

## W. Germans want Britain in Common Market

What we think

### The case of Bob Rowthorn

OUR readers will be familiar with the political struggles which the Socialist Labour League continuously wages against those who seek to revise Marxism.

For us Trotskyism is the application of Marxism to the problems facing the international working-class movement in the post-Lenin era.

Chief amongst these has been the bureaucratic degeneration of the Bolshevik Party at the hands of Stalin. Without Trotsky's merciless and irreconcilable exposure of the Stalinist bureaucracy, there would be no revolutionary movement today.

It would be absolutely wrong to follow the crudest of the middle-class revisionists who vulgarly assert that it all boiled down to a personal struggle for power between Stalin and Trotsky. It was nothing of the sort. Behind Stalin were tens of thousands of other little Stalins who brutally defended their bureaucratically acquired privileges.

Stalin, by himself, was not the bureaucracy; he simply personified it. Likewise Stalin was not just a tyrant whose tyranny came to an end when he died. He reinforced his dictatorship with an out-and-out reformist policy the essence of which was the nationalist conception of 'socialism in a single country'. This, in time, led to the reformist, class collaboration theory of 'peaceful co-existence with capitalism'.

For this reason, Trotskyists at all times insist that while Stalin is dead, Stalinism as a system of ideas lives on. If proof is needed, it is amply supplied by the military invasions of Hungary and Czechoslovakia and the relentless persecution of those intellectuals who criticized the Stalinists inside the USSR.

The essence of our split in 1953 from that wing of the international Trotskyist movement led by Pablo and Mandel hinged on these issues.

We insisted on the need to redouble our efforts—through the building of alternative revolutionary leadership—to expose and defeat Stalinism within the workers' movement.

From 1951 onwards, Pablo and Mandel claimed that because of the changed world situation as a result of what they impressionistically deduced to be the nearness of World War Three, Stalin would be forced by events to change course in a revolutionary direction. Nothing of the sort took place.

There was no Third World War and Stalinism is just as politically reactionary now as it was in the days of Stalin, notwithstanding the reduction in the number of victims who were shot in the back of the neck in the cellars of the Lubyanka jail.

All that has changed is that the bureaucrats, in order to preserve their rule in a more critical period, have pulled back from the more bloody deeds of their master.

This abandonment of Trotsky's basic analysis of the counter-revolutionary role of the Stalinist bureaucracy in 1953 by Pablo and Mandel led step by step towards a capitulation to Stalinism by some of their leading supporters.

Their entire group in Britain, led by John Lawrence, abandoned Trotskyism and eventually joined the Communist Party in 1957.

• PAGE 4 COL. 1 →

# E.E.C. ENTRY MEANS ATTACK ON WAGES

BY ROBERT BLACK

BRITISH entry into the European Common Market is now being demanded by its most powerful member state 'as soon as possible'.

In his Paris meeting with French officials, the West German Foreign Minister Walter Scheel insisted that the Common Market Council meeting which opened on Monday must agree to the entry of Britain.

Reports of the meeting between Scheel and his French opposite number Maurice Schumann said that agreement had been reached on this vital issue. Under de Gaulle, French opposition had always proved one of the main obstacles to British entry. The Brussels Common Market Council meeting will draw up the agenda for next month's 'summit meeting' of the six member states. That meeting will decide on the Labour government's application to join the Market.

### New stage

With the three main Market countries—West Germany, France and Italy—in favour of British entry, the class struggle in Europe stands on the threshold of an entirely new stage. If Wilson's application succeeds, it will mean an immediate and brutal attack on the living and working conditions of the British working class.

Food prices in particular will soar, while in the factories the employers will step up the attack on wages and working conditions.

They will have to do this to combat the increased penetration of their home markets by the European monopolies when British entry leads to the reduction and abolition of import duties and tariff barriers.

Only the most ruthless employers will survive in such a cut-throat trade war. That means that the monopolies will fight back with all the means at their disposal to check the wages offensive that has now been unleashed in Britain.

Jointly with the workers of all Europe, the British working class must answer the challenge of the capitalist Common Market with socialist policies and the building of revolutionary leadership.

The imminent entry of Britain into the Market underlines how urgent these tasks are.

Young Socialists  
**GRAND XMAS BAZAAR**  
Saturday, Nov. 29

Canning Town Public Hall

doors open 12 noon

Can you sew? knit? paint?

make something for our Bazaar?

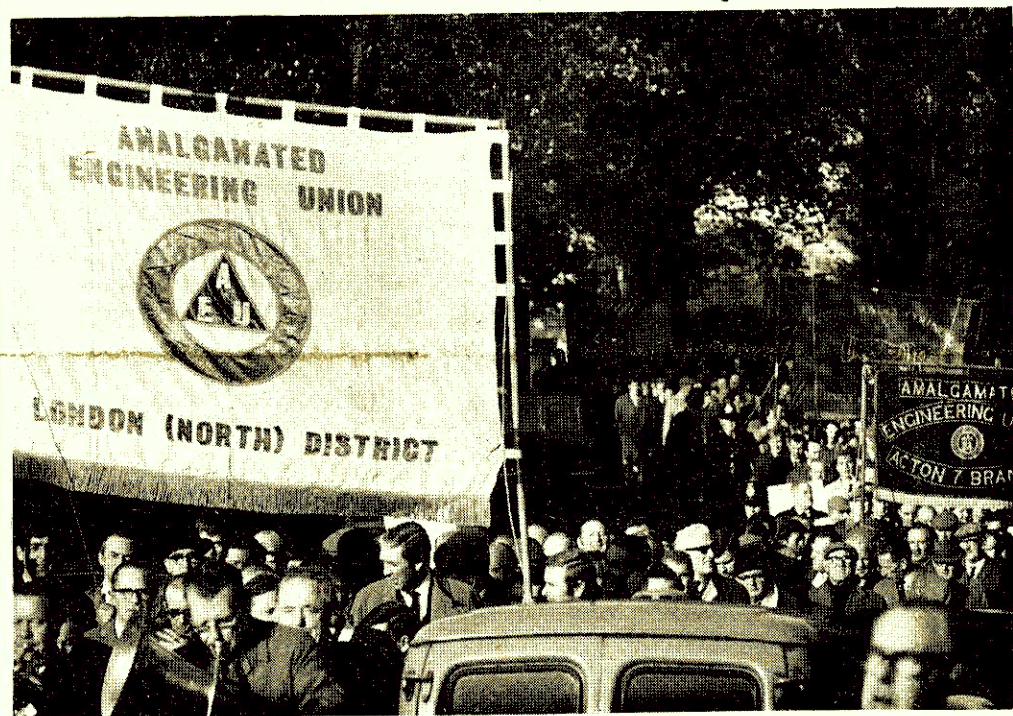
give something towards our bazaar?

Have you a tin of grocery? jumble?

Help us make this the best bazaar ever held!

Help us raise the money for our daily paper—

THE WORKERS' PRESS



## Big support for tube march

LONDON TRANSPORT'S Acton maintenance workers were supported by many other sections of railway workers in their demonstration yesterday.

Banners from Park Royal, Chiswick, Camden Town, Parsons Green and—as far afield as Swindon dotted the march.

Lift and escalator workers, ticket machine workers, members of the NUVB, ETU and ASLEF, swelled the march to over 1,000.

The 400 AEF craftsmen from the Acton works have been on official strike for eight weeks.

They claim that the LTB has broken a long-standing agreement on the training of craftsmen.

One worker told the Workers' Press:

'The agreement has operated very well since 1958, but then 15 months ago, it was broken without explanation. This called into question the whole position of craftsmen.'

'I think this has something to do with the fact that the AEF here are the only ones who've had nothing to do with the pay and efficiency agreement.'

### Iceberg tip

At a mass meeting, Frank Willis brought fraternal greetings to the Acton men from the Swindon Railway Workshop and told them their dispute was 'only the tip of an iceberg.'

'The effect of the pay and efficiency agreement is undermining working conditions everywhere. Having signed this, the NUR is faced with the threat of unemployment amongst its members—I think this is why they have been trying to get their members into the craft grade.'

'I don't condemn the NUR membership at all, but the leadership.'

A sheet metal worker alleged collusion between the LTB and the NUR in breaking the agreement.

The workers then marched to the BBC's White City studios to protest against a press blackout on their dispute.

## Portugal opposition parties banned again

THE PORTUGUESE Ministry of the Interior warned on Saturday that all opposition groups which were allowed to function during the recent 'general election' (in which well over half of those of voting age were debarred from voting) were now illegal.

The statement came after some groups had continued to function beyond the close of election campaign.

For this reason, the Ministry said, 'the authorities had been given very precise instructions to make the law be respected.'

The ban will affect the two main opposition groups which contested the election: the left-wing CDE Party and the more moderate Social Democrats.

## Czech regime hits at union independence

DESPITE months of continuous pressure, the Husak regime has been unable to break the resistance of the Czech cultural workers' unions.

By a foreign correspondent

This fact was admitted on Saturday when the Czech Minister for Culture Jaroslav Bruzek announced that he had abandoned his attempts to win the unions for collaboration with the regime's cultural policy.

Instead, Bruzek said, the government would collaborate directly with individual cultural workers, by-passing their unions.

Bruzek revealed that talks between his Ministry and unions representing writers, television workers, film and theatre actors, painters and translators, had showed 'the unions are still incapable of correcting their inadmissible views, their incorrect and sometimes even anti-state positions.'

### Test case

The Stalinist regime's attack on the cultural workers' unions is a test case.

Their resistance has made it much more difficult for Husak to launch an offensive on his main enemy—the powerful and still partially independent industrial workers' unions.

### Intimidation

The Husak regime plans to counter this opposition to the Kremlin occupation in the only way it knows—through administrative pressure and intimidation.

The cultural unions, the Minister said, would be curbed by state control of their funds.

Censorship would also be stepped up:

'In the sphere of editing, energetic measures will also be necessary.'

The principle under attack here is not only that of censorship but the independence of the trade unions from the state.

This new measure openly proclaims Husak's right to dictate policy to the Czech

## Stay-in at C.A.V. (Acton) continues

QUALITY control workers at CAV's Acton works are continuing their stay-in strike against productivity proposals from the management.

On Friday, the management offered to couple a 15s. increase with the proposals—to be paid later 'when the savings have been made'.

But the stewards replied that the jobs of the 13 men who would become surplus to requirements as a result of the proposals were not for sale.

In separate talks with the management, the convenors have proposed talks on 'grade rationalization' as a basis for a return to work.

By an Industrial correspondent

The quality control stewards are opposed to this, however. They describe such talks as 'a pig in a poke'.

A full meeting of all stewards has demanded an immediate £1 increase without 'strings'.

### CORRECTION:

In Saturday's Workers Press, we referred to a strike by inspectors at Lucas's Birmingham area plant. This was, of course, a strike of foremen and chargehands.

## MOTOR WORKERS IN CONFERENCE

# Ten-man advisory body set up

BY DAVID MAUDE

MEMBERS and supporters of the All Trades Unions Alliance from most of Britain's key car and car components firms met in Birmingham on Saturday.

Reports on a wide range of problems facing workers in the different plants were discussed—in particular the fight against unemployment, short-time working and productivity deals.

Fraternal greetings, and a report on the situation on the French car industry, were brought by workers from Renault and Citroën.

A ten-man car industry advisory committee affiliated to the All Trades Unions Alliance was set up, based on representatives from the major plants.

Attending the conference were rank-and-file workers and shop stewards from British-Leyland's Morris Motors, Oxford; BMC Service, Oxford; Tractor and Transmission, Birmingham; Pressed-Steel Fisher, Birmingham; Pressed-Steel Fisher, Swindon; Austin, Longbridge; Standard-Triumph, Liverpool; AEC, Southall; Delaney-Galley, Wellesborough and Leyland Motors, Leyland, plants.

Contingents from Ford's Halewood, Southampton and Dagenham plants; Vauxhall's factories at Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port and from Rootes, Linwood, were also present.

From Coventry came workers at Rolls Royce, Massey-Ferguson, Dunlop and Coventry Radiators.

The car components side was represented by stewards and workers from Morgan Crucible, London, and from five Joseph Lucas combine plants—Lucas-CAV, Liverpool; Lucas, Birmingham; CAV, Acton; Girling's, Bromborough and Simms Motor Units, London.

### NEED A LEAD

The mood of the conference was caught by one Ellesmere Port Vauxhall steward, who said:

'I'm here today because we need a leadership in the motor industry, we've been let down from every quarter so far.'

There was a will to fight the management's new productivity proposals in the Merseyside plant, an instinct that something was wrong.

'We had the company licked, but then we got the lumbard punch, the knife in the back from our own officials.'

If any carworker was faced with a Measured-Day Work scheme, the steward warned, 'leave it alone or you'll end up like Ford's and Vauxhall's'.

The All Trades Unions Alliance had given a lead in fighting these deals. After describing the 'carve-up' of Vauxhall workers that had been organized by union officials through acceptance of the company's productivity proposals, the steward made 'one final point in answer to Hegland' (Vauxhall's US director).

### ON THE MOVE

'He's been giving it out in the press that everyone at Vauxhall's wants to accept the deal and it's just a handful of "troublemakers" who're preventing this happening. "No, Mr Hegland!'

'It's not a handful. It's the working class on the move—and you'd better beware of it!'

'The purpose of this conference', explained the chairman, a British-Leyland senior steward, in opening the discussion, 'is to hammer out a policy for the motor industry—against the employers and against the union officials who won't fight them.'

As the capitalist class was organizing on a national and even international scale, carworkers had to do the same. In the discussion of common problems and the setting-up of a committee, the conference would be making a start on this.

'It's often difficult for us

• PAGE 4 COL. 4 →

### A.T.U.A.

#### meetings

##### RAMSGATE

'The Common Market'  
Tuesday, November 11  
8 p.m.

Flowing Bowl  
Newington Estate

##### OLLERTON (NOTTS)

'Lessons of the miners'  
strike'

Saturday, November 15  
1 p.m.

Hop Pole Hotel  
Speakers:  
Two Yorkshire miners

### GREET

## WORKERS PRESS

at two public meetings

See the film of the first issue being prepared and printed and the film 'Young Socialists, 1969'

### OXFORD

Friday, November 21, 8 p.m.  
Northgate Hall  
St. Michael's Street

### GLASGOW

Sunday, November 23, 7.30 p.m.  
Partick Burgh Hall  
(nr. Merkland Street underground)

Speakers at both meetings will be:

KE BANDA (Editor of Workers' Press)

SHEILA TORRANCE (National Secretary of the Young Socialists)



Full subscription  
(Posted daily)  
£10 a year  
£12 10s. for three months

Two editions  
(For any two days you select)  
£4 a year  
£1 for three months

I would like to subscribe to Workers' Press for

Name .....

Address .....

Post to: Circulation Organizer, Workers' Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4. (Tel: 01-720-2000)

### WEATHER

(For 24 hours from Monday noon)  
Outlook for following 48 hours: changeable with occasional rain in all parts. Temperatures near or above normal.  
London area, S.E. and Central Southern England, E. and W. Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals. Showers, cloudy with longer outbreaks of rain late today and tonight. Wind W. to S.W., strong, gale force at times. Near normal temperatures. Maximum 11C (52F).  
S.W. England: Becoming cloudy with outbreaks of rain, but showery later tonight and tomorrow. Wind W. to S.W., strong, gale force at times. Near normal temperatures. Maximum 12C (54F).  
N.W. England, Glasgow area, N. Ireland: Squally showers with thunder and hail. Snow over hills. Wind W. to S.W., strong to gale. Below normal temperatures. Maximum 8C (46F).  
Central Northern England, Edinburgh: Sunny spells, but scattered showers in places. Wind S.W., fresh or strong. Cold with snow over hills and slight frost at night. Maximum 7C (45F).

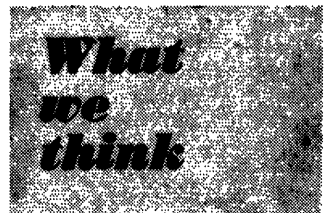
# Workers Press

The daily organ of the  
Central Committee of the  
Socialist Labour League

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • PUBLISHED FROM TUESDAY TO SATURDAY • NUMBER 32 • TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1969

PRICE 6d.

## W. Germans want Britain in Common Market



### The case of Bob Rowthorn

OUR readers will be familiar with the political struggles which the Socialist Labour League continuously wages against those who seek to revise Marxism.

For us Trotskyism is the application of Marxism to the problems facing the international working-class movement in the post-Lenin era. Chief amongst these has been the bureaucratic degeneration of the Bolshevik Party at the hands of Stalin. Without Trotsky's merciless and irreconcilable exposure of the Stalinist bureaucracy, there would be no revolutionary movement today. It would be absolutely wrong to follow the crudest of the middle-class revisionists who vulgarly assert that it all boiled down to a personal struggle for power between Stalin and Trotsky. Behind Stalin were tens of thousands of other little Stalins who brutally defended their bureaucratically acquired privileges. Stalin, by himself, was not the bureaucracy; he simply personified it. Likewise Stalin was not just a tyrant whose tyranny came to an end when he died. He reinforced his dictatorship with an out-and-out reformist policy the essence of which was the nationalist conception of 'socialism in a single country'. This, in time, led to the reformist class collaboration theory of 'peaceful co-existence with capitalism'.

For this reason, Trotskyists at all times insist that while Stalin is dead, Stalinism as a system of ideas lives on. If proof is needed, it is amply supplied by the military invasions of Hungary and Czechoslovakia and the relentless persecution of those intellectuals who criticized the Stalinists inside the USSR.

The essence of our split in 1953 from that wing of the international Trotskyist movement led by Pablo and Mandel hinged on these issues. We insisted on the need to redouble our efforts—through the building of alternative revolutionary leadership—to expose and defeat Stalinism within the workers' movement.

From 1951 onwards, Pablo and Mandel claimed that because of the changed world situation as a result of what they impressionistically deduced to be the nearness of World War Three, Stalin would be forced by events to change course in a revolutionary direction.

Nothing of the sort took place. There was no Third World War and Stalinism is just as politically reactionary now as it was in the days of Stalin, notwithstanding the reduction in the number of victims who were shot in the back of the neck in the cellars of the Lubyanka jail.

All that has changed is that the bureaucrats, in order to preserve their rule in a more critical period, have pulled back from the more bloody deeds of their master.

This abandonment of Trotsky's basic analysis of the counter-revolutionary role of the Stalinist bureaucracy in 1953 by Pablo and Mandel led step by step towards a capitulation to Stalinism by some of their leading supporters.

Their entire group in Britain, led by John Lawrence, abandoned Trotskyism and eventually joined the Communist Party in 1957.

# E.E.C. ENTRY MEANS ATTACK ON WAGES

BY ROBERT BLACK

BRITISH entry into the European Common Market is now being demanded by its most powerful member state 'as soon as possible'.

In his Paris meeting with French officials, the West German Foreign Minister Walter Scheel insisted that the Common Market Council meeting which opened on Monday must agree to the entry of Britain.

Reports of the meeting between Scheel and his French opposite number Maurice Schumann said that agreement had been reached on this vital issue. Under de Gaulle, French opposition had always proved one of the main obstacles to British entry. The Brussels Common Market Council meeting will draw up the agenda for next month's 'summit meeting' of the six member states.

That meeting will decide on the Labour government's application to join the Market.

### New stage

With the three main Market countries—West Germany, France and Italy—in favour of British entry, the class struggle in Europe stands on the threshold of an entirely new stage.

If Wilson's application succeeds, it will mean an immediate and brutal attack on the living and working conditions of the British working class.

Food prices in particular will soar, while in the factories the employers will step up the attack on wages and working conditions. They will have to do this to combat the increased penetration of their home markets by the European monopolies when British entry leads to the reduction and abolition of import duties and tariff barriers.

Only the most ruthless employers will survive in such a cut-throat trade war. That means that the monopolies will fight back with all the means at their disposal to check the wages offensive that has now been unleashed in Britain.

Jointly with the workers of all Europe, the British working class must answer the challenge of the capitalist Common Market with socialist policies and the building of revolutionary leadership.

The imminent entry of Britain into the Market underlines how urgent these tasks are.

Young Socialists  
**GRAND XMAS BAZAAR**  
Saturday, Nov. 29

Canning Town Public Hall  
doors open 12 noon

Can you sew? knit? paint?  
make something for our Bazaar?  
give something towards our bazaar?  
Have you a tin of grocery? jumble?  
Help us make this the best bazaar ever held!  
Help us raise the money for our daily paper—

THE WORKERS' PRESS

## Big support for tube march

LONDON TRANSPORT'S Acton maintenance workers were supported by many other sections of railway workers in their demonstration yesterday.

Banners from Park Royal, Chiswick, Camden Town, Parsons Green and as far afield as Swindon dotted the march.

Lift and escalator workers, ticket machine workers, members of the NUVB, ETU and ASLEF, swelled the march to over 1,000.

The 400 AEF craftsmen from the Acton works have been on official strike for eight weeks.

They claim that the LTB has broken a long-standing agreement on the training of craftsmen.

One worker told the Workers' Press: 'The agreement has operated very well since 1958, but then 15 months ago, it was broken without explanation. This called into question the whole position of craftsmen.'

'I think this has something to do with the fact that the AEF here are the only ones who've had nothing to do with the pay and efficiency agreement.'

### Iceberg tip

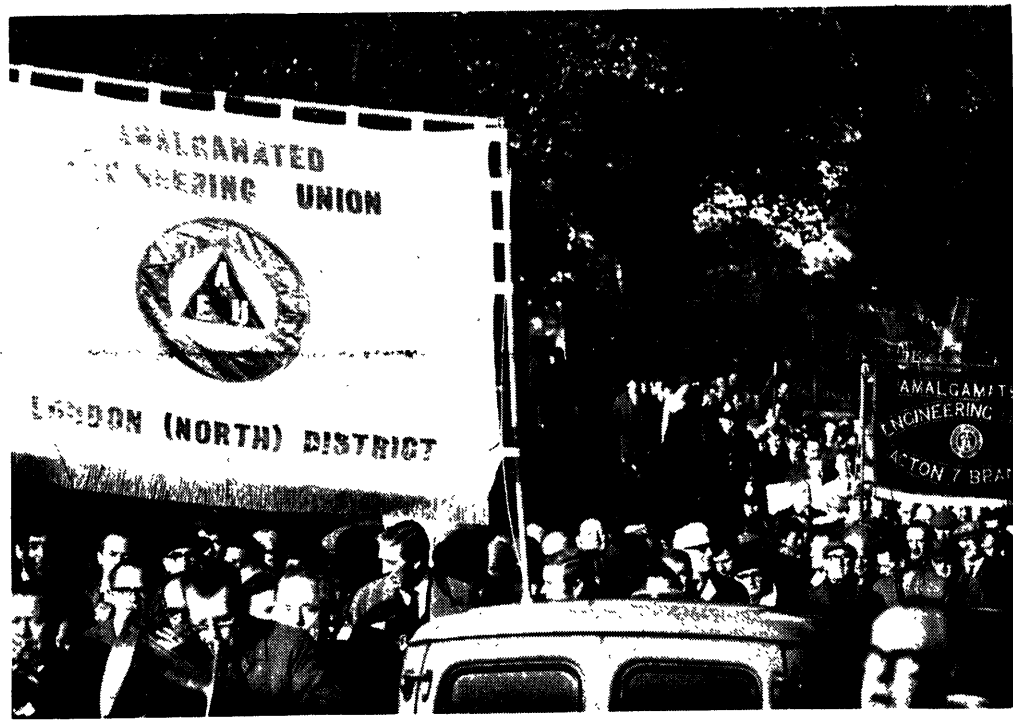
At a mass meeting, Frank Willis brought fraternal greetings to the Acton men from the Swindon Railway Workshop and told them their dispute was 'only the tip of an iceberg.'

'The effect of the pay and efficiency agreement is undermining working conditions everywhere. Having signed this, the NUR is faced with the threat of unemployment amongst its members—I think this is why they have been trying to get their members into the craft grade.'

'I don't condemn the NUR membership at all, but the leadership.'

A sheet metal worker alleged collusion between the LTB and the NUR in breaking the agreement.

The workers then marched to the BBC's White City studios to protest against a press blackout on their dispute.



## Portugal opposition parties banned again

THE PORTUGUESE Ministry of the Interior warned on Saturday that all opposition groups which were allowed to function during the recent 'general election' (in which well over half of those of voting age were debarred from voting) were now illegal.

The statement came after some groups had continued to function beyond the close of election campaign.

For this reason, the Ministry said, 'the authorities had been given very precise instructions to make the law be respected.'

The ban will affect the two main opposition groups which contested the election: the left-wing CDE Party and the more moderate Social Democrats.

## Czech regime hits at union independence

DESPITE months of continuous pressure, the Husak regime has been unable to break the resistance of the Czech cultural workers' unions.

By a foreign correspondent

This fact was admitted on Saturday when the Czech Minister for Culture Jaroslav Bruzek announced that he had abandoned his attempts to win the unions for collaboration with the regime's cultural policy.

Instead, Bruzek said, the government would collaborate directly with individual cultural workers, by-passing their unions.

Bruzek revealed that talks between his Ministry and unions representing writers, television workers, film and theatre actors, painters and translators, had showed 'the unions are still incapable of correcting their inadmissible views, their incorrect and sometimes even anti-state positions.'

### Intimidation

The Husak regime plans to counter this opposition to the Kremlin occupation in the only way it knows—through administrative pressure and intimidation.

The cultural unions, the Minister said, would be curbed by state control of their funds.

Censorship would also be stepped up: 'In the sphere of editing, energetic measures will also be necessary.'

The principle under attack here is not only that of censorship but the independence of the trade unions from the state.

This new measure openly proclaims Husak's right to dictate policy to the Czech

## Stay-in at C.A.V. (Acton) continues

QUALITY control workers at CAV's Acton works are continuing their stay-in strike against productivity proposals from the management.

On Friday, the management offered to couple a 15s. increase with the proposals—to be paid later 'when the savings have been made'.

But the stewards replied that the jobs of the 13 men who would become surplus to requirements as a result of the proposals were not for sale.

In separate talks with the management, the convenors have proposed talks on 'grade rationalization' as a basis for a return to work.

By an industrial correspondent

The quality control stewards are opposed to this, however. They describe such talks as 'a pig in a poke'.

A full meeting of all stewards has demanded an immediate £1 increase without 'strings'.

CORRECTION: In Saturday's Workers Press, we referred to a strike by inspectors at Lucas's Birmingham area plant. This was, of course, a strike of foremen and chargehands.

## MOTOR WORKERS IN CONFERENCE

# Ten-man advisory body set up

BY DAVID MAUDE

MEMBERS and supporters of the All Trades Unions Alliance from most of Britain's key car and car components firms met in Birmingham on Saturday.

Reports on a wide range of problems facing workers in the different plants were discussed—in particular the fight against unemployment, short-time working and productivity deals.

Fraternal greetings, and a report on the situation on the French car industry, were brought by workers from Renault and Citroën.

A ten-man car industry advisory committee affiliated to the All Trades Unions Alliance was set up, based on representatives from the major plants.

Attending the conference were rank-and-file workers and shop stewards from British Leyland, Morris Motors, Oxford; BMC Service, Oxford; Tractor and Transmission, Birmingham; Pressed-Steel Fisher, Birmingham; Pressed-Steel Fisher, Swindon; Austin, Longbridge; Standard-Triumph, Liverpool; AEF, Southall; Delaney-Galley, Wellingborough and Leyland Motors, Leyland, plants.

Contingents from Ford's Halewood, Southampton and Dagenham plants; Vauxhall's factories at Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port and from Rootes, Linwood, were also present.

From Coventry came workers at Rolls Royce, Massey-Ferguson, Dunlop and Coventry Radiators.

The car components side was represented by stewards and workers from Morgan Crucible, London, and from five Joseph Lucas combine plants—Lucas-CAV, Liverpool; Lucas, Birmingham; CAV, Acton; Girling's, Bromborough and Simms Motor Units, London.

### NEED A LEAD

The mood of the conference was caught by one Ellesmere Port Vauxhall steward, who said:

'I'm here today because we need a leadership in the motor industry, we've been let down from every quarter so far.'

There was a will to fight the management's new productivity proposals in the Merseyside plant, an instinct that something was wrong. 'We had the company licked, but then we got the lumbur punch, the knife in the back from our own officials.'

If any carworker was faced with a Measured-Day Work scheme, the steward warned, 'leave it alone or you'll end up like Ford's and Vauxhall's'.

The All Trades Unions Alliance has taken a lead in fighting these deals.

After describing the 'carve-up' of Vauxhall workers that had been organized by union officials to push through acceptance of the company's productivity proposals, the steward made 'one final point in answer to Hegland' (Vauxhall's US director).

### ON THE MOVE

'He's been giving it out in the press that everyone at Vauxhall wants to accept the deal and it's just a handful of "troublemakers" who're preventing this happening. "No, Mr Hegland! It's not a handful. It's the working class on the move—and you'd better beware of it!"

'The purpose of this conference', explained the chairman, a British-Leyland senior steward, in opening the discussion, 'is to hammer out a policy for the motor industry—against the employers and against the union officials who won't fight them.'

As the capitalist class was organizing on a national and even international scale, carworkers had to do the same.

In the discussion of common problems and the setting-up of a committee, the conference would be making a start on this.

It's often difficult for us

● PAGE 4 COL. 4 →

### A.T.U.A.

meetings  
RAMSGATE

'The Common Market'  
Tuesday, November 11  
8 p.m.

Flowing Bowl  
Newington Estate

OLLERTON (NOTTS)  
'Lessons of the miners'  
strike'

Saturday, November 15  
1 p.m.

Hop Pole Hotel  
Speakers:  
Two Yorkshire miners

### GREET

## WORKERS PRESS

at two public meetings

See the film of the first issue being prepared and printed and the film 'Young Socialists, 1969'

### OXFORD

Friday, November 21, 8 p.m.  
Northgate Hall  
St. Michael's Street

### GLASGOW

Sunday, November 23, 7.30 p.m.  
Partick Burgh Hall  
(nr. Merkland Street underground)

Speakers at both meetings will be:  
YE BANDA (Editor of Workers' Press)  
SHEILA TORRANCE (National Secretary of the Young Socialists)



Full subscription  
(Posted daily)  
£10 a year  
£24 for three months

Two editions  
(For any two days  
you select)  
£4 a year  
£1 for three months

I would like to subscribe to Workers' Press for

Name .....

Address .....

Post to: Circulation Organizer, Workers' Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4. (Tel: 01-720-2000)

### WEATHER

(For 24 hours from Monday noon)

Outlook for following 48 hours: changeable with occasional rain in all parts. Temperatures near or above normal.

London area, S.E. and Central Southern England, E. and W. Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals. Showers, cloudy with longer outbreaks of rain late today and tonight.

Wind W. to S.W., strong, gale force at times. Near normal temperatures. Maximum 11C (52F).

S.W. England: Becoming cloudy with outbreaks of rain,

but showery later tonight and tomorrow. Wind W. to S.W., strong, gale force at times. Near normal temperatures. Maximum 12C (54F).

N.W. England, Glasgow area, N. Ireland: Squally showers with thunder and hail. Snow over hills. Wind W. to S.W., strong to gale. Below normal temperatures. Maximum 8C (46F).

Central Northern England, Edinburgh: Sunny spells, but scattered showers in places. Wind S.W., fresh or strong. Cold with snow over hills and slight frost at night. Maximum 7C (45F).

**THREE HUNDRED delegates from North West branches of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers (ASW) have rejected the building employers' final wage offer.**

The delegates had been attending one of many emergency regional conferences called by the ASW Executive Committee in the last few weeks to consider the employers' wage and productivity proposals.

The north-west meeting was picketed by 400 joiners from big sites in Manchester and Merseyside, who had stopped their jobs and travelled by coach to tell the delegates to reject the employers' offer and demand immediate wage increases without 'strings'.

The meeting itself was a stormy one. Speakers from the floor were overwhelmingly against the package deal, but at first the platform would not take any resolutions.

There was uproar at their refusal and eventually the rank and file forced the platform to put a resolution to the floor:

'This conference completely rejects the employers' latest offer, and asks the executive committee of the ASW to ask the employers for a larger increase.'

This in turn provoked more uproar because the resolution made no mention of the strings, and indeed implied that the strings were acceptable.

**'Conned'**

In reply to the majority of delegates who protested at this resolution, the platform said that if they did not accept it, then they must be in favour of the original offer!

There were shouts of, 'We've been conned! That's a fiddle!'

The executive's resolution was passed, however, after a storm of protest, and the delegates felt they had been kidded.

Meanwhile pickets organized by the Manchester Building Workers' Movement held a meeting outside the conference and then were led a meandering route through the back streets of Manchester to a half empty building, which turned out to be the North West offices of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers.

They then marched back to the conference hall where another outdoor meeting was held and a decision taken to ask the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives (NFBTO) to take 'any action needed' to improve the wage offer.

Many pickets who had travelled from Liverpool and taken a day off to see some action taken must have been sorely disappointed by this fiasco of a march.

The setting for the calling of this conference was an NFBTO meeting held on September 11, at which there was reported to be a very sharp division of opinion on whether or not the employers' offer should be accepted.

**Far reaching**

The stumbling blocks are the far-reaching 'strings' in the 'package deal' which the bosses want for their small monetary concessions.

The NFBTO meeting finally resolved:

'That this meeting stands adjourned to enable: (a) the unions to have further consultations with members, and (b) the ad hoc committee to be recalled in order to spell out the productivity elements in the agreement.'

The Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers has already asked for and received individual branch opinions of the wage negotiations, and is believed to have rejected the employers' offer.

Put forward as a basis for a full and final settlement; the employers' offer is for three increases of basic wage for both tradesmen and labourers. (See Fig. 1.)

	Craftsmen Grade A Rate For 40 Hours	% Change Over Previous Figure	Labourers Grade A Rate For 40 Hours	% Change Over Previous Figure
Current	£15 16s. 8d.	None	£13 10s. 0d.	None
Proposed	£16 11s. 8d.	4.7	£14 1s. 8d.	4.3
Nov. 69 (41d. +)		(31d.)		
Nov. 70 (41d. +)	£17 7s. 0d.	4.6	£14 15s. 0d.	4.7
Nov. 71 (41d. +)	£18 2s. 0d.	(4d.)	£15 8s. 0d.	4.4

**FROM MIKE FARLEY**



Building workers demonstrate last year against the union leadership's sell-out, to the government, over the penny-an-hour cut in wages.

# Building workers latest pay negotiations

The employers also offer what they call a fixed addition to the standard weekly rate of wages—a form of bonus.

Set out in Fig. 2 are the fixed additions to the standard weekly rates of wages which would make up the minimum earnings level.

	Craftsmen	Adult Labourers	Adult female operatives on craft processes and adult female operatives on other than craft processes: 85% of craftsmen's or labourers' MEL fixed addition as appropriate.
Nov. 1969	20s.	17s. 0d.	
Nov. 1970	30s.	25s. 6d.	
Nov. 1971	40s.	34s. 0d.	

The fixed addition, when lumped together with the standard weekly rate, is to be called the 'Minimum Earnings Level', i.e. the MEL of a joiner in 1971 should be £20 2s.

past, under many different and equally long names, and on well-organized jobs have fought the employers' efforts in this direction.

What they want is to get bricklayers to do joiners' work, joiners to do steel-fixers' work and both of them to do

their own scaffolding and labouring.

(b) Revised bonus system. This means an end to site negotiations by shop stewards and site committees and a handing over of all such negotiations to national officials. The result would obviously mean a drop in bonus earnings.

(c) Revised holiday payment scheme. This means that men will not, as at present, be eligible for a holiday stamp when off sick.

(d) Revision of the National Joint Conciliation Machinery. This means an end to the 'Green Book' agreement and a big attack upon the shop stewards and site organization in the industry along with the implementation of the government-backed Cameron Report proposals.

These are just some of the proposed changes the employers want for their money. It must be stressed that the proposals in full have not as yet been put to the rank and file.

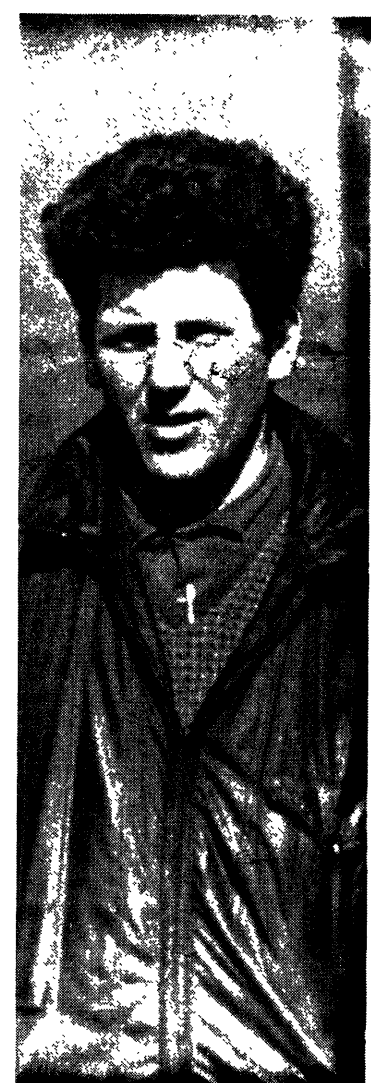
**Big attack**

Even so, one can see that the building employers are preparing for a big attack on trade union organization in the construction industry.

In the light of this attack let us see how the Communist Party prepares building workers to defend themselves.

'Lew Lewis, in the 'Morning Star' of Monday, October 13, after listing the package deal points and correctly pointing out the 'strings', reminds his readers that the NFBTO leaders were prepared to sell the tea breaks for a 6d an hour increase, using 'if the price is right' slogan, and that it was only after big strikes up and down the country that they backed down and the tea breaks remained.

He even goes as far as to say that there is a danger of the union leaders accepting some sort of deal containing the above-mentioned 'strings'.



'Lew' Lewis: to head off struggle.

As the average earnings in the building industry with overtime and bonus is already over £23, it is clear the 'MEL' would benefit only a very small minority.

Added to the 'cash' increases would be an extra one-week holiday at Christmas proposed to start, subject to administrative problems, by 1971.

The employers and unions fail to mention that workers already receive two paid holidays at Christmas, so the offer is only for three extra days, not a week.

What do the employers want for their money?

As far as one can gather from what little information the rank and file have been given, they are demanding some wide and swingeing powers.

They ask for: (a) A declaration of inter-availability of labour.

Construction workers, of course, have come up against this one many times in the

He could, of course, have added that these same union leaders, when faced by Barbara

Castle and the Labour government's Prices and Incomes Board, agreed to accept a penny an hour cut in their members' wage packets.

But no matter—what he has written is still, at least for the 'Morning Star', strong stuff indeed.

Does this then mean that

Lewis and the CP are going to lead the building workers in a militant struggle against the employers' final offer?

Will they then lead a vigorous campaign against the union leadership which, as he has pointed out, is quite capable of accepting the package deal, as he put it, 'if the price is right'.

But of course the militant criticism of the union leaders was too good to last.

In the concluding paragraph of his article Lewis writes: 'All trade union branches

and building sites should meet and declare their opposition to the latest offer. They should call on the trade union leaders to lead a vigorous (sic) campaign, including militant (sic) action! (Perhaps he wants them to take more money from the pay packets.)

So now all is clear.

Lewis and the 'Morning Star' are playing the old Stalinist game of heading off the struggles of workers and leading them into the arms of reformist trade union leaders.

Despite repeated sell-out by the NFBTO leadership it is still them and not the Communist Party whom Lewis asks to lead a 'vigorous' and 'militant' campaign against the employers.

Building workers must have no illusions in the trade union leaders or the Communist Party. These people are incapable of fighting the employers.

Building workers must organize and demand:

- £20 for tradesmen, £18 for labourers now!
- No further increase in the differential rate re tradesmen and labourers.
- Three weeks holiday at grade A rate.

• No three-year package deals.

• No strings.

• A bonus of at least 33 per cent on all sites and projects connected with the building industry.

• Nationalization of the building industry under workers' control.

Building workers must realise that the fight they are having with the employers is linked with the fight of other workers in different industries.

These other workers are also under attack because, in the fight to make British capitalism more competitive, the Labour government and the employers take on the working class and tie its organizations much closer to the state, so that they can enforce speed-up and redundancy, as they are attempting in the docks, motor industry, shipbuilding and other sectors.

Trade union militancy is not enough.

Building workers must join the All Trades Unions Alliance and fight to develop a new Marxist leadership within the trade union movement.

Only in this way can workers defeat the attacks of the ruling class.

# tv column

## Castration at the Corporation

LIKE the rest of British capitalism, broadcasting is in deep crisis.

Commercial television companies are talking openly about their need to merge; workers at the BBC have fought unprecedented battles for wages and conditions; and the whole outlook for radio is clearly disastrous.

In July this year the BBC published a document called 'Broadcasting In The Seventies'.

Concerned only with radio and written in a style of heavy jocular and statesmanlike evasiveness, it was a crucial step towards implementing the drastic programme of cuts, redundancies, and cultural impoverishment planned by the management of the Corporation for the near future.

What is true for the radio today will have important implications for television tomorrow, however much the form may be changed.

Full of assertions that the BBC to play a full part in the broadcasting pattern of the seventies, it outlined a number of proposals whose effect will be to destroy even the semblance of public service broadcasting that we have enjoyed up to now.

Firstly the principle of 'mixed programming' is to be virtually abandoned. This is the tradition whereby on a single channel the listener is offered the whole range of programmes: news, documentaries, plays, music, light entertainment, serials, sport; a range covering all interests and what the BBC patronizingly refers to as 'brow' levels. (Patronizing, of course, because only apes have low brows.)

Instead the new channels are to be used further to

divide the world and its people into neat, air-tight, separate compartments.

Radio One will continue as an all-pop network; in time Radio Two will have an all-light music output.

The pamphlet says that Radio Three will also put out a 'day-time stream of music . . . and it will now be extended more into the evening'.

It will also (presumably in the late evening) carry some drama, poetry and other cultural programmes.

So Radio Three continues as a cultural ghetto; simply more impoverished.

Then Radio Four, we are assured, will carry mostly news and 'current affairs'. The only problem there is that until government and local authorities find the money for new VHF radio sets for schools and colleges, the present Radio Four will be largely taken up by the proposed expansion of educational broadcasting.

But since the BBC has been saying that unless the government gives more money for educational broadcasting it will not be able to keep up even its present expenditure in this field of £4 million a year, perhaps more of Radio Four than expected will be free for 'current affairs'.

The other major change is that the tradition of regionalism in broadcasting is to be heavily curtailed; instead there are to be 40 local radio stations. Regional autonomy to initiate programmes and develop talent up to national standards will virtually be destroyed.

What should be complementary services are made mutually exclusive by the bankruptcy of the system. What these 'reforms' come down to is this: a severe cut-back in work for musicians, actors, studio workers, writers, producers.

Over one-third of all

musicians currently employed by the BBC will become redundant.

Equity (the actors' union) fears that its members will lose up to 200 jobs a week because of the cut-backs on plays and serials.

The Musicians' Union has fought the Corporation and won some concessions. Equity is preparing for a struggle.

For actors, where the average pay between 26 and 30 is £15 a week and the overall average is £12, these cuts are of desperate seriousness.

Many of them are becoming aware that their dreams of doing creative work are simply grist to the capitalist mill of casual labour and exploitation.

For professional broadcasting workers, the redundancies, decline in standards and paltry wage offer have had startling effects.

Previously sober, middle-class, 'responsible chaps' have been drawn willy-nilly into union action and fights to the point of strikes and overtime bans.

Meetings have been called at short notice and attended en masse.

'Broadcasting In The Seventies' has been unanimously rejected in shop after shop.

Angry demands that the public be told exactly what the BBC is planning have been put; furious repudiations of the BBC's claim that it consulted with unions concerned about the cut-backs have been published.

And behind it all? The deep, unresolvable crisis of capitalism.

At present levels BBC radio is just in the black, but by 1974, even at current rates of expenditure, it will be running an annual deficit of £4½ million

and will have an accumulated deficit of nearly £12 million. And this without taking any account of the proposed local radio.

The government knows that to develop the local radio system will cost at least a further £5,200,000 a year.

Television cannot help because it too is expected to continue in heavy deficit, a situation worsened by the introduction of colour transmission.

Its answer? A 10s. rise in licence fees on April 1, 1971 — after the next General Election—and a few new Post Office detector vans to round up non-paying listeners and viewers.

So economies have to be made inside the industry, and as usual will be at the expense of its workers and the consumers of its product.

Hugh Jenkins, Labour MP for Putney, said in the House of Commons on July 22:

'The BBC has not said publicly what they had told the broadcasting unions—that they proposed to cut expenditure on sound radio by between 11 and 14 per cent.'

Hope that broadcasting in the 1970s will see an expanded educational service look slim; the development of local radio on inadequate budgets will ensure abysmally low standards; a constant stream of recorded music on three channels and the occasional play or discussion late at night also hardly sound like exciting prospects.

But no one should expect that government inquiries and demands for consultation will make any real difference.

One of the great dangers in the present situation is that workers and professionals

coming into action for the first time will be deluded, disillusioned and left hopeless by their own liberal and reformist leaderships.

The broadcasting unions are far from any revolutionary understanding. This is the central question.

A proper desire to protect standards, to defend culture, can never be fulfilled with only good intentions as ammunition.

All kinds of well-meaning people have joined the Campaign for Better Broadcasting, an effort launched by radio workers in September during the build-up of the conflict.

But many of these same liberals will end up on the opposite side to the revolutionary working class.

Lord Hill knows its real strength; a week after the campaign was launched (and whilst negotiations for the paltry 4 per cent pay offer were going on) it was announced that he was to get a rise of £20 a week.

Again, on the day before the ADS rejected the 4 per cent offer, Lord Hill was quoted in *Leeds* as saying:

'An organization for securing better broadcasting already exists; it is known as the BBC and I am its chairman. . . .'

The fight is against the government; the fight has to be against capitalism.

It is the fight of all workers everywhere; the fight to overthrow this system that can build hydrogen bombs and run a monstrous chemical and biological weapons programme, but cannot find a few millions for the wireless.

IN THE midst of it all we learn that the Queen just cannot manage on £475,000 a year!

Two weeks ago we warned readers that all the ballyhoo about over-exposing the royal family on television was just a prelude to even more publicity. We now know something of what it was about.

It is the disgusting, insulting attempt to pass off the suggestion that the Queen is after all a worker and that without a rise since 1952 she must be given more of our money.

She apparently made up the 'deficit' from what is laughably called her 'private' income. It's private all right—it's extent has never been revealed.

But where it came from in the first place has never been revealed either.

The only saving aspect of the whole nauseating sideshow was the evident discomfiture of the Labour 'lefts'.

After all, it was a bit tactless to choose just now to remind the dustmen, the miners, the car workers, the firemen, the power station workers, the evicted G.L.C. tenants, the broadcasters, the whole of the working class, about just how well off they really are or can ever hope to become under capitalism.

For the record—and make no mistake, we're keeping it—here are the current wage rates for the royals as given by William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife, in a discussion with one Colonel Du Parc Braham on 24 Hours (November 6):

- Queen—£475,000 per annum. Duke of Edinburgh—£70,000 per annum. Queen Mother—£70,000 per annum. Duke of Gloucester—£35,000 per annum. Princess Margaret—£15,000 per annum.

It's a hard life on a minimum wage of £288 per week! As the song goes, 'Nobody wants you when you're down and out!'

**B.B.C.-1**

9.15 a.m.—12.25 p.m. Schools. 1.00 Bob Yn Dri. 1.30 Watch With Mother. 1.45-1.53 News and Weatherman. 2.05-2.35 Schools. 3.45 Malcolm Muggeridge Asks The Question Why. 4.20 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Wacky Races and Space Kidettes. 5.15 Monster Music Mash. 5.44 Babar. 5.50 National News and Weather. 6.00 London—Nationwide. 6.45 Z Cars. 7.05 Tomorrow's World. 7.30 Bobbie Gentry. 8.00 Carbo. 8.50 The Main News and Weather. 9.10 Professional Boxing. 10.15 He and She. 10.40 24 Hours. 11.15 Viewpoint. 11.40 Weatherman.

All regions as BBC-1 except at the following times: Midlands and East Anglia: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Midlands Today. Look East. Weather. Nationwide. 10.15-10.40 Forum. 11.42 News Summary. North of England: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Look North. Nationwide. 11.42 Northern News Headlines. Scotland: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Reporting Scotland. Nationwide. 10.15-10.40 Quiburgh. 11.15 Epilogue. Scottish News Headlines.

**TODAYS TV**

Northern Ireland: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Scene Around Six. News, Weatherman. 10.00-10.30 Speak Your Mind. 11.42 Northern Ireland News Headlines. Wales: 6.15-5.44 p.m. Telew. 6.00-6.45 Wales Today. Weather. Nationwide. 6.45-7.05 Heddidi. 8.00-8.25 One Of The Family. 8.25-8.50 Cadw Cwm. 10.15-10.35 Z Cars. 10.35-10.40 New 'O'r Newydd. South and West: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Points West. South Today. Spotlight South. West. Weather. Nationwide. 10.15-10.40 Seven Years Before The Mast. Peninsula. 11.42 South and West News Headlines. Weather.

**B.B.C.-2**  
11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 1.15-1.45 p.m. Medicine Today. 7.00 Britain's Role in the Seventies. 7.30 Newsroom, Weather. 8.00 Floodlit Rugby League. 8.45 Jazz Scene. 9.10 Premiere: 'Wings of Fire'. 10.45 Europa: The police in many

countries—as seen through the eyes of European Television.

11.20 News Summary, Weather. 11.25 Line-Up.

**I.T.V.**

11.00 a.m.—12 noon Schools. 1.45-2.53 p.m. Schools. 3.20 Snip and Snap. 3.25 Mad Movies. 3.55 Face Of The Earth. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 Paulus. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Junior Showtime. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News From ITN. 6.03 Today. 6.30 The Rifleman. 7.00 The Tuesday Film: 'Silent Dust' with Stephen Murray, Sally Gray, Derek Farr and Nigel Patrick. 8.30 Mr. Digby Darling. 9.00 Who-Dun-It. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 The Struggle for China: Documentary on China 1900-1949. 11.50 How About You? 12.20 a.m. Impact On Africa.

**Yorkshire**

11.00 a.m.—12 noon Schools. 1.40-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.11 The Tingha and

**Westward**

11.00 a.m.—12 noon Schools. 1.45-2.53 p.m. Schools. 4.01 Bubble Bubble. 4.13 Anglia Newsroom. 4.40 Paulus. 4.55 Junior Showtime. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Star Western Movie: 'The Indian Fighter' starring Kirk Douglas and Elsa Martinelli. 8.30 Mr Digby Darling. 9.00 Who-Dun-It. 10.00 News. 10.30 The Struggle for China. 11.50 All Our Yesterdays. 12.20 a.m. Reflection.

**Anglia**

10.58 a.m.—12 noon Schools. 1.43-2.53 p.m. Schools. 4.10 Castle Haven. 4.35 Anglia Newsroom. 4.40 Paulus. 4.55 Junior Showtime. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Star Western Movie: 'The Indian Fighter' starring Kirk Douglas and Elsa Martinelli. 8.30 Mr Digby Darling. 9.00 Who-Dun-It. 10.00 News. 10.30 The Struggle for China. 11.50 All Our Yesterdays. 12.20 a.m. Reflection.

**Tyne Tees**

11.00 a.m.—2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.09 North East Newsroom. 4.11 News Headlines. 4.13 Paulus. 4.25 Mad Movies. 4.53 North East Newsroom. 4.55 Junior Showtime. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today At Six. 6.30 Where The Jobs Are. 6.55 Castle Haven. 7.00 The Tuesday Film: 'The Goose Steps Out' starring Will Hay. 8.30 Mr Digby Darling. 9.00 Who-Dun-It. 10.00 News. 10.30 The Struggle for China. 11.50 Late News Extra. 12.07-12.14 a.m. Making Good.

**Grampian**

10.58 a.m.—12 noon Schools. 1.43-2.53 p.m. Schools. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 Sean the Leprechaun. 4.30 Skippy. 4.55 Junior Showtime. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News. 6.00 Grampian News and Farming News. 6.15 Out Of Town. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 The Film Stars: 'The Conspirator' with Elizabeth Taylor. 8.30 Mr Digby Darling. 9.00 Who-Dun-It. 10.00 News. 10.30 The Struggle for China. 11.50 Play With A Purpose.

**Scottish**

11.00 a.m.—12 noon Schools. 1.45-2.53 p.m. Schools. 4.20 Scotland Early. 4



# STALINISM AND REVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP IN THE UNIONS

## Some lessons of the recent miners' strike by Cliff Slaughter

The decomposition of British capitalism inevitably leads to the impotence of the trade unions. Only a revolution can save the British working class and its organizations together with it. In order to take power the proletariat must have at their head a revolutionary party.

LEON TROTSKY (Where is Britain going?)

**SPOKESMEN of the employers, from the Tory Party conference to Lord Stokes at the Motor Show and 'The Times' newspaper, are renewing the campaign for direct state control of the trade unions.**

Mrs Barbara Castle and Mr Harold Wilson are going ahead in this parliamentary session with the re-activation of Parts I and II of the prices and incomes legislation, giving them statutory powers to delay wage increases for four months and to have all wage increases referred to the Prices and Incomes Board (PIB).

This pressure will continue, despite the withdrawal of the anti-union legislation under working-class pressure earlier this year. It will continue under a Labour or a Tory government because it reflects the direct interests of the big monopolies and banks.

The motor industry is to be the main target of the campaign for government intervention. Already the union leaders, including the 'lefts' like Scanlon, have capitulated by agreeing to productivity deals and accepting the Ford 'penalty clauses', but more is to come.

Lord Stokes, chairman of British-Leyland, concerned about his £70 million investment programme at the Oxford plant, is openly calling for state control to stop unofficial strikes.

The balance of payments crisis and the so-called 'national interest' are being brought to the fore as a weapon to hit at the workers in this export industry.

This is why Aubrey Jones, PIB chairman, said in Liverpool on Monday October 27 that militant unions 'are not automatically acting in the public interest, and indeed may be acting unfairly to other sections of society'. Naturally he chose Liverpool to make his speech.

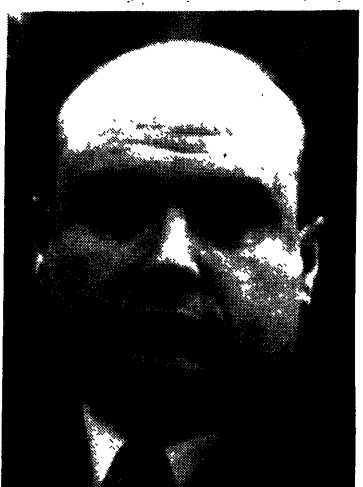
All these proposals are advanced in the interests of big monopolies like GEC-English Electric, which received grants

from the government totalling over £30 million, in order to be able to 'rationalize' and put out of work thousands of workers who voted Labour and paid taxes to the elected Labour government!

Who exactly is 'acting unfairly to other sections of society'?

### Strike struggles

Not only in Britain, but in Northern Ireland and all over Europe, the millions of lower-paid workers and also workers in declining industries like coal mining have now thrown their strength into strike



Lawrence Daly: accepted NCB offer.

struggles which have previously been dominated by the better-paid workers.

The working class is not going to allow the big trusts to go on to bigger and bigger concentrations of wealth and power, leaving workers condemned to the insecurity and penury which is always their fate under capitalism.

The British working class turns in the present phase of struggle to its own strength in the factories and to its trade unions.

But such is the character of the crisis of capitalism that these economic struggles alone cannot provide the answer to the class enemy, who use their economic and political (state) power to try and create the conditions for a new period of super-exploitation of the working class.

First they must smash the organized strength of the working class.

What Trotsky wrote in 1926 about the British trade unions is true for the unions in all

capitalist societies today:

'The decomposition of British capitalism inevitably leads to the impotence of the trade unions. Only a revolution can save the British working class and its organizations together with it. In order to take power, the proletariat must have at their head a revolutionary party.' ('Where is Britain Going?', p. 112.)

Either the trade unions become integrated into the capitalist state and work as an instrument of the ruling class or revolutionary leadership wins out in the unions and leads the working class forward to the conquest of power.

The role of the TUC right-wing leadership under Victor Feather is to try to shackle the unions to the needs of the capitalist state and the monopolies.

Feather and the General Council are trying to do this while at the same time retaining a semblance of union autonomy from actual state control.

They think they need to be left free for the delicate job of handling their members in the manner which they consider they have perfected.

Hence the complex arguments about the mutual rights and responsibilities of particular unions and of the TUC itself in relation to government departments when it comes to regulation of inter-union disputes and all new proposals for legislation and 'trade union reform'.

### Not defended

In these matters the trade union bureaucrats are not defending their members but defending their own semi-independent social positions as trade union bureaucrats.

To the extent that the strength of the working class and the emergence of a new leadership threatens equally the capitalist state and the union bureaucracy, the latter two will come more clearly together, drop their 'differences' and eventually merge totally.

When the striking miners returned to work after consultations with Feather on Thursday to Friday, October 23 and 24, some commentators considered that the TUC's role was perhaps being rehabilitated.

The reality was of course that Feather and the TUC were instrumental in stopping a strike which was of historic importance: it had brought the miners back into the front line of the economic and political struggle of the British working class. 1926 reared its ugly head!

The failure of the 'left' leaders of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers (AEF) and

unionists who are in struggle.

In effect they are collaborating in putting the TUC in better shape for the integration with the capitalist state.

**Implications**

Because they fear the revolutionary implications of mobilizing the full strength of the working class, they draw back from struggle and play this role, a counter-revolutionary role of strength-

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes policy.

Taken together with the 27s. 6d. increase it would have meant a total increase of 13 per cent, which was out of proportion with the 9 per

Obstacle

The miners, through strike action, had won the full wage increases demanded by their union, and the obstacle to their winning 20 minutes off the day for 60,000 surfacemen was that this would have offended the government's incomes

# Government declares a shareholders' bonanza

By Peter Jeffories

AS THE Labour government prepares new legislation to curb wages and the power of the trade unions, all pretence at dividend restraint has now been ended.

From the end of the year the statutory 3.5 per cent limitation on dividend increases will be abolished and general government control over dividend levels will end.

This was made clear in the announcement at the end of last week from Mr Jack Diamond, chief secretary to the Treasury.

The Confederation of British Industry was understandably 'relieved' that the decision, one for which it has been pressing for several months, had been taken.

The City indicated its pleasure with the share price increase which followed the announcement.

### Fraud

The policy of dividend 'restraint' has in any case been a complete fraud.

All those 'left' Labour MPs and trade union leaders who at first supported the Prices and Incomes Act on the grounds that it represented an 'all round' incomes policy also joined in the fraud.

Diamond, answering Commons' questions on the move, said:

'The government gladly acknowledges that on no single occasion has it been necessary to use these powers [the 3 1/2 per cent dividend limitation].'

### Not passed on

What he failed to say was that the profits have not been passed on and dividends since 1966 have been reinvested and are now available for a shareholders' bonanza.

On the other hand, wage increases stopped for the last 2 1/2 years have been lost for ever, or can only get back in bitter struggle against the employer and the government.

In other words, while capitalism remains there can be no control of profits, dividends or prices.

Once more the Labour government has revealed its true face: it does everything to strengthen capitalism while pressing ahead with its attacks on the working class.

# Burnham offers a 'derisory' £50

THE BURNHAM committee management panel yesterday made what teachers will undoubtedly consider a derisory offer of a £50-a-year interim increase.

The offer, representing a 4 per cent increase, will be rejected by teachers who in recent weeks have seen big wage increases won by deter-

# Rowthorn

FROM PAGE ONE

Now the same process is under way again.

In the May 17, 1969, issue of 'The Newsletter' (forerunner of the Workers' Press) we warned about the danger of the journal 'Black Dwarf' edited by Tariq Ali opening the door to capitulation to Stalinism.

(Tariq Ali is one of the leaders of Mandel's so-called International Marxist Group.)

Criticizing an article on 'left unity' by one Bob Rowthorn, a member of the 'Black Dwarf' Editorial Board we had this to say:

'The Black Dwarf has now travelled politically to the right and its path has been carved out mainly by the opportunist revisions of the Pabloite "International Marxist Group".'

We stressed that such a policy prepares the way for 'liquidation into the reformist swamp' along with the Stalinists.'

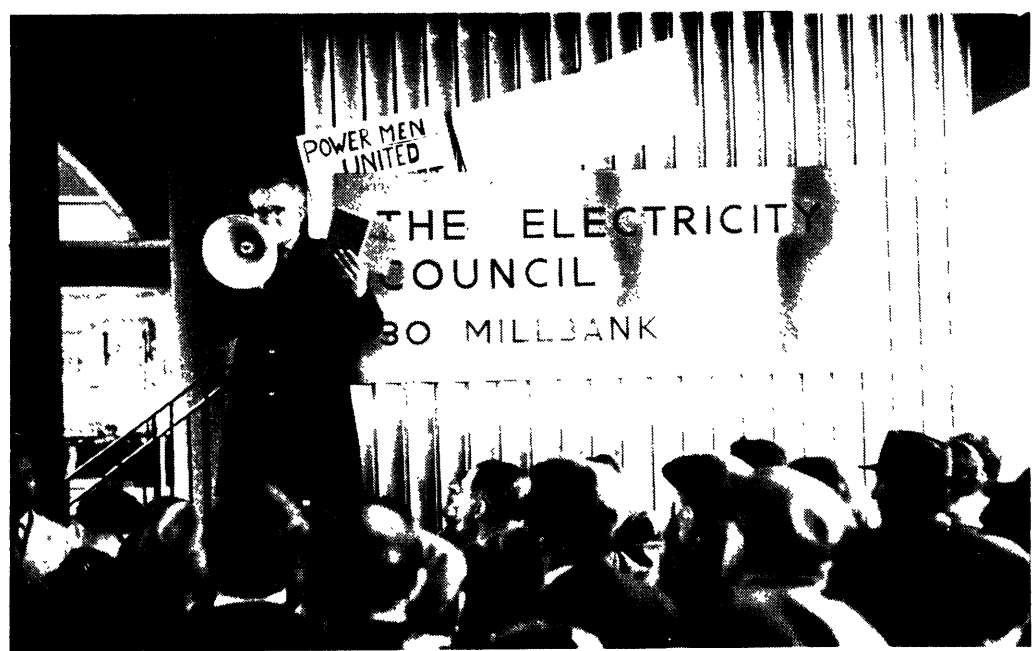
Registered with the GPO as a newspaper. Published by Workers' Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.

Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 186b Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.

# Stewards reject 10 p.c. offer More power strikes for 15 p.c. increase?

By David Maude

MASS MEETINGS of power station workers all over the country are to be held during the next two weeks following Saturday's rejection by shop stewards of the Electricity Council's pay offer of just under 10 per cent.



Industrial action of a more prolonged nature than last Friday's 24-hour strike could well be recommended when the stewards meet again to consider the results of these meetings. They are demanding pay increases of at least 15 per cent.

The Electricity Council's offer has been described as meaning increases of up to £3 a week for the electricity supply industry's 133,000 workers—an old statistical trick.

As the power workers who lobbied last Friday's negotiations told the Workers' Press, only a very small minority indeed earn enough to reach this figure.

It was shown several pay slips amounting to only £16 and £17 a week.

'This used to be a good job just after nationalization,' commented one power station maintenance electrician, 'but now we're far worse off than men doing exactly the same work in outside industry. This is scandalous.'

'Proven rise'

It is not only the low wages which drive forward their struggle.

The Electricity Council's 10 per cent offer is unlikely to be opposed by the government because there has been a proven increase in productivity over the last two years—6.3 per cent more electricity has been sold while 10,000 power workers have gone out of the industry in the last year alone.

This allowed the Electricity Council to show a £100 million profit.

Workers at many power stations are also faced with the threat of combine action half the labour force.

At one London station, over half the present strength is soon to be surplus to requirements.

Speed-up, of course, goes hand-in-hand with this. There is already a considerable amount of flexibility and mobility of labour in the power stations and workers fear their union leaders will agree to more.

Feeling is rapidly building up that power workers should follow the example of the miners, the firemen and the dustmen in order to win a decent living wage.

# MOTOR WORKERS

FROM PAGE ONE

to understand even our own history' he went on, 'and although the All Trades Unions Alliance has always insisted that the "boom" period is over, I think that many of us don't fully grasp this.'

To fail to do this was to ignore the enormous changes that had taken place, the strike wave which had spread across Europe and the big struggles on the horizon in the United States.

'What was required in all these struggles was the building of an alternative revolutionary leadership.'

The basis for pushing up the rate of exploitation inside the Ford Motor Company, explained a worker from Ford's Dagenham body plant, was laid in the rout inflicted on the shop stewards in 1962.

It was only after that the company was able to push through a really massive speed-up, although there had always been Measured-Day Work in its plants.

Union officials were now saying that the fight for parity of earnings with carworkers in the Midlands was a 'pushover'.

This was nonsense. Ford's were preparing for a fight in which they could completely smash trade unionism as an effective force in their factories.

# COMBINE THREAT

The lack of any real leadership at Standard-Triumph's Merseyside plant, explained a young Standard's worker, had meant that while the strike had been completely solid, it had been isolated for ten weeks.

Only when there had been the threat of combine action had Stokes made any concession to the strikers. But many of them were convinced that if he gave them anything at this stage, he would fight to sweat it out of them later.

# FRATERNAL greetings

were brought to the conference by a member of the Alliance Ouvrière, a union delegate at Renault's Boulogne-Billancourt plant.

Giving details of some of the struggles in which Renault workers had engaged since playing a major role in the general strike of May-June 1968, he stressed that the Alliance Ouvrière—like the All Trades Unions Alliance—set out not simply to pose questions of wages and conditions, but to direct the workers' attention towards the political implications of this struggle.

Workers wanted to fight but the official leadership of the Stalinist-dominated Confédération Générale de Travail knew that what was at stake was the whole policy of the government and the fight.

So workers had to fight not only for their demands against the government, but also to control their own struggles.

The interchange of experiences and conclusions between carworkers in Britain and France, he concluded, would be of great assistance to the building of a revolutionary leadership in both countries.

# L.T.B. guards fight 'potential wage cut'

By John Spencer

LONDON underground guards, now in the fourth week of their dispute over mileage payments, are to strike again tomorrow for 24 hours.

This will be the third one-day strike in three weeks and is expected to bring most tube lines to a total halt.

The strike call came on Saturday when the 12-man guards' action committee—composed of two men from each of the lines—turned down a recommendation from union officials to accept a pay offer from London Transport.

Action committee chairman Tom McCloskey described the offer—which would give most of the men an increase of

only 1s. a day—as 'pathetically inadequate'.

Only one guard in a thousand would get the top mileage rate of 7s. 4d. a day under the offer, he said.

The guards' dispute follows the LTB's introduction of a new mileage scheme which brings LTB guards in line with those on the main line.

### Wage cut

This has meant an average 10s.-a-week wage-cut for the tube guards, who cover less mileage than the main line guards.

The LTB guards want their mileage payments brought into line with motormen's mileage money.

They feel the present payment method takes no account of the responsibility and training involved in their jobs.

The new scheme was introduced by the management without the unions' consent, Tom McCloskey told Workers' Press.

'But the unions have done nothing to fight it.'

'With the introduction of this new scheme we've taken a potential pay cut. We feel the trade unions have gone off the rails.'

'We are all amazed at the tremendous response there has been already called. We expect Wednesday's strike to be virtually 100 per cent.'

### Management change

Other committee members spoke of the low wages earned by tube guards.

'One week in two I take home £15, and I have three children at home. This week for 54 hours work I took home £19', one committee member said.

In the background to the dispute is the change in London Transport's management.

The underground has been taken over by the Tory Greater London Council and the government has written off outstanding LTB debts.

The GLC intends to run the service at a profit.

This can only be done on the basis of a big attack on the tube workers.

That is why all London Transport workers must back up the guards' fight.

# CENOTAPH FINES

THREE demonstrators who admitted shouting 'Remember Biafra' during Sunday's Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph in London's Whitehall were each fined £10 for using insulting words likely to cause a breach of the peace. A police inspector said he had arrested them 'for their own protection'.

# MIDDLE EAST

# Nasser reacts against U.S.-Soviet settlement

By Robert Black

UNITED STATES government officials have confirmed earlier reports that the Soviet and US diplomats are nearing agreement on a Middle-East 'settlement'.

According to the same source, final agreement hinged on Soviet acceptance of a series of US State Department proposals.

Almost certainly fearing a deal at Egypt's expense, President Nasser delivered one of his most militant speeches since the June 1967 war with Israel.

Addressing deputies at the opening of the Egyptian National Assembly, Nasser dismissed any possibility of a peaceful, negotiated settlement with Zionism:

### 'Sea of blood'

'There is absolutely no doubt that we have no alternative other than to wage the battle of destiny against Israel. We must fight our way to victory on a sea of blood and across a horizon of fire.'

# Gorton still Tory leader

JOHN GORTON, narrow victor over Labour in the recent Australian general election, held off a double challenge to his leadership of the Liberal-Country Party on Friday.

He defeated William McMahon and David Fairbairn in the ballot for the leadership of the party's parliamentary group.

The exact voting figures are being withheld.

Yesterday Mr John McEwen, 69, the deputy prime minister, was re-elected leader of the Country Party, junior partner in Australia's coalition government with the Liberal Party.

# Rents will rise says Greenwood

Workers' Press reporter

MINISTER of Housing and Local Government, Mr Anthony Greenwood, announced at the end of last week that the government had given 'much thought' to future rent increases after his control powers expire (as part of the Prices and Incomes Act) at the end of the year.

Agreement had been reached with the Local Authority Associations, he said, that 'rents will only be increased to the extent necessary to meet unavoidable increases' in costs.

'Save in exceptional circumstances, in any 52-week period no general increase in standard rent will involve an average increase of more than 7s 6d a week and no

On Saturday, for example, Newcastle council said that the rents of its 42,000 council houses would go up by 3s 9d a week from next April to meet increased interest charges.

The chairman of the housing management committee stated that interest charges could go up next year by £600,000 and the only way to pay this was to put up rents.

Greenwood also admitted that the Greater London Council had rejected even the very limited agreement that he sought.

GLC tenants have, however, not waited for Greenwood to tell them that he can do nothing for them.

At least 4,000 of them are determined to continue withholding rent increases imposed last year, despite the GLC's application for eviction orders.

# Seven arrests in Danish 'Security' witch-hunt

IN THE last week the Danish police have raided two left-wing periodicals and arrested seven of their supporters.

The pretext given for this witch-hunt is alleged publication of 'secret military information' by the journals 'Vietnam Solidarity' and the bi-weekly 'Politisk Revy'.

# Milan TV workers on Fiat demo

THOUSANDS of workers clashed with Milan police after a rally protesting against poor television coverage of Italy's current strike wave.

Around 3,000 workers attacked the sales and spare parts headquarters of the Fiat company and demanded that clerical workers come out to join them in the rally.

Police hit back with a barrage of tear gas grenades followed by baton charges. 25 policemen were injured and three workers taken to hospital.

The most significant aspect of the rally was the support given by television workers and journalists who were in agreement with the workers that the heads of the TV, radio, and the press had been operating a partial black-out on the development of the strike movement.

In Rome, journalists joined engineering workers in a demonstration in front of the Italian state television headquarters.

They have been thrust into the wages fight as the advance guard of an enormously powerful working-class army.

Fred Borch, GE's chief executive, underlined the importance of the current strike when he said that a retreat by the firm now would give the economy another up-spin to super-inflation.

# Growing movement

This strike could not have come at a more favourable time for the American working class as coincided with the growing movement against the Vietnam war and the rift that its continuation is producing inside the US ruling class.

1970 can and must be a year of big advances for the US working class, towards the Labour Party and the building of revolutionary Trotskyist leadership.

# Apollo 12 blast-off Friday Crisis behind U.S. moonshot

By a science correspondent

THE APOLLO-12 team has begun the countdown for the second moon-walk mission with lift-off just four days away.

From now until Friday, every system of the rocket and the two spacecraft, the Apollo command module and the lunar module, will be thoroughly checked out.

After lift-off from Pad 39A at Cape Kennedy at 5.23 p.m. BST on Friday, November 14, the schedule of main events, including TV transmissions, will be as printed below.

Undoubtedly, millions of people throughout the world will be watching their TV sets and following the progress of the three US astronauts—Charles Conrad, Richard Gordon and Alan Bean—on their hazardous journey, although, in essence, the voyage will repeat what was carried out by the Apollo-11 team.

The lunar surface will be 'seeded' with instruments and an attempt will be made to contact the robot Surveyor ship.

# NASA ROCKED

Yet behind the tremendous publicity campaign for the Apollo-11 astronauts and the build-up to the launching of Apollo-12, a severe crisis is rocking the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

There is growing criticism by space scientists of the orientation of the US space programme towards 'space spectacles' and a number of resignations have taken place since last July.

Part of this has been the lack of preparation of the Apollo flights up to Apollo-20 in 1972.

It is felt that three flights a year does not give adequate opportunity for modifying consecutive spacecraft in the light of knowledge gained from previous flights.

In other words, too much cash and too much risk in too short a time for a relatively small gain in scientific data.

# WELL AHEAD

At the same time, the Russians are known to be four years ahead in the development of re-usable space shuttles.

Such a vehicle, which could be used perhaps 100 times, would reduce the cost of transportation into Earth orbit from 1,000 dollars a pound to around 25 dollars and would cut drastically the cost of constructing space stations.

The Americans hope that by 1977 they will be able to construct shuttles powered by the Nerva nuclear rocket engine which is estimated to

More is involved in 'peaceful co-operation' in space than simply pooling resources and scientific know-how as both US imperialism and the Soviet leadership realize.

The desire of scientists to collaborate on space research will be grouped by the bureaucracy to further its plans for a rapid rapprochement with the Americans to block the European revolution.

This will increase the danger of the penetration of capital into the USSR—an urgent necessity for imperialism in severe economic crisis.

The development of a planned world socialist economy is essential for the scientists' plans to bear their full fruit.

This is not a question of Utopian schemes of 'co-operation' but the extension of the workers' states by revolutionary means.

# TELEVISION TIMETABLE

DATE	TIME	EVENT	TV DURATION
Friday 14	08.10 p.m.	Out of earth orbit	08.38 p.m. 70 mins.
Sunday 16			00.53 a.m. 30 mins.
Monday 17	04.52 a.m.	Into lunar orbit	09.33 a.m. 50 mins.
Tuesday 18			05.23 a.m. 30 mins.
Wednesday 19	01.23 a.m.	Entry into lunar module	04.18 a.m. 20 mins.
	07.58 a.m.	Touchdown	12.03 p.m. 3 1/2 hrs.
	12.08 p.m.	First walk begins	
Thursday 20	06.42 a.m.	Second walk begins	06.52 a.m. 3 1/2 hrs.
	08.42 a.m.	Surveyor site activities	
	03.27 p.m.	Lift-off from Moon	06.43 p.m. 25 mins.
Friday 21	07.03 p.m.	Mocking	
	09.27 p.m.	Return journey begins	10.18 p.m. 20 mins.
Sunday 23			12.53 p.m. 30 mins.
Monday 24	10.03 p.m.	Spashdown	

the capitalist nation state nor 'socialism in one country' can provide the resources for a permanent Moon colony or a viable and safe expedition to Mars.

The latter would involve an annual expenditure reaching eight billion dollars a year and an estimated cost for the expedition of up to 48 billion dollars.

# 'JOINT EFFORT'

Many Americans are asking why space exploration cannot be carried out more economically on proper international lines.

Scientists are suggesting that a Lunar International Laboratory should be a target for the near future, ferried out to the Moon by both Russian and American vehicles and assembled by an international team.

Perhaps even a World Space Authority to plan and co-ordinate development of Moon bases, space stations and manned interplanetary expeditions might be considered.

# GENERAL ELECTRIC WORKERS FIGHT NIXON'S FREEZE

By a foreign correspondent

THE NATIONWIDE strike of US General Electric (GE) workers has now broadened out into a fight against the policies of the Nixon government.

US Labour Secretary George Schultz made it clear in a television talk that GE were digging in so hard 'because they are feeling the effect of the administration's anti-inflation policy. . . . There's nothing more likely to put backbone into negotiators as a squeeze on profits.'

GE's 300,000 workers are only one group of 4 million workers with wage claims due for re-negotiation in the next few months.

They have been thrust into the wages fight as the advance guard of an enormously powerful working-class army.

Fred Borch, GE's chief executive, underlined the importance of the current strike when he said that a retreat by the firm now would give the economy another up-spin to super-inflation.

# Growing movement

This strike could not have come at a more favourable time for the American working class as coincided with the growing movement against the Vietnam war and the rift that its continuation is producing inside the US ruling class.

1970 can and must be a year of big advances for the US working class, towards the Labour Party and the building of revolutionary Trotskyist leadership.

# Vicious jail terms in Athens trials

FOUR MEN, two of whom claimed to have been tortured by Greek police, were sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from 16 to 20 years by an Athens court martial on Friday.

This was the fourth day of a series of trials staged by the military regime.

Altogether, 36 people are accused of plotting to overthrow the regime in order to establish a communist-dominated government.

The British and international labour movement must raise its voice against the persecution of Greek socialists and trade unionists.