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on his behalf by his solicitor, IRA Provisionals' leader Sean MacStiofain said yesterday:

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The statement said:

'In the name of God I want the people out on the streets protesting on my behalf. I want their protests to be peaceful, by which I mean no rioting, no stone-throwing and no abuse.'

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LYNCH... in shaky position

GENERAL

STRIKE

CALL FROM UNIONS TO MAKE LYNCH RESIGN

THE EXECUTIVE council of the 300,000-strong Irish Congress of Trade Unions will today consider a call from a member union for a General Strike against the Lynch government's anti-IRA Bill.

The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union has called on the ICTU to instruct all workers to strike until the Bill is withdrawn.

As trade unionists and other workers have had a chance to read the Bill, first published on Monday, their opposition to it has snowballed.

A wave of protests organized spontaneously from the shop floor has swept the Republic and the offices of the AT&GWU have been inundated with demands from branches for a General Strike.

'Draconian'

AT&GWU general secretary Matt Merrick, yesterday described the Bill as 'Draconian' and a further serious addition to the Green Tory government's already wide repressive powers.

He said: 'This law will be directed against trade unions, tenants and all minority groups. Large sections of the Bill could be used against striking or demonstrating workers.'

'A notable feature of the labour scene at the moment is the ease with which the courts are granting injunctions to restrain picketing.'

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FROM IAN YEATS IN DUBLIN

courts or police barracks against the injunctions.'

Mr Merrick added: 'The government brought in the Forceable Entry Act ostensibly for use against the IRA. But, in practice, it has been used against tenants, squatting or demonstrating against high rents and homelessness.'

Mr Merrick said that although his union did not support the policies and methods of the Provisional IRA, he believed trade unionists should defend the democratic rights and liberties

threatened by the clampdown on the IRA and the arrest and conviction of Sean MacStiofain.

Resolution

He said: 'We have sent a resolution to the ICTU calling for a General Strike and this will be discussed at the executive council meeting on Friday.'

Under growing pressure from the rank and file other trade unions have followed the lead of the AT&GWU in condemning the Lynch government's sharp turn to repression.

Cheng given 15 days to leave Britain

CHIEF Metropolitan Magistrate Sir Frank Milton yesterday ordered the extradition of a Formosan architect to the United States where he faces a stiff jail sentence.

Cheng Tzu-tsai (35) was convicted in the US of being involved in an attempt to kill the Formosan Prime Minister, Chiang Ching-kuo, outside a New York hotel in April 1970.

Cheng and his brother-in-law were convicted, but Cheng was released on bail. He fled to Sweden where the US government successfully applied for extradition.

He was being flown home from Sweden when he was taken unconscious from a plane at Heathrow.

In his trial at Bow Street magistrate's court Cheng fought an extra-

dition order under a British law which says that a fugitive offender should not be surrendered if his crime is of a political character.

Richard du Cann, counsel for the US government, said there was no evidence that Cheng's motives were directed to the pursuit of any political aim within the US.

Giving his verdict

against Cheng, Sir Frank Milton said the accused would not be deported for 15 days.

Cheng had the right to apply for a writ of habeas corpus during that time, he said.

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Beef rose by 17.2 per cent and potatoes by 86.3 per cent.

And slump has pushed unemployment up to 80,000 in a population of only 2 million.

Profits

On the other side of the fence big business in Ireland shares with their British and Continental counterparts the belief that profitability can only be restored on the basis of free trade within the larger market of the EEC and by ruthless rationalization of production.

Lynch, like Heath, has no intention of checking rising prices or unemployment and has expressed a firm resolve to keep wages down.

Workers will resist these plans and the proposed amendments to the Offences Against the State Act are specifically designed to stop them.

The AT&GWU leader has called for a General Strike against the Bill.

But nothing short of a total stoppage to force the Lynch government out of office will halt this legislation.

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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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The Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, the Irish Federation of Trade Unions, the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers and the Union of Students in Ireland have all issued statements severely criticizing the new Bill and particularly the arbitrary sacking of the controlling body of Radio Telefis Eireann (RTE).

Bus crews, railwaymen, car workers, dockers, students and journalists have all staged lightning strikes and demonstrations against the government in the past 48 hours.

This autumn there has been a succession of bitter and protracted strikes over pay and workers know that more industrial action is likely this winter

as Ireland's chronic inflation rages unchecked.

In the past 12 months food prices in the Republic rose by 13.7 per cent with increases in the cost of individual items even higher.

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What we think

Profitability and all that

In the middle of the recent talks between the TUC, the CBI and the government, CBI president Michael Clapham, together with Sir John Partridge (former CBI president and chairman of Imperial Tobacco) and CBI director Campbell Adamson, went to Washington.

They discussed the experience of the Nixon freeze of 1971 and the economic restrictions which followed it.

This was revealed by Clapham this week when he spelled out the employers' message: 'Slash wage rises and free profits.'

The top employers' spokesman declared: 'It is now generally agreed (by economists) that the very high rate of price inflation over the past 2½ years is in overwhelming part attributable to pay increases far in excess of the new wealth our economy has been actually producing...'

'Yet the trade union movement in this country continues to claim that price rises are the prime mover in the vicious circle of inflation—that high wage settlements follow on the heels of high price increases.'

In fact, all wealth is produced by the labour power of workers, who receive back in wages far less than the value of the commodities they produce.

These workers now face enormous increases in the cost of living through Tory measures, such as the rent Act and Common Market entry.

As Workers Press has pointed out, the government's prices and dividends 'freeze' is a complete fraud. Dividends and prices—especially of food, manufactured goods, land and housing, will all soar during the so-called 90-day 'pause'.

Already this week two companies in the manufacturing industry have been told by the government that they can go ahead with price rises despite the 'freeze'.

The Department of Trade and Industry will not name the firms concerned but one is known to be a manufacturer in Northern Ireland and the other is involved in the conversion of car engines into marine power units.

More than 200 companies have now formally applied for DTI permission to raise prices.

Meanwhile, increases in meat prices are certain in the next few weeks as rises in the price of livestock are passed on. This week beef cattle prices went up by 68p per cwt and live sheep prices increased by 6p per lb.

Capitalists are in business to make profit. The only way they can control inflation, and thereby safeguard their profits, is to smash the working class and force people to work for low wages.

In many areas profitability is at a dangerously low level from the employers' point of view. After allowing for stock appreciation and depreciation at replacement cost, profits as a proportion of the net output of companies fell from 23.3 per cent in 1960 to 12.1 per cent in 1970.

This means an increasing drive towards plant closures and transfer of production to more profitable parts of Europe. It means more and more demands for 'discipline' over the working class.

It also shows that the working class is stronger than the bourgeoisie. Given a revolutionary leadership, the working class can take power in Britain.

US system distrusted by Europeans

Barrier of suspicion

By JOHN SPENCER

many of the major capitalist powers.

AMERICAN proposals for changes in the crisis-ridden world monetary system have run into a barrier of European suspicion and distrust, according to reports from Washington.

Paul A. Volcker, an economic aide of President Nixon, submitted the detailed proposals to the so-called committee of 20 set up earlier this year as a forum to discuss monetary reform.

He called for disciplinary

sanctions (e.g., forced changes in parity of their currency) against countries which accumulate too much foreign currency and gold in their foreign exchange reserves.

Distrust

Reuters correspondent Michael Prentice said that some European countries had shown 'suspicion and distrust of such a mechanism' during the three-day Washington meeting.

Jeremy Morse of the Bank of England, chairman of the committee of 20, acknowledged at a Press conference that there were

differing viewpoints and differences of approach.

But he claimed there was not in any sense 'widespread opposition or a clash' over the US proposals. Opponents of the proposals simply said they needed further study—no doubt hoping to kill them with procedural delays.

About the only thing the committee did agree on, according to Prentice, was that the present system was 'not working satisfactorily and would have to be improved'.

In fact the present system—is in total disarray and flouted by

Divided

The committee of 20 is only the latest of a series of international bodies set up to examine the prospects for 'reforming' the monetary system. But it is even more divided than its predecessors.

In reality the monetary questions facing world capitalism cannot be resolved by international agreement. They are being fought out in an increasingly ruthless trade war in which each capitalist power fights to assert its own economic strength against its rivals.

FOREIGN NEWS

No 'true peace'

THE UNITED STATES is preparing to continue the war and its Vietnamization policy rather than preparing to establish a true peace in Vietnam alleged Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, delegate of the NLF at the Paris peace talks yesterday.

She said that President Thieu of South Vietnam had been using the delay to carry out a campaign of repression against his political opponents. Thousands of people were being arrested, tortured and imprisoned while massive deliveries of US war

material were reinforcing his regime.

Hanoi's deputy negotiator, Nguyen Minh Vy, assailed the US for delaying agreement on the draft peace terms and the B52 bomber raids.

Washington claims that the terms, worked out with Hanoi by Nixon's special

envoy, Dr Henry Kissinger, could not be signed because of the objections of President Thieu.

Thieu is insisting that Hanoi's forces should withdraw from South Vietnam. He called a meeting of his National Security Council yesterday to hear a report from his representative who has been having talks with Nixon.



Madame Binh: Allegations against US

Martial law Marcos—on God's orders

SHORTLY after a renewed outburst of fighting between guerrillas and government troops in the southern Philippines, President Marcos' new constitution was ratified by the convention of lawyers and civil servants he had set up himself.

Marcos will now remain indefinitely in power and cannot be challenged as President. It is certain that martial law will continue in one form or another.

He told a Historical Association on Tuesday that he decided to establish martial law after consulting with God:

'I wanted a period in which I could commune with myself and God, and I asked if it was correct to proclaim martial law. I asked him for signs and he gave me several.'

Partial strikes in French munitions

THOUSANDS of workers in munitions factories in Toulouse and Tarbes in central France struck work yesterday in defence of wage demands.

This was the last of three days of strikes in which different sections of munitions workers were called out on successive days by their (Stalinist) CGT and (Socialist) CFDT trade union leaderships.

As munition workers demonstrated, representatives of Paris engineering workers presented the employers with a 10,000-signature petition saying 'they wanted to see the employers consider their demands'.

FRENCH bank rate has been raised from 6½ to 7½ per cent in an effort to stem the galloping inflation. The last increase, from 5½ per cent, was on November 2.

Such tactics, which are the daily practice of the French Communist Party, are the most dangerous disarming of French workers before Pompidou's drive to corporatism.

So much is clear from the case of the nine Berliet workers in Lyons charged under anti-riot laws.

The CP is now claiming as a big victory for the strikes and demonstration on Monday Minister Edgar Faure's decision to see CGT and CFDT leaders on Monday afternoon and discuss the Berliet affair.

Like TUC leaders, they prefer to talk to capitalist ministers rather than to mobilize their members in defence of trade union rights.

Army 'president'

CHILEAN President Salvador Allende arrived in Mexico City yesterday evening for talks with Mexican President Luis Echeverria, the man responsible for strict police control of Mexican trade unions.

Allende will stay in Mexico for four days before continuing his travels to the United Nations in New York, the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Echeverria hopes to use Allende to show the left-wing opposition in Mexico how he has close ties with 'socialist' regimes like Chile.

Last month, Mexico gave Chile \$28m loans and signed an agreement to expand trade during a



Allende

visit by Chilean Foreign Minister Clodomiro Almeyda.

These dollars will be gratefully received by the CIA-

trained generals who rule Chile during Allende's absence.

At a ceremony in the government Palace in Santiago a few hours before his departure, Allende swore in General Carlos Prats as the constitutional vice-president of the Republic.

According to state law, Prats can exercise all the prerogatives of head of state in the absence of his 'socialist' chief.

This includes the right to change ministers and remove top government functionaries.

The Chilean Communist Party could shortly taste the bitter fruit of its policy of championing the so-called peace-loving traditions of the Chilean army.

Dutch govt bargaining

THE RIGHT-WING coalition Dutch government has suffered a defeat in the General Election in which the Labour Party won over 27 per cent of the votes.

Bargaining will now begin to form a new government. Labour Party leader Joop Den Uyl said that he was willing to head a minority government with the Progressive Liberals and Radicals.

The so-called progressive bloc fought the election on a programme of cuts in military expenditure, a new wages and prices policy and increase in minimum wages and pensions.

The VVD Liberals who won six more seats to bring their total to 22 in a 150 seat parliament will have considerable weight in determining the shape of the next government. They are not linked either to the former government coalition or to the progressive bloc.

Torture interrogations 'taken for granted'

IT IS NOW taken for granted that the first stage in all interrogations is torture in Argentina.

This is revealed in a report just issued in Geneva by the World Council of Churches.

Arrests are often carried out on Friday evenings, so that prisoners are subjected to three days of torture before being handed over to the police.

In several recent cases the prisoner died before the police saw him.

The report estimates that prison authorities in Argentina now hold about 1,100 political prisoners.

General Lanusse, Argentinian president, who depends on these brutal methods to maintain his rule, was the first Latin American head of state to enter-

tain Salvador Allende after his installation as President of Chile.

He is also a firm supporter of the Marcos regime in the Philippines.

The Council of Churches should quickly investigate the 'work of God' in his concentration camps.

AUSTRALIAN Labour Party leader Gough Whitlam said yesterday the next Labour government would use academics and business executives as advisers. The American concept of bringing in these people to advise the government would be adopted, he said. President Nixon's Henry Kissinger was 'a notable example of this system at work overseas'. The elections will be held tomorrow and Labour is favoured to win.

Poulson's West Riding schools



ARCHITECT JOHN POULSON

WEST RIDING County Council has released details of work done for it by bankrupt Yorkshire architect John Poulson, whose empire is now facing an investigation by Scotland Yard's fraud squad.

Poulson, whose firms had ex-Tory Home Secretary Reginald Mauding as a director, did work totalling £6½m for the council between 1954 and 1969.

Based on the normal fees of about 6 per cent, Poulson would have benefited from the council to the tune of about £400,000.

At one time the Clerk of the County Council, Sir Bernard Kenyon, was a director of one of his companies; he later became chairman of it.

The majority of the 54 projects were for the education committee, who say they were satisfied with most of the work.

The figures were revealed by Clerk of the Council, Peter Butcher, after requests for information on work done by the firm.

Extensions

Schemes included extensions to existing buildings and the largest project cost about £560,000.

Mr Butcher said: 'As the largest professional firm in the area, with the capacity and ability to provide a full multi-professional design service, J. G. L. Poulson engaged over the period 1954-1969 to undertake a proportion of the work in respect of which they maintained the required level of professional service and efficiency.'

Over the same period the building programme undertaken by the West Riding exceeded £80m and involved over 1,250 separate projects.

VAT on clothes 'wrong'

VALUE Added Tax on children's wear is 'discriminatory and totally unjustifiable, morally and economically', the Treasury was told in a letter yesterday.

Stanley Rawson, chairman of the Clothing Manufacturers' Federation, says it will impose a heavy burden on young parents.

His protest, to Financial Secretary Terence Higgins, points out that a housewife is unlikely to buy television sets and washing machines with the regularity with which she has to buy clothes for children.

The prices of these other goods would be reduced under VAT. The Federation had asked, in an earlier letter, for children's clothes to be zero-rated.

Whitewashing Sir John's court

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

THE NATIONAL Industrial Relations Court is misunderstood by the public at large—and the Press is to blame, a barrister says in this week's 'New Law Journal'.

Mr Gordon Scott, a barrister and law reporter, said:

'The greater the publicity the court received, the more its functions, objectives and procedures were distorted and misunderstood by the public at large. Its popular image became distorted beyond recognition, bearing not the slightest resemblance to what those close to the scene knew it really to be.'

Scott has no doubt where the blame lies.

'The Press,' he says, 'with all its resources, at times failed utterly to get essential facts over to the public... [who] remained tragi-



Whitewashing Sir John Donaldson

cally ignorant of what should have been simple facts.'

During the summer the court had become 'the plaything of the mass media' and was treated as 'hot property' as far as the Press, radio and television was concerned.

Scott's remarks conform with an attempt to improve the 'image' of the NIRC.

A few days ago court president Sir John Donaldson was guest of honour at a dinner held by court journalists.

Lawyer tries to improve 'image'

In his speech the jovial Sir John wisecracked his way into the hearts and minds of those present—or thought he did.

But no amount of Press relations can paper over the nature of the court.

It is a corporatist-style instrument of the Tory government hell-bent on destroying the hard-won rights of the trade unions.

The NIRC is not 'misunderstood'. It is precisely because it is understood too well for the likings of the Tories that the public relations campaign has begun.

Oxford CPer uses Industrial Relations Act

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

A PROMINENT member of the Communist Party in Oxford has cited the Industrial Relations Act in his appeal to an industrial tribunal against unfair dismissal.

Andrew Panes, who is secretary of the Council of Action set up by Oxford trade unionists to fight both the Act and its Tory authors, was employed by the Southern Electricity Board at its Headington showroom.

He was sacked on his first day as supervisor.

Panes brought his case under the Act in Reading on Monday, at the industrial tribunal which is itself an institution of the Act. Today the SEB, his former employers, will give their evidence.

A member of Oxford Trades Council, Panes was quoted in the 'Oxford Mail' last weekend as claiming that the Council of Action of which he is secretary had 'gone off the rails'.

He and other CP members and supporters have been instrumental in a campaign to force the Council of Action to restrict itself solely to campaigning against the Act, rather than against the Tories generally.

A special meeting of the Council of Action has been called for tonight to discuss letters from the Trades Council and the district committee of the engineering unions' confederation demanding assurances that it will not campaign on any other issue.

Both bodies have threatened to withdraw support if the assurances are not given.

Panes will presumably travel straight from the tribunal to the meeting, but it is thought un-

likely that any of his supporters will see fit to mention the fact or question how he can claim to be fighting the Act on the one hand while using it on the other.

The Oxford Communist Party has so far also maintained a discreet silence on the actions of one of its better-known members in the area.

Piecework deadlock

THE 500 pieceworkers at GEC Stoke, Coventry who have been on strike for three weeks over a dispute on prices remain on strike and meet again on Tuesday.

The workers claim that the firm is using the government's legal standstill and wage control to lower earnings in the shop. They say that the firm is refusing to time new jobs or jobs with changed methods on a level of the average earnings in the machine shop.

One worker said: 'It will mean as time goes on our average wages will be lower and lower.'

Jack Cherrington, the T&GWU factory convenor, told Workers Press: 'The situation remains at complete deadlock. The strike continues.'

GUERNSEY'S 67 dockers returned to work yesterday to work out a new deal on pay and conditions with their employers. The resumption of work and negotiations was recommended by a board of inquiry yesterday—the 17th day of the strike, the longest in the island's history. Its end has come just in time to avoid mass dismissals in the building industry because of lack of imported sand and cement. British Rail will restart its passenger ferry service from Weymouth to Guernsey on Saturday after a break of three weeks.

PRODUCTION and test facilities of British-Leyland's marine engine range are to be switched to Bean's Engineering, Tipton, Staffs, part of the company's special products division. The engines were formerly produced at the Basingstoke factory of Transport Equipment (Thornycroft) Ltd, which has been sold to the Eaton Corporation of Ohio.

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How successful have the policies of Sinn Fein and the Irish Republican Army been since the first civil unrest in Ulster in 1968? IAN YEATS reports in a series of articles based on interviews with leading Republicans, revisionists and reformists on both sides of the border.

IRELAND THE CRISIS OF LEADERSHIP

PART THREE SINN FEIN PRESIDENT, THOMAS MAGGIOLLA SPEAKS

What we are pressing for now is to do almost anything to stop sectarian warfare.

Our objective from the mid-1960s was to smash down the Orange Unionist power structure in the north. This did not mean abolish Stormont, but break down the structure under which the ascendancy class had permanent domination over the working class.

Until that was done it was impossible for us to start making contact with Protestant workers, because they could not see their identity of interests.

We also want to gain freedom of political movement for Sinn Fein in the north. With the Orange domination of Stormont broken and freedom of movement for Sinn Fein, we could act on issues in the north as we had done in the south.

We had got ahead in the south on issues like fisheries and the mines and we had a certain amount of support. In the north we could not act at the same level and that was why we threw everything into the civil rights struggle.

The end purpose of this was to unite workers on common objectives against the system—capitalism.

We set our faces against the traditional Sinn Fein perspective of a campaign because we wanted to maintain the struggle on a mass level north and south so that it could be seen as anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist.

In August 1969 there was a state-organized pogrom against the civil rights movement and from 1971 sectarian clashes became more and more inevitable.

Although there was no campaign, the action of defence was drawing our people willy-nilly into the fighting and we had to tell them to stop.

That the Official IRA was involved in shooting could have associated us with the Provisional campaign of bombing which was very much a sectarian thing. The major thing was to de-escalate the sectarian campaign.

We feared direct rule would be used to create a Protestant enclave in the north of three or four counties and to achieve it we felt the British would be ruthless enough to promote sectarian conflict on such a scale as to drive out the Catholics.

Early on the British had said they favoured a federal solution and O'Neill and Lynch said they agreed in principle. When O'Neill went, they had no one to carry out their plans so they had to impose direct rule which we opposed.

If Britain could not push through her plan, we felt the alternative might be even

worse—a new partition. Any type of interim solution would still leave us with a better chance—if necessary just to do nothing to bring about an escalation of the sectarian conflict.

Since 1971 we have issued a number of calls to the trade union movement to end sectarianism at street as well as factory level but the movement is paralysed because they feel any move they make will split it down the middle.

The Northern Ireland trade unions could do nothing, but this is something the British TUC could have taken action on.

We would not be against a democratic structure which gave the civil rights their demands and gave more power to workers' organizations.

But we do not favour the proposal in the Green Paper. Apparently it envisages a greater London council over the four commissions which have been set up.

But there would be neither democracy nor power. In the past where they have abolished undemocratic institutions they have replaced them with less democratic institutions.

This has been the effect of imperialism in the north and in the south they have destroyed all native industries and set up foreign companies on which we are now totally dependent.

These firms tell you whether you can have a union or when you can have a dispute—workers are totally at their mercy.

Irrespective of religion, workers are realizing this. People see themselves being robbed and it is on this basis that they will unite.

We are one of the richest countries in the world with the poorest people. The fight has been over the ownership of wealth and this has been proved in the south where we have a national Irish government. There has been a political change, but there has been no change in ownership.

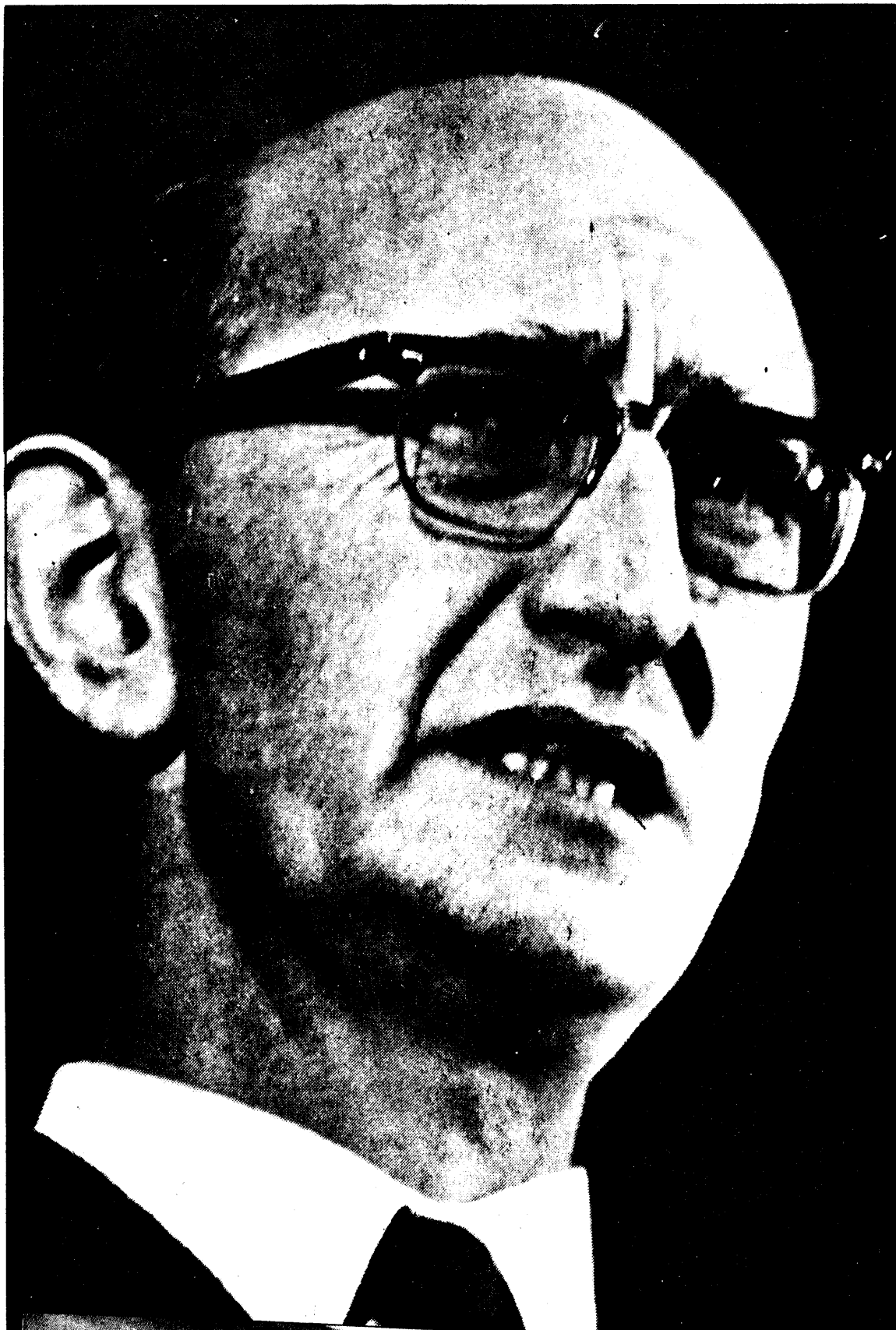
By itself a united Ireland would change nothing. But if we could prevent the outflow of capital and use our resources for our own development we would be in a far stronger position.

'SOCIALIST SOCIETY'

We could certainly achieve the elimination of poverty and we could eliminate unemployment far more than at present. We are not talking about a totalitarian society. We are talking about a socialist society.

We had felt from the beginning that it was vital to unite the struggle against capitalism and imperialism. We did not feel it could be done in two stages. If you win the Republican struggle, people think you've got a victory, but you have not. In 1921 it was a disaster.

Basically socialism means the nationalization of the means of manufacture, distribution



Orangemen—Protestant and staunchly Unionist. Above: Thomas MacGiolla, Official Sinn Fein President, who says, 'our objective . . . was to smash down the Orange Unionist power structure in the north.'

and exchange. In Irish terms the struggle against capital is the struggle against imperialism.

Socialism does not mean the elimination of small shopkeepers and farmers. A man can own a business which employs 20 people or so, but if he goes public that is how we define capitalism.

The land should be state-

owned and run on co-operative lines.

These things are best achieved through mass struggle and this is why we are opposed to military élitism. All we want is for people to support us.

The context in which we have put it is that it is a people's struggle—we are creating organizations which

will go forward on limited demands.

In the promotion of that struggle we are prepared to use every available means—parliamentary and extra-parliamentary.

We don't want to involve people in continual confrontation, but guide them on the road which will bring minor political victories and develop their consciousness to the point where they are prepared to defend their gains.

The development of socialism in Britain would be a tremendous help for the struggle here. Even the British Labour government is somewhat better than the Tory government.

We have all the time tried to orientate our policies to the British working class among whom there are a wide section of Irish. We never wanted to confine our solidarity links just to Irish workers.

The links into the British working class are very important. They have a tremendous part to play in the northern situation. Any movement which assists in breaking down imperialism is assisting us.

If a revolutionary struggle in Britain is possible, it will be helpful, but if we are waiting for a revolutionary struggle in Britain we are going to be waiting a lot longer. We have tremendous possibilities here which I don't see in Britain.

TOMORROW: Liam MacMillen, chairman of the Belfast Republican Clubs.

POMPIDOU IN AFRICA

With all the ballyhoo which surrounds the visits of heads of state, President Pompidou was given the honours recently in the African states of Togo and the Upper Volta.

These small 'independent' countries, like other former French colonies, are still controlled economically by imperialism. They receive 'aid' from France without which their finances would collapse.

Most of this 'aid' goes to French firms which undertake to carry out public works and indirectly benefits the companies which control the foreign trade of these countries. Their currency, the CFA (African Financial Community) franc, is still linked to the French franc.

The rulers of these countries come from a narrow, national bourgeoisie of civil servants and army officers trained by the French. Their economies depend on two or three products, particularly cocoa and groundnuts, the price of which has been falling.

All these African former colonies are deeply affected by the world crisis of capitalism. Still exploited by imperialism, the masses live in poverty and the national bourgeois itself is frustrated because the promises of 'development' have not been fulfilled.

In some countries this permanent crisis caused by imperialism has brought the army to the fore as the only force able to give some stability to political life. One-party regimes are the rule and in the less stable countries like Dahomey there are frequent army coups as one set of officers replaces another.

In fact the recent military coup in Dahomey made it necessary for Pompidou to call off the visit he should have made there.

His five-day African jaunt, his third since becoming President, was intended to smooth over growing discontent in Togo and the Upper Volta. As it happened, the rulers of these countries tried to win some additional concessions from France.

General Eyadems of Togo



called for a revaluation of the CFA franc, now worth two centimes. He gave as his reason the increase in the country's foreign exchange reserve in the past few years. He also asked that the CFA franc should be fully convertible in the European Common Market.

In his reply Pompidou made it plain that countries like Togo are not really independent at all. France was ready to make many concessions, he said, 'with one reservation, that is that independence, that is the sovereignty which others can claim find their limits in the guarantee given by the French state'.

He went on to say that 'it is evident that the CFA franc would collapse tomorrow if it were not for the guarantee it received from the French state'.

In addition, the French say that a revaluation of the CFA franc could take place without the agreement of all the countries using it which in present circumstances would be difficult to bring about. Those that really want to be 'independent' are threatened with the cutting off of French financial aid.

In order to sweeten the local bourgeoisie Pompidou announced during his tour that part of the debt owing to France by the African states would be cancelled. The amount involved is only about \$200m, not much more than one eighth of their total foreign debt.

This unwanted generosity conceals the fact that, like other underdeveloped countries, those of French-speaking Africa are increasing their debts at such a rate that it is only a question of time before they become completely bankrupt.

Pompidou, as representative of French imperialism, seeks to woo the national bourgeoisie at the same time as he insists that its 'independence' is strictly limited.

It is important to prevent these colonies of French capital from succumbing to British or American influence and above all to prevent popular revolutions against the present ruling clique.

Below: President Pompidou greets tribal chiefs in Togo during his tour of Africa.



During collaboration between Stalin and the Central Government of Chiang in 1946, after the defeat of the Japanese, pictures of Stalin, Lenin, Sun Yat-sen and Chiang Kai-shek adorn a hotel in Shanghai.

COVERING UP STALIN'S ALLIANCES WITH CHIANG

Mao Tse-tung has been sternly taken to task by a Russian historian for supporting an alliance with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang during the Sino-Japanese war.

According to the historian, Mao declared that it was a national duty to defend Chiang and that he should be supported as leader in the anti-Japanese war. He surrendered the independence of the Chinese Communist Party to the nationalist Kuomintang.

What he does not point out is that just such a policy had

been imposed on the Chinese Communists in 1926-1927 by Stalin. It was Stalin who welcomed Chiang to Moscow and made the Kuomintang an associate member of the Comintern.

Mao's policy in the 1930s was not his alone. It was accepted and approved in Moscow and his tactics were held out as a model to other parties.

Of course, the Maoists now try to hush up this episode and have cut out the parts of Mao's speech to the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee in 1938 which deals with it. They try to blame this 'right opportunism' onto Liu Shao-chi and others

whereas it originated with Mao himself.

Mao's hypocrisy and deliberate falsification of the past is only matched by that of the Moscow bureaucracy. Its tame historians have nothing to say about the responsibility of Stalin and his predecessors for the alliance with the Kuomintang which led to the defeats of the revolution in 1927.

Nor do they point out that the same policy of alliance with the Kuomintang was pursued throughout World War II and that Stalin advised Mao to continue with it after the defeat of Japan in 1945. If Mao had listened to the voice of Moscow, the Chinese Revolution would not have succeeded in 1949.

PROBLEMS OF A 'PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY'

Any planner in Poland giving orders for the building of a pickling factory will have to be careful in future.

Back in 1968 orders were given for a factory to be built in the village of Kaczory in the Chodziez district, an area noted for the excellence of its cabbages.

Work went on for some time and the budget was exceeded by nearly 50 per cent when the works manager who was appointed to take charge of the cabbage-pickling plant found that a poultry incubator

had been built instead.

The local peasantry, with tongue in cheek, disclaim all knowledge of the mistake. They say that officials frequently visited the village, quaffed beer, filled in forms and went away. If anything was wrong, surely they should have found out about it.

The building was almost completed before anyone was brave enough to point out that it looked more like an incubator than a pickling works. The building technician responsible has since been arrested and the officials have been sacked.

Reporting the affair Polish TV said that it calls for Gogol's pen to describe it properly. But Gogol was writing in Tsarist Russia: how is it that such things happen in a 'People's Democracy'?

NEW TRADE FOR THE GREEK COLONELS

Albania is to supply the colonels' Greece with copper wire and other products, dyes, timber, shellfish, mineral oil and asphalt under a new trade agreement. Greece is to supply iron, medicines, chemicals, tyres and textile fibres. This, the first trade and payments agreement between the two countries since the war, means about \$4m in annual trade on each side.

THE PLOT AGAINST PARLIAMENT

A Modern Melodrama
In Two Acts
By Alex Mitchell



Harold Wilson Labour Prime Minister, Edward Heath Tory Opposition leader, Roy Jenkins Labour Home Secretary, Denis Healey Labour Defence Minister, Oswald Mosley Ex-leader British Union of Fascists, William Whitelaw Usher Secretary, Geoffrey Rippon Environment Secretary, Enoch Powell Tory MP, Iain Macleod Ex-Tory Chancellor, Malcolm Muggeridge Evangelist/broadcaster, Lord Robens Chairman NCB, Cecil King Chairman IPC

PROLOGUE

In November 1967 the Labour government was forced to devalue sterling. James Callaghan was replaced by Roy Jenkins at the Treasury in a major Cabinet reshuffle.

But the devaluation did not settle the economic questions facing British capitalism, it only intensified them.

And devaluation was only one prong of the Labour attack on its supporters in the labour and trade union movement. The other was 'In Place of Strife', a legislative proposal to 'deal with' the unions.

On January 18, 1969, the government published the White Paper which was to form the basis of its anti-union legislation. The working class reacted with justifiable anger

and five months later, on June 18, Wilson abandoned his government's plan to bring the unions under state control.

After considerable backing for Wilson's plan it quickly became apparent to the ruling class that he had acted too slowly and without sufficient resolve. And when he capitulated to the trade unions he sealed his fate with his masters in the bourgeoisie.

Cecil King, head of the Mirror group of newspapers and the largest publishing empire in the world, was among those who viewed Wilson's failures with growing frustration. He and his buddies began to cast around more feverishly for a new form of businessman's government to take over.

In Act II of our melodrama, we trace entries in King's personal diary from 1968 to 1970 when the Tories were elected.

ACT TWO

On Tuesday, January 2, 1968, Denis Healey had lunch with one of King's executives. He was 'very outspoken'. He said 'there was no political crisis, just a Wilson crisis'.

But if Healey was unaware of the depths of the crisis facing the Labourites, no such illusions were being entertained down at the court of the Bank of England. As King records, January 4, 1968: 'At the bank. We are all awaiting the 17th when Roy will reveal to the House measures to be taken to restore our balance of payments. On the one hand it is difficult to see how the economies can be effected quickly enough; and, on the other, can the necessary cuts be got through the Cabinet and Parliamentary Labour Party?'

'[Sir] Maurice Parson, deputy governor, at lunch, said if we have another successful attack on the pound, we shall have no resources with which to defend any particular exchange rate for the pound; that our trade will have to be conducted in dollars or some other foreign currency, and that under those circumstances, 3 million unemployed is perfectly possible.'

'He thinks the present crisis is as grave as that of 1940—with no Winston Churchill waiting to take over.'

January 25: 'It still seems to me that some kind of a National Government is inevitable. Wilson went out of his way this evening to describe the idea as "fatuous".'

February 7: 'The really astonishing aspect of our affairs is that, while the banking frater-

nity are talking about the date of the next financial crisis, ministers sail on oblivious. There was a lunch yesterday, or Monday, at which Norman Collins [deputy chairman Associated Television - ATV] had as guests Eric Fletcher [deputy speaker], Shawcross, Renwick, Ellis Birk [director IPC] and Beeching.

'They were agreed that the country is in a mess and that Wilson wouldn't do. Eventually they decided to see if they could get Roy Jenkins to dine. It was agreed that the Tory Party is in such a mess that a purely Tory administration is an answer. But what about an Emergency Government? I thought this a good name for a National Government.'

February 9: 'Ellis Birk looked in to tell me more about the Norman Collins lunch. In addition to those already mentioned, there were present Lord Watkinson [former Minister of Defence] and Field Marshal Lord Harding, Cromer was asked, but didn't come; it was thought he would have come if he could. The outcome is a lunch or dinner which Jenkins has agreed to attend in the near future.'

'Sigmund Warburg is to be invited to join them. Everyone spoke with affection and respect of Jenkins, but I think this is all late in the day.'

February 22: 'While I was away "The Guardian" had a big piece on the front page suggesting I was trying to organize a coalition. So I published a denial. . . . Politicians seem incapable of understanding that when I talk of a coalition I am talking of the future, not to the present.'

April 22: 'Iain Macleod to lunch. He wanted to know how I saw things, as I had been right all along! I told him substantially what the Bank

[of England] had told me. Evidently a crash was coming and equally evidently nothing could be done about Wilson until it came. Macleod agrees with me that our parliamentary institutions are threatened and that we are heading for a right-wing dictatorship. He thinks a coalition quite a possibility, but only after a crash.'

April 24: 'There is no hard news. [Sir Leslie] O'Brien said [at the Committee of Treasury]: "We are just holding on—afraid almost to breathe unless we bring something down on us".'

May 1: 'The Committee of Treasury as usual. We are to announce an increase in our reserves of £21m in April. The real figure is a loss of £80m.'

June 19: 'Last week I had Malcolm Muggeridge to lunch. . . . Muggeridge was more pessimistic than usual: feels we are facing the breakdown of law and order which he thinks necessarily follows a breakdown of the moral order. This means a long period of violence and anarchy, which might have disastrous results in highly complex modern societies.'

June 25: 'Aif Robens came to tea on Sunday—I thought very pessimistic. We had some talk of setting up a group which

might hammer out a programme which could be a help in a time of crisis. No names were mentioned. His suggestion for the first item on any policy statement by this Council for National Regeneration [a possible title] is that we believe in a mixed economy! This might have meant something 40 years ago, but hardly now.'

October 21: 'Lunch with Aif Robens and Hartley Shawcross. Both Hartley and Robens thought the best move for the future would be a coalition: five Labour, five or six Conservatives, and five outsiders. Aif suggested an outside PM. Hartley made the point that in a serious financial crisis there would not be time for a General Election. We are to meet again.'

October 24: 'Willy Whitelaw to lunch on Tuesday. I said I thought a coalition would be the best answer for the Tories if it was feasible when the time came. He said this had been examined and contacts had been established. He said Ted was quite determined to bring outsiders into his Cabinet and was using some of them in preparing plans.'

'Ruth [Mrs King] was at a meeting of the Conservative Arts Committee yesterday. The MPs present assumed a Con-

servative government in the near future and spoke of Heath's decision to have a small Cabinet of ten overlords.'

November 6: 'Jo Grimond yesterday was friendly as ever, charming as ever, as realistic in his thinking as ever. . . . We talked about Enoch Powell, whom he is disposed to write off.'

November 14: 'Lunch today with Mosley in his sitting-room at the Ritz. I am not clear what he is aiming at now. He is 71 but pointed out at lunch that Adenauer came to power at 74 and continued to be important till he was 91. He had been seeing something of Enoch Powell. Though he lives in France I think he is still hoping to play some political part here.'

'He thinks an economic breakdown here is inevitable and that then we must all be ready—but ready to do what?'

December 4: 'Enoch Powell had a long interview on "Panorama" on Monday night. Has much more idea of what it is all about than his colleagues. What impressed me, and what I did not know of before, was his love of the discipline of the army, especially when he was a private.

'He may be the herald of a new fascist regime—but we have certainly not heard the last of Enoch Powell.'

December 13: 'The papers are all very optimistic this morning because of the trade figures, which are better. The "Financial Times" takes off into the realms of pure fantasy. . . . bad figures are shrugged off and good ones—or at any rate better ones—wildly over-emphasized.'

'In any case, if you forget our financial troubles, the high and rising crime wave, increasing number of strikes, student unrest, growing international tension and the rest combine to create a situation which is not just going to come right.'

February 11, 1969: 'Denis Healey to lunch, in crashing form. I had said to him, I suppose three years ago, that Wilson was a failure and that it was up to him or Roy Jenkins to be the new PM. He was very unresponsive at that time but he has been warming to the idea since. Today he almost admitted that he would have to make a bid. He said he thought a financial crash this year was likely and that some government thought had been given to the emergency measures that would be

required.'

He implied that a State of Emergency would be declared and various measures introduced by Order in Council.'

February 12: 'Lunch with Ted Heath or rather, this time, his with me. He recently dined with trade union chiefs: Woodcock was incoherent and negative; Cannon and Scanlon were both ready to accept the enforceability of labour compacts but only if they were effectively operated in the cases of all unions.'

'I said I thought a General Strike was certain in due course, but Heath did not agree. At one point he asked what names I proposed to submit to the Queen for my Businessman's Government. I protested that the BMG had never been my idea but Robens's, and the episode passed over, but it was not entirely a joke nor entirely friendly.'

February 27: 'Had lunch with William Whitelaw. He thought in circumstances of great crisis an emergency coalition might be possible. . . . I asked who would be acceptable as a coalition PM? He said his Party would refuse to have any dealings with Wilson, but would favour Callaghan.'

March 26: 'Last Thursday I

had lunch with Oswald Mosley. He thinks the drift towards the revolution that he tried to take charge of during the 1930s has resumed. He maintains that everything points to the decay of our society. No one any longer really believes in it, least of all the young. I think he sees himself in charge at last.'

'This seems to me quite fantastic, but there is so little leadership of any kind these days that even the Enoch Powells and the Oswald Mosleys are not entirely incredible.'

April 29: 'The Mosleys have a charming little house at Orsay. His wife does not think he sees any political future for himself. . . . He makes it quite clear that he foresees a major economic setback ahead of us—even more far-reaching than the depression of the early 1930s. If there were such a crisis it would necessarily end in some sort of authoritarian regime of the right.'

June 25: 'The big item of news has been the complete climb-down of Wilson to the TUC over the proposed trade union legislation. The importance of this event is not so much the humiliation of Wilson and his government, but the fact that

the government took on the TUC and was thrashed. Sooner or later the government of the day will have to take on the union movement—and win.'

July 3: 'William Whitelaw to lunch today. He said he wondered if the emergency powers had been looked at recently. He thought it very likely that they had not and would need refurbishing.'

August 12: 'Val Duncan of Rio Tinto Zinc to lunch. On domestic policies Duncan has seen something of Heath, whom he likes. He has advised him that on taking office he will not have much time and that appropriate legislation—e.g. on the trade unions—should be drafted now. There are retired parliamentary draftsmen who could do this work. He assumes that a General Strike—or its equivalent—will be encountered and thinks that the government should very carefully pick the timing and the issue and stage the whole thing.'

September 17: 'Mosley to dinner at home last night. Very friendly and talkative, mostly about Europe. He is a fanatical European, thinks the whole of our future turns on this one subject. In general he thinks really serious trouble is blowing up in France and

Italy and that an eventual world economic crisis is inevitable.'

November 6: 'Geoffrey Rippon to lunch yesterday. He too, tended to belittle Enoch Powell. They all look at his potentiality now, which is not the point. His importance will come, if it comes at all, after a crisis of some kind in which the existing leaders of the Conservatives have proved ineffective.'

June 11, 1970 (five days before the General Election): 'Another lunch set up by Norman Collins [of ATV] took place at Brown's Hotel, [Lord] Bob Renwick in the chair. Others present: [Lord Geoffrey] Crowther, Shawcross, Paul Chambers [ICI], George Cole [Shipping Industrial Holdings], McFadden [Shell], and Joe Lockwood of EMI.'

'Collins had drawn up a rather verbose paper with Shawcross's help. Two incidental remarks that were interesting: Wilson had forbidden the Lord Chancellor or the Attorney-General to attend a dinner given by Shawcross. 'Crowther, chairman of the Royal Commission on the British Constitution, said that he could see now no future for democracy nor could he see what would take its place.'





Lord Carson. Like the Protestant movements of today his was entirely reactionary

IRISH UNITY AND THE BRITISH WORKING CLASS

By Cliff Slaughter

The Brian Faulkners and William Craigs of today are the successors of Lord Carson, who first drilled the Ulster Volunteer Force to force the partition of Ireland.

Right-wing forces in Britain, directly connected with the Ulster Defence Association, the Loyalist Workers' Association and Vanguard are preparing to be the successors of the Black and Tans, who butchered into submission the workers and small farmers who fought for independence when the national bourgeoisie betrayed.

The British Tories will not fail to make use of the reactionary armed force being built up in Ireland against British workers as well as Irish, in addition to the troops being trained there for 'urban warfare' (i.e. the suppression of the working class).

Lord Carson, aided and abetted by leading British Tories like Bonar Law and F. E. Smith (later Lord Birkenhead), had built between 1912 and 1914 a volunteer army against the Home Rule Bill going through Westmin-

ster and had actually organized a mutiny of British army officers with the help of the Tory central office, after certain War Office officials had helped to arm his force.

The Tory Ministers of today who talk about the 'rule of law' in relation to trade unions and strikers, as well as Ulster, are the successors of Carson, Smith and Bonar Law. Where the law does not suit their class aims they will act outside the law.

When the Easter Rising failed in 1916, because of the isolation of Connolly's working-class force, the British War Cabinet decided on immediate execution of those who led it. They were summarily shot. Connolly, a foot amputated and unable to stand, was shot in a chair.

Who was in the Cabinet that perpetrated this atrocity? Lord Carson and Bonar Law! Only two years earlier they were conspiring against the state!

Carson took many Protestant workers along with him in his opposition to Home Rule and they would have clashed with British forces if necessary. World War I put off this clash.

Like the Protestant movements of today, Carson's was entirely reactionary. Except through unity with the Irish Catholic workers, there is no way forward for the Protestant workers.

Three months after the executions in May 1916, the Crown proceeded against Roger Casement and executed him for his part in the uprising. The Attorney-General prosecuting against Casement was none other than the Tory F. E. Smith, known as 'Carson's galloper'.

Imperialism today, preparing for its greatest attacks on the working class, has not changed. Toryism has not changed. Nationalism, which keeps the working class tied to bourgeois politics, is not only impotent as in 1916-1921, but downright reactionary in its open collaboration with imperialism.

Whose 'law and order'?

The most important factor of all behind all political developments at the time of the 'Home Rule' struggle up to World War I was the rise of the working class in great militant battles and defence of trade unionism in Britain.

Only the onset of World War prevented a General Strike in Britain coinciding with a constitutional crisis and Irish insurrection, i.e. a revolutionary situation.

This was why the most determined supporters, political and military, of the Ulster reaction under Carson were leading Tories, counter-revolutionaries. They scurried between mass Unionist meetings in Ulster and their friends in the War Office and the high-class Tory salons in London.

We should note well, therefore that Craig's most violent and reactionary speech was made to the Conservative Monday Club. We should note that Enoch Powell has more than once graced Unionist platforms, and attacks the rights of Irish immigrants in Britain.

We should note that the fascists in Britain are circulating their papers in Ulster through channels opened up for them by leading 'Loyalist' elements.

We ignore at our peril the fact that retired high-ranking British officers are in charge of arming and training these private armies in the North. Can we seriously doubt that these men have connection with military circles here?

Why is it that the hundreds of thousands spent on 'news gathering' by the Press and TV have not made possible an investigation and exposure of these connections?

Does any class-conscious British worker believe that the desperate British capitalist class of today, fitted out with anti-union laws and rushing into the EEC, is less capable of an armed conspiracy via Northern Ireland than it was in 1912-1914?

Is it not 'remarkable' that the Ulster Defence Regiment's members are allowed to carry their own arms, while the murder of Catholic workers is now every week higher in number than the Protestant deaths?

Is it not even more 'remarkable' that, for example, a UDR arms centre could be raided successfully by five men, who 'overpowered' (!) a guard of 13, and that there seems to be no great outcry for an inquiry? This sort of thing has happened more than once.

What does all this add up to? That in the guise of impartial imposition of 'law and order', the Tory government is providing all the conditions for counter-revolutionary armed preparations in Ulster against workers of Britain and Ireland.

What next?

Labourite Ramsay MacDonald, hearing of the Easter Rising in 1916, told his audience that it was 'militaristic' in just the same way as the imperialists it attacked. Such is the typical British reformist, 'unable to distinguish between the victim and the executioner' as Trotsky put it, and thereby always the craven supporter of British imperialism.

The struggle to break the British working class from reformism and build alternative revolutionary leadership can only be carried out by Marxists who fight for Irish national independence against the Tory government, and who struggle to build the same kind of leadership in Ireland itself.

MacDonald's treachery, Wilson's 100-per-cent support for Heath's Irish policy today, and the Stalinists' talk of a Tory 'Bill of Rights'—all these are the very opposite of the real needs of the British and Irish working class, which must connect up directly with the revolutionary tradition against imperialism in Ireland.

Padraig Peares, shot in May 1916, one of the revolutionary nationalists who came close

to Connolly without ever embracing socialism, expressed in 1915 the feelings through which the history of oppression and struggle in Ireland continually rise up against British imperialism, and will arise again. He does not appeal, in the manner of sentimental socialists, to some beautiful future generation, but to the past as it comes to life:

'... the seeds sown by the men of '65 and '67 [the Fenians] are coming to their miraculous ripening today.

'Rulers and Defenders of the Realm had need to be wary if they would guard against such processes. Life springs from death, and from the graves of patriot men and women spring nations.

'The Defenders of the Realm have worked well in secret and in the open. They think they have pacified Ireland. They think they have purchased half of us and intimidated the other half. They think they have foreseen everything, but—the fools! the fools! the fools!

'They have left us our Fenian dead, and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland, unfree, shall never be at peace!'

Today, the 'Defenders of the Realm' once again are working 'secretly and in the open'. Today, the 'miraculous ripening' will bring the Irish workers into struggle alongside their British brothers against their enemies, the Irish and British defenders of British imperialism.

Only the working class and a revolutionary Marxist party with the strategy of Trotsky's Permanent Revolution could really inherit the struggles in which Pearse immersed his consciousness.

What does it mean today? It means that, as the nationalist mask falls from the face of the rotten Irish bourgeoisie and all its reformist hangerson, the working class is being forced into struggles where only revolutionary leadership and its own political independence can challenge British imperialism.

It means, further, that in the British working-class movement, active campaigning must begin against the more and more open use of Northern Ireland by right-wing and even fascist forces, under government cover, to prepare the counter-revolution in Britain and in Ireland.

It means that the Irish working class, north and south, must start from the fact that the struggle of British workers to make the Tory government resign is the most important element in their fight against imperialism.

It means a ceaseless struggle in the British Labour movement against all repression, like the sentence on MacStiofain, in Ireland north and south.

The involvement of right-wing Tories and of fascists in the training and arming of counter-revolutionary, anti-working class forces in Ulster must be exposed and answered by the strength of the working class. The direct responsibility of the Tory government itself, and of its Labour collaborators, must be brought to the light of day and fought. This fight will hasten the building of the movement which can bring down the Tory government.

There was a time when Marx said that until Irish independence had been won, the British workers could not go forward to socialism.

Today the struggles are more advanced, they have a more combined character. The more the British working class assists the Irish workers to make impossible the position of British imperialism, the weaker will be the Tory government at home; and the preparations of the extreme right wing will be given a severe setback.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

SMOKE

People living in Eccles, Salford, Swinton and Urmston are disturbed about a sulphuric acid plant which is being built in Trafford Park, Manchester. The new factory is being built by Leather's Chemical Co Ltd, of Bradford.

A letter to the Department of the Environment from the Eccles Town Council has suggested additional conditions to the planning permission, concerning the amount of sulphuric acid to be produced daily and the amount of dioxide and trioxide to be discharged from the chimney.

The council also wants arrangements for immediate notification by telephone to Eccles, Urmston and Salford Councils and Hope and Ladywell Hospitals of any breakdown or malfunction in the plant which could lead to an additional discharge of any compound of sulphur.

Both Eccles and Salford Councils had objected to the factory on the grounds of possible hazard to public health.

Reginald Martin, chief public health inspector of Eccles, has said that his department believed the factory chimney should be higher because of high-rise flats in the area.

Aubrey Ward, the town's smoke-control officer, says that the ideal speed for smoke to leave a chimney in that area is 50 feet per second, but the speed planned for the acid works chimney was only 30 feet per second. This, he said, was 'a bit dodgy'.

LATE BALLOT



McGovern

A late result in the presidential elections has shown possibilities yet for the humiliated McGovern camp.

The result came from an island called Little Diomed in the Bering Strait, just two miles off the Soviet-owned Big Diomed Island.

When the count was completed it was a landslide victory for McGovern. He got 21 votes and Nixon only five.

Actually the result was a little early in any case. Sometimes it doesn't come through until January, two months after the elections.

By that time the water around the island freezes hard enough for an airplane to land and pick up the ballots delivered earlier by parachute.

HIGHER AND HIGHER

In October the Retail Price Index rose to 168.7 compared with 166.4 in September (January 1962=100). The new figure is 7.9 per cent above that of October 1971. Part of the rise was due to higher

rents for council homes under the Housing Finance Act. There were also higher charges for many other goods and services. Price increases are now accelerating once again, as can be seen from the table below.

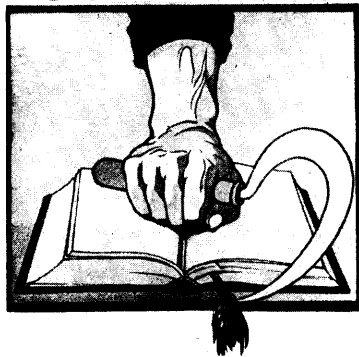
		Per cent increase	
Retail Price Index		over corresponding month a year ago	
1971	October	156.4	9.4
	November	157.3	9.2
	December	158.1	9.0
1972	January	159.0	8.2
	February	159.8	8.1
	March	160.3	7.6
	April	161.8	6.3
	May	162.6	6.1
	June	163.7	6.1
	July	164.7	5.8
	August	165.5	6.6
	September	166.4	7.0
	October	168.7	7.9

Labour Research Department

SLUMS— BUT LABOUR 'LEFTS' LACK THE SOLUTION

BY PHILIP WADE

BOOK REVIEW



'NO PLACE LIKE HOME'
compiled by
Frank Allaun, MP.

The Tory government says it is near to 'solving' the housing problem. There are as many dwellings as families, about 18 million each, they claim.

It is true that physically there are just about enough places to live. But that's only the surface of the story.

There are nearly 11 million men, women and children living in houses which do not have a bath, hot water system or inside lavatory. More than 5 million of them living in dwellings held to be unfit for human habitation.

Millions more live in overcrowded conditions and, of course, over 5 million council tenants are now saddled with £1 rent increases as the Tories step up their plans to destroy the basis of municipal housing.

Frank Allaun, Labour MP for Salford East for the last 17 years, has compiled 50 interviews by workers living in squalid conditions up and down Britain.

'No Place Like Home' gives a vivid and often startling account of what it means to live in slums, with walls falling down, damp and rubble, through the mouths of the tenants themselves.

Take Gladys Edmonton, who lives in a four-storey tenement over 100 years old. The houses in the street are all owned by two landlords who are estimated to be making £7,500 a year, clear, out of the properties.

The dwellings contain almost every housing defect: damp, vermin, overcrowding, lack of lavatories and bathrooms, rotting walls and ceilings, faulty drains.

'I've got five children, a ten-month-old baby, five-year-old twins, a 14-year-old boy and 16-year-old girl,' says Mrs Edmonton.

A part-time cleaner, she sits in the living-cum-bedroom, which is hopelessly jammed with good furniture.

'The baby's got a cot in the corner and we've got a double bed in the centre. The twins have got bunk beds. As regards the older ones, the girl sleeps at the top of a put-you-up settee, while the boy sleeps at the bottom.

'We've no bath. We've only got cold water. Then there's getting the hot water. I must use 3 or 4s worth of gas on pots and kettles, just to bath them alone. I have to carry the water down the stairs to empty it and up again with clean water.

'We've been down to the council a few times about the overcrowding and they say they can't put us any further forward on the list than they have done.'

Bessie Reid lives in the Gorbals. 'I'm 20 years in this



Frank Allaun, Labour MP for Salford East, for the last 17 years

house. I've five children in here. My husband is dead. We've two bedrooms and a kitchen. The rats are terrible. I could show you woollen jumpers that have been ate away with them. The kids are afraid to go to sleep at night because of them and you have to keep the light on.

'My name was down on the council waiting list first 19 years ago. Now I'm going into a four-room apartment.'

Meanwhile, outside are the communal toilets, each serving three families. There is gas lighting on the landing.

Thousands of farmworkers like Joe live in tied cottages which go with their jobs.

'If you lose your job you lose your home too. We had a dispute when we were in one house. I wouldn't do something so they gave me a fortnight's notice and took back the house.

'We had two sons by then, a baby and one nearly three. That was in November. In that village the farmer had put the pressure on to prevent anyone giving me a job.

'From time to time he'd come down the hill and say: "Bramley you'll have to get out of this house, you know". I was out of work from November to February.

'The union is against tied cottages for two reasons: It holds down wages, and it causes fear and anxiety.'

As useful as this collection of interviews is in illustrating the depth of the housing crisis, the conclusions at the end of the book also expose

Allaun's complete political bankruptcy.

The 'left' MP, who spoke for the national executive at the Labour Party conference this year against those refusing to implement the Tories' 'fair rents' Act calls for: 500,000 new houses each year, a target which is 'chiefly a matter of will'; improvement for old houses, the nationalization of land and help for the private landlord's tenant.

On the question of financing these projects, Allaun can only offer the usual hash of Fabian solutions.

'An expansionist economic policy; an annual wealth tax and a cut in military expenditure,' are his 'answers'.

But as long as there is capitalism there will be a housing crisis. The system cannot deliver the goods on housing or anything else for that matter because it is based on profit.

No amount of tinkering with the system will change that.

To resolve the housing crisis means firstly attacking the basis of the private ownership of the means of production, something which Allaun is not prepared to fight for.

But the next Labour government must be made to nationalize under workers' control and without compensation not only the land, but the banks, building societies and the entire building industry together with private landlord property.

Unless that is done there can never be the resources for a crash housing programme.

BOOKS



LEON TROTSKY:
Germany 1931/1932
Paperback £1.25—cloth £1.87½
Where is Britain Going?
Paperback 37½p
Revolution Betrayed
Paperback 62½p—cloth £1.05
Problems of the Chinese Revolution
Paperback £1.12½—cloth £1.87½
Permanent Revolution:
Results and Prospects
Paperback 75p
In Defence of Marxism
Paperback 75p
Lessons of October
Paperback 60p

Postage 10p per book, 3p per pamphlet. Order from:
NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS
186a Clapham High Street,
London SW4 7UG.

SLL LECTURES

LONDON

Sunday December 3
A theory of knowledge
Sunday December 10
Opponents of Marxism

BEAVER HALL
at Mansion House tube
7.30 p.m.

Lectures given by
G. Healy
SLL national secretary

BARNESLEY

Sunday December 3
Capitalism and the crisis
Sunday December 10
The struggle for power
Sunday December 17
Revolutionary theory and the
Marxist Party

RED LION HOTEL
(Worsborough) 8 p.m.

Lectures given
by Cliff Slaughter
(SLL Central Committee)

LEEDS

Monday December 4
The struggle for power
Monday December 11
Revolutionary theory and the
Marxist Party

WHIP HOTEL

Leeds
8 p. m.
(Note change)

LIVERPOOL

Wednesday December 6
Trotskyism and the founding of
the Fourth International

COMMON HALL
HACKINS HEY
off Dale Street, 7.30 p.m.

Lectures given by
Tom Kemp (SLL Central
Committee)

SHEFFIELD

Monday December 11
Stalinism and Trotskyism
Monday January 8
Marxism and the
revolutionary party

FORRESTERS HALL
Trippett Lane, 7.30 p.m.

TODMORDEN

Monday December 11
'Dialectical materialism'
Monday January 8
'The economic crisis'
Monday January 22
'Stalinism'
Monday February 5
'Trotskyism'

**THE WEAVERS' INSTI-
TUTE, Burnley Road,
7.30 p.m.**



Richard Bellamy (David Langton, left) with his brother Arthur (John Nettleton), a country doctor from Norfolk, in 'Upstairs, Downstairs' shown on Independent channels tonight and tomorrow. Arthur is a particularly nasty piece of work stirring it up for Hudson, the butler.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Let's face it. 3.00 Film: 'Two for the Money'. 4.20 Ruffin. 4.30 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 4.50 London. 5.20 Junkin. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Report. 6.35 London. 7.30 FBI. 8.30 London. 9.00 New Scotland Yard. 10.00 London. 10.35 Film: 'The Curse of the Werewolf'. 12.10 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 4.20 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary 6.25 Sport. 12.10 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 Galloping gourmet. 3.25 Saint. 4.20 Weekend. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.35 Out of town. 7.05 Sale of the century. 7.35 Film: 'In Broad Daylight'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Weekend. 10.35 Film: 'The Long and the Short and the Tall'. 12.20 News. 12.30 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 London. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Bonanza. 7.30 Film: 'Scarlet Angel'. 9.00 New Scotland Yard. 10.00 London. 10.03 Turnbull's finest half hour. 11.00 Now it's your say. 11.30 The double. 12.30 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except: 4.25-4.50 Stesion cantamil. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 10.30 British Lions tour. 11.30 UFO. 12.30 Weather.

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

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 3.30 Shirley's world. 3.55 Romper room. 4.20 News. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 London. 5.20 Primus. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 O'Hara. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30 Probe. 11.00 Film: 'Something to Live For'.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 12.00 Today. 12.05 London. 3.30 Danger man. 4.20 Forest rangers. 4.50 London. 5.20 Flintstones. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Protectors. 8.00 Adventurer. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 New Scotland Yard. 10.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Wages of Fear'.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.32 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 3.25 Randall and Hopkirk. 4.23 News. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 UFO. 8.30 London. 9.00 New Scotland Yard. 10.00 London. 10.30 Food of love. 11.00 Film: 'The Over-The-Hill-Gang'.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 3.30 Danger man. 4.25 Merrie melodies. 4.50 London. 5.20 Elephant boy. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 London. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'How I Won the War'. 12.25 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 3.25 Smith family. 3.50 Cartoon. 4.00 Crossroads. 4.25 TV funnies. 4.50 London. 5.15 Turnbull's finest half hour. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.25 Wagon train. 6.50 Protectors. 8.20 Comedians. 8.50 Cartoon. 9.00 London. 10.30 Kick off. 10.55 Film: 'Blood Money'.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 3.30 It takes a thief. 4.25 Nanny and the professor. 4.50 London. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Protectors. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 London. 8.30 Turnbull's finest half hour. 9.00 London. 10.30 Friday night. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Film: 'Son of Dracula'.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.40 Cartoon. 2.50 News. 3.00 London. 3.25 Shirley's world. 3.55 Katie Stewart cooks. 4.20 Funky phantom. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Odd couple. 6.35 London. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Cade's county. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'Die, Monster, Die'.

BBC 1

9.38-11.45 Schools. 12.00 Seventy plus. 12.25 Ryan and Ronnie. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Joe. 1.45 Antique Paperweights. 2.05 Schools. 2.35 Forest symphony. 3.20 Liberation now. 3.50 Children talking. 4.00 Clangers. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Magic roundabout. 4.40 Jackanory playhouse. 5.05 Deputy dawg. 5.15 Michael BenTine time. 5.45 News. Weather.
6.00 **NATIONWIDE.**
6.50 **BARNEY BEAR.**
7.00 **THE PINK PANTHER SHOW.**
7.20 **THE VIRGINIAN: MEN FROM SHILOH.** The Price of Hanging.
8.30 **DAD'S ARMY.** When Did you Last See Your Money?
9.00 **NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.** Weather.
9.25 **MISS WORLD 1972.** Introduced by Michael Aspel and Terry Wogan.
10.30 **FRIDAY TALK-IN.**
11.15 **LATE NIGHT NEWS.**
11.20 **FILM: 'SHE DONE HIM WRONG.'** Mae West, Cary Grant, Owen Moore. Taken from Mae West's stage play 'Diamond Lil', she plays a performer in a notorious Bowery beer hall in the gay 1890s.
12.20 Weather.

ITV

9.30 School. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Wendy Craig tells. . . 12.40 First report. 1.00 Melody inn. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Junkin. 3.25 Marcus Welby MD. 4.20 Adventures of Gulliver. 4.50 Magpie. 5.20 Smith family. 5.50 News.
6.00 **TODAY.**
6.35 **CROSSROADS.**
7.00 **THE PROTECTORS.** Triple Cross.
7.30 **HAWAII FIVE-O.**
8.30 **THE COMEDIANS.**
9.00 **UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS.** Your Obedient Servant.
10.00 **NEWS AT TEN.**
10.30 **POLICE FIVE.**
10.40 **FILM: 'THE NIGHT CALLER.'** John Saxon. An unidentified flying object is tracked to a field and taken back to a laboratory for tests.
12.05 **EDUCATION FOR WHAT?**
12.10 **SPYFORCE.** The Samurai.

TV

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.
6.35-7.00 **IRELAND.** This Handful of Dreams. The Gaelic League.
7.30 **NEWSROOM.** Weather.
8.00 **MONEY AT WORK.** A Nation of Taxpayers.
9.00 **HERITAGE.** The Procession and Installation Service of The Most Noble Order of the Garter.
9.25 **FILM: 'LE JOUR SE LEVE.'** Directed by Marcel Carne. With Jean Gabin, Arletty, Jules Berry. Love and jealousy in Paris.
11.00 **NEWS ON 2.** Weather.
11.05 **FILM NIGHT.** Films of the Month.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Fight Rising Prices
Force the Tories to Resign

BIRKENHEAD: Sunday December 10, 7.30 p.m. Pler Hotel.

BASINGSTOKE: Sunday December 3, 7.30 p.m. 'The Hop Leaf', Church Street.

WATFORD: Monday December 11, 8 p.m. Upstairs Room, Watford Trade Union Hall, Watford Road (opp. Watford Junction Station).

BRACKNELL: Monday December 4, 8.00 p.m. Priestwood Community Centre.

HULL: Monday December 11, 8 p.m. 'White Hart', Alfred Chelder Street, near Drypool bridge. 'No state control of wages.'

WEST LONDON: Tuesday December 12, 8 p.m. Prince Albert, Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross. 'No State Control of Wages'.

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Address.....

Strike moves in northern hospitals

ANCILLARY workers at Ashton-under-Lyne's 650-bed general hospital are to stage a one-day strike on December 13, in support of their 'frozen' £4-a-week pay claim.

December 13 was the day on which the hospital workers' new pay agreement was due to start.

Many of these workers are on a basic wage of £19 for 40 hours.

Ancillary workers at Chester City Hospital have also announced their intention of staging a one-day strike and a mass meeting of Manchester hospital workers is to be held tonight.

In Rochdale calls have gone forward for one-day strikes and also the close-down of private patients' wards.

Talks were held yesterday between the employers, the unions and Health Minister Sir Keith Joseph.

The ancillary workers include operating theatre attendants, cooks, porters, gardeners, cleaners and catering staff. They are organized in the National Union of Public Employees.

WORK-STUDY engineers at CAV Acton, west London, are working to rule in protest against a management decision to refer their pay negotiations to the Department of Employment.

Members of TASS, the technical and supervisory section of the engineers' union, the men have refused to implement the company's version of the Tory pay law relating to piecework prices.

Record supermarket profits

TESCO, the supermarket chain, has announced record half-yearly profits of £9.4m. And group turnover for the same period was up £26m to £164.5m.

The bonanza for the Tesco stores is due to the soaring price of fresh and processed foods. Tesco chairman, Mr Hyman Kreitman,

has described the results as 'excellent'. Profit margins went up by 5.21 per cent to 5.72 per cent during the opening months of this year, he said.

Shareholders are to get the normal 14-per cent dividend. It cannot be increased for 90 days because of the government 'freeze'. But he told shareholders: 'We

will resume the policy of paying increased dividends in line with the increased profits earned as soon as we are permitted to do so.'

After the results were announced Tesco shares gained 4p to 86p. POLLY PECK, the fashion tights to property conglomerate, has announced half-yearly figures which treble

previous profits. The bulk of the record profits come from property trading.

Pre-tax profits for the first six months to September were £167,531 compared with £60,311 last year. Of this profit, £102,598 came from property speculation. Shareholders will receive a 10-per cent interim dividend.

Leyland steward joins the firm

CYRIL MORRIS, former assistant secretary of the British-Leyland Combine Shop Stewards' Committee, has gone over to join the management.

He has been made industrial relations officer by British-Leyland at their Triumph factory in Coventry.

On the shop stewards' committee Morris worked closely with the co-chairman, Eddie McGarry, Transport and General Workers' Union convener at Triumph, and Dick Etheridge, Communist Party convener for engineering workers at the Austin Morris factory at Longbridge, Birmingham.

Now that he has joined the management, Morris will be free to inform Lord Stokes and his henchman about the internal workings of the shop stewards' committee.

His knowledge and experience of the committee will be placed at the disposal of management.

The committee represents more than 150,000 workers at 60 factories in the combine.

Morris's first duty for management will be to assist the introduction of Measured-Day Work at Triumph. Since Etheridge and company signed a vicious MDW agreement at Longbridge a couple of weeks ago, Triumph remains one of the only plants which is still based on the piecework pay system.

And one of the people Morris will be dealing directly with is his old friend McGarry.

Hosiery strikers seek official backing



UNION LEADERS meet today on a plea from the 500 Asian workers at Mansfield Hosiery Mills, Loughborough—some of them seen above—to give official backing to their strike over pay and alleged racial discrimination.

Yesterday Harold Gibson, general secretary of the

National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear workers, met strikers' leader J. Naik to discuss the plea.

After a mass meeting on Wednesday night, Gibson declared himself 'disappointed' that the strikers had voted to stay out.

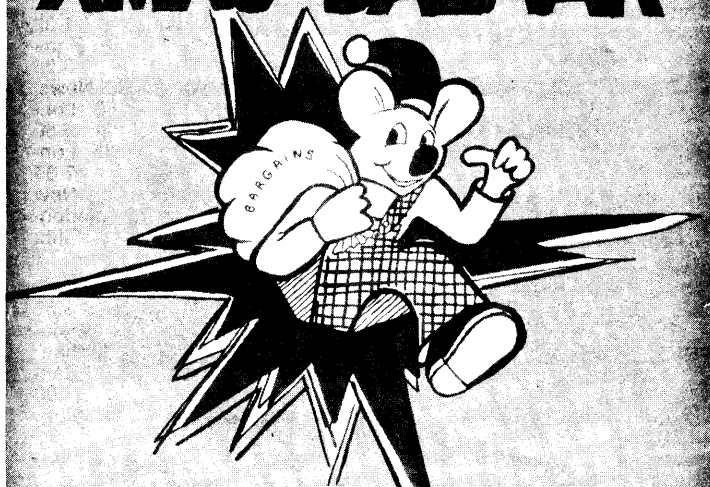
The strikers returned to work on Monday after a four-

week dispute with the company, but stopped again within hours demanding that 41 trainee knitters employed by the company during the strike were moved to other jobs.

They claimed they had evidence higher-paid knitting jobs were to be kept exclusively for white workers.

LONG ISLAND Railroad, New York, the nation's biggest commuter rail network, was hit by a strike yesterday. The 5,000 striking workers are demanding a 30-per cent pay increase. Their contract expired last January. Radio and television stations yesterday urged motorists to form 'car pools' to help bring to work the 269,000 commuters hit by the strike.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS XMAS BAZAAR



SATURDAY DECEMBER 9
Corn Exchange
Leeds

Doors open 12 noon Price 5p

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE
PUBLIC MEETING

SWINDON

Wednesday, December 13 8 pm

AEU HOUSE, FLEMING WAY, SWINDON

SPECIAL SHOWING OF THE 'RIGHT TO WORK' FILM.

A film made by ACTT showing the five Right-to-Work marches from Glasgow, Liverpool, Swansea, Deal and Southampton to London, ending with a huge rally at Empire Pool, Wembley, on March 12, 1972.

Speaker: G. Healy, National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League.
Chairman: F. Willis, AEU steward at British Rail Engineering Workshop, Swindon (in a personal capacity).

- We demand the right to work!
- Make the Tory government resign!
- Build the revolutionary party!

Bedworth operates rent Act

BEDWORTH Labour council in Warwickshire has capitulated to the Tory government and will implement the 'fair rents' Act from next January.

The decision was made possible on Tuesday night by the casting vote of the Labour chairman of the council, George Taylor.

Councillors had tied 10-10 on implementation, with seven Labourites, two Liberals and one Tory voting to obey the law.

All the Labourites who voted in favour of putting the rents up 54p have already had the whip withdrawn for collaborating with the Tories.

Spend less

LOCAL AUTHORITIES were told 'spend less' in the White Paper on Local Government out yesterday. The Paper declares: 'A reduction by £10m of the level of expenditure which might otherwise have been expected would be consistent with a resolute effort by local authorities to minimize rate increases.'

This means that the Tories are demanding lower standards in such basic services as education, council housing, public transport, libraries and cleansing.

DRIVING SEAT

SIR GERALD Nabarro, Conservative MP for south Worcestershire, has been elected chairman of the 330-strong House of Commons Motoring Club for the fifth successive year.

Nabarro recently won an appeal against conviction for a driving offence when he was able to prove that his secretary had been driving when his car went the wrong way round a roundabout and performed other unusual manoeuvres.

Socialist Labour League

CELEBRATE
3RD ANNIVERSARY
OF WORKERS
PRESS

BUILD THE
REVOLUTIONARY
PARTY

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 3
7 p.m.

Everyman Theatre
LIVERPOOL

Speakers:

MIKE BANDA
(SLL Central Committee)

DAVE KIRBY
(CAV, Fazakerley, shop steward.)

CONNIE FAHEY
(Wilmslow tenants' leader)

ALAN PEERS
(Young Socialists' national committee)
(Union and tenant speakers in a personal capacity.)
Details of other provincial meetings see p. 12.

NEWCASTLE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 7 p.m.
County Hotel

Speakers:

MIKE BANDA (SLL Central committee)

DAVID JONES (YS national committee)

BOB MAINS (Unemployed)

VINCENT FOY (secretary Jar-row Trades Council. In personal capacity.)

BIRMINGHAM

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 7 p.m.
Assembly Hall
Digbeth Civic Hall

Speakers:

GLASGOW

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 2 p.m.
Woodside Halls

St George's Cross

Speakers:

MIKE BANDA (SLL Central committee)

JOHN BARRIE (YS national committee)

WILLIE DOCHERTY (chairman Paisley Tenants' Action Committee. In personal capacity.)

G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)

WILLIE AITKIN (YS national committee)

PETER SMITH (Rover shop steward. In personal capacity.)

NEW
FILM

THREE
YEARS
OF
WORKERS
PRESS

Showing the developments and gains since the first issue of Workers Press, September 26, 1969

FINAL TOTAL £2,105.97—IT'S A RECORD!

**Workers
Press
MONTHLY
APPEAL
FUND**

IT IS MORE than magnificent! It looked like we would just scrape home this month. But your determination not only raise our £1,750 target but amazed us all by collecting £355.97 over the top—a tremendous achievement. We really do thank you all very much indeed.

Your response shows the enormous feeling that now exists

against this Tory government. They might be able to fine AUEW and bring in laws to hold down wages, but everywhere workers are fighting back against these measures more than ever before.

Workers Press will continue to give a political lead to thousands of trade unionists all over the country. We must not rest until this Tory government is forced to resign.

Don't sit back on these great achievements. Help us increase our sales, and reach out to new districts. Finally, help us try and raise an even bigger amount for next month's Fund. Start today. Post your donations to:

Workers Press
December Appeal Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG.

Ireland

IAN YEATS, staff reporter, is in Dublin reporting on the anti-IRA Bill and Sean MacStiofain's strike. His 10-part series on A Crisis of Leadership continues on Page 4.

CAV

DAVID MAUDE, our Industrial Correspondent, presents a four-page feature on the Mersey sit-in strike on Saturday.

Clay Cross

PHILIP WADE, our Housing Correspondent, files a special report on 'The town that is defying the Tory Rent Act' in Saturday's paper.

Ceylon

Starting next Monday JACK GALE'S series on 'Renegades from Trotskyism'.

ISRAEL'S airports have been shut by a strike of more than 1,000 civil aviation workers who want more pay. The strike, involving engineers, flight controllers, porters, clerks and cleaners, has grounded all civilian flights. Income tax departments were crippled by strikes yesterday and communications, maintenance and repair workers have been on strike since Monday. Leaders of the communications workers face contempt charges in district labour courts

NUM TAKEN TO COURT

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

London journalists back O'Kelly

FROM OUR OWN
CORRESPONDENT

A JOINT meeting of London journalists, called by Central London and Magazine and Books branches of the National Union of Journalists yesterday called on the union to publicly support Kevin O'Kelly, who was jailed for three months by a special court in Dublin last Saturday.

O'Kelly, features editor of Radio Telefis Eireann, and a union member, had refused to reveal the source of an interview produced at the trial of Sean MacStiofain. Irish journalists have taken industrial action against the sentence and are planning further steps.

O'Kelly is now free on bail pending an appeal.

Dick Walsh, of the Dublin NUJ, revealed at the meeting that what in fact had been broadcast was not the voice of Sean MacStiofain, but a report of an interview with him.

The meeting condemned the Lynch government for introducing the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Bill based on the principle that a man was guilty until proved innocent.

Walsh showed that the Bill was only the culmination of a series of anti-democratic laws brought in over the past decade.

Under its provisions it would be an offence for any journalist in Ireland, Britain or elsewhere to report any statement by any member of an organization banned by the government.

Anybody named in the Press as a member of a banned organization would have to disprove the allegation before a court or face five years' jail.

The meeting also called on the two NUJ branches to organize a demonstration in support of O'Kelly and NUJ members in Ireland.

THE KEY National Union of Mineworkers yesterday made its first appearance before the National Industrial Relations Court at a hearing in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

In the shape of lodge secretary James Inskip, the union appeared before the court to explain why penalties for 'excessive overtime earnings' had been imposed on one of his members.

Inskip's appearance evoked little interest at the NUM's Durham office, where a spokesman would say only that 'lodge matters are usually handled by the lodge itself'.

But Trevor Bell, industrial relations officer at the union's London headquarters, admitted that this was a first for the union.

'No breach of national policy is involved', he said. 'Our position is the same as that of the TUC: that unions are free to defend themselves before the court when attacked.'

Union secretary Lawrence Daley was not available for comment.

Yesterday's hearing arises out of a complaint by James Sim, a member of the Harton and Westoe lodge of the NUM, of unfair industrial practice.

Members of the branch 'sent him to Coventry', he claims, when he refused to pay a £3 penalty. The penalty had been imposed, lodge secretary Inskip told the court, because Sim had worked too much overtime in September and October of last year.

Inskip said that in 1965 there was bitterness and discontent among miners about excessive overtime being worked by some 'blue-eyed boys'.

As a result lodge members resolved that miners would be asked to pay into the aged miners' benevolent fund any 'over the top' overtime work.

In three weeks in September and October last year Sim was 'over the top' by £22.

'I therefore asked him to pay £6 and Sim said "I cannot afford to pay £6. I have four children and I am buying furniture".'

'I am not a hard man and I said that he should put £3 into the fund and he replied "you get f . . . all from me", a four letter word. When I called at the lodge about this, feelings were very high against him.'

'Some of them wanted to expel him from the union.'

Earlier Sim told the court that since the last hearing he had agreed that he should pay £3, but that it should be given to a charity he named. In exchange the lodge should rescind the resolution sending him to Coventry.

But these terms had not been accepted by the lodge.

As a result of refusing to pay £3 he had been put on work which meant lower earnings and only the odd man among his mates spoke to him.

His twin brother, George Sim, said that at the beginning of the trouble Inskip prevented other men going down in the cage because some of them had said that they would kick his brother.

● The NUM, whose executive is in ten days' time supposed to draw up a substantial pay-and-hours claim after a two-month delay, did not discuss the issue of the Industrial Relations Act at its conference in July. An executive report reaffirming the union's opposition was accepted without comment.

LYNCH RESIGN!

FROM PAGE ONE

In common with Mr Merrick many trade unionists feel the immediate alternatives to Fianna Fail are either impossible or bleak.

They consist of the powerful but right wing Fine Gael on one hand and on the left an assortment of smaller groups of which the Labour Party is the largest although still with only 17 seats out of the 142 in the Dail.

The fate of Ireland is inextricably bound up with Britain. Heath has not only pressurized Lynch to stamp out the IRA, but both governments agree, as the free trade treaty shows, that their interests lie in following the same road into the EEC under identical conditions.

The fight for alternative

government in the Republic is matched by the struggles of workers in Ulster and in Britain against the Tories.

The Heath government is already laying the basis for dictatorship in Britain and unprecedented attacks on the working class.

Now, in addition to the anti-union law, the state pay legislation and plans for streamlining government, the extensions of Ireland's special powers laws to the rest of the UK is under active consideration.

The British trade union and labour movement must act at once to support workers in Ireland by following the lead of the AT&GWU and demanding a General Strike to force the Tory government to resign.

Socialist Labour League Public Meeting

FREE SEAN MacSTIOFAIN

Friday December 1, 7.30 p.m.

CONWAY HALL, RED LION SQUARE
(near Holborn Tube)

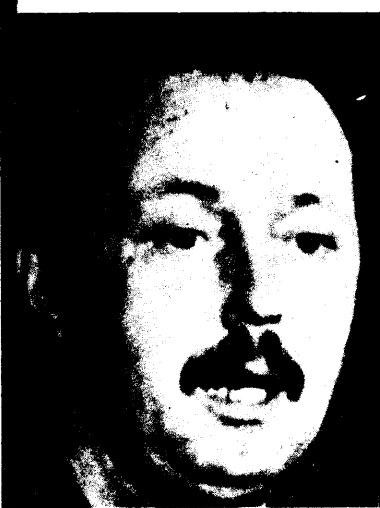
Speakers:

Gerry Healy (national secretary of the Socialist Labour League)

Sarah Hannigan (London YS regional secretary)

Chairman:

Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee)



LATE NEWS