

What we think

Release all Palestinian guerrillas!

EVERY EFFORT must now be made by the British labour movement to secure the release of Miss Leila Khaled, the 24-year-old Arab girl held by British police after the attempted hi-jacking of an Israeli airliner last Sunday.

Socialists can have no truck with the barrage of anti-guerrilla propaganda being pumped out by the British press and television.

There were no such protests in 1957, when the French government hi-jacked an airliner carrying the leadership of the Algerian liberation movement, re-directing it to France where Ben Bella and his comrades were imprisoned until 1962.

In both cases, the class instincts of the press and TV barons determined their attitude to the sanctity of airline property and the safety of their passengers and crews.

The hypocrisy of the pro-Zionist cheer leaders does not end there.

Before and during the last war, when millions of Jews, fleeing from the Nazi terror in Europe, were seeking entry into the 'democratic' nations, a tremendous campaign was whipped up against Jewish refugees entering Britain and the United States.

And leading this anti-Semitic campaign were the Zionists!

Once the war was over, they deliberately sought to block Jewish emigration from Europe to the USA, instead hoping to divert Jews to the 'promised land' of Palestine, where they could be used to populate and staff a state loyal to American imperialism.

With Stalinist collusion (the Soviet UN delegate voted with the US for the creation of the Zionist state in 1948) this strategy was successful.

Hounded out of Europe by the fascists, the Jews were now to be used as the cats-paw of imperialism against the Arab people.

The Arab people's fight against Zionism is a just war. Those like Leila Khaled and her comrades are courageous anti-imperialist fighters who deserve the unconditional support of every socialist.

While we do not condone terrorist activity, which tends to isolate revolutionists, we lay the main blame for this on the shoulders of world imperialism.

Running true to their opportunist form, the British Communist Party leaders have ranged themselves quite openly with those howling for action against the guerrillas.

The 'Morning Star' editorial said yesterday:

'The latest crop of aircraft hi-jackings has raised the question of what can be done to stop the growth of this threat to the safety of air travel.

'Armed guards on board are not the answer. A gun battle could end in disaster.

'Nor would stronger penalties be much of a deterrent to determined hi-jackers.

'The main problem is to stop them getting on board. This is where measures need to be improved and where there is room for improvement.' (Emphasis added.)

General Dayan, scourge of the Palestinian Arabs and Nixon's Middle-East watchdog, would agree with every word!

Yes, it is true that 'stronger penalties' will not deter men and women fighting for a just cause — the liberation of their homeland, 'hi-jacked' by Zionism with the full agreement of the Soviet Stalinists.

We are sure that Messrs Dayan, Eban and company will have taken note of the 'Star's' suggestions on how to combat the Palestinian guerrillas.

The Socialist Labour League, which all along has warned against and denounced the Stalinists' treachery in the Middle East, will do its utmost to ensure that Miss Khaled and all her courageous comrades are released from captivity.

T.U.C. chief back-pedals on strike

1926 danger looms at Brighton

BY THE EDITOR

SPEAKING at the Trades Union Congress yesterday, general secretary Mr Victor Feather went out of his way to play down the role of the strike weapon.

He cringingly pedaled with the Tory politicians that the days lost in industrial disputes in Britain were less than those lost in the capitalist countries of western Europe.

Feather contrasted this to the 118 million work days lost each year in Britain through unemployment.

Needless to say, he never once mentioned the capitalist system in which strikes, unemployment and wars are very much part of its normal functioning.

What he set out to do was to elevate the TUC onto some kind of oasis of class neutrality so beloved by Fabians and reformists.

Why should the trade union movement be ashamed of the strike weapon?

Historical experience shows that it is the only real weapon which the unions have been able to use in the fight against the employers.

Take away the right to strike, as every Tory wants, and you really have no basis for trade unions.

Mr Feather would like us to believe that strikes are bad for the unions, but history proves otherwise.

For 24 years, from 1800-1824, these laws were brutally applied against the unions. Finally, when they were repealed, far from the unions losing their right to defend the right to strike, they in fact expanded by leaps and bounds.

● PAGE FOUR COL. 2

More lip-service to anti-Tory fight

Tuesday WAS IT lack of time which prevented seven out of the eight trade union leaders who spoke in this morning's TUC debate on industrial relations advancing any ideas at all about how to fight the Tory government's plans for anti-union legislation?

If so—and engineers' President Hugh Scanlon certainly created the impression he was being cut short just as he got to the real meat—they are leaving it perilously late.

As Victor Feather's half-hour introductory report revealed, Heath's cabinet is to circulate a consultative document on its plans at the end of this month.

And the TUC general secretary's own 'hope . . . that the document will not look anything like the Tory Party proposal in a pamphlet called "Fair deal at work" is the complete opposite of preparation for struggle.

Dangers But if the speeches of Feather, Scanlon, Adamson (Local Government Officers), Brooks (Bank Employees), Seabrook (Shopworkers), Buck (Sheet Metalworkers) and Doughty (Draughtsmen) really reflect the full strength of the union leaders' thinking, the dangers facing trade unionists are intense.

St Helens glassworkers' leader Gerry Caughey, after observing the full debate from the visitors' gallery, commented bitterly: 'It's all lip service—when the chips are down they will do a deal.'

Agreement In the debate on the AEF's 'hands off collective bargaining' resolution, which was carried without opposition,

The Corporation, in its annual report published yesterday, warns that the benefit of former price rises is being 'whittled away' by rapid cost increases.

Home prices were increased by 1½ per cent last November and by 10 per cent in January this year.

DAVID MAUDE in Brighton

ment on its plans at the end of this month.

And the TUC general secretary's own 'hope . . . that the document will not look anything like the Tory Party proposal in a pamphlet called "Fair deal at work" is the complete opposite of preparation for struggle.

Dangers

But if the speeches of Feather, Scanlon, Adamson (Local Government Officers), Brooks (Bank Employees), Seabrook (Shopworkers), Buck (Sheet Metalworkers) and Doughty (Draughtsmen) really reflect the full strength of the union leaders' thinking, the dangers facing trade unionists are intense.

St Helens glassworkers' leader Gerry Caughey, after observing the full debate from the visitors' gallery, commented bitterly: 'It's all lip service—when the chips are down they will do a deal.'

Agreement In the debate on the AEF's 'hands off collective bargaining' resolution, which was carried without opposition,

The Corporation, in its annual report published yesterday, warns that the benefit of former price rises is being 'whittled away' by rapid cost increases.

Home prices were increased by 1½ per cent last November and by 10 per cent in January this year.

● PAGE FOUR COL. 1



IMF report masks crisis

WHEN THE International Monetary Fund annual report says that 'the importance of arresting the US inflationary spiral and restoring price and cost stability can hardly be exaggerated', it is speaking the language of the past.

This is clearly shown too in the reference to Britain.

After listing the UK as one of the countries where 'inflationary pressures' intensified last year, the report talks about the possibility of 'incomes policy' keeping the pressure down.

But the IMF must have heard that the Labour government's efforts to hold back wages by such means were smashed by the working class and that the Tories are looking for tougher weapons to use against the unions.

Profit drop Behind all the paper dealings of the bankers and the investment trusts lies the fall in the rate of profit capital can squeeze from labour power.

Hidden for so long by the apparent strength of the US dollar, this falling tendency now emerges into the open. It cannot be halted by further manipulation; every delay in the crash only makes it worse.

It must force the ruling class into head-on clashes with the working class, in order to take back the concessions that have been secured by trade union action in the boom period.

Soothing noises from the IMF notwithstanding, the prospect is not just inflation but revolutionary crisis.

Boom finished The real situation is that the era of inflationary boom finished long ago — at the very latest when sterling was devalued in 1967.

The currency crisis which followed led to the Deutschmark revaluation and the franc devaluation. But the restoration of the period of rapid expansion was impossible.

The US recession of 1970 — hardly mentioned by the IMF report — still continues, despite repeated reports of 'an upturn' in the economy.

'The Banker', a New York business journal, yesterday published its quarterly report opposing such optimistic forecasts.

US investment has been slowing down, it notes, and the expected upsurge in consumer spending has not materialized.

Not explained Thus, while the IMF talks about stopping the inflationary spiral, it does not explain how this is to be done without precipitating a major crash.

CBI LEADERS MEET HEATH

LEADERS of the Confederation of British Industry — President John Partridge (left above) and Director General W. O. Campbell Adamson (right) — met Tory premier Edward Heath yesterday to discuss industrial relations and cost inflation.

This is the first meeting between CBI representatives and Heath. The Confederation is now concluding its own policy study on industrial relations which will probably be made known at the end of this month.

Their working party under the chairmanship of Mr Len Neal, British Rail-

ways industrial relations board member, has already suggested to the government that anti-union laws should be introduced in two parts.

The first stage would set up a Registrar of Trade Unions binding trade unionists, on pain of expulsion, to certain procedural regulations regarding strikes; and a second stage providing for legalized contracts of employment.

Partridge has already expressed the hope that, with sufficient union cooperation on the first stage, legalized contracts may not be necessary.

Chilean Stalinists complacent over coup danger

THE COMPLACENT statement of the Chilean president-elect Salvador Allende — who gained the largest vote in last Friday's elections and now expects parliament to appoint him instead of the runner-up, right-wing candidate Jorge Alessandri — underlines the serious dangers facing the

Chilean workers' movement.

'We are,' he said, 'coming legally to power after long years of political struggle, and through perfectly regular elections. Quite simply, we are today reaping the fruits of what we have sowed for a long time.'

As he spoke, wealthy Chileans queued at banks and travel agencies to evacuate ● PAGE FOUR COL. 9

GKN men reject return plea

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

A THOUSAND GKN-Sankey workers yesterday endorsed the decision of their shop stewards' committee and overwhelmingly rejected the return-to-work formula agreed by union national officials and employers.

Only about a fifth of the strikers turned up at the Wellington, Shropshire, meeting called by national officials of the five unions involved in the five-week-old dispute.

AEF national officer Bob Wright once again gave the history of the negotiations in an effort to persuade workers of the impossibility of a straight across-the-board increase without strings.

This followed his earlier statement that 'we cannot have the concept that members decide where and when to hold meetings. Union officials must be able to report when they can'.

'Clear'

General and Municipal national officer Ken Baker, however, said that he was now clear, after consulting with his members and seeing the feeling of the mass meetings, that the formula was unacceptable.

'So a message must now go out to the DEP or someone that something will have to be done,' he said.

Shouts of 'make it official' came from the floor of the meeting and many workers applauded, taking Baker's statement to mean that the unions would belatedly be supporting them.

Baker then indicated that his conversation was not quite complete.

He explained that there were stages of procedure that the workers should have gone through before taking strike action, and the union could not go outside procedure.

So as to clear away any 'confusion', he added: 'We now have to consider the situation in relation to any act we will have to consider.'

Not budged

It is clear that the union leaders have not budged one inch in their determination to foist strings on the GKN-Sankey workers and drive them back to work at all costs.

The next mass meeting is on Friday and it is certain that union officials, employers and government will produce yet another 'peace' formula—coupled with an intensive press barrage—in a desperate effort to force a return-to-work.

Meanwhile, the effects of the strike continue to escalate throughout the motor industry.

The latest casualty is Birmid Quilcast, a key supplier of cylinder blocks, which has shut one of its W Bromwich foundries, laid off 400, ● PAGE FOUR COL. 7

'Black Pilkington goods' Call by helicopter men

THE FOLLOWING resolution was passed at the T&GWU 1/712 branch Westland Helicopters, in Hayes, Middx, recently:

This T&GWU branch deplores the sacking of 600 militant workers at Pilkington St Helens for going on strike.

In defence of the right to strike we call on our members to black all Pilkington goods and call on the No 1 regional committee and from there the national committee of the T&GWU to do this also.

We support the conference on October 3 at which the Pilkington strike committee will be represented, called by the ATUA in order to get these workers reinstated and to put the lessons of their case before the trade union movement.

Two delegates are to attend the conference from the branch.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

The Pilkington struggle and the right to strike! Defeat the proposed Tory anti-union laws!

St George's Hall, Lime St LIVERPOOL

Saturday October 3 2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m. Credentials and visitors cards 5s each from Conference Secretary, W. Hunter, 58 Leighton View, Liverpool 8.



Scanlon

only Boilermakers' president Dan McGarvey so much as mentioned last year's June 18 agreement with Labour's Harold Wilson to stop strikes: 'We're on to a hiding for nothing,' he warned.

'Croydon and the "programme for action" were agreed under certain conditions . . .

'If those are tampered with then status quo prevails and it's everyone to the barricades.'

Of course, Feather, at the end of his speech warned that government attempts to bring the law into industrial problems would tragically scar 'the willingness of the unions to engage in the job of getting things sorted out by agreement with employers'.

Co-operation But this in the context of a speech which: ● Defended TUC co-operation 'with any government in any fair and honest attempt to get the economy onto an even keel'.

● Called for increased pro- ● PAGE FOUR COL. 1

THIS WEEKEND

YS SPORT

Swimming Gala
Saturday
September 12 6 p.m.
YORK HALL BATHS
Old Ford Rd, E2

Sports Day
Sunday
September 13 2 p.m.
PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS

Organized by London Region Young Socialists

Trotsky Memorial Lectures

LEONID KATSKY'S LAST WORDS
I AM CONFIDENT OF THE VICTORY OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL GO FORWARD . . .
1965 THAT MEANS FORWARD TO THE FIRST DAILY TROTSKYIST PAPER 1970 THAT MEANS BUILD THE WORKERS PRESS

Monday, 14 September
'Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism'

Monday, 21 September
'Trotsky's fight against revisionism'

BEAVER HALL
GARLICK HILL
Near Mansion House tube

Starts 8 p.m. Admission 2s
Both lectures given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

What we think

Release all Palestinian guerrillas!

EVERY EFFORT must now be made by the British labour movement to secure the release of Miss Leila Khaled, the 24-year-old Arab girl held by British police after the attempted hi-jacking of an Israeli airliner last Sunday.

Socialists can have no truck with the barrage of anti-guerrilla propaganda being pumped out by the British press and television.

There were no such protests in 1957, when the French government hi-jacked an airliner carrying the leadership of the Algerian liberation movement, re-directing it to France where Ben Bella and his comrades were imprisoned until 1962.

In both cases, the class instincts of the press and TV barons determined their attitude to the sanctity of airline property and the safety of their passengers and crews.

The hypocrisy of the pro-Zionist cheer leaders does not end there.

Before and during the last war, when millions of Jews, fleeing from the Nazi terror in Europe, were seeking entry into the 'democratic' nations, a tremendous campaign was whipped up against Jewish refugees entering Britain and the United States.

And leading this anti-Semitic campaign were the Zionists!

Once the war was over, they deliberately sought to block Jewish emigration from Europe to the USA, instead hoping to divert Jews to the 'promised land' of Palestine, where they could be used to populate and staff a state loyal to American imperialism.

With Stalinist collusion (the Soviet UN delegate voted with the US for the creation of the Zionist state in 1948) this strategy was successful.

Hounded out of Europe by the fascists, the Jews were now to be used as the cat's paw of imperialism against the Arab people.

The Arab people's fight against Zionism is a just war. Those like Leila Khaled and her comrades are courageous anti-imperialist fighters who deserve the unconditional support of every socialist.

While we do not condone terrorist activity, which tends to isolate revolutionaries, we lay the main blame for this on the shoulders of world imperialism.

Running true to their opportunist form, the British Communist Party leaders have ranged themselves quite openly with those howling for action against the guerrillas.

The 'Morning Star' editorial said yesterday:

'The latest crop of aircraft hi-jackings has raised the question of what can be done to stop the growth of this threat to the safety of air travel.

'Armed guards on board are not the answer. A gun battle could end in disaster.

'Nor would stronger penalties be much of a deterrent to determined hi-jackers.

'The main problem is to stop them getting on board. This is where measures need to be improved and where there is room for improvement.' (Emphasis added.)

General Dayan, scourge of the Palestinian Arabs and Nixon's Middle-East watchdog, would agree with every word!

Yes, it is true that 'stronger penalties' will not deter men and women fighting for a just cause — the liberation of their homeland, 'hi-jacked' by Zionism with the full agreement of the Soviet Stalinists.

We are sure that Messrs Dayan, Eban and company will have taken note of the 'Star's' suggestions on how to combat the Palestinian guerrillas.

The Socialist Labour League, which all along has warned against and denounced the Stalinists' treachery in the Middle East, will do its utmost to ensure that Miss Khaled and all her courageous comrades are released from captivity.

T.U.C. chief back-pedals on strike

1926 danger looms at Brighton

BY THE EDITOR

SPEAKING at the Trades Union Congress yesterday, general secretary Mr Victor Feather went out of his way to play down the role of the strike weapon.

He cringingly pleaded with the Tory politicians that the days lost in industrial disputes in Britain were less than those lost in the capitalist countries of western Europe.

Feather contrasted this to the 118 million work days lost each year in Britain through unemployment.

Needless to say, he never once mentioned the capitalist system in which strikes, unemployment and wars are very much part of its normal functioning.

What he set out to do was to elevate the TUC onto some kind of oasis of class neutrality so beloved by Fabians and reformists.

Why should the trade union movement be ashamed of the strike weapon?

Historical experience shows that it is the only real weapon which the unions have been able to use in the fight against the employers.

Take away the right to strike, as every Tory wants, and you really have no basis for trade unions.

Mr Feather would like us to believe that strikes are bad for the unions, but history proves otherwise.

First strikes

In the period following the French Revolution of 1789, British workers for the first time combined together from a number of industries to organize their strike activity.

The capitalist government of the day replied with the Combination Laws outlawing the trade unions.

For 24 years, from 1800-1824, these laws were brutally applied against the unions.

Finally, when they were repealed, far from the unions losing ground because they had fought to defend the right to strike, they in fact expanded by leaps and bounds.

● PAGE FOUR COL. 2

'Black Pilkington goods'

Call by helicopter men

THE FOLLOWING resolution was passed at the T&GWU 1/712 branch Westland Helicopters, in Hayes, Middx, recently:

This T&GWU branch deplores the sacking of 600 militant workers at Pilkington St Helens for going on strike.

In defence of the right to strike we call on our members to black all Pilkington goods and call on the No 1 regional committee and from there the national committee of the T&GWU to do this also.

We support the conference on October 3 at which the Pilkington strike committee will be represented, called by the ATUA in order to get these workers reinstated and to put the lessons of their case before the trade union movement.

Two delegates are to attend the conference from the branch.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

The Pilkington struggle and the right to strike! Defeat the proposed Tory anti-union laws!

St George's Hall, Lime St LIVERPOOL Saturday October 3 2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Credentials and visitors cards 5s each from Conference Secretary, W. Hunter, 58 Leighton View, Liverpool 8.

More lip-service to anti-Tory fight

Tuesday WAS IT lack of time which prevented seven out of the eight trade union leaders who spoke in this morning's TUC debate on industrial relations advancing any ideas at all about how to fight the Tory government's plans for anti-union legislation?

If so—and engineers' President Hugh Scanlon certainly created the impression he was being cut short just as he got to the real meat—they are leaving it perilously late.

As Victor Feather's half-hour introductory report revealed, Heath's cabinet is to circulate a consultative document on its plans at the end of this month.

And the TUC general secretary's own 'hope'... that the document will not look anything like the Tory Party proposal in a pamphlet called 'Fair deal-at-work' is the complete opposite of preparation for struggle.

British Steel profits up

THE British Steel Corporation, which is seeking a 5 per cent increase in prices, made a pre-tax profit of £10.2 million in the six months ended March, 1970, compared with a pre-tax loss of £21.9 million in the year ended September, 1969.

The Corporation, in its annual report published yesterday, warns that the benefit of former price rises is being 'whittled away' by rapid cost increases.

Home prices were increased by 14 per cent last November and by 10 per cent in January this year.

DAVID MAUDE in Brighton

But if the speeches of Feather, Scanlon, Jamson (Local Government Officers), Brooks (Bank Employees), Seabrook (Shopworkers), Buck (Sheet Metalworkers) and Doughty (Draughtsmen) really reflect the full strength of the union leaders' thinking, the dangers facing trade unionists are intense.

St Helens glassworkers' leader Gerry Caughey, after observing the full debate from the visitors' gallery, commented bitterly:

'It's all lip service—when the chips are down they will do a deal.'

Agreement

In the debate on the AEF's 'hands off collective bargaining' resolution, which was carried without opposition,

the real situation is that the era of inflationary boom finished long ago — at the very latest when sterling was devalued in 1967.

The currency crisis which followed led to the Deutschemark revaluation and the franc devaluation. But the restoration of the period of rapid expansion was impossible.

The US recession of 1970 — hardly mentioned by the IMF report—still continues, despite repeated reports of 'an upturn' in the economy.

'The Banker', a New York business journal, yesterday published its quarterly report opposing such optimistic forecasts.

US investment has been slowing down, it notes, and the expected upsurge in consumer spending has not materialized.

Not explained Thus, while the IMF talks about stopping the inflationary spiral, it does not explain how this is to be done without precipitating a major crash.

The world economy is in a period of waiting, as the ruling class, led by the big banks and monopolies, prepares for all-out trade war and war on the working class.

This is the situation facing Nixon's government as much as the Tories and the European capitalists.

Meanwhile, the crash must be delayed as long as possible.

The various proposals for the international financial system to which the IMF report devotes so much space, are only ways of deciding where the blow

Co-operation But this in the context of a speech which

Defended TUC co-operation with any government in any fair and honest attempt to get the economy onto an even keel.

Called for increased production

● PAGE FOUR COL. 1



IMF report masks crisis

WHEN THE International Monetary Fund annual report says that 'the importance of arresting the US inflationary spiral and restoring price and cost stability can hardly be exaggerated', it is speaking the language of the past.

This is clearly shown too in the reference to Britain.

After listing the UK as one of the countries where 'inflationary pressures' intensified last year, the report talks about the possibility of 'incomes policy' keeping the pressure down.

But the IMF must have heard that the Labour government's efforts to hold back wages by such means were smashed by the working class, and that the Tories are looking for tougher weapons to use against the unions.

Boom finished The real situation is that the era of inflationary boom finished long ago — at the very latest when sterling was devalued in 1967.

The currency crisis which followed led to the Deutschemark revaluation and the franc devaluation. But the restoration of the period of rapid expansion was impossible.

The US recession of 1970 — hardly mentioned by the IMF report—still continues, despite repeated reports of 'an upturn' in the economy.

'The Banker', a New York business journal, yesterday published its quarterly report opposing such optimistic forecasts.

US investment has been slowing down, it notes, and the expected upsurge in consumer spending has not materialized.

Not explained Thus, while the IMF talks about stopping the inflationary spiral, it does not explain how this is to be done without precipitating a major crash.

The world economy is in a period of waiting, as the ruling class, led by the big banks and monopolies, prepares for all-out trade war and war on the working class.

This is the situation facing Nixon's government as much as the Tories and the European capitalists.

Meanwhile, the crash must be delayed as long as possible.

The various proposals for the international financial system to which the IMF report devotes so much space, are only ways of deciding where the blow

CBI LEADERS MEET HEATH

LEADERS of the Confederation of British Industry — President John Partridge (left above) and Director General W. O. Campbell Adamson (right) — met Tory premier Edward Heath yesterday to discuss industrial relations and cost inflation.

This is the first meeting between CBI representatives and Heath. The Confederation is now concluding its own policy study on industrial relations which will probably be made known at the end of this month.

Their working party under the chairmanship of Mr Len Neal, British Rail-

ways industrial relations board member, has already suggested to the government that anti-union laws should be introduced in two parts.

The first stage would set up a Registrar of Trade Unions binding trade unionists, on pain of expulsion, to certain procedural regulations regarding strikes; and a second stage providing for legalized contracts of employment.

Partridge has already expressed the hope that, with sufficient union co-operation on the first stage, legalized contracts may not be necessary.

Chilean Stalinists complacent over coup danger

THE COMPLACENT statement of the Chilean president-elect Salvador Allende — who gained the largest vote in last Friday's elections and now expects parliament to appoint him instead of the runner-up, right-wing candidate Jorge Alessandri — underlines the serious dangers facing the

Chilean workers' movement.

'We are,' he said, 'coming legally to power after long years of political struggle, and through perfectly regular elections. Quite simply, we are today reaping the fruits of what we have sowed for a long time.'

As he spoke, wealthy Chileans queued at banks and travel agencies to evacuate

● PAGE FOUR COL. 9

GKN men reject return plea

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

A THOUSAND GKN-Sankey workers yesterday endorsed the decision of their shop stewards' committee and overwhelmingly rejected the return-to-work formula agreed by union national officials and employers.

Only about a fifth of the strikers turned up at the Wellington, Shropshire, meeting called by national officials of the five unions involved in the five-week-old dispute.

AEF national officer Bob Wright once again gave the history of the negotiations in an effort to persuade workers of the impossibility of a straight across-the-board increase without strings.

This followed his earlier statement that 'we cannot have the concept that members decide where and when to hold meetings. Union officials must be able to report when they can'.

'Clear'

General and Municipal national officer Ken Baker, however, said that he was now clear, after consulting with his members and seeing the feeling of the mass meetings, that the formula was unacceptable.

'So a message must now go out to the DEP or someone else that the formula will have to be done,' he said.

Shouts of 'make it official' came from the floor of the meeting and many workers applauded, taking Baker's statement to mean that the unions would belatedly be supporting them.

Baker then indicated that his conversation was not quite complete.

He explained that there were stages of procedure that the workers should have gone through before taking strike action, and the union could not go outside procedure.

So as to clear away any 'confusion', he added:

'We now have to consider the situation in relation to any act we will have to consider.'

Not budged

It is clear that the union leaders have not budged one inch in their determination to foist strings on the GKN-Sankey workers and drive them back to work at all costs.

The next mass meeting is on Friday and it is certain that the union officials and government will produce yet another 'peace' formula—coupled with an intensive press barrage—in a desperate effort to force a return-to-work.

Meanwhile, the effects of the strike continue to escalate throughout the motor industry.

The latest casualty is Birmid Ulcast, a key supplier of cylinder blocks, which has shut one of its W Bromwich foundries, laid off 400,

● PAGE FOUR COL. 7

THIS WEEKEND

YS SPORT

Swimming Gala
Saturday
September 12 6 p.m.
YORK HALL BATHS
Old Ford Rd, E2

Sports Day
Sunday
September 13 2 p.m.
PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS

Organized by London Region Young Socialists

Trotsky Memorial Lectures

TRUTSKY'S LAST WORDS
I AM CONFIDENT OF THE VICTORY OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL GO FORWARD....

1965 THAT MEANS FORWARD TO THE FIRST DAILY TROTSKYIST PAPER 1970 THAT MEANS BUILD THE WORKERS PRESS

Monday, 14 September
'Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism'

Monday, 21 September
'Trotsky's fight against revisionism'

BEAVER HALL
GARLICK HILL
Near Mansion House tube

Starts 8 p.m. Admission 2s

● All lectures given by G. HEALY (SLI national secretary)

IN THE rapidly increasing cut-throat competition for world markets, each employer casts around desperately for yet newer ways of speeding-up production, cutting costs and squeezing every last ounce of energy out of the workers on the factory floor.

Automated plant is available, but can he afford it?

In the United States certain sections of production, particularly in the car industry, have been able to introduce full automation in which components are machined, transferred from one machine to another checked and installed entirely under computer control.

Production workers in these factories have almost been eliminated, though a growth in the number of maintenance workers has occurred. But the cost of installing such equipment runs into many millions of dollars.

Although the actual profit figure may be large seen as a percentage of capital employed, it may be sinking lower and lower. Even in the United States such fully-automated factories are rare, existing as experiments or show-pieces.

Much more common than full automation of an entire factory is full automation of some aspects of production linked to semi-automation of the rest.

The production labour force is not eliminated, but 'cut back'. At the same time workers on the job have their every movement rationalized.

It is useless for the employers to install a machine which can turn out a component in four seconds, if a worker is going to take ten seconds in setting it up and another six seconds in actual production. It is in this situation that work-study plays a key role in bringing workers 'up to standard'.

In Britain, where the sharpness of the crisis is reflected in the recent demands of the international banks that special measures be taken against the 'anarchy' in industrial relations, the car manufacturers cannot, in general, afford this modern type of plant; certainly not to the extent of the USA companies.

'On the cheap'
They have to try and compete 'on the cheap'.

On the one hand they install some modern machinery and on the other hand they speed up the workers in an effort to counteract some of the cost of the new plant.

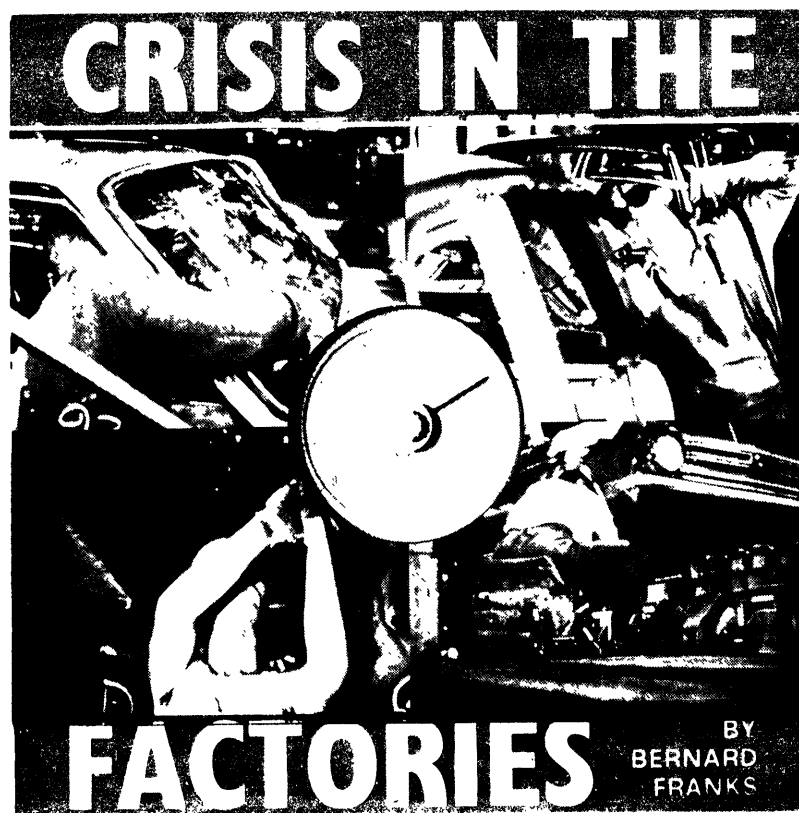
As far as the employer is concerned, the worker is just another machine capable of certain movements which must be combined with all the other machines in the process of production, and whose maintenance (conditions of work) and cost (wages) must be driven down to a minimum.

Semi-automation under capitalism, then is not something the workers simply use to produce more, it is not something that makes life easier. It is a process in which they are to be entirely incorporated and which they are expected to move in step. The machine and the operator are to be as one unit under the control of management; in some cases more than one unit, as a worker at Vauxhall's Ellesmere Plant explained to Workers Press:

'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.'

In every section of industry thousands of workers are facing tremendous upheavals brought about by the use of mechanization and of automated working processes. In most cases, productivity deals are the employers' first step in preparation for the introduction of new machines and equipment.

Perhaps work-study can increase output by 30 per cent and cut down the number of workers in a firm by 25 per cent, but in combination with automation these systems can



CRISIS IN THE

FACTORIES

BY BERNARD FRANKS

With the development of monster gantry cranes (left) and straddle carriers, cargoes previously shifted by 100 men in two weeks are now moved in containers by 13 men in 24 hours—or less.

Automation, the tachograph and tele-control

PART SEVENTEEN OF A REGULAR SERIES

help to increase output a hundredfold, and lead to labour cuts involving the majority of a labour force.

DOCKS

One section of industry in which major changes are being made, is that of the ports. All portworkers, dockworkers, lightermen, tugmen and seamen are affected. Millions of pounds have been spent on establishing the container system of cargo handling.

With the development of monster gantry cranes and straddle carriers, cargoes pre-

One estimate forecasts that nine container ships would eventually replace 80 conventional vessels handling the Australian trade.

In this situation, the employers set out to initiate a series of productivity deals aimed at the drastic reduction of the port labour force, introduction of speed-up working, and seven-day-week working for those remaining, with the Measured-Day Work system of payment being introduced to ensure that none of the extra output results in continuously increasing wages.

been forced out of the industry over a ten-year period.

Union leaders and employers, led by National Coal Board chief Lord Robens and Will Paynter, the ex-secretary of the National Union of Mine-workers, collaborated closely to achieve the run-down with the minimum of opposition. Method-study schemes were linked with power-loading systems; disc and plough cutters and remote-control machines.

'Twenty-seven do the work of 200 in producing a thousand tons of coal', explained

and simply assembled on site. Factory production is on a basis of continuous process, standard 'modules' being produced which fit many types of construction.

Up to 50 per cent of total building time can be made up of factory production alone.

These systems are aimed at drastically reducing the number of workers on sites and in completely eliminating all concepts of craft work. The workers concerned simply carry out a simplified linking process of the modules and of the various service systems—water, gas, electricity, drainage, etc.

Casual labour and the usual practice of continuously moving from employer to employer is replaced by permanent employees working small teams within a 'planned transfer' system in which they are moved from site to site to ensure they have work available at all times.

MDW is eventually aimed at being the main means of payment, any other innovation being incorporated as it occurs.

It is in this situation that productivity deals incorporating clauses aimed at breaking down demarcation between trades installing rationalizing, work-study systems have been introduced by employers.

Unemployed

A cut-back in all building operations as a direct result of the government squeeze has resulted in more than 120,000 building workers being unemployed. The building employers hope to utilize new methods of working to ensure that all available work is done by the existing labour force and that no opportunity arises for the unemployed ever to get back into the industry.

With the development of modern office machines, systems of data processing and of the computer the government now considers the time opportune for a major onslaught against the jobs of office workers.

O&M systems can rationalize office work into a production-line process and can simplify procedures, standardize forms and documents ready for incorporation into the computer system.

Productivity deals based on job evaluation and work study are seen by the employers as a first step in the long-term objective of replacing the great majority of existing office workers by a relatively small number of computer programmers and associated machine operators.

One alternative to each company owning its own computer is the use of local terminal machines which are linked to a central computer.

Transactions between firms using the same central computer become purely minor programming exercises. Extensions of these systems are expected to drastically cut the number of bank staffs, much of the present counter-work being carried out by automatic collection and payment booths.



Machines such as this face-ripper which tears thousands of tons of coal a week are a constant threat to miners' jobs.

viously shifted by 100 men in two weeks are now moved in containers by 13 men in 24 hours—or less.

At the same time, new grain elevators, mechanized meat handlers and other developments in bulk handling mean reductions in the number of workers involved.

Also being developed for the future is the use of computers for control of loading and unloading, checking, tallying, most of the paper-work as well as entry and despatching schedules. At sea, rationalization in the form of bigger ships—over 250,000 tons—and specialized container carriers, is now drastically reducing the number of ships and seamen.

Or, as one London Royal dockers summed it up:

'Above all "modernization" must mean inevitably a very much reduced labour force doing a hell of a lot more work.'

For dockers, the productivity deals are based on the phases of the Devlin agreement. The Labour government's proposed nationalization of the docks—now scrapped by the Tories—was not made with any thought of benefiting the dock workers, of securing jobs and pay, ending the arduous, dangerous and filthy conditions associated with traditional dock work.

Closures

This proposal was simply aimed at further centralized nationalization of the docks as a further preparation for widespread dock closures and redundancy.

As far as British capitalism is concerned, the money has to be found to modernize the docks. Failure to do this would mean major trade totally by-passing the British ports in favour of other countries which have installed the standard handling gear to take containers.

MINING

In the mining industry more than 400,000 workers have

the secretary of a Welsh colliery lodge.

This was brought about throughout the industry on the basis that pits could only remain open if productivity was increased. In fact, it was precisely on the basis of increased output similar to that given in the above example that pits could be closed and men turned away with very little reduction in production.

Another story was that, with the use of atomic power, oil and modern fuel systems, the coal industry would wind up altogether and workers had better get out voluntarily while the going was good.

However, steps have been taken to increase output in certain areas to keep up with a constant demand.

BUILDING

In the building industry, mechanization is being developed involving the use of tower cranes, loaders, mechanical diggers, trenchers, power tools, plastic all-weather covering and power lighting for round-the-clock activity.

But the main development is in prefabrication systems, which are being used on a world-wide basis.

Components, including walls, ceiling, floors and even entire wall units, are factory-moulded



In many engineering factories the introduction of these systems depends upon the price of them eventually falling. In the meantime the sweated labour of the operatives under MDW is expected to attain an equivalent level of production on traditional machines.

Or, as a sub-assembly steward at Rootes' Linwood factory explained:

'There are two speeds you work; very fast—and much faster.'

SHIPBUILDING

One industry in Britain which is in the midst of a huge crisis is shipbuilding. Millions of pounds have been poured into this industry by the government to stave off complete collapse.

With outdated methods in antiquated yards, workers are expected to achieve the same results by sweated labour and speed-up as those achieved by the most modern systems of pre-fabrication of sections, continuous welding techniques in Japanese, Swedish and W German shipyards.

The inevitable failure to compete on these terms has led the employers to turn a vicious attack on the British shipbuilding workers, claiming that further productivity proposals, combined with drastic cuts in the number of shipyard workers, must be obtained if the British yards are to survive.

Under attack

Other sections of industry which are coming under attack are those referred to as 'heavily labour intensive'. These include in particular, local authorities, Post Office and National Health services.

The total of workers involved runs to millions and play an essential role in running local and welfare services.

However, the policy being put forward caters for a systematic rundown of staff based on the principle of 'natural wastage' combined with a 'no recruiting' policy.

Automation is not usually possible, but all sorts of mechanical aids and means of transport are provided to try and run the services with the greatly reduced number of workers.

Workers on one local council, who fought against a work-study scheme stated:

'The management said they were just "experimenting", and trying to see if an incentive scheme based on the use of mini-vans and some new gear was feasible, but we'd read the PIB report and knew what was being lined up.'

OECD report estimates that in Europe, most of the NC machines in use are drilling machines, lathes, boring machines and milling machines.

● Continued next Wednesday

MACHINE TOOLS

In the engineering industry, the introduction of numerical control (NC) machine tools has not yet taken place to any great extent.

According to a report produced by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the production of NC machines first started in the USA in 1952 and rapidly developed until 1967; \$285 million worth were being produced.

The enormous cost of these machines can be gathered from the fact that though this figure represents 15.3 per cent in value of all money spent on all machine tools, in terms of numbers they accounted for

only 1 per cent of industrial machine tools made in the USA in that year.

The report defines numerical control as:

'The control of the operation of a machine by means of recording a work cycle on perforated cards, tapes or magnetic tapes. The displacement of the tapes produces, at the right moment, a signal which operates the controls regulating the movements of the part or parts being machined and the tool or tools involved.'

OECD report estimates that in Europe, most of the NC machines in use are drilling machines, lathes, boring machines and milling machines.

TV

BBC 1

12.25-12.50 p.m. Nai zindagi-naya jeevan. 1.00-1.25 **Telewela**. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45 News and weather. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Snow white. 5.15 Tom tom. 5.44 Babar. 5.50 News and weather.

6.00 **LONDON. Nationwide.**
7.05 **TOMORROW'S WORLD.**
7.30 **HARRY WORTH. 'I Will—I Will!'**
8.00 **CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING.** Joe Bugner v Chuck Wepner, an international heavyweight contest. Mark Rowe v Bunny Sterling, the Middleweight Championship of Great Britain and the British Commonwealth.
8.50 **NEWS and weather.**
9.10 **SIX WEDNESDAY PLAYS. 'The Apprentices.'** By Peter Terson. Presented by the National Youth Theatre.
10.25 **24 HOURS. 11.00 THE FIFTIES. 11.15 Weather.**

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as BBC 1 except:

Midlands, E Anglia: 6.00-6.45 Midlands today. Look East, weather. Nationwide: 11.17 News, weather. North, North West, North East, Cumberland and Westmorland: 6.00-6.45 Look North, weather. Nationwide: 11.17 News, weather. Wales: 6.00-6.45 Wales today, weather. Nationwide: 6.45-7.05 Heddiw. 8.00 Summer breeze in session. 8.20-8.50

Maes a mor. 11.00 Championship boxing. 11.50 Weather. Scotland: 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland. Nationwide: 11.00 Sportsreel. 11.15 News, weather. N Ireland: 6.00-6.45 Scene around six, weather. Nationwide: 11.17 News, weather. South West, South, West: 6.00-6.45 Points West. South today. Spotlight South-West, weather. Nationwide: 11.17 News, weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. **PLAY SCHOOL.**
7.30 p.m. **NEWS and weather.**
8.00 **WHAT SORT OF WORLD DO WE WANT? 'Familles for the Future.'**
8.50 **FANNY CRADOCK INVITES . . .** you to a simple Saturday dinner.
9.10 **SHOW OF THE WEEK. 'Scott on Law.'** Terry Scott with guests.
9.55 **EUROPA. 10.25 NEWS and weather.**
10.30 **LINE-UP. Edinburgh.**

ITV

9.30 a.m.-12.45 p.m. London. 2.15 Racing from Doncaster. 4.17 Tingha and Tucker. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Secrets of the deep. 5.20 Ace of wands. 5.50 News.
6.02 **TODAY.**
6.30 **THE SAINT. 'To Kill a Saint.'**
7.30 **CORONATION STREET.**
8.00 **THE CHAMPIONS. 'Shadow of the Panther.'**
9.00 **THE SINNERS. 'Battle of a Simple Man.'**
10.00 **NEWS. 10.30 FOOTBALL.**
11.25 **PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING FROM WOLVERHAMPTON.**
11.55 **WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.**
12.10 a.m. **HELP YOURSELF.**

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 2.15-3.40 London. 4.30 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.40 Wind in the willows. 4.55 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 African patrol. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Nanny and the professor. 7.30 London. 8.00 Baron. 9.00 London. 11.50 Epilogue, weather.

7.00 Jokers wild. 7.30 London. 8.00 Avengers. 9.00 London. 11.55 News. 12.05 Weather. Action 70.

WESTWARD: 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15-3.40 London. 4.27 Gus Honeybun show. 4.40 Wind in the willows. 4.55 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Nanny and the professor. 7.30 London. 8.00 Baron. 9.00 London. 11.55 Faith for life. 12 midnight Weather.

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.

Name _____

Address _____

CINEMA Guest reviewer

MORALITY, politics, mysticism, gangsterism, Catholicism, Protestantism, intellectualism and violence, folklore and strong Afro-Hispanic music are some of the conflicting elements which the Brazilian film director Glauber Rocha portrays in his brilliant film 'Antonio das Mortes', currently playing at the Times Cinema (Baker St, London).

It is a film about the revolt of peasants against a landowner.

The peasants, enmeshed as they are in the simplistic mythology of a primitive, mystical, black form of Christianity, are easily led, singing and chanting and dancing in voodooistic frenzy, by a group of bandits known as 'cangaceiros', into a fight against the 'coronel', the wealthy landowner whose slaves they are.

The 'cangaceiros', whose philosophy is that of vengeance against the rich for the sake of the poor—their last member, Coirana, who is the victim of the film, expresses it in this way: 'Vengeance has two faces, that of hate and that of love'—seem to represent a form of primitive Christianity. They are thus allied with the 'beatos', the holy ones, and the people.

A form of united front, powerful in its impact, representing the utter confusion of a culture at the crossroads, where black and white slavery, traditionalism, neo-colonialism and the forces of so-called progress meet.

Sentimentality

Speaking of the context in which peasants become bandits and political allegiances are formed and dissolved through sentimentality and feeling, Rocha says:

'I am not an expert in political science, but I have spoken to those who are and it seems that in this sense Brazil is the most peculiar country in Latin America, and that all political reactions are extraordinary. All routes are valid if they offer means of liberation.'

As a result of Rocha's feeling, the film is a deeply emotive exploration of all the tortuous routes through which men go in their search for liberation, with the accent always on the fact that this is Brazil; peculiarly, particularly Brazil.

Antonio das Mortes, the man who has been responsible for killing the great leader of the cangaceiros and most of his followers, is hired by the landowners to kill Coirana, the last known cangaceiro.

In a ritualistic dance, with the peasant people chanting, Antonio gets his victim.

Coirana is slashed across his belly and lies bleeding, but alive, throughout most of the film.

After this dance of death in which he emerges as the victor, Antonio, the hired killer of the rich men, has a change of heart.

Described in the film and in Brazilian folklore as a man 'who has known ten churches but has no patron saint', Antonio is moved by compassion for the holy, mystical poor and takes up the fight on their behalf.

'Morality'

Glauber Rocha describes Antonio:

'He didn't become a revolutionary, his change was more a matter of morality than of politics. He is simply a person of the middle class, he has all its complexes, guilt, etc. . . . When he is affected by the myth of the Saint, that is a reaction which I find difficult to explain, very subjective.'

Each character in the film represents either symbolically or actually a strata or movement or class in Brazilian society.

The landowner is a blind old man, leaning on his faithful servant Batista who acts as his eyes, and dependent on an ambitious, indifferent, blonde, young wife, who is his mental prop, and who is having a love affair with his own police inspector.

The rot that has set in on the ruling class is very clear in Rocha's portrayals.

Dog eating dog within one household. The police inspector hanging on to the landowner out of ambition to be-

come mayor of the town, the wife of the landowner hanging on to the inspector in the hope that he will kill her husband and take her away, the landowner hanging on to his land and his wife, and needing to hire more and more men to protect him and his property.

At the time when Antonio das Mortes changes sides, the whole fabric of the landowner's household also begins to fall apart.

The landowner learns of his wife's affair from his faithful servant and, torn with rage, he humiliates them in front of the people.

He has brought in hired

killers to exterminate Antonio das Mortes, but they are first to be used to kill the adulterous pair.

The wife takes matters into her own hands.

Cowardice

Enraged at the cowardice of her lover, who has proved impotent when it came to killing her husband, she now takes a dagger and in front of her husband and the people stabs the inspector to death, stabbing again and again and again in an orgy of hatred at the failure of her opportunistic dreams.

One of the most disturbing characters in the film is a schoolmaster who represents the middle-class intellectual, besotted with drink, cynical, and, for most of the film, standing on the side-lines, full of awareness and contempt.

He is Rocha's man of ideas.

He finally engages in battle with Antonio das Mortes against the landowner and fights with desperate courage. But when the battle is won he throws himself over the dead body of the landowner's wife and stays embracing her till the film closes.

Dubious

There seems little doubt that Rocha is pointing at theory and concepts and saying that their role in Brazilian society will always be somewhat dubious.

He himself expressed it this way in an interview with 'Les Cahiers du Cinema':

'I want it understood that political theories in Latin America are often the source of serious misunderstanding and demagogic attitudes. The phraseology of the left, its moralism and its procedures often end up with a distinctly folkloric flavour. The political maturity of the Brazilian people will not be reached, in my opinion, by means of a

traditional political education. 'Allowing, of course, for a certain level of political awareness, there will be a revolutionary explosion in spite of all the contradictions characteristic of Brazil.'

'The black strength, which is a mystical strength, does not only involve the peasants. Whether they belong to the bourgeoisie or the aristocracy, no one in Brazil is a stranger to the Macumba and mysticism. This sentimental and bloodthirsty aspect of Brazil is, admittedly, a defect, an obstacle, but it could become a positive quality . . .'

What is missing from Glauber Rocha's own view, and therefore what is missing from the film, is objectivity.

Wrestling

He has shown all the contradictions, all the protagonists, wrestling one with the other, for and against, but he has not understood or shown that the greatest wrestling match of all is, and will be between all these influences and a correct theory and practice.

In the film the holy one who leads the peasants says: 'A war without end will begin.'

What the director and they have not understood is that it will be permanent revolution.

The style is the man

SOMEBODY from Yeovil writes indignantly to 'Tribune' this week, protesting against an insult to the memory of J. V. Stalin.

He is incensed at a reference in 'Tribune' to his hero as a murderer—this time of the language of Marxism.

'Often powerful, almost always sarcastically funny', is the way he described Stalin's writings.

Readers may like to judge for themselves from a few samples.

'As is well known,' Stalin wrote in 1905, 'every animal has its own coloration. But the nature of the chameleon is not satisfied with that; with a lion, he assumes the coloration of a lion; with a wolf, that of a wolf; with a frog, that of a frog, depending on which coloration is most advantageous to him.'

Powerful? Or sarcastically funny?

In 1912, Stalin wrote: 'Now that the first wave of the upswing is passing, the dark forces, which had attempted to hide behind a screen of crocodile tears, are again beginning to appear.'

Speaking in 1933 on the results of the First Five-Year Plan, he made the following statement:

'We have unquestionably attained a position where the material conditions of the workers and peasants are improving from year to year. The only ones who may have any doubts on this score are the sworn enemies of the Soviet government; or, perhaps, certain representatives of the press . . . who probably know no more about the economics of nations and the conditions of the working people than, say, the Abyssinian king knows about higher mathematics.'

Finally, let us take a look at Stalin's masterpiece, the 1938 essay 'Dialectical and

Benn seeks trendy protest group



Benn in typical relaxed pose.

FOR A quarter of a century Anthony Wedgwood Benn (45) has been projecting the image of a forward-looking, thoughtful and approachable college-boy.

'Forward-lookingness' is suggested by a sprinkling of technological jargon, thoughtfulness by a pipe and informality by a sweater.

In his Fabian Tract, 'The New Politics: a socialist reconnaissance', Benn tries to tune in the Labour leaders to some fashionable trends he has heard about.

A quote from Volume I of 'Capital' is encountered on page 2, Maoism on page 9, 'black is beautiful' (irrelevantly) on page 13, workers' control, with a reference to 'Trotskyite bogeys', on page 17, direct action on page 18, and so on.

In all of this, Benn never really leaves the ideological terrain of Transport House.

His object is to find a way of drawing some trendy youngsters into the service of the Labour Party.

He reviews the rise of 'issue' politics, listing 'community associations, amenity groups, shop-stewards' movements, consumer societies, educational campaigns, organizations to help the sick, the poor or underdeveloped societies, militant communal organizations, student power, noise abatement societies' (p. 9).

Such groups, he urges, are 'natural allies' of the Labour Party. Later, the nature of the alliance becomes clearer.

Talking about 'workers' control', Benn says:

'However revolutionary the phrase may sound; however many Trotskyite bogeys it may conjure up, that is what is being demanded and that is what we had better start thinking about.'

His thinking goes like this: 'Workers now have . . . enormous negative power to dislocate the system. Workers' control . . . converts this existing negative power into positive and constructive power. It thus creates the basis of common interest with local managers struggling to make a success of the business.' (p. 17.)

So the lesson is plain: with the aid of some 'Trotskyite bogeys' (he probably means the Institute for Workers' Control), you can get the workers to collaborate with management much better. Instead of having them exploited by tough bureaucrats, get them to exploit themselves—they'll never know!

The reference to 'direct action against bureaucracy' is on the same lines.

'Direct action in a democratic society is fundamentally an educational exercise; and its victories can only be won when they achieve the conversion of those in power . . . the use of real force from below . . . here in Britain . . . is only justified—and effective—

as a means of alerting the community to what is wrong, and of making it clear that a body of citizens want to see it put right.' (p. 19.)

So, when Benn's 'revolutionary' proposals and suggestions are boiled down, all they amount to are ways he hopes will keep the contradictions building up inside capitalism within the old democratic framework.

He thinks that some of the middle-class protest groups that erupted a few years back might come in handy for this

job—and in this, he assesses their political role more accurately than they do themselves. But the forces lining up for political struggle in Britain are too powerful to be dealt with by a few gimmicks.

Preparation for dictatorship on the right, development of Marxist leadership in a working class coming forward with great confidence—between these class forces, there is little room left for young chaps like Wedgwood Benn.

Like Fabianism itself, they're a bit past it.



Workers Press notebook

Hope springs eternal



A group of the GKN-Sankey workers who have thrown Fleet St pundits into a quandary.

NOTHING expresses the determined mood of struggle in the working class today more clearly than its reflection in the frustration and puzzlement of the employers' press.

The strike at GKN-Sankey has been particularly annoying for Fleet St.

For two weeks, Tory papers, stressed the danger to the rest of the motor industry. '20,000 car jobs hit by GKN strike', said the 'Daily Telegraph' on August 25.

GKN workers took in this information—and felt much stronger. So the newsmen changed their tune.

Now, all eyes were turned on the ability of union chiefs to persuade the strikers to go back to work.

Two days later, the 'Telegraph' headline read: 'Secret pay offer brings car peace hopes.'

'A peace formula was agreed after eight hours of talks in London yesterday,' wrote Alan Hughes.

But, on August 29, all is lost. 'GKN MEN REJECT £2 OFFER. A stormy mass meeting of nearly 4,000 GKN-Sankey strikers threw out the peace formula agreed in London', wrote Blake Baker.

By Thursday last, hopes are once more revived.

Alan Hughes is back with: 'Car strike deal after 13 hours of talks. . . Mr Bob Wright of the engineering union said early today: "The new formula we have agreed is quite clear and precise in terms of the content and the money. In total I think it is a good deal!"'

But on Friday, once more, the 'Telegraph' had to tell its readers: 'GKN RETURN VOTE IN DOUBT. Hopes that the 5,000 unofficial strikers at the GKN-Sankey factory in Wellington would vote today to end their four-week stoppage faded last night. . . Mr Ken Baker, national industrial officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union said. . . "It doesn't look very hopeful!"'

Each week, the talks get longer, the hopes higher—and the disappointment greater.

The 'Telegraph', its readers and the GKN management have not grasped the situation, as seen by the GKN worker who told Workers Press last week:

'We've got a position of strength here and we intend to hold onto it.'



The last-known leader of the bandits 'cangaceiro', Coirana (above) is badly wounded by hired killer of the landlords, Antonio das Mortes (seen, top, standing over his victim). Later Antonio has a change of heart and takes up the bandits' cause in defence of the holy, mystical poor peasants.

'Optimism' in Israeli circles

Zionists expect help from Moscow

BY JOHN CRAWFORD

AS ISRAEL'S United Nations representative Yosef Tekoah officially informs the UN mediator Jarring of his government's refusal to participate in further negotiations, the mood in Israeli government circles is reported to be 'optimistic'.

Brighton

FROM PAGE ONE
From the Grand Consolidated National Union of 1932 to the Chartist Movement of the 1840s, we have continuous experience of the expansion of trade unionism.

Even when the employers were sufficiently strong to split and defeat the Chartist Movement in 1848, trade unionism still continued to expand.

The foundation of the TUC itself in 1868 as the first general trade union body is proof of this.

Again, in the early part of this century when a strike wave hit the employing class where it hurt, they once again replied with a judgement against the Taff Vale railway strike of 1901.

Not weakened
But far from weakening the trade union movement, it led to the formation of the Labour Party in 1906. Later on,

The reason must lie in their belief that the US will succeed in restarting the talks, suspended by the Israelis. because of the movement of missiles on the Suez Canal.

US Secretary of State William Rogers is expected to meet the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union, Israel, Egypt and Jordan when they attend the United Nations General Assembly next week.

Mrs Golda Meir is also attending the session and arriving early for talks with Nixon.

The interview with Moshe Dayan, Israeli Defence Minister, broadcast at the week-end may throw some light on the Zionist attitude.

Asked whether he had expected the high degree of intervention by the Soviet Union in Egypt, Dayan said:

'I do not think it is true that the Soviet Union stands shoulder to shoulder with the Egyptians in their fight with us... If they wanted to put their full weight or even considerable weight behind the Egyptians, there would be much fiercer intervention.'

The Zionists seem to be using the issue of cease-fire violations to pressurize not only the US, but the Russians as well.

Dayan realizes — whatever his propaganda statements — that Moscow is seeking a settlement which would guarantee the existence of Israel, and that the Palestinians would fight to keep the Palestine liberation struggle under control.

The struggle of the Palestine guerrillas in Jordan is rapidly becoming a fight for the life of the movement. Fresh fighting is reported from Amman with units of the Jordan army. Rejection of the 'request' of King Hussein to place his 20,000 troops under his command, the Iraqi government has replied by putting them at the disposal of the guerrilla organization.

Yesterday, it was reported that an immediate and final cease-fire had been agreed between the Jordan government and Al-Fatah and the withdrawal of all armed forces from the capital.

However, when a similar agreement was made on Saturday, the army did not withdraw and heavy fighting followed.

Herut at No.10

A HUNDREDD supporters of Herut, the extreme right-wing Zionist party, demonstrated in Downing St yesterday. They demanded that the Tory government does not free Palestine guerrilla Leila Khaled, held after she was taken to hi-jack an El Al airliner. No decision had yet been reached on the release of the guerrilla girl. She has not committed any offence under British law, but her

Moscow-Bonn Pact worries French bosses

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

ANXIOUS to outbid their W German rivals, French trade officials began talks with a Soviet delegation in Paris yesterday.

Kaunda prepares 'friendship' with Portugal

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

ON THE eve of the summit conference of Foreign Ministers which has just opened in the Zambian capital of Lusaka, a statement from Zambian Prime Minister Kaunda made clear the treacherous role played by 'neutral' nationalist leaders in the struggle against imperialism.

Speaking last week at the close of the Organization of African Unity meeting in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Kaunda declared that Africa 'is ready to assist Portugal concerning the problem of African territories under Portuguese domination... (It should) seize this opportunity to negotiate with the nationalist movements to find a peaceful solution to the conflict in Angola.'

MARIO SOARES, leader of the Portuguese Social-Democratic opposition to the Caetano regime, has backed Kaunda's proposal. Speaking in Paris, he said:

'The Lisbon government should accept Mr Kenneth Kaunda's proposal... (It should) seize this opportunity to negotiate with the nationalist movements to find a peaceful solution to the conflict in Angola.'

BUS FARES WALK-OUT

A SPECIAL meeting of Leeds City Council to reconsider a rise in corporation bus fares ended in uproar after a walk-out by most of the Labour and Liberal members. A resolution to withdraw the application to increase the fares was defeated.

MERSEYSIDE CRANE STRIKE

NEARLY 700 Merseyside dockers were laid off yesterday in two separate disputes involving crane drivers who refused to handle certain mechanical equipment. 160 dockers in Alexandra Dock were affected and 530 at Birkenhead.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

'Costs less to kill than to maim'

BY BERNARD FRANKS

FACTORY inspectors may be refusing to use their statutory power, says the current issue of the British Safety Council's journal 'Safety and rescue', a partner in a firm of solicitors which specializes in plaintiffs' actions for industrial accident and sickness compensation, suggests the inspectors are not closing down factories or part of factories which have broken safety or health regulations.

No counsel
He suggests this may be because they must conduct their own cases without help from counsel, while the company's defence is always prepared by a professional barrister. Attacking the employers' attitude, Woolfe cites a case where a rivetter on a big

Rotterdam dockers still out for £9

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

AS THE Rotterdam dockers' strike enters its 11th day, leaders of the three main unions are still trying to secure a return to work on the basis of a £3-a-week wage increase, already rejected by the men as completely inadequate. The strikers' unofficial leadership is insisting on a £9-a-week rise.

Other Dutch workers have followed the dock strike very closely and several trade union leaders

have warned that a 'wage explosion' is now boiling up inside the working class. Discussion The right-wing Dutch Cabinet, under Catholic

Prime Minister de Jong met with employers' representatives on Monday to discuss the docks crisis. Already building and chemical workers are demanding the £3 which has been awarded to the dockers. De Jong is therefore faced with two problems—how to re-open Europe's most modern port, and how to prevent a settlement there from spreading to Holland's major industries.

Czechs apologize to French Stalinists

THE CZECH Stalinists have apologized to the French Communist Party for offensive remarks about them 'inadvertently and unfairly' made in the Czech press and radio broadcasts.

The Czech CP paper 'L'Humanite' had protested to the Czechs at these attacks, after the French Stalinists had criticized the withdrawal of Czech citizenship from Artur London, a victim of the Slansky purge.

'L'Humanite' had praised London's book 'L'Aveu' about his experiences at the hands of the Stalinist trial-riggers, while denouncing the film made from it. The Czechs declared that the book was also 'in the service of bourgeois anti-Chzech propaganda'. In their apology, the Czechs say the remarks were a result of a 'simplistic interpretation... inspired by the legitimate desire to unmask the true face of London'.

The Czech apology mentions neither the withdrawal of London's citizenship, nor the French criticism of it. 'L'Humanite' also criticized the Czech leaders for their action against London, which 'was detrimental to the prestige of socialists'.

One-day council strike

ABOUT 300 council workers, including dustmen, caretakers and park employees, are staging a one-day strike today in support of a £16 10s minimum wage. The claim affects 770,000 council workers and extensive strike action has been threatened when the deadline runs out at the end of the month. The boroughs affected today are Hackney, Haringey, Kingston, Lambeth, Lewisham and Redbridge. Coventry dustmen returned to work yesterday after a one-day strike in support of the claim.

Peking covers up for Nasser

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

CLOSER examination of Peking's vehement opposition to the US Middle East 'peace' plan reveals two important points. ● They are completely uncritical of the Palestine guerrilla leaders, and especially the moderate Arafat.

● They refuse to mention the Nasserites' role in the US-Soviet plan. Nasser's Moscow visit preceding his acceptance of the Rogers plan never seems to have been referred to by Peking.

The day before the cease-fire agreement (July 22) Chou En-lai sent Nasser a message of greeting for the United Arab Republic's National Day. From then on, New China News Agency has reported many declarations of opposition to the Rogers plan—but not one reference to Nasser's participation in it.

They have been helped by the fact that Arafat—perhaps on Chinese advice—has been equally selective. Praised paper On August 5, the Agency praised the paper 'Fatah' and its 'No!' headline on the negotiations—but still no mention of who was saying 'Yes!'

On August 7, they carried a lengthy agency commentary, 'Super-Powers' Plot to Impose Middle-East 'Munich'.' Denouncing the plan again, the article says: 'First, it requires the "parties to stop shooting" and "restore the cease-fire" ... The Palestine guerrillas who have seen through the evil design behind this "cease-fire" replied firmly: "No!" ... Secondly, it demands the recognition of the "sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Israel"... This is the unreasonable demand of the masters of the White House have raised to the Arab countries over and over again.'

Not mentioned Hussein's position was not referred to by the PLO—nor has it been mentioned by Peking.

In the September 1 report on the Palestine National Council meeting in Amman, the Chinese could hardly avoid referring to the acceptance of the Rogers plan. However, those who accepted it are referred to by means of the formula 'some Arab governments'.

The 'reactionary forces' operating against the guerrillas in Jordan are now identified as being 'backed by the US Central Intelligence Agency'. The well-known relationship between Hussein and the US must not be talked about. The dangers to the Palestine liberation struggle from the US-Soviet plan have been pointed out in Workers Press for many weeks. But the Chinese—followed devoutly by Maoists all over the world—help to conceal these dangers by their 'left-opportunist' line. There can be no victory for the Palestine liberation movement as long as it is tied to the Arab bourgeoisie even those like Iraq which at this stage reject the US plans.

Betrayal
Nasser's influence leads even more directly to the betrayal of the Arab revolution. Chinese backing for the Palestine liberation fighters—while the guerrillas have every right to accept it—is not aimed at enabling them to defeat imperialism and its agents. Peking's policy, more 'revolutionary-sounding' than Moscow's, is as surely subordinate to the interests of the revolutionary movement to the foreign policy of the bureaucracy. This is the heritage of Stalinism, which the Chinese leaders cannot escape.

Chile

● FROM PAGE ONE

themselves and their funds from the country. Enrique Ortuzar, spokesman of the coalition of extreme right-wing groups which support Alessandri, spoke of 'provisional election results' and called on 'all those hostile to Marxism, free men and women' to 'defend their rights'. In the background is General Viaux, hero of the capitalists and landowners and the leader of last October's abortive military revolt. He makes no secret of his contempt for 'the forms of democracy' and his willingness to take power by force 'if necessary'.

Ostrich-like
In face of this the attitude of the 'Popular Unity' alliance of Socialists, Radicals and trade union leaders supporting Allende—all advocates of 'the peaceful road'—amounts to that of the ostrich with its head buried in the sand. Their duplicity is complemented by the smugness of the Stalinists everywhere.

The 'Morning Star' claimed on Monday that the 'peaceful road' was 'working in Chile, even though "in other countries in Latin America there are vicious police dictatorships which make elections of the kind just held in Chile impossible". The Polish 'Glos Powszechny' insisted that 'a coup was highly unlikely in view of the strength of the progressive forces in Chile'.

In Chile itself, youth in the left wing of the Socialist Party and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) have already painted slogans on the walls warning: 'We can win elections in Chile, but we cannot take power by legal means'. The Chilean Communist Party rank and file, largest in any capitalist country except France and Italy, must heed this warning if the electoral victory is to be defended.

Australian coal is strike-bound

PORTWORKERS handling coal in the Australian ports of Sydney, Newcastle and Port Kembla have voted to continue their strike, which is now threatening production at ten pits. Thirty coal-ships are waiting to be loaded, while stockpiles of coal are accumulating at the strike-bound ports.

WEATHER

London area, NW, SE, central southern and central northern England, S and W Midlands, Channel Islands: Cloudy at first with periods of rain, becoming brighter during the morning with sunny spells and blustery showers. Wind: South-westerly, strong to gale. Temperatures near normal. Maximum 18C (64F). SW England: Blustery showers with sunny intervals. Wind: South-westerly, strong to gale. Temperatures near normal. Maximum 17C (63F). Edinburgh: Cloudy with rain during morning. Wind: blustery showers, heavy at times with thunder. Wind: South-westerly, strong or gale with severe gusts in places. Weather cool. Maximum temperatures 14C (57F). Outlook for Thursday and Friday: Continues unsettled with rain at times in all districts. Temperatures near normal.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

HULL: Wednesday, September 9, 7.30 p.m. Windmill Hotel, Witham. 'Unemployment and the unions'. Speaker: Trevor Parsons, ATUA national committee.

LEEDS: Wednesday, September 9, 8 p.m. Trades Hall, Upper Fountains St. 'The fight against speed-up and redundancy in the clothing industry'.

NOTTINGHAM: Thursday, September 10, 7.30 p.m. People's Hall, Heathcote St. 'Workers Press and the Fight against the Tories'.

COVENTRY: Thursday, September 10, 7.30 p.m. City Arms, Smithwood Rd. 'Significance of the Rolls-Royce DATA lockout'.

SHEFFIELD: Thursday, September 10, 7.30 p.m. Victoria Halls, Room 46, Norfolk St. 'Fight the Tories attacks'.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Trotsky Memorial Meeting

GLASGOW
Partick Burgh Hall (nr Merland St underground) 7.30 p.m. Admission 2s. 'Trotsky and the coming English Revolution' Speaker: G. Healy (SLL national secretary)

Sunday October 4

Please note changed date

Lip-service

FROM PAGE ONE
ductivity and output as 'the only way in the long run in which we can improve our living standards'.

Praised union-employer attempts to introduce flexible and rational wages structures in industry.

Insisted that UDI actions by groups of workers would have to be firmly sat on by individual unions.

And Scanlon, while correctly warning that the Tory plans were 'the most serious threat to the rights of organized labour for half a century', got no further than emphasizing that the mere passing of his union's resolution was not enough and that a 'strike against one trade union is a strike against all of us'.

Pickets

Congress delegates were lobbied this morning by a delegation of sacked glass-workers from Pilkington's St Helen's factories and by Shell-Burmah Oil construction workers from sites on the Merseyside.

(Pickets from the Ellesmere Port Burmah Oil site were recently arrested by police and fined by a Chester court.)

SUBSCRIBE NOW



Full subscription £10 a year (Post and daily) £2 10s for three months
Two editions (For any two days you select) £4 for three months £1 a year
Post to: Circulation Organizer, Workers Press, 186A Clapham High Street, London, SW4. (Tel: 01-720-2000)

LATE NEWS

SIHANOUK ATTACKS USSR'S ASIA POLICY
In a broadcast from Peking yesterday, Norodom Sihanouk of the exiled Cambodian government denounced Soviet policy in Asia. Only the Chinese government, he said, was the true ally of those Asian peoples fighting against imperialism. The Sihanouk government is not recognized by either the Soviet Union or its Warsaw Pact allies.

BRITAIN'S balance of payments in the second quarter showed a surplus on the current account of £53 million, seasonally adjusted, the Treasury announced yesterday.

However, there was a deficit on visible trade of £86 million.

relations,' he said. 'We in the CBI are firmly behind the government intention to introduce some legalized framework in industrial relations in which some voluntary action by the unions could work.'

DEVELOPMENTS which could lead to microcomputers the size of a matchbox have been made by the Nippon Electric Company of Japan. The company expects to be able to mass produce a crystal memory store which can retain up to 10 million pieces of information on an area one centimetre square.

Fewer houses
HOUSE and flat completions from January to July this year were 199,000, compared with 206,300 in the same period last year, according to Ministry of Housing and Local Government figures. For houses begun in January to July 1970, the figures are down by 12 per cent on the 1969 figures (from 210,800 to 185,300).