INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER . SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1970 . NUMBER 332

THE DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE



What

we

think

significant

milestone

proudly salutes the second

annual conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance

as the most decisive step forward of the British work-

ing class in the present

Stalinists are in full retreat from the Tory onslaught, the ATUA, together with

the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists, alone fight to realize the

programme of socialist revo-lution and hold aloft the

banner of uncompromising

struggle against Toryism.

The Workers Press in particu-

lar has given the maximum publicity to the ATUA's

draft Charter of Basic Rights

and campaigned for its adoption by the trade union

branches and trades coun-

We feel that this Charter is

the stepping stone to wor-

kers' power in Britain and

its adoption by the second

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an enormous political change

in the consciousness not

only of the vanguard of the

working class, but also of the less-advanced sections

who are being drawn into

industrial struggles for the

the Charter by all sections

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programmes being advanced

by the reformists, centrists

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or a pragmatic reaction to

a specific situation which

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single question concerning

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to defend workers' basic

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workers can only be guaran-

teed by maximum mobiliza-

tion in preparation for the

revolutionary conquest of

society on socialist founda-

tions, there can be no fur-

ther prospect for the British

working class — only the yawning abyss of dictatorship and fascism.

Finally, and this is the most

important feature of the second annual conference,

the adoption of the Char-

ter will be the most con-

vincing demonstration of

the fact that we are not

involved in a propaganda

battle, but in a conscious

struggle for an alternative

leadership for the working

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more profoundly, that this

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More towns ioin revolt

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This major Baltic port flared into battle as soon as

reports filtered through from Gdansk, Gdynia and Sopot, where, according to official

statements, 20 people died.

The dock area of Szczecin was completely sealed off by

tanks, soldiers and police and

in the central area thousands

the news.
Within hours, many thous-

ands were demonstrating on

The Communist Party head-

quarters were burned out.

buildings were surrounded by

young workers who insisted

on discussing with the sol-

diers, in scenes reminiscent of Hungary 1956 and Czecho-slovakia 1968.

Slogans

Tanks and walls in the city were covered with slogans

like:

'We are workers, not hooligans' and 'We want higher

wages and the right of

third of the town's shipyard

workers did not go to work, and those who did arrive did

Police and troops prevented

Eye-witness reports now

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On Thursday a broadcast appeal by vice-premier Stan-

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Undoubtedly students and

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training units; and doubtless these officer cadet corps are

manned by the most pro-

The speech by Prime Minis-

ter Cyrankiewicz on Thursday

indicates that the bureaucracy

is truly fighting for its life

staged by the fascist Franco

The Kremlin thus breaks the boycott of all Spanish

shipping being carried out

by portworkers in France

Stalinist type of students.

● PAGE FOUR COL. 7

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TENS OF THOUSANDS of Polish workers, youth, and housewives are now in open struggle against the Stalinist bureaucracy.

BY CLIFF SLAUGHTER

Sympathetic US press for Heath's

WITH Prime Minister Heath in Nixon's Camp David mountain retreat, the 'New York Times' yesterday published an editorial supporting the Tory anti-union legislation.

It shrewdly commented that until recently 'reliance on community sentiment and pressure have long enabled the British to conduct industrial relations with only the The non-system worked be-cause British Labour leaders were cautious, conservative types who could represent workers for a lifetime and rarely called an official strike.'

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However, Heath will need more than words of sympathy when he returns to face the growing workers' movement

Centrax will not supply Rolls blades

polishers in Derby heard yesterday that solidarity action by shop stewards at a Devon engineering plant had strengthened their position.

The 170 men, who are striking against the effects of a Measured-Day Work deal Rolls-Royce has introduced into its Derby group of fac-tories, voted by a substantial majority to continue their action and meet again in a

forthnight's time. Derby Metal Mechanics' Society official Harold Brown said after yesterday's mass meeting that there were signs of weakening by the firm—mainly caused by a severe

shortage of blades. Rolls had approached the Devon engineering firm of Centrax to produce blades for them, but stewards there had refused to handle the work, he said.

The Derby men say they could lose £7 to £8 a week if they accept the Rolls scheme The NSMM has made their six-week struggle official. Members of the Amalryworkers involved in the

gamated Engineers and Founstrike had received no backing and no strike pay, however.

A three-man delegation A three-man delegation from the mechanics' union will discuss the dispute with the Union Congress's finance and general purposes 'inner cabinet' on January 4.

INCREASED gas charges for 900,000 consumers were re-commended by the Eastern Gas Board yesterday. An average household will pay between 7d and 1s a week the increases are approved. Families using central heating face an increase of 2s 6d a week. The primary charge to domestic consumers will double-to 13s.

SOVIET oil tankers of the

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Shots and tear-gas gren-ade explosions echoed

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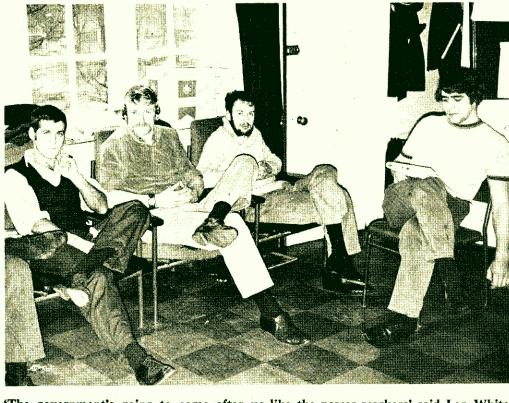
themselves ruthlessly

through the streets after young demonstrators had shouted: 'We want food!'
We want food!'.
In a telephone call which was cut off by the Polish

The police attacked de-monstrators with a brutal-

reach. Anderson expresses the opinion that 'there were hooligans among the demonstrators, but the great majority on the streets were completely innocent spectators

. . . The police made no distinction . . . They threw anyone who aroused their anger'.



'The government's going to come after us like the power workers' said Len Whiteman, seen extreme left with colleagues at Lee Green fire station in SE London.

Working to rule over pay Firemen might walk out

BRITAIN'S 27,000 firemen began an indefinite 'emergency calls only' pay protest yesterday following employers' refusal to up their 5.5 per cent pay offer.

And London firemen's leaders warned that there might soon be walk-outs if the employers' attitude is not

The Fire Brigades Union originally claimed parity with the pay of firemen employed by the British Airports Authority, who earn about £38 a week.

Now they are asking only for 50s. Present firemen's rate is in the region of £27 10s for 56-hour week. Union leaders claim the government has already intervened to stiffen the employers'

21s OFFER

determination.

Heavy weather

for MDW talks

at B-Leyland

MEASURED-DAY WORK talks at British-

have run into heavy weather.

Knowing it will have to announce big financial losses

in its Austin-Morris division

next month, Leyland has at-

tempted to press forward rapidly with its strategy for

pushing up profits at Cowley.

Final proposals for MDW in the assembly plant there

have now been submitted to

Wider compass

wider compass than was in-

timated to national union

officials at York last week-

extending to all pieceworkers

Stewards say that the York

terms of reference allowed

only for proposals to be made

covering workers in the

plant's new South-side devel-

Talks on the proposals-

adding up to a vicious Ford-

style fixed-pay-and-discipline scheme, it is understood—have

now been broken off while

local union officials investigate

Next month's financial re-

sults, which will cover the

year ending in September, are

expected to throw some light

Small profits

They will probably show

the company still staking all

its hopes on producing a highly-profitable new car at

Cowley.
Austin-Morris is believed to

have lost £15 to £16 million

in the last year, and profits

on this nervousness.

created by Leyland's haste.

procedural problems

They prove to have a far

senior stewards.

in the plant.

opment.

The employers were willing to concede 10 per cent, they claim, but Tory ministers stepped in and insisted that a two-hour reduction in the working week — guaranteed some months ago—be counted as part of the final settlement. At 21s, the employers' present offer is a far cry from the original £10 parity claim.

BY DAVID MAUDE

-comparing badly with 1968-

Hence Leyland's desire to

pin the blame on strikes and

rush through MDW speed-up.

The desperation of the combine's rush, however,

proves its weakness; its plans

No decision

FRANCO'S fascist cabinet

met yesterday, but there was

still no news of the verdicts

in the Burgos trial of 16

Basque nationalists, whose

court-martial ended ten days

ago. The prosecution has de-

manded six death sentences

and a total of 724 years

imprisonment for the accused.

must, can and will defeated.

1969's £40 million figure.

BY PETER READ

But the union chiefs have chopped off three-quarters of the original £10 parity de-However, many of the fire-

men, especially in London, favour an all-out fight for the demand. Len Whiteman, London 'E' area committee chairman, said yesterday the feeling was such the men would walk out if

necessary.

'The government is already cracking the whip over us,' he said. 'The men are angry at

the government's interven-E Greenwich firemen assured Workers Press yesterday they

would be 'pretty ruthless' on

banning all duties except emergency calls, but expressed fears of a witch-hunt:

STAINED 'The Tories will try to stain our character,' one said. 'Look at the power workers—they'll try to do the same to us.' Firemen are refusing to do stand-by duties in other stations, and will not ride on tenders with non-union mem-

Anger over convenors' £3000 pay off

Leyland's Morris car-assembly plant at Cowley SHEFFIELD engineers are worried and angry following the acceptance by the union's local leadership of a £3,000 over the Leyland combine as a whole are likely to be small

pay-off to former Batchelor Foods convenor Terry Devey. A seven-week reinstatement strike by 150 maintenance engineers ended this week with the withdrawal of a sack notice against Devey on the understanding he would resign and accept an ex gratia payment from the company part of the Unilever-Bird's Eye combine.

Devey is a leading member of the Communist Party in the area and sits on the district committee of the Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers.

It is certain that other CP members prominent in the Sheffield and district leadership of the union were party the agreement reached So far, Devey's only on-the-

record response when ques-tioned by Workers Press about the reason for this deal has been 'Do you expect me to give the money back?'.

Dutschke: 'Target of the right wing' if

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

returned

THE PUBLICATIONS of the German press millionaire Axel Springer had played a 'significant' role in setting Rudi Dutschke up as a 'symbolic figure for attack' an ex-Mayor of W Berlin told a London appeals tribunal yesterday.

Mayor of the city during the student demonstrations there in 1966, Henrich Albertz told the tribunal that if Dutschke returned to Germany he would become the 'aim of right extremist groups'.

When asked of the role of the Springer press in the student unrest Herr Albertz

'The Springer concern certainly played a substantial role in the movement against the students. They regarded the socialist students as a revolutionary minority of young people who are out to destroy a situation of law and

Impression

'The Springer press was constantly arousing the impression that they were rebelling minorities — a kind of group of agents of the Communist states, particularly the German Democratic Republic. 'Of this there was obviously no proof and the position was therefore absurd,' added Herr

Albertz. Herr Albertz praised Dutschke's peace-keeping role in the student troubles prior to his near assassination by a right-wing fanatic in 1968. 'I consider him to be one of

the most alert and honest people in Europe, which, of course, could be inconvenient for the authorities.'

He said that all politically responsible people in Germany were 'very grateful that the United Kingdom granted him and his family asylum'. For the political right, said

Herr Albertz, Rudi Dutschke became a sort of symbolic 'negative figure' out to destroy law and order.

Attorney-General, Sir Peter

Rawlinson, for the Home Office, asked Herr Albertz when he wrote about bring-ing anti-authoritarian methods learned in the streets into the factory. 'They learned on the streets

the methods to carry through their arguments for the right of the individual and the free-dom of the individual,' replied Herr Albertz. Earlier the specially-con-

stituted immigration appeals tribunal, headed by Sir Derek

PAGE FOUR COL. 6

Mersey dock stewards call for General Strike

stewards aimed blows yesterday at both port speed-up and anti-union legislation.

They blocked talks on a pay-and-productivity deal and endorsed the call for General Strike against the Tories.

A meeting of the local union-employer modernization committee scheduled for yesterday was made impossible by the stewards, who refused to allow their representatives to attend.

In advance

Employer members of the committee - responsible for negotiating terms for the second phase of Lord Devlin's notorious docks speed-up scheme—were told that any future proposals must be submitted three days in advance in future so that stewards can discuss them. Representing 10,500 dockers, the stewards also decided to call for an all-out strike against the Tory government's

Industrial Relations Bill on January 12. They added the important rider that they would person-ally lobby the Trades Union Congress on that day and 'demand that they call a General Strike to bring down the Tory government'.

No agreement

Negotiations on a Devlin Phase Two-type pay-and-productivity deal have been going on for some time in the port, but no agreement has been reached on any

Latest proposals from the employers would have meant the overall wage bill staying exactly the same as at present-with a massive projected increase in cargo throughput. The stewards' response puts

a spoke through the port employers' attempts to force their terms using the jobs threat implicit in the financial crisis of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board.

£1,250 Dec. Appeal Fund needs £562 19s 1d

SO FAR, the total stands at £687 0s 11d. With only five days left before the Xmas holidays, we must go all out to raise the total amount. We are proud of the stand taken by the Workers Press against Stalinism. We were the only ones to speak out against the strike-breaking actions of the Polish government in Ireland and in Spain.

Now, the strike of the Polish shipyard workers shows the enormous crisis of the Stalinist bureaucracy. The Workers Press is the only daily paper that fights for the interests of the international working class. Give us all your support.

Help us this decisive weekend by raising everything you can for the December fund. Post your donations immedi-

Workers Press Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4

METALWORKERS sacked from Birmingham's Silas Hyde plant for striking on December 8 are to continue their reinstatement fight with dele-

gations to Goodenough group factories in Manchester and Liverpool on Monday.

MARCH

RELEASE THE BURGOS 16! NO RECOGNITION OF FRANCO REGIME!

Assemble 2.30 p.m.

Trafalgar Square

March to the Spanish Embassy

The demonstration is being organized by the Ad Hoc Committee of Basques, Catalans, Galicians and Spaniards, 125, Shepherd's Bush Rd, W6

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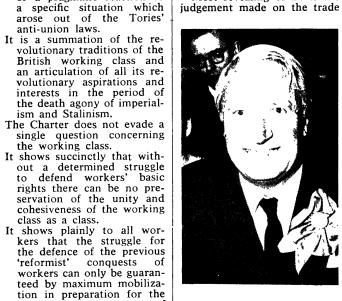
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following sentences: 'Troops and militia have been called into the streets Gdansk) . . . Unfortunately there were also shipyard workers who took part in and even instigated the riots. You know this very well.'

This broadcast, and the military precautions taken by the authorities above all against the shipyards Szczecin, show beyond the slightest doubt that it is the Polish working class which is fighting the bureaucracy. The latter's denunciations

'hooligans' and 'anarchists' fomenting the riots are derisory. Undoubtedly students and housewives are rallying behind the workers.

Disarmed

It is reported that the army took special measures to disarm and remove all equipment from student officer training units; and doubtless these officer cadet corps are Stalinist type of students. The speech by Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz on Thursday

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Soviet oil for Spain

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the procedural problems created by Leyland's haste.

sults, which will cover the year ending in September, are

expected to throw some light

Small profits

They will probably show the company still staking all

its hopes on producing a highly-profitable new car at

Austin-Morris is believed to

have lost £15 to £16 million

in the last year, and profits

on this nervousness.

Next month's financial re-

They prove to have a far

senior stewards.

opment.

Cowley.

style

56-hour week.
Union leaders claim the

But the union chiefs have chopped off three-quarters of the original £10 parity de-

The Fire Brigades Union originally claimed parity with the pay of firemen employed However, many of the fire-men, especially in London, by the British Airports Authority, who earn about £38 a week. favour an all-out fight for the démand. Len Whiteman, London 'E' area committee chairman, said yesterday the feeling was such Now they are asking only for 50s. Present firemen's rate

the men would walk out if necessary. 'The government is already cracking the whip over us,' he said. 'The men are angry at

government's interven-E Greenwich firemen assured Workers Press vesterday they would be 'pretty ruthless' on banning all duties except

emergency calls, but expressed fears of a witch-hunt:

'The Tories will try to stain our character,' one said. 'Look at the power workers—they'll try to do the same to us.' Firemen are refusing to do stand-by duties in other stations, and will not ride on tenders with non-union members.

STAINED

Anger over convenors' £3000 pay off

SHEFFIELD engineers are

worried and angry following the acceptance by the union's local leadership of a £3,000 pay-off to former Batchelor over the Leyland combine as a whole are likely to be small Foods convenor Terry Devey. A seven-week reinstatement -comparing badly with 1968strike by 150 maintenance en-gineers ended this week with the withdrawal of a sack 1969's £40 million figure. Hence Leyland's desire to pin the blame on strikes and notice against Devey on the rush through MDW speed-up. understanding he would re-The desperation of the combine's rush, however, sign and accept an ex gratia payment from the company, proves its weakness; its plans part of the Unilever-Bird's must, can and will be defeated.

Eye combine. Devey is a leading member of the Communist Party in the area and sits on district committee of Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers.

It is certain that other CP members prominent in the Sheffield and district leadership of the union were party the agreement reached with Batchelor's. So far, Devey's only on-the-

record response when ques-tioned by Workers Press about the reason for this deal has been 'Do you expect me to give the money back?'.

Dutschke: 'Target of the right wing' if returned

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

THE PUBLICATIONS of the German press millionaire Axel Springer had played a 'significant' role in setting Rudi Dutschke up as a 'symbolic figure for attack' an ex-Mayor W Berlin told a London

appeals tribunal yesterday. Mayor of the city during the student demonstrations there in 1966, Henrich Albertz told the tribunal that if Dutschke returned to Germany he would become the 'aim of right extremist groups'.

When asked of the role of the Springer press in the student unrest Herr Albertz

'The Springer concern certainly played a substantial role in the movement against the students. They regarded the socialist students as a revolutionary minority of young people who are out to destroy a situation of law and

Impression

'The Springer press was constantly arousing the impression that they were rebelling minorities — a kind of group of agents of the Communist states, particularly the German Democratic Republic.

'Of this there was obviously no proof and the position was therefore absurd,' added Herr

Herr Albertz praised Dutschke's peace-keeping role in the student troubles prior to his near assassination by a right-wing fanatic in 1968. 'I consider him to be one of

people in Europe, which, of course, could be inconvenient for the authorities.

He said that all politically responsible people in Germany were 'very grateful that the United Kingdom granted him and his family asylum'. For the political right, said Herr Albertz, Rudi Dutschke became a sort of symbolic 'negative figure' out to destroy law and order.

Rights

Attorney-General, Sir Peter Rawlinson, for the Home Office, asked Herr Albertz Dutschke meant when he wrote about bringing anti-authoritarian methods learned in the streets into the factory.

'They learned on the streets the methods to carry through their arguments for the right of the individual and the freedom of the individual,' replied

Herr Albertz. Earlier the specially-constituted immigration appeals

tribunal, headed by Sir Derek

● PAGE FOUR COL. 6

Mersey dock stewards call for **General** Strike

MERSEYSIDE dock shop stewards aimed blows yesterday at both port speed-up and anti-union legislation.

They blocked talks on a pay-and-productivity deal and endorsed the call for General Strike against the Tories. A meeting of the local union-employer modernization committee scheduled for yesterday was made impossible by the stewards, who refused to allow their representatives

In advance

Employer members of the committee - responsible for negotiating terms for the second phase of Lord Devlin's notorious docks speed-up scheme—were told that any future proposals must be submitted three days in advance in future so that stewards can discuss them. Representing 10,500 dockers, the stewards also decided to against the Tory government's Industrial Relations Bill on

January 12. They added the important rider that they would personally lobby the Trades Union Congress on that day and 'demand that they call a General Strike to bring down the Tory government'.

No agreement

Negotiations on a Devlin Two-type pay-andproductivity deal have been going on for some time in the port, but no agreement has been reached on any

Latest proposals from the employers would have meant wage bill staying exactly the same as at present—with a massive projected increase in cargo throughput.

The stewards' response puts a spoke through the port employers' attempts to force their terms using the jobs threat implicit in the financial crisis of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board.

INNIANI IN TANTO DE LA CONTRACTORIO DELIGIO DE LA CONTRACTORIO DE LA C

£1,250 Dec. **Appeal Fund** needs £562 19s 1d

SO FAR, the total stands at £687 0s 11d. With only five days left before the Xmas holidays, we must go all out to raise the total amount. We are proud of the stand taken by the Workers Press against Stalinism. We were the only ones to speak out against the strike-breaking actions of the Polish government in Ireland and in Spain.

Now, the strike of the Polish shipyard workers shows the enormous crisis of the Stalinist bureaucracy. The Workers Press is the only daily paper that fights for the interests of the international working class.

Give us all your support.

Help us this decisive weekend by raising everything you can for the December fund. Post your donations immediately to:

Workers Press Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4

METALWORKERS sacked from Birmingham's Silas Hyde plant for striking on December 8 are to continue their reinstatement fight with delegations to Goodenough group factories in Manchester and Liverpool on Monday.

lans, Galicians and Spaniards,

125. Shepherd's Bush Rd. W6

Bush Rd, W6

Trafalgar Square

March to the Spanish Embassy

RELEASE THE BURGOS 16! NO RECOGNITION OF FRANCO REGIME! Assemble 2.30 p.m. The demonstration is being organized by the Ad Hoc Committee of Basques, Cata-

MINERS

NOTTS. & DERBY.

You are asked to be LOYAL to the Federation !

You HAVE BEEN LOYAL at the expense of your savings, your wages, your domestic happiness.

WHAT IS YOUR REWARD?

Debts, empty hopeless promises, a few shillings here and there, Russian money DRAGGED from desperately poor Soviet workers! and now

A COUNCIL OF WAR!

Against Whom Against What?

AGAINST THE INDUSTRY! YOUR JOBS! YOUR BEST INTERESTS!

BE MÈN, NOT CHILDREN, and FACE THE FACTS!

Crease & Mugglestone, Printers, Station st. Mansfield

THE PURPOSE of the miners' 1926 strike was

threefold: (1) to resist a reduction in wages; (2) to

resist an extension of hours; (3) to resist district

were being reached in Nottinghamshire through the agency

of Mr George Alfred Spencer, a Labour MP sponsored by

the Nottinghamshire Miners' Association.

As a result of Spencer's activities 19 pits in Nottinghamshire returned to work, for which

'services' Spencer was congratu-lated by Ramsay MacDonald.

Miners' Federation of Great Britain Conference, but by November he had begun organ-

izing the pits which had broken from the strike into a perman-

Preliminary

hesitations

After preliminary hesitations,

Spencer's Union—known as Nottinghamshire and Dis-

the Notts coal owners agreed to

trict Miners' Industrial Union-

sole negotiating rights in return for labour relations being main-

By December, the owners had

agreed not to recognize the Not-

tinghamshire Miners' Associa-

tion They also agreed to deduct contributions of ls a week from

men and 6d a week from boys

on behalf of Spencer's Union. And they made a gift of £10,000

to Spencer's pension fund, fol-

lowed by a further gift of £2,500 in April, 1927.

IMPORTANT READING

MARXISM and the

TRADE UNIONS

Trade unions in the

epoch of imperialist

decay .Communism

and syndicalism _

lew Park Publications

tained on a 'peaceful' footing.

Spencer was expelled from the

But in October 1926, while the miners were still on strike, the miners' executive learned that district settlements

agreements.

ent organization.

SOME PAGES FROM MINERS' HISTORY

BY JACK GALE

SPENCERISM the price of DEFEAT

OWNERS' **ANSWER** TO A. J. COOK'S **CAMPAIGN TO BRING** THE MEN



GENERAL STRIKE

At the beginning of 1935 there were only seven NMA members

at Harworth out of 2,285 men. By the end of the year there

were 157 and six months later, 302.

In August 1936 the manager refused to see NMA officials over

the men's grievances, since the

Union was not recognized.
Active NMA members were locked out and men's grievances

-particularly over dirt deduc-

insisted it would employ only

Strike for recognition

By December, Harworth pit

was on strike for recognition of the NMA. One owner—a certain Captain Muschamp—spoke

'We want to adopt the German idea [in 1937, of course, this meant fascism]. If the govern-

ment is to check future trouble it

must put its foot down and put

'In this district we have been very much blessed with peace over the last ten years. This

district can take credit to itself for having smashed the national strike and since then we have

carried on peaceably with the Industrial Union [Spencer's] for

'The country can thank the Industrial Union for preventing a strike a year last Christmas.

This Industrial Union has been

the buffer which has prevented national strikes in this country.

'I am sorry to say that nego-

tiations are taking place which may have the result of smashing

up the Industrial Union. We

reflected this arrogance, declar-

ing that there would only be jobs for 350 of the strikers and

that more than 700 would never

On their

knees

The leadership of the Miners

Federation, by contrast with the

employers and with their own

members, were on their knees.

They were only too anxious to

get a fusion with Spencer's

organization. Spencer was also

eager for this-on his own terms.

these terms which included (1) That the wages agreement

arrived at between Spencer and

the Notts mine owners should

be extended for five years. (2) That there should be no strikes

(3) That Spencer's Union be

allowed to nominate three full-

time officials to the NMA's two.

(4) That Spencer should be

president of the fused Union

in Notts for these five years.

The MFGB executive accepted

get their jobs back.

Harworth management

it down strongly.

ten years.

tions-increased.

Spencer members

G. A. SPENCER

ments issued in the name of non-political trade unionists'.

Outside Nottinghamshire, Spencer found support from the

In the trade union movement,

Bolsover Colliery Company in Derbyshire and in S Yorkshire Barber and Walker's Bentley Colliery recognized his 'Union'. In South Wales he gained a powerful ally in the Powell Duffryn Mining Company.



POLICE ATTACKING A STRIKER, 1926

The pension fund was used to pressurize old miners - for example, in June 1927 Spencer's Executive decided that no more pensions would be paid to men tinghamshire Miners' Associa-

Despite this, membership did not grow as rapidly as had been hoped. The Spencerites had to appeal to the owners to help them build up membership by preventing the NMA from collecting dues at their collieries. In addition, many of the NMA branch leaders were never to be employed in the Notts pits again.

Spencer's Union never represented a majority of the miners of Nottinghamshire. The NMA grew from 7,000 to 12,000 in the first two weeks of 1927 and reached 13,500 by June 1927, while Spencer's Union numbered 4,000 to 5,000 in Notts and

Employers' recognition

NMA membership fell later to about 8,000, but began to rise again in the mid-1930s, despite the fact that the employers recognized only Spencer's Union and excluded the NMA from the District Wages Board.

Spencer and his friends tried to spread their influence, Conferences were held with reactionary employers and state-

I would like information about THE SOCIALIST

LABOUR LEAGUE Fill in the form below and send to NATIONAL SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE, 186A CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON, SW4.

Spencer's strongest supporter was Havelock Wilson of the National Union of Seamen, who had also built his union in close co-

operation with the employers.

Labour politician Emmanuel Shinwell declared that Havelock Wilson had 'made a bargain with the shipowners so that nobody outside his union should be employed, and he opposed the Labour Party in every way'. The oppose the General Strike.

An interest-free loan

The NUS made an interest-free loan of £10,000 to Spencer's Union and placed organizers and cars at its disposal in S Wales. In Newcastle, the NUS organized a meeting for Wilson, Spencer and Frank Hodges.

Colliery officials issued free railway and bus tickets and organized free car rides to get miners to this meeting.

Victimization of NMA men continued in the Notts pits, the employers claiming that the men wanted only Spencer's Union. The TUC organized a ballot of Notts miners, under the supervision of an independent firm of solicitors.

Despite management victimization, the results — published on May 4, 1928 — revealed that 32,277 Notts miners favoured the NMA and only 2,533 voted for Spencer. This, however, made no difference to the employers.

For example, at Welbeck Colliery the owners gave all the men notice. During the notice period, reduced price lists were

issued, which were agreed to by Spencer's Union.

Only those men who accepted reduced prices and who agreed to have contributions to Spencer's Union stopped out of their pay were re-employed. 800 men lost their jobs rather than submit to these terms.

In some Nottinghamshire mining villages, merely to be known as an NMA member was to invite the sack. At Annesley Colliery 200 men were given notice and told that the notices would operate unless they joined Spencer's Union.

The TUC talked about the problem, but did nothing.

Hundreds of men were driven out of the pits for refusing to

Failure to grow

In many pits real trade unionism disappeared. Bilsthorpe Colliery had only 40 NMA members, Ollerton only 25, Harworth only six and Thorseby only three.

Yet, despite this, workers' courage and steadfastness was responsible for Spencerism's failure to grow into a national miners' organization and for the failure of Spencer and Havelock Wilson to build a 'non-political' trade union centre in opposition to the TUC.

By 1935 the miners' fighting spirit was on the up-grade once again and they voted by a national majority of 380,136 to strike for a flat rate addition to wages of 2s a day. The leadership, however, accepted much less, varying from 1s to 5d in

Things came to a head at Harworth Colliery at Bircotes in N Nottinghamshire. This village was a company village. The land and houses were owned by the Company (Barber Walker). The Church was also in the company's pocket since the company not only provided the land on which the church, the parish hall and the Salvation Army hut were built, it also paid the curate-incharge £400 a year!



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1971. 11 a.m.

PALACE Wood Green

London, N22

ALEXANDRA

All Trades Unions Alliance **GREAT NATIONAL** RALLY AGAINST TORYISM

Young Socialists and

BOOK THIS DATE NOW!

of the MFGB repudiated the executive and rejected Spencer's terms outright. Subsequently a ballot vote resulted in a huge majority for a national strike to gain recognition and no victimizations at Harworth

A ballot of Harworth miners over which Union should represent them went 1,175 for the NMA and only 145 for Spencer's Union. But the Company still

tion until his retirement in 1945; the Spencer-negotiated wages agreement became binding

What happened, The Union leadership ignored both the Conference decision and the ballot.

The NMA fused with Spencer's Union on September 1, 1937, to form the Nottinghamshire and District Miners' Federated Union.

Spencer became the permanent president of this organizaAnd the MFGB gave what amounted to a strike-free pledge to the Notts owners.

Scabs under police escort

What became of the Harworth

They had fought on valiantly. In June 1937, 16 men and one woman were charged with riotous assembly as scabs were being

into work under heavy police escort.

One of these received two years' hard labour, two got 15 months, one got 12 months, six (including Mrs Margaret Haymer) got nine months, one got six months and one four months.

And what reward did these workers receive from their so called leadership?

They were abandoned. The management was allowed impose its sackings and only 350 out of almost 1,000 strikers got

The leaderships of the miners had capitulated both to Spencer and to the employers.



'LAW AND ORDER', 1926

TV SATURDAY

BBC 1

9.35 a.m. Square two. 10.00-10.30 Si dice cosi. 12 noon Weather. 12.05 p.m. Space kidettes. 12.25 EdandZed. 12.45 Grandstand. 12.50 Football preview. 1.10, 1.40 Fights of the week. 1.20, 1.50, 3.00 Racing from Ascot. 2.10 Cricket. Second Test: Australia v England. 2.45, 3.20 International table tennis: England v Sweden. 3.35 Rugby league: Leigh v Featherstone, 4.50 Results service, 5.20 Pink Panther show. 5.40 News and weather. 5.50 Dolphin safari.

6.05 IF ITS SATURDAY IT MUST BE NIMMO. 6.45 DIXON OF DOCK GREEN. 'File No 7/948732/462'.

7.30 THE ROLF HARRIS SHOW.

8.20 SATURDAY THRILLER. 'Fame is the Name of the Game'. With Tony Franciosa and Jill St John. A journalist decides to ask questions about a suicide case which leads to murder.

9.55 NEWS and weather.

10.05 MATCH OF THE DAY. 11.05 BRADEN'S WEEK.

11.40 Weather.

REGIONAL BBC All regions as above except:

Midlands, E Anglia, North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland, SW, South, West: 11.42 Weather. Wales: 12.05-12.25 Cadi ha. 5.50-6.15 Disc a dawn. 10.45-11.05 Match of the day. 11.42 Weather.

Scotland: 5.00-5.20 and 10.05 Sports-reel. 10.35-11.05 Monty Python's flying circus. 11.42 News, weather. N Ireland: 3.35-4.30 Rugby union football: Ulster v Leinster. 5.05-5.20 Sports results and news. 11.40-12 midnight Sports final. News, weather.

BBC 2

3.00-5.05 p.m. Saturday cinema. 'Flower Drum Song'. With Nancy Kwan and James Shigeta. A young girl from Hong Kong arrives in San Francisco's Chinatown.

7.10 WESTMINSTER. 7.30 NEWS, SPORT and weather.

7.40 RUGBY SPECIAL. 1871-1971 RFU Centenary Year series: Ulster v Leinster

8.20 ONE PAIR OF EYES. 'The Dreamwalkers'. Idries Shah sums up the everyday lives of people in Britain today. 9.05 CHAMPAIGN ON ICE. With Roger Whittaker, Mungo Jerry, Tanja Berg and David Rosaire and his performing dogs.

9.55 THE ROADS TO FREEDOM. 10.30 'BEZHIN MEADOW'. Eisenstein never edited this film and it was destroyed but Eisenstein always kept the first and last frames of every sequence he shot.

11.00 NEWS ON 2 and weather.

11.40 MIDNIGHT MOVIE. 'The Last Sunset'. With Kirk Douglas and Rock Hudson. A killer visits his childhood love.

11.05 a.m. RAC road report. 11.10 Music room. 11.35 Toolbox. 12 noon Wind in the willows. 12.15 p.m. Stingray. 12.45 London. 5.10 Forest rangers. 5.40 Ev.

6.10 NEWS. 6.15 SATURDAY SPORTS NEWS.

6.30 BEVERLY HILLBILLIES. 'Jethro in the Reserve'.

7.00 GOLDDIGGERS IN LONDON. 7.30 IT'S TARBUCK.

8.00 HAWAII FIVE-O. 'Force of Waves'.

9.00 THE FBI. 10.00 NEWS AT TEN

10.10 BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY. A musical celebration. Leonard Bernstein, the Vienna State Opera Chorus and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra with leading soloists commemorate the bi-centenary of Beethoven's birth.

11.40 THINK TWICE. With Russell Davies and Clive James. 11.55 THREE SCORE AND MORE.

REGIONAL ITY

CHANNEL: 12.45 London. 5.15 Shane. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 It's Tarbuck. 7.15 Film: 'The Valiant'. With John Mills, Etturi Manni and Robert Risso. 9.00 Gideon's way. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.15 It couldn't be done. 12.05 Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 11.45 Mr Piper. 12.15 In search of St Paul. 12.10 Faith for life. 12.15 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 12.17 Weather. 12.20 Mr Piper. 12.45 London. 5.15 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 6.10 London. 6.15 Film: 'Coast of Skeletons'. With Richard Todd, Dale Robertson, Marianne Koch and Derek Nimmo. Two insurance investigators journey to Africa to find a sunken diamond dredger. 7.55 It's Tarbuck! 8.25 Bold ones. 9.25 Golddiggers. 9.55 Hound and rabbit. 10.00 London. 11.50 News. 12.05 Weather. Action 70.

HARLECH: 12.15 Skippy. 12.45 London. 5.10 Robin Hood. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 7.10 F troop 7.40 Saint. 9.30 It's Tarbutl 10.00 London. 11.45 Cinema. 12.15 Weather. Weather.

HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white

misoedd. 6.15-7.10 ANGLIA: 12.15 All our yesterdays. 12.45 London. 5.10 Ev. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 'Crack in the World'. With Dana Andrews, Janette Scott, Kieron Moore and Alexander Knox. A nuclear bomb is detonated below the surface of the earth. 8.30 It's Tarbuck. 9.00 Saint. 10.00 London. 10.10 Ghost and Mrs Muir. 10.40 Jokers wild. 11.10 Name of the game. 12.35 Epilogue.

ATV MIDLANDS: 12 noon Decimalization. 12.15 Joe 90. 12.45 London. 5.10 Jokers wild. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 Legend of Jesse James. 7.10 It's Tarbuck. 7.45 Horoscope. 7.48 Film: 'The Vikings'. With Kirk Douglas, Tony Curtis, Ernest Borgnine and Janet Leigh. Nordic warriors. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.15 Strange report, weather.

ULSTER: 12.30 Wind in the willows. 12.45 London. 5.10 Beverly hillbillies. 5.40 Sportscast. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 Film: 'The Wild North'. With Stewart Granger, Wendell Corey and Cyd Charisse. A fur trapper from the wastes of Canada comes to town. 8.30 It's Tarbuck. 9.00 Marcus Welby MD. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Movie: 'The Pigeon'. With Sammy Davis Jr., Tarbuck. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.10 Movie: 'The Pigeon'. With Sammy Davis Jr., Tarbuck. 10.10 Movie: The Boone and Ricardo Montalban. Frantic search for a missing diary.

tic search for a missing diary.

YORKSHIRE: 11.30 Casting around.
11.55 Toolbox. 12.20 Skippy. 12.45
London. 5.15 Gunsmoke. 6.10 London.
6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 It's Tarbuck.
7.15 'The Kidnappers'. With Duncan
Macrae, Adrienne Corri, Jon Whiteley, Vincent Winter. The effect of
two children on a grumpy Scotsman.
9.00 Carol Channing's mad English
tea party. 10.00 London. 10.10 'Term
of Trial'. With Laurence Olivier.
Simone Signoret, Terence Stamp, and
Sarah Miles. A schoolmaster is accused of assaulting a girl pupil.
12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.25 On reflection. 11.50

GRANADA: 11.25 On reflection. 11.50 Toolbox. 12.15 Fireball XL5. 12.45 London. 5.15 Lost in space. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 New people. 7.35 It's Tarbuck. 8.00 FBI. 9.00 Champions. 10.00 London. 10.10 Film: "Toys in the Attic". With Geraldine Page, Wendy Hillar and heave locked themselves away from the Attic themselves away from the TESE. 12.15 Local 20.10 ft.

world.

TYNE TEES: 12.15 Joe 90. 12.45 London. 5.15 Bonanza. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 It's Tarbuck. 7.15 Horoscope. 7.20 Film: Canyone Crossroads'. With Richard Basehart and Phyllis Kirk. A young prospector has spent years looking for uranium. 9.00 Engelbert Humperdinck. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.15 Seaway. 12.10 Epilogue. don. 10.10 1. 12.10 Epilogue.

BORDER: 11.50 All our yesterdays. 12.20 Phoenix 5. 12.45 London. 5.10 Big valley. 6.05 Sports results. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 It's Tarbuck! 7.15 'A Star Is Born'. With Judy Garland and James Mason. A band soloist who gets a leading role in a musical becomes and instant success. 10.00 London. 10.10 Theatre. 11.15 Pursuers. 11.40 Love, American style.

SCOTTISH: 12.15 Survival. 12.45 London. 5.15 Mad movies. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 It's Tarbuck. 7.15 Saint. 8.15 Movie: "Peter Hurkos Story". With Albert Salmi. 9.45 Love, American style. 10.00 London. 10.10 Marcus Welby MD. 11.05 Match report. 11.20 Late call. 11.25 Film: "Curse of the Werewoif". With Clifford Evans and Oliver Reed.

GRAMPIAN: 12.30 Stories of Tuktu. 12.45 London. 5.15 Gunsmoke. 6.10 London. 6.15 Golddiggers. 6.45 It's Tarbuck. 7.15 Movie: "Lady in the Lake". With Robert Montgomery, Audrey Totter and Lloyd Nolan. Phillip Market Montgomery and Lloyd Nolan. Phillip Market Montgomery. lip Marlowe detective story. 9.00 touchables. 10.00 London.

ATUA conference today 'Fight for what is ours'

PROTEST . . . or a serious campaign to force the Tories to resign and replace them with a government firmly committed to a socialist programme?

union leaders to fight?

These are the questions facing the working class following the December 8

be among the major issues up for discussion at today's second annual conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance in Birmingham.

Two printing workers who participated in December 8 wind up the pre-conference debate on the ATUA Charter of Basic Rights to be fully discussed and amended at the conference.

PAUL HUNTLEY is deputy chapel father at a central London printing works. He has been 19 years a member of **SOGAT Division 'A':**

ONE OF the most important points is that the only way to make wages fair is to connect them to prices on a sliding scale.

Where I work, the union did once have an agreement on that—but they signed it away in one of the recent wage negotiations.

I think we have to demand that the TUC calls a General Strike against the anti-union laws, though I don't know if they will. They may act with a push—but it requires a very big push!

I'm very pleased to see the stand my union executive is taking, and I think they will make the call for a General

The Communist Party is really jumping on the bandwagon now. After playing down the stoppage on December 8, they've jumped up in the last two weeks and tried to come to the forefront.

I agree with everything in

We've got to do something about wages. In London, if your wife isn't working you certainly lead a very poor life.

other thing is pen-You should have at two-thirds of your wages as pension.

We seem to be paying out loads for the social services and we are not getting much back. The Tories want to have a go at the whole educa-

I am against the abolition of comprehensives; we should fight the Tories on that. They don't see any point in

6.00 NEWS and weather.

10.00 NEWS and weather.

11.15 AD LIB.

11.35 Weather.

BBC 2

ITV

9.45 THE GOODIES.

6.45 CHRISTMAS SONGS OF PRAISE.

musical evening at home

Midlands, E Anglia, North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland, SW, South, West: 11.37 Weather.
Wales: 3.20 Rugby union. 3.50 Swyn y glec. 4.15-5.00 The doctors. 6.10 Bible story in Welsh. 6.20-6.45 O'r

REGIONAL BBC

7.00 p.m. NEWS REVIEW and weather.

9.05 MUSIC ON 2. Vienna Boys Choir.

11.05 FILM NIGHT SPECIAL. Tony Curtis.

10.51 THE ROADS TO FREEDOM. 11.00 NEWS ON 2 and weather.

7.25 ROWAN AND MARTIN'S LAUGH-IN.

8.15 THE WORLD ABOUT US. 'The Living Forest'.

7.25 DR FINLAY'S CASEBOOK. 'Itself and Friend'.

sent to Paris to investigate a trade delegation.

BBC 1

teaching children wide sub-

For them, a working-class child is just factory fodder.

Housing concerns me a lot. I pay £9 a week for my flat. Building should be nationalized, and they shouldn't be paid compensation like they did for the other nationaliza-

I think there should be a Labour government to take office, but I'm not sure about replacing the Tories with

It's the workers' right to overthrow the government, especially this Tory government, but I'm worried if the same Labour government is

The present Labour leaders are inadequate to look after the interests of the working class. I think new leaders will emerge; if it does come to a General Strike, more natural leaders will emerge.

I was very pleased to see the stand printers took on the 'Evening Standard' cartoon against the power workers. We should take more action like that when they make an out - and - out attack on workers.

SUNDAY

i'r bedd.

Scotland: 10.30-11.00 Programme for the deaf. 11.00-11.30 Meditation. 1.30 2.55 Scope. 6.10 No strange Christmas. 6.15 Jesus today. 6.45-7.25 Carol service. 11.37 News, weather.

N Ireland: 2.55-3.20 Children's Christmas concert. 11.37 News, weather.

9.00-9.30 a.m. Nai zindagi-naya jeevan. 11.00-11.35 Seeing and

Made in Britain, 2.29 News, 2.30 Personal choice, Cardinal Heenan,

adventure film. 'Nor the Moon by Night'. With Belinda Lee, Michael

Craig and Patrick McGoohan. 5.00 Carols for Christmas. 5.35 Little

6.10 THE RT HON ENOCH POWELL, MP AND MALCOLM

8.15 GARBO THE INCOMPARABLE. 'Ninotchka'. With Greta Garbo,

10.15 OMNIBUS. 'Somewhere a Voice is Calling'. Mid-Victorian

Melvyn Douglas and Ina Claire. Comedy about a Russian

MUGGERIDGE. Lunchtime dialogue in St Mary-le-Bow.

JANETTE HARKNESS is an executive member of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades' 'A' Division and the union's chapel mother at a large Glasgow publishing firm.

Her attack on the 'left' union leaders' failure to support December 8 officially at the November 14 conference of the Stalinist-led Liaison Committee for Defence of Trade Unions went unreported in the Communist Party 'Morning Star's report of that gathering.

No such political censorship is exerted here.

BASICALLY, I have no criticisms of the Charter. I think it's very good.

The injunction taken out against executive members of my union is an indication of the way in which the Tories the Industrial Relations Bill to attack the trade

I think the older generation of trade unionists—many of whom have been through struggles in the past-feel that if they are imprisoned they will be going to jail in the cause of workers' freedom.

My generation look at it differently. We feel we have to fight the Bill to the very end, and it must be fought

Italian workers on

We cannot hand it down for another generation to finish the job. December 8 was overwhelm-

ingly supported by SOGAT membership. know, all of them—numbering approximately 5,500 — were

This response was a recognition that the Tories have declared war on the working class and that we have declared war on the capitalist society we live in.

London 'Evening Standard' workers showed that they have rights over what they think should go



Award. They can have it back if they don't fight she says now.

We can no longer take the attitude that we can simply protect the gains we have made in the past. We now have to fight for what is and should be ours.

The working class must take the offensive.

Whilst the employing class are using a viciousness they have never used before, at the same time more and more workers are becoming involved in struggles and demonstrations and are thereby becoming more and and lies of the employingclass propaganda.

Our job is to slam home whose country it really is. The power men's strike showed that if men take the

right that is theirs, that is to work-to-rule for a decent wage, then the electricity industry cannot be run. And that applies to the railways and many other industries and

This fact itself demonstrates how right the power workers are.

It also demonstrates that trade union leaders should never settle for less than they

An enormous campaign must be conducted throughout the country — something like on the scale the employing class use when they are going to war.

For our campaign we need to rouse the working class, and this can only be done by

Journalists, clothing workers in

Tuscany, and railwaymen have

also forced strike action on

sharpening activity and provoca-

organizations—culminating in the

alert to the danger of fascism,

and banners raised on the sup-

posedly 'economic' strikes give

them a political character un-sought by the trade union

The demonstrations against the

Burgos trial in Milan and other

cities raised quite clearly the question of the fight against

fascism in Italy.

The Stalinist leaders have

encouraged joint demonstrations

'anti-fascist' parties -

visit, which was abandoned.

Trieste rioting against Tito's state

Many sections of workers are

Alongside this offensive goes

their unions.

bureaucrats.

getting them to understand who are the real people that matter in this country. These are, first of all, the workers at the point of production; their wives, children and the old age pensioners.

Marx explained how things are given a valuation.

What price can be put on life? To me life is priceless. To the employer it is a question of whether, on the death of a worker, the payment of compensation is cheaper than investment in safety precautions and regulations for his workers. We saw this attitude

expressed in Aberfan and the James Watt St fire.

The Charter of Basic Rights

well in the points it makes about the welfare services.

I would express the demand

for equal pay for women differently. To me, equal pay can mean equal misery. The demand should not be taken

up as a separate issue---

separating women from men

workers—but as a class issue. And it is important to fight as a class for the rate for the

In my trade, few women are recognized for their skill. My policy would be to tell the employers that we, the workers in the industry, will make the job-classification.

We should fight for a rate for the job to be negotiated by both men and women in joint action.

In the print industry we were some of the first to be hit by automation, with the development of web-offset plant. We have been under severe attack, but we opposed job-evaluation.

This brought home to SOGAT that the craft was disappearing and it must within the industry all workers.

I am for the organization of workers into a union for each industry.

This is what the glass-workers tried to do at Pil-

I think they put up a tre-mendous fight. Someone should write a book on the Pilkington struggle-bringing out the savage attack by the employers and the governbureaucracy and the power of the workers.

All socialist movements should unite, and I urge all organizations that believe in socialist struggle to come together to fight to defeat the Tory Bill. If we can win the fight against this Bill, we

Fat of the land AN ARTICLE this week in

'L'Osservatore Romano' — daily official organ of the Vatican—denied the allegations of a Dutch member of parliament that the Church was involved in illicit trafficking of foodstuffs. Mr H. Vredeling, a Socialist

Party MP and a representative the 'European Parliament' had remarked on the high level of the Vatican's imports of butter and sugar from Common Market countries. They implied, he pointed out,

consumption of four kilogrammes (almost nine pounds per day) of butter for each of the Holy City's 900 or so inhabi-The implication was that the

goods were in fact destined for profitable re-export-which is a violation of the existing economic agreements. While it has frequently been

remarked (even by priests in Holy Orders) that the circumference of Vatican officials conaverage cleric, this is apparently not the explanation.

Their girth, it is pointed out, is due to the sedentary life that the service of the Lord obliges them to lead, and not to the peculiarities of their diet.

tatively denied that the recent liturgical reforms have involved the enrichment of communion wafers for the faithful.

'L'Osservatore Romano' starts by pointing out that Mr Vredeling's statistics are inaccurate. During the last year the Vatican imported only 1,239 metric

tons of sugar (from France) implying an average consumption of about a quarter of a pound a day per head. A sweet life, perhaps, but by no means impossible for a man

As for the butter, the divine tabloid resorts to different argu-

ments. The Vatican has the right, it points out, to supply food not only to its own inhabitants, but to its employees and dependants in Rome and the surrounding

area—numbering several tens of thousands in all. And, since the price of butter in the Italian market is particularly high, it does so, each soul eceiving only a few

year.
The editorialist ends with a stern reproof to those who '... knowing the Church little and loving her less, seek to find scan-Amen.

PUBLIC LECTURES

Elements of Marxism

The importance of Marxist philosophy in the building of the revolutionary party.

Lectures by G. Healy (national secretary of the Socialist Labour League)

BEXLEYHEATH: Roberts Hall, Christchurch, Broadway, 8 p.m.

Lectures by M. Banda (Editor of Workers Press) BIRMINGHAM: Digbeth Hall, 8 p.m. Monday. December 21.

including the Christian Demo-crats—but it is the contingents of organized workers that dominate the streets. On Tuesday the labour movement in Trieste replied to the fascist riots with a march thouvvoi l'acciaio sands strong. There have also been big anti-fascist demonstra-tions in Milan, Turin, Novara, Cuneo and many other cities and APRI LA BORSA It is this inexorable pressure which is breaking up the basis of the 'centre-left' coalition (of Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, Socialist Party and Republicans). Crumbled The centre-left arrangements in Sicily, Sardinia and the city administration of Milan have already crumbled.

Genoa steelworkers demonstrate for pay increases. Their placard reads: 'If you want steel-open your wallets!'

development.

including Milan and surrounding Lombardy, were paralysed by the And the following day Turin, Piedmonte and the Val d'Aosta in the NE were shut down.

pelled to declare in favour of a one-day national strike for reforms before Christmas.

ment and bad housing. Gallarate, 4,000 workers of the Flexa chemical firm struck and demonstrated against the victimization of a trade union officer. Genoa steelworkers filled the streets of the city during a one-day strike on their pay

out the country have been striking and demonstrating against the government's refusal implement long-promised reforms. Teachers in secondary schools have also stopped work in protest against the lack of qualified staff.

The Stalinists wish to use this movement to secure their place in another government of class compromise and betrayal-but at every point it breaks through the limits of parliamentary manoeuvre and raises the class issues

of wages, employment and the defence of the trade unions. And such erruptions terrify the advocates of 'the peaceful road'. To their impotent bleatings about 'structural reforms' and 'a shifting of the political axis to the left' the Stalinist chiefs now add open incitement to the government to move against their political opponents

in the labour movement. Communist Party General Secretary Luigi Longo this week called on the regime to 'defend freedom and the constitution and break, with the maximum energy, the criminal action of

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the extremist groups'.

11.00 a.m. Morning service. 12.10 p.m. On reflection. Gerald Scarfe reflects on James Gilray. 12.35 Music room. 1.00 Toolbox. 1.25 Granny gets the point. 1.45 All our yesterdays. 2.15 University challenge. 2.45 Big match. 3.45 All kinds of music. 4.45 Golden shot. 5.35 Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. 'Son of the Sun'. 6.05 NEWS FROM ITN.

6.15 HOT SEAT. Cliff Richard.

6.35 TURN OF THE YEAR. 7.00 A HYMN FOR CHILDREN.

7.25 'THE EGYPTIAN'. With Edmund Purdom, Jean Simmons, Victor Mature, Gene Tierney and Peter Ustinov. Egypt in

10.00 NEWS AT TEN. 10.15 'ROLL ON FOUR O'CLOCK'. Play by Colin Welland about vorking-class kids in Manchester.

11.20 CAROL CHANNING'S MAD ENGLISH TEA PARTY.

12.15 p.m. THREE SCORE AND MORE.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 11.00-12.35 London. 2.03 CHANNEL: 11.00-12.35 London. 2.03 Today's weather. 2.05 Farming news. 2.15 Man from Uncle. 3.10 Football. 4.05 Cartoon. 4.35 Date with Danton. 4.45 London. 7.25 Film: 'The FBI Story'. With James Stewart and Vera Miles. 9.45 Eartha Kitt in the Penthouse Suite. 10.00 London. 10.15 Carol Channing's mad English tea party. 11.15 Court martial. 12 midnight Epilogue, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.35-1.25 London. 1.45 The sound of Roger Whittaker. 2.00 Farm and country news. 5.35 Robin Hood. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.00-12.05 London. 12.07 Weather. 12.10 London. 1.30 Sara and Hoppity. 1.45 London. 2.15 Farm progress. 2.45 Soccer. 3.45 Seaway. 4.35 News. 4.45 London. 5.35 Magic boomerang. 6.05 London. 7.25 Film: 'On the Beach'. With Gregory Peck. Ava Gardner, Fred Astaire and Anthony Perkins. Last days of the survivors of a nuclear attack. 9.50 Little tinker. 10.00 London. 11.20 Court martial. 12.15 Weather. Action 70.

HARLECH: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.45 University challenge. 2.15 Soccer special. 3.15 Matinee: 'Value for

Money'. With John Gregson and Diana Dors. Charley Broadbent has inherited his father's business and his father's caution with cash. 4.45 London. 5.35 Woobinda. 6.05 London. 7.25 Screen: 'Ice Palace'. With Richard Burton and Robert Ryan. Fortunes are to be made in Alaska between the wars. 10.00 London. 12.15 Weather. believing. 1.25-1.50 p.m. Weather. 1.55 Education programme. 2.20 2.55 Golden silents. 3.20 Ken Dodd and the Diddymen. 3.30 Sunday's

the move

HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 and HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 12.10 Dan sylw. 1.00 Ceid aad fy mrawd?

ANGLIA: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.55 Weather. 2.00 Farming diary. 2.30 University challenge. 3.00 Randall and Hopkirk. 3.55 Match of the week. 4.40 London. 5.35 Forest rangers. 6.05 London. 12.15 Stories or histories.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.30 Mr Piper. 1.45 London. 2.15 Star soccer. 3.15 'Escape Route'. With George Raft and Sally Gray. Spy story. 4.41 Horoscope. 4.45 London. 5.35 Forest rangers. 6.05 London. 10.15 Carol Channing's mad English tea party. 11.15 Saint, weather.

ULSTER: 12.10-1.30 London. 2.15 London. 3.45 Champions. 4.45 London. 5.35 Superman. 6.05 London. 7.25 Movie: 'The Greatest Show on Earth'. With Cornel Wilde, Betty Hutton, Charlton Heston and Dorothy Lamour. Circus story. 10.00 London. 10.15 Carol Channing's mad English Teaparty. 11.15 Festival cinema.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.35 Calendar. 1.55 Farming diary. 2.25 Soccer. 3.20 'Scrooge'. With Alastair Sim, Jack Warner. Dicken's classic. 4.45 London. 11.20 A little place in the sun. 11.50 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-12 noon London. 12.10 London. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 1.55 Interpol calling. 2.20 Cartoon time. 2.30 Football. 3.25 Greatest show on earth. 4.20 Laughter-makers. Feather Your Nest'. With Edgar Kennedy. 4.40 London. 7.25 Film: 'The Yellow Rolls Royce'. With Ingrid Bergman, Rex Harrison, Omar Sharif and Shirley MacLaine. Adventures of a car. 9.40 Comedy. 10.00 London. 11.20 Carol Channing's mad English tea party.

TYNE TEES: 11.00 London. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 1.55 Farming outlook. 2.25 Shoot. 3.20 Champions. 4.15 Nanny and the professor. 4.45 London. 5.35 Forest rangers. 6.05 London. 7.25 Father, dear father. 7.55 Film: "Serenade". With Mario Lanza and Vincent Price. Damon Vincenti's singing career develops rapidly under the patronage of society woman the patronage of society woman Kendall Hale. 10.00 London. 10.15 Carol Channings' mad English tea party. 11.15 Challenge. 12 midnight Epilogue.

BORDER: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.50 Farming outlook. 2.15 Diary. 2.25 Football. 3.20 Saint. 4.15 Ev. 4.45 London. 5.35 Woobinda. 6.05 London. 7.25 Nearest and dearest. 7.55 Film: '36 Hours'. With James Garner, Eva Marie Saint, Rod Taylor and Werner Peters. An American intelligence man is kidnapped by Germans and flown to Berlin in 1944. 10.00 London. 10.15 Carol Channing's mad English tea party. 11.15 Wayne and Shuster take an affectionate look at W. C. Fields. 12.15 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 12.10-1.25 London. 2.45 All our yesterdays. 3.15 Beethoven's birthday. 4.45 London. 5.35 Charlie Brown. 6.05 London. 7.25 Cinema: 'Oceans 11'. With Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. 10.00 London. 12.20 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 12.10-1.25 London. 1.45 London. 2.15 Farm progress. 2.45 Climbing, 3.10 Movie. 'Mouse on the Moon'. With Margaret Rutherford and Bernard Cribbins. Comedy. 4.45 London. 5.35 Charlie Brown's Christmas. 6.05 London. 7.00 State of the church. 7.25 London. 12.20 Epilogue.

THE MURDER of 23-yearold Saverio Saltarelli-killed when his rib-cage was fractured and his heart damaged by a police tear-gas shell fired at point-blank range during a demonstration in Milan last Saturday — is a warning of the violence lying in wait for the Italian working class. Saltarelli, a student and a

European REVIEW

member of the 'Internationalist Communist Party' (sharply (sharply opposed to the reformist policies of the Italian Communist Party) was participating in a demonstration of solidarity with the 16 Basque socialists on trial by the Franco regime in Spain. Christian Democratic Interior

that he had died 'of a heart But the official autopsy established not only the severe damage to his heart, but also traces of bromine (one of the main

Minister Restivo first announced

ingredients of tear-gas) on his Saltarelli's death brings to a head a political crisis in which the Stalinists and reformists can no longer restrain the anger of the working class against Colombo's corrupt and vicious coalition government.

Enormous rank-and-file pressure has forced the trade union leaders to call a series of regional strikes in support of their demands for reforms—in housing.

FACULTATIVA

Tens of thousands marched in Milan last Tuesday in a demonstration called by the student movement to protest against the police murder

of Salverio Sattarelli.

rubberworkers throughout the country have repeatedly struck for their labour contracts and against the victimization of mili-

tants in the factories. FIAT workers in Turin's giant Mirafiore factory have been involved in almost daily unofficial actions since the management was forced to drop the threat—made ten days ago—to suspend 28,000 workers following stoppages on one of the assembly lines.

ized a national demonstration outside the Ministry of Agricul-At Pozzuoli, near Naples, thousands of workers held a

Peasants and herdsmen organ-

demonstration against unemploy-

health, agriculture and regional Tuesday 12 regions,

On Tuesday too, the Commun ist-led largest union (the CGIL) and the Catholic CISL were com-

During the past fortnight there has been a wave of strikes in individual industries and

Metalworkers in Milan and

Provocations High-school students through-

A second letter to Gollan

General secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain from G. Healy, national secretary of the Socialist Labour League.

YOU HAVE not replied to my letter of December 9 and for

very good reasons. You know as well as we do that when Ramelson publicly provoked incidents with the sellers of Workers Press during the demonstration on that the paper should not have appeared on that day and they were 'scabs' for selling it, that this was a lie from beginning

to end.

As a Stalinist and one who, like Ramelson, defended the worst crimes of Stalin including the Moscow Trials, you are used to the techniques of lies and slander when attacking political opponents. For you and the other leaders of the British Communist Party, truth has no meaning.

You are also aware that our movement has continuously defended members of the Communist Party when they are attacked and victimized by the capitalist press and similar

Hussein's forces.

from Gatwick.

AIR Corporations Joint Action

Committee, which speaks for

BOAC and BEA workers, are

to black all Caledonian/BUA

aircraft diverted to Heathrow

WEATHER

N England, N Wales, N Ireland and S Scotland will be rather cloudy with rain which may be moderate over high ground. There will also be extensive hill fog.

will also be extensive hill fog.

W Scotland will be rather cloudy
with showers or longer periods of
rain. E and N Scotland will have
variable amounts of cloud with
some bright intervals, but also
showers. It will generally be mild.
Outlook for Sunday and Monday.
Colder with showers in the N.
Some rain at first in the S, otherwise mostly dry, but becoming
colder than lately.

ORDER YOUR

POSTERS

TODAY!

DEFEAT THE

▲ TORY ANTI-◆

UNION LAWS!

2s per poster

30s for 20

£3 5s for 50

Send your orders to:

Socialist Labour League

186a Clapham High Street

London, SW4.

Liars and their lies

You talk about 'unity of the left', but in fact you mean unity with opportunists and would-be traitors. Such people always prefer a lie rather than give serious consideration to socialist principles.

By not replying to my letter you think it is possible to evade the question. On the contrary, there are thousands of people active in the working-class movement in Britain who today understand Stalin-

Jerash, one of the few guer-

rilla-controlled N Jordan towns, fell to the Royalist

army last week, leaving the

single major town under their

Royalist troops even went

so far as to attack commando chief Yassir Arafat while he

was driving round Amman

with the right-wing premier Wasfi es-Tell and Arab peace

committee chief Bahi Ladg-

The latest blow is contained

signed between Arafat

in yet another 'peace' agree-

and Hussein. Now the people's

militia, the guerrillas' part-time army in the city and the

refugee camps, is to be wound

'Traitors'

their arms will be treated as

Those who fail to turn in

On paper there are similar

terms for the Royalist militia,

using 'salami tactics' to liquid-

ate the Palestinian revolution-

the chief obstacle to a Middle

Arafat, who appears to be

on the most cordial terms with

over this liquidation—Hussein

is forcing him to agree to each new blow against the

Conciliatory

four months ago, the Arab

leaders have moved steadily

into a conciliatory position towards Israel.

have been at a very low level since the civil war.

Military attacks on Israel

Arafat's continued conces-

sions only serve to whet the

appetite of the King and his

extreme right-wing supporters.

This is the danger opened up by the complete abdication

of leadership during the September civil war by Arafat and other guerrilla leaders.

The leaders of all four main

guerrilla organizations have since gone along with the

hesistant but inexorable retreat

Since the Jordan civil war

East peace compromise.

guerrilla organization.

movement, who remain

to ensure 'fair play'.

guerrilla forces without

Arafat erodes

guerrillas'

positions

THE PALESTINE guerrilla movement is now

in a serious situation as its position is steadily

eroded under the constant pressure of King

control.

ism in a way that was not possible during the days of Stalin.

They are watching you and Ramelson now. They know that you will carry out the same class - collaborationist policy in Britain as the Stalinists did in France in May-June 1968.

But you are not dealing with a weak Trotskyist moveget away with lies and evasions of answers.

We shall protect our right to function as a revolutionary tendency in the working-class movement and neither you, Ramelson, leader of the Communist Party will prevent us from doing this. We did it in the days of Stalin, and we are politically much more capable of doing it now.

revolutionary leadership.
will be the greatest blow to

Europe.
Impelled by the crisis of imperialism and Stallinism, guided by Trotskyism and inspired by the example of the October Revolution, this leadership will not betray or capitulate, but will overcome all obstacles and lead the British workers to their greatest historical triumph.
Of this we are absolutely

convinced. 'The Newsletter', forerunner of the Workers Press, was adopted as the official paper of the ATUA at its first conference. Workers Press will do everything possible to defend and advance the Charter of the ATUA in the coming struggles in

That is our pledge to the second annual conference. We urge all delegates to endorse the Charter. Forward from December 19 to the defeat of Toryism

and the return of a socialist government pledged to fight for the ATUA Charter of Rights in 1971!

Helena Farinas demanding that the National Peace Action Coalition sponsor the Farinas Defence Committee. The NPAC would not though several of its co-ordinators did 'in a personal capacity'.

Farinas defence

THE CAMPAIGN inside

Farinas, a young worker at Columbia University and

The charges derive from

He was charged with from speaking, distributing boisterous behaviour; hinthe Selective Service System and refusal to report and

Throughout, Farinas has made it clear that he has never refused to enter the army, but that he would take full advantage of his constitutional rights to oppose the war, to speak out against it and to fight along with his fellow GIs against the war.

SUPPORT

The trial itself was a complete farce. The choosing of the jury

Hilton, former president of the Law Society, heard reports on Dutschke's state of health. Mr John Cleave, a consultant surgeon to the United Cambridge Hospital and East Anglia Regional Hospital Board said that Dutschke had suffered eight epileptic attacks

He needed to continue with his academic studies and have peace and quiet, said Mr

He agreed with the Attorney General that it was clear Dutschke had made a con-siderable recovery and that in the interests of his health he should have avoided excessive travel and activity which

TRIAL of seven executives of the firm Chemie Gruenenthal -W German makers and distributors of the drug thalid-omide—was called off yesterday after two and a half years of hearings. Defence cited the United Nations Charter of Human Rights under which a defendant has the right to a verdict within a reasonable

One big question however remains unaswered: how is it

which is left unanswered by the Stalinist 'Morning Star' in its editorial yesterday. It asks plaintively:

'It seems that it was planned

'Bombshell' lie in Ulster tribunal

BY A BY A WORKERS PRESS **CORRESPONDENT**

THE MURDEROUS role of the Ulster B-Specials in last year's Armagh fighting has been fully exposed in evidence to the Scarman Tribunal.

A former sergeant of the Tynan platoon told the tribunal how 11 B-Specials deliberately lied to cover their part in the death of John Gallagher, who was shot down in the Cathedral Road

Ex-sergeant James McWilliams said that he fired three shots from his .45 revolver and heard a number of other shots. Then someone shouted that a man was dying and there was a call for an ambulance.

The B-Specials then held a meeting and agreed to tell a false story. The guns were cleaned and oiled to cover evidence of use.

McWilliams himself had stated at the time that he had been on duty in another street.

He said he was aware that his men had started shooting without being ordered to do so, but he believed they fired on instinct to protect themselves against a hostile crowd! McWilliams' evidence has dropped a bombshell into the

proceedings. Earlier, the tribunal had been told by the platoon's former sub-district commandant William Murray that he believed Gallagher had been shot somewhere else and brought to Cathedral Road and that the B-Specials were

being used as a scapegoat.

stepped up

youth or possible opposition

to the war and sympathy

nesses gave contradictory

evidence and were forced

under cross-examination to admit that no disruption had

WAR

Farinas told the court:

'There is a war going on outside and in this court-

room as well. I take sides

in this war, with the auto

workers, the rail workers,

the postal workers and all those fighting the bosses.'

side the judge was on. Judge Pollack interrupted the proceedings to sign injunctions

against the rail strike!

It was also clear whose

Despite the inability of

the prosecution to sub-

prosecution wit-

for the defendant.

The

taken place.

the US labour movement for the release of Juan Farinas is to be stepped up, following his conviction by a New York court on charges arising from his anti-war activities.

supporter of the Trotskyist organization Workers League, faces a possible five years' in jail and \$10,000 fine on each of five counts when he is sentenced on January 28.

an incident that took place in 1968 when Farinas attempted to distribute leaflets opposing the Vietnam war to his fellow inductees.

failure to cease and desist leaflets and unruly and dering and interfering with submit for induction.

The Juan Farinas Defence Committee, formed last October, has won widespread support from the movements in their campaign against the act of political repression against workers, youth and minority peoples.

A hundred Farinas supporters demonstrated outside the court when the trial opened on December 10, chanting 'US out of Vietnam', 'Free Juan' and 'Hands off the Trade Unions'.

took several hours. Many potential jurors were ex-cluded on the basis of

Dutschke:

● FROM PAGE ONE

since the shooting.

These usually occurred at

times of stress and worry. Cleave.

might have created agitation.

length of time.

More towns in revolt to readjust (?) wages as well as prices—but while the price

delayed

stantiate its case, the judge

virtually directed the jury to bring a verdict of guilty,

by insisting that simply not

keeping one's mouth shut in the face of vague and

arbitrary directives was

Even so, the jury was out for nearly four hours be-

fore announcing Farinas

The Defence Committee now plans to hold a meet-

ing of trade union sup-

porters of Farinas to widen

support in the labour move-

ment. Meetings are being

held and funds raised throughout the country.

the US Court of Appeals.
Both the Socialist Workers

Party and the Stalinists

have refused to mobilize

support for this victim of the class war.

increases were immediate, the

wage changes (?) were to be

price and wage readjustments should be separated? Was it

'Was it inevitable that the

An appeal is planned to

tantamount to disruption.

● FROM PAGE ONE

against the working class. He warned:

'These excesses cannot be justified by anything. Everyone must differentiate between difficult problems of our economy and the material standard of the working class, which can, should, and will be discussed, and solved, and the basic interests of the state and nation which nobody has ever any right to endanger.'

In other words, the whole system of the bureaucracy's power is being called in

question by the struggle of the workers, and this cannot be allowed. Hence the news yesterday that an 'unspecified number of arrests has been made, and

the government's announcement that the 'guilty' will be severely punished.

Ultimatum

Vice-premier Kociolek in his speech said: 'Many decisions and demands were put forward, sometimes in ultimatum form. I want to say in all frankness -these are in the majority demands incapable of fulfilment, just as it is impossible to reverse decisions already

It is this insoluble crisis for the bureaucracy that explains the violence of their reaction, and which makes nonsense of the complaints of capitalist press and 'Morning Star' alike that the price increases were 'clumsily mistimed'.

Kociolek's statement also confirms yet again that the problem is not one of 'provocateurs' or 'hooligans', one of class struggle, characterized by political and economic demands, by strikes, by demonstrations, by openair meetings.

The combination of the struggle in the streets and in the factories reflects the advanced stage reached by the processes leading to political revolution. There is no doubt that, as

the Hungarian revolution t h e Czechoslovak struggles, youth are to the fore. The bureaucracy is broad-

casting appeals to parents to keep youth off the streets, and is trying to convince older workers that they are being led astray by the irresponsible youth.

Blame

Cyrankiewicz persists in blaming the disorders on anarchist and hostile forces wanting to disrupt political discipline and the moral and political unity of the nation' They were assisted, he said 'people who through lack of knowledge and bitterness heeded their calls'.

that the Polish Communist Party, given undisputed political authority and state power for a whole generation, cannot compete for the loyalty of the working class with these so-called 'anarchist and hostile forces'?! It is this very question

with the words, 'We say . . .'
And just who is this 'We'?
Just what do the Polish workers owe to you, Messrs Gollan, Ramelson and company, who have always covered up and justified every crime of their bureaucratic oppres-

In the same way you, the British Stalinists, have defended the bloody history of the whole Stalinist apparatus in Poland, in Russia and everywhere else.

And you betray the struggles of the workers in the capitalist countries, so vital to the interests of the Polish workers.

Your Stalinism is thus part and parcel of the shootings, the tank charges, and the arrests now being perpetrated against the Polish workers.

Not alone

The Polish workers are not alone. They will know how to reject the feigned 'support' of right-wing and anti-communist groups eager for the restoration of capitalism, and to welcome the support of the millions of workers in Russia, Czechoslovakia and E Europe who stand behind the courageous protesting intelligentsia. welcome the support of the revolutionary struggles of the

workers in Europe, America, Africa and Asia.
The Stalinist bureaucracy, by its political methods, always brings fresh danger to the past conquests of the working class, but the crisis of Stalinism today results from the rapidly growing strength of the international working

class. The Kremlin Stalinists will be discussing at this very moment the sending in of Soviet armed forces to suppress the Polish workers. For the working class to be able to smash Stalinism and to build the alternative revolutionary leadership, the Fourth International is now absolutely necessary and en-

• Long live the political revolution of the Polish workers!

tirely possible.

Down with the Stalinist bureaucracy! • For the socialist revolu-

W Europe and America !

• Forward to the United Socialist States of Europe!

Xmas in the slums -by Glasgow MP

families will have to spend Christmas surrounded by rats, dampness and other infestation said Gorbals MP, Frank McElhone, speaking in the Commons yesterday. Slums in Glasgow are four

These housing conditions are a major cause of dysentry. One type—Flexner dysentry can now be called 'Glasgow disease' because its spread is rest of Britain, he added.

ately in Glasgow 'because they appear to me to be frozen in the ice of their own indifference'.

Replying to the debate, the joint parliamentary under-secretary of state, Scottish

The government, he said, is not going to base its housing programme on a set of targets, pulled out of the air which it has no hope of fulfilling. 'The question is, can we

they are needed and at the The answer to Younger's question is obviously not.

standing at 620,000 the Tory government is digging in its of attack on the working class.

LATE NEWS

WATERWORKERS' CLAIM National Joint Industrial Council for waterworks industry said that at pay talks for nearly 30,000 manual workers in the industry it was agreed to defer complete settlement 'of basic rates until after report of inquiry into power-

MORE GAS PRICES UP

men's pay.

(See page 1) N Thames Gas Board's two million customers face 9 per cent price rise in the new year—increase of about 1s 6d

POLISH STRIKES AND **SIT-DOWNS** (See page four)

before the King.

Rumours are circulating in diplomatic circles of strikes and sit-ins in Warsaw fac-

tories. The militia guard on the capital's Communiste Party headquarters has been increased and police armed with carbines were seen at the

> Following proposals from Finance Minister Mr Tallgren -including a sharp increase in the price of petrol—the Communist MPs have refused to support the measures without a fresh negotiation cover-

> > Prime Minister Karialainen on the other hand, has made his government's future dependent on the measures being

ing the whole of economic

Feather nervous of General Strike calls

ONE-DAY strike action on January 12 would be 'premature'. according to Trades Union Congress general secretary Victor Feather.

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Almost a third of a million

Thursday for pay rises and

better promotion arrangements within the service.

of Paris firemen decided to continue their strike cam-

paign for higher wages and

better staffing to put an end to excessive hours of work.

Four-fifths of France's 60,000 tax office workers have

been on strike since Tuesday

against appalling conditions of

within the service.

factory.

work and for better grading

One-day

in the Lower Rhine area (near

Strasbourg) staged a one-day

stoppage and demonstration

against threatened redundan-

cies and for the re-opening

of pay talks in 12 plants, in-

cluding a General Motors

At nearby Faulquemont, in

closures threatened for

the Lorraine, coal miners struck for 24 hours against

1973. They were supported by

shorter stoppages in all the pits of the area as miners

came out in protest against

policy on the coal industry.

trical and communications

engineers on the railways

downed tools yesterday to

support the talks on pay and

grading which opened in

Almost 2,000 employees of

the 'Coder' metalworks in

Marseilles have been on strike

for the past week against the

And there have been smaller

stoppages in many factories and workplaces throughout

Unions pushed

oushed the largest, Stalinist-

led, union—the CGT—to put forward a set of national

claims, including a minimum

The Catholic - influenced

CFDT has also backed the

claim. Their statements have

made it clear, however, that

neither the CGT nor CFDT

leaders intend to lead any

national action on the pro-

It is this movement that has

sacking of 350 workers.

the country.

The majority of 12,000 elec-

government's overall

Thousands of metalworkers

On the same day a meeting

French strike wave behind national claim

LEADERS of the French labour movement have done all they can to turn the wave of strikes and | test against the Bill. demonstrations in solidarity with the Burgos 16 into an expression of 'democratic' politics 'above

of work.

but the guerrilla leaders have Town and city councils no means of enforcing the disarming of the Royal militia. have voted unanimously on common resolutions against The Higher Arab Committee, with Bahi Ladgham at its head, is supposedly in Jordan Franco's repressions, allowing Communist representatives to link arms with the Gaullist and centre politicians. In fact, it is systematically

Demonstrations have been called with a long list of sponsors, including almost every political tendency which is pleased to describe itself as 'anti-fascist'. Hand in hand with this Hussein and Tell, is presiding

treacherous exercise in Popu-Front politics goes the Stalinist chiefs' continued refusal to denounce the growing commercial and diplomatic links of the workers' states of E Europe with Spanish fascism.

Pressure

Yet the political gymnastics cannot obscure the fact that the groundswell of opposition to the Burgos trial is a class movement, expressing also the desire of the French workers to come to grips with the police measures being prepared against them by the

Pompidou government. Nor have they brought any pause in the pressure of French workers for wage increases to keep up with the inflation of prices, for security

Finnish coalition economic policy crisis

THE FINNISH coalition government, which involves five political parties, including the Communist Party, is now faced with an internal crisis.

Though they have kept silent on the matter since Mr Karjalainen formed his cabinet in July, the Stalinist leaders are now no longer able to go along with the government's reactionary economic policies.

He told a Luton trades council meeting on Thursday night that if people were only prepared to give one day — 'an emotional outlet'—the Tory antiunion Bill would still be there afterwards.

January 12 is the day of the TUC's tea-break pro-

sibility of reforming the Tories meant a General Strike. Feather—increasingly nervous about even the mildest reference to all-out action — retorted there is 'too much at stake for loose talk'. The questioner was as misagainst unemployment, and for guarantees on conditions guided as Heath when he raised the same issue.

'Paper war' local authority workers throughout France struck on Feather used every argument that came to hand against floor speakers who pointed to strike action as the only effective weapon against the Tories. If everyone sent a day's wages to boost the TUC's

paper war, 'we could fight the world with it', he said. But there is 'no particular fun', he added, in calling out on strike less active trade unionists or white-collar workers not in agreement with

such action. It was evident that Feather sees the Bill reaching the statute book. He visualized the TUC General Council advising members not to reach legally enforceable agreements at all.

'Bargains' Shop stewards 'on their own' could drive 'enormous bargains', he claimed-ignor-

ing the very real and despotic powers which the Industrial Relations Bill employers and right-wing union bureaucrats against shop stewards.

road outlined by Feather for the trade unions is the same path which the German trade union leaders trod and which ended Dachau and Buchenwald.

US Military Command in Saigon yesterday announced the loss of five aircraft-two planes in Laos and three helicopters in S Vietnam following reports of increased guerrilla activity throughout Indo-

Czech-W German deal

A TRADE deal worth nearly £1,000 million was signed in Prague on Thursday by officials of the Czech and W German governments.

Covering trade relations over the next four years, the pact prepares the ground for improving political relations between Bonn and

Czechoslovakia in August 1968 was the alleged inten-tion of the Dubcek leadership to strengthen the country's links with W German capitalism.

The main Stalinist pretext for the Kremlin invasion of

Now Husak carries out this very policy-with full Soviet approval.

right to time the price increases for the immediate pre-Christmas périod?' Was there ever a more craven and crawling subservience to bureaucratic

authority? Thousands of workers are in mass action on basic issues. They are shot down dead in the street. What should be

Claptrap

The authorities should be advised to 'time' their attacks better, so as to avoid upset-ting these 'backward' workers with their minds set on enjoying Christmas . . . It is on the basis of this

sickening claptrap that the 'Morning Star' says:
'On the evidence so far available, many will conclude that errors were made.'
'Many . . . ?' And what,
pray, does the British Communist Party conclude? 'Errors . . . ?'

Are no conclusions to be drawn that such 'errors' cause mass bloodshed, mass arrests? Do not such 'errors' indicate something about the nature of the political system? The 'Morning Star' piously concludes: 'Their [the Polish Communists'] arguments and

discussion are about the best way to conduct the affairs of ocialist society.' It is not a socialist society ironing out its problems. It is a deformed workers' state, deformed by the op-pressive control of a privi-leged bureaucracy battening on the working class and collaborating with imperial-ism against the workers in

the capitalist countries. The transition to socialism in these countries depends on the political revolution to overthrow the breaucracy, with rule by the workers' councils, workers' management of the econ-omy, a revolutionary foreign policy, and the abolition of bureaucratic privileges.

How can the British Stalinists point the way for the Polish workers, any more than for the British workers?

They head their editorial

THOUSANDS of Glasgow

times worse than in any other city in Britain, he said.

in complete contrast to the McElhone called on the government to act immedi-

Office, George Younger, said that there were no quick, glamorous solutions' to solve Glasgow's exceptional prob-

build houses where, and when,

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