Behind the strike wave

APOLITICAL CHALLENGE

A Statement by the Political Committee of the S.L.L.

THE MASSIVE wave of strikes now engulfing British industry is the beginning of a major change in the class struggle in Britain.

At the same time it is necessary to stress that these strike struggles are only the first skirmishes in a conflict which can be resolved only by the taking of power from the capitalist class.

All the Labour, trade union and Communist Party leaders conceal from the workers that this is what is at

The Socialist Labour League, with its daily paper, the Workers' Press, devotes all its efforts to the recruitment and training of the forces to achieve this revolutionary

vestment will soon destroy any temporary gains in the

balance of payments, and worse attacks will follow.

The Tories and the

right-wing Labour leaders

can only go on by provoking the severest clashes.

In the service of these

same bankers and monopolists they must attack the

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the workers and their fam-

The so-called 'shift of re-sources into export industries'

is again to cut the amount

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Speed-up and closures-so

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only way capitalists can restore their rate of profit on return

And so disputes over redundancy, short-time working and

The government's policies

By stopping the Labour

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Measured-Day Work

one and the same thing.

international trading.

Wages must be kept down.

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task. Miners, motor car workers, dustmen, steel-workers, engineers, dockers, women workers in many industries, have all been thrown into struggle within days of each

These struggles take the form of wage demands, un-precedentedly high ones, because millions of workers and their wives are feeling, two years after devaluation, they can no longer live on the standards at which they are

It is no longer a ques-tion of separate and consecutive struggles, but of the world crisis bringing together the fight for living standards of all sections of the working class.

These effects of the world crisis—the threat of further unemployment, price rises, curtailment of investment, entry into the Common Market, speed-up and rationalization by the big monopolies helped by state finance—now begin to weld together the working class as a fighting

The Labour government's attack on the trade unions and the Tory Party's plans to go even further in these attacks, are both reflections of the world economic crisis and at the same time accelerators of the process of facing the working class up to the political character of its

Whatever the form taken by the strike struggle—against unemployment in the car industry and in GEC-EE, for parity with the best-paid motor industry areas, for the eight-hour day in mining, for equal pay for women, for substantial pay increases for the dustmen—the content of them goes very deep because whole sections of the class are acting independently of their leadership in response to the deepest crisis of the

It is in such a situation that the dustmen's strike for £5 a week increase has had such a big effect, from the mining industry to the

teaching profession.
The strength of the organized workers in these strikes can and will force certain concessions from the employers and the government which

But the government and to press forward, in whatever ways they can find, with exactly the type of policy which has produced higher prices, cuts in public spending, reduction of credit and deflationary policies; all

of these will continue. Jenkins and Wilson have accepted the dictates of the international bankers and monopolists: they have promised the International Monetary Fund a payments surplus of £300 million annually

for the next ten years. The slight progress which they have begun to make is a result of cut-backs in credit, higher prices and fewer jobs, which have caused the

present strikes. The resulting decline in in-



Imports will be further reduced to cut consumption of Miners outside Wednesday's Porthcawl delegate conference are at the centre of the class struggle

In an attempt to split the Vauxhall workers, separate

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WORKERS at Vauxhall's Ellesmere Port, Cheshire plant are continuing their work to rule against the company's hated 'penal clause' pay and productivity deal, despite union attempts to get the deal accepted.

A.T.U.A. meetings

by-election

This is why the bankers are so enthusiastic about Wilson's Speaker: Frank Willis government, even if the motor Young Socialists candidate manufacturers are fearful of the effects of the credit rein the parliamentary

strictions on their sales. Finance and heavy industry always win out against the manufacturing industrial ists in such critical periods. and the manufacturers, like the motor industry, then take advantage of the repressive

Wednesday, October 29 8 p.m. ● PAGE 4 COL. 1 → Swindon Town Hall

SWINDON BY-ELECTION Thursday, October 30

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WORKERS BACK **RENAUL1**

SEVERAL thousand workers struck for four hours on Thursday at the giant Boulogne-Billancourt Ren-

Union leaders are now demanding the immediate open-

- Increased basic rates of
- wages.

porting the strike were young-The platform called for a er workers. vote to accept the agreement and declared it carried although only a minority put up

Uproar

to take votes against the deal uproar broke out. Norman Macdonald, divisional organizer, AEF

When the platform refused

was hit in the face by a microphone taken from the platform. The meeting's chairman, Mr Arthur Prescott, complained and the platform party then

became targets for clods of grass. But despite efforts to split the workers, the NUVB meeting, held later in the morning, rejected the deal by a unani-

mous vote. This is a vital stage in the Vauxhall dispute.

There must be no weakening in the face of management and union officials.

Vauxhall workers must stand out solidly until the threat of penal clauses and productivity is withdrawn.

YOUNG

ault plant, near Paris.

ing of negotiations on their demands. These include: on Thursday.

- Shorter hours
- Removal of anti-strike conditions on bonus earnings
- Retirement at 60 Monthly payment of
- The majority of those sup-

Delegation

At a meeting of 3,000 strikers in the factory's central hall, on the Isle Sequin, officials of the two trade union federations—the Confédération Generale de Travail and the Confédération Fran-

● PAGE 4 COL. 9 →

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in the country.

Less than 100 men on the

work.
The afternoon shift, how-

'Strike now' call to LONDON firemen will be on 'emergency calls only' from

9 a.m. on Monday morning following a 1,000 strong meeting at Tower Hill on Thursday The men, whose slogan is

'Undermanned, underpaid— that's the London fire brigade', are demanding an accommodation allowance in the region of £5 10s. The meeting was absolutely

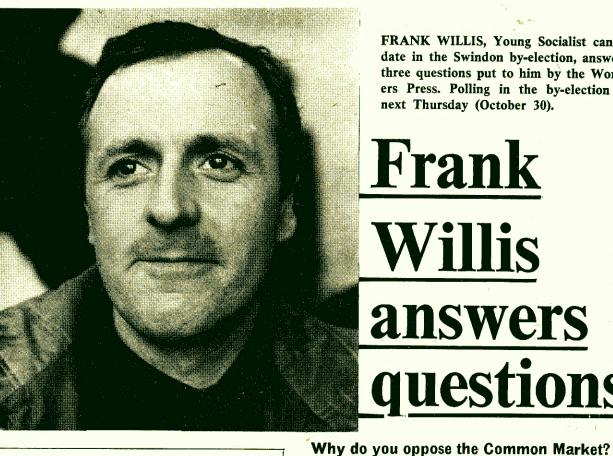
hostile to the London borough council's offer of a house loan at the present 81 per cent bank rate.

Continuous calls came from the floor of the meeting for an all-out strike.

London firemen

A tremendous cheer went up when London brigades committee member Ken Head reported an all-London delegate meeting next Wednesday to discuss the possibility of strike action.

One fireman expressed the feeling of the meeting:
'Many firemen have held back from strike action in the past, but now see it's the only way-and once we're out we won't go back until we get the allowances.



FRANK WILLIS, Young Socialist candidate in the Swindon by-election, answers three questions put to him by the Workers Press. Polling in the by-election is next Thursday (October 30).

Frank Willis answers questions

Dangerous made our opposition to entry into the European Common T.U.C. move

by miners By our industrial reporter

YORKSHIRE area council miners were meeting TUC general secretary Victor Feather in London yesterday after the council had decided to call in the TUC and the government to seek an end to the coal strike.

Swindon

stewards

back

Frank

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THE undersigned stewards of

Pressed-Steel Fisher Swindon wish Frank Willis the YS

candidate every success in the

D. Montoaut (Monty) NUVB

senior shop steward and chairman of PSF joint shop stewards' committee, Harry Lane, T&GWU senior shop steward, NUVB shop stewards

W. Park, I. M. Whinney, Pat

Lewis, Albert Briga, John Gregory, Dave Sawyer, and T&GWU shop stewards Eric Lees and E. E. Ruffe.

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THE PROPERTY

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forthcoming by-election.

This move is extremely dangerous for the miners.

The council has done little to strengthen the strike since it began ten days ago. Pushed into the forefront of the strike, many miners feel it has completely inadequate

leadership.

No amount of intervention by Mrs Barbara Castle and the TUC can change the simple demand for the eight-hour

day, inclusive of meal-times for all surface workers. There is nothing to discuss about this demand.

The strike must go on until the National Coal Board con-This is the only formula for a return to work that is ac-

ceptable to the rank-and-file miners. NOTORIOUS

The TUC's role in 'settling' disputes has already become notorious, while there need be no illusions about the government's attitude.

Any attempt to foist some kind of 'compromise' settlement on the miners must be

The full claim not only can, but will, be won if the strikers stand firm and take up the fight inside their union to spread the strike to every pit

The only break in the united front of the Yorkshire miners was quickly repaired

morning shift at Thurcroft colliery, near Rotherham, went down the pit after voting by a majority of six to resume

ever, decided to continue the strike after pickets from other collieries in the area had spoken to them.

LOBBY

South Wales, where more than 7,000 miners are on strike, plans are being laid to lobby delegates attending the union's national conference next Thursday.

More than 500 miners are expected to travel to London to demand that the conference make the strike official and extend it throughout the

Why do other parties support it? THE Young Socialists have Therefore the three main parties, who all stand for the continuation of capitalism,

into the European Common Market very clear in the can-

Our explanations of our position have generally received a favourable response.

We are opposed to the European Common Market because we know that the cost of living, and particularly food, will rise meteorically. Despite all this, the parties in parliament are in favour of

They know that in the developing world economic crisis the British employers can only face competition from the US corporations by building giant companies of the same size, which necessarily cuts across

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But on the other hand every worker should be warn-ed: the attacks of the employers are backed by the policies of the Labour leaders, who have capitulated all along the

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A.T.U.A. meetings

Speaker: Frank Willis

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YOUNG BACK RENAULT

By David Maude

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Union leaders are now demanding the immediate opening of negotiations on their demands. These include:

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ers Press. Polling in the by-election is next Thursday (October 30). Frank Willis answers questions Why do you oppose the Common Market?

Dangerous T.U.C. move by miners

By our industrial reporter

YORKSHIRE area council miners were meeting TUC general secretary Victor Feather in London yesterday after the council had decided to call in the TUC and the government to seek an end to the coal strike.

Swindon

stewards

back

Frank

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> They appear to be revising their policy of outright opposition. Why?

Comecon, the Eastern European common market, is making overtures for trading agreements with the EEC. Schumann, the French foreign minister, is engaged in trade negotiations with Mos-

The overall strategy of world Stalinism must therefore be moving away from opposition to the EEC. This agreement with the capitalists inevitably involves the disciplining the workers of all Europe East and West.

What is your opinion of the Gallup Poll's reported swing back to Labour?

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● PAGE 4 COL. 9 →

CRISIS IN MOTORS





'You're not even a machine, you're a wound-up, nervous wreck.

The third of a series of articles on the motor industry by our industrial correspondent DAVID MAUDE

THURSDAY'S tempts to engineer acceptance of Vauxhall's new pay and productivity proposals by workers at the company's

Ellesmere Port plant

settle nothing. If the company and the union leaders hope to contain the growing hostility of workers at both the company's major car plants not only towards the deal, but towards Vauxhall's whole 13year-old Measured-Day Work

As Alan Baker, Ellesmere Port's AEF convenor, told me recently:

system, it is a vain hope.

'The whole situation's in the melting-pot.

'Men were laid off for working to the company's own standard times. In other words, for just doing what they were supposed to do un-

der the old agreement. 'So this question has to be sorted out before we even think about operating any new agreement.'

During the last fortnight, only the efforts of union officials, backed up by their national executives, have prevented workers at both Luton and Ellesmere Port decisively rejecting the company's new proposals. One Luton die-shop worker spoke for many when he told me at the end of last

'We've got to get rid of this dead hand of our present leadership.'

The Luton Situation

N NUVB trim shop A steward explained his view of the present situation at Luton, reputedly far less militant than the Merseyside factory:

'Everyone likes to get a standard wage each week-if they're getting a decent rate, that is. We're not!

'If there was a vote to go back on piece-work here at the moment, I'm sure there'd be a big majority in favour. Although we get a flat rate, we're working at piece-work pace anyway.

'If you worked like they want you to, it'd be slavery!

'The company's always completely detarmined to get the time it wants a job to be done in. If you dispute it, they'll get it anyway by simply moving you and putting another man on the job.

'Unfortunately, our union organization here's at sixes and sevens. You know the membership definitely wants to fight, but the leadership behaves as if it's controlled by the management-it just dissipates everything.'

At Ellesmere Port, another NUVB steward explained some of the background to the agreement drafted at York just over a fortnight ago. Said Frank Gardner:

'The standard time system has got to a stage now when you're not even a machine, you're a wound-up nervous wreck. We couldn't go any

'I suppose we always say that, then we're surprised when they work something out to prove us wrong!

'The system just doesn't allow for a man ageing—it's a

stretch, hold, grasp job. 'If you think about what you're doing, you're working

'We were sold out to this system as soon as the Ellesmere Port plant opened. It

was already in. 'Rootes had to pay 17s. 5d. for it in Coventry, we've got it for a top rate of 10s. 1d. If we're going to reach parity on the basis suggested in the new deal-further productivity-we'll have to sell our

'And we mightn't get it even then!

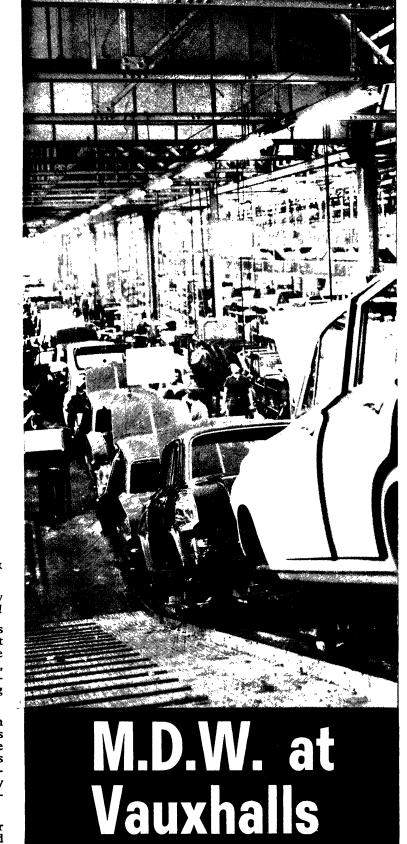
'Sometime we get an extra man put on the line if there's a change in the model, but this only means we have to make up working harder the next day or the day after. The management's final word is always "Each man has to pay for himself".

'You've got time-and-motion at all levels. Even the area manager has to make up his debits and credits, but he's working in men!

'If they get the review of standard times they're asking for, conditions will be just about intolerable.'

Acceptance of the York draft would give the company, in return or increase of a mere 8d.—10d. an hour:

• Streamlining and consolidation of the present wage



• Establishment of workstudy and job-evaluation as the basis for all future negotiations.

• Tightening of the disciplinary procedure in respect of lateness and absence from

Review of standard times to take into account changes machine performance, methods, layouts and techni-

• Local arrangements to ensure the fullest possible acceptance of the obligation to act through constitutional procedure.

To understand why Vauxhall's need such an agreement and why the company has been prepared to lose £850,000 a day over the last four weeks in order to wear down the resistance to it among its workers, it is necessary to take a brief look at how the general crisis of the motor industry is affecting it.

The state of trade

N JULY this year, Vauxhall—now Britain's third largest car manufacturer raised its share of the home car market by one whole point to give it 12.92 per cent.

But the company has been coming under increasing pressure from Ford's and British-Leyland and the present conditions of slackening home demand and sharpening competition internationally make it

unlikely that it will be able to maintain this increase or increase it.

While it made a trading profit of £30,588,000 last year, this is only half that of its two major competitors.

At Ford's where Measured-Day Work has reached a much more intense stage than even Vauxhall's has been able to manage so far, the profits breakdown for each worker was £1,233 as compared with Vauxhall's £837. Each vehicle made £105 10s for Ford compared with Vauxhall's £94 6s.

On the other hand, of course, British-Leyland's inability to break the resistance of its workers to Measured-Day Work gave it a breakdown of only £461 a worker and £82 14s. per car.

The standard-time system thus gave Vauxhall's almost twice as much profit a worker as Leyland's piece-work dominated wage structure.

Unlike Leyland, however, Vauxhall is almost out of the running in Europe and its cars have never sold in the United States—the province of its 99 per cent owner General

In order to break back it will have to cut back rising

the prices of three of its car models by between £17 and £76. The main attack here must obviously be on wages. This is the purpose of the proposed new deal.

September, forced it to raise

Comments on the deal

ASKED Dave Thompson, an AEF shop steward in Ellesmere Port's spares department, what he thought the deal would mean.

'Their talk of "A fair day's work for a fair day's pay" is farcical', he said.

In the weaker-organized areas of the factory, the company is already imposing exactly what job-times it likes.

'They want the new deal so they can do the same in the strong areas-in other words, so they can break down all shop-floor action.

'You've virtually no protection even now against the management's increasing the number of machines.

'Being asked to work two machines is commonplace. Often you've got them back to back-a man's like a ballerina, twisting and turning all day to get round.

'No one is ever able really to get the amount of work they set for a job out consis-

'Yet it took 12 months on knocked down officially from 36.6 to 30 an hour, although it's never been done consistently at more than 22 an hour. The procedure "agreement" is just a big joke.

'It works like this:

If the foreman thinks he's going to have trouble he may consult you about a time, but there's no provision for a steward's signature on the time-sheets and once the foreman's signed for a particular time, you've a hell of a job to get any satisfaction.

'If the deal goes through they'll impose the sort of conditions you've got on the track now on the rest of the

'We'd be working under conditions over which we'd have absolutely no control.'

Commented Alan Baker:

'The company's taking a hard line, but the struggle's only just beginning. I think we're in for a whole 12 months of crunches!'

At Luton also, there is a growing determination to fight their way out of the situation in which the local trade union leadership has placed

As one assembly line steward said:

'We've got to get all the unions in this together. Heath says he's going to fetch the law into the unions, Wilson wants the law in and Vauxhall's want to tighten up their discipline.

'We've got to start a revolution in the unions so the membership can fight them!'

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

All car, car components and delivery workers are

invited to a motor workers' conference

Digbeth Civic Hall, Digbeth

Birmingham

Saturday, November 8

2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Write for credentials to:

R. Parsons, 21 Strawberry Path, Blackbird Leys, Oxford

Conference fee: 5s. a person

Balance sheet of Soviet economic reforms

SOME FOUR years after it was introduced, the so-called 'economic reform' has now been extended to most enterprises in the Soviet Union. Discussion and criticism of its effects continue to figure prominently in the official press.

The basis of the reform, intended to clear up the mess which followed Khrushchev's 'hare-brained schemes', which had only contributed to the slowing down in the rate of economic growth, was the placing of more powers in the hands of the management of the plant or enterprise.

There was a move away from the fixing of targets in quantitative terms, which led to the production of items which could not be sold or otherwise disposed of.

Instead, within certain limits, the enterprise could make its own arrangements for procuring raw materials and finding outlets for the finished products.

This established the criterion of profitability in running the enterprise. Where management was successful in keeping down costs and making good bargains with other enterprises or distributors, a surplus remained in its hands.

Part of this was at the disposal of the enterprise for use for investment or for social purposes from which the workers were supposed to

By providing new incentives and breaking from the crude emphasis on quantity, it was hoped to eliminate some of the wastes of the existing system of planning, improve the efficiency of new investment and step up the overall growth rate whose fall in the early 1960s had given

serious grounds for concern. The last few years during which the reforms have been brought into operation have certainly seen an improvement in the overall growth rate. This is now claimed to be about 8 per cent a year, about the same as in 1956-1960, against the 5 per cent or so to which it fell in the closing stages of Khrushchev's

Harvest

Assuming that the stated growth rate is accurate-which is never, of course, certain with Soviet statisticsis it really explained by the economic reform?

One factor which looms large in Soviet growth rates is the state of the harvest. Isolation from the world economy, continued backwardness, tie excessive resources to agriculture which is still inefficient by world standards.

In particular, it lacks adequate supplies of fertilizers, pesticides and other aids owing to the lagging development of the chemical industry. It suffers from the inadequacies of past investment and the mismanagement of

the collective farms. However, apart from 1963, harvests have been reasonably good and have favoured economic growth.

Perhaps more important is the fact that the Soviet economy in the past few years has been undergoing a kind of inflationary boom. Increases have been granted

in wages and salaries and prices have also tended to rise. The overall tendency for shortages to predominate has been fostered by the rise in money incomes and the continued weaknesses of the consumer goods industries.

However, since there is more money about, enterprises have not found it difficult to operate the economic reform and actually to make money profits.

In fact, it is probable that the pressure of demand, generated by higher money in-

comes, has been the main reason why the economic reform has been carried out relatively smoothly. But, as with any process of this kind, the big question is what happens when the money flow dries up, or, at

least, ceases to grow. This will expose the extent to which, behind the economic reforms, things have been going on as before with the ease of making profits dis-

Temporary

guising the same old defects.

In a sense, therefore, it would be correct to describe the economic reform as just one more 'production cam-

This time it is one which, by offering important material advantages to plant and enterprise management -- or at least placing large sums of money at the disposal of the middle layers of the bureaucracy-has acheived a temporary success.

But this merely whets the appetite of these members of the bureaucracy, who feel themselves to be more important and are bound to seek greater powers.

The plant manager thus

seeks to get more independence from the central Ministry concerned with his industry for 'his' factory. These tendencies have not

gone without note in the Soviet press and have given some writers the opportunity to knock the reforms. On the other hand, what might be called spokesmen for the middle layers of the

bureaucracy argue that the Ministries are too heavyhanded, that still more initiative should lie with plant Significantly, the question of the plant being able to retain part of the proceeds of exports

and to be able to make contracts with foreign firms is in the background of some of these discussions. In other words, the growing powers of the plant manage-ment press against the monopoly of foreign trade

which insulates the planned economy from further pressures from the capitalist world market. Because lower labour productivity means Soviet goods cost more to produce they are

of international exchange on equal terms with the products of the advanced capitalist countries. The international implications of the reform have certainly to be watched, but they will show up more in the

coming years than they have

done so far.

not able to enter the circuit

Buying time

It seems, therefore, that the leadership has been buying time in the hope that the reforms would, over a few years, bring some relief to the goods shortage.

In the meantime they have proceeded, of course, to make enormous contracts with big foreign capitalist firms to carry through extensive modernization of lagging sectors or to establish in the Soviet Union wholly new industries. The most spectacular of

these contracts relate to cars, trucks and buses (Renault, Fiat, British-Leyland), to chemicals and to synthetic fibres. The reform, whatever it may

achieve in the short term, does nothing to solve the basic problems of the Soviet econ-In fact, both through en-

couraging the local bureaucrats to go their own way and through pressure on the monopoly of foreign trade, it may aggravate these problems. There is, in any case, the

problem of what happens when money incomes and prices cease to rise. Big problems of misdirected resources, unsaleable stocks and lack of balance between industries are likely to be revealed.

Meanwhile the conflict within the bureaucracy rages. Writing in 'Pravda' on Aug-

ust 27 last, V. Babushkin, head of the Department of Planning and Financial Agencies, de-nounced a whole series of wrongful uses of funds retained by the plant management under the new system. These included the con-

struction of swimming pools, canals for rowing, sports grounds and payment of footballers. Evidently the local bureaucracy has a taste for outdoor games.

Babushkin did not forget to mention that monies were also spent lavishly on banquets and entertainments.

Funds were also handed over to local authorities to finance construction not allowed for in the plan.

Deception

He concluded his article by

'Decisions on the illegal expenditure of assets sometimes impel the personnel of enterprises to deceive the state; they are forced to conceal and camouflage expenditures that are made for purposes other than those for which the

money has been earmarked. 'They resort to sleight of hand in reporting to the statistical, financial and control agencies and they conceal illegal expenditures through illegal documentation.

'All this, needless to say, has a very negative effect on

the upbringing of cadres'.

That a high official has to resort to the columns of 'Pravda' to denounce such practices means that they are not isolated occurrences, but are going on all over the coun-

The local industrial bureaucrats are evidently out to make hay in the warm sun of the



attempts to collectivize the virgin lands (above) to yield maize, wheat, etc. and failed.

their desire to patronize sport, to entertain their friends and to do favours for their opposite numbers in local govern-

They have received a warning; whether they heed it or not is another matter. The reforms not only give them more powers but also

place millions of additional roubles at their disposal. The central authority sees resources eluding its control or being misused.

At the same time, because the bureaucracy remains allpowerful, there is no question of the workers in the enterprises exercising real control over how the plant is managed. In fact the management has now acquired greater powers regarding the hiring

and firing of workers too. While it is too early to draw a full balance sheet of the reform, it is already possible to conclude that it has solved none of the problems which arise from the backwardness and isolation of the Soviet Union and the irresponsibility of the privileged bureaucratic caste.

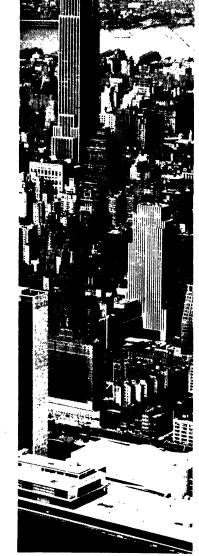
It would not take very much, in fact, to precipitate a crisis in production of the sort which preceded the fall of

Khrushchev.
As in the past, it may be expected that the continued shortcomings of agriculture will be at the root of the

trouble. This gives point to the recent reports of disappointing crop yields from the 1969

US CAPITALISM **SPLIT**





VIETNAM AND ECONOMIC

THE SPLIT in the American ruling class over the US economy and Vietnam war is creating very favourable conditions for breaking the working class from the two capitalist parties.

The 'Vietnam Moratorium' hit Nixon really hard and forced those sections of the ruling class opposed to a continuation of the war to speak out more loudly than they have ever done before.

The same open conflict, again provoked by pressure from the working class and the world crisis of imperialism, is developing over the problems of the US economy.

While Paul McCracken (chairman of Nixon's Council of Economic advisers) advocates the continuation of the government's present deflationary measures, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, McChesney Martin, recently stated that 'there are indications that we may be getting to the end'.

This optimistic tone was countered within days by McCracken's remark that 'evidence obviously does not add up to an end of our inflationary problems'.

Two different views are clearly being expressed hereand both by leading members of the US ruling class.

Nixon has the problem of attempting to resolve these conflicts and devise a strategy for action.

This is what faces him in Vietnam, and it now confronts him with growing force at

By Peter Jeffries

as a 'healthy development' in which 'unfortunately some industries and some individuals will feel this necessary adjustment more than others'.

These 'adjustments' are inflation, wage control, the sack, speed up and the threat of large-scale recession if the working class does not toe the

SPOKE BLUNTLY

Nixon is fully aware of the smouldering discontent in the US working class.

Nevertheless, he spoke bluntly on the question of sackings, admitting that although 'we must keep a close watch on the level of unemployment', the number of those with jobs could not be increased:

'We cannot effectively and fairly make it more by ignoring the widespread hardship that a run-away cost of living imposes on so many Ameri-

Nixon is saying here that either way, attacks on the working class are coming up. Either more unemployment, or more inflation—and with it, a reduction in the purchasing power of the employed

workers' wages. The conflict still rages, both within the government and the ruling class as a whole, Vietnam and the over

economy. That these differences have become public reflects the basic instability of the US economy and the unease in the ruling class of its future both in the US and overseas.

BIG OPPORTUNITY

With the bankers, politicians, employers and Generals all at loggerheads, an unprecedented opportunity now opens up for building the revolutionary party, the Workers' League of America, and establishing the US labour party based on the trade unions.

SATURDAY

B.B.C.-1

10.00 a.m. Repondez S'il Vous 10.30-11.00 Wie Bitte? 12 noon Weatherman, 12,05 p.m. Casey Jones. 12.25 Charlie Chap-'The Rink'. 12.45 Grandstand, 5.15 Star Trek.

- 6.05 News, Weather.
- 6.15 Slmon Dee. 6.45 Dixon of Dock Green.
- 7.30 The Dave Allen Show. 8.15 Three Great Stars.
- 10.00 News and Weather.
- 10.10 Match of the Day.
- 11.10 Braden's Week. 11.50 Weatherman.

All regions as BBC-1 except at the following times:

Midlands and East Anglia: 11.52 p.m. Weather.

North of England: 11.52 p.m. Northern News Summary. Scotland: 5.03-5.15 p.m. Sports-10.00-10.55 Sportsreel. 10.55-11.40 One Over The Eight, Weather.

Wales: 6.15-6.45 p.m. Disc A

Northern Ireland: 5.10-5.15 p.m. Sports Results, News Summary. 11.10-11.40 Square One. 11.52 Northern Ireland News.

South and West: 11.52 p.m.

B.B.C -2

- 3.00-4.20 p.m. Saturday Cinema:
- 7.00 News, Sport, Weather.
- 7.15 Gardeners' World.
- 7.30 Rugby Special. 8.15 Tutankhamen Post-Mortem.
- 9.05 Peterson Plays Farnon . . . Plays Peterson.
- 10.00 The First Churchills. 10.45 Review.
- 11.25 Line-Up.
- 11.50 News Summary. 11.55 Midnight Movie: 'Town On

London Weekend

11.10 a.m. RAC Road Report 11.15 Saturday Session. 11.40 Stay Alive. 12.05 p.m. Thunderbirds. 12.55 News From ITN. 1.00 World Of Sport. 1.05 On The Ball. 1.20 They're Off. 3.10 International Sports Special, 3.55 Half-Time Roundup. 4.00 Wrestling from St. Albans. 5.00 Results

- Service, 5.15 Bonanza, 6.10 News From ITN.
- 6.15 Wheel Of Fortune
- 6.45 The Saturday Crowd. 7.30 Please Sir!

- 8.05 'A Walk On The Wild Side': starring Lawrence Harvey, Capucine, Barbara Stan-wyck, Jane Fonda, Anne Baxter, Richard Rust.
- 10.00 News From ITN. 10.10 Saturday Night Theatre.

11.10 Frost On Saturday.

- 12 midnight All Our Yesterdays. 12.25 a.m. Medicine in Question.
- 12.25 p.m. All Our Yesterdays. 12.55 National News. 1.00 World Of Sport. 1.01 On The Ball. 1.20 Racing. 3.10 Sports Special. 3.55 Half Time Round-Up. 4.00 Professional Wrestling. 5.00 Results Round-Up. 5.15 Tarzan. 6.10 National News. 6.15 Wheel Of Fortune.

Westward

Grampian

6.45 The Saturday Crowd. 7.30 Please Sir! 8.05 The Saturday Film: 'Legend Of The Lost' starring John Wayne, Sophia Loren, Rossano Brazzi. 10.00 National News. 10.10 Saturday Night Theatre. 11.10 Frost On Saturday. 11.55 Faith For Life. 12.01 a.m. Weather.

12.10 p.m. Vintage Commics: 'On Holiday'. 12.30 The Flintstones. 12.55 News. 1.00 World Of Sport. 1.05 On The Ball. 1.20 Racing. 3.10 Sports Special: International Schoolboy Boxing, Pre World Gymnastics. 3.55 Half Time Round-Up. 4.00 Professional Wrestling. 5.00 Results Round-Up. 5.15 Cowboy In Africa. 6.10 News, Highland League Results. 6.15 Wheel Of Fortune. 6.45 The Saturday Crowd. 7.30 Please Sir! 8.00 Main Feature. 'The Full Treatment'. 10.00 News followed by Weather. 10.10 Saturday Night Theatre. 11.10 Frost On Saturday.

Yorkshire

12.55 p.m. News. 1.00 World Of Sport. 5.00 Results Round-Up. 5.15 Cowboy In Africa. 6.10 News. 6.15 The Saturday Crwod. 7.00 Please Sir! 7.30 Edgar Wallace. 8.30 Miami Expose. 10.00 News, Weather. 10.10 Saturday Night Theatre. 11.10 Frost On Saturday. 12 midnight Late Weather.

Tyne Tees

12.55 p.m. News. 1.00 World Of Sport. 1.05 On The Ball. 1.20 Racing. 3.10 Sports Special. 4.00 Professional Wresting. 5.00 Results Round-Up. 5.15 Tarzan. 6.10 News. 6.15 Batman. 6.45 The Saturday Crowd. 7.30 Please Sirl 8.00 The Saturday Film: 'Hud' starring Paul Newman, Patricia Neal. 10.00 News. 10.10 Saturday Night Theatre.

11.10 Frost On Saturday. 11.55 Alfred Hitchcock Presents. 12.25 a.m. Here O My God.

Border T. V. 12 noon Stay Alive. 12.25 p.m. All Our Yesterdays. 12.55 National News. 1.00 On The Ball. 5.15 Tarzan. 6.10 National News and Border Weather. 6.15 Wheel Of Fortune. 6.45 The Saturday Crowd. 7.30 Border Sports Results. 7.35 Jokers Wild. 8.05 Feature Film: 'East Of Eden' starring James Dean, Julie Harris. 10.10 National News and Border Weather. 10.10 Saturday Night Theatre: 'The Blood Relation'. 11.10 Frost On Saturday.

Anglia

12.55 p.m. News. 1.00 World Of Sport. 1.05 On The Ball. 1.20 Racing. 3.10

Sports Special. 4.00 Professional Wrestling from St. Albans. 5.00 Results Round-Up. 5.15 Tarzan. 6.10 News. 6.15 Wheel Of Fortune. 6.45 The Saturday Crowd. 7.30 Please Sir! 8.05 The Big Saturday Film: 'Trapeze' starring Burt Lancaster, Gina Lollobrigida and Tony Curtis. 10:00 News. 10.15 Saturday Night Theatre. 11.10 Frost On Saturday. 12 midnight Reflection.

Scottish

12 noon-12.25 p.m. Stay Alive. 12.55 News. 1.00 World Of Sport. 4.00 Professional Wrestling. 5.00 Results Round-Up. 5.15 Cowboy In Africa. 6.10 News and Weather. 6.15 The Saturday Crowd. 7.00 Please Sir! 7.30 The Saturday Feature: 'Houdini' starring Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh. 9.25 Scotsport. 10.00 Weather and News. 10.15 Saturday Night Theatre. 11.10 Frost On Saturday. 12 midnight Late Call.

SUNDAY

9.00 a.m. Nai Zindagi—Naya Jeevan. 9.30 Repondez S'il Vous Plait. 10.00 Wie Bitte? 10.30 Sung Eucharist. 11.30 Buying A House 12 noon Know How. 12.30-1.00 p.m. Representing The Union. 1.25-1.50 Farming, Weather for Farmers and Growers. 2.00 Ten Classic Dishes. 2.29 News Headlines. 2.30 Day Time. 3.00 Film Matinee: 'Boots Malone'. 4.40 Hobbyhorse. 5.05 Going For A Song. 5.30 Dombey and Son. 5.55

- Ken Dodd. 6.05 News, Weather. 6.15 Maicolm Muggeridge.
- 6.50 Songs Of Praise.

Mistress'.

7.25 Detective.

- 8.15 British Film Night: 'A French 9.50 News, Weather.
- - 10.00 Omnibus. 11.10 Monty Python's Flying Circus.

News. Weather.

11.40 Weatherman. All regions as BBC-1 except at the following times:

Midlands and East Anglia, North of England, Northern Ireland and South and West: 11.42

Wales: 2.30-2.55 p.m. The New comers. 2.55-3.30 Rugby Union. 3.30-3.50 The Newcomers, 3.50 4.10 Dwedwch Be Fynnoch Chi. Insight. Addola Dduw. 11.40 p.m.-12.15

a.m. Malcolm Muggeridge. Scotland: 2.30-3.00 p.m. Right Left and Centre. 6.50-7.25 Songs Of Praise. 11.10-11.50 Braden's Week. 11.50 Weather.

B.E.C.-2

7.00 p.m. News Review, Weather. 7.25 Bird's Eye View.

8.15 Fou Ts'ong: plano music bγ

- Chopin, Debussy. 9.15 A Year In The Life: June 1968-June 1969, paralysis
- with polyneuritis. 10.00 Show Of The Week:
- Mantovani.
- 10.50 Thirty Minute Theatre.
- 11.20 News Summary. 11.25 Line-Up.

ondon Weekend

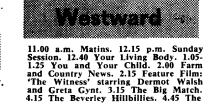
11.00 a.m. Church Service. 12.15 p.m. Sunday Session. 12.40-1.05 Your Living Body. 1.25 Sunday Session. 1.55 Out Of Town. 2.15 Sports Arena. 2.45 University Challenge. 3.15 The Big Match. 4.15 The Flaxton Boys. 4.45 The Golden Shot. 5.30 On The Buses. 6.00 News From ITN.

- 6.15 All Creatures Great and Small.
- 6.35 Tomorrow's Child.

10.10 News From ITN

- 7.00 Stars On Sunday.
- 7.25 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased).
- 8.20 'The Lady Is A Square' starring Anna Neagle, Frankie Vaughan and Janette Scott.
- 10.20 Music Hall. 11.20 Tonight With David Nixon.

12.05 a.m. Medicine In Question.



Golden Shot. 5.30 The Percest Rangers.
6.00 National News. 6.15 All Creatures
Great and Small. 6.35 Tomorrow's
Child. 7.00 Stars On Sunday. 7.25
Feature Film: "Geronimo' starring
Chuck Connors and Kamala Devi. 9.10
Strange Report. 10.10 National News.
10.20 Music Hall. 11.20 Tonight With
David Nixon. 12 midnight Faith For
Life. 12.06 a.m. Weather. Circumpters

12.15 p.m. Sunday Session. 12.40 Your Living Body. 1.05-1.29 You and Your Child. 1.45 Farm Progress. 2.15 Sports Arena. 2.45 All Our Yesterdays. 3.10 Sherlock Holmes Film Library. 4.15 The Flaxton Boys. 4.45 The Golden Shot. 5.30 The Ghost and Mrs Muir. 6.00 News. 6.15 All Creatures Great and Small. 6.35 Tomorrow's Child. 7.00 Stars On Sunday. 7.25 The Big Valley. 8.25 Music Hall. 9.25 The Big Film: 'Not As A Stranger' part one. 10.10 News, Weather. 10.20 'Not As A Stranger' part two. 11.55 Sunday Talks.

11.00 a.m. Morning Service. 12.15 p.m. Sunday Session. 12.40 Your Living Body. 1.05 You and Your Child. 1.30 All Our Yesterdays. 2.00 Sunday Sport. 3.15 The Long Arm. 5.00 Julia. 5.30 The Flaxton Boys. 6.00 News. 6.15 All Creatures Great and Small. 6.35 Tomorrow's Child. 7.00 Stars On Sunday. 7.25 Hawaii Five-O. 8.20 I Confess. 10.10 News, Weather. 10.20 Music Hall. 11.20 Tonight With David Nixon. 12.05 a.m. Late Weather.



11.00 a.m. The Morning Service. 12.15-1.05 p.m. Sunday Session. 2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30 Shoot. 3.20 Sunday Matinee: 'Make Mine Mink' starring Terry Thomas and Billie Whitelaw. 4.45 The Golden Shot. 5.30 The Flaxton Boys. 6.00 News. 6.15 All Creatures Great and Small. 6.35 Tomorrow's Child. 7.00 Sters On Sunday. 7.25 It Takes A Thief. 8.25 Film Premiere: 'Who's Been Sleeping In My Bed' starring Dean Martin, Elizabeth Montgomery. 10.10 News. 10.20 Music Hall. 11.20 Tonight With David Nixon. 12.05 a.m. The Burning of the Leaves by Lawrence Binyon read by Jennifer Clare.

11.00 a.m. The Morning Service. 12.15-1.30 p.m. Sunday Session. 1.55 Border Diary. 2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30 Adam 12. 2.55 Football. 3.50 The Prisoner. 4.45 The Golden Shot. 5.30 The Flaxton Boys. 6.00 National News and Border Weather. 6.15 All Creatures Great and Small. 6.35 Tomorrow's Child. 7.00 Stars On Sunday. 7.25 Strange Report. 8.25 Feature Film: 'Donovan's Reef' starring John Wayne. 10.10 National News and Border Weather. 10.20 Music Hall. 11.20 Tonight With David Nixon. 12.05 a.m. Epilogue.

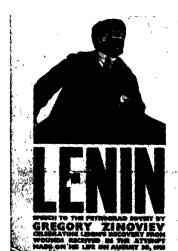


11.00 a.m. Matins. 12.15 p.m. Sunday Session. 12.40 Your Living Body. 1.05 You And Your Child. 1.30 All Our Yesterdays. 1.55 Weather Trends. 2.00 Farming Diary. 2.30 Match Of The Week. 3.20 University Challenge. 3.50 The Baron. 4.45 The Golden Shot. 5.30

The Forest Rangers. 6.00 News. 6.15
All Creatures Great and Small. 6.35
Tomorrow's Child. 7.00 Stars On Sunday. 7.25 Star Movie: 'Bramble Bush'
starring Richard Burton, Barbara Rush,
Jack Carson and Angle Dickinson.
9.10 Strange Report. 10.10 News,
Weather. 10.20 Music Hall. 11.20 Tonight With David Nixon. 12.05 a.m.
Reflection.



12.15 p.m. Sunday Session. 1.30 All Our Yesterdays. 2.00 Diane's Magic Theatre. 2.15 Sports Arena. 2.45 University Challenge. 3.15 Feature Film: 'The Lion and the Horse' starring Steve Cochran, Ray Teal. 4.45 The Golden Shot. 5.30 The Flaxton Boys. 6.00 Weather and News. 6.15 All Creatures Great and Small. 6.35 Tomorrow's Child. 7.00 Stars On Sunday. 7.25 Hogan's Heroes. 7.55 The Bogart Special: documentary narrated by Charlton Heston. 8.50 The Bogart Festival: 'The Petrified Forest' starring Humphrey Bogart, Leslie Howard, Bette Davis. 10.10 News and Weather. 10.20 Music Hall. 11.20 Tonight With David Nixon. 12.02 a.m. Late Call.



LENIN: Speech to the Petrograd Soviet, 1918 3s. 0d.

By G. Zinoviev

Illustrated with many photographs, this was a speech de-livered by one of Lenin's closest associates on the occasion of his recovery from wounds received in an attempt on his life. It gives a remarkably clear picture of Lenin and what is required to be a revolutionary.





All vestiges of Dubcek's 'liberalization' disappear as the Czech Stalinists visit Moscow to approve the August 1968 invasion by the Warsaw Pact countries. From left to right are seen Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister; Cernik, the Czechoslovak Prime Minister; President Svoboda of Czechoslovakia; Brezhnev, the Soviet Party leader;

HUSAK REPORT CONCEALS THE TRUTH

Husak, the Czechoslovak Party leader; and President Podgorny of the Soviet Union.

socialist and right-wing forces' for the events of

The claim that 'an active nucleus' of the Party is now behind the policy of the Central Committee in its acceptance of Moscow's diktat is an indication that it still meets with stubborn resistance from Czech workers.

Husak went through the now familiar official account of the causes of the 1968 crisis following the fall of the Novotny leadership.

state leadership and by naked administrative interference'. He was unable to explain what happened from January 1968 or why, after 20 years,

August 21, 1968.

It was not a question of restoring capitalism, but the first steps of the political revolution against the bureaucracy, beginning with its most objectionable representatives, led by Novotny, whom even Husak

FAIRY

The fairy story that the Party and the state were 'led astray' by 'right-wing and anti-socialist forces' does not

bear examination.

Warsaw Pact countries. Dubcek probably feared that at this meeting the Czechs would be brow-beaten into accepting conformity with the demands of Moscow. At its meeting on July 19,

1968, Dubcek justified his

position by claiming that the country was in no danger from counter-revolution.

The decision to approve this stand has now been rescinded. As Husak put it, 'if our Party policy had been conducted in more responsible way, it would have been possible to avoid the entry of troops into our territory'.

In other words, if the Dubcek leadership had capitulated right away, the invasion of August 21, 1968, may not have been necessary! But Dubcek had very little

choice. Not because he was a prisoner of 'anti-socialist and right-wing forces', but because the Czech working class, including the majority of Communist Party members, were on the move against the sub-servience of the bureaucracy to Moscow.

OPPOSED INVASION

Responding to this pressure, the presidium of the Czech Communist Party, which had been in session since the previous day, passed a resolution opposing the military intervention of the Warsaw Pact coun-

ing of this and all other resolutions passed in Czechoslovakia critical of the entry of Warsaw Pact troops.

This resolution is declared to be 'in its main part nonclass and non-Marxist in character, fundamentally wrong and injurious in its political consequences for our Party,

In obedience to Moscow's demands, Husak tries to pass off the events of 1968 as part of a conspiracy in which the mass media were in the hands of people favouring the restoration of capitalism and 'the entire Party and people' were disoriented.

There is, of course, no ex-

through this time and be in a

position so to disorganize the

Party and the state that only military intervention could save the situation. There is no explanation either of how it is that only 'a healthy nucleus' of the Communist Party supports the present policy imposed by Moscow and believes that the

the events of 1968 is correct. His attempt to discredit those Communist Party members in Prague who convened the 'extra-ordinary 14th Congress' of the Party and held it in secret under the protection of factory workers will fail. Husak equates 'right-wing'

with any criticism of Moscow or of bureaucratic methods, any striving for national selfdetermination or freedom of expression, any return to the canons of Leninism. NOVOTNY

NOSTALGIA

This double-talk, demanded by Moscow, will be acceptable to the members of the Czech bureaucracy who look back with aversion to the troubled times of the past two years and are nostalgic for the Novotny regime.

quired a break with Dubcek's wavering position and the snatching back of all the gains made by the workers, intellec-

The return to stability re-

tuals and youth in 1968. Husak's speech indicates a willingness to carry through a relentless purge in the party and all spheres of Czechoslovak life.

The expulsions from the Central Committee are only part of the drive to restore Stalinism in its full panoply. The threat to rid the Communist Party and other organizations of 'opportunist influences' can only mean a tightening up of repressive measures all

Although Husak speaks

tough, with the weight of Soviet military power behind him, his tones are not those of a confident man. The very fact that he admits

By Tom Kemp

of Communists, and that the 'leading role' of the Party still has to be restored, shows the extent of the resistance on the part of the working class which remains to be overcome. Czechoslovakia faces serious economic problems and Husak is forced to admit that 'the

that the policy he represents is only supported by a minority

main negative tendencies and cases of imbalance in the national economy have not yet been overcome'. By their, passive resistance go-slow tactics Czech

workers are making their weight felt here too. Foreign Communist Parties which condemned the intervention of August 21, 1968, are put on the spot by the final disgrace of Dubcek and the rescinding of the August statements of the Czech Communist

If they maintain that they were right, then they should come out and say openly that they disagree with Husak's explanations.

If they want to change their minds they should also indicate what 'opportunist influences' led them astray into supporting 'anti-socialist and rightwing forces'.

TWO VIEWS

His radio broadcast on Sunday gave a few pointers to the direction in which his government is moving when he warned that 'we [meaning the working class, and not the residents of the White House] are going to experience some

"slowing pains" He none the less saw this

THE LENGTHY report made by Gustav Husak, first secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, to its Central Committee on September 25 blamed 'anti-

1968.

He blamed it for 'covering up its shortcomings by bureaucratic methods of Party and

'anti-socialist and right-wing forces' were able to come to the fore. In fact, Husak seeks to avoid the admission that the Czech working class was on the move, that it was its pressure on Dubcek, and not forces seeking to return the country to capitalism, that brought about the situation which led to the military intervention by the Warsaw Pact countries on

does not try to defend.

STORY

There followed a series of accusations against Dubcek. especially charging him with concealing from the Party communications from the leadership of the Soviet Communist Party and refusing to attend the June conference of the

tries on August 21. Husak called for the rescindour people and our state'.

How does he explain this situation 21 years after the establishment of 'Peoples' Democracy'? planation of how the 'rightwing and anti-socialist forces' could have remained strong

account which Husak gives of

along the line.

Standard-

THE STRIKE by Liverpool Standard-Triumph workers remains solid in its eighth week.

A mass meeting of the 1,150 strikers voted on Thursday to stay out until the management concedes their claim for a £4 10s. wage rise and guaranteed pay during

Mr. Bill Moore, strike committee spokesman, said that the strike committee were determined to be as intractable as the management.

Deadlock

He reported to the meeting that Monday's talks with management ended in deadlock, despite the efforts of Mr Vic Feather to find a

He also announced that the committee had arranged a meeting with local Labour

BRUTAL police methods are being used against strikers at the BSR factory in East Kilbride. The pickets allege that police work in collaboration with the management, moving in massive reinforcements just as the scabs are

Women told the Workers' Press how the police line up with their backs to the pickets and then lash out with their

due to leave.

One woman said the kneelength boots she was wearing were protection.

The strikers, who have been out for nine weeks, are fighting for union recognition.

Bologna workers demand C.P. end neutrality

WHILE Italy was again hit by strikes in all the major industries, important new developments took place on the political front. strikes and struggles against

Italy's ruling party, the Christian Democrats, is already split into six warring factions.

Now the dominant group, led by the 'caretaker' Prime Minister Rumor, has itself split, throwing his already makeshift minority cabinet into even greater confusion. Developments in the working class are even more sig-

nificant. A march of 30,000 Bologna strikers ended up at the town hall in a demonstration against the neutral position adopted by the municipal

claims two million members and won 8.5 million votes in the 1968 elections) were coming into conflict with the treachery of their own bureau-

bad living conditions.

This in itself is nothing

rallies in the past few weeks, where the local authorities are

Christian Democrats.

But in Bologna, all local authority is in the hands of

the Italian Communist Party! These 30,000 strikers, thou-

sands of them without doubt

either Communist Party mem-

bers or voters (the Italian CP

Rome has seen several such

John England is reported to have said that 'under no circumstances will the company ever recognize a union'. Clash On Wednesday, 400 pickets clashed with police outside the factory. As stones were hurled at buses carrying scabs through the gates, police dived

East Kilbride, Scotland

POLICE ATTACK

B.S.R. STRIKERS

into the mass picket and seized a worker. His name Plain clothes police mingled with women and young girls on the picket and singled out those who, they alleged, were 'violent'.

Names taken Several names and addresses

have been taken.

But, the women say, nothing is said by the employers press and television about the alleged police brutality.

The 800 workers on strike are as determined as ever to

One girl striker said she was employed as a soldering operator and her basic wage

At a factory in Kilmarnock she said, girls were being paid 9s. 4d. an hour for similar work. That was why she was

Industries and signed a re-

port announcing an 'agenda



Police hold back BSR pickets as a bus carrying scabs drives in the factory gate.

HAY'S WHARF CLOSURE

Dock bosses throw down challenge

south bank of the Thames is a challenge to all dockers faced with the Devlin 'modernization' scheme Phase

THE THREATENED closure of Hay's wharf on the

A POLITICAL CHALLENGE

• FROM PAGE ONE

and right-wing policies im-

posed on their workers. That was the situation before Hitler's rise power in Germany.

The capitalists know very well that the present strength the working class is the one great barrier they must

They hope that entry into the European Common Market will give them both the economic market and the political strength to expand industrially and at the same reinforced political strength to control the work-

Already the Common Market authorities predict, for example, 200,000 increase in unemployed in coalmining and 400.000 in textiles in the immediate future.

Without a shadow of doubt, speed-up, closures 'rationalization' and drastically reduced living standards would result from entry into EEC.

That is the purpose of 'entry' and it is the reason for unanimity on the question the Tory, Labour and Liberal parties.

The Communist Party is now modifying its opposition to the Common Market because it knows Stalinism in Russia and Eastern Europe is working for new types of collaboration with the West European capitalists, in order to 'stabilize' the position in Europe, i.e. to keep down the Polish, Hungarian, Rumanian, Bulgarian and Soviet working classes.

Leadership can only come from a Marxist party which is independent of all plans of the capitalist class and the Stalinist bureaucracy, just as the working class must fight against them in order to sur-

That is the lesson for the working class of the whole of Europe as well as Britain. When the working class in any country enters struggles which raise the question of power, one of the most important factors for the outcome is the international re-

lationship of forces in the class struggle. Here a complete change has taken place since the 1920s and 1930s.

The workers of every European country are thrown into great strike struggles by the effects of the same crisis which is producing the strikes in Britain.

This strength of the working class, reaching its high points in France and Czechoslovakia in 1968 and in Italy and Germany this year, is both an indication of the depth of the struggles in Britain and a major fac-

tor for their success. The Labour government has shown in Northern Ireland that it will use troops to dea reactionary Torv

government and the employers who stand behind it.

They will not stand back and watch the development of the struggle in Britain and political preparation is necessary against them. That is why the All Trades Unions Alliance has such an

important role; its aim is to alternative socialist leadership in the unions. The monopolies in Britain have been helped by the state to prepare attacks on the working class.

British-Leyland announces a £70 million investment programme at the Cowley plant, and immediately before short-

time and redundancy. £90 million is being invested in containerization in the Merseyside docks alone. GEC-EE received gifts from the Labour government of

£31 million to proceed with their merger and the thousands of sackings which follow. Now Benn is in charge of the nationalized industries as well as being the government's liaison officer with the mono-

The unions, the carworkers, the dockers and the GEC-EE workers are involved in a political struggle against the overall plans of the state, the banks and the monopolies to impose the burden of the crisis on the working class.

Alongside them in the political fight are the miners and the lower-paid workers battling against the incomes policy.

The emphasis on exports

and the government aids to investment all make the state a direct factor in the wages and productivity struggle in all these industries.

The struggle against unemployment can therefore only be won in a fight against the state, which is the instrument of big business. The present wave of

strikes is an essential pre-paration for the struggle against unemployment, because these strikes accelerate the unification of the working class. Most essential is a socialist

olicy and leadership to direct this strength. As the Tory Party prepares new attacks, protection for non-unionists and new laws

against the unions, what is the role of the union leaders in these strikes?

Whilst union leaders were negotiating for a 15s. increase, the dustmen won, by unofficial

action, £2 10s. In the mines, Sir Sidney Ford announced himself 'surprised' by the NCB's granting the full wage claim of 27s. 6d.,

strike and the strike spread.

The resignation of Ford, Daly and the NUM executive has been demanded all over Yorkshire and Derbyshire, and they have lost the confidence of miners everywhere.

The strikes in motors found

Scanlon and Jones, after all their 'left' talk, paralyzed. Jones actually sat with Feather, Hayday and others in a joint committee with the Confederation of British

for action' to resolve the problems of 'industrial relations'. This, described by the employers as 'a breakthrough in plover-union at national level', was done on the week-end of October 18 and 19, when the miners' strike was at its height, the motor industry was over-run by disputes, and low-paid workers in bakeries and

other industries were preparing new strikes. This attempt at an agreement with the employers follows the failure of the Labour government to impose its legislation and the blastfurnacemen's successful killing at one blow of the TUC's proposals for settling dis

The trade union bureauis only carrying forward logically its reactionary policy of the June special TUC conference.

Their answer to government intervention unions is not to fight the government, but. . . to get closer to the employers!

From the union leaders, right and left, the workers can expect only that they will go more surely into the camp of the employers as the struggle builds up. So it was in 1926, so it is

today. We appeal especially to all members and supporters of the Communist Party in the trade unions.

The presence of Jones' signature on the agreement with the CBI, the lining up of Daly with the right wing of the NUM, following as they the wage-cutting agreements of McGarvey, the desertion of Paynter, and the record of Scanlon from the engineers' deal in 1968. through the fight on the Ford penalty clauses and the fight against anti-trade union legislation-surely this experience

settles the disputed questions of leadership in the unions. The line of 'left unity' with so-called 'progressive' union bureaucrats has helped these same 'lefts' to carry out their

The essential question is build an independent Marxist leadership.

In 1964, the working class elected a Labour government. In 1966, the majority of that government was greatly in-

creased.

But Wilson and the government have ruthlessly carried out the plans of the bankers and monopolists and betrayed the working class. Since the seamen's strike 1966 and especially the

dockers' strike of October 1967, the working class has turned away from the Labour Party towards the economic

The Tories and the emplovers hoped that this would lead to their return to office in control of a disillusioned working class. But this 'economic' struggle

already has major political

It threatens the Tories with defeat, because it brings the working class forward in independent political action. Great caution is necessary at this point. The temporary

reflects the great and growing feeling in the working class against the employers. But the plans of the employers have actually been implemented by the Labour government and will con-

voting swing back to Labour

The recent improvement in balance of payments figures has been achieved only by major restrictions on invest-

Instead of the predicted 10-15 per cent increase in investment this year, there was only 5 per cent. That means a worse crisis

in balance of payments is being inevitably prepared because economic growth falls behind. Further and more severe attacks on the working class

would follow. The essential question is to build political leadership in the working-class move-

In and around strike struggles, a new revolutionary political leadership can be built from all the most advanced workers through the Young Socialists, the All Trades Unions Alliance and the Socialist Labour League.

The Workers Press is the instrument of building this alternative leadership. The British working class will not stay at a purely economic level in its strikes. It already raises the question of the leadership of the unions, the political character of that leadership and its relations with the employers and with

the Labour government. It seeks ways of hitting at the Tories politically as well as the employers economi-

The working class is strong, buoyant and resolute. In such a situation, the expansion of the circulation of the Workers' Press. its close relation to the struggle of the working class, and the building of alternative socialist leadership—all of these can and will be accomplished.

The road now opens for

the building of the revolution-

ary working-class party which

every worker is beginning to

The Socialist Labour League. recruiting hundreds of new members and building new branches, supported by the Trades Unions Alliance, calls upon all workers to join with in the task of constructing

that party. Friday, October 24, 1969.

But Mr. Peter Shea, London docks secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said this week that there was little the men could do once the closure was announced. 'You cannot fight a shadow', he said.

The jobs of 650 workers are not a shadow, but very real.

Behind the Hay's closure is
the threat of mass redundancies posed by Devlin Phase Hay's has been in the vanguard of implementing Devlin.

Earlier in the year Hay's made repeated attempts to force the Dock Labour Board to agree to drastic labour

Try-on

This was very much a tryon for the benefit of the rest of the employers. Now Hay's is to close.

The union officials refuse to fight the Hay's closure, just as they are negotiating the introduction of Devlin with the threat to dockers' The redundancies at Hav's can only be fought by a campaign for the nationalization of the docks under workers' control and with no compensation to the former owners. This fight must be taken up as part of the rejection of the whole Devlin scheme.

Unemployment total up

THE NUMBER of unemployed this month has risen by 12,874 compared with September, to make a total of 571,868.

Department of Employment and Productivity figures released this week show that on October 13, 2.5 per cent of the labour force were unem-Much of the increase in

amongst the youth. unemployment has Peter continued the struggle caused by lay-offs in the car of the thousands of young industry. The immediate cause of the crisis in the motor industry and industry generally is the

government's squeeze on consumption and credit. The Labour government is determined to continue this policy as it is looking to unemployment to dampen the militancy of the working class.

POLL 'SCARE

WORRIED by recent polls showing a swing to Labour, the ruling Liberal-Country Party coalition has resorted to the 'Red Bogey' in an attempt to hold on to power after today's Australian general election.

Speaking on Wednesday's evening television Prime Minister Gorton alleged that Labour's policy of withdrawal from Vietnam, Malaysia and Singapore might affect 'perhaps the future existence of this country'.

By Robert Black

I IS now one year since John Walls died—on Octo-ber 20, 1968. John Walls was a Trotskyist for 14 years and a member of the Yorkshire area committee harming the reputation of a Socialist Labour League. friendly country, the penalty

He was a member of the months to three years im-Amalgamated Engineering Union and was for many years convenor of shop stewards at George Mann's (Engineering), Leeds.

He was expelled from the Labour Party in 1959 when The Newsletter (forerunner of Workers Press) and the Socialist Labour League were proscribed. John Walls was a consistent

fighter against the right wing and the Stalinists in his union and in the Leeds Trades Council. He was also one of the first leading trade unionists to support the Young Socialists, first in their struggle against the right wing inside the Labour Party and then in their fight against the

betrayals of the Wilson

government after they broke from the Labour Party in the Young Socialists and a member of the Socialist La-At a time when most adult trade unionists still had faith in the Wilson leadership, John's support meant a great deal to the Young

fore his untimely death. Socialists. His work in the Labour He was a regular seller and Party from 1960 to 1964 campaigner on behalf of greatly assisted the supporters The Newsletter and played of 'Keep Left' (now the offihis part in making the first cial YS paper) in the successful defeat of the right-wing Labour bureaucracy.

Trotskvist daily paper pos-We are very sorry that John Walls did not live to see Those who knew him rethis paper. member him as a tenacious

It will carry to success the work to which he devoted 14 years of his life.

a clear indication of the

in the class struggle.

Stoppages have hit the Renault plants at Flins, Cleon

and Sandouville, while at Le

been out since October 14.

treatment department

Mans, 80 men in the heat

the French working class.

revolutionaries all over the world, particularly those who were murdered by Stalin and his henchmen. As a Trotskvist he fought

to free the working class from the bondage of both the Stalinist and reformist bureaucracies. It is with great warmth that we remember Peter Archer

today.

Socialists the National Com-

mittee wishes to commemor-

ate Peter Archer in the Work-

ers Press. He died on October

25 1967 at the age of 23,

As a founder member of

bour League, Peter fought as

a Trotskyist to lay the founda-

and dedicated fighter

Marxist principles within the

Labour movement and

tions for this daily paper be-

following a motor accident.

The Young Socialists continued his aim for world socialism through the fight for the Workers' Press-a truly great step forward since 1967. It will be carried forward in the future in the building of the mass Young Socialists movement and the revolution-

On this occasion the National Committee extends fraternal salutations to Peter's father, John Archer, his mother Mary and his brother

ary party in the Fourth Inter-

Bobby Peter's work lives on in the daily Workers Press.

out by Al Fatah, the Arab guerrilla organization.

Released

Al Fatah said the kidnapped Lebanese officials would be

'The Palestinian revolution

will never be a party to any

struggle against the Lebanese people. When we captured

some of our brothers in the

person of Lebanese security men it was intended to prove

Guerrillas attack frontier

THE MIDDLE - EAST crisis heightened on Thursday after the killing of 25 Palestinian commandos by Later the same day, it was announced in Damascus that the Lebanese Army.

A statement broadcast by Beirut (Lebanon) Radio said three frontier posts came under attack on Thursday.

LEBANON

The first, at Maasna, was razed by 50 men in military uniforms with Arab head-

As this attack was being repulsed, a larger force overran two other posts at Al Ariba and Al Baki'a, taking 20 gendarmes, customs men and

to the ruling authorities in posts Lebanon that the Palestinian revolution is able to hit back

Unlike the present rulers of Lebanon, Al Fatah rightly sees Zionism as the main enemy of the Arab peoples, though in its statement the guerrilla organization made it clear that no more stabs in the back would be tolerated:

Warning

'As such measures were only warning to the Lebanese authorities, so the release of the 24 kidnapped brothers constitutes full evidence of the revolution's ability to take any measures it considers appropriate for self-defence until victory is achieved.

Workers strike against the Libya at the present, but might do so in the near army

brought into the Lebanese capital, Beirut, on Thursday to guard against demonstrations in support of the Pales-tinian Liberation movement.

Police had already dispersed a demonstration of 500 people, mostly Palestinians, in the city's Bourg Al-Brajneh quarter that same morning. In the southern city of

Sidon, a fully effective general

strike was reported. From the Jordan capital of Amman came news that Palestinian units stationed in will declare war against the Lebanese army un-less it ceases all military ac-

invasion

editor in

Belgrade

tion against Palestinian commandos.

The statement was issued the Action Group for the Liberation of Palestine. a breakaway organization from

In an attempt to avoid fur-ther clashes, Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi tried to arrange a meeting between the Lebanese government and Palestinian commando leaders

ZORAN GLUSCEVIC, former editor of the

fortnightly journal 'Knjizevne Novine', is

shortly to stand trial in Belgrade for his attacks

on the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia.

President Helou of Lebanon said that he could not go to

On the eve of Soviet

Foreign Minister

Gromyko's visit to Yugo-

slavia, Gluscevic published

a photograph of Soviet

officers in Prague with the

'Tomorrow, perhaps, the

same faces will appear in

your country under the

guise of peaceful tourists.

So be watchful, careful and

into the affair and called upon

HARMED

REPUTATION

for which ranges from three

To his credit, Gluscevic has

refused to retract a single

ord that he wrote, and ir

the last number of the journal

before his enforced resigna-

tion, he refuted the charge that he was advocating an

'By this logic, everything

anti-Soviet [i.e. opposing Soviet policy] becomes auto-

matically anti-socialist, anti-

FORCED

SUCCESSORS

Stalin and forced his suc-

cessors to recognize their re-

sponsibility for the deteriora-

tion of Yugoslav-Soviet rela-

Today he obviously values his friendship with Stalin's

solidarity with the Czech

working class.

In 1948, Tito stood up to

communist, anti-Yugoslav.'

'anti-Yugoslav' policy:

He was later charged with

editor Gluscevic to resign.

was taken against

following caption:

cunning if need be.'

It is obvious that the Lebanese government is on the verge of a tremendous crisis.

If the strike spread, it could well be brought down in the next few days or weeks.

Frank Willis

● FROM PAGE ONE

paigned for a socialist alternative. Our policies are:

Hands off the Unions!
Sack the Wilson leader-ship!
Build a socialist alterna-Oppose the Common

The big issue here is not the size of the vote. Working-class victory de-pends on the building of an alternative force based on principles, and this is the appeal of the Young Socialists.

I should like to thank and commend the members of the Young Socialists for their untiring and principled struggle, both in this election campaign and in the years leading up

to it.

They have set an entirely new example in political campaigning in Britain.

The Kremlin responded by threatening to cancel Gromyko's visit unless instant FROM PAGE ONE

çaise Democratique de Travail The Yugoslav government banned the sale of the offend-ing journal, began an inquiry —proposed that a delegation should confront the management immediately with their demands.

> ward to take their advice, however, they found doors locked against them. The union leaders then left the meeting, leaving no time

When workers surged for-

for discussion of a continua-tion of the strike. Heated arguments union bureaucrats followed as workers returned to their

Earlier, groups of workers had walked out of the meeting.
The factory's Stalinist secre-

an attack from the platform on 'leftists' in the CFDT.

Heading off Several workers told the Workers Press as they came out of the plant that a fourhour strike was a completely useless weapon against the increasing attacks being made

against their wages and con-Many also felt that the strike had been called by the Communist Party-dominated CGT leadership in an attempt to head off the growing mili-

tancy of Renault workers. One union delegate said or Thursday afternoon that the 40 per cent support claimed by the Stalinists for the stoppage contrasted sharply last week's 100 per cent solid strike in the plant's mainten-

B.S.A. PROFITS SLUMP

Workers' Press reporter

PROFITS of BSA, the motor £846,000 for the first half of this year compared with £3,330,000 over the same period last year.

The dividend to shareholders has been reduced from 14 to 5 per cent.

BSA has recently been en-

countering increasing competition especially from Japan.

RENAULT STRIKES— **BAROMETER OF STRUGGLE** THURSDAY'S strike at Boulogne-Billancourt (see p. one story), despite the activities of the Stalinists, is

By a foreign correspondent

new surge of militancy in The Renault management at For the last six weeks there Le Mans has now declared a lock-out, a step that could have been a series of smallscale strikes in various parts very quickly provoke a bitter of France, all of them giving reaction from the workers an indication of a new turn throughout the combine.

Joint action

The present struggle in Renault, the traditional barometer of the French Renault, working class, can now serve

workers into joint action with the struggles of their fellow workers in Italy and Britain The strike movement today is international.

Registered with the GPO as a newspaper. Published by Workers' Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.

It demands international