

What we think

Red-baiters exposed

ATTEMPTS to whip up a witch-hunt against striking miners reflect the desperation of Lord Robens and the union's right-wing leaders in the face of more than 100,000 men determined to win their £5 claim.

Lord Robens set the ball rolling a week ago when he claimed miners' strike leaders in the areas were 'avowed communists' and anti-democratic.

There is not the slightest doubt, he claimed arrogantly, that there is plenty of evidence that physical violence and hooliganism are taking place.

Eagerly taking up the tune, the Tory press was heartened to find support from Nottingham area NUM secretary Albert Martin, who told reporters there was evidence that outside bodies were encouraging miners to strike.

'Unconstitutional pressures' were being placed on their members, the Notts right winger claimed.

Climax of the campaign came at Thursday's meeting of the union's national executive.

North-West area secretary Joe Gormley claimed 66% have been knocked by lobbyists and Martin said he had been struck in the groin.

'Left' general secretary Lawrence Daly rushed out a statement condemning 'the intimidation and violence in which a minority of those lobbying were involved.'

The only problem with all this farrago of charges is that none of them stand serious examination.

The 'Sunday Times' admitted yesterday that their investigators in the coalfields had 'failed to substantiate charges of violence that were being freely scattered last week.'

Lord Robens declined to discuss his allegations in more detail and Mr Albert Martin... who on Tuesday accused pickets of using strong-arm tactics, conceded on Friday that he had 'no personal knowledge of violence in the past two or three weeks.'

The worst that happened on Thursday, the 'Sunday Times' discovered, was that 'one executive member was poked in the face with a rule book outside union headquarters.'

So much for 'violence and intimidation'. On his 'avowed communists' charge Robens, of course, looks even more ridiculous.

The leadership of the Scottish, S Wales and Kent miners have been Communists for a very long time; indeed it is almost part of their tradition. That has not prevented Lord Robens heaping praise on the union for most of the last decade, says the 'Sunday Times'.

Unwilling to let a good witch-hunt (or even a bad one) drop, however, the 'Sunday Telegraph' was not deterred by the baselessness of the previous efforts to witch-hunt the strikers.

The real men behind the strike, they revealed breathlessly, are the Institute for Workers' Control! Martin, doing his best to keep the hunt going, told the paper of his determination 'to expose these kind of people and drive them out of their damn rat-holes.'

This charge is an absurdity to anyone who knows the Institute's pale-pink reformist propagandizing.

This does not prevent the 'Telegraph' turning its murky spotlight on Arthur Palmer, a Notts miner whose only crime appears to be that he has been travelling around to pits in the Nottinghamshire coalfield, selling copies of a pamphlet which bears his name.

The pamphlet has the following to say about the NUM leadership: 'Many of them haven't any practical experience of modern mining... they signed agreements about method study which are a standing disgrace to British trade unionism.'

This, the 'Telegraph' described as 'a vitriolic attack!' It gives the paper an excuse to sling as much dirt as it can at the IWC, fostering the quite baseless innuendo that Arthur Palmer is a

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What must be done by workers

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The Hiron, Styvechale,
Coventry

Compulsion not ruled out—Tory spokesmen

BY A CORRESPONDENT

TORY spokesmen yesterday continued to stress the government's determination to fight the trade unions and stem the wages offensive.

'We are facing a challenge by the trade unions', said Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Maurice Macmillan to Sussex Young Conservatives. Speaking in Eastbourne, Macmillan warned that the government would continue to oppose 'inflationary wages settlements' and refuse to help those who get into difficulties because of them.

In an obvious reference to the council workers' victory, Macmillan said that if strikes always appeared to succeed, then the militants could always prove success and there would be more strikes.

'Compulsion'

While expressing his belief that inflation could be overcome by 'the British people... accepting their share of the responsibilities', he indicated that 'compulsion was not ruled out, but only if it was demonstrated that there was no possibility of dealing with inflation in a 'free society'.

'I believe we shall not reach that desperate situation,' he stated hopefully.

However, Employment Minister of State Paul Bryan told an audience at the Conservative Party College at Swinton, York, that 'our strike record... is alarming—very alarming.'

Detailing the statistics of the growing offensive on wages, Bryan said: 'In 1967 the number of strikes outside coalmining was 1,720; in 1968 it rose to 2,160; in 1969 to 2,903, and in only the first nine months of this year to 3,070.'

'Respect'

The government was introducing the Industrial Relations Act, he said, because 'no one can be in doubt about the need for action to restore respect of agreements and procedures which management and unions have reached on a voluntary basis'.

It clearly showed the nature of the political and programmatic differences which separate revolutionary Marxism (Trotskyism) from Stalinist reformism.

Nowhere is this more evident than in a perusal of the Declaration of the Stalinist conference.

The November 14 Declaration does not state anywhere the crisis of British and world imperialism which is at the source of the Tory counter-revolution against the trade unions, social services, education grants, housing, etc.

Instead, delegates were given to understand that anti-union laws are another 'black episode' in the history of 'Toryism' which, like a carbuncle, could be treated separately with the poultice of protest action.

Given enough pressure, argue the Stalinists, the conflict can be overcome.

The speech of Norman Atkinson, 'left' MP for Tottenham made this abundantly clear when he said that the struggle was against the bosses, but not against the Tory government.

To deny the magnitude of the crisis is to deny the importance and even the legitimacy of the struggle against the Tories.

That is the only reason why the Liaison Committee refuses consistently to call for a campaign to force the Tories to resign.

It does not warn workers about the political consequences of the anti-union laws and the other regressive Tory measures, namely the danger of authoritarian rule by a government balancing between Enoch Powell and the trade union leaders.

Instead it confines itself to a pedestrian phrase 'This plot can and must be frustrated'.

Protests

In fact the Stalinists in the Liaison Committee are reconciled to five years of Tory rule.

From this comes the reformist tactic of placing confidence in the General Council, and of supplementing the TUC's 'education' programme with its own campaign of 'protests'.

The Liaison Committee will call for anything and everything except the central demand for a general strike initiated by the TUC and a campaign within the unions to make the union leaders fight for such a policy.

Even when the Liaison Committee declaration urges the union executives to fight, it makes no mention of a general strike.

This allows right-wing leaders to get off the hook by calling token stoppages etc.

The Liaison Committee cannot and will not fight the right-wing union leaders.

That is the meaning of its equivocal statement: 'It is therefore highly critical (sic) of the General Council's leisurely (!) approach...'

Even this guarded statement seems ironic in view of

Liaison conference decides to protest against anti-union laws

against anti-union laws

FIVE HOURS of more or less carefully-inspired discussion at London's Friends' Meeting House on Saturday failed to establish any effective opposition to the Tory union-law proposals.

In fact leaders of the Committee for Defence of Trade Unions went all out to padlock the planned December 8 token stoppage into the cage of protest politics they had built for it from the start.

The declaration carried—without any real debate or amendment—by the 1,700 strong conference is a complete evasion.

While criticizing the TUC General Council's 'leisurely approach' to the fight against the forthcoming Industrial Relations Bill (it should have 'encouraged the whole movement to initiate various forms of mass activity at all levels'), it pledged delegates to nothing more definite than 'all forms of activity including industrial action' and 'active and consistent campaigning including industrial action'.

UNITY BASIS

'If you're living in the dream world of asking this

GOOD MEASURE

Calls for December 8 to be made 'an outstanding success', for union leaders to 'develop campaigns against the legislation including industrial action' and for the TUC to convert its January 12 rally into a 'national day for demonstration and protest during working hours' were thrown in for good measure.

'Guerrilla' strikes call against sackings

THE Amalgamated Engineering and Foundryworkers' Union national executive is to be asked to back a series of one-day guerrilla strikes by Sheffield's 30,000 engineers against sackings of convenors and stewards.

Sheffield's AEF district committee secretary Mr George Caborn said the move follows the sacking of convenors at the Sheffield Twist Drill company, where the men have struck in his defence, and at Batchelor's food factory.

At Polar Aerials in Killamarsh a dispute has continued for two months over the sacking of shop stewards.

The strike of 120 Batchelor maintenance workers in defence of their convenor, Mr Terry Devey, has spread to maintenance men at Worktop and lay-offs for production workers are threatened today.

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But they in no way change the political character of the declaration.

During the conference's morning session, it looked as though some discussion of the real class issue—forcing the Tories to resign—was about to break the demagogic surface.

Protest—or just plain inaction—is for Jones and the Liaison Committee the only possible basis for unity.

A large part of the afternoon's discussion, during which the overwhelming majority of speakers allowed to the rostrum were well-known Communist Party members or trusted supporters, was given over to careful attempts to re-establish the 'left' credentials of Tottenham MP Norman Atkinson.

Uproar had greeted

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A statement from the Pilkington glassworkers' rank and file committee

FOR 15 WEEKS about 130 trade unionists who were sacked by Pilkington glass company at St Helens have been campaigning for reinstatement with full rights of their jobs.

This has included a fight for the 350 men who have been taken back under conditions where all their rights have been taken away.

We are also fighting for the 27 men at Pontypool who were sacked by Pilkingtons because they supported their brother workers in St Helens when they were on strike. These 27 are still in the General and Municipal Workers' Union—a union that has done nothing to help them or us.

We at St Helens were fired along with 600 for exercising the democratic right to strike when the management insisted on hand-picking a man to represent a worker involved in a dispute. The men claimed that it was they, and they alone, who had the right to make such a choice.

The employers and the Tory government have provided the utmost encouragement to Pilkingtons since the struggle began.

They regard the victimization of trade unionists for exercising the right to strike as an issue of major importance directly related to the anti-trade union laws.

This is a matter of principle for the entire trade union movement. Our fight is an in-

tegral part of the struggle against the anti-union laws.

We are proud to say that thousands of trade unionists all over the country pledged their support, because they appreciate that a vital principle is involved.

Our rights are being taken away. If Pilkingtons are allowed to victimize at will, the trade union movement will correspondingly be weakened and the Tory government strengthened.

Despite considerable financial support which we have received, our members, understandably, still face financial difficulties.

It is extremely difficult to find alternative work because we have been blacklisted.

But our rank-and-file committee is determined to pursue the fight at all costs. We will not give up the principle of the right to strike and the right to work.

We will continue with our campaign of placing the facts before every trade unionist

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Nov £1,250 Appeal Fund: reaches £418 2s 11d

FIFTEEN days to go and £831 17s 1d to raise. All the indications are centred on a tough fight ahead.

No complacency is our advice. The Tory government presses ahead against the democratic rights and living standards of the working

class. There is no let up on the class front.

Our monthly fund is a decisive outpost on that front. Hurry, hurry with the donations for November. Post them today to: Workers Press Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4

Crucial stage in miners' strike

By an industrial correspondent

BRITAIN'S STRIKING coalfields have been political battlegrounds ever since the first miner came out against the National Coal Board's £2 7s 6d to £3 pay offer.

There is a division of labour here.

While the right wing—with the help of Lord Robens, the Tory government and the capitalist press—get one or two weaker pits back to work, the 'lefts' and Stalinists in the National Union of Mine-workers move in with more insidious poison.

'There is no point in being isolated,' they say. 'We must go back united... we've made our protest.'

This was exactly the technique used to get the pits back when the 1969 surface-men's hours strike was at its strongest.

UNFOUNDED

A mass meeting at Yorkshire's 1,500-strong Kellingley 'super-pit—one of the key collieries in the traditionally right-wing N Yorkshire panel—was persuaded to return to work after completely unfounded claims from the platform that S Wales and Scotland were returning to work.

'It looks as if we've lost it,' the colliery's NUM branch secretary—a Communist Party member—told the meeting.

He also claimed that the militant Doncaster panel, which has formed the bedrock of the strike in Yorkshire, was under strong pressure to return.

In fact Doncaster met the same night and voted unanimously to stay out alongside Scotland and S Wales.

Rather than seriously prepare for the political struggle ahead, Stalinism thus lines up with the right wing against the strike-endangering not only the NUM, but the whole struggle against the anti-union laws.

COVERAGE

Yesterday's Fleet St coverage of the strike clearly revealed the seriousness of this struggle.

Indicating that it was not only on last Thursday's lobby of the NUM executive in London that the Special Branch have been active, the 'Sunday Express' claimed that 'the government has been told that groups of political revolutionaries active in spreading the coalfield strikes include men who have helped foment disputes in car firms and the violent, seven-week Pilkington glass strike.'

This vicious and unfounded slander against the St Helens and Pontypool glassworkers is, of course, only a pretext for the kind of state intervention in strikes provided for in the Tory Industrial Relations Bill. And 'The Sunday Times', announcing that Lord Robens is to stay on as NCB chairman for another five-year term at £20,000 a year, revealed the source of his unsubstantiated allegations about 'communists' and agitators.'

'... recent trouble over the miners' pay claim has brought Robens and the government closer together. The government is apparently delighted with Robens' firmness in dealing with the miners in the face of unofficial strikes.'

'His widely-criticized statements last week attacking the militant leaders of the strike were particularly welcome.' ('Sunday Times' Business News, November 15.)

● See area round-up and Kent comments page 4.

Busmen fear return move

SOUTHAMPTON Corporation busmen fear that union officials will make another attempt to get them back to work at today's mass meeting.

The busmen are in their second month of strike action for a £20 basic wage.

At last Friday's meeting the strikers rejected by a narrow majority an offer of a £1 increase immediately, 33s in seven weeks' time and local negotiations over another possible £1 rise.

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A section of the audience at Saturday's conference.

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BY DAVID MAUDE

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During the conference's morning session, it looked as though some discussion of the real class issue—forcing the Tories to resign—was about to break the demagogic surface.

Holding back critical discussion proved a bit of a problem on several occasions.

At the end of the afternoon, conference chairman Bill Jones—responding to calls for an amendment demanding the TUC organize a general strike—exploded:

UNITY BASIS

'If you're living in the dream world of asking this

conference to go on record for a general strike, then you're insulting our intelligence. . . . I am glad we haven't got a resolution, because I am getting a bit sick and tired of the disunity of the left and our inability to get a broad measure of agreement.'

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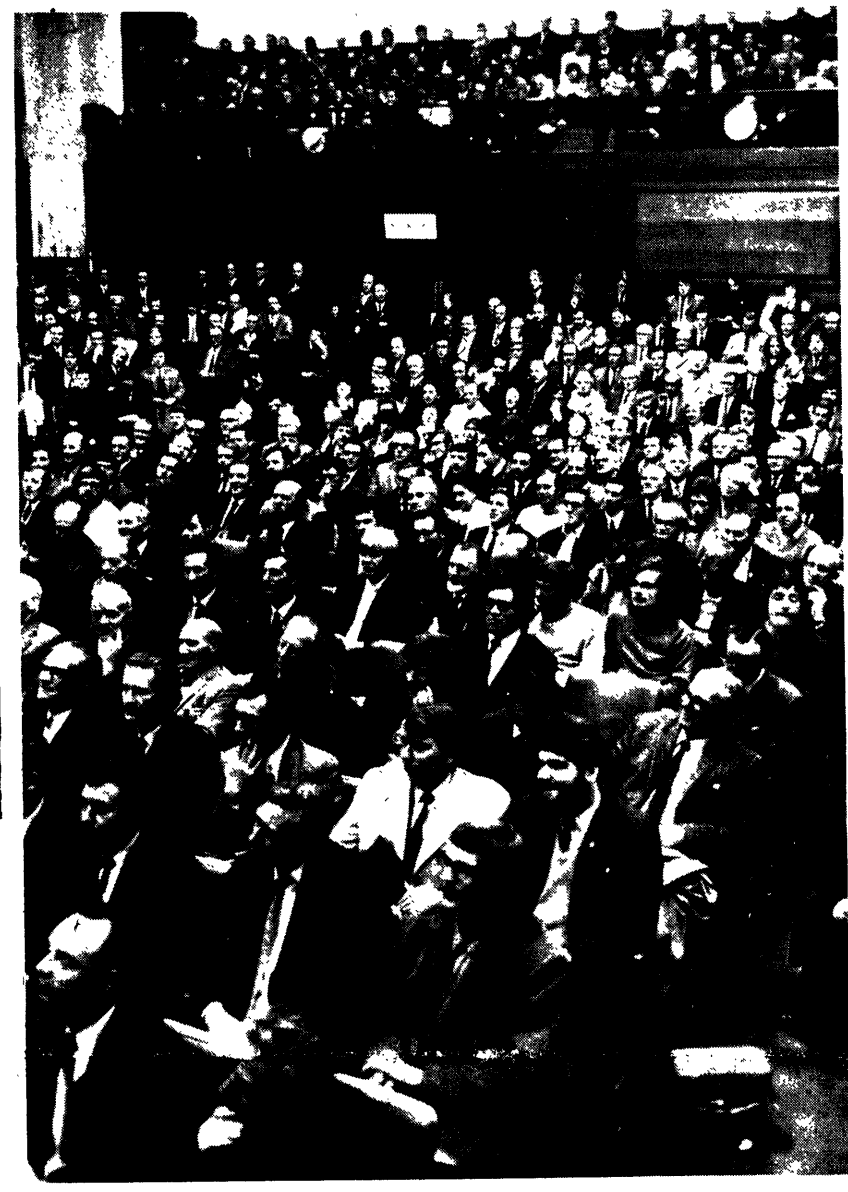
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Dutschke case opens this week

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

THE Tribunal which is to hear Rudi Dutschke's appeal against Home Secretary Maudling's deportation order is to meet this week.

A three-man security panel will study evidence certified to Maudling as secret.

This will not be revealed to Dutschke or his counsel, let alone to the public, which can sit in on part of the proceedings.

The academic journal 'Cambridge Review' charges that the secret star-chamber style inquiry is a tacit admission that the case would not stand up in a public court.

Dutschke's is the first case to be heard under the Aliens (Appeals) Order 1970, a legislative measure for which the Labour government was responsible.

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Syrian coup aimed against guerrillas

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

SYRIA'S military coup—the country's 21st in as many years—marks a clear move to the right.

The ousted, President Nureddin Al-Atassi, sent Syrian tanks into Jordan on the side of the guerrillas in the recent civil war against the Hussein regime, a move which aroused much anger in the Kremlin and the imperialist camp.

Coup leader Lt. Gen. Hafez Al-Assad is known to favour a less militant policy.

Like his co-thinkers in Egypt, Sudan and Libya, he favours the continuation of the 'ceasefire' with Israel and the beginning of negotiations

Border recognized

THE terms of the W. German-Polish treaty concluded on Saturday have not been published, but they are thought to contain final recognition of Poland's present frontiers—the Oder-Neisse line.

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We at St Helens were fired along with 600 for exercising the democratic right to strike when the management insisted on hand-picking a man to represent a worker involved in a dispute. The men claimed that it was they, and they alone, who had the right to make such a choice.

The employers and the Tory government have provided the utmost encouragement to Pilkingtons since the struggle began.

They regard the victimization of trade unionists for exercising the right to strike as an issue of major importance directly related to the anti-trade union laws.

This is a matter of principle for the entire trade union movement. Our fight is an in-

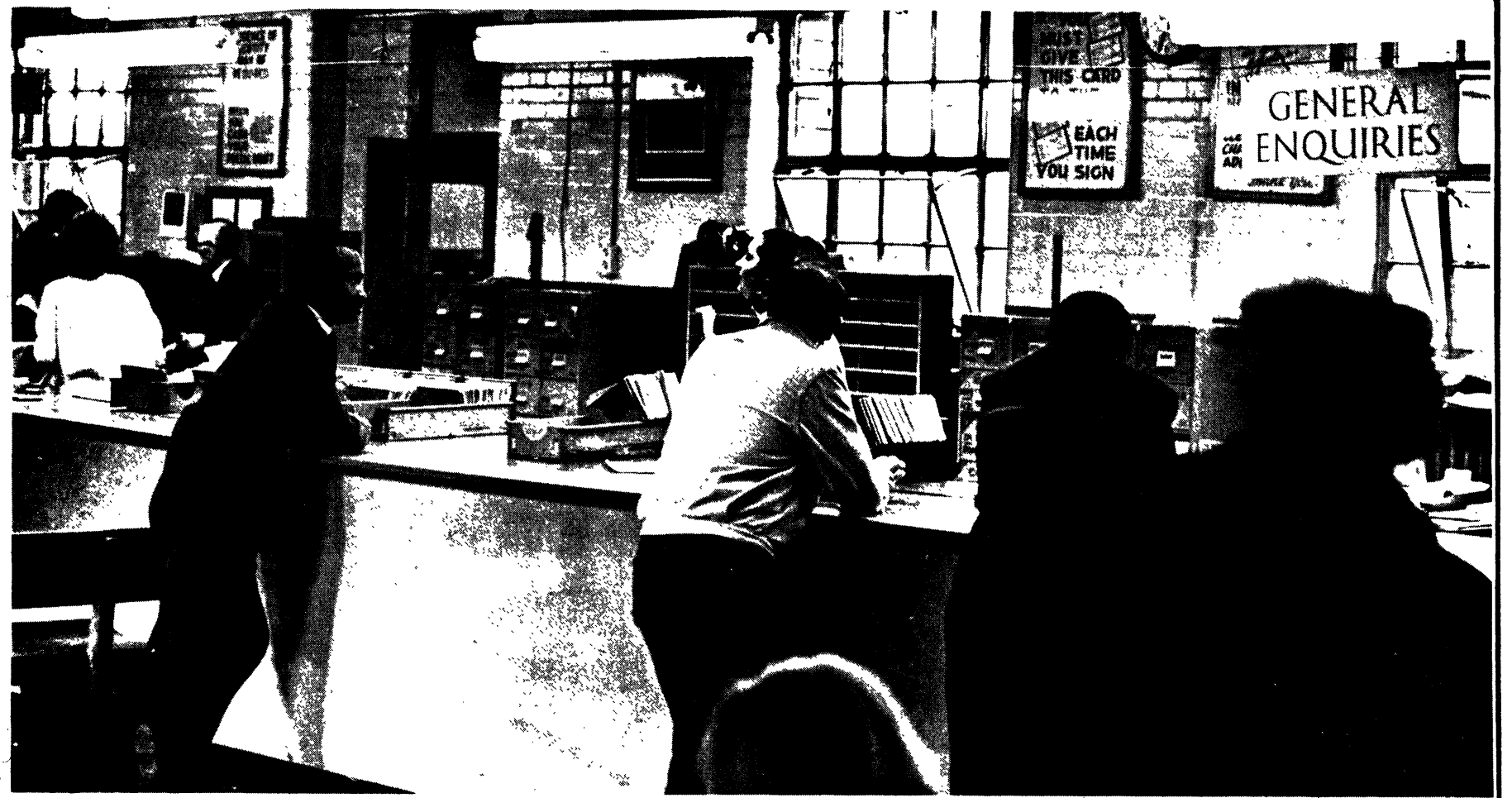
DATELINE:

THE NORTH EAST

'Unless productivity increases in line with increases in earnings a grim future will emerge.

The hopeless future which faced the shipyards over a year ago will return—the North East's leading shipbuilding employer speaks out.

IN TWO PARTS: PART TWO WILL APPEAR IN TOMORROW'S WORKERS PRESS



UNEMPLOYMENT

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

IN THE North East—a land of shipbuilding, mining, engineering and unemployment—the labour force can be divided into two groups.

There are the unskilled, who suffer from low wages, lack of job opportunities and undoubtedly bleak prospects, and there are the skilled, who suffer from the unfortunate delusion that they are indispensable to the capitalist system.

In reality they face an equally grim future under the Tory government.

IN GREAT SHAPE

On occasion the contrast is truly remarkable. One can meet a member of that elite force the boilermakers. Dressed smartly in expensive mac and matching gabardine...

shipbuilding is booming. The industry is in great shape. Palmers' closure and the yard's 800 jobs axed unceremoniously? 'Well it will open again one day—the docks, the plant, it's still all there.'

What about productivity drives, the attempts to end craft demarcation?

UNFORTUNATE

A slight frown may cross his beaming countenance: 'Yes this is a problem, but on the whole it's under control.'

'Really it's the unskilled we worry about. We must fight for these boys; they are the ones taking the real beating on the dole.'

You think at this point of our boilermaker's unfortunate brothers on Clydeside who are taking a beating from shipbuilding employers, but refrain from destroying an illusion.

Then the scene changes and the reality of the North East is driven home.

In a gloomy block of ageing council flats a boy of 17 who has never had a job since he left school faces the prospect of 47 hours work for £7 on a milk round. With the job goes the near guarantee of the sack within



Girls in Sunderland queuing at a Labour Exchange

the year to make way for a younger and cheaper replacement.

For thousands like him life in the North East offers no prospects. So he takes a hopeless job rather than be idle and face the bullying official who threatens to withdraw his meagre benefit if he doesn't 'shape himself and get a job'.

Other youth have gone bald with worry because they cannot find a job and one 18-year-old lay down in his room covered his head with a coat and switched on the gas.

It's hardly credible, but the coroner diagnosed the cause of death as 'unemployment'.

The privileged youth who work as apprentices in the shipyards are acutely conscious of their position. They fear to criticize the harsh regime of discipline in places like Swan Hunter and Vickers because it may lose them a highly-prized job.

In truth North-East workers

the employed and the jobless, the demoralized and those that work on with happy illusions in the munificence of the system—all face hard times.

Unemployment now approaches 5 per cent. On Wearside 59 men chase every job, at Hartlepool 43 apply for every opening and on Tyneside 15 queue beneath every 'vacancies wanted' sign.

THE BLACK SPOT

A land infamous for its unemployment in the 1930s looks like regaining this unwanted claim to notoriety in the 1970s.

This time the black spot has moved from Jarrow, where dole queues are long, to Sunderland on Wearside, where they are even longer.

Here male unemployment nears 10 per cent and there are more youth on the dole in Sunderland than anywhere else in the country.

All this has happened despite considerable government expend-

iture in the area.

A total of £250 million in government assistance was spent during 1968-1969 yet the net loss of jobs since 1964 has been around 33,000. In 1969 alone the net loss was 8,000.

The only new future of the situation is that the promises of new jobs get more and more extravagantly above the numbers actually created.

But what about that shipbuilding industry beloved of so many boilermakers?

Swan Hunter, a consortium formed in 1966 which now monopolizes the Tyneside yards, made £1.6 million profit last year.

This, however, would have been a loss except for the regional employment premium of 30s a man paid by the government.

The Tories plan to abolish this, along with investment grants which brought in over £100 million in one year.

As one Labour MP has laconically observed the 'end of REP may mean RIP for shipbuilding on the Tyne'.

Not that Sir John Hunter, head of the Swan combine, entirely disapproves of Tory policy.

He recognizes that there is undoubtedly method behind what appears to be economic madness for Tyneside employers.

Since the Geddes report on the industry, Swans have been attempting to smash all lines of demarcation in the yards.

They have already reduced all the craft workers but the boilermakers to an all-purpose flying squad that can be moved up and down the river at will.

The last pocket of resistance is the boilermakers. First Swans want demarcation within the craft to go, then the barriers between the boilermakers and other craftsmen can be breached.

A DREAM

An all-purpose labour force—much reduced from its present level, needless to say—is Sir John's dream and, despite the tough government attitude to bankrupt captains of industry (Palmers), the Tories' ordeal by fire coupled with a drive for unemployment in the North East might make that dream a reality.

For Sir John any other prospect is almost too bad for words

as he indicated recently when he warned his workers:

'Unless productivity increases in line with increased earnings a grim future will emerge.'

'The hopeless future which faced the shipyards over a year ago will return.'

CRISIS

South Shields, where unemployment among males runs now at 9.5 per cent, was the first to speak out against these gathering clouds of crisis.

The Trades Council there was the first in Britain to pass a resolution demanding a one-day token strike against unemployment in the North East.

Gateshead supported it and, to the considerable surprise of many militants, it also received the blessing of the North-East Federation of Trades Councils.

But now it is buried in the bureaucracies of several unions who have been asked to back, and presumably organize, the stoppage.

It is here, however, that any proposal for action will meet its greatest obstacle.

The craft union breed their members in a spirit of industrial militancy, but beneath the shipyard radicalism there lies a hard and pure vein of conservatism. The South Shields motion will

make little headway on this barren ground.

It is this predominance of craft attitudes among the apparently most militant union that divides the working class and makes their own members the most vulnerable to attacks by the Tories.

The traditional forms of struggle are totally inadequate to meet the challenge of the North-East situation.

These struggles only produce the kind of leader who, when faced with the Palmers' closure, engaged in a series of fruitless negotiations with a Tory minister who merely made the government's ruthless intentions embarrassingly clear.

POLITICAL

As Clydeside is beginning to prove, any policy in areas of high unemployment which rejects a political fight against the government's programme will end in failure.

Let Palmers be a warning to all Tyneside boilermakers and craftsmen. Complacency, and mere sympathy for the unskilled, will not safeguard their jobs on the yards.

They either stand and fight with all workers against closures or start saving for their own spell on the dole.

Continued tomorrow

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BBC 1. 9.38 a.m.-12.25 p.m. London. 12.50 Malcolm Muggeridge. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-3.40 Schools. 4.10 Prospectus. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Barrier reef. 5.44 Magic roundabout. 5.50 News and weather. 6.00 LONDON THIS WEEK. Weather. 6.20 ENTERTAINING WITH KERR. 6.45 ASK THE FAMILY. 7.05 Z CARS. 'A Very High Rocket'. Part one. 7.30 ACE OF CLUBS. 8.00 PANORAMA. Report on the new regime in Chile. 8.10 THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather. 9.20 STEPTOE AND SON. 'Two's Company'. 9.50 RYAN INTERNATIONAL. 'Weekend'. 10.40 24 HOURS. 11.25 THE PARKERS AT SALTRAM. 'The Stable Block'. 11.55 Weather. REGIONAL BBC. All regions as above except: Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Fô a fe. 11.57 Weather. Scotland: 1.00-1.30 Jesus today. 6.00-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 11.25-1.55 Caring for people. 11.57 News, weather. N Ireland: 6.00-6.20 Scene around six. 11.57 News, weather. SW, South, West: 6.00-6.20 Points West. South today. Spotlight SW. 11.57 News, weather. Wales: 1.30-1.45 Ar in mam. 6.00-6.20 Wales today. 6.45-7.05 BBC 2. 11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL. 7.05 p.m. FRANCE. 'That's the way we are'. 7.30 NEWSROOM and weather. 8.00 THE HIGH CHAPARRAL. 'Only The Bad Come To Sonora'. 8.50 CALL MY BLUFF. HORIZON. 'The Savage Mind'. The philosophy of Levi-Strauss, social anthropologist. 10.10 JAMES TAYLOR. In concert. 10.40 NEWS ON 2 and weather. 10.45 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP. ITV. 11.00 a.m.-2.58 p.m. Schools. 4.15 Anita in jumbleland. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 Lost in space. 5.50 News. 6.02 TODAY. 6.45 OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! CORONATION STREET. 8.00 WORLD IN ACTION. 8.30 THE MAIN CHANCE. 'A Vision of the Future'. 9.30 GIRLS ABOUT TOWN. 10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.30 LATE NIGHT THRILLER. 'The House Across The Lake'. With Alex Nicol, Hillary Brooke, Sidney James, Susan Stephen. An author who goes to a quiet lake to write finds himself drawn into an eternal triangle. 11.45 ONLY CONNECT. Leonard Parkin talks to Sir Peter Studd, new Lord Mayor of London. REGIONAL ITV. CHANNEL: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.00 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.10 Anita in jumbleland. 4.25 Short story. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 Timeslip. 5.50 What's on where. 6.15 Knockout quiz. 6.45 London. 10.30 University challenge. 11.00 Conceptions of murder. 11.25 News, weather. WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.58 News. 4.00 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.20 Sports desk. 11.30 Faith for life. 11.35 Weather. SOUTHERN: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.05 Houseparty. 4.20 Felix the cat. 4.30 Best of Lucy. 4.55 Land of the giants. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Com-

'IT MAY be that in the 1970s, civil war, not war between nations, will be the chief danger we face.'

So spoke Edward Heath on behalf of the British ruling class when he addressed that international gathering of the representatives of bosses and bureaucrats of the world, the United Nations General Assembly, on its 25th Anniversary.

Not only was Heath being realistic about the dangers now threatening the world's rulers, but he was also implicitly recognizing the UN's real function.

It is not an organization of the peoples of the world, but of their rulers.

With all their rivalries and conflicts, with all their differences of social order and diverse forms of government, one thing unites these rulers: their fear and consequent hatred of the workers and colonial peoples, of all who are poor and oppressed.

This is why the leader of British Toryism, heading a government which is supplying arms to the S African apartheid regime could denounce with horror those who, he says, are prepared to use 'violence' for political ends!

That is why he could be warmly applauded by the delegates.

The international ruling class believes violence ceases to be violent when it is used by uniformed men in the government service.

They believe that they can uphold their imperialist economic system and doom millions of children to die of disease and violence.



Prime Minister HEATH

They can run their factories so that every production speed-up causes a rise in fatal and serious accidents—but that is not violence.

They can allow old people to die from cold because they can't afford winter fuel—and this is not violence.

They can house people in unhealthy slums or break up families through homelessness, and nobody calls it violence.

This is known as 'keeping the peace'.

On an international level, the United Nations also keeps the peace.

The 20th century is an epoch of wars and revolutions.

Marxists say the causes of war in this epoch are two-fold: one is the conflict of rival imperialist powers trying to dominate the world's markets and resources; the other is the use of force by the ruling classes and bureaucracies to maintain their power and privileges.

Imperialist rivalry has led to two World Wars while the use of force against workers and colonial peoples has been shown in the Allied intervention in Russia (1918-1920); the Algerian war; the British aggression at Suez (1956) and the attempt to hold down the people of Aden; the Soviet Stalinist suppression of the Hungarian workers in 1956; and the bloody US war against the Vietnamese workers and peasants.

These are just a few examples.

It will be noted that in none of these conflicts has the UN intervened in any way against the powers concerned. The middle-class idealists who think the UN has a peaceful role should try and explain that.

Lenin called the League of Nations—the UN's predecessor—a 'thieves' kitchen', where the bandits get together to sort out their spoils.

Trotsky remarked — when the statesmen get together to talk of peace, the common people know they can expect war.

Yet idealist idiots continue to believe that somehow, when all the bandits and murderers get together, they will quit their thieving and murder.

Marxists know that to get rid of war, we have to rid ourselves of imperialism and oppression.

Wars arise not because nations 'misunderstand' each other, but because they understand each other all too well. When they want to understand each other better they rely not on speeches and conferences, but on espionage, spy planes and intelligence.

When the statesmen meet at the UN, they meet to legitimize their backstage dirty deals and provide a spectacle to delude the masses. Idealists who assert, 'this is the way to peace', help the delusion along.

Imperialist

The UN can only take resolute action when the dominant imperialist powers agree on it—when the action is to preserve and extend the imperialist system of war and plunder, and especially to further the interests of the dominant imperialist power, the United States.

The UN grew out of the wartime alliance between Britain, the US, and the USSR.

In 1942 the Allies issued the 'Declaration of the United Nations'. In the same year, Stalin dissolved the Communist International.

Before the war when Stalin

they were setting up 'a world order in which the mice could be stamped out, but in which the lion would not be restrained'.

The 'lion' at the end of the Second World War was the United States—now undisputed Lord of the imperialist jungle.

US foreign policy had two basic aims: to usurp the positions and power once held by its British imperialist rivals; and to take on responsibility for maintaining and defending the whole system of imperialism.

'Big Four'

While the Soviet bureaucracy tried to preserve the wartime 'Big Four' alliance, the US built a network of 'aid' and alliances as a framework for American world domination.

At every UN conference, each 'free' and 'independent' state would have to remember—or be

In any case, how could they refer to the Jews as 'the people concerned' with Palestine—at a time when over 90 per cent of the people there were Arabs!

The League of Nations completely ignored the wishes and aspirations of the Palestinian Arabs.

Refusal

Contrast the status given the Zionist delegation—'representing' a people who were never consulted and a country they did not inhabit—with the refusal of the same 1919 Conference to recognise the Irish and Egyptian delegations.

The Allies claimed to have fought the First World War for the 'rights of small nations'. But the Irish and Egyptians were 'small nations' fighting their rights against British imperialism.

claimed the noblest and most humanitarian motives: a place must be found for the persecuted Jewish refugees. It must be Palestine.

Why not, say, America instead?

Well, in 1941, the US government had tightened its quota system against immigrants.

Congress had subsequently rejected a proposal to admit 20,000 German Jewish children above the quota limits.

So much for the part played by humanitarianism in the policy deliberations of the US ruling class.

Blackmail

In 1967, Senator Eugene McCarthy, advocating firmer support for Israel, told the Jesuit magazine 'America':

'Everyone knows why we set up the country [Israel]. We did not want to face up to the problem of Jewish immigration here.

So Palestine it was. In the displaced persons camps in Europe administered by UNRRA (UN Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) the Zionist organizations set to work. All kinds of blackmail, harassment and intimidation were used to enforce a sort of conscription — making sure the refugees 'chose' Palestine as their destination.

And there was a selective policy. Fit young people who would make good fighters were picked out.

Early in 1946, Lt. Gen. Sir Frederick Morgan, UNRRA chief in Germany, revealed some of the Zionist activities and was promptly relieved of his post by Herbert Lehman, UNRRA's pro-Zionist American head.

Three weeks after Britain submitted the Palestine issue to the UN, five Arab states asked the Secretary-General that the issue to be discussed be 'the termination of the Mandate over Palestine and the declaration of its independence'.

The UN set up a special Committee on Palestine, which recommended partition into two states: one Jewish and one Arab.

A minority favoured a federal state.

The issue was then shunted into various committees and sub-committees. In all the UN's deliberations two things were clear: the Jewish refugee problem must be linked with the Palestine problem, as though they were one, and the Zionists, with American backing, were determined to impose partition and a Jewish state.

Opponents

The UN General Assembly discussed Palestine in November 1947. Among the opponents of the partition plan was Zulfurullah Khan, the Pakistani representative.

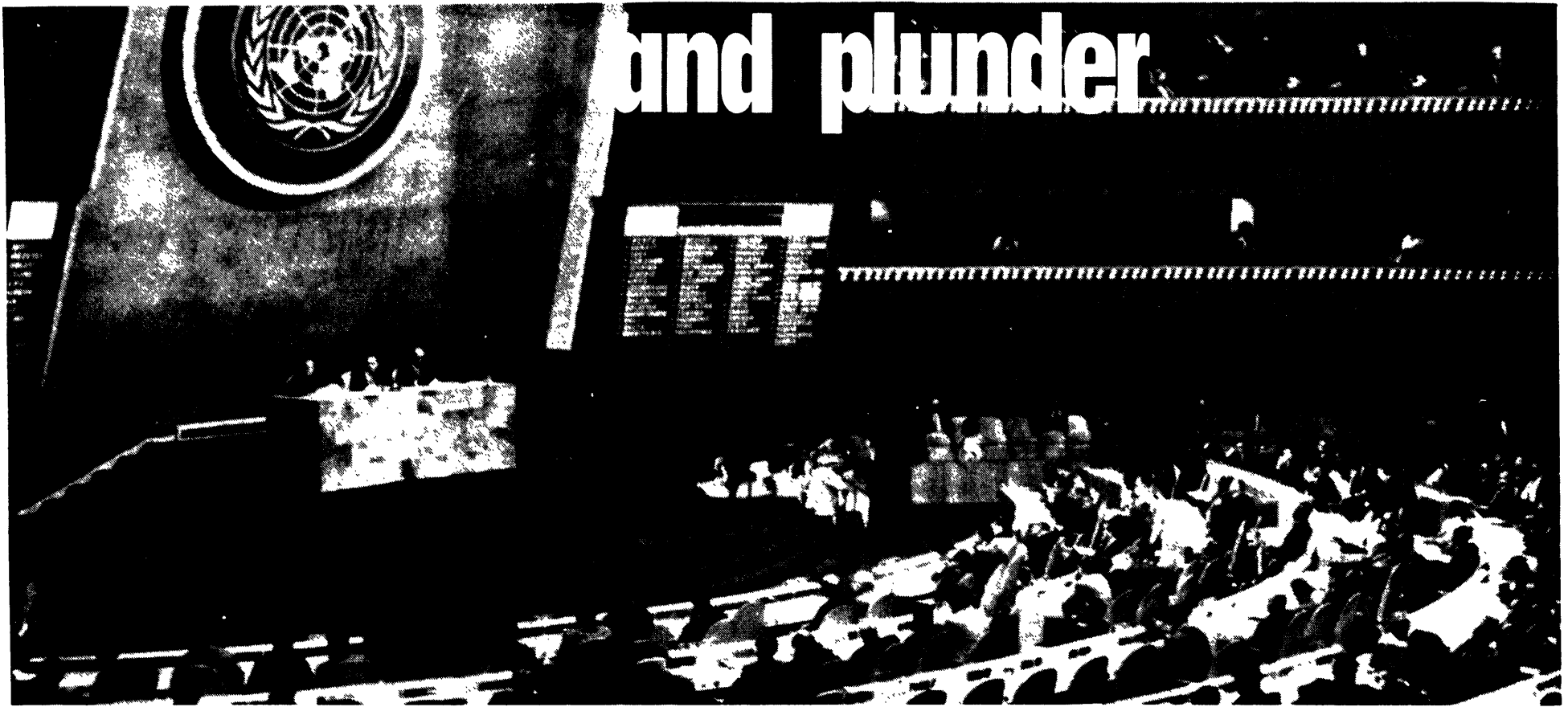
He questioned the sincerity of the US and other 'western' powers. 'They who paid lip service to humanitarian principles,' he said, 'closed their own doors to the homeless Jews, but voted Arab Palestine to be not only a shelter, a refuge, but also a state so that he [the Jew] should rule over the Arab.'

Khan had a point. On November 29, when the General Assembly voted for the partition plan, the votes 'for' included Australia, Canada, S Africa,

Twenty five years of war and plunder

—All in the name of 'peace'

25 years of the United Nations
BY CHARLES PARKINS



Palestinians as they live today—in refugee camps

New Zealand and the US—all of whom had imposed severe restrictions on Jewish refugees entering their countries.

The US retained the most powerful argument of all: most of the voters were deeply in debt to the US.

America and the USSR both supported partition, but the vote was postponed on two occasions for lack of the necessary two-thirds majority.

The three votes said to have finally decided the issue were those of Haiti, Liberia and the Philippines—all three virtual US colonies.

The American columnist Drew Pearson wrote:

'... a lot of people used their influence to whip voters into line. Harvey Firestone, who owns rubber plantations in Liberia, got busy with the Liberian government; Adolphe Berle, adviser to the president of Haiti, swung that vote... the French ambassador pleaded with his crisis-laden government for partition.' (France was relying heavily on US aid at this time.)

So the US got their way—and the Zionists got partition—through the United Nations.

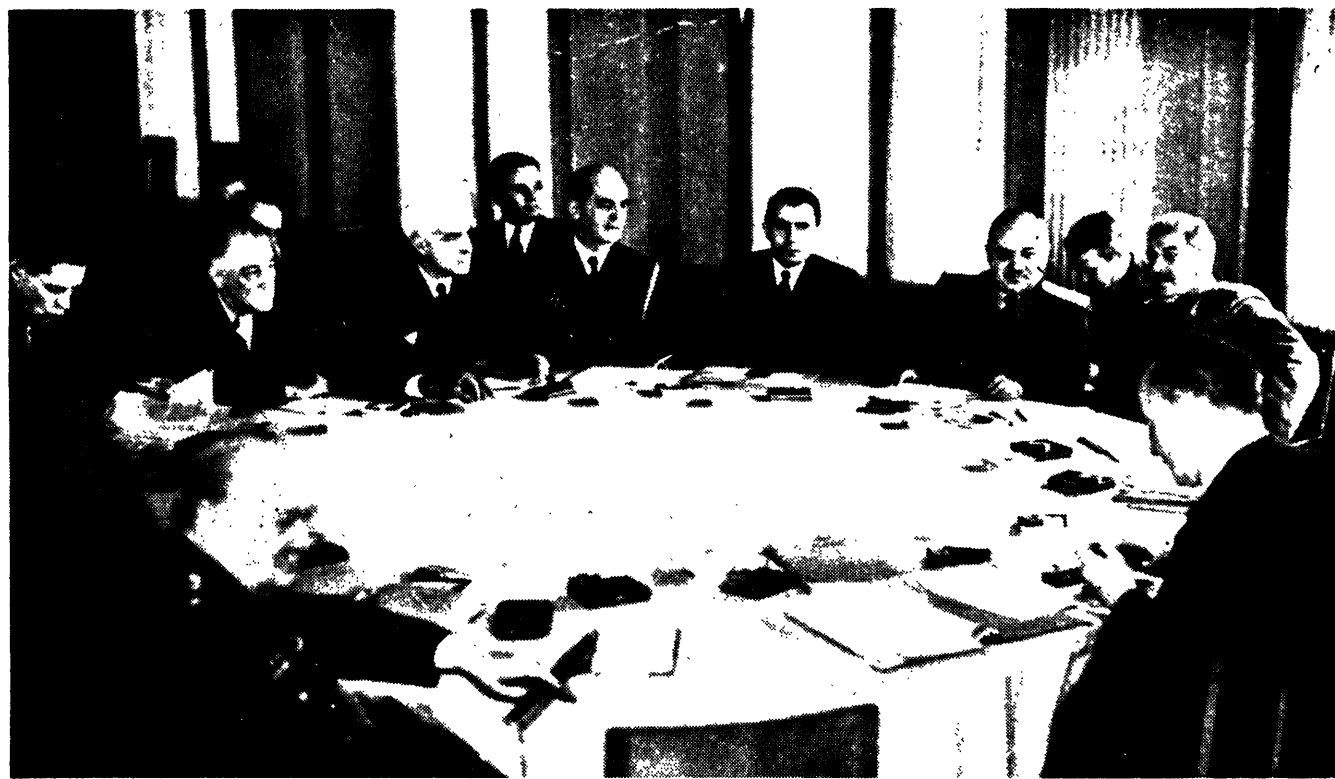
With partition came a bloody war; the establishment of a Zionist state based on racial oppres-

sion; a million Palestinians turned into homeless refugees—and more than 20 years of bitterness, conflict and misery in Palestine.

This is not the place to analyse fully the causes and the course of the Palestine conflict.

What we can show, however, is how the United Nations—like its predecessor—fostered this bloody conflict in the name of 'humanity' and 'peace'.

● In the next article we will look at two further cases of UN 'peacekeeping'—the Korean war and the Congo affair, to assess the further development and role of the United Nations.



The Yalta Conference, February 1945, attended by Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill

They can tell a man if he disagrees with them he will lose his job, so that his family suffers—will anyone accuse them of violence?

They can deny young people education and jobs, and rob them of their hope and their future—but will anyone call that violence?

If the people resist, if they rise up against the system that is responsible, if they threaten property and the state—then there is violence and must be put down and denounced by all 'right-thinking people'.

Preaching

There is unanimity here from Tories preaching the sanctity of private property, middle-class idealists turning the other cheek and Stalinists peddling 'peaceful coexistence'.

To ensure the masses turn the other cheek, the ruling classes support a rich assortment of bishops and preachers, together with special bodies of armed men—police and armies—empowered to use force to preserve law and order.

They have special weapons to help them—CS gas, armoured cars, guns firing rubber bullets—and if these don't work, more conventional arms can be brought out.

joined the League of Nations (thieves' kitchen), the Stalinist parties had been subordinated to the Kremlin's diplomatic drive for 'collective security'.

Then, during the period of the Stalin-Hitler Pact (1939-1941), German communist leaders were handed over to the Gestapo.

Now for his alliance with Churchill and Roosevelt, Stalin abandoned the Comintern and any pretext of proletarian internationalism. The wartime alliance against the Axis powers, with its catchword of 'democracy' grew into an alliance against working-class revolution.

Stalin supported his 'democratic allies' when they made deals with fascists like Admiral Darlan and Marshal Badoglio. The Stalinists told the Italian workers to leave the occupied factories; and even tried to foist the monarchy back on them.

At Yalta, Teheran and Potsdam the Allies carved the world up into 'spheres of influence'.

Under these agreements, British troops went into Greece and crushed the revolution with Stalin's blessing. These were the fruits of 'international co-operation'.

In 1945, the UN was formally established to preserve 'world peace'. As one of the delegates put it at the first conference,

quietly reminded—of its debt to the US.

From an extension of the 'Big Four' alliance, the UN became, in effect, a wing of the State Department.

Its first 'world problem' was Palestine—placed on its agenda by Britain on April 2, 1947.

Britain had a mandate over Palestine from the League of Nations after the First World War. At the 1919 Versailles Peace Conference, which drew up the League of Nations Covenant, the Zionists recognized their debt to British imperialism when they asked that:

'Great Britain shall act as Mandatory of the League of Nations for Palestine. The selection of Great Britain as Mandatory is urged on the ground that this is the wish of the Jews of the world and the League of Nations, in selecting a Mandatory, shall follow as far as possible the popular wish of the people concerned.'

It might be asked by what process of consultation could the Zionists claim to speak for the 'Jews of the world'? In fact, only a small minority of Jews belonged to the Zionist movement and large numbers were indifferent if not downright hostile to it.

Zionism, of course, was in alliance with British imperialism. The Versailles Conference was one where the winning side disposed of its conquests. Thus was born the first 'thieves' kitchen'—and its mandates. All in the name of 'peace'.

After prolonged negotiations on carving up the former Turkish empire, British rule in Palestine was ratified and Zionism won international recognition for its claim to Jewish nationhood and for Zionist colonization of Palestine.

During and after the Second World War, Zionist policy changed decisively. While the British government, concerned with its overall position in the Arab world, tried to restrict the Jewish colony's growth, the Zionists—strengthened by an influx of refugees from Europe and the growth of their economy—reoriented their diplomacy towards the United States in hopes of achieving statehood.

Motives

When the war weakened Britain put the issue before the UN, the Americans were able to see that the Zionists got their way.

Of course, both the American government and US Zionists pro-

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STEPHEN JOHNS IN THE KENT COALFIELD

TODAY MINERS at Kent's three pits face a recommendation to go back to work.



JOHN GARLING is 17 and in his second year of apprenticeship at Betteshanger. He likes his job but says the money, £11, is bad.

After three days of dispute which shut Betteshanger, Tilmanstone and Snowdown collieries—set in the rich, flat Kent farmland—their area leadership have called for a return.

If they go back it will be in a mood of anger and frustration.

They do not share the fiery militancy of the men from S Wales, but their dogged determination to win £5 prodded their executive under Jack Dunn into action. And their desire to fight for what they deserve will remain; only the leadership is now absent.

They have been solidly behind the strike. They voted 67 per cent for action in the ballot and, despite the intervention of two Tory MPs to get men at one colliery to stay in, the three pits shut down last Wednesday.

The stoppage has threatened London's domestic coal market and enraged the local business community.

The petty traders are not too keen on these dark strangers who moved South from Scotland, Wales and the North when the coalfield was opened 50 odd years ago, but they do need the cash the miners spend in Deal, Dover and Ramsgate.

The strike, in fact, has severely strained the wary alliance between the miners and the genteel middle class who languish in the sleepy Kent resorts.

For miners, some of the 3,800 Kent men are 'affluent'. Workers on the mechanized faces get the top rate under the National Power Loading Agreement, but for every man on their wage of £27 12s, there are three on £7 or £8 less.

In common with all other miners they have seen themselves drop from first to 16th in the pay tables.

This, plus their hostility to the activities of the Tory government, is basically why they want to fight.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

'Victory to the Miners!' 'Force the Tories to resign!'

DAGENHAM: Wednesday, November 11, 8 p.m.: Mash Green School, New Road.

SOUTHALL: Tuesday, November 24, 8 p.m.: Community Centre, Bridge Road.

NORTH LONDON: Wednesday, November 25, 8 p.m.: Co-op Hall, Seven Sisters Road.

WILLESDEN: Wednesday, November 25, 8 p.m.: Labour and Trades Hall, High Road, N.W.10.

WEST LONDON: Wednesday, November 25, 8 p.m.: Prince Albert Pub, Balfe Street, Kings Cross.

SE LONDON: Thursday, November 26, 8 p.m.: Artichoke Pub, Camberwell Church Street, Camberwell Green.

SW LONDON: Tuesday, December 1, 8 p.m.: Princes Head, Falcon Road, Clapham Junction.

ACTON: Tuesday, December 1, 8 p.m.: Rocket Pub, Birkbeck Road, W.3.

ANGRY Tilmanstone miners

marched out of a mass meeting of men from the Kent coalfield yesterday shouting 'we've been sold out again.'

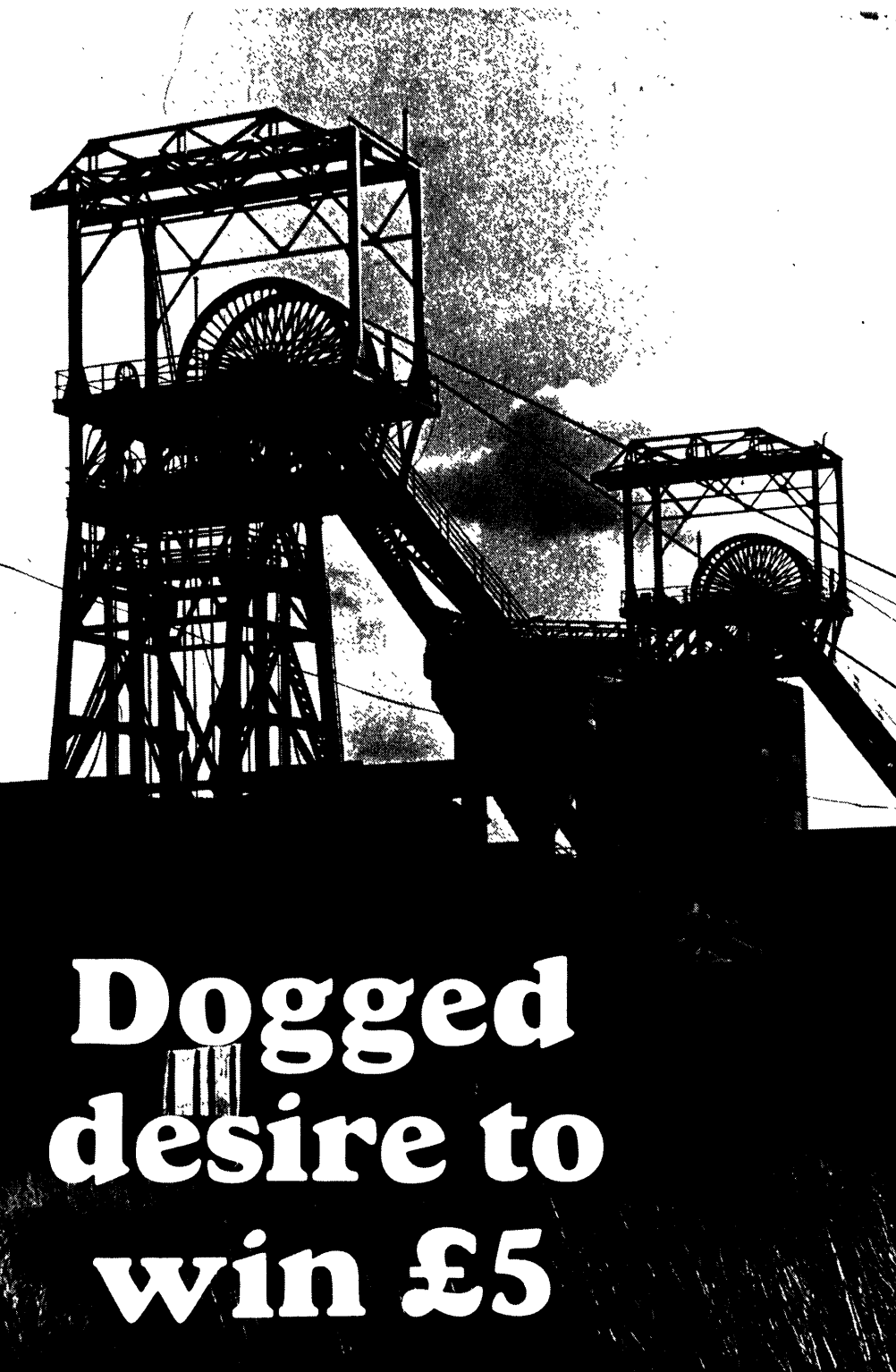
This was after they had heard their area executive tell the meeting of 1,000 miners to return to work and wait for the result of Wednesday's ballot.

Harry Osborne, Tilmanstone surface worker, told the Workers Press: 'I just cannot understand our leadership's recommendation. The strike is the strongest weapon we have got and they just won't use it.'

'I am sure if we had a great show of confidence in the dispute from Kent, the Scottish and the S Wales men would stay out as well.'

Many of the men were returning in Kent on the understanding that S Wales and Yorkshire miners were doing the same.

'If they don't go back, well we'll be out again,' said a Snowdown pit miner.



BETTESHANGER COLLIERY, KENT

COLIN SUMMERS is one of the men the strike is all about. He gets £15 for his job as a store-man on the surface, after stoppages he takes home little over £13. So he has to depend on his wife to make up the money to keep the two of them and their two sons.

THE thing that has disappointed me about this strike the most is the attitude of our leaders in the union. I was on the lobby when Daly made his statements about violence then told the men to go back to work, quite frankly I was disgusted.

Here he had all the men out and feeling running high and all he and the union can do is say this. It weakens the men down here. We need something to pick our spirits up after that.

The point about the violence

charge is that it wasn't true anyway. The police officer said there was no one kicked or hit, so, what was all the fuss about?

The union are also wrong to accept the £3. This is against the mandate of the Isle of Man conference, which said we will go all the way for the £5.

We need a lead. The will to fight to the end is there; if only it could be used by the leaders.

But we must stick together now and fight together. History teaches that this is the only way.

WE ALSO talked to Peter and Christopher Brindley in the Betteshanger miners' social club inside the grounds of the immobilized pit. They come from a mining family and their father works in the pit. Again they like the work, but complain of their wages.

I DON'T blame miners for striking,' Christopher told us, 'they do a very hard job, their rate should be one of the highest in the land. Instead we are the 16th highest paid.'

We have put up output and got nothing for it. It's about time this situation was brought to a halt, and I'm glad it has by the strike.

I am an apprentice, so my wage underground is about £10 10s after stoppages for 40 hours, and if I put in the same time on the surface I get about £7 or £8 after stoppages—it's not a lot for the kind of work you have to do.

But the strike so far hasn't been handled properly. A lot of the leaders have been falling back when they should be moving forward. Daly was wrong, for one, to try to call-off strike action. They are really backing down to the Coal Board.

Robens is just trying to scare us with all this talk about communists. We have had communist members in the union all along, so what is Robens opening his mouth for now?

He is just trying to confuse people. The strike is about getting more money for us, it is as simple as that.

PETER, Chris's brother, is 21 and through his apprenticeship. He told us that the miners were more prepared to fight now than they have ever been before.

THE big factor is this; the miners have stood still in wages and put output up, only to see other workers winning big increases. Now they are coming for their share.

The Tories have certainly encouraged them in this. The cuts in services and the ending of free school milk was taken very badly down here.

I wish this had happened before the strike and the vote would have gone 100 per cent for action.

In this pit it's the older men who tend to lead. They often talk about 1926 when all the miners were out. We haven't been in a dispute as big as this before, so we're learning.

I think the miners here will never be the same after this strike. They have seen other workers win big wages.

Even if we go back, we will be on strike again in the future for more money; it's the only way under this government.

What must be done

FROM PAGE ONE
what the Liaison Committee said on October 19, 1970: 'The Committee welcomes the TUC decision to organize a campaign against the Tory plans. But it regrets that the TUC did not call for immediate action...' ('Morning Star', our emphasis).

Defeats

The Stalinists cover up for the collaborationist and counter-revolutionary nature of the trade union bureaucracy by refusing to break with it politically.

The Stalinists' 'criticism' of the TUC is meant to prepare the way for worse defeats than 1921 or 1926.

Precisely at the time the Liaison Committee was welcoming the TUC decision the TUC right wing was preparing to do a behind-the-scenes deal with the Tory government on a 12-month wage freeze—in return for a 12-month stay of execution on the anti-union laws!

The Workers Press, in contrast to all this, has all along warned the working class not to put any reliance on the TUC promises—but to fight to make the TUC call a general strike to force the Tories to resign.

Our conceptions of the methods of struggle are determined by our conceptions of the crisis and the tasks facing us.

Strike

Since we seek to defeat the Tory government, we believe that this can only be done by the action of millions of workers through a politically-motivated general strike.

This can be done only through the struggle for an alternative revolutionary leadership in the unions, which demands that the official leadership mobilize the mass movement against the class enemy.

The Stalinists and the Liaison Committee, because of their adherence to the 'parliamentary road', are opposed to the mobilization of the entire strength of the working class for fear of the revolutionary repercussions it would have.

The ends determine the means. Hence their declaration states: 'Make December 8, the first day of industrial action and protest...' while Trotskyists say: 'Make December 8 the first step in a campaign for a general strike to make the Tories resign.'

The road of Stalinist protest leads to inevitable defeat and the transition to Tory Bonapartism.

The road of Trotskyists leads to a new revolutionary leadership in the unions, to the defeat of Toryism—and the victory of socialism.

These are the lessons of November 14 for all militant trade unionists.

Many miners stick out

MINERS in S Wales and the militant Doncaster area of the Yorkshire coal field decided over the week-end to stick out on strike.

This was despite pleas from their national executive to return, and statements from their area councils that they would accept the result of the ballot and expected it to go in favour of the Coal Board's £3 offer.

At Vain Tempest pit in Durham, miners were persuaded to go back after officials read out a telegram from their general secretary Lawrence Daly calling for a return.

But two of the coalfield's biggest pits, Dawdon and Westoe, will remain strike bound. A further eight are operating an overtime ban.

Of the four unofficial Yorkshire panels only Doncaster, representing about 17,000 men, has told miners to keep on strike.

In Kent the three pits are expected to be working today, but the strike is likely to remain near 100 per cent in S Wales, the 'conscience' of the coal-fields.

Scottish miners' leaders were meeting yesterday to decide whether or not to end the strike there.

Education 'pressure' by students' union

PRESSURE on the Tories is the keynote of a report published today by the National Union of Students under the euphemistic title 'The Expansion of Higher Education'.

The report—which calls for a massive restructuring of higher education—is out in time for the union's annual conference which opens in Margate on Friday.

Union president Jack Straw says in his foreword to the report that it begins from the premise that the fact of expansion of higher education during the next decade is not in doubt (1).

'Its purpose is to influence government policy on long-term plans—policy that is currently under consideration.'

Establishment

The report argues for the establishment of a National Higher Education Commission, responsible for planning a co-ordinated programme of expansion of the whole field of extended education.

However, the educational 'development' that the Tories have in mind has already been exemplified in the social service cuts and the reactionary 10/70 circular on comprehensive education.

A survey published today by the Comprehensive Schools Committee says that the circular could effectively halt the changeover to the comprehensive system 'since about 50 per cent of all secondary schools are still without firm or dated plans for going comprehensive, and about 25 per cent have not been planned at all'.

Madrid sit-in

PLAIN clothes police ordered about 85 young workers out of a fashionable Jesuit church in Madrid yesterday. They had staged a sit-down strike in protest against the forthcoming military trial of 16 Basque nationalists.

Immigrants labelled at dole

A TORY scheme for 'labelling' out-of-work coloured people was described yesterday as part of a government plot to introduce repatriation.

The Department of Employment has admitted that all employment exchanges are now attaching special green stickers to the insurance cards of all unemployed coloured persons—allegedly to help in collecting statistics.

In fact, says Mr Jagmohan Joshi of the Indian Workers' Association, 'it is a part of a plot in line with general Tory policy for encouraging repatriation. This is the first step. The next will be deporting of labour.'

The Tories already have plans well advanced for halting the immigration of basic citizen's rights. This latest step could serve as a means of drawing up 'priorities' for deporting 'surplus' workers.

Let Rolls go bust—Powell

TORY far-righter Mr Enoch Powell said yesterday that he would have allowed Rolls-Royce to have 'gone bust, without hesitation'.

Speaking on BBC radio he said 'This is one of the places where the buck ought to have stopped'.

Powell's chief concern with halting the anti-trade offensive was clear when he said: 'That £42 million which is going to be paid to Rolls-Royce will go straight to making possible the continued cycle of wage claims and wage increases.'

'I think if you put before the people of this country a simple but clear explanation of cause and effect—say, what is happening, why it is happening, this is what we propose to do and this is why what we propose to do will stop it—then they will follow you, and follow you through thick and thin.'

ROLLS-ROYCE aero-engine blade polishers unanimously voted for strike action at the weekend against the effects of a new Measured-Day Work structure.

The 200 men—mostly National Society of Metal Mechanics members—say they would be classed as semi-skilled workers, losing between £5 and £7 of present earnings.

One-party state feared

LEADERS of the Guyanese People's Progressive Party fear that the ruling People's National Congress is planning to install a one-party dictatorship.

Prime Minister Forbes Burnham recently returned from a visit to Africa where, opponents claim, the plan of installing a one-party regime on the African model first took shape.

Pilkington

FROM PAGE ONE
in different parts of the country.

We depend more than ever on your support. Now that the fight against the anti-trade union laws is building up, we are confident that our campaign is playing an important part in strengthening the fight against the proposed laws.

We need regular contributions each week to help alleviate hardship until members obtain jobs. We are prepared to go anywhere to address trade unionists and inform them of the fight we are engaged in against the employers and the Tory government to defend their basic rights for the right to work and the right to strike.

Please send all donations to the Secretary/Treasurer: John Potter, Greenfield House, Greenfield Road, St Helens, Lancashire.

WEATHER

SCOTLAND will have a rather cloudy day. Rain will move E, followed by squally showers and bright periods.

N Ireland, Wales and W England will have squally showers, with bright or sunny intervals.

Rain in E England and the Midlands will move away E, followed by brighter weather with squally showers.

Temperatures below normal. Outlook for Tuesday and Wednesday: Rather cold with blustery showers, falling as snow in the N. Frost locally at night.

Life president

THE ruling Malawi Congress Party has voted to amend the constitution and make Dr Hastings Banda president for life.

Banda has been president since 1963. He is 65 and advocates close relation with the racist S African regime.



Christopher Brindley

Red-baiters exposed

FROM PAGE ONE
sinister eminence grise behind the strike.

This piece of gutter journalism, obviously inspired by Albert Martin's tatty 'revelations', rounds off by mentioning the All Trades Unions Miners' Alliance Section ('a body with some Trotskyist members but nevertheless receiving support from orthodox figures of the left in various unions') and the anonymous leaflet issued by the Tory-inspired so-called Militant Trade Union Committee, which has frequently appeared in this paper and elsewhere as a crude provocation.

In reality it is not the strikers who are guilty of intimidation, but those who are trying to smear their own members through the capitalist press, in hopes of scaring some miners into returning to work.

The only way to fight the witch-hunt is to spread the strike and carry through the fight for the £5 wage demand.

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Liaison conference

FROM PAGE ONE
The word is getting about that the men are taking political action in the factories, and going into a new syndicalist phase.

'But what I hope will happen is that there will be a mass strike against the employers—against those who contribute to the Tory Party's election funds.'

Such action would show the employers that they could not keep men's wages down and should 'cease their requests to this government to implement a policy of this kind', he went on.

JEERING
Jeering broke out in earnest when Atkinson said that the purpose of December 8 was 'not a strike against the government at this stage... that has to come later.'

And shouts of 'Who's organizing the employers?' and 'What are you going to do about it in the House of Commons?' forced him to 'justify the position of the left in the Commons: the fight we will put up—all day and every night if necessary.'

'But don't kid yourselves', he went on. 'Many areas will not be supporting on December 8, large sections who will never understand the necessity to go out on strike against a government—not at this stage, before the legislation gets off the ground.'

Amalrik denounces 'medieval' trial

ANDREI AMALRIK, the Soviet oppositionist and writer sentenced to three years in a labour camp, for 'falsehoods slandering the Soviet Union', at a secret trial in Sverdlovsk last week, defied his judges and compared his trial to those of heretics in the Middle Ages.

In his final plea he said: 'If the medieval struggle with heretical ideas can be partially explained by religious fanaticism, everything happening now can only be explained by the cowardice of a regime which sees danger in the spreading of any thought, any ideas, alien to the top bureaucracy.'

Prime Minister Forbes Burnham recently returned from a visit to Africa where, opponents claim, the plan of installing a one-party regime on the African model first took shape.

Khrushchev 'memoirs' published

'LIFE' magazine's first excerpt from the alleged Khrushchev memoirs was published yesterday.

In them, the former Soviet Prime Minister and Party Secretary accuses Stalin of cowardice at the Ukraine front during the early days of the Nazi attack on the Soviet Union.

Khrushchev has denied authorship of the 'Life' series, though Soviet opposition leader Peter Yakir has stated, after a telephone conversation with Khrushchev's wife, that there is a 20 per cent chance they might be genuine.

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