

Anti-union laws

Union leaders retreat before Tories

**£1,250 Nov
Appeal Fund:
reaches
£803 6s 5d**

SIX DAYS to go and £446 13s 7d to find. This is the kind of challenge which demands immediate action.

The Workers Press, has, from the very first day it was published, enjoyed the whole-hearted support of its readers.

Month after month you have completed the target.

We know you will not fail now. Don't delay.

Post your donation at once to:

Workers Press Appeal Fund,
186a Clapham Road, London, SW4.

Solderers out again against speed-up

By an Industrial correspondent

PRODUCTION of the new Ford Taunus Cortina was halted again last night at the company's Dagenham plant as 12 nightshift torch solderers continued their strike against management attempts to change working methods.

The solderers claim that the new methods brought in by Ford from their European operations will mean job breakdown and line speed-up.

They walked out on Monday night and stopped production. The management sent home several hundred workers.

The strike could become extremely damaging to Ford.

It is believed that management has budgeted for a £20 million profit on the Taunus alone.

But since its introduction onto the line the model has been plagued by contractors' strikes.

Rough ride

This, plus the substantial wage claim which will be put by the union side of the Ford Joint Negotiating Committee when it meets on Friday, means that Ford will be in for a rough ride during 1971.

Management, it is understood, has resigned itself to a 15 per cent wage increase in the next year, but the latest claim is far in excess of this.

Representatives of the 46,000 Ford workers are likely to demand parity with car workers at Chrysler's Ryton plant near Coventry. This could mean demands for wage increases of up to £14 a week.

The unions will also press for the abolition of the penalty clauses in the current agreement under which strikers lose holiday and lay-off bonuses.

100 p.c. union

A third point in the unions' package will be a demand for 100 per cent union shops throughout the Ford combine in Britain.

The torch solderers will meet today to decide their next move.

BY DAVID MAUDE
A DANGEROUS and cold-blooded strategy for retreat before the Tory government's union-shackling plans is now in daily operation.

State airlines lobby halts BOAC jets



A MASS meeting of air-transport workers about the proposed transfer of state airline routes to Caledonian-BUA delayed three BOAC jet airliners at London's Heathrow airport yesterday.

Aircraft workers later lobbied MPs at Westminster in advance of last night's House of Commons debate on the subject.

Part of the lobby's 60-strong Welsh delegation is pictured above.

'If the nationalized industry loses these routes it will mean loss of contracts at our factory', said Tom Kilby, shop stewards' chairman at the 1,200-strong British Engineering Overhaul plant in Treforest, S Wales.

BEO is a subsidiary of the British Aircraft Corporation.

He added: 'There is the possibility that further concessions will be given to the private airlines.'

'Apart from creating possible unemployment, these moves in the industry will mean a loss of £6 million of public money to the taxpayer.'

'This will now go into the pockets of the private owners.'

Builders' pay

BUILDING trade unions yesterday replied to employers' rejection of their wage demand with a call for an immediate meeting of the National Joint Council for the industry.

The National Federation of Building Trade Employers last week rejected a union-side plea to re-open discussions on a 30-month package deal signed in December.

The deal provides phased wage rises up to June 1972, but the unions now want the increases brought forward.

Everyone — from right to 'left' wings of the official labour and trade union movement — has his part to play.

Underpinned by the British Communist Party and its press, it must and will be smashed.

Chief architects are the right-wing Labour Party and Trades Union Congress leaderships, whose opposition to the Tories is purely token.

It is intended partly to lull some sections of workers who might otherwise get in the way of a behind-the-scenes retreat.

Nowhere will opposition to unofficial action against the forthcoming Industrial Relations Bill be more virulent than at today's meetings of the Labour Party's national executive committee and the TUC General Council.

Just to make sure everyone knows where the Labour leadership stands, kingpin Harold Wilson has refused the elementary step of pledging in advance of tomorrow's Commons debate on the Tory plans—their repeal if made law.

Strike shuts Manchester sorting office

MANCHESTER'S three-week-old mechanized sorting office was closed by a strike yesterday after 1,000 postal workers walked out.

The strike follows a dispute over graded duties which flared up when two sorters were suspended for refusing to handle bundles rather than individual letters.

A Post Office official said yesterday afternoon that the two men had been reinstated.

Hundreds of Post Offices may be forced to close next year unless steps to protect staff against bandits are speeded up, the Union of Post Office Workers has warned.

'Wet money' attack sparks Beckton strike

CONSTRUCTION workers at the giant Beckton sewage works in the East End of London are on strike after a unanimous vote at a mass meeting yesterday morning.

The 200 men struck against a contracting firm's attempt to continue work last Thursday and Friday despite what the men claim are dangerous conditions caused by recent heavy rain.

Contractors sparked the strike when they refused payment of 'wet money' for the two days in question.

The workers feel this

action is retaliation for a one-day stoppage in support of the council workers and against the anti-union laws held at the site recently.

Senior steward Fred Lavinski told yesterday's meeting:

'They have got a motive. They have done this with deliberation.'

The strikers may lose their attendance bonus holiday

at Christmas if they are out for long, but they are determined to defend their conditions against a management attack which threatens all formal agreements.

The site is due to close in 1971 and there is a formal agreement with the management that severance pay will be forthcoming for workers declared redundant.

Senior steward Fred Lavinski told yesterday's meeting:

'They have got a motive. They have done this with deliberation.'

The strikers may lose their attendance bonus holiday

at Christmas if they are out for long, but they are determined to defend their conditions against a management attack which threatens all formal agreements.

The site is due to close in 1971 and there is a formal agreement with the management that severance pay will be forthcoming for workers declared redundant.

Senior steward Fred Lavinski told yesterday's meeting:

'They have got a motive. They have done this with deliberation.'

The strikers may lose their attendance bonus holiday

'Fair rents' creasing workers' families



For most housewives living in Lewisham council houses the rent increase will mean less for the children. (L to R) Mrs Carol Schafer, Mrs E Spencer, Mrs Margaret Tate.

By Gary Gurmeet

A TORY-controlled London borough today plans a substantial increase in council-house rents for the third time in as many years.

This latest increase of 7s 4.8d a week, says Lewisham council's housing committee, is in line with the government's 'fair rents' system — under which private and public tenants are treated similarly.

Following closely the effects of the Tory 'mini-Budget', the rent increases will come into operation next April and covers all the council's 14,000 tenants.

To most working-class families it will come, as one young housewife told Workers Press yesterday, 'like a thunderbolt.'

Mrs Iris Cole—living on one of Lewisham's council estates — has three children and suffers from bronchitis due, she says, to dampness in the flats.

'We don't have much to live on,' she told us. 'Expenditure keeps going up and up the scale. It never comes down; we'll just have to keep working all our lives to pay for it.'

Mrs Cole pays £5 14s 11d rent for her flat, which she says is not worth living in. 'The whole thing needs blowing up and re-building.'

Mrs Margaret Tate, a mother of two, could not find anywhere to live before she managed to acquire the council flat she now lives in.

'I'm on Social Security, so the increase doesn't effect me now, but when my daughter goes to school it will hit me very hard,' she commented.

Mrs Tate pays £4 19s 1d for a two-roomed flat.

Old-age pensioners—already hard hit by the 'mini-Budget'—will no doubt be the worst-off victims again.

Mrs G. H. Chappel, a widow, said she paid £5 4s for her flat and another 7s out of her pension would hurt financially.

'They've stopped doing the decorating as well. These houses have not been decorated for seven years and they were due this year.'

'An average wage-earner just can't afford to have it decorated himself. Some of these buildings are virtual slums and the council is creating more of them by not maintaining them.'

The Tory increase planned for today may not be the last. Lewisham's local tenants' association has distributed leaflets warning that the rents could go up to £9 in the near future.

Yarrow shut-down threat

MANAGEMENT threatened yesterday to shut Yarrow's Clydeside naval shipyard after 1,000 boilermakers walked out for a 'substantial' wage increase, rejecting a 1s 11d-an-hour offer.

NLF winning Cambodian battle

TROOPS of the National Liberation Front scored an important victory when they over-ran the Cambodian district headquarters of Pook, in the NW of the country.

The attack is probably a prelude to a thrust against Battambang, the second largest Cambodian city.

Fighting broke out in Battambang yesterday and the US-backed Lon Nol army was considering moving troops up from the nearby town of Siem Reap.

The government troops defending the district head-

quarters were routed and sustained at least 31 casualties.

Another major action was reported from Kompong Cham, a major strategic town North of the capital Phnom Penh. The town was under fire for ten hours yesterday morning.

Since the end of the monsoon season in Cambodia, Lon Nol's regime — now backed by huge allocations of American finance — has suffered a series of military reverses at the hands of the liberation forces.

Geismar in court again

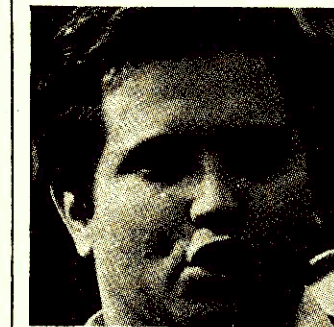
BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

FRENCH Maoist leader Alain Geismar appeared before the Paris State Security Court yesterday charged with reviving a banned organization—his second court appearance in a month.

Last October the 31-year-old science teacher was sentenced to 18 months' jail for allegedly inciting violence against the police during street fighting in May.

Geismar's organization 'La Gauche Proletarienne' (Proletarian Left) was banned together with eight other Maoist, Trotskyist and revisionist organizations after the general strike of May-June 1968.

The State Security Court has recently handed down heavy prison sentences to young militants—most of them Maoists—convicted of such 'crimes' as painting walls with the names of banned organizations.



Geismar

Despite belated verbal protests against this Gaullist persecution, the French Communist Party continues to slander its left-wing opponents and has not lifted a finger to mobilize the working class against the state measures.

It is only because of this Stalinist connivance that the French government is able to continue its anti-working-class hounding of Geismar and his comrades.

Prisoners weren't there

Nixon bluster follows rescue failure

BLUSTER was the order of the day in Washington yesterday as the Nixon Administration tried hard to make capital out of the abortive Hollywood-style helicopter operation to rescue US war prisoners from N Vietnam.

Saturday's raid on the Son May prison compound near Hanoi failed completely after months of top-level planning when helicopter commandos landed to find the compound empty.

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

The prisoners had been moved to other camps three weeks before.

The operation, coupled with resumption of bombing raids over N Vietnam, is an index of Nixon's desperation after the rejection of his phoney 'peace' overtures.

'HEROISM'

Having failed to induce the Vietnamese to accept his peace package, Nixon is trying once again to beat them into submission.

Yesterday he busied himself praising the 'heroism' of the troops who took part in the half-baked rescue bid and warning that he would hold N Vietnamese leaders 'personally responsible' if any reprisals were taken against US prisoners.

Defence Secretary Melvin Laird said yesterday he had personally recommended the raid and Nixon had approved it.

His press statement was 'tinged with regret' over the removal of the prisoners to other camps, Reuter reported.

N Vietnamese and National Liberation Front delegations decided after the weekend bombing raids to boycott the week's session of the Paris talks with the US.

CRISIS

The intransigent stand of the Vietnamese against the US is now driving Nixon's Vietnam policy once again into crisis.

With the war going badly in Cambodia and Laos and the prospect that US troops will have to stay indefinitely in Vietnam, he is hunting round for a spectacular coup to raise his reputation.

All Trades Unions Alliance Second Annual Conference

Discuss

THE CHARTER OF BASIC RIGHTS

The right to a job, to strike and organize, to retain gains made, to fair prices, to welfare benefits and to decent housing. Defend and maintain these rights in a fight to force the Tories to resign.

BIRMINGHAM
Sat. December 19
Digbeth Civic Hall,
Digbeth 10.30. am

For delegates' or visitors' credentials send 5s to Alan Wilkins, ATUA secretary, 53 The Hiron, Styvechale, Coventry.

Anti-union laws

Union leaders retreat before Tories

BY DAVID MAUDE

A DANGEROUS and cold-blooded strategy for retreat before the Tory government's union-shackling plans is now in daily operation.

**£1,250 Nov
Appeal Fund:
reaches
£803 6s 5d**

SIX DAYS to go and £446 13s 7d to find. This is the kind of challenge which demands immediate action.

The Workers Press, has, from the very first day it was published, enjoyed the whole-hearted support of its readers.

Month after month you have completed the target.

We know you will not fail now. Don't delay.

Post your donation at once to:

Workers Press Appeal Fund,
186a Clerkenwell, High Street,
London, SW4.

Solderers out again against speed-up

By an Industrial correspondent

PRODUCTION of the new Ford Taunus Cortina was halted again last night at the company's Dagenham plant as 12 nightshift torch solderers continued their strike against management attempts to change working methods.

The solderers claim that the new methods brought in by Ford from their European operations will mean job breakdown and line speed-up.

They walked out on Monday night and stopped production. The management sent home several hundred workers.

The strike could become extremely damaging to Ford. It is believed that management has budgeted for a £20 million profit on the Taunus alone.

But since its introduction onto the line the model has been plagued by contractors' strikes.

Rough ride

This plus the substantial wage claim which will be put by the union side of the Ford Joint Negotiating Committee when it meets on Friday, means that Ford will be in for a rough ride during 1971.

Management, it is understood, has resigned itself to a 15 per cent wage increase in the next year, but the latest claim is far in excess of this.

Representatives of the 46,000 Ford workers are likely to demand parity with car workers at Chrysler's Ryton plant near Coventry. This could mean demands for wage increases of up to £14 a week.

The unions will also press for the abolition of the penalty clauses in the current agreement under which strikers lose holiday and lay-off bonuses.

100 p.c. union

A third point in the unions' package will be a demand for 100 per cent union shops throughout the Ford combine in Britain.

The torch solderers will meet today to decide their next move.

State airlines lobby halts BOAC jets



A MASS meeting of air-transport workers about the proposed transfer of state airline routes to Caledonian-BUA delayed three BOAC jet airliners at London's Heathrow airport yesterday.

Aircraft workers later lobbied MPs at Westminster in advance of last night's House of Commons debate on the subject.

Part of the lobby's 60-strong Welsh delegation is pictured above.

'If the nationalized industry loses these routes it will mean loss of contracts at our factory,' said Tom Kilby, shop stewards' chairman at the 1,200-strong British Engineering Overhaul plant in Treforest, S Wales.

BEO is a subsidiary of the British Aircraft Corporation. He added: 'There is the possibility that further concessions will be given to the private airlines.'

'Apart from creating possible unemployment, these moves in the industry will mean a loss of £6 million of public money to the taxpayer.'

'This will now go into the pockets of the private owners.'

Builders' pay

BUILDING trade unions yesterday replied to employers' rejection of their wage demand with a call for an immediate meeting of the National Joint Council for the industry.

The National Federation of Building Trade Employers last week rejected a union-side plea to re-open discussions on a 30-month package deal signed in December.

The deal provides phased wage rises up to June 1972, but the unions now want the increases brought forward.

Strike shuts Manchester sorting office

MANCHESTER'S three-week-old mechanized sorting office was closed by a strike yesterday after 1,000 postal workers walked out.

The strike follows a dispute over graded duties which flared up when two sorters were suspended for refusing to handle bundles rather than individual letters.

A Post Office official said yesterday afternoon that the two men had been reinstated.

Hundreds of Post Offices may be forced to close next year unless steps to protect staff against bandits are speeded up, the Union of Post Office Workers has warned.

'Wet money' attack sparks Beckton strike

CONSTRUCTION workers at the giant Beckton sewage works in the East End of London are on strike after a unanimous vote at a mass meeting yesterday morning.

The 200 men struck against a contracting firm's attempt to continue work last Thursday and Friday despite what the men claim are dangerous conditions caused by recent heavy rain.

Contractors sparked the strike when they refused payment of 'wet money' for the two days in question. The workers feel this

Everyone — from right to 'left' wings of the official labour and trade union movement — has his part to play.

Underpinned by the British Communist Party and its press, it must and will be smashed.

Chief architects are the right-wing Labour Party and Trades Union Congress leaderships, whose opposition to the Tories is purely token.

It is intended partly to lull some sections of workers who might otherwise get in the way of a behind-the-scenes retreat.

Nowhere will opposition to unofficial action against the forthcoming Industrial Relations Bill be more virulent than at today's meetings of the Labour Party's national executive committee and the TUC General Council.

Just to make sure everyone knows where the Labour leadership stands, kinsman Harold Wilson has refused the elementary step of pledging—in advance of tomorrow's Commons debate on the Tory plans—their repeal if made law.

Reconciled

Yet Wilson's reconciliation with the TUC—scared only slightly by his government's own attempt at anti-trade union legislation—is now virtually complete.

He is to be the main speaker at the TUC's Albert Hall protest rally in January!

The publicity campaign of which that cosy protest forms a major part, meanwhile, continues its defeatist course.

Fire is continually directed in this campaign against the demand that the TUC call a general strike to defeat the Tories.

Adding insult to the injury already inflicted on S Wales miners by their official leaders, TUC assistant secretary Lionel Murray told a weekend meeting in Cardiff: 'You cannot take on a government and beat them.'

'This issue is too big for unofficial groups', he said; condemning even the planned December 8 protest stoppage.

But the TUC right wing is already grooming itself for faithful implementation of the Tory dictates.

Trade unionists cannot oppose them if they become ● PAGE FOUR COL. 5

action is retaliation for a one-day stoppage in support of the council workers and against the anti-union laws held at the site recently. Senior steward Fred Lavinski told yesterday's meeting: 'They have got a motive. They have done this with deliberation.' The strikers may lose their attendance bonus holiday at Christmas if they are out for long, but they are determined to defend their conditions against a management attack which threatens all formal agreements.

'Fair rents' creasing workers' families



For most housewives living in Lewisham council houses the rent increase will mean less for the children. (L to R) Mrs Carol Schaffer, Mrs E Spencer, Mrs Margaret Tate.

By Gary Gurmeel

A TORY-controlled London borough today plans a substantial increase in council-house rents for the third time in as many years.

This latest increase of 7s 4.8d a week, says Lewisham council's housing committee, is in line with the government's 'fair rents' system — under which private and public tenants are treated similarly.

Following closely the effects of the Tory 'mini-Budget', the rent increases will come into operation next April and covers all the council's 14,000 tenants.

To most working-class covers all the council's 14,500 families it will come, as one young housewife told Workers Press yesterday, 'like a thunderbolt'.

Mrs Iris Cole—living on one of Lewisham's council estates has three children and suffers from bronchitis, due, she says, to dampness in the flats.

Not much
'We don't have much to live on', she told us. 'Expenditure keeps going up and up the scale. It never comes down; we'll just have to keep working all our lives to pay for it.'

Mrs Cole pays £5 14s 11d rent for her flat, which she says is not worth living in. 'The whole thing needs blowing up and re-building.'

Mrs Margaret Tate, a mother of two, could not find anywhere to live before she managed to acquire the council flat she now lives in.

'I'm on Social Security, so the increase doesn't effect me now, but when my daughter goes to school it will hit me very hard', she commented.

Mrs Tate pays £4 19s 11d for a two-roomed flat.

Worst off
Old-age pensioners—already hard hit by the 'mini-Budget'—will no doubt be the worst-off victims again.

Mrs G. H. Chappel, a widow, said she paid £5 4s for her flat and another 7s out of her pension would hurt financially.

'They've stopped doing the decorating as well. These houses have not been decorated for seven years and they were due this year.'

'An average wage-earner just can't afford to have it decorated himself. Some of these buildings are virtual slums and the council is creating more of them by not maintaining them.'

The Tory increase planned for today may not be the last. Lewisham's local tenants' association has distributed leaflets warning that the rents could go up to £9 in the near future.

Yarrow shut-down threat
MANAGEMENT threatened yesterday to shut Yarrow's Clyde-side naval shipyard after 1,000 boilermakers walked out for a 'substantial' wage increase, rejecting a 1s 11d-an-hour offer.

NLF winning Cambodian battle

TROOPS of the National Liberation Front scored an important victory when they over-ran the Cambodian district headquarters of Pook, in the NW of the country.

The attack is probably a prelude to a thrust against Battambang, the second largest Cambodian city.

Fighting broke out in Battambang yesterday and the US-backed Lon Nol army was considering moving troops up from the nearby town of Siem Reap.

The government troops defending the district headquarters were routed and sustained at least 31 casualties.

Another major action was reported from Kompong Cham, a major strategic town North of the capital Phnom Penh. The town was under fire for ten hours yesterday morning.

Since the end of the monsoon season in Cambodia, Lon Nol's regime — now backed by huge allocations of American finance — has suffered a series of military reverses at the hands of the liberation forces.

Geismar in court again

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

FRENCH Maoist leader Alain Geismar appeared before the Paris State Security Court yesterday charged with reviving a banned organization — his second court appearance in a month.

Last October the 31-year-old science teacher was sentenced to 18 months' jail for allegedly inciting violence against the police during street fighting in May.

Geismar's organization 'La Gauche Proletarienne' (Proletarian Left) was banned together with eight other Maoist, Trotskyist and revisionist organizations after the general strike of May-June 1968.

The State Security Court has recently handed down heavy prison sentences to young militants — most of them Maoists — convicted of such 'crimes' as painting walls with the names of banned organizations.



Geismar

Despite belated verbal protests against this Gaullist persecution, the French Communist Party continues to slander its left-wing opponents and has not lifted a finger to mobilize the working class against the state measures.

It is only because of this Stalinist connivance that the French government is able to continue its anti-working-class hounding of Geismar and his comrades.

Prisoners weren't there

Nixon bluster follows rescue failure

BLUSTER was the order of the day in Washington yesterday as the Nixon Administration tried hard to make capital out of the abortive Hollywood-style helicopter operation to rescue US war prisoners from N Vietnam.

Saturday's raid on the Son May prison compound near Hanoi failed completely after months of top-level planning when helicopter commandos landed to find the compound empty.

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

The prisoners had been moved to other camps three weeks before.

The operation, coupled with resumption of bombing raids over N Vietnam, is an index of Nixon's desperation after the rejection of his phoney 'peace' overtures.

'HEROISM'

Having failed to induce the Vietnamese to accept his peace package, Nixon is trying once again to beat them into submission.

Yesterday he busied himself praising the 'heroism' of the troops who took part in the half-baked rescue bid and warning that he would hold N Vietnamese leaders 'personally responsible' if any reprisals were taken against US prisoners.

Defence Secretary Melvin Laird said yesterday he had personally recommended the raid and Nixon had approved it.

His press statement was 'tinged with regret' over the removal of the prisoners to other camps, Reuter reported.

N Vietnamese and National Liberation Front delegations decided after the weekend bombing raids to boycott the week's session of the Paris talks with the US.

CRISIS

The intransigent stand of the Vietnamese against the US is now driving Nixon's Vietnam policy once again into crisis.

With the war going badly in Cambodia and Laos and the prospect that US troops will have to stay indefinitely in Vietnam, he is hunting round for a spectacular coup to raise his reputation.

All Trades Unions Alliance Second Annual Conference

Discuss

THE CHARTER OF BASIC RIGHTS

The right to a job, to strike and organize, to retain gains made, to fair prices, to welfare benefits and to decent housing. Defend and maintain these rights in a fight to force the Tories to resign.

**BIRMINGHAM
Sat. December 19
Digbeth Civic Hall,
Digbeth 10.30 am**

For delegates' or visitors' credentials send 5s to Alan Wilkins, ATUA secretary, 53 The Hiron, Styvechale, Coventry.

Will moon-walker survive two-week night?

LATEST SOVIET reports of the Luna-17 moonshot indicate that Russian scientists may be able to revive the eight-wheeled moon-walker Lunokhod 1 at the end of the cold lunar night which enveloped it yesterday.

During the 14-day night the temperature drops to minus 240 degrees Fahrenheit (272 degrees of frost) and the robot's survival until the lunar dawn on December 8 would mean that Soviet scientists have solved the problem of how to conserve through the bitter cold at least enough power for Lunokhod to re-open its solar panel to recharge its batteries.

The official news agency Tass reported that the vehicle had completed its programme for the lunar day and has been parked in a flat spot for the night with its solar panel closed down.

Tass reported Lunokhod's performance as 'impeccable' since it rolled down on to the moon's surface eight days ago from the Luna-17 landing stage.

A total of ten radio sessions were conducted with the vehicle during the five-day work programme and the moon-walker moved a total of 646 feet.

Camera data

Lunokhod's TV cameras and light-meter supplied only a small part of the data flashed across nearly 240,000 miles of space to earth, Tass added.

Some 85 per cent of information came from several hundred sensors fixed to the machine, reporting on its functioning, power reserves and the nature of the ground beneath it.

The vehicle carries French-made laser reflectors and these may continue to operate during the lunar night to measure radio interference in space.

As their role is merely to reflect highly-concentrated beams of light back to sensitive receivers on earth, they presumably require no power to function.

Lunokhod's controllers will undoubtedly maintain some contact with the vehicle over the next fortnight in order to assess how it is standing up to the rigours of low temperatures.

More travels

If the robot survives and no other malfunction occurs, the Lunokhod's travels may prove to be extensive.

In addition, the possibility of comparing dawn and dusk television pictures of the Sea of Rains - Luna-17's landing site - will enable accurate estimates to be made of the distances of various landmarks by changes in the shadows that they cast.

Corporatist plan echoed by Jones

TRANSPORT union leader Jack Jones echoed a strong call for corporatism in industry when he spoke with Mr George Cattell at a businessmen's teach-in on Monday.

Apart from the lavish dinner at one of London's star hotels, apart from the performances of four tame workers and apart from a speech by HRH Prince Philip at the teach-in on involvement at work, organized by the Industrial Society, these two speeches were the real meat of the occasion.

The first key contribution came from Mr George Cattell, ex-Rootes whiz-kid, ex-top line official for the Department of Employment and Productivity and now Director General for the National Union of Farmers.

The unbroken and strongly definable thread that ran through his lengthy contribution was his plea for corporatism at all levels of industry.

'Let us recognize,' he said, 'there are those in positions of power and influence who believe genuinely that it is unrealistic to talk of the involvement of the workers in industry unless or until capitalism is itself abolished and we have what has been described as a fully collectivized people's democracy.'

Vivid

To give vivid illustration to this point Cattell described an exercise conducted by the DEP under his direction in an engineering plant in the North.

Here a carefully-planned productivity scheme was nearly wrecked by a communist con- venter who led the men in the factory out on strike against it.

But after a 'short, sharp strike' the new system was accepted, said Cattell.

'As many in this room will know that was not a unique experience. Politics are sometimes a central issue and there are things which the governments and alternative government might do about it.'

From this point Cattell developed a fully-fledged corporatist philosophy.

Politics and industry were 'uneasy bedfellows'.

'The days when unions fought for social justice were over. What we need now are strong, politically independent technical and professionally competent trade unions. Unions which comprehend the arts and the sciences of modern management, which can advance the interests of their members not by bleating dogma . . . but by demonstrating to management that efficiency can be raised, output increased, interest and satisfaction improved,' said Cattell.

'In short, by adopting the role which the state has had to take

upon itself, of acting as a pressure group and a catalyst for reform and modernization,' he added.

The same procedures, should, said Cattell, be developed on the shop floor.

He recounted his experiences in the car industry when he smashed a piece-work system at a large Midlands car plant, replacing it with a flat rate of pay based on predetermined, synthetic work standards.

But this in itself was not the final solution. A form of modern slavery developed and workers had no interests beyond the measured tasks and hence the need for 'high-volume productivity'.

The crisis can be solved only if the bureaucracy develops in the way outlined. Hence his anathema for politics in industrial relations.

His hopes must have surely soared when he heard the contribution to the conference from T&GWU general secretary Jack Jones.

For Jones, despite blusters about the 'hell' of the foundries, etc., etc., is a potential recruit to the Cattell camp.

Industry, he said, should be seen as a series of self-governing communities, within which people increasingly assume the role of policy-making and controlling.

He gave examples of worker-participation in the construction of agreements.

At ICI the old works councils have been transformed by shop stewards who had become members of them.

At Fords participation had gone a long way to providing industrial peace.

And on the docks— 'We have moved to a new system of payments, and to shift work without a strike on the issue because we have introduced the shop steward system, had a voluntary ballot and the men have stood by the agreement,' added Jones referring to the notorious Devlin Phase Two deal.

Not at any stage did Jones suggest that the aspiration of workers for control of their industries was incompatible with capitalist modes of production.

Like Cattell, in the last analysis the leaders of Britain's largest trade union see the role of involvement by workers as a method of guaranteeing industrial peace.

Jones in fact was most explicit about his own philosophy. 'Different interests will exist. So what is envisaged is not collaboration . . . but confrontation. This confrontation would recognize the differences of interests, but also reflect certain objectives which can be mutually advantageous.'

'If we in fact, recognize that there are two sides to industry, it becomes perfectly possible to hammer out agreements which injure neither but benefit both.'

Beneath the subtle nuances of their public utterances a philosophy of corporatism is developed. They meet at business lunches, conferences and seminars to learn and refine their respective strategies.

Parallel to this he wants to see a hierarchy on the shop floor created within the ranks to discipline workers and to promote management schemes.

Cattell, in other words, turns at this time, when major confrontations between the working class the employers and the government are threatened, to the trade union bureaucracy at all levels in industry.

BARCLAY'S BANK expects a sharp Tory crack at the wages spiral rather than a permanent incomes policy, according to the financial giant's latest review.

The Bank is clearly worried that though unemployment is over the 600,000 mark and 'has not been so persistently high for 25 years', this has in no way discouraged workers fighting for higher wages.

'The labour market today is governed by the pace-setters in wage negotiation, and the government is faced with the need for direct action with all the political turmoil that this could involve.'

The government, the Bank concludes, has little choice in the present situation but 'to fall back on direct action'.

Barclay's plea for a Tory crackdown on 'rampant wage inflation' has not a little element

BY STEPHEN JOHNS



Transport and General Workers' Union general secretary talks with the Duke of Edinburgh at Monday's session of the Industrial Society teach-in on 'Involvement at Work'.



George Cattell

Stalinists still plug for all-European police force

JUDGING FROM a recent television broadcast by Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister, Frigyes Puja, the NATO and Warsaw Pact powers are drawing closer together on the question of a European Security Conference.

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Puja told how, 'on October 30, and 31, 1969, the Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty States . . . worked out a proposed agenda for the conference: (1) Establishment of European Security . . . (2) Widenup of commercial, economic and technical-scientific relations with a view to the development of political co-operation based on parity between the European states.'

He then went on: 'It came to light . . . that the North Atlantic Alliance was not quite satisfied . . . with the agenda proposed by the socialist states . . .'

So what did the bureaucracy do? 'The Budapest meeting on June 21 and 22, 1970 . . . took account of this and worked out another agenda proposal.'

This included the addition of a third item—the 'establishment of a body to deal with the problems of European security and co-operation'.

RESPONDED

So the Stalinists responded to the NATO criticisms by accepting their proposal for the creation of a permanent 'law-and-order' force for all Europe! Comments Puja:

' . . . the June proposal took into account some sensible suggestions [!] by capitalist countries such as the addition of . . . a completely new point about the setting up of a body capable of dealing with various European security problems . . . one might say all such problems.'

Such a body could, given the political composition of its participants, only be a counter-revolutionary police force for use against all European workers.

For, with the governments agreed on common action, against whom could such a force act but the working class? There is no other threat to their 'security'.

The Stalinists are really anxious to get their conference going. Puja talks about the 'extreme flexibility' of the Warsaw Pact powers in the preparations for such a gathering.

(This flexibility does not, of course, apply to occupied Czechoslovakia, but to the imperialists.)

WARMING

Small wonder that more and more member governments of NATO are warming to the plan—there is very little they have to lose:

'Their first statements' notes Puja, 'were in general not negative; a number of capitalist countries even saluted the constructive resolutions of the Budapest conference.'

Moscow has already let it be known, through W German Foreign Minister Scheel, that the Soviet government is no longer opposed to the Common Market, and that it will even accept its enlargement to ten members (the main addition being Britain).

This policy reversal is clearly linked to its campaign for the proposed Security Conference.

It will compel the Stalinist parties of W Europe to work even more closely with their own ruling classes.

They will become all-important political outposts in the workers' movement of any all-European police force created by the NATO and Warsaw Pact powers.

Stalinism has already proved its willingness to collaborate with one such body—the United Nations—on a world scale, and it will not shrink from similar counter-revolutionary enterprises in Europe.

STRIKE-BREAKER

It is making preparations to come out as an international strike-breaking force on behalf of the Common Market capitalist classes.

In return it will receive freer trade relations, worthless guarantees on 'non-aggression' and a free hand to deal with the workers of E Europe and the Soviet Union.

PUBLIC LECTURES Elements of Marxism. The importance of Marxist philosophy in the building of the revolutionary party. Lectures by M. Banda (Editor of Workers Press) BARKING: Co-op Hall, Whitney Chambers, Fanshawe Ave, 8 p.m. Monday, November 30. NEWCASTLE: Hotspur Hotel, Haymarket. 7.30 p.m. Sunday, November 29. Lectures by C. Slaughter (Central Committee member of the Socialist Labour League) SWINDON: Eastcott Hotel, Manchester Rd, 8 p.m. Wednesday, December 2, 9 and 16. LIVERPOOL: Royal Institution, Colquitt St (nr Bold St), 7.45 p.m. Wednesday, November 25. OXFORD: Northgate Hall, 8 p.m. Thursday, November 26. Lectures by G. Healy (national secretary of the Socialist Labour League) SOUTHAMPTON: Polygon Hotel, the Polygon, 7.30 p.m. Sundays, December 6, 13 and 20. BEXLEYHEATH: Roberts Hall, Christchurch, Broadway, 8 p.m. Tuesdays, December 1, 8 and 15. ACTON: Oddfellows Hall, Fletcher Rd, W3. 8 p.m. Thursdays, December 10 and 17. Lectures by P. O'Regan (SLL) BALHAM: Co-op Hall, 47-51 Balham High St, SW12. 8 p.m. Mondays, November 30 and December 7 and 14.

SUBSCRIBE NOW £13 for 12 months (312 issues) £6 10s for six months (156 issues) £3 5s for three months (78 issues) If you want to take Workers Press twice a week the rates are: £1 for three months (24 issues) £4 for 12 months (96 issues) Fill in the form below NOW and send to: Circulation Dept., Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St., London, SW4. I would like to take out a subscription to Workers Press. Days required MONDAY THURSDAY (Please tick) TUESDAY FRIDAY WEDNESDAY SATURDAY Or Full subscription (six days) for months. Name Address Amount enclosed £ s d

NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS BOOKS L. TROTSKY: GERMANY 1931/32 paperback 25s 0d cloth 37s 6d WHERE IS BRITAIN GOING? 7s 6d HISTORY OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTION 3 vols 30s 0d AGE OF PERMANENT REVOLUTION 9s 0d REVOLUTION BETRAYED paperback 12s 6d cloth 21s 0d PROBLEMS OF CHINESE REVOLUTION paperback 22s 6d cloth 37s 6d PERMANENT REVOLUTION, RESULTS & PROSPECTS 25s 0d R. BLACK: STALINISM IN BRITAIN paperback 22s 6d cloth 40s 0d PAMPHLETS L. TROTSKY: DEATH AGONY OF CAPITALISM (The Transitional Programme) 1s 0d CLASS NATURE OF THE SOVIET STATE 4s 0d CLASS AND ART 2s 0d YOUNG PEOPLE STUDY POLITICS 1s 9d MARXISM AND TRADE UNIONS 3s 6d Please tick those books required NAME ADDRESS Amount enclosed £ s d plus 6d postage for each pamphlet 1s 6d postage for each book. Complete form and send with money to New Park Publications, 186a Clapham High St., London, SW4.

Bank calls for crackdown on rampant wage inflation

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

of ruling-class hypocrisy.

The Bank is not known to have complained about the inflationary effects of the huge tax handouts to top industrialists—and leading bankers—given away in Barber's mini-budget.

Indeed, it welcomes Barber's hand-out as a sign that 'at long last British financial policy is swinging towards reality'.

Inflationary

School milk, it appears, is a highly inflationary commodity, to be stamped out at all costs—even if it does mean condemning thousands of children to rickets and other forms of malnutrition. But an extra thirty quid a week pocket money for the City elite is a move to 'reality'.

This open Tory incitement to working-class struggle is already having deep-going effects on workers' thinking. Effects that clearly worried Confederation of

British Industries chairman John Partridge when he spoke to the London management conference reported this page.

Theme of the conference: 'Involvement at Work'—had little appeal for Partridge.

Management, he pontificated, would not surrender its concern for its employees' interests to anyone 'whether trade unions or government or other well- or ill-meaning interventionists'.

And he called on the 'oversilent majority of responsible men and women in management, trade union leadership and workplaces' to express themselves more directly and decisively.

Clinging

The gist of Partridge's message is that employers will cling grimly onto what they have got and need to mobilize the 'responsible' union chiefs and their workplace allies in order to keep it.

We say: get rid of the Tories—and you'll get rid of inflation.

