, write to order or you'll be out on your ear. And without the sanction of the Union of Czech Theatre Artists no actor or playwright can work at his trade.



Husak: Forced disbandment of the theatre companies.

KAUNDA BANS DISCONTENT

A total ban on all student demonstrations was clamped on Zambia last month by president Kenneth Kaunda, darling of the British Fabians.

The ban was announced following student unrest at the Natural Resources Development College on the outskirts of Lusaka and at the Northern Technical College, Ndola.

In both cases the demonstrations were staged against the government-owned 'Zambia Daily Mail' which the students claimed had published a story unjustifiably attacking students' behaviour at the colleges.

Addressing the Zambia National Service passing-out parade at Kafue, near Lusaka, the President said that in future no unlawful student demonstrations would be tolerated.

The police would take tough action against any student en-

gaged in unlawful activities and court action would be taken against students guilty of criminal acts committed during demonstrations.

Those found guilty would be automatically expelled and they would be made to pay for any damage they had caused, Kaunda said.

Attacking 'abuse of privileges' in educational institutions, Kaunda said subversive elements who had infiltrated student bodies and incited the innocent majority of students to commit unlawful acts would be weeded out.

'Students are free to learn and live in peace and to express their discontent through correct channels. They are not free to break regulations and the law, or to abuse lawful authority or the privileges of free education.'

As a final warning, he added: 'Over-dramatization of discontent will in future be more adequately met by a dramatic exercise of lawful authority.'



CROSSING THE LINE

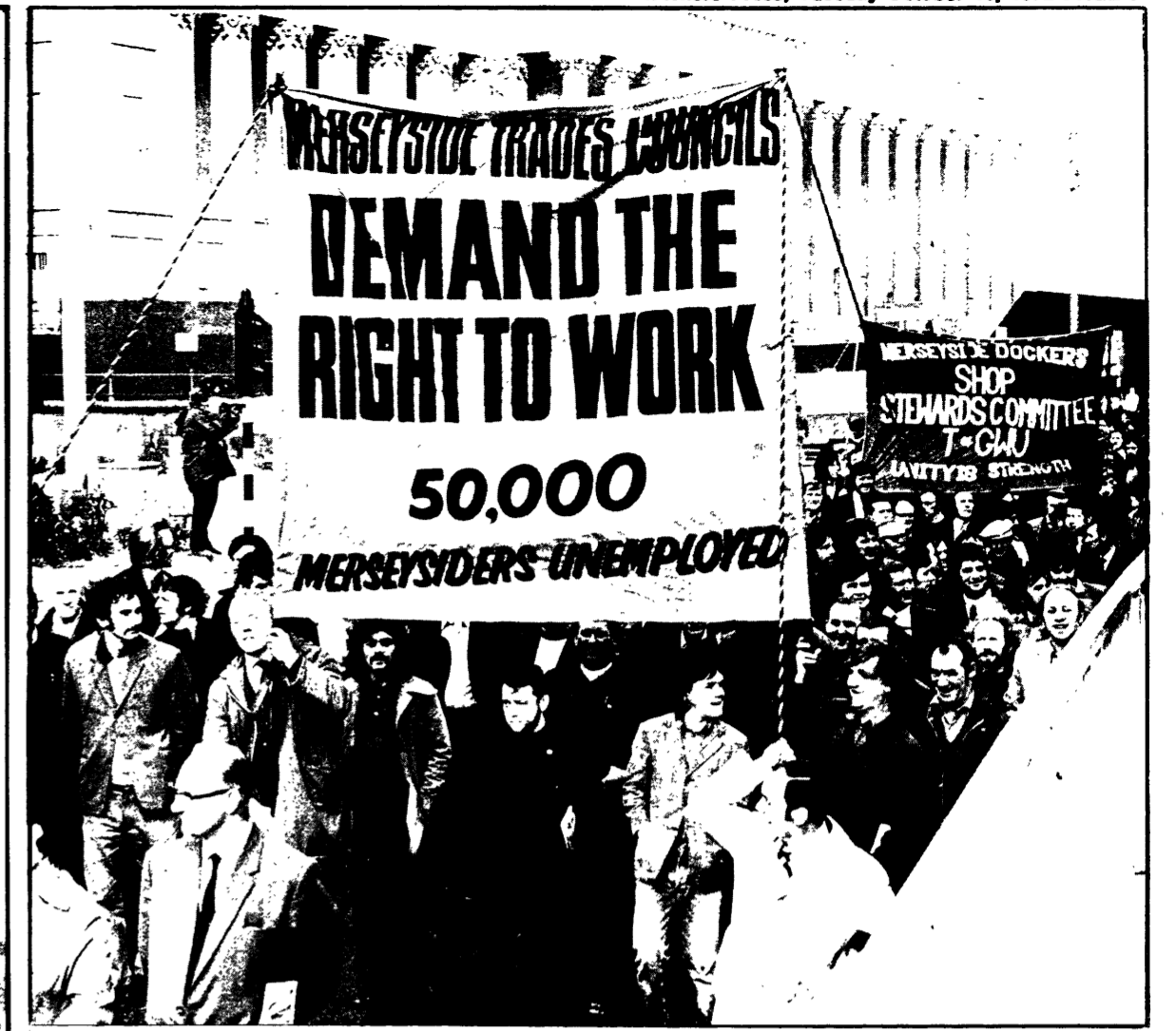
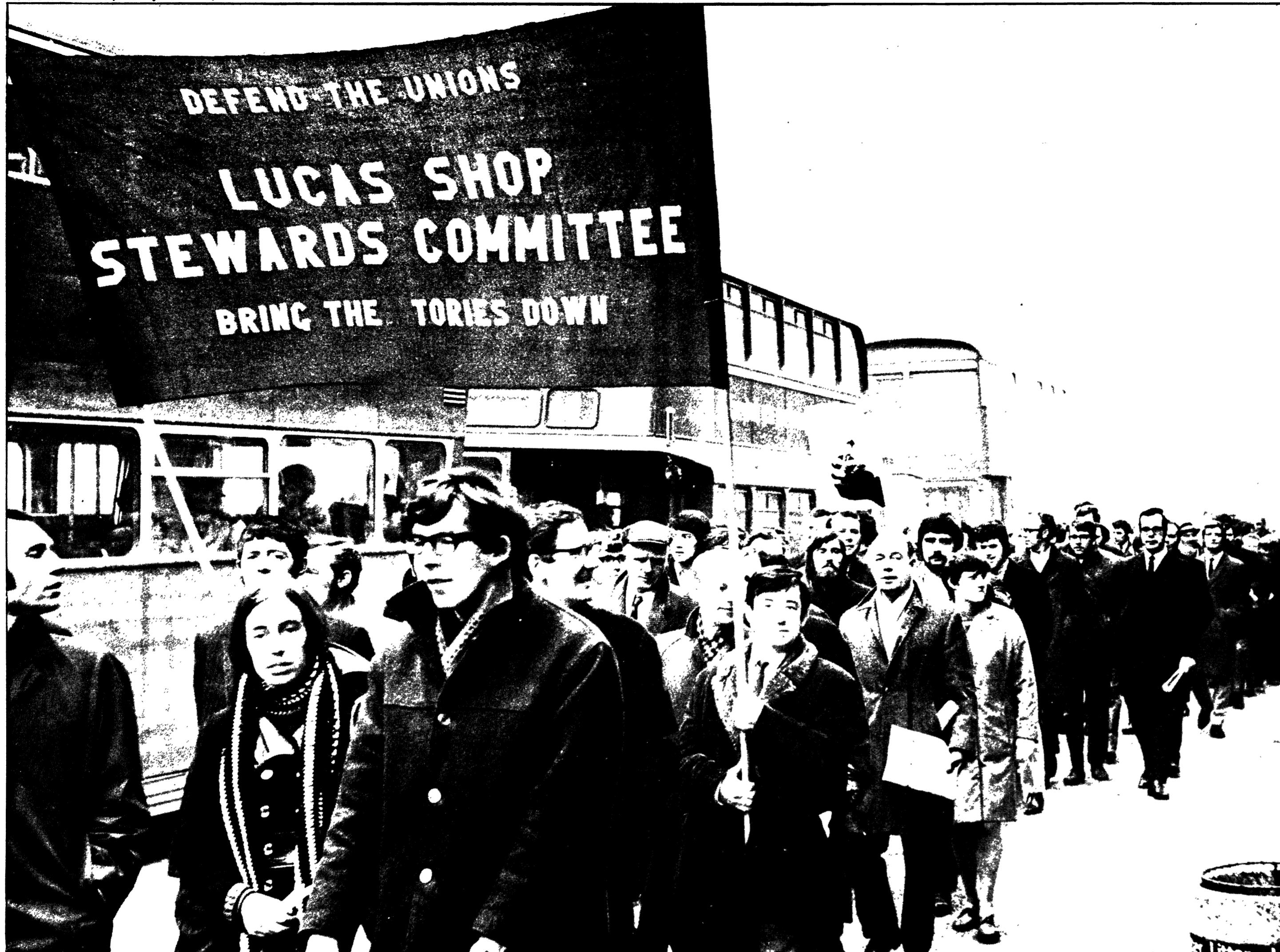
The cross of Jesus ran into trouble when Arthur Blessitt tried to take it into Spain at the frontier point of Irun in the Basque provinces.

The civil guard did not like the look of his six-foot high, ninety-pound Jesus symbol, although apparently they did not take exception to his 'turn on to Jesus' stickers.

Even the prayers of his suitably named wife, Sherry, had no effect on the guardians of Franco's law and order.

No doubt, Blessitt was a spot of pleasant light relief for the Basque police who are in the midst of a campaign against the Basque nationalists, 80 of whom have been arrested in the last month.

Unlike the members of the Basque separatist movement, the ETA, the cheery evangelical only lost his cross: he is free to propagate his views, whose anti-communism is more grist to Franco's mill.



HOW JOSEPH LUCAS BUILT HIS EMPIRE

Ian Yeats examines the facts behind the Fazakerley closure in Liverpool

The fate of CAV's vehicle pump factory at Fazakerley, Liverpool, was sealed at a series of board meetings nearly four years ago. That the factory is now to be shut down with the loss of 1,000 jobs is no surprise to top brass at Joseph Lucas (Industries) Ltd who own CAV. They planned it.

The production of in-line diesel fuel injection pumps previously made at the Merseyside plant will not be transferred, as many workers at the

doomed plant think.

It will be discontinued and the contracting market for pumps will be supplied with later and more efficient models from the combine's other factories.

The seeds of this change-over were sown in 1969 when, armed with a £3m loan from the Labour government's Industrial Reorganization Corporation, Lucas bought out its two only rivals—Simms Motor Units and H. B. Hobson.

Despite several investigations by the Monopolies Commission into Lucas and certain of its 37 UK subsidiaries, the IRC, backed by Anthony Wedgwood Benn's Mintech, came down in favour of a further strengthen-

ing of Lucas. The Simms-Hobbs tie-up was part of this.

Other parts of the shake-up calculated to give Lucas a commanding position in the motor components and aerospace industries included the taking over of the special products division of GEC-English Electric and Vactric.

The hoped-for and achieved result of all this was to turn the Lucas combine, which besides its UK interests also owns 27 foreign subsidiaries in 16 countries, into a world giant capable of competing with the huge corporations of Europe, the US and Japan.

The reorganization followed a considerable drop in car sales, aggravated by the Labour

government's credit squeeze, during which Lucas had no compunction in putting thousands of production workers in its car-components factories on short time.

The historic British-Leyland merger took place at the same time, reducing the number of vehicle-builders to four and foreshadowing what everyone expected would be the inevitable 'consolidation' of motor-component suppliers.

SHAKE-OUT

There was no foot-dragging at the combine's Birmingham headquarters and personnel and marketing teams rapidly set about concreting the im-

plications of the mergers.

Throughout the group's motor components and aerospace factories, employing 80,000 people, a massive labour shake-out was accompanied by a drive to introduce Measured-Day Work and new payments systems.

At Lucas, CAV and Girling plants up and down the country, 1969 was marked by a wave of strikes against the new conditions. These lasted throughout the year and drew harsh words from Lucas about the need for orderly industrial relations.

The Tories were soon to oblige them and in the same year the Industrial Relations Act became law Lucas gave the

party and organizations supporting it, including the anti-nationalization Aims of Industry, a total of £12,500 from profits.

In April 1970, Lucas produced the final blueprint of the master plan for diesel pump production which was to lead to today's axing at Fazakerley.

Lucas announced a £13.5m expansion which would allow it to modernize certain existing plants producing vehicle pumps and build one entirely new factory in Gillingham, Kent.

This cost £5.7m and, with 20,000 sq ft of floor space, was eventually capable of turning out 45,000 fuel-injection pumps a day.

Three plants already existed at Sudbury, Suffolk, but the complex was extended by 72,000 sq ft to allow diesel nozzle production to rise from 4½ to 7 million with consequent increases in injector production.

Of Lucas' factories at Finchley and Colindale in north London, production capacity at the latter plant was raised by 50 per cent.

Even at this time Lucas was looking towards Europe and at the same time as the improvements were being made to its UK plants, new investments were made in France and Spain.

A £1m extension to the Roto Diesel factory at Blois, France, raised capacity there by 25 per

cent and there was a 30 per cent rise in output at the Condiesel plant in Barcelona, Spain.

TAKE-OVER

Workers in Spain were taking home only about £6 a week pay and at the Sudbury factory, which became the apple of the Lucas eye, car components whizzed along in nylon tubes from one fully-automated and unattended machine tool to the next until the job was done.

The foundation was now laid for further rationalization of the diesel-pump production units. These factories have now taken over the supply of all

world demand for diesel pumps fulfilled by Lucas. Fazakerley is not needed.

Rationalization, work-study, supervision systems, including the bitterly resisted tele-control, pushed up the return on Lucas' capital—the aim of the whole exercise.

In 1967 the group's turnover was £184m. Even after the Rolls-Royce collapse, which hit the combine's aerospace divisions, the 1971 turnover rose to £320m.

Profit in 1967 was £10.7m, rising to £15.1m in 1971. This year, despite the impact of recession—a 15 per cent slump in the demand for diesel engines between 1970-1971—expected to go up to £19m.

Left: Liverpool shop stewards of the massive Lucas-CAV combine march during the January 12, 1971 demonstration against the Industrial Relations Act. Top: workers join a rent's march. Above: on a one-day strike.

Harsh management has kept Lucas' profits rising even in the midst of recession and after sacking literally thousands of men over the past four years another 1,000 at Fazakerley are unlikely to weigh on its corporate conscience.

The Fazakerley plant is losing 'millions of pounds a year' and with reduced plant able to keep up with existing demand and brighter prospects in the Common Market, Lucas will not tolerate a loss-maker.

HOW STALIN PAVED THE WAY FOR HITLER

Part eleven of a series by Tom Kemp on the history of the German Communist Party

The 12th congress of the German Communist Party (KPD) in 1929, the last legal one held by the Party, endorsed the left turn. The strikes then going on were seen as the first skirmishes of the revolution. The Social Democratic Party (SPD) was described as 'social fascist'.

Theorists tried to give this meaningless term a semblance of truth by claiming that the SPD was based on a workers' aristocracy whose interests were enlaced with the big monopolies and the state.

The KPD, of course, was only echoing Stalin when it used the term 'social fascist'. Apart from its unscientific character, this term caused untold harm because it made it impossible to break SPD workers away from their leaders or to pursue a united-front tactic which would permit joint activity against Nazism.

The 'social fascism' formula made it impossible to distinguish between different forms of bourgeois rule and the different class combinations which they represented.

In his attack on it in 'Germany—What Next?' Leon Trotsky put the matter squarely as follows:

'Social Democracy, which is today the chief representative of the parliamentary-bourgeois regime, derives its support from the workers. Fascism is supported by the petty bourgeoisie. Social Democracy without the mass organizations of the workers can have no influence. Fascism cannot entrench itself in power without annihilating the workers' organizations. The parliament is the main arena of Social Democracy. The system of fascism is based upon the destruction of parliamentarism.

'For the monopolistic bourgeoisie, the parliamentary and fascist regimes represent only different vehicles of domination: it has recourse to one or the other, depending upon the historical conditions. But for Social Democracy and fascism, the choice of one or the other vehicle has an independent significance, more than that, for them it is a question of political life or death.'

Analysing fascism in 1931, Trotsky emphasized:

'It doesn't only mean that the forms and methods of government are changed in accordance with the patterns set by Mussolini—the changes in this sphere ultimately play a minor role—but it means, first and above all, that the workers' organizations are annihilated; that the proletariat is reduced to an amorphous state; and that a system of administration is created which penetrates deeply into the masses and which serves to frustrate the independent crystallization of the proletariat. Therein precisely is the essence of fascism.'

The theory of 'social fascism' was employed by the KPD until the end and continued to be used by the Comintern until 1934-1935. It is only in the last few years that the Communist Parties have admitted that this whole left turn, including 'social fascism' as a description of Social



Above: SPD anti-fascist demonstration in Berlin in July 1932. One of the last efforts before fascism took over.

Democracy, was a disastrous mistake.

Even now it is not explained how Stalin adopted this policy nor why the CPs swallowed it without opposition. In fact they cannot make an honest reckoning with this period at all because it raises the question of Stalinism and the theory of 'socialism in one country', to which they still adhere. Least of all can they admit the correctness of Trotsky's criticism.

As the effects of the depression spread in Germany, the Weimar Republic was plunged into a prolonged political crisis which culminated in 1933 with Hitler's accession to power. The era of relative political stability came to an end in March 1930 with the defeat of the coalition government and the failure of Brüning to form a viable alternative.

GAINS

In the elections which followed in September the KPD campaigned on the slogan 'Struggle against fascism—for the dictatorship of the proletariat'. The SPD lost about 500,000 votes and the KPD gained 1.25 million. However, the Nazi vote soared from 800,000 to 6.5 million against 8.5 million for the SPD and

4.5 million for the KPD.

Ignoring or underestimating the significance of Hitler's vote the KPD declared itself, in typical Stalinist fashion, the only victor in the election!

Normal parliamentary government had come to an end. A majority coalition could not be formed and Brüning ruled by decree under Article 49 of the Weimar Constitution, embarking on a deflationary policy in an attempt to meet the economic collapse.

Whatever the new government was, it was not fascist, as it was instantly labelled by the KPD. Later, under pressure from the Comintern, this was modified to 'a government for the realization of fascist dictatorship'—the meaning of which was left obscure.

The complexity of the situation gave Thaelmann every opportunity to reveal his mediocrity as a theorist. The governments which followed each other in Germany were now all fascist or near-fascist, with the SPD, of course, always 'social fascist'.

The main struggle was directed against the SPD. In May 1931 the Central Committee found: 'The fascist dictatorship represents in no way a contradiction in principle with bourgeois democracy, under which the dictatorship of finance capital is also

realized.'

The KPD's leading body followed this up in February 1933 with the following: 'Democracy and fascist dictatorship are only two forms which hide the same content . . . but they also move together as far as methods are concerned and interlace.' It was not clear whether Germany was already fascist or on the brink of fascism.

SHORT-LIVED

There were different nuances of the theory of 'social fascism' expressed in the KPD and, from time to time, some criticism of the most extravagant formulations. Thaelmann himself took to task a Party hack who had written: 'A social-democratic coalition government . . . would be a thousand times worse than an open fascist dictatorship . . .'

The view was general, moreover, that a fascist regime would be short-lived. The slogan 'After the Nazis—Our Turn' became popular with the KPD in the last year or two of the Weimar Republic. By smashing the SPD and the trade unions, the Nazis would clear the way for the proletarian dictatorship, argued Rummel, one of the main Party leaders.

The KPD's frenzied ultra-

left declarations took place against a background of unprecedented unemployment and economic chaos. Eight million workless roamed the streets as factories closed their doors and whole industrial areas became lifeless.

The ordeal was scarcely less great for the peasants who could not sell their crops, or only at low prices, and the middle class, which saw itself thrust down into the ranks of the proletariat.

These were the conditions under which millions turned to Hitler and the Nazis and the real fascist danger grew. Nevertheless, the KPD did not modify its 'social-fascist' line:

'We cannot defeat fascism without destroying Social Democracy . . . it is only when the mortal blow has been struck against Social Democracy, the principal social support of the bourgeoisie, that we shall be able to conquer and destroy the principal class enemy of the working class—the bourgeoisie.'

Every KPD leaflet, pamphlet and newspaper harped on the same theme. Thaelmann cited Stalin's phrase that Social Democracy were 'not antipodes but twins'. The SPD was described as the 'moderate wing' of fascism!

CONTINUED TOMORROW

Stalinist crisis NIXON AIDE ASSESSES TRADE PACT

BY JOHN SPENCER

What does American big business stand to gain from the trade treaty Nixon is currently concluding with the Soviet Union? Commerce Secretary Peterson gave out some of the answers in a recent speech to the California Chamber of Commerce.

Peterson heads the American delegation to the US-USSR commercial commission which is now putting the final touches to a package trading agreement including a maritime deal, settlement of the outstanding Soviet wartime debt to the US and matters of credit and trade.

The final package is expected to be ready for signing before the end of the year—a comprehensive agreement taking into account practically all conceivable problems which might arise in the trading relationship between the two countries.

Peterson called it 'a sturdy and well-engineered bridge' between America and the Soviet Union. Justifying the new deal, he referred to its political implications:

'The worlds of international politics and international commerce are . . . intimately linked. Relaxation of political and commercial tension stands in both cause and effect relationships to one another.'

'As political relationships improve, commercial relationships increase. As commercial relationships increase, the incentive to avert political differences is strengthened.'

These words will doubtless be noted with justified suspicion by the liberation fighters in Vietnam who have more than once voiced their hostility to the US-Soviet rapprochement.

High prices

Peterson was quick to reassure those who thought a flood of cheap Soviet goods would undermine American domestic markets: 'Nothing could be less likely . . . Anyone who saw what I saw [in the Soviet shops] could hardly believe that the Soviet Union poses much of a threat to US producers at least in the consumer-goods market.'

'The goods on sale in Moscow were characterized by non-competitive features and extremely high prices . . . The products which the United States is most likely to sell to the Soviets — machine tools, machinery and equipment and grain — have a considerably higher labour content than the raw materials which will constitute the bulk of our imports from them.'

This is a shrewd capitalist assessment of the real relationship between the Soviet economy and that of the United States. Because of its inherited backwardness, its isolation from the centres of capitalist production and the



Soviet CP chief, Brezhnev, recent host to Nixon and Kissinger

bureaucratic mismanagement of the Stalinists, the Soviet economy is in no position to compete on equal terms with the US.

And the US negotiators have been careful to ensure that the Soviet Union does not derive any benefit in the relationship from its state monopoly of foreign trade. Peterson said this monopoly raised some questions about US dumping laws.

'In the Soviet Union the selling price of a good does not necessarily bear the same relationship to the cost of its production as it does in this country. The ability of the state arbitrarily to determine prices renders the "fair value" test meaningless.'

For this reason, he said, the US was insisting on a comprehensive agreement, which would exclude the possibility of Soviet 'dumping' on American markets. Similarly, he allayed any suspicion that the US was proposing to end its embargo on the export of 'strategic' goods to the USSR.

'This nation's security has not been, and will not be, put on the bargaining table,' he said.

One of the main American targets in the deal is to corner Soviet supplies of oil and natural gas: Peterson pointed out that US energy requirements are doubling every 15 years and said that under present schemes the USSR would soon become the No 1 natural gas supplier, surpassing both the Middle East and Venezuela.

This, Peterson said, would decrease American dependence on the 'increasingly unpredictable' group of Oil Producing and Exporting Countries (OPEC), mainly the Middle East oil states. Farmers too would benefit, he said, as they were doing already from sales of wheat.

These sales were likely to continue, he said, cynically noting the 'dramatic contrast' between the productivity of labour on farms in the USSR and the USA.

'In 1971, the average Soviet farmer produced only one-ninth the amount produced by his American counterpart,' Peterson said.

He also referred to the

juicy prospect of selling machinery and equipment — and even whole factories — to the Soviet Union. US firms had applied for export licences worth well over \$1,000m in anticipation of contracts on the giant Kama river project in Siberia he said.

Prospects

There were also rosy prospects for export of electrical and non-electrical machinery to the USSR, present levels accounting only for a 'mini-scale \$60m' a year.

One outstanding problem, Peterson said, was the question of credit terms to finance big export deals. Because the rouble is a non-convertible currency and Soviet foreign exchange reserves are small, the USSR will have to raise loans in the US to finance its purchases there.

Peterson made it clear that there will be no question of specially low rates of interest on such loans, though the Soviet negotiators would 'like two per cent and ten years'. He pointed out that the 'enormous amounts of credit' would be involved in some of the prospective deals — especially as the US will have a substantial balance-of-payments surplus with the USSR during the first stage of the agreement.

He spoke of loans worth \$5,000m for just two major projects—a prospect which must have set bankers' mouths watering in his audience. This sum, he said, was almost one-third of the total loans at present made by the US Import-Export Bank, and almost four times the Bank's total loan to any other country.

Peterson speaks as a well-informed bourgeois who is thoroughly aware of the political and economic implications of the US-Soviet deal.

His frank statements about US intentions are in marked contrast with the secrecy and double-talk of the Stalinist bureaucrats in the Kremlin who enter this agreement with deceptive words about 'peaceful co-existence' and attempt to fool the working class about their real relationship with US big business.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

DOING WELL

Working-class parents—struggling to keep their 15-year-olds at school in the face of higher school meal charges and adult bus-fares for children will be interested in what the rich are still managing to pay out for the education of their offspring.

We are told that in spite of an annual 10-per-cent rise in fees, the great private boarding schools are doing well.

Eton this term costs £287, which for a year amounts to £861, as compared with £765 before the last rise in May 1970.

After renovation of buildings some extra bedrooms have been made available, the school is full to capacity with a roll of about 1,240. It expects to go on being full up even though fees are due to rise again in January by at least a further 10 per cent.

Harrow is now charging £849 and Marlborough £942 for the privilege of a year's tuition. (In practice, parents have to pay for all sorts of extras over and above the fee. Apparently Marlborough includes more of these in its fee, so that the total cost of Eton or Harrow is probably just as high as Marlborough, if not higher.)

Highest of all is Millfield. The inclusive charge there in the last academic year was towards £1,500 for boarders and about £750 for day pupils. This year the approximate figures are £1,600 and £820.

Says Millfield Headmaster Atkinson: 'Parents seem to have got to the stage where they go on paying no matter what the price is. I suppose there might be some process by which independent schools automatically become delayed beneficiaries of stock market booms.'

What happens when the markets slump?

WIDOWS

The Housing Finance Act, as well as doubling rents, has brought in another injustice which will affect thousands of women.

The Act states that in calculating a rent rebate, up to £2 of the amount by which the pension of an industrial or war

widow exceeds the standard rate of the national insurance widow's pension is to be disregarded.

What this means is that widows whose husbands died as a result of old age, illness, violence, or accidents, are financially worse off than those whose husbands were the victims of industrial or war injuries. It takes no account of the woman's needs or commitments, and widows' pensions are counted in full for tax purposes.

This, incidentally, also applies to supplementary allowances.

National insurance widows' pensions are graded according to age, but thousands of women get only £1.80 a week, and thousands more receive nothing at all after the first few weeks of widowhood.

FREE PRESS MYTH



The 'free' press is a total mythology. The papers print what they want to print. Take the 'Daily Telegraph'. For the past five years this Tory-owned newspaper has conducted a poll each month among Tory voters and asked the following question: 'Who do you think should lead the Conservative Party?'

On every month but two the answer has been Enoch Powell. But the 'Telegraph' has only published the results of the poll on the two occasions the answer has been Heath.

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ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

WEALDSTONE: Tuesday October 10, 8 p.m. Wealdstone Labour Hall, Station Approach, Station Road. 'ATUA conference'.

WANDSWORTH: Tuesday October 10, 8 p.m. Selkirk Hotel, Selkirk Road, SW17. 'ATUA conference'.

CLAPHAM: Tuesday October 10, 8 p.m. Clapham Baths, Clapham Manor Street, SW4. 'ATUA conference'.

MANCHESTER: Wednesday October 11, 7.30 p.m. Milton Hall, Deansgate. 'Fight the rent Act! Build Councils of Action!'

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, opposite New Cross Station. 'The ATUA conference'.

LEICESTER: Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. 'Queen's Hotel'. Rutland Street. 'ATUA conference'.

GLASGOW: Thursday October 12, 7.30 p.m. Trades Hall, Clydebank. 'UCS and the ATUA conference'.

WILLESDEN: Thursday October 12, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, NW10. 'ATUA conference'.

SWANSEA: Thursday October 12, 7 p.m. Swansea Council of Social Services Building, Mount Pleasant Hill (next to fire station).

BARNSELY: Friday October 13, 7.30 p.m. Community Hall, Laithe Crescent. 'The rents struggle and the ATUA conference.' Speakers: Robbie Roberts (Dodworth miner), Chris Stones (chairman, Athersley tenants), Ray Jaxon (South Yorks YS).

CENTRAL LONDON (Entertainments and press branch): Sunday October 15, 7 p.m. London School of Film Technique, 24 Shelton Street, WC2. Speaker: Royston Bull, industrial correspondent of 'The Scotsman' (in a personal capacity).

DAGENHAM: Tuesday October 17, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue, Barking. 'Force the Tories to resign.'

KENT: Thursday October 19, 8 p.m. 'The Legion', Burgess Road, Aylesham. 'Reinstate William Griffiths fitters. Prepare the ATUA conference.' Speakers: A Griffiths' striker and leading Kent miner (both in a personal capacity).

TV

BBC 1

9.38 Schools. 12.30 Ar y trywydd. 12.55 News 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Camberwick green. 1.45 Canvas. 2.00 Schools. 2.50 Countryman. 3.15 Escape to fulfilment. 3.45 Rosla and after. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Magic roundabout. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Animal magic. 5.20 John Craven's newsround. 5.25 Josie and the pussycats. 5.45 News and weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.40 FILM: 'THE CRACKSMAN'. Charlie Drake. Adventures of a master locksmith.

8.30 MY WIFE NEXT DOOR. For Richer, For Poorer...

9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS. Weather.

9.25 DOCUMENTARY: 'CANCER: MEETING THE CHALLENGE'. The curability of cancer.

10.45 MID-WEEK.

11.30 LATE NIGHT NEWS.

11.35 THE OPEN PERSUADERS. Joan Bakewell interviews George Bruce, poet.

11.50 Weather.

ITV

9.30 Schools. 12.00 Magic ball. 12.15 Women today. 12.45 Craftsmen. 1.10 Sound of Dorita y Pepe. 1.25 Felix the cat. 1.40 Flintstones. 2.05 Castle haven. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Charlie Brown show. 3.30 Danger man. 4.25 Sooty show. 4.50 Magpie. 5.20 I dream of Jeannie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.

6.30 CROSSROADS.

6.55 MY GOOD WOMAN.

7.25 FILM: 'THE PLAINSMAN'. Don Murray, Guy Stockwell, Abby Dalton, Bradford Dillman. Western about Wild Bill Hickok.

9.00 ARMCHAIR THEATRE: 'THE CREDITORS'. Susannah York, Kenneth Haigh, Anthony Corlan. Adaptation of the August Strindberg classic.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 DR PRICE 1800-1893. Story of the life of William Price of Llantrisant, doctor and iconoclast. With William Squire.

11.30 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING.

12.15 MUSIC MATTERS.



Eileen Atkins plays the title role in tonight's Stage 2 production 'The Duchess of Malfi' on BBC 2.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 1.15-1.40 Medicine today. 5.35-6.00 Open University.

6.35 WORKERS AT RISK. Who's Responsible?

7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.

7.30 NEWSROOM. Weather.

8.00 FLOODLIT RUGBY LEAGUE. St Helens v Leeds.

8.50 WHEELBASE.

9.25 PLAY: 'THE DUCHESS OF MALFI'. Stage 2 presentation with Eileen Atkins, Michael Bryant, Charles Kay, T. P. McKenna, Gary Bond.

11.25 NEWS ON 2. Weather.

11.30 THE OLD GREY WHISTLE TEST.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 3.50 Puffin. 3.55 Odd couple. 4.25 London. 5.20 Shirley's world. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Police file. 6.15 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Alaska Seas'. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London. 12.15 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.00 Gus Honeybun. 3.53 News. 6.00 Diary. 12.12 News. 12.15 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.05 News. 1.10 Jobs in the house and garden. 1.35 Dick Van Dyke. 2.00 Freud on food. 2.25 Film: 'It's Never Too Late'. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.25 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.40 Jimmy Stewart. 7.05 McMillan and wife. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. 12.25 Weather.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 12.15 Woobinda. 12.45 Rivals. 1.45 A place of her own. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 Saint. 4.00 Hare brush. 4.10 Tinkertainment. 4.25 London. 5.20 Gustavus. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Bless this house. 7.00 Film: 'Apache Rifles'. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London. 12.15 Drive in. 12.45 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except: 4.10-4.25 Miri mawr. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd. **HTV West as above except:** 6.15-6.30 Report West.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 2.00 Junkin. 2.30 London. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.15 Randall and Hopkirk. 4.10 Cartoon. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Chimp. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Cast a Long Shadow'. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30-12.15 London. 2.40 Jokers wild. 3.10 Horoscope. 3.15 Women today. 3.40 Dick Van Dyke. 4.10 Enchanted house. 4.25 London. 5.20 Jackson Five. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Apache Rifles'. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London. 12.15 Stories worth telling. 12.20 Jason King. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00-12.15 London. 1.30 News. 1.32 Cartoon. 1.40-2.42 Schools. 4.00 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Partners. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Diamond Wizard'. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 12.15 Common Market cook book. 12.45 Till I end my song. 1.45 Jimmy Stewart. 2.15 Cartoon. 2.30 London. 3.00 World snooker. 3.55 Dr Simon Locke. 4.25 London. 5.20 Shirley's world. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Cartoon time. 7.05 Film: 'In Broad Daylight'. 9.00 London. 12.00 Scotland Yard mysteries. 12.35 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 12.15 Sean the leprechaun. 12.30 Rainbow country. 1.00 Galloping gourmet. 1.30 Junkin. 2.00 Untamed world. 2.30 Looking at... 3.00 Saint. 3.55 Scales of justice. 4.20 News. London. 5.15 Peyton Place. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Put it in writing. 6.25 Sky's the limit. 7.00 Cartoon festival. 7.05 Film: 'Longstreet'. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 London. 12.15 Alexander the greatest. 12.50 Edgar Wallace. 1.45 Jimmy Stewart. 2.15 Felix the cat. 2.30 Amazing world of Kreskin. 2.59 News. 3.00 Calling Doctor Gannon. 3.55 Funny face. 4.25 London. 5.20 Shirley's world. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.05 Film: 'In Broad Daylight'. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London. 12.15 News. 12.30 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 12.15 No small change. 12.45 To see ourselves. 1.10 Quentin Durgens. 2.05 Nanny and the professor. 2.30 Dateline Scotland. 3.00 Country calendar. 3.15 Champions. 4.10 Enchanted house. 4.25 London. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Cartoon. 6.40 Adam Smith. 7.10 Columbo. 8.30 My good woman. 9.00 London. 12.15 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 12.15 Dick Van Dyke. 12.45 Danger man. 1.38 Schools. 2.45 Cartoon. 2.57 News. 3.00 Let's face it. 3.30 Survival. 4.00 Lucy show. 4.25 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Top team. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.05 Film: 'In Broad Daylight'. 9.00 London. 12.15 Meditation.

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Monday October 23

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Monday October 30

PEEL HOTEL

Boar Lane, 8 p.m.

Travelling teachers

THE NATIONAL Union of Teachers yesterday became the first trade union to enter the travel agency business. It launched a comprehensive travel booking and advisory service available to the public as well as its 314,000 members and their families.

The company, established through the union's publishing company, the Schoolmaster Publishing Company Limited, will be known as the Professional Travel Association Limited—PETAL.

The publishing company says that apart from the restricted travel facilities of the National Union of Students, the NUT is the first trade union to become involved in the general travel field.

PETAL chairman Ben Johnson, said: 'There is a large demand among union members for a professional travel service.'

300 Smethwick foundry jobs are threatened

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

OVER 300 men at Midland Motor Cylinder, part of the Birmid Qualcast Group, in Smethwick, Birmingham, are faced with the closure of their plant.

In mid-August, the North Works No 1 foundry was scheduled for the axe under rationalization plans, but the MC foundry in Middlemore Road is to be closed instead.

This is because of 'the unreliable history of labour relations at Middlemore Road', according to Mr C. S. Johnson, the company's managing director.

He claimed that mould equipment had been improved and an 'improved earnings plan' had been offered to the workers who had twice rejected it and gone on strike.

Under the new incentive scheme it is alleged that A-grade workers could earn £46 for 40 hours if they averaged 60 moulds an hour.

But men at the foundry say this target is almost impossible, despite the speed-up created by

new pumping machinery which increases track speeds from 6ft to 8ft a minute.

Previously, the men were required to produce 40 moulds an hour.

A further obstacle to the higher productivity is that the foundry section is in the centre of many processes and is susceptible to hold-ups.

The company now says it has lost £400,000 since 1967 in industrial disputes and now wants to close the foundry down, despite increased production and investment in new machinery.

The men, point out however, that there has been a contraction in orders from motor and tractor industries and that short-time working has been common.

Union organizers have offered to discuss with the company means of maintaining production. In reply the management has suspended the phasing out of the cores section.

They say they will meet union organizers provided they come forward with 'constructive proposals'.

'Enemy is winning' says Powell

THE UNITED KINGDOM is losing the war in Ulster, according to right-wing Tory MP Enoch Powell. Speaking to an audience of Unionists at the Ulster Hall in Belfast yesterday evening, Powell said: 'It needs to be shouted into the ear of the government that the war being waged on Ulster, and therefore on the United Kingdom, is being won by the enemy and lost by ourselves.'

Recognizing that was the first preliminary to reversing the course of the war, he said.

The two most urgent perils of Ulster today were indifference and uncertainty — indifference elsewhere and uncertainty here. How soon, by repetition the shock of soldiers being killed had worn off.

In the first nine months of this year the death roll, excluding casualties inflicted on the IRA, was already more than twice that of 1971, which was hugely up on 1970, he said.

So much for the initiatives adopted and the policies pursued by government so far. They had failed and under them the position in Ulster had continued rapidly to deteriorate, he said.

There was no use in the British government repeating the time-honoured formula about the wish of the majority in Northern Ireland when their every act of omission or commission bespoke 'sovereign indifference' as to the outcome.

Every action of the government, Powell went on, 'has been deliberately designed to leave open the alternative, to discredit and weaken the forces working for the maintenance of the Union, and to appease and placate those, whether on one side of the frontier or the other, whose aim is to detach these counties from the allegiance'.

Peace and justice would not return to the province until the government was seen unequivocally to take the resolve that the first of its objects, overriding all others, would be to uphold and defend the state, from outside and inside.

VALOR, the gas and oil heaters firm, yesterday clinched a £1m takeover deal in South Africa. The group has bought out Cadac Engineering, South Africa's largest manufacturer of liquefied petroleum gas appliances. At the same time Valor disclosed it had granted a manufacturing licence to another South African company, Autovend, to make Valor paraffin-burning equipment previously exported from the UK.

Four Plessey plants act over sacked steward

WORKERS at four Plessey plants in Essex, were yesterday deciding on action to defend a sacked senior shop steward.

Last Friday 200 workers at Plessey's Romford factory sat in after their steward for 18 years, Mrs Kathleen Kelly, became 'surplus to requirement'.

Later a meeting of stewards representing 3,500 workers in the four factories in the Ilford region decided to call for industrial action.

Mrs Kelly has also been a full-time senior steward for the electricians' union for several years.

On Friday she refused to accept the sack and the £1,000 plus redundancy money to which she is entitled under the firm's redundancy scheme.

Shop stewards have said that the sacking is a direct challenge to union organization at the plant.



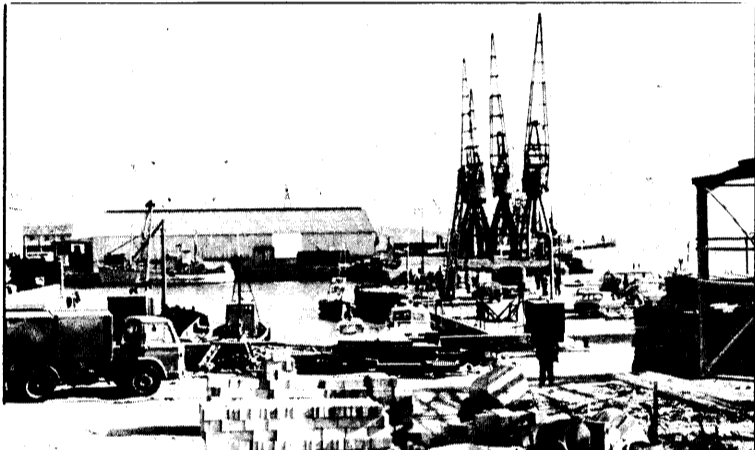
Powell: Belfast speech

Bristol running dry

PUBLIC houses in Bristol put up 'sorry no beer' signs yesterday as supplies ran dry following a three-day unofficial strike by brewery delivery drivers.

The stoppage, by 200 drivers employed by Courage Western

Ltd, meant many pubs missed their regular weekly delivery. A brewery spokesman said: 'This dispute has now been settled, but it may take a few days to get supplies black to normal.'



One of the favoured unregistered wharfs.

Freight chiefs attack Dock Labour Scheme

A STRONG attack on the existence of the National Dock Labour Board has been launched by the Freight Transport Association.

In evidence to the National Ports Council, they say that the NDLB was 'outdated in concept' and no longer operated in 'the best interests of dock labour or port management'.

Also attacked was any suggestion that traffic should be moved away from the non-Scheme ports or the private wharves to the registered docks.

The association made it plain that the use of non-Scheme ports enabled shipowners and transport firms to bypass well-

organized dockers in the registered ports.

From the users' point of view, they told the NPC, failure 'to achieve harmonious labour relations' was reflected in unreliability, inefficiency and lack of productivity. This had forced trade to seek service elsewhere.

On the other hand the smaller, non-Scheme ports, with good management control and a 'settled labour force' accustomed to handling a trader's cargo, had attracted support and satisfactorily provided the service required.

Importers and exporters were not only concerned with port costs but with total charges. Smaller, non-registered ports gave greater reliability and cut costs.

Union branches demand left press prints during strikes

MORE SUPPORT has come in for the principle of dispensation of working-class newspapers in the event of another stoppage of national newspapers, such as the one that took place over the imprisonment of the five dockers.

Portsmouth Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' shop stewards' quarterly meeting voted overwhelmingly for dispensation for all working-class newspapers.

In Ellesmere Port, Merseyside, the transport workers' vehicle building and automotive group 6/760 No. 4 branch has

urged its general executive council to call on the print unions to 'grant special dispensation for the printing of workers' papers, i.e. "Workers Press", and "Morning Star", in the event of any re-occurrence of the events of July 24-25, or of a dispute involving the printing unions'.

The Edinburgh general branch of the white-collar ASTMS has unanimously passed a dispensation resolution which will now be sent to the union's No 12 Divisional Council (Scotland) and if endorsed will be forwarded to the Scottish TUC congress in May 1973.

The resolution calls on the Scottish TUC to support the view that the working-class press be allowed to continue publication during future industrial

action by the printing trade unions 'in order to combat the flood of reactionary propaganda which is directed against the workers' movement by all the other means available to the employing class'.

Clerical workers in the APEX Union who work at the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Unions headquarters, Peckham Road, London, have passed a resolution at their branch meeting calling upon their executive council to approach all the unions concerned within the printing industry and request that they allow a special dispensation for the Workers Press, 'Morning Star' and other working-class papers, in the event of a strike stopping the national papers.

ATUA CONFERENCE

The way forward for all trade unionists

SUNDAY OCTOBER 22
10-30 a.m.

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Reid blusters as Clyde work-in is called off

SHOP STEWARDS' leaders at the Clydebank yard of the former UCS shipbuilding consortium yesterday cleared away the last defences of their members against the dole.

Led by Communist Party executive member James Reid, they persuaded a mass meeting of the yard's 1,800 labour force to call off their threatened new work-in and throw themselves entirely on the mercy of US oil-rig builders Marathon Manufacturing Company.

They did so on the basis of a compromise deal arranged with Marathon after threats last week from company chief Wayne Harbin to pull out of the yard altogether.

The deal is that Marathon, which at present employs only 400 men demolishing the existing facilities at Clydebank, will give the liquidator use of the yard basin for a further two weeks from October 16.

This will enable two bulk-carriers—the last ships ever to be built at the yard—to be fitted out there. To do this a night-shift steelworking force will be employed.

Marathon has also agreed to speed up its demolition programme, and together with the men already employed by liquidator Robert Courtney Smith on completing ships outside the yard, it is claimed that only a few immediate redundancies will result.

The numbers involved will be announced today or tomorrow.

Most of those made redundant by the liquidator on Friday will be re-employed by Marathon, although not as soon as they are paid off.

'But,' says Smith, 'the programme indicates that they will be able to employ these people within a few weeks of being paid off.'

Amid all the jubilation of stewards like Reid and his fellow-Stalinist James Airlie, from the Govan yard, one fact is concealed: since the UCS work-in began 15 months ago 2,300 jobs have been lost.

Meanwhile the political issues in the fight against growing unemployment have been completely obscured by the reformist work-in tactic, adopted by the Stalinists in order to avoid a fight against the Tory government.

And the Stalinists are placing their hopes in the stability of the capitalist system!

'We know it is a growth market, if not a boom market,' said Reid.

The end of the work-in, he said was a victory not only for the workers, but for 'the Scottish community.'

'We want to thank everyone who helped us—the Scottish community, the political parties, the churches, people in the theatre and the art world, trade unionists from all over Britain and from different parts of the world.'

CONTAINERLINK, a container company specializing in land-sea transport between Britain and Europe, was launched yesterday by PO Freight Forwarders, a subsidiary of the shipping group which is the subject of a £236m takeover bid. Based at Tilbury, Essex, it will carry more than 2,000 containers a month between Britain and Germany, France and the Benelux countries for exporters, importers and manufacturers.

FORMER FRAUD Squad Detective Inspector Donald Baker has been suspended from duty by Scotland Yard following a criminal inquiry and a report will be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

Hull docker-councillor to fight inside LP for rents policy

HULL COUNCILLOR Tony Fee, the docks shop steward who resigned from the Labour council group, has condemned the Labour Party leaders as puppets of the Tories for refusing to oppose the Housing Finance Act.

In an exclusive interview with Workers Press, Cllr Fee said: 'The purpose of the Housing Finance Act is to destroy the Labour Party at its grass roots. The Tories could have got control of local housing by Act of Parliament, but they chose to get the Labour Party to impose the Act and destroy itself.'

'They have forced the Labour Party to reveal itself as a mere puppet incapable of defending working-class living standards and incapable of defending itself as a party.'

Tony Fee considers that the Housing Finance Act destroys local government independence:

'Already,' he says 'a Secretary of State circular advises councils to organize the sale of council housing and presumably if councils refuse to do this their housing departments will be held in deficit and the Housing Commissioner sent in, even though they might have increased the rents.'

Cllr Fee condemned the lack of leadership from the Labour Party nationally:

'It's true that the Labour leaders themselves would not have been liable to arrest if Labour councillors had refused to implement the Act. But a national campaign by the Labour Party for non-implementation and a rent strike could have prevented the Tories from arresting

anyone.'

Cllr Fee is a member of the docks delegate conference, the highest body of the docks' section of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

He has resigned as a union delegate to the Hull City Labour Party. The party voted against implementing the Act but, says Cllr Fee: 'It has become a futile debating chamber because the Labour Group on the council ignores its decisions.'

He has not resigned his individual membership of the Labour Party and hopes that action will still be taken against leading councillors who have gone along with the Tories on rents.

'The main issue is not really the rents but the Labour Party and who will control it. What is the point of displacing the

Tories if a Labour government carries on the same policies?'

North Hull Labour Party has voted full confidence in Cllr Fee and, although there are rumours of attempts to expel him, he says: 'I shall stay in the Labour Party and expose them for what they are.'

Meanwhile, he is seeking support for his stand among the trade unions in Hull.

Cllr Fee wants a more socialist policy to solve the housing and rents problem.

'Any future for housing' he says, 'means that Labour must nationalize the land and all major industries, write off the housing debts, and take a new look at housing finance.'

Cllr Fee is one of ten Hull Labour councillors who voted against implementing the Tory Housing Finance Act.

Pickets out at new rent office

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

TENANTS in Manchester picketed new rent offices opened by the corporation yesterday to deal with the Tory Housing Finance Act.

At the Moss Side centre about 300 housewives and tenants came to pay their rent increases within the first three hours; but tenants' leaders reported a better than 50 per cent response to their demand not to pay the 92p increase.

Kathleen Labingoh said the response to the campaign was excellent. 'If people see us campaigning like this and realize that other people are refusing to pay I am the sure the resistance against increases will snowball.'

The new rent offices will replace rent collectors within what the council claim is a ten-minute radius from the centre.

But yesterday old people from as far away as Longsight—one and a half miles to the south—were using the office.

'This means that everyone, including old people, have to pay bus fares as well as the increases,' said Mrs Labingoh.

Janet Griffiths, a Hulme council tenant, said she had come to the centre to pay the rent for several old people. 'It is disgusting. These people are old or sick and can't walk any distance or climb up and down stairs to pay the rent.'

Kathy Ince, a young housewife with three children, told me she had not paid the increase at the office.

'I never put less than £24 a quarter into my meter. If they take this £1 off me it will mean my children go hungry. I'm not going to pay it.'

Margaret Crolla, said she was on social security and therefore had no choice, but to pay the increase.

'But I think it's disgusting. I have two children and my income is £14 and I've just got an extra 85p a week to deal with the increase. My rent is £5.61. It means life is very hard.'

Tenants' delegates from all over the greater Manchester area will meet tonight to discuss the progress of their claim.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC and Labour Party leaders are to have talks with the Irish Labour Party in Dublin today in an attempt to heal differences over views on the re-unification of Ireland.

Greenwich revolt is snowballing

BY IAN YEATS

BACKING for Greenwich tenants' revolt is snowballing, pickets on duty at borough rent offices in Greens End claimed yesterday.

It is going better than we thought,' leaders of the 2,000-strong St Mary's estate told me. 'A lot more people are saying they won't pay now that they know what we are doing.'

Housewife Mrs Janet Williams told me as she arrived at the rent office at Churchill House: 'They can shove me from here to John O'Groats before I'll pay it.'

'If it became necessary I would withhold the lot. I just can't afford it. That extra £1 does me more good in my food cupboard.'

Greenwich Labour council is implementing the Tory 'fair rents' Act. Asked what steps she thought they could take to recover arrears, Mrs Williams said:

'So long as everyone sticks together, I don't think there is a lot they can do about it.'

Nine of the borough's tenants' associations have passed resolutions calling for an all-out fight against paying increased rents, leaving about five still to decide.

Housewives who have seen their housekeeping costs more than doubled over the last five years are turning out en masse to picket rent offices and distribute thousands of leaflets.

The majority feel a deep sense of frustration and betrayal at seeing a minority of Labour councillors succeed in implementing the Act by voting with the five Tories on the council.

But fresh dangers are already looming because of the refusal of their own tenants' association leaders to go beyond militancy and break with reformism.

RENTS FIGHT GATHERS STRENGTH

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committee, defending the Tories:

'You are really faced with self-preservation in the interests of socialism, and with making sure you are not to be barred from public office for five years by refusing to implement the Act.'

Zott, a union official, then attacked 'Trotskyists, anarchists and left-wing lunatics on the fringe of politics in the AUEW' who are exercising pressure on council members.'

If Salford does reverse and puts the rents up, as is thought likely, it may not be unconnected that it was one of the six Labour councils who on Saturday received a letter from the Tory government asking them to fall in line or face the consequences.

Only in Scotland is there any measure of a fight from the Labourites. Some 23 councils, including cities like Glasgow, are

St Mary's tenants' association committee members and Labour ward councillor Jim Spencer voted against implementation.

He said at the picket line yesterday: 'There are a lot of old couples and young people coming here who just can't afford the increase. One woman came out crying on Tuesday.'

But how far was he prepared to go in resisting the increases? 'A lot of people are worried about eviction, but what I have advised them to do is to save the money right up to the time of going to court and then pay.'

Communist Party member Mrs Pat Jeavons also blamed the right wing in Labour's leadership for letting the Act on to the statute book.

She said: 'If we don't get the tenants on the move we won't get a fight against the Act. As

the rents movement grows it will throw up its own leaders.'

Commenting on how tenants will defend themselves when the law is used to recover the withheld increases, she told me: 'The first thing we will have to do is protect the tenants. If we hit a sticky wicket we will have to change our tactics.'

In other words, tenants will be taken to the barricades on a wave of militancy and then told that's as far as they can go.

But this will not be nearly far enough for the hundreds of workers and their families who with these policies would in the end be left to foot the increased rent bill.

They will demand that the fight goes on not only against the 'fair rents' Act but inevitably against those responsible for it—the Tory government.

Wilson opposes printers striking against news

LABOUR leader Harold Wilson yesterday declared total opposition to the use of industrial action to stop the printing of newspapers.

It was 'necessary to be categorical' about Labour Party chairman Anthony Wedgwood Benn's remarks in Blackpool last week that the press conspired against Labour and that the editor of 'The Times' had tried to invent a new political party in Britain.

'I sometimes wish the trade unionists who work in the mass media—those who are writers, broadcasters, secretaries, printers and lift-operators—would remember that they too are members of our working-class movement

and have a responsibility to see that what is said about us is true,' he said.

Wilson said yesterday: 'The Labour Party is totally opposed in all circumstances to the use of industrial action for the purpose of impeding the printing or dissemination of news or the expression of views.'

PRO-MARKETEER Dick Taverner, who will fight the Lincoln by-election as a Democratic Labour candidate, has just been elected a director of the Equity and Law Life Assurance Society.

when he said: 'The main issue is not really the rents, but the Labour Party and who will control it.'

As tenants face an all-out onslaught on their basic rights, the real question facing them and the rest of the working class is a crisis of leadership. The same Labourites who initially organized many tenants' associations have dropped on their knees and crawled when the Tories have thrown down an open challenge.

The fight to remove these turncoats from the leadership of the Labour and trade union movement now has to be taken into Councils of Action in each area on the basis of mobilizing tenants and all workers in a campaign to force the Tories to resign and return a Labour government forced by the mass movement to implement socialist policies and the repeal of all Tory legislation.

He hit the nail on the head