

## AFTER THE MINERS' NO- STRIKE VOTE

Statement by the Socialist  
Labour League Political Committee

**THE VOTE by a majority of miners against strike action on their pay claim is a vote of no confidence in their own union leadership and in the TUC.**

Those Tory Ministers and Tory newspapers crowing about a 'victory' will soon have to change their tune. As the 1972 strike showed, the miners are not afraid to take on the Tory government.

But this time they made a temporary compromise and this indicates we are in a new situation.

Far from the ballot result being a setback to revolutionary developments in the working class, it indicates that in this new situation one great question overshadows every section of workers: the question of leadership.

What the miners have said is this: 80,000 are prepared to vote for strike even with the present leadership—a strike which must be a political fight to the death with the Tory government.

The majority, sensing the complete reluctance of their own leaders, held their hand for a more favourable opportunity and settled with what they could get for the time being.

### Control

Some, no doubt, even hoped that these harsh days would pass and that things would improve a little.

In what situation did the miners cast their votes? State control over wages and the Tory Pay Board were only five days away and are now the law of the land.

The miners knew that if they struck under these conditions, it would have been an illegal strike with all its consequences of unlimited fines and possibly jail for their leaders.

At its special Congress on March 5 the TUC was called upon to mount a political and industrial fight against these laws which end the



The March 5 TUC Congress . . . 'invitation' to action.

basic right to free wage negotiations.

Joe Gormley, the miners' president, spelled out the alternatives: a General Strike or put up with the Tories and their laws.

### 'Invite'

But Congress voted only to 'invite' unions to take part in a 'day of protest' and the date was fixed for May 1—four weeks after the laws

were due to come into operation.

Having staved off a full-scale mobilization against the Tories, the TUC then began its real dirty work—dividing workers, refusing to come to the aid of the civil servants, isolating the hospital workers, urging capitulation to Phase Two while re-opening talks with Heath.

The NUM executive also bears some measure of direct responsibility for the ballot

# THE NEXT STEP

tricians, Sir Sidney Greene of the railmen and Edward Britton of the teachers immediately announced that they would not be taking part in the May Day protest.

Tom Jackson rushed headlong into the arms of the Tories by accepting the Post Office's Phase Two offer.

He won the dubious distinction of being the first trade union leader to voluntarily accept the state pay controls.

### Deal

Then came Hugh Scanlon, the 'left'. On the eve of the 1972 miners' strike, Scanlon guided the engineers away from national action on their wage demand, leaving the miners to fight the Tories single handed.

This time, as the miners completed their ballot, he offered Heath a deal on the Industrial Relations Act and capitulated to acceptance of the Common Market.

And finally he accepted the principle of state pay laws and suggested further talks on Phase Three.

All these factors combined to face the miners with the question not just of their wage demand, but of the problems of political leadership which will

## £100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND SIXTH DAY

ANOTHER generous donation of £100 from a good friend, K.L., brings the total to £1,178. But we still have a long way to go to complete the first leg of the fund—£50,000 by May 31. Can we hear from all SLL branches about the progress of the campaign and the money collected. Post all donations to:

Party Building Fund  
186a Clapham High Street  
London SW4 7UG

decide the future of the whole working class.

Memories die hard in the working class.

In the 1926 General Strike, the TUC General Council sold out and called it off after only seven days.

The miners, who stayed out through the summer and autumn, were eventually isolated and starved back to work with a crippling wage cut.

Instinctively they feel that this time, if that defeat is to be avenged, it is the political character of working-class leadership that is the central issue.

They see their leaders rushing to the rescue of the capitalist system deeply involved in severe economic crisis.

### Prepare

And yet they are asked to lead a political strike against the government behind leaders who would have settled for five days' holiday with pay!

Behind all the hints of renewed co-operation with the unions, the Tories carry out their real preparations:

TURN TO PAGE 2

## Youth will discuss building revolutionary party

YOUNG PEOPLE from all over Britain will assemble in Blackpool next weekend for the 13th annual conference of the Young Socialists. The conference will be the most crucial in the history of the revolutionary youth movement.

Charter trains and coaches have been booked to bring delegations to the Winter Gardens, the enormous

conference complex which overlooks the beachfront.

The YS National Committee has submitted a comprehensive draft resolution which stresses both the desperate character of the world economic crisis and the implications of this crisis for young people everywhere.

'The building of a mass YS movement is essential if the working class is to take power,' the resolution says.

'The YS supports the dec-

laration of the October conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance conference in Birmingham which called for the transformation of the Socialist Labour League into the revolutionary party.

'We enter enthusiastically into the struggle to build the mass YS to bring forward the forces from among the youth and the adult workers that will launch this party.'

Copies of the resolution have been sent to YS

branches as part of a pre-conference discussion and amendments, alterations or addenda are welcomed by the National Committee.

A record number of more than 240 resolutions have been received and published for discussion during the two-day conference.

The keenest debates are expected to be on the fight for leadership in the working class to defeat the Tory government, the defence of basic democratic rights, the student grants campaign,

the fight against British imperialism in Ireland, the fight against soaring prices and for decent wages, and the growing police repression against young people, particularly those from immigrant communities.

In this week's 'Keep Left', the weekly YS newspaper, Sheila Torrance, the YS national secretary from 1966 to 1970, reviews the fighting history of the revolutionary youth movement.

She says: 'Our 13th annual conference marks the

beginning of a new year—a year in which the working class will be called upon to arm itself as never before in the face of the attacks that will be launched by a ruling class in unprecedented crisis.

'Let us go forward and win thousands of young people everywhere and bring them right to the forefront of the struggle to transform the SLL into the revolutionary party.'

● Conference details p. 12.

# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● MONDAY APRIL 9, 1973 ● No 1043 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

## AFTER THE MINERS' NO- STRIKE VOTE

Statement by the Socialist  
Labour League Political Committee

**THE VOTE by a majority of miners against strike action on their pay claim is a vote of no confidence in their own union leadership and in the TUC.**

Those Tory Ministers and Tory newspapers crowing about a 'victory' will soon have to change their tune. As the 1972 strike showed, the miners are not afraid to take on the Tory government.

But this time they made a temporary compromise and this indicates we are in a new situation.

Far from the ballot result being a setback to revolutionary developments in the working class, it indicates that in this new situation one great question overshadows every section of workers: the question of leadership.

What the miners have said is this: 80,000 are prepared to vote for strike even with the present leadership—a strike which must be a political fight to the death with the Tory government.

The majority, sensing the complete reluctance of their own leaders, held their hand for a more favourable opportunity and settled with what they could get for the time being.

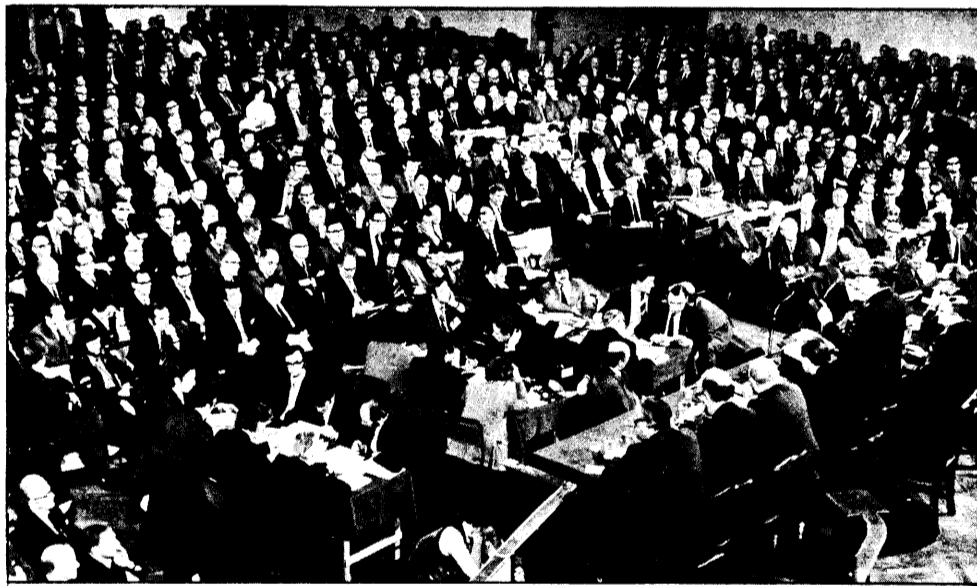
### Control

Some, no doubt, even hoped that these harsh days would pass and that things would improve a little.

In what situation did the miners cast their votes? State control over wages and the Tory Pay Board were only five days away and are now the law of the land.

The miners knew that if they struck under these conditions, it would have been an illegal strike with all its consequences of unlimited fines and possibly jail for their leaders.

At its special Congress on March 5 the TUC was called upon to mount a political and industrial fight against these laws which end the



The March 5 TUC Congress . . . 'invitation' to action.

basic right to free wage negotiations.

Joe Gormley, the miners' president, spelled out the alternatives: a General Strike or put up with the Tories and their laws.

### 'Invite'

But Congress voted only to 'invite' unions to take part in a 'day of protest' and the date was fixed for May 1—four weeks after the laws

were due to come into operation.

Having staved off a full-scale mobilization against the Tories, the TUC then began its real dirty work—dividing workers, refusing to come to the aid of the civil servants, isolating the hospital workers, urging capitulation to Phase Two while re-opening talks with Heath.

The NUM executive also bears some measure of direct responsibility for the ballot

# THE NEXT STEP

result, particularly its 'left-wing'.

They deliberately delayed action until after the winter while at the same time they were openly collaborating with the Coal Board over the Common Market and with the government over the Tory subsidies to the industry.

Individual General Council members also played their part within their own unions. Frank Chapple of the elec-

tricians, Sir Sidney Greene of the railmen and Edward Britton of the teachers immediately announced that they would not be taking part in the May Day protest.

Tom Jackson rushed headlong into the arms of the Tories by accepting the Post Office's Phase Two offer.

He won the dubious distinction of being the first trade union leader to voluntarily accept the state pay controls.

### Deal

Then came Hugh Scanlon, the 'left'. On the eve of the 1972 miners' strike, Scanlon guided the engineers away from national action on their wage demand, leaving the miners to fight the Tories single handed.

This time, as the miners completed their ballot, he offered Heath a deal on the Industrial Relations Act and capitulated to acceptance of the Common Market.

And finally he accepted the principle of state pay laws and suggested further talks on Phase Three.

All these factors combined to face the miners with the question not just of their wage demand, but of the problems of political leadership which will

## £100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND SIXTH DAY

ANOTHER generous donation of £100 from a good friend, K.L., brings the total to £1,178. But we still have a long way to go to complete the first leg of the fund—£50,000 by May 31. Can we hear from all SLL branches about the progress of the campaign and the money collected. Post all donations to:

Party Building Fund  
186a Clapham High Street  
London SW4 7UG

decide the future of the whole working class.

Memories die hard in the working class.

In the 1926 General Strike, the TUC General Council sold out and called it off after only seven days.

The miners, who stayed out through the summer and autumn, were eventually isolated and starved back to work with a crippling wage cut.

Instinctively they feel that this time, if that defeat is to be avenged, it is the political character of working-class leadership that is the central issue.

They see their leaders rushing to the rescue of the capitalist system deeply involved in severe economic crisis.

### Prepare

And yet they are asked to lead a political strike against the government behind leaders who would have settled for five days' holiday with pay!

Behind all the hints of renewed co-operation with the unions, the Tories carry out their real preparations:

TURN TO PAGE 2

## Youth will discuss building revolutionary party

YOUNG PEOPLE from all over Britain will assemble in Blackpool next weekend for the 13th annual conference of the Young Socialists. The conference will be the most crucial in the history of the revolutionary youth movement.

Charter trains and coaches have been booked to bring delegations to the Winter Gardens, the enor-

mous conference complex which overlooks the beachfront.

The YS National Committee has submitted a comprehensive draft resolution which stresses both the desperate character of the world economic crisis and the implications of this crisis for young people everywhere.

'The building of a mass YS movement is essential if the working class is to take power,' the resolution says.

'The YS supports the dec-

laration of the October conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance conference in Birmingham which called for the transformation of the Socialist Labour League into the revolutionary party.

'We enter enthusiastically into the struggle to build the mass YS to bring forward the forces from among the youth and the adult workers that will launch this party.'

Copies of the resolution have been sent to YS

branches as part of a pre-conference discussion and amendments, alterations or addenda are welcomed by the National Committee.

A record number of more than 240 resolutions have been received and published for discussion during the two-day conference.

The keenest debates are expected to be on the fight for leadership in the working class to defeat the Tory government, the defence of basic democratic rights, the student grants campaign,

the fight against British imperialism in Ireland, the fight against soaring prices and for decent wages, and the growing police repression against young people, particularly those from immigrant communities.

In this week's 'Keep Left', the weekly YS newspaper, Sheila Torrance, the YS national secretary from 1966 to 1970, reviews the fighting history of the revolutionary youth movement.

She says: 'Our 13th annual conference marks the

beginning of a new year—a year in which the working class will be called upon to arm itself as never before in the face of the attacks that will be launched by a ruling class in unprecedented crisis.

'Let us go forward and win thousands of young people everywhere and bring them right to the forefront of the struggle to transform the SLL into the revolutionary party.'

● Conference details p. 12.

THE POLITICAL argument of 'Tribune' never rises above the level of cheap sneers. And the 'Tribune'-ites themselves, of course, invariably support the Wilson leadership in the Labour Party.

Their record is there for all to see. In 1960 after the Gaitskellite right wing had been defeated on the H-bomb, the 'Tribune'-ites ran from the fight and permitted the right wing to overturn the decision.

In 1964, as the election drew close, 'Tribune' supported the Transport House witch-hunt of the Young Socialists, the 'Tribune'-ite MPs hastily deserted CND, and then they all defended the Wilson government when it held back the old age pensioners' increase.

From 1964 on, the 'Tribune' 'lefts' insisted there was no possibility of a Labour government introducing laws against the unions.

In 1966, when Wilson introduced emergency powers against the striking seamen, not a single 'Tribune' MP tried to force a vote.

In 1970, when Wilson's policies had disillusioned hundreds of thousands of Labour voters and let the Tories in, 'Tribune' stayed loyally behind their hero.

In 1972 the 'Tribune' MPs said the miners' strike was a 'catastrophe for Britain', and sought desperately to bring it to an end rather than see the Tory government brought down. Michael Foot publicly thanked the Tory leader of the House of Commons for the measures taken to 'preserve order' when the miners lobbied parliament.

Neither 'Tribune' nor any one of the Labourites who support it has ever demanded the expulsion from the Labour Party of the pro-Tory Jenkins wing which kept Heath in office by its votes on the Common Market. (This same 'Tribune', in July 1964, had called the Young Socialists 'lice on the body politic'.)

# Sniggering all the way to Stalinism

All of this, and much more, gives 'Tribune' impeccable credentials for denouncing the Socialist Labour League and Workers Press as 'sectarian'.

We are sectarian, according to the centrists' declining weekly, because we said the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions is a stooge organization of the Communist Party whose purpose is to head off opposition to the trade union bureaucracy, and because we stressed that the International Socialists and the International Marxist Group support it in that policy.

That can't possibly be true, according to 'Tribune' because the 'Morning Star' attacked the IS delegation to the Liaison Committee conference held on March 31.

What 'Tribune' fails to report is that, despite all their shouting, the IS and IMG members at the conference joined with the Stalinists in voting unanimously for a resolution which called on the working class to 'compel the government to drop its incomes policy and anti-trade union legislation'.

Our opposition to this policy is a prin-

ciple one. The task is not to try to 'persuade' a Tory government to desist from Tory policies, but to organize the working class to bring the government down.

The Stalinists who run the Liaison Committee and their revisionist supporters, are vehemently opposed to such a policy. This political agreement unites them against the Socialist Labour League, despite all their shouting and fist fights at conferences.

'Tribune', as always, supports the Stalinists against the Trotskyists. The Liaison Committee, it tells its readers, is 'a body that has existed for some time and contains communists and Labour Party members and trade unionists with no particular political affiliation'.

That is not what the Liaison Committee is. It is, we repeat, a stooge organization run by ageing Stalinist hacks from the Communist Party, dedicated at all costs to oppose the development of revolutionary consciousness in the working class.

'Tribune' shares that opposition to revolutionary politics. That is why, in the

same issue as it sneers at us, it says the miners' ballot means that 'the fight which [the miners] put up last year in many ways exhausted their strength'. Not a word about the role of the TUC leaders who have repeatedly crawled to the Tories and isolated section after section of the working class which wanted to fight!

Like the Stalinists and revisionists, 'Tribune' blames the workers for the results of their leaders' policies.

It is not a matter of building a leadership to fight the Tories and the Labour traitors, but of 'explaining to the public' that Tory policies make them worse off!

As if the miners, railwaymen, dockers, carworkers, gasmen, builders, teachers, hospital workers, engineers, civil servants and all those involved in recent wage battles, need 'Tribune' to tell them that.

What the working class needs is a revolutionary party. The Socialist Labour League is determined to build that party. Neither the Stalinists, the revisionists nor the political pygmies around 'Tribune' will prevent us from carrying out that task.

## Dayan wants to buy into Arab lands



THE ISRAELI coalition cabinet was yesterday considering a scheme allowing Jews to buy land in the occupied territories. It is opposed by the Arabs and even by some leaders within Israel.

The scheme's author, General Moshe Dayan, says he can see no reason why an Arab wanting to sell his land to a Jew for 'good money' should not do so.

The purchase of land in the occupied Golan Heights, West Bank, Gaza Strip and Sinai has been formally outlawed for Israelis since the June 1967 war.

But in fact many under-the-counter deals have already taken place. Israeli businessmen have speculated on the prospect that the lands will eventually be incorporated into Israel.

Dayan's statement is an unmistakable declaration of intention to annex the conquered territories, possibly under the fig-leaf of semi-independence for the West Bank.

The Jordanian, Syrian and Egyptian governments have protested against the Dayan plan.

They fear it will destroy any possibility of a bargain with Zionism behind the backs of the Palestinian people whose land it is.

Private land sales will extend Israel's borders at the expense of the Arabs.

A million more refugees robbed of their remaining claims will be created.

Though Dayan is still in a minority on the Israeli cabinet, the opposition to his plan is based almost entirely on 'security' considerations.

His opponents feel the army would be too stretched if it had to take responsibility for protecting Israeli property throughout the occupied territories.

# Blockade busters turned back

CAMBODIAN liberation forces broke up a convoy of supply ships on the Mekong River in heavy fighting at the weekend, stopping all but six of the 19 vessels.

The convoy was on its way from South Vietnam to the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh where the US-backed dictator Lon Nol is trying desperately to cling to power.

All supply routes into the capital are dominated by the liberation forces and the battered survivors of the convoy were the first to bring supplies through the blockade for more than a week.

The other vessels either fled back across the border into South Vietnam or were

waiting on the border in the hopes that the US Air Force would be able to break the blockade by bombing.

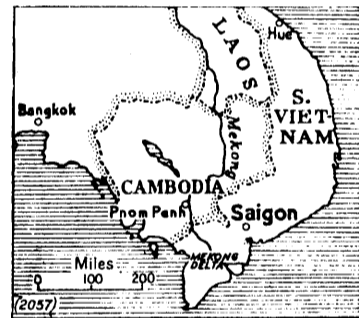
The regular weekly convoy to Phnom Penh is now 12 days overdue and stocks of fuel for private transport in the city have already run out.

The capital's residents have also been warned to conserve food, water and electricity.

So desperate is the situation that President Nixon has dispatched senior military adviser General Alex-

## Lon Nol convoy turned back

ander Haig, the army vice chief-of-staff, to undertake on-the-spot investigations. Haig arrived in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday, after conferring with the President and foreign affairs adviser Henry Kissinger in California on the deteriorating situation in Cambodia.



American Hercules transport planes were reported to be rushing weapons and supplies to Phnom Penh for a last-ditch stand against an expected assault by the liberation armies.

Presidential Press secretary Ronald Ziegler indicated mounting alarm over the actions of the liberation forces headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who was deposed as Prime Minister by the CIA three years ago.

## AFTER MINERS' NO STRIKE VOTE--THE NEXT STEP

FROM PAGE 1

- A new central security authority to co-ordinate police, armed forces and civil service.
  - Special mobilization and training under specialized command of anti-working-class 'counter-insurgency' forces.
  - New measures against pickets and strikers.
  - Police-protected scabbing.
- They know full well that the depth of the economic crisis makes confrontation with the working class unavoidable in a very short time.

Not only miners, but dockers, carworkers, hospital and gasworkers, railwaymen, civil servants and teachers and millions of others are now thrown into a position where political leadership to defeat the Tories and to lead the struggle for a Labour government pledged to socialist policies becomes the most pressing, everyday question.

If many workers, suspicious of their leadership, accept a compromise which can only temporarily postpone the confrontation, then the situation is opening up for the working class to

consider urgently and fight out the issues of:

**HOW to defeat the Tories.**

**HOW to tackle the basic questions underlying their problems of wages and living conditions.**

**HOW to build a new revolutionary leadership.**

The development of the struggle of the working class, in all its contradictions, demands the immediate transformation of the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party.

This is our answer to the crisis of leadership which has been so sharply posed

by the miners' vote against strike action.

Workers' power in Britain, as everywhere, could never and cannot now be achieved along the straight path of mounting industrial militancy.

A temporary expression of caution in the industrial struggle is here the preparation for a rapid political transformation.

Despite the inadequacies on the May 1 protest strike organized by the TUC, we urged every member of the SLL and the YS and every Workers Press reader to work might and main to make it a resounding success.

## Guerrillas' second direct hit

A SECOND Portuguese military plane has been shot down by a ground-to-air missile while on anti-guerrilla operations in Portuguese Guinea, the official Lusitania news agency reported in Lisbon.

The agency, quoting high command sources in Bissau,

said the Harvard T-6 was one of several planes searching for a single-engined Dornier 27 light plane which had crashed from unknown causes on Friday.

The Harvard blew up when hit by the missile, killing the Portuguese pilot.

This was the second direct hit by guerrilla forces fighting to throw the Portuguese out of the country.

On March 28, Lt-Col José Almeida Brito, the air force operational commander in Portuguese Guinea, was killed when his plane was hit.

Every step forward in building the mass movement against this hated Tory government, no matter how limited, must be supported.

We urge all our supporters to study and discuss, as a matter of the greatest urgency, the Draft Perspectives for transforming the SLL into a revolutionary party.

April 7, 1973.

**CIRCULATION**  
01-622 7029  
**NEWS DESK**  
01-720 2000

# TORIES WANT THE ROPE BACK

BY ALEX MITCHELL

Premier Edward Heath will allow Conservative MPs and Ministers a free vote when a Private Member's Bill calling for the restoration of the death penalty is debated on Wednesday.

By not mandating his party to vote against capital punishment, Heath is making a big concession to the right wing.

The Bill is being put forward by Mr Edward Taylor, MP for Cathcart, Glasgow, and he claims that more than 200 MPs will vote for it.

A number of Labour MPs also support his Bill, but all their names haven't been revealed.

One is Mr Richard Buchanan, MP for Springburn. He told the 'Glasgow Herald' last week:

'With the current wave of violence I cannot see how we can do anything else. Moreover, the amount of support there will be for this from Labour members will be considerable.'

He estimates that at least 50 Labourites will join right-wing Tories in calling for restoration of the rope.

He says piously: 'I am a social democrat. I have to take the views of my constituents into account. This may impinge greatly on the ease of my conscience, but I fail to see any other way.'

On October 28, 1971, he and 68 other right-wingers in the Parliamentary Labour Party voted with the Tories to secure Britain's entry into the Common Market.

By voting with the Tories, Buchanan, Jenkins, Taverne and company also preserved the Heath government in office. At that time Buchanan had nothing to say about the views of his constituents.

He defied not only the policy of the TUC and the Labour Party conferences, but the policy of the Parliamentary Labour Party itself.



## THE LAST MAN SENT TO THE GALLOWS

The last hangings in Britain were on August 13, 1964, when two milkmen were executed for murdering a laundryman from whom they wanted to borrow money.

In Ulster, Robert McGladdery, was the last man to hang—in December 1961—for the murder of factory worker Pearl Gambie, 19, at Newry, Co Down.

Northern Ireland had no hangman. The sentences were carried out by an English executioner.

The death penalty for murder was suspended in Britain for a five-year experimental period in 1965.

Then — at the end of 1969 and after much controversy — parliament voted to abolish capital punishment permanently.

Peter Anthony Allen (21) and Gwynne Owen Evans (24), both from Preston, Lancs, were the last to hang in Britain.

Despite strong expectations of a reprieve, Allen was executed at Walton Prison, Liverpool, and Evans at Strangeways, Manchester.

An all-night vigil by anti-capital punishment supporters was kept outside Walton prison at the time.

Inside — 18 hours before he was hanged — Allen went berserk in his cell. There were no demonstrations outside Strangeways.

The last woman to hang in Britain was Ruth Ellis. She shot dead her lover David Blakely who was trying to break off the affair.

Despite a nationwide campaign to save her and as a crowd of 1,000 demonstrated outside Holloway, Ruth Ellis was hanged in July, 1955.

'The hangman has been reprieved and medievalism won the day', said Mr (later Sir) Beverley Baxter.

Three Appeal Court judges in Northern Ireland last week fixed April 25 as the date for the execution of a UDA man convicted of murdering a policeman.

He was also refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

## ARMY TERROR IN ARDOYNE

Angry and frightened residents in the Ardoyne area of Belfast are demanding that the British army be pulled out of their community as the first step in their complete withdrawal from Northern Ireland.

In recent weeks the army has been stepping up its harassment in this area. Their brutality reached a climax two weeks ago when Eddie Sharpe (30), a married man, was shot dead on the steps of his home in Cranbrook Gardens.

He was killed by a single shot fired by a member of the Parachute Regiment, which is occupying a nearby bus station.

Mr John Murphy said he was on his way home when he heard one shot. He then saw Mrs Sharpe at her front door. She started screaming.

When he crossed the street he found Mr Sharpe lying on his doorstep with most of his head blown away. When Mrs Sharpe's children came to the front door and found their father dead in a pool of blood, there were scenes of hysteria.

On the way to the hospital, British troops stopped the vehicles transporting the dead man.

The cold-blooded killing resulted in a mass meeting of about 1,000 Ardoyne residents in Brompton Park. A priest was invited to speak and he told the crowd that they 'had to drink the cup of sorrow'.

His remedy to the killing was that 'an early, proper legal inquiry to ascertain the facts behind Mr Sharpe's death' should be called for.

The residents voted to march to the British army post at Estoril Park where a deputation of four would 'express the feelings of the people to the British commander'. This, however, was arrogantly refused. The commander refused to speak to the deputation.

Since Mr Sharpe's death soldiers have boasted to residents that they intend killing another four in retaliation for the assassination of the soldiers at Lisburn.

A woman has recently been beaten up by troops and a doctor who called was hustled into a Saracen and held in custody, despite showing his identification.

A Workers Press correspondent in the area writes: 'People I spoke to are almost hysterical about these attacks and the continued raids.'



Above: David McAuley, Belfast, beaten up by the British troops.

## Torture goes on

Despite official denials, the British military machine in Northern Ireland still continues to practice torture.

One documented case occurred recently in Belfast. Three young men were arrested in Atlantic Avenue and taken in an open jeep by Marine Commandos to a joint army/RUC post in Glenravel Street.

During interrogation all three were tortured.

As part of the brutality to make the young men talk

- A red hot poker was waved near their faces and bodies.
- They were beaten about their genitals.

- Paper bags were put over their heads and set on fire.

- One man was suspended from an overhead beam with his wrists tied and beaten in the stomach with batons.

- All were shown photographs of people who had been blown up.

One of the victims said that the Marine Commandos particularly enjoyed setting fire to the paper bag hoods. 'They laughed and shouted, "Can't you smell something? You're on fire!"'

He said: 'I didn't know where the punches and blows were coming from. I was hit from the front and behind.'

'I couldn't see them with the bag over my head. I tried to protect my private parts with my hands, with the result that they got the worst of it.'

## CANVEY PROTEST AGAINST REFINERY

Families on Canvey Island are to block off the only road to the south east Essex mainland today because they fear they will soon be living on a 'time bomb'.

Men, women and children plan to lie down across the Canvey Road at 11 a.m. and cause the biggest traffic jam ever seen in the area.

The protest is over a government decision to allow the building of an oil refinery on land near the access road to the island.

The Canvey Island Resistance Group points out that one refinery is already earmarked for the area and a third one is already planned.

'We will be sitting on a time bomb if this refinery is built,' said a spokesman.

'We already have the methane gas depot on the island. If the refinery caught fire the results would be unimaginable. Apart from this there are the fumes that cloud the air from the refineries.'

The protest promises to be a large one with families coming in to demonstrate from all over the south east Essex area.

# DOCKERS PAY FOR PORT EMPLOYERS' DEBTS

By our industrial correspondent

One aspect of the recent National Ports Council report on the non-scheme ports underlined once more the need for nationalization not merely of the docks, but banks as well.

The final section of the NPC's whitewash of the un-registered ports and wharfs refers to the capital costs of scheme and non-scheme operations.

It reveals that the main reason for the transfer of cargo to the non-scheme sector is not the lower cost of labour not registered under the Dock Labour Scheme, but their vastly different debt and capital structure.

The report finds:

'In contrast with the bulk of the non-scheme sector, the major scheme ports have engaged in heavy new capital investment (some £40m per annum) to cope in particular with the changed technology of deepsea traffic, and at the same time have, needed to rationalize their deepsea conventional berths, which in many cases have not been fully amortised.

'In the result the weight of debt relative to the earning power of their assets lies much more heavily upon the major scheme ports than on the non-scheme ports generally. Taking very general figures, Tables F1 and F4 of our Preliminary Report showed that in 1971 the surplus before depreciation and interest of four of the five main ports (i.e. Dover, Felixstowe, Portsmouth and Shoreham, but excluding the BRB ports) represented 11.3 per cent of total capital employed, as compared with only 7.1 per cent at the scheme ports listed; similarly, the nominal amount of debt (i.e. excluding equity capital) of the four of the five main ports referred to above represents 26.4 per cent of total capital employed, as compared with 75.0 per cent for the scheme ports listed.

'These percentages do, of course, obscure wide differ-



The National Ports Council report—used as a lever to end the 1972 docks strike—is a whitewash of the non-scheme ports like Felixstowe.

ences in the figures applicable to individual ports. Thus, for example, in the case of the percentages of capital debt to total capital employed, the 26.4 per cent includes ports whose individual percentages range from 2.2 per cent (Shoreham) to 52.3 per cent (Portsmouth) while the 75.0 per cent includes ports whose individual percentages range from 32.5 per cent (Manchester) to 95.7 per cent (Mersey).

'Interest on and redemption of debt has to be covered by charges and it is not surprising that these therefore tend to be higher in the major scheme ports than elsewhere for the same class of ship or traffic; and the past failures in many cases to charge enough to amortise the debt on facilities which have now become obsolescent or redundant have to be paid for by current port users who are naturally prepared, where it is practicable, to accept the offer

of cheaper alternatives from those who do not carry similar burdens.

'Whoever may be responsible for the fact that facilities now obsolete were not written down sufficiently rapidly, it is not the managements of the major ports today. The Council—and the major ports—accept the objective of ports becoming "self-supporting and competitive" but there is some evidence that many ports are handicapped in that the capital cost element in their charges is inflated by the "albatross" of past debt.

'As part of their study of financial objectives for the ports industry in which they are currently engaged, the Council intend to re-examine the whole problem of the book value of the ports' assets and past and present amortization policies. It is only right to sound a warning that this must take time and that propounding any solution which can be held to be both fair

and effective will not be easy.'

It is this burden of debt, as well as the low rate of return on capital employed (4.6 per cent in scheme ports as an average 8 per cent in non-scheme in 1971) that encourages registered employers to drive for productivity, day and night-shift working and the scrapping of the job security provision of the scheme.

Such a situation will continue until the banks are nationalized without compensation and the debt annulled. This policy would involve the socialization of the shipping, transport and the container networks as well.

The only way for dockers to fight the erosion of the scheme is to combine the struggle to defend registration and the demand on the employers to open the books with the struggle to get rid of the Tory government and elect a Labour government pledged to the docks policy outlined above.

## PORT BOSS BOASTS HOW JONES/ALDINGTON REPORT SOLVED EMPLOYERS' PROBLEMS

Remember all the soft-soap from port employers over the Jones-Aldington report on the jobs crisis at the docks?

Some even claimed the generous severance pay offer to dockers who left the industry penalized the employers! Well the fair words have turned to brazen gloating.

Now that NPC chairman Lord Aldington and Jack Jones, leader of the transport workers, have delivered the goods—their report ended the 1972 docks strike—the pretence can be dropped.

D. K. Redford, chairman and managing director of the Manchester Ship Canal Company, dropped it with a clang when he spoke at a ship owners' dinner last Friday.

Redford, also head of the Port Employers' Association, commented on the timing of the report.

'... With the inflationary experience recently one wonders whether a carrot worth up to £4,000—juicy enough now—would be quite as succulent in another two years.'

Men who have picked up the £4,000 and got out of the industry take note of Redford's remarks—the rising cost of living is eating into the pittance they received for a life-time of labour.

Redford boasted that Jones-Aldington had solved the employers' problems—to reduce the labour force by 8,500 in five months was the 'considerable' achievement of the report, he said.

He added that without the 'juicy carrot', employers may have had to battle until 1975 to kick that many dockers onto the dole.

Redford said that since July 1965, £51m has been spent on severance to 20,475 registered dockers—£20.5m under the national scheme and £30.5m under the special scheme. The register of employed dockers was now 31,750 as against 58,000 in September 1967 and 72,000 at the time of decasualization in 1966.

'Noises are once again being made about nationalization, but in my view neither nationalization nor bureaucratic interference would help our industry.'

Redford rounded the evening off with a warning that the next task was to isolate the militants.

'We are a small industry measured by the total number of people who work in it and ought to concentrate on establishing strong relationships capable of overcoming militant minorities.'

The fact that Redford can celebrate with shipowners this way is the direct result of the Jones-Aldington report—recommended by Jack Jones and the members of the docks committee of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

## ENOCH POWELL THANKS GOD FOR CAPITALISM

Three millionaires are reported to be behind the campaign to promote Enoch Powell as the friend of the 'intelligent man in overalls'.

But no worker must be fooled by this conspiracy of reactionaries in big business to 'popularize' Powell. His views are diametrically opposed to the interests of the working class and the trade unions.

Powell is totally opposed to the closed shop and he recently called for tougher police action against pickets.

His notorious anti-immigrant speeches ('I see... foaming with much blood') have been used by the right-wing extremists to whip up violence against black workers and their families in many working-class areas.

Here is a selection of Powell's other reactionary views:

● 'When I see a rich man I give thanks to God.' ('Sun', February 26, 1965.)

● 'Often when I am kneeling down in church, I think to myself how much we should thank god, the holy ghost, for the gift of capitalism.' ('Enoch Powell, the Man and His Thinking' by T. E. Utley.)

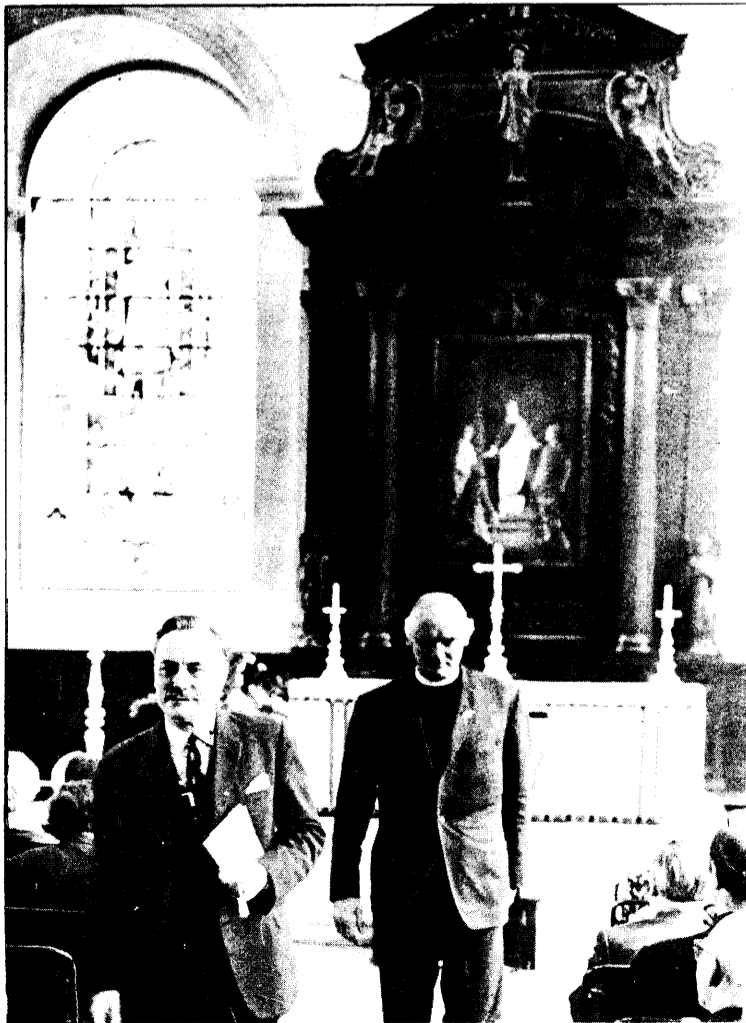
● 'Shortage and squalor in housing' are due to the 'two great evils: rent control and subsidy.' ('The Times', November 29, 1968.)

● Council housing is 'immoral and socially damaging.' ('Daily Telegraph', November 23, 1959.)

● The Labour government's refusal in 1965 to permit an increase in the price of bread was 'the popular measure of tyranny' and 'of evil consequence.' ('The Times', September 26, 1965.)

● 'He has attacked British trade unionists for their "work spreading, profit-hating, almost Luddite attitude".' ('Financial Times', March 4, 1968.)

● 'And "there is nothing impracticable about denationalizing industries. All of them".'



# TORTURE AND DEATH FACES PEASANT LEADER IN BRAZIL

The Brazilian military dictatorship is planning to eliminate the peasant leader Manuel da Conceicao.

Manuel is a young mulatto who joined the peasant leagues in north eastern Brazil before 1964. After the military coup which ousted Joao Goulart, he headed the struggle against the government-sponsored unions.

In 1967, in spite of the opposition of the landowners who controlled the National Confederation of Agricultural Workers, he was elected president of the union in the valley of Pindare-Mirin in the state of Maranhao.

Under his leadership, the peasant struggle developed and local politicians and landowners fomented military repression of the peasants.

## Gangrene

Under the slogan 'Cut down the fences', the peasants were led in action against the landowners who wanted to levy new taxes. Repression struck and peasants were arrested, their homes burnt down.

The authorities sent a 'commission of justice' which arrested more peasants and Manuel was shot in the leg.

In prison, through lack of treatment, his leg developed gangrene and had to be amputated. Peasant demonstrations forced his release, but in February 1972 he was arrested once more and transferred to a prison near Rio de Janeiro.

Here he has suffered the most brutal tortures which he has described in a letter smuggled out of Rio:

... They trussed me up like an animal and threw me

in a tub of water where I nearly drowned. For 30 days I was kept in a dark cell, urinating and defecating in the place where I had to sleep. I was given only bread soaked in water. I was put in a rubber box, a loudspeaker was turned on full-blast and for three days I neither ate nor slept: I almost went mad...

## Slaves

The treatment was not the subject of conversation at a recent 'fellowship dinner and briefing' called by Brazilian security for foreign correspondents to demonstrate that 'there are no political prisoners in Brazil' and that 'when there have been cases of torture, they were isolated episodes not part of customary practice'.

Thousands of peasants in the north east are now being sold as slaves to work on estates in Goias, according to doctor Giltamar da Silva Gomes.

Gomes is on the staff of the Sao Francisco development foundation and was recently called to care for an emergency case on the road from Perambuco to Ceara—a peasant with a fractured skull.

The peasant told the doctor that his entire family and other peasants were being taken south in trucks under the custody of heavily-armed guards.

He stated that they had been fed on bread and water for ten days.

Local people in Ibotirama reported that an average of four truck-loads passed through the town a night, while in the peak harvest season this rose to more than 20.

The southern landlords pay about \$14 for a peasant.

# WILLING PRISONERS OF THE PERONISTS

The Argentine Communist Party has denied that it is suffering from an internal crisis because of the election victory of the Peronist Justicialist Liberation Front (Frejuli).

The CP has described a statement appearing in the Buenos Aires daily 'Clarín' on this crisis in the youth and the party as 'pure imagination'.

The truth is that the Communist Party has recognized the Frejuli victory and maintains the need for power to be handed over to the force which obtained popular support. Our party will vote in the second ballot, if there is one, for the Peronist candidates.

The Communist Party is ready to support all the positive measures of the new government... although it reserves the right to criticize the negative steps projected by the rightist forces in Frejuli.

In supporting president-elect, Hector Campora, the Argentine Stalinists join with the terrorist organization, the People's Revolutionary Army, the local supporters of the revisionist Unified Secretariat.

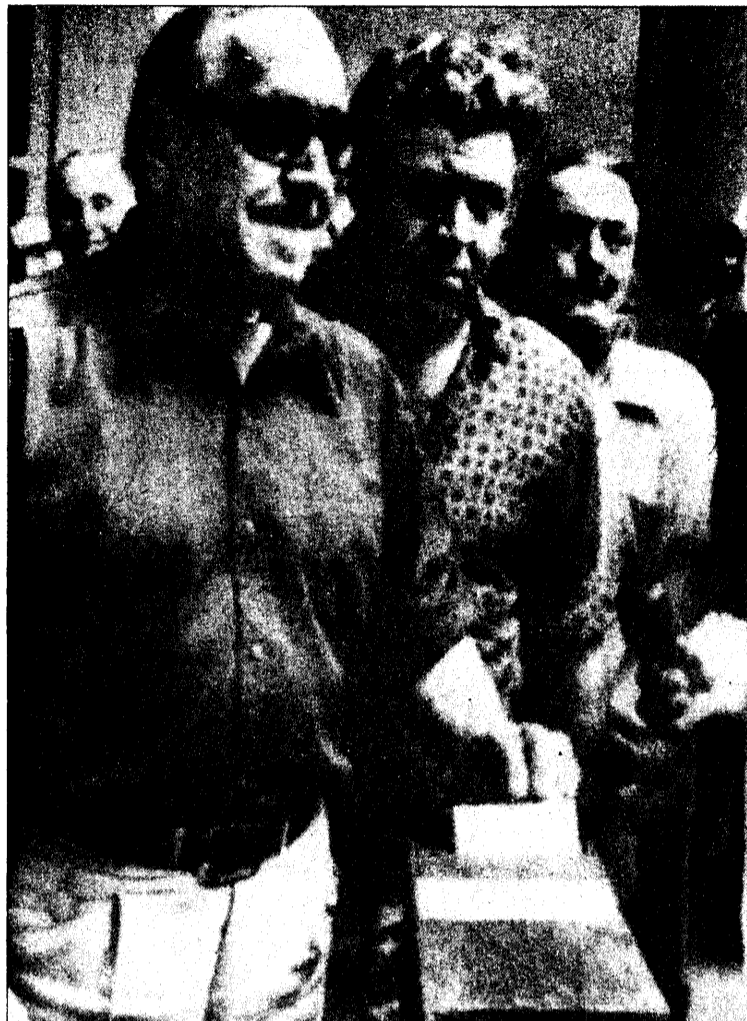
The ERP, whose latest exploit is the occupation of a nuclear power station, are renowned for their kidnappings of industrialists—a tactic for forcing the capitalist Press to print the ERP statements which then 'reach the masses'.

This band of Pabloites works in unity with the Peronist guerrilla organization, the Montoneros.

Hector Campora's first steps to bring 'national liberation' to Argentina was to fly to have talks with the Italian premier, Andreotti.

He explained to him that Argentina 'urgently' requires capital from the Common Market although without any limitation on its sovereignty 'since in the present circumstances European imperialism is out of the question'.

The radical-sounding Cam-



Hector Campora, the president-elect of Argentina, an exponent of the Peronist version of the corporate state.

pora, an exponent of the Peronist version of the corporate state, was welcomed in Rome by cheering crowds of Italian fascists.

The Peronists will look to the fake 'lefts' in the CP, ERP, and small social democratic groupings to cover up the Peronist control of the general union, the CGT.

The Argentine working class faces rapid impoverishment. More than a million are out of work. The outgoing administration of General Lanusse has decreed massive price increases.

Train fares are to go up by 30 per cent, petrol, paraffin, gas and electricity by 20 per cent.

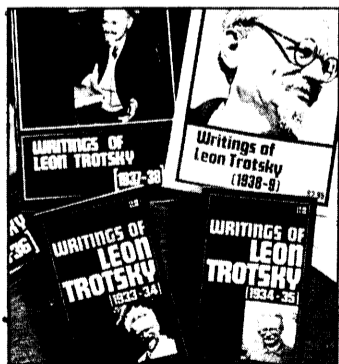
Last year, inflation was estimated at a rate of 76.8 per cent: consumer prices have already risen by 30 per cent since January 1.

Jose Rucci, CGT secretary, and leading Peronist, sat on joint councils with General Lanusse and the military junta and ensured that no wages movement was successful. The 'left' Peronists could always claim Rucci was a prisoner of the military.

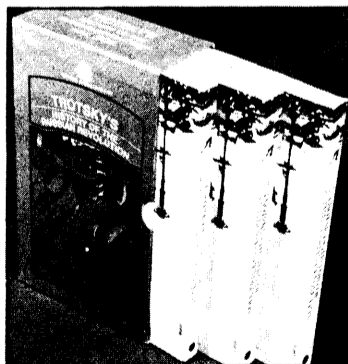
Now that Campora holds the reins of power, there is no indication that Rucci has been radicalized.

But there is every indication that the ERP and the CP will be the willing prisoners of the Peronists in the strike waves which must now develop.

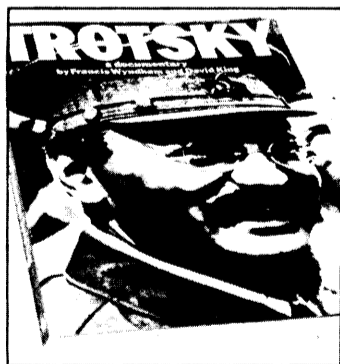
## ANNOUNCING...



Six volumes of Trotsky's writings during the years 1933-1940 £8.00 including postage



History of Russian Revolution—special gift pack of three volumes £1.70 including postage



Trotsky—a documentary by Francis Wyndham and David King £1.65 including postage

Please tick those you require. Amount enclosed £.....

Name .....

Address .....

Complete form and post to:  
New Park Publications, 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG  
A New Park Publications Booklist is available, free, on request.

## HAVING IT BOTH WAYS

Who is protesting that the new agricultural prices fixed by the European Common Market Commission are not high enough? Why, the French Communist Party leaders, of course.

They call on the governments to demand higher prices from its Common Market partners before a final decision is made. They say that by accepting prices which are too low the government is capitulating to the European monopolies.

This tortuous reasoning is explained by the fact that the

Stalinists want to conserve their following among sections of the small peasants in some parts of France. Hence their claim to stand for higher prices for producers.

They call for a farm price policy which will benefit the family farms and check the rural exodus. At the same time they promise the workers lower food prices through the application of the common programme.

This demagoguery is a substitute for a policy of workers' power and an alliance with the peasantry on the basis of socialist measures. It keeps alive reformist illusions and compromises with the small property owners like the peasants and shopkeepers who are being driven into the ground by the big monopolies.

## FRIENDLY CHINA AND SPAIN

Chinese Maoists think diplomatic relations with Spain are a triumph for the principle of maintaining good relations with all countries, irrespective of their social systems.

The Chinese Communist Party's 'People's Daily' carried an editorial on March 12 under the heading: 'Welcome to the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Spain.' It described the decision to exchange ambassadors as opening 'a new page in the history of the relations between the two countries'.

The radio and Press meanwhile try to disguise the fact that the Franco regime came to power as the result of an insurrection against a legal government and a bloody civil war. It states simply: 'In April 1939 General Franco took over the administration.'



## EMPLOYERS' MAN ON THE PAY BOARD

He is suave and generally designated as a 'fast mover'. He dislikes the claptrap of 'partnership in industry' which is talked about on the CBI and in the Industrial Society. 'It makes him want to go outside and vomit,' says an employer who knows him. He believes there are two sides of industry and he is firmly on the side of the ruling class. He has led management campaigns to break the militancy in the draughtsmen's and engineering sections of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. He is Michael Bett, recently appointed member of the Tories' Pay Board. The basic right to free wage negotiations has been legally abolished by the introduction of the Board. This corporatist body has sweeping judicial powers to slash the wages of working men and women. But the Pay Board is only one arm of the Tory strategy. The other is the deliberate fuelling of inflation and the creation of a prices ramp. The result of this twin policy is the mass impoverishment of the working class. At 38 Bett is the youngest member of the board. But despite his relative youth, he is a seasoned campaigner when it comes to fighting the unions. In this article we profile Bett to illustrate the sort of men the Cabinet is promoting to positions of considerable power in its plans for the corporate state.

BY ALEX MITCHELL

On October 2, 1970, the Engineering Employers' Federation sent a confidential memorandum to all its members in Britain's most prosperous and powerful industry.

It was a lucidly argued case in preparation for a wage claim by staff workers in the engineering industry. It amounted to a declaration of war on the trade unions and the living standards of white collar workers.

The arguments set out in the document were completely in line with the Tory government's strategy at that time. Only recently elected to office, the government was in the process of its big 'shake-out' in industry. Redundancies were being carried out at the rate of almost 1,000 a week.

In the background was the Industrial Relations Bill which the Tories were beginning to promote in the Press and parliament. Part-author of the EEF document was Michael

Bett, their director of industrial relations.

Then 36, Bett was felt to be one of the 'fast movers' in the organization. He had graduated from Cambridge and served an 'apprenticeship' in the organization at Manchester, one of the most powerful concentrations of engineering in the country.

In these formative years he learnt what tough negotiating was all about. Not noted for diplomacy, he quickly earned a reputation as being 'vigorous and pushy'. 'He will tell a trade union leader that he is behaving like an ass,' said one employer who is familiar with Bett's style.

### TWO SIDES

Bett is a firm believer in the doctrinaire Tory theory that there are **definitely** and **definitely** two sides of industry. 'He doesn't like the "Let's all live together" line. It makes him want to go outside and vomit,' he added.

In January 1971 leaders of DATA (now called TASS), the technical and supervisory sec-

tion of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, went to the Tothill Street headquarters of the EEF to discuss the claim.

One of the union's organizers told Workers Press: 'We were left in a room we shouldn't have been in and it (the document) was there for us to see. It advised members (of the EEF) to start campaigning to spread and draw out the expected disputes with DATA for as long as possible in order to financially break the union. This was the gist of it.' (Workers Press May 5, 1971.)

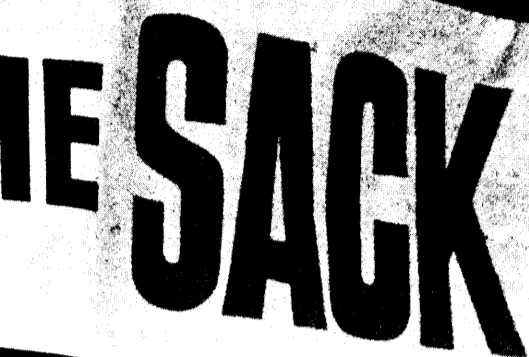
At the union's annual conference in Eastbourne, DATA general secretary, George Doughty, stunned the delegates by revealing the contents of the document. He said the union had proof that the EEF was hoping to 'kill the union by exhausting its funds'.

We immediately contacted Bett at the EEF for his comments. He admitted that a circular did exist and went on: 'We have no intention of killing the unions or any such thing. And we are not trying

**DATA  
ALLOW ATTACK THE SACK**








to stimulate any disputes.

'What we are concerned about is any union interference, or the use of methods to reduce efficiency. In these circumstances it is only appropriate for us to give advice to our members.

'There are appropriate ways for dealing with this situation and we are always sending our association's advice on how to deal with the situation.

'We've prepared ourselves for guerrilla warfare. We've had to. The gloves are off.'

He said that the DATA claims about the memorandum 'portrayed us in an exaggerated light'.

But when Workers Press eventually obtained a copy of the confidential memorandum, it was obvious that there wasn't anything exaggerated in Doughty's statement.

It referred to 'the refusal of DATA to enter into negotiations to establish nationally-agreed job-grading principles for technical staff'. The employers, it said, can either 'buy acceptance or force acceptance' of their requirements or they can 'combine the "carrot"

and the "stick".'

It also outlined three strategies to break the wages fight and bring the unions to heel:

- Collective resistance to strikes.
- Collective lock-outs.
- Backing member firms with funds to stand up to individual strikes and lock-outs while holding collective action in reserve.

In the event, the EEF opted for the third strategy—but not without opposition. Workers Press learnt that at a meeting of leading employers early in 1971, a director of Sir Arnold Weinstock's English Electric company suggested a national lock-out of DATA men. The idea was turned down.

The line adopted by the federation was set out as follows: 'The view has been very strongly expressed that it is totally unrealistic at this time for the federation to contemplate organizing either a partial or general lock-out . . .

'It will be necessary to think of some other forms of collective response which member firms can make in the face of extravagant wage/salary claims.

It may be desirable to consider whether the union should afford financial assistance, in addition to indemnity fund entitlements, to firms resisting action from DATA members in support of their union's claim.'

## DESPICABLE

It was this precise strategy which the EEF went on to invoke when DATA's parent union, the AUEW, put in its claim at the end of 1971. In retrospect it can be seen that the EEF laid its plans well. And the role of the Scanlon leadership in the union is all the more despicable.

Instead of launching national strike action in support of the pay and conditions claim—and thereby supporting the miners who had already commenced their struggle—the AUEW leaders decided to hand over the strike struggle to 'plant by plant action'.

The wages battle was largely confined to one area, the Manchester district—which also suited the EEF. A big fund

was launched by the employers to subsidize firms whose plants were hit by either occupations or strikes.

For more than two months the engineers fought a bitter battle. But their action couldn't achieve victory because it was being waged on a fragmented basis against a well-prepared and well-heeled association of employers.

At this time Bett quit the EEF for the luxurious pastures of the Weinstock boardroom at GEC. He was made director in charge of personnel. There is something poetic about Bett and Weinstock getting together. They share the same sort of belief that if only British industry was 'efficient' the economic pall would melt away.

## RADICAL

Weinstock 'spirited' Bett out of the EEF because he was impressed by the young man's 'intelligence' and his ability to make quick decisions. Like Weinstock he likes to think of himself as a 'radical' in the

**Left: DATA general secretary, George Doughty who stunned delegates at the union's annual conference by revealing the contents of the EEF document. Right: Michael Bett, a seasoned campaigner when it comes to fighting the unions, he has now been promoted onto the pay board.**

industrial world.

On the Pay Board with Bett are other leading big business figures: a director of Courtaulds, an ICI executive and the chairman of a leading Scottish bank. From these men the unions are expected to receive 'wage justice' and the clearing up of 'anomalies'.

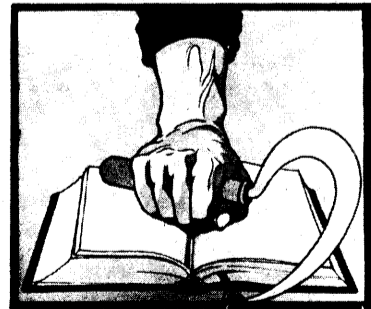
They will get nothing of the sort. The Pay Board is designed to legally hold down wages, to cut the standard of living of millions of workers. In the figure of Michael Bett the Tories have recruited a wage-slasher of considerable talent.



# THREE MILLION POLICE FILES AND MORE TO COME

*'The state is by no means a power forced on society from without; just as little is it "the reality of the ethical idea", "the image and reality of reason", as Hegel maintains. Rather, it is a product of society at a certain stage of development; it is the admission that this society has become entangled in an insoluble contradiction with itself, that it has split into irreconcilable antagonisms which it is powerless to dispel. But in order that these antagonisms, these classes with conflicting economic interests, might not consume themselves and society in fruitless struggle, it became necessary to have a power, seemingly standing above society, that would alleviate the conflict and keep it within the bounds of "order"; and this power, arisen out of society but placing itself above it, and alienating itself more and more from it, is the state.'*  
 Frederick Engels 'The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State', quoted by Lenin in 'The State and Revolution'.

## BOOK REVIEW



**'Private Lives and Public Surveillance'**. By James B. Rule. Allen Lane. £3.50. pp. 382.

Apart from the Habitual Criminals Act of 1869, which required Police to keep a register of persons arrested, there is very little legal authorization for police surveillance over civilians.

Nevertheless, there has been a considerable growth of mass surveillance, particularly since the mid-1960s. At the beginning of 1971, when the material for this book was being collected, there were 3 million entries in the Criminal Records Office files.

And this raises the first question: As there are only 2.5 million criminal records, exactly what are the other 500,000 entries?

This is not the only question to go unanswered. For example, there are three standard documents in a Criminal Records Folder: a list of convictions, a description of the individual and his arrests, and a 'discursive' outline of his family, job, financial position and other private matters.

But the author tells us that there are other documents. These, he says, are 'difficult to describe very fully because their inclusion is at the discretion of the police, who are often chary about discussing them'. (Page 51.)

The nerve centre of police record keeping in Britain is the Criminal Records Office and the Fingerprint Office of London's Metropolitan Police—which occupy more than a floor of the modern headquarters at New Scotland Yard.

The CRO operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year, and is in contact with all the police forces in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, through direct telephone and telex links. And these two offices are only the top of a much larger pyramid of surveillance which includes ten regional pairs of criminal records offices and fingerprint offices.

A national police computer is being installed. Storage will be on discs and access will be through terminals maintained in the headquarters of every police force in Britain and, ultimately, in many local police stations as well.

Plans provide for two types of terminal. One is to be a keyboard console, combined with a screen or visual display unit.

Inquiries would be tapped into the central record with the keyboard and responses would appear on the screen.

The other terminal would resemble a telex machine, with inquiries typed in and responses typed out.

Responses are predicted to be forthcoming to either terminal within ten seconds of submitting the request. The policeman on patrol would radio a 'stop check' request to his nearest terminal, and from there to the central file and back again.

The experts envisage that the policeman making the request will be answered in less than half a minute.

Computer storage means that even more records files can be kept. At the moment these are increasing at the rate of some 200,000 a year.

And the file of a juvenile with only one conviction is kept for ten years. For adults,

the standard practice is to keep the file for 20 years on only one conviction.

Every police force has its own Criminal Investigation Department. Mr Rule's outline of their work is interesting.

Their duties, he says, 'regularly lead to the development of discursive written notes on the activities of persons **thought liable to commit crimes whether or not they possess criminal records**'.

And: 'In some cases, CID materials include **photographs of persons of interest**' (Page 77.)

Mr Rule also indicates that the Home Office assertion that employers are unable to obtain information from the police on prospective employees, is 'faulty'. Some forces, he says, do disclose such information, while many firms employ ex-policemen as security officers and these men have no difficulty in obtaining 'unofficial' information.

The Special Branch—or political police—do, of course, have unrestricted access to all files. Although local Special Branch men act in close collaboration with the Special Branch of the Metropolitan police, this book says nothing about their work. According to the author: 'This is a sensitive matter, and hence a difficult one to study and report on.' (Page 82.)

As well as the increasing number of criminal records files, including those of people who haven't got any criminal record, the stock of fingerprints in store is also accelerating at an alarming pace.

Official police fingerprinting began in 1901. By 1910 the Metropolitan Fingerprint Office had a 'collection' of 150,000 prints.

By 1930 it had 400,000; by 1950, 1,138,000. And by 1970 it had 2,154,000.

That is to say, the total approximately doubles every 20 years. (And that is only the main 'collection' in London.

The national figure is somewhat higher.)

It is interesting to note that even Mr Rule's restrained comments on the activities of the police incurred the wrath of high officials of the Home Office. On March 5, 1971, he received a letter from a Home Office official asking for a copy of his chapter on 'Police Surveillance in Britain'.

This, he was told, was in order that 'we can read and, if appropriate, comment on it before it goes to a publisher'. Mr Rule submitted copies with requests for comments from the Metropolitan Police and the Home Office.

On November 17, 1971, he received a letter from Sir Philip Allen, GCB, permanent under-Secretary of State for the Home Office—that is, from the very top of the Civil Service hierarchy.

This remarkable letter declared:

'There is so much in the chapter—in content, in emphasis and in your speculative paragraphs—with which I disagree that it would be possible to meet my points only by leaving out substantial passages and making fundamental changes in others . . .

'Also, although naturally I have not the slightest objection to your expressing your own views and making your own guesses as to what might or what might not be the position on a particular issue, I cannot help feeling, if I may say so with great respect, that some of the speculative sections which are not based on any hard evidence do not fit in all that well into a work of scholarship, and they certainly make assumptions which I for one could not possibly accept.

'I am afraid you will think that we are being less than helpful, but I have come to the conclusion that there would really be no advantage in my commenting in detail.'

As Mr Rule rightly comments: 'The actions of the Home Office can only appear



Above left: photographer at the dockers' picket of Neap House Wharf, August 9, 1972. Above: Murray (left) and Laslett—two private detectives whose surveillance led to the jailing of five dockers last year.

as an attempt to conceal embarrassment over the findings in the chapter.'

Much of this 'embarrassment' is due not only to the development of surveillance so far, but to the obvious direction in which it is heading. And that is: total identification, files and regular checks on every single person.

As Mr Rule says: 'Far from having reached their ultimate and finished state, the surveillance systems studied here are changing so rapidly that they scarcely sit still for their portrait.' (Page 84.)

The system develops a momentum of its own. Police surveillance has kept pace, not merely with 'the rise in crime', but with the increased ability of that system to absorb information.

It is becoming more extensive, more detailed, faster and more sophisticated all the time. These factors, as the author points out, are 'matters of considerable practical concern to those who rely on mass surveillance to realize organizational goals'. (Page 275.)

The question, then, becomes 'what is the ideal means of positive identification for mass surveillance?' This would have to be based on some characteristic quite unique to each individual, and inalienable from him. It should be readily interpretable by the agents of surveillance and unsusceptible to falsification.

Finally, it should be amenable to rapid communication back and forth to the centres of surveillance—preferably, from the police point of view, in the form of a number which could also serve as the number of the individual's file.

The simple, obvious way of doing this would be to tattoo an irremovable unique number on a conspicuous part of the body of every individual.

Mr Rule points out: 'It is true that public opinion, at

least in Britain and America, may not yet be ready for such an advance.

'But the effectiveness of such measures has already been demonstrated in situations where the necessity of efficient social control is imperative.' (page 296.)



Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Robert Mark.

However, it may not be necessary for such crude and open methods of identification to be adopted.

Progress is being made towards equally effective, but more discreet, alternatives. British government agencies are already working on computer programmes which will, when perfected, reduce the time necessary for matching an incoming set of fingerprints against the entire police collection to about ten minutes. It is not a big step from this to the compulsory finger printing of everyone.

Another modern line of thought is that voices can be identified as reliably as finger prints. It would be possible to link telephones to a computer surveillance centre.

No wonder Mr Rule could say: 'I can identify no "natural limit" to the areas of people's lives which might serve as foci of mass surveillance—that is,

no inherent, long-term limit in the possibility of using such personal information for mass social control.' (Page 324.)

No wonder the Home Office said: 'No comment!'

The purpose of the development of these techniques of police surveillance is to protect the political rule of the capitalist class, which exploits the workers. The exploiting class needs political rule to maintain exploitation—that is, as Lenin said, 'the selfish interests of an insignificant minority against the vast majority of the people'.

Police surveillance is an expression of the state power of the ruling class. And the state, to quote 'State and Revolution' again, is 'a special organ of force'.

A study of the development of this state apparatus is necessary in order to equip the working class for its historic task—to destroy it and establish the dictatorship of the proletariat.

This involves a struggle against counter-revolutionary ideas such as the Stalinist theory of the parliamentary road to socialism, and against all those—like the revisionist groups—who oppose the construction of a revolutionary party to take the power.

'The petty-bourgeois democrats, those sham socialists who replace the class struggle by dreams of class harmony, even pictured the socialist transformation in a dreamy fashion—not as the overthrow of the rule of the exploiting class, but as the peaceful submission of the minority to the majority which has become aware of its aims.'

'This petty-bourgeois Utopia, which is inseparable from the idea of the state being above classes, led in practice to the betrayal of the interests of the working class.'

V. I. Lenin  
'State and Revolution'.

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## Humble lodgings Grand larceny

Judges are a very modest lot you know. When they are out on the circuit they like to lodge in seclusion—nothing fancy, just the normal comforts.

Take the beaks who visit Preston Crown Court. They will be staying at Bilsborrow Hall, which stands in ten acres of north east Lancashire.

The cost of this humble dwelling was £100,000 (the old owner bought it for £25,000). Another £50,000 is being lavished on conversions and the grand total of fitting the place out for their Lordships will probably reach £200,000.

The first conversion will provide separate quarters for two judges, their wives, marshalls, clerks and, naturally, their servants (judges can't wash-up you know). The total bill is being sent to the taxpayer.

## New Bill for 'factory-farming' dogs

Doggy Lib. Gordon Oakes, Labour MP for Widnes, is to introduce in parliament a Bill to stop the 'factory farming' of dogs.

He says he wants to stamp out the 'scandal' of dog-breeders who use bitches purely as 'puppy-producing machines'.

In a major political pronouncement Oakes said: These bitches are forced to produce two litters a year—more if they can manage it.'

His Bill would outlaw this practice by regulating the commercial breeding of dogs, provide for inspection of breeding premises and control the transportation of puppies to pet shops.

The Labour voters of Widnes, a profoundly working-class town outside Liverpool, will be amazed too that Oakes is using their vote on such legislation when the area has just suffered big rates and rents increases and both education and health services are being squeezed by Tory policies.

Dr Thomas Matthew, the United States proponent of black self-help programmes, has been arrested and charged with helping himself to \$250,000 (£104,000) belonging to the hospital he runs.

Dr Matthew, (48), a neurosurgeon who founded the National Economic Growth and Reconstruction Organization (NEGRO), was charged with 121 counts of grand larceny and conspiracy in an indictment handed down by a grand jury in the borough of Queens, New York.

His lawyer, Mr Sidney Katz, was similarly indicted.

Dr Matthew was instrumental last January in convincing four young Black Muslim gunmen to surrender after a tense two-day siege at a Brooklyn sporting goods store. He had entered the building to treat one of the quartet who had been wounded by a policeman.

He was also instrumental in founding private bus companies to operate in Black slum districts.

Authorities said he invested money belonging to the hospital in his private businesses and added that his arrest climaxed a ten-month investigation into the operations of his Interfaith Hospital.

## Terminated

The little corner shop in Greg Street, Stockport, has survived two wars, rationing and the problems of the changeover to decimalization.

But VAT has killed it. The 59-year-old business run by Mrs May Nunnerley closed at the end of March.

She says she could not cope with the administrative and technical problems created by VAT.

A retailers' spokesman told Workers Press the other day that the EEC tax is so complicated that small shopkeepers would be up to 1 and 2 in the morning making entries after each day's trading.

The problems are so vast that an explanatory book put out by the Electrical Contractors' Association stated: 'Failure to conform could have terminal effects on a business.' In this polite language Mrs Nunnerley's shop has been 'terminated'.

GET YOUR BOOKS, PERIODICALS AND NEWSPAPERS FROM THE

paperbacks centre

28 charlotte st  
london w1

NOW OPEN Monday to Thursday 9 a.m.—6 p.m.  
Fridays (late night opening) 9 a.m.—7.30 p.m.  
Saturdays 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

# DIAL VAT

With the introduction of Value-Added Tax on telephone calls, the Post Office has had to give special training to its telecommunications staff to cope with the new work involved.

Telephone operators, for example, were last week learning a new range of standard expressions to use, so as to help in introducing 'phone users to the new tax.

For example, starting from Monday, April 2, if you ask for ADC on a call, you will be told 'The cost of your call to Chipping Sodbury was so many pence, excluding VAT'. If your call is from a coin-box, you will be told that the charge includes the VAT.

Many telephone operators fear that, particularly as a lot of the public did not realize that VAT was going to be put on 'phone charges, the poor operator will find herself on the receiving end of abuse from angry 'subs' as soon as

the words 'including' or 'excluding VAT' are heard.

One girl told us: 'It's bad enough already when I get people arguing and becoming annoyed because I tell them a call cost 16p. I dread to think what it will be like now.'

# ANOTHER BANKER FOR TORY PARTY

The Tory Parliamentary Party is to acquire another banker in its ranks.

Mr Geoffrey Dodsworth (44) director of William Brandt Sons and Company, the London merchant bankers, has been adopted as prospective Conservative candidate for the Hertfordshire South-West constituency.

The seat has been held for 23 years by Sir Gilbert Longden (71), who announced last October that he would not seek re-election. Mr Dodsworth was chosen from 160 applicants.

# SALFORD TENANTS ACCUSE LABOURITES

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

Tenants' leaders in Salford, Lancs, have slammed the labour council for surrendering to Tory policy. They have accused the Salford Labourites of sanctioning the victimization of working-class families in rent arrears.

The attack comes in the form of an open letter to the council, which once vehemently urged opposition to the Housing Finance Act—a stand which encouraged the Salford rents strike—only to implement later.

In the letter the Salford Rent Strike Committee says: 'Nearly all Salford tenants were behind you when you refused to implement the Housing Finance Act.'

Opponents of the Bill were unanimous in declaring that it was a most blatant piece of class legislation and that its sole purpose was to fill the pockets of the rich financiers at the expense of the working-class people. Far from alleviating the housing problem, it makes it worse.

However when it came to you leading us in our fight,

your legs were made to jelly. Not only did you meekly implement 'this most pernicious piece of legislation', but since then there has not been a whisper of resistance from you.

Tenants are now leading the fight by refusing to pay the increased rent, even though there are not many of us [in Salford at any rate]. We have a lot to learn and many links to build. We remember you councillors who said you yourselves would go on strike and would join us in our struggle. WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Not only is your tail between your legs, but you are collaborating with the bosses and the Tory government in harassing and victimizing those tenants who have the courage to carry out the implications of YOUR initial policy. The LABOUR councillors of Clay Cross, Derbyshire, by THEIR courageous action have shown the way to fight the Act.

Many of us have had warning letters and some have had threats of eviction. We are only four weeks in arrears. This is victimization. There is no other word for it.

These letters can only be meant to scare and divide us because they are not worth



Frank Allaun, Labour MP for Salford East who led Labour's retreat on support for those defying the rent act.

the paper they are printed on. Only a court has the power to evict. In addition the rent collectors have been spreading alarmist rumours designed to frighten people into paying the increase. You can stop this harassment.

We therefore call on you to remember your past promises and your ties with the labour movement [of which the tenants movement is part] and give the following pledges:

- i) No eviction of tenants refusing to pay the increase.
- ii) No harassment.
- iii) Refusal to implement the next round of increases in October.

ing unit and they should show they have the resources, including the officers, to enable them to represent employees properly.

The character of these amendments further confirms the suspicion that the NUBE leadership is in agreement with the penal clauses of the Act. There is no suggestion that the power regarding heavy fines should be abolished or curbed, for example.

But unions faith in 'the law' is rather naïve. Some months ago NUBE was rather hurt when City of London police began to clear members handing out leaflets on the union to office and bank workers from the streets.

In the past this kind of propaganda work was allowed in the City since employers in this Tory bastion denied NUBE activists access to premises, bank steps, etc.

The pavement, therefore, was the only refuge. But the law was the law, and NUBE members were 'moved-on'. One suspects their amendments will be treated with similar contempt.

# Subscribe now!



Do you get WORKERS PRESS regularly? If not, why not take out a subscription now?

£20.28 for 12 months (312 issues)  
 £10.14 for 6 months (156 issues)  
 £5.07 for 3 months (78 issues)

If you want to take Workers Press twice a week the rates are:

£1.56 for 3 months (24 issues)  
 £6.24 for 12 months (96 issues)

Fill in the form below NOW and send to:

Circulation Dept., Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St., London SW4 7UG.

I would like to take out a subscription to Workers Press.  
 Days required MONDAY THURSDAY  
 (Please tick) TUESDAY FRIDAY  
 WEDNESDAY SATURDAY

Or Full subscription (six days) for .....months.

Name .....

Address .....

Amount enclosed £

# I would like information about THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Fill in the form below and send to NATIONAL SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE, 186a CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON SW4 7UG.

Name.....

Address.....

# CHANGES IN ACT SUGGESTED

NUBE, the registered bank employees union and a leading light in the bid to set-up an 'alternative' TUC, has chalked up another first.

General secretary Leif Mills has sent a list of amendments of the Industrial Relations Act to the Tory Employment Minister Maurice Macmillan. They are not as sweeping as the ones suggested by Hugh Scanlon, engineers' leader, and may get some consideration from the government.

Most of the suggestions are obscure, one in fact appears to extend the practice of binding collective agreements. NUBE wants an addition to the section of collective agreements which will make it illegal for employers or unions to change an agreement save through the machinery of the Act.

The main suggested 'reform', however, is to section 67 of the Act.

This concerns recognition of unions under the Act. One of the main excuses NUBE used for registration was that it would be prey to the management-orientated staff associations if it stayed outside the law.

But the proposed amendment to section 67 would suggest that the anti-union laws have afforded the bank employees little protection. The Act, in fact, is wide enough to embrace most of the staff associations.

Now NUBE wants more stringent registration qualifications. As it stands the Act declares an organization eligible for registration if (a) it is an independent organization of



Tory Employment Minister Maurice Macmillan.

workers and (b) has the power to alter its own rules.

NUBE describes this as 'vague'. Some 'extraordinary' decisions have been taken by the registrar, it says.

It wants two more qualifications in this section of the Act. Unions should have to prove they have the support of a substantial proportion of the employees in the bargain-

# BOOKS BY TROTSKY

- Where is Britain Going? Paperback 37½p
- Problems of the British Revolution Paperback 35p
- Lessons of October Paperback 60p
- In Defence of the October Revolution Pamphlet 15p
- Marxism and the Trade Unions Pamphlet 25p
- Death Agony of Capitalism and the Tasks of the Fourth International Pamphlet 10p

Postage: 10p per book, 5p per pamphlet.  
 Order from: NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS  
 186a Clapham High Street,  
 London SW4 7UG

# Section of Monday Club is gunning for Guinness

THE PROVINCIAL council of the right-wing Monday Club said at the weekend it hoped Jonathan Guinness would not be re-elected as chairman.

In a resolution passed at a conference at Nottingham, the council said it considered it essential 'for both the future of the club and true Conservatism that Mr Jonathan Guinness be not elected'.

In the election this month Guinness, a merchant banker and member of the brewing family, faces George Young, the former deputy director of MI6 and now a manager at City bankers, Kleinwort Benson.

Young is prospective Tory candidate at Brent East and a noted anti-immigrant campaigner.

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

Mr Leonard Lambert, secretary of the council and chairman of the Essex branch, severely criticized Guinness's chairmanship of the club.

He said: 'We do not consider him to be at all consistent in any of the things he has said in recent months.'

'He has been attempting to please everyone—be all things to all men—and has generally not acted in the way that we would have expected.'

Three weeks ago Guinness said that if Young won, 'it could be considered a move in the National Front direction'. He added, however, that there was no evidence connecting Young with the extreme right-wing Front.

Lambert said an investigation into the charges of National

Front involvement in the club had failed to find any member with joint membership.

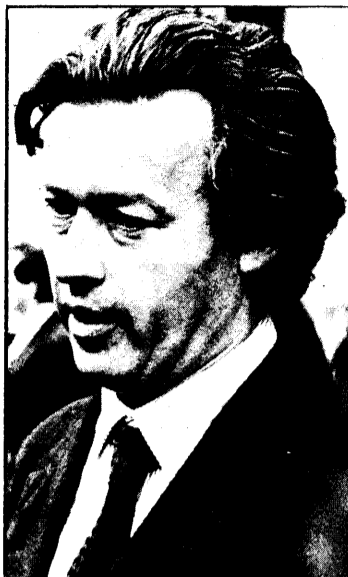
He said the allegations about Front influence was 'only an electioneering manoeuvre'.

'There are areas where we run on parallel lines, but over the whole picture there is no form of agreement—it is just not on,' he added.

Despite Lambert's denials, it is to be remembered that his own Essex branch recently invited NF chairman John Tyndall to address a club meeting.

The club's headquarters asked that the invitation to Tyndall be withdrawn, but Lambert and his colleagues refused and the meeting went ahead.

Lambert was responsible for leading the witch-hunt against the Young Socialists' summer camp held in Essex last year.



Jonathan Guinness . . . under fire.

## Sit-in printers 'exile' managers

THE MANAGEMENT of a Liverpool print factory will spend their second week exiled in a city-centre luxury hotel this week.

They are barred from their plant—the Liverpool-based carton makers, Tillotson's—because of a sit-in strike by the 400-strong labour force.

Harry Chute, Father of the Tillotson's Chapel, said: 'We are determined to continue this fight to win back our rights.'

Workers decided to resist after 103 redundancies were announced last September and management struck back by attacking the right to organize in a trade union.

Four chapel officials were fired and the workers have launched their occupation to get them reinstated with full rights.

Last week women workers picketed the hotel where management were staying. This week they will hold a picket outside the factory gates in Commercial Road.

## Liquorice factory to close

BARRATT'S confectionery factory in Wood Green, north London, is to close down making 750 workers redundant.

A company statement said there were two reasons for the closure: difficulty of modernizing the 100-year-old buildings; and shortage of labour in the area.

This second reason is extraordinary. There is considerable unemployment in north London due to other big closures in recent years.

The first phase of the shutdown will begin in June. The work from Wood Green is being transferred to the company's works in Sheffield, Pontefract and Glasgow.

Barratt's make such confectionery items as sherbet fountains, nougat bars, lucky bags and liquorice pipes.

### CORRECTION

Indirect and direct workers at the Oxford assembly plant of British-Leyland voted on Friday to accept the company's offer on their annual pay review, which is in line with the Tory pay laws. They voted against the recommendation of the stewards which was for rejection of the offer. In Saturday's Workers Press it was incorrectly stated that the stewards had recommended acceptance.

### BBC 1

12.25 Cywain. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Joe. 1.45 Pets and vets. 2.00 Phippott file. 2.55 Collectors' pieces. 3.10 Expedition North America. 3.35 Holiday '73. 4.00 Huckleberry hound. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Blue Peter. 5.15 Yao. 5.40 Sir Prancelot. 5.45 News.

6.00 NATIONWIDE. 6.45 TOP OF THE FORM. 7.10 STAR TREK. Operation Annihilate.

8.00 PANORAMA. 9.00 NEWS. Weather. 9.25 SEARCH FOR THE NILE. Discovery and Betrayal.

10.15 COME DANCING. 10.50 STONE COLD SOBER. With Milo O'Shea.

11.20 LATE NIGHT NEWS. 11.25 MAN IN HIS PLACE. A Man's Life. Class differences in English communities.

11.50 Weather.

### REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women. 3.00 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 Survival. 6.45 London. 11.30 History of motor racing. 11.55 Sound stage. 12.20 News. weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 10.10 Danger man. 11.05 Dr Simon Locke. 11.35 Country girl. 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeyburn. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.20 Sport. 6.35 Date with Danton. 11.30 News. 11.33 Happiness business. 12.20 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 10.05 Twizzle. 10.20 Yoga. 10.50 East 1. West 1. 11.10 Survival. 11.35 Six years later. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.00 Dick Van Dyke. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 London. 10.30 Dr William Parker. 11.00 Boxing. 12.00 News. 12.05 Farming. 12.30 Weather. Guideline.

HARLECH: 9.55 Sesame street. 10.55 Sara and Hoppity. 11.10 Case of Craigie Aitchison. 11.35 Six years later. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.22 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 10.30 Hawaii five-o. 11.25 Boxing. 12.25 Weather.

### ITV

9.30 Skippy. 9.55 World War I. 10.20 Six years later. 10.45 GLC '73. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Hickory house. 12.25 Skribble. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Mr and Mrs. 1.30 Emmerdale farm. 2.00 Jokers wild. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Doing things. 3.25 Public eye. 4.25 Pardon my genie. 4.55 Clapperboard. 5.20 And mother makes three. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY. 6.40 OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!

7.30 CORONATION STREET. 8.00 LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR.

8.30 WORLD IN ACTION. THE RIVALS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. The Looting of the Speke Room.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.30 INTERNATIONAL BOXING. 11.30 DRIVE-IN. 12.00 WORLD WAR I. 12.25 ONE POINT OF VIEW.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 2.30-3.00 Hamdden. 6.01-6.22 Y dydd. 8.30-9.00 Yr wythnos.

HTV West as above except: 6.22-6.45 This is the West this week.

ANGLIA: 9.30 Streets ahead. 9.50 Cartoons. 10.05 Paulus. 10.15 Gilbert and Sullivan. 11.05 Galloping gourmet. 11.35 Six years later. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Houseparty. 3.00 London. 4.22 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.45 London. 12.00 Big question.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.05 Bridge for beginners. 11.30 Six years later. 12.00 Programme guide. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 London. 6.00 Today. 6.45 London. 11.30 Man in a suitcase. 12.30 Stories worth telling. Weather.

ULSTER: 11.30 Six years later. 12.05 London. 1.00 News. 1.32 Shirley's world. 2.00 Women. 2.30 Cartoon. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.15 Dick Van Dyke. 6.45 London. 11.30 Monday night. 11.40 Theatre of stars.

### TODAY'S TV

#### BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open University.

7.05 PARENTS AND CHILDREN. 7.30 NEWS SUMMARY. Weather.

7.35 INSIDE MEDICINE. Deputy Doctors.

8.00 ALIAS SMITH AND JONES. Miracle at Santa Maria.

8.55 CALL MY BLUFF. 9.25 SHOW OF THE WEEK. A degree of Frost.

10.10 INTERNATIONAL GOLF. 1973 United States Masters Tournament.

11.00 NEWS EXTRA. Weather.

11.30 OPEN DOOR. Liberation of Lifestyle and the Responsible Society.

YORKSHIRE: 10.00 Ed Allen. 10.25 Mr. Trimble. 10.40 Survival. 11.05 Woobinda. 11.35 Six years later. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.45 London. 10.30 Emmerdale farm. 11.25 Boxing. 12.25 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 Enchanted house. 9.45 Seven seas. 10.30 Tarzan. 11.20 Chess. 11.35 Six years later. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Yoga. 3.00 London. 6.00 News. 6.25 This is your right. 6.40 London. 11.30 Theatre macabre.

SCOTTISH: 10.00 No easy answer. 10.45 Joe '90. 11.10 World fishing. 11.30 London. 12.00 Gustavus. 12.05 London. 2.00 At your service. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 4.55 Superman. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Cartoon. 6.45 London. 10.30 Late call. 10.35 You pays your money. 11.05 O'Hara.

GRAMPIAN: 11.35 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 1.00 Ed Allen show. 1.30 Avengers. 2.30 London. 5.20 Emmerdale farm. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Strictly Scottish. 6.45 London. 11.30 University challenge. 12.00 Meditation.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Liverpool**

Transform the SLL into the Revolutionary Party

**TUESDAY, APRIL 10**

**8.30 p.m.**

**Mona Hotel**  
James Street  
Liverpool 1

Lecture: The economic crisis of world capitalism

**Manchester**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11**

**8 p.m.**

**Angel pub, Chapel Street.**

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MEETING

**Merthyr Tydfil**

Build the revolutionary party

Join the Socialist Labour League

Defend basic democratic rights

Make the Tories resign

**TUESDAY APRIL 10**

**7.30 p.m.**

**Caedraw School**  
Caedraw  
Merthyr Tydfil

Speaker: G. Healy (SLL national secretary)

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. Newsdesk: 01-720 2000. Circulation: 01-622 7029.

SLL LECTURE SERIES

The revolutionary party and the history of the British working class

**Merthyr Tydfil**

**Caedraw School**  
Merthyr Tydfil  
7 p.m.

Sunday April 22

Lectures given by Peter Jeffries

The Unions and the working class in Britain.

The Revolutionary Past of the British working class—and its future.

The Transformation of the SLL into a Revolutionary Party.

READING

Trotsky. Where is Britain Going? Problems of the British Revolution.

Perspectives for Transforming the SLL into a Revolutionary Party.

Marxist Analysis of the Crisis.

**All Trades Unions Alliance MEETINGS**

**LEWISHAM: Monday April 9, 8 p.m.** Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road (opp. New Cross Tube). 'Build Councils of Action. Force the Tories to Resign'.

**WANDSWORTH: Monday April 9, 8 p.m.** 'Kings Arms', High Street, SW18. 'TUC must call a General Strike'.

**WATFORD: Monday April 9, 8 p.m.** Trade Union Hall, Watford Road, nr Watford Station. 'The fight against Stalinism'.

**CAMDEN: Tuesday April 10, 8 p.m.** 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Road, Kings X. 'The TUC must call a General Strike'.

**CLAPHAM: Tuesday April 10, 8 p.m.** Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor Street, SW4. 'The TUC must call a General Strike to make the Tories resign'.

**ELLESMERE PORT: Tuesday, April 10, 7 p.m.** Grosvenor Hotel, Ellesmere Port. 'Build the revolutionary party—Defend basic rights.'

**COVENTRY: Tuesday, April 10, 7.30 p.m.** Elastic Inn, Cox Street. 'VAT—the new attack on the working class. Fight rising prices. Force the Tories to resign.'

**HARROW: Tuesday April 10, 8 p.m.** Labour Hall, Harrow & Wealdstone. 'The TUC must call a General Strike'.

**JARROW: Wednesday April 11, 7.30 p.m.** Jarrow Labour Rooms, Park Road.

**HACKNEY: Wednesday April 11, 8 p.m.** Parlour Room, Central Hall, opp. Town Hall, Mare Street. 'The TUC must call a General Strike to make the Tories resign'.

**CROYDON: Thursday April 12, 8 p.m.** Ruskin House, Coombe Road, Croydon. 'The fight against Stalinism'.

**BERMONDSEY: Thursday April 12, 8 p.m.** 'Havelock Arms', Balclava Street, off Southwark Park Road. 'Build Councils of Action. Make the Tories Resign'.

**WILLESDEN: Thursday April 12, 8 p.m.** Labour and Trades Hall, High Road, NW10. 'Tory "Law and Order" — Preparation for dictatorship'.

**HOLLOWAY: Thursday April 12, 8 p.m.** Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road. 'Forward to the Revolutionary Party'.

## APRIL FUND £139.11 STEP UP THE PACE

IT IS beginning to slow down. After a good start don't let us slip back. We know that over the next two months we have asked you, dear readers, to help us with two funds. It is a tough assignment, but we are sure you will agree that the political situation demands it.

We have always set our sights high. And you have never let us down. Now, as the trade union leaders begin to back down even from a one-day stoppage on May Day, the struggle to build an alternative revolutionary leadership becomes more important than ever.

Workers Press alone fights to build such a leadership throughout the working class.

Our paper is invaluable in reaching out to new layers of workers as they join the fight. We have many plans to expand. Help us therefore with a very great effort for April's Fund.

Give extra this month if you can and give our Fund a boost. Post every donation immediately to:

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

ENOCH POWELL went race-baiting again in London at the weekend. In a crude appeal to colour prejudice, the former Tory Minister spoke of the 'national peril' due to immigrant concentrations in the centre of big cities. He attacked official records for concealing the number of black faces in schools through dropping the title 'immigrant' from families who have been here more than ten years. Powell was speaking in support of George Young, the Tory Party candidate for East Brent and candidate for the chairmanship of the ultra right-wing Monday Club.

● See pages 4 & 11.

# DOCK STEWARDS WANT FRESH CAMPAIGN TO SAFEGUARD JOBS

DOCK SHOP stewards want a new campaign to safeguard jobs and outlaw the use of low-paid labour in ports outside the National Dock Labour Scheme.

The national ports shop stewards' committee decided to demand a recall of the policy-making docks delegates committee at their meeting in Birmingham on Saturday.

If union leaders refuse to call the delegate conference, unofficial strike action may be called.

The stewards are angry over the recent National Ports Council finding on the unregistered

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ports which employ labour free from the protection of the National Dock Labour Scheme.

The NPC did not recommend the unregistered ports come into the scheme as rank-and-file dockers were demanding.

## CHARTER

Now the stewards have received their original nine-point charter which demands the registration of all ports and

wharfs, the 'stuffing and stripping' of all containers to be done by registered workers and the nationalization of the docks industry under workers' control, without compensation.

In last year's strikes the nine-point charter was cut to six—nationalization being one of the issues dropped.

The Jones-Aldington report only secured one of the nine demands—the abolition of the temporary pool for dockers with no work.

But this has only been achieved through a massive loss of labour from the industry.

Delegations at the meeting included stewards from Hull, London, Liverpool, Ellesmere Port, Manchester and Southampton.

## EXPLAIN

London delegates explained they had called off their strike over the government's pay laws, because the northern ports had accepted rises dictated by Phase Two controls, leaving London isolated.



Pickets outside the Kingston depot.

## Car depot fight for union

SOUTH LONDON garage workers have become the latest group of workers to suffer from the police campaign against picketing.

Twenty-six employees of Lankesters, the main British-Leyland distributors in Kingston upon Thames, have been on strike for over a week. Management had refused to recognize their union in negotiations for a new pay structure.

Phil Penn, a panel beater, was arrested for 'obstruction' last Friday as he was talking to a customer entering the depot.

Despite this harassment, the picketing has been very effective. Most customers and workers bringing supplies to the strike-bound depot have not crossed the line.

The garage and repairs industry is plagued by poor organization. If the strikers can force Lankesters to recognize the union, many men in the firm's seven other depots will join.

'We want the union to get proper wage rates, especially for the apprentices,' one mechanic said.

They pay an apprentice 24p an hour to do a man's work, yet they charge £3.20 an hour for repairs.

## Hospital workers examine state of strike

HOSPITAL workers all over the country will hold mass meetings this week to take a long hard look at the progress of their dispute.

In the most militant areas in the north and London anger is growing at the way the strike is being led.

Three accusations are levelled at the leadership in the unions.

● The failure to call all-out strike action.

● The failure to demand that the TUC honours its promises and backs the strike with solidarity action, including strikes.

● The hints from union leaders that they may go to the Tory Pay Board if the 'terms are right'.

PUBLIC criticism will be voiced today at SHEFFIELD when workers from the city's hospitals will hold a mass meeting.

Roland Shaw, Transport and General Workers' Union steward at the city's Middleton hospital will call for a national stoppage.

Like many other hospital workers, he has faced police intimidation on the picket line.

On Thursday a 30-strong force of police attempted to break up the Middleton picket.

Mr Shaw said: 'The laundry women have been out for five weeks here and all transport has been out a fortnight.'

'The National Union of Public Employees asked us to go back after a fortnight, but we refused.'

'Even non-union members at this hospital are backing us 100 per cent. We should make the Tories squeal and we shouldn't have anything to do with the Pay Board.'

HOSPITAL staffs in the north-west region have no intention of 'chickening out' of the fight now that they have been left to confront the government alone.

Colin Barnett, NUPE's north-west officer, said his members would decide on Monday whether to call out boilerhouse workers and force selected hospitals to close altogether.

# Union must repudiate Scanlon

BY ROYSTON BULL

THE ENGINEERS' national committee starts its two-week annual policy-making meeting in Torquay today in the middle of the biggest crisis of leadership the British trade union movement has ever gone through.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' president Hugh Scanlon is very much at the centre of this crisis.

Last week he betrayed three crucial principles of the working-class fight to resist the Tories' desperate measures to prop up their dying capitalist system.

He told the reactionary gentlemen of the Parliamentary Press Gallery luncheon:

'I HOPE we shall be going into Europe.'

Food prices are rocketing on the High Street to pay for Tory industrialists' entry to the EEC where they hope to make better profits.

'WE [the TUC leaders] offered the government to limit wages at a fixed level.'

This is the starting out point of corporatism, which in turn is the road to fascism or 'national socialism'.

'TWO AMENDMENTS to the Industrial Relations Act could offer the way forward for co-operation with the Tory government.'

RESOLUTIONS condemning Scanlon's offer of a deal to the Tory government over the Industrial Relations Act are flooding into AUEW headquarters. The latest from the Erith district committee and shop stewards' quarterly says the Scanlon

statement is a 'betrayal of the union struggle against the Act' and its policy on the Act.

Erith calls for a repudiation of the statement and a 'principles struggle' to destroy the anti-union laws and the Tory government.

Neither amendment will make the slightest difference to the Act's powers and central purpose: to fine and imprison trade unionists if they go too far in challenging the rule of the bosses.

Scanlon must be repudiated on these points at Torquay.

Scanlon's talk of his remarks being 'exaggerated', the excuse supported by the Communist Party's 'Morning Star', is a lot of nonsense.

Scanlon and the Stalinists have had every opportunity to repudiate the Press Gallery reports and have never done so.

In two major pieces in the capitalist Press last week, Scanlon did not retract from his position.

Last Friday in the 'Daily Express', that favourite paper

of all socialists and champion of the working-class interest, he wrote that if compulsory registration of unions was dropped from the Act, and if individuals had to get prior Ministerial approval before complaining to the NIRC, then he would cooperate with the government in more talks about the economy.

These two wretched amendments, which in no way alter the corporatist control of unions under the Act, are precisely the ones which have cost Scanlon's union £62,000 in fines and industrial court costs.

That this weighs heavily on Scanlon's mind is clear from the start of his 'Express' article, which goes straight to this point:

'The policy of our union

is complete opposition to the Industrial Relations Act . . . and is binding on the executive council, the president, etc . . .'

Nowhere does Scanlon say unequivocally that it is also HIS policy.

In fact, he raises grave doubts in the very next paragraph.

'This policy . . . lost us £200,000 in income tax concessions, and resulted in £60,000 in fines . . .'

'By any standards this is a high but worthwhile price to pay to maintain our independence . . . etc.'

How long before the 'but worthwhile' is dropped off?

Scanlon's corporatist views burst through all restraints by the end of the article.

Without comment, he quotes Maurice Macmillan moaning on about the strike 'problem', 'far from blameless record', etc. etc., and then asks:

'Is it not likely that they [laws] would cause more discord and trouble where trade unions have enjoyed their freedom for close on 150 years?'

The point is not to worry about the middle-class concern at days lost in strikes, but to arm the working class with an understanding to force the resignation of the Tory government, elect a Labour government and demand it carries out socialist policies.

13th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF  
YOUNG SOCIALISTS  
BLACKPOOL APRIL 14/15 1973

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, APRIL 14 & 15, WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL

FOR DETAILS  
TELEPHONE  
01-622 7029