

# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● TUESDAY MARCH 7, 1972 ● No. 707 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

## WORKERS 'UGLY EVIL AND MINDLESS'

# ENGINEERS' CHIEF IN OUTBURST

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● SEE REPORT P.10.

BY A POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

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Bamford told the EEF general council's annual meeting: 'If the unions are out to test the fibre of our unity, we should leave them in no doubt as to our durability.'

And these are the men with whom Jack Jones, Transport and General Workers' Union general secretary, wants a 'dialogue'.

Jones responded with pathetic eagerness to Premier Heath's proposals to hold talks with the TUC this week and then with the CBI next week. These talks, according to Heath, were part of the government's intention to 'look after all sections of the community'.

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But while Jones shares a platform with Tory Employment Secretary Robert Carr to tell the Industrial Society that 'a dialogue [between unions and employers] is necessary to save, not just our way of life, but Britain itself', Barrett lashes the government for failing to 'contain inflation' in the nationalized industries.

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The trade unions are 'utterly inflexible, in thought, word and deed' snarls Barrett in reply.

The other 'left' trade union leader, Hugh Scanlon, also ran away from a confrontation with Barrett, Bamford and company at the height of the miners' strike by referring the engineers' pay claim back to plant level.

Barrett's outbursts are not the inconsequential ravings of some frustrated old Tory squire. He represents a group of employers impatient at Heath's hesitations. They are seeking an early, direct showdown with the working class.

The timid, obsequious trade union leaders lie down at the employers' feet to be kicked. So the building of a revolutionary leadership in the unions becomes more urgent every day.

INSIDE: Foreign News 2; Mussolini: Who let him in 6 & 7; Mr Tariq Ali's radical mumbo jumbo 8 & 9; Right-to-Work diary 10 & 11.

YOU MUST BE THERE NEXT WEEKEND: BOOK NOW FOR

## EMPIRE POOL WEMBLEY

### SUNDAY MARCH 12

AT 3 p.m. GREET THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS WHO HAVE MARCHED FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, SWANSEA, SOUTHAMPTON AND DEAL DEMANDING THE RIGHT TO WORK

AT 7.30 p.m. RELAX AT THE STAR-STUDED SHOW WITH LARRY ADLER, LESLEY DUNCAN, RAM JOHN HOLDER, PAUL JONES, GEORGE MELLY, SPIKE MILLIGAN, ANNIE ROSS, SLADE, MCGUINNESS FLINT, VINEGAR JOE AND THE ROCK'N'ROLL ALL STARS

COMPERED BY JOE MELIA AND STUART HENRY

For full details and ticket application form, see p.4



# workers press

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## AROUND THE WORLD

## WORLD JOBLESS FIGURES RISING

IRELAND and the US were among five countries in which the rate of unemployment exceeded 5 per cent in 1971, according to a report issued by the International Labour Organization.

And the report added that unemployment increased in two out of every three of the 50 countries for which statistics were available.

The countries which shared the 5 per cent rate with Ireland and the US were Canada, Chile and Yugoslavia.

But bigger increases in unemployment occurred during the year in Guatemala, New Zealand and Sweden where the rate roughly doubled.

In practically all industrialized countries, the jobless figures rose, says the report issued from Switzerland. In many cases it reached the highest level for several years and in some the highest level since the Second World War.

In Britain, Denmark, Finland, Mauritius, the Netherlands and W Germany, unemployment rose by more than 40 per cent.

There were substantial increases in Australia, Chile, France, Ghana, India, Poland and Spain and smaller increases in Australia, Belgium, Ceylon, Japan and the US.

Reductions in the total number of people working occurred in Italy and Sweden, but the sharpest drop was in Britain—1.8 per cent—the biggest in 20 years.

The rise in unemployment was particularly noticeable in the second half of 1971 in almost all industrialized countries.

At the same time, consumer prices rose more rapidly in 1971 than in the preceding two years in two countries out of three.

In Brazil, Chile, S Korea, Uruguay and S Vietnam, increases of more than 10 per cent were registered for the eighth consecutive year.

The biggest rise occurred in Cambodia where prices almost doubled. In the US, consumer prices rose by more than 3 per cent.

## SOVIET AMBASSADOR PRAISES FRENCH CO-OPERATION

THE SOVIET ambassador in Paris, Piotr Abrassimov, has called for new and energetic efforts to increase the degree of co-operation between the French and Soviet governments.

In a two-part survey of Franco-Soviet 'peaceful co-existence', published in the leading bourgeois newspaper 'Le Monde', Abrassimov stressed the importance of Leonid Brezhnev's visit to France last October.

Both countries, he said, attached great importance to the calling of a European security conference for the gradual transformation of relations between European states.

This would overcome the division of the continent into military and political groupings, Abrassimov said.

His articles appeared just one week after the death of Pierre Overney, a Maoist militant shot dead by an armed security guard outside the Renault motor factory near Paris.

Yet the ambassador singled out Renault for special praise as an

# Wholesale death in Iran

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

ANTI-COMMUNIST repression in Iran has reached a new peak with 16 executions in the last week. The bloodbath began on March 1, when six militants were shot by a firing squad. On March 2, another four fell to the Shah's bullets and at the weekend a further six young left-wingers were executed.

The Shah has ordered the military tribunals to step up the repression by handing out death sentences wholesale.

Ten of the executed prisoners were originally sentenced to life imprisonment by a military tribunal on January 31, but their deaths were ordered by an appeal tribunal at the end of February.

A savage national campaign demanding the death penalty for so-called 'terrorists' has been set in motion by the regime. The press is full of 'readers' letters' condemning the leniency of the lower courts and demanding the full rigour of the law for communists and left-wingers.

## Demonstration

Last Tuesday, the Shah organized a 'patriotic and popular' demonstration through Tehran which called for 'firmness' against 'subversive agents' and 'traitors to the fatherland'.

On Wednesday, similar marches took place in the other main cities. The marchers, many of them recruited by SAVAK, the Shah's sinister secret police, proclaimed their loyalty to the monarchy and the 'White Revolution'.

The venomous character of the campaign can be seen from the reported statement of the pro-regime organization 'Free Women of Iran'. They pledged to 'tear out the eyes of the country's enemy's with our own nails'.

While this foul anti-working-class regime howls for the blood of communists and workers' leaders, the social-democratic chancellor of W Germany, Willy Brandt, is visiting Iran to drum up outlets for German investment in the Middle East.

example of commercial co-operation. 'Our co-operation with the Renault firm... is taking on a wide scope,' the article says, citing the joint project to build a motor factory on the Kama river in Siberia.

The most enthusiastic advocates of peaceful co-existence between France and the USSR are the French Communist Party. They have spent the last week condemning the 'provocations' of so-called 'leftists' and announcing their determination that there will be no return to May-June 1968.

In particular, they lined up last week with the Renault management to sack seven Maoist militants from the Paris factory because they had tried to organize strike action against the murder of Pierre Overney.

Overney was shot by an armed plain-clothes security guard who now faces trial for murder. In the pursuit of its counter-revolutionary aim of 'peaceful co-existence', the French CP leadership has condemned Overney as a 'government agent'.

## DEATHS IN INDIAN ELECTION

MANIPUR and Rajasthan, voted yesterday in the second day of the current round of elections for 16 Indian state assemblies.

Two people were killed in Bihar and two in Andhra Pradesh on Sunday—polling day for both states and four others. But the worst clashes were in W Bengal, which does not vote until next Sunday.

Here troops imposed a nine-hour curfew after six people were killed, five of them in a confrontation outside Calcutta between Congress and left-wing groups.

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) the largest party in the W Bengal state legislature, has claimed it cannot enter many constituencies because of Congress terror against its candidates.

In other states Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress Party is fighting not only against the right-wing Hindu fanatics of the Jan Sangh party, but against many of its own members, who have for various reasons rebelled against the Congress leadership.

## SADAT TOURS ALLIES

EGYPTIAN President Anwar Sadat this week embarks on a new tour of his Arab allies for talks on the Middle East situation. No details of his itinerary have been released, but it is thought he will visit Saudi Arabia and Kuwait before returning to Egypt for further talks with Libyan and Syrian representatives.

Together with Egypt, Libya and Syria form the Federation of Arab Republics, closely allied with the Soviet Union.

Palestinian leader Yassir Arafat is also expected in Cairo to take part in the talks later this week.

The authoritative newspaper 'Al Ahram' said Sadat's decision to pay flying visits to Arab capitals was motivated by 'the recent attacks in the Arab area'. These included Israeli attacks on guerrilla bases in Syria and Lebanon.

Egypt's leading political commentator Mohamed Heykal wrote in 'Al Ahram' last week that Egyptians could forget about all-out war with Israel and should seek a political settlement.

Sudanese Information Minister Omar Moussa said in Khartoum at the weekend that Sadat would visit the Sudan to congratulate President Numeiry on his recent deal with the Anya Nya rebels in the South.

'Al Ahram' said the Sadat-Numeiry talks would be highly important, but did not elaborate.

# WHAT WE THINK

## THEODORAKIS: COMMUNISM AND STALINISM

GREEK composer Mikis Theodorakis has left the Communist Party and called for the formation of a new left-wing movement in Greece.

He said in Melbourne that he had left in dissatisfaction after 30 years' membership of the Party. 'I consider myself as a popular revolutionist, a defender of the rights of the Greek people and especially the working class,' he said.

Theodorakis, whose music is banned in Greece, was once a parliamentary deputy for the United Democratic Left Party in which the illegal Communist Party worked before the colonels' coup in 1967. The composer was imprisoned by the junta after the coup and released in 1970 when he went into exile.

Explaining his reasons for leaving the CP, he said: 'I believe in basic Marxism-Leninism but there have been very many developments. We have many problems, a serious one being the problem of democracy and freedom which exists in the countries of the East. We cannot separate communism from what happened in the Soviet Union, the E European countries and the Republic of China.'

This is profoundly wrong. 'What happened' in the Soviet Union, E Europe and China was the result of Stalinism not communism.

Stalinism was erected on the tortured bones of the leaders of the Russian Revolution. The real communists—the Trotskyists—were the major victims of the Stalin purges.

Throughout the world, Trotskyists supported the E German rising of 1953, the Hungarian revolution of 1956 and the Czech struggle of 1968.

We also support those fighting Stalinism today in those countries and in the Soviet Union. One aspect of their fight has been a demand for a return to Leninism, and a re-examination of history, particularly of the role played by Trotsky.

Right from the start, Trotsky and his supporters fought the growing bureaucracy which represented a privileged stratum in the economically backward Soviet Union.

To link Communism with Stalinism is to help both the imperialists and the Stalinists. It lends credence to the old lie that Stalinism inevitably follows revolution. On the contrary, Stalinism was produced by the defeats of the world revolution which, by isolating the Soviet Union, strengthened the bureaucratic conservative elements within it. From 1933, Stalinism consciously sought the defeat of revolution in order to preserve its own position within the Soviet Union.

But Theodorakis also assists the Stalinists who have always insisted that their existence is 'inseparable' from the historic gains represented by the property relations in Russia, China and E Europe, and that the oppressions perpetrated by them are necessary to defend the workers' states.

This is a lie. The revolutionary gains of the workers' states can only be defended by a political revolution to overthrow the bureaucracy. It is precisely the 'separation'—the conflict—between communism and Stalinism which is now reaching its most acute stage. That this occurs at the same time as the crisis of world capitalism is the cause for great revolutionary optimism.

## GREEK DEMANDS BRING CYPRUS NEAR TO WAR

RENEWED demands from the Greek government for Cyprus to fall in line with Athens' requirements have brought the island republic closer to civil war.

The two main points of the Greek demand are that Archbishop Makarios surrender to the United Nations a recently-arrived consignment of Czechoslovak arms and reshuffle his government to suit the Greek colonels.

General Grivas the right-wing former Eoka leader, who is closely allied with Athens, has publicly supported three Orthodox bishops in opposition to Makarios.

The bishops were under his protection, Grivas said.

Makarios, with the uncritical support of the Cypriot Stalinists, has been wavering in his attitude to the Greek ultimatum.

Last week, there were reports that he was trying to reach a compromise over the arms question.

A 100,000-strong demonstration marched through Nicosia on Friday shouting 'down with the junta' and slogans in support of Makarios.

Meanwhile, the United States government has made clear its support for the Greek regime over the Cyprus question. Military aid to Greece is to be resumed because of the 'imperative requirements of American security' in the area.

## DOCKS MOVE MAY LEAD TO NATIONAL STRIKE

A NATIONAL dock strike may be called if 53 men employed by T. Wallis Smith Coggins of London, are sent back to the unattached register today.

There are already 580 London dockers on the register, receiving £20-a-week fall-back pay.

The shop stewards' national liaison committee for dock workers organized a one-day national stoppage in January over growing redundancies in the industry. That involved men in London, Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Southampton and Preston.

It seems likely the strike will coincide with the date the men are put on the register. For some this could be next week, but for the bulk of them it would be in a month's time.

Meanwhile docks employers, in general, must seek to lay off even more men. With trade dropping off in all ports, the employers are saddled with a certain amount of investment in new techniques for which they must attempt to make the docks labour force pay.

They want a drastically-reduced labour force, and Measured-Day Work deals which guarantee unlimited speed-up.

## STAFF ASSOCIATION MAY USE ACT IN POST OFFICE

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE SPLINTER group Telecommunications Staff Association is seeking to use the Industrial Relations Act to obtain union facilities from the Post Office.

Although it refuses to issue any figures, the TSA is thought to have about 10,000 members. This is less than a quarter of the total number of telephonists, most of whom belong to the Union of Post Office Workers.

The TSA has registered under the Industrial Relations Act, although it is not recognized by the Post Office.

The recognized union is the Union of Post Office Workers, which has not registered under the Act.

In demanding the same facilities as the UPW, the non-militant TSA is hoping to utilize the Industrial Relations Act to compete with the established trade union.

According to a TSA spokesman, individual members—with legal advice from the Association—are considering taking the Post Office before Industrial Tribunals under the Act.

This would clearly be a test case which would determine whether rivals to established trade unions could co-operate with the government through the Industrial Relations Act to weaken the trade union movement.

A Union of Post Office Workers' spokesman told Workers Press: 'We cannot say whether the TSA issued any official directive to their members during last year's postal strike. But in their literature they carried statements from one or two important members of their organization, in the form of "letters to the Editor".

'These made comments disapproving of the strike and saying their members ought to go to work.'

# Still questions over Polkemmet affair The non-unionist the Stalinists accepted given card back

BY AN INDUSTRIAL REPORTER

JAMES ROBERTSON, the W Lothian miner expelled by the National Union of Mineworkers for taking another job during the miners' strike, has got his union card back. But Alex Ferguson, who worked with Robertson in a firm of industrial cleaners, is still working at the Whitrigg colliery without a union card.

It is believed he is one of the only men to work in the coal industry since nationalization without union membership.

The fact that Whitrigg miners are working alongside a non-unionist marks the acceptance of a major principle of the anti-union Industrial Relations Act.

Although Robertson has had his union card returned, the case is unlikely to rest there. Too many questions still surround Robertson's conduct during the strike.

Robertson worked with a firm of industrial cleaners during the strike and his workmates at

Polkemmet colliery say he did not join them in picketing.

Mr James Hillis, branch secretary at Polkemmet, accused Robertson of being the cause of six men being dismissed from Lothian Industrial Cleaners during the strike. The story circulating the pit is that the men refused to work with Robertson and were then fired.

Robertson was expelled from the union on February 27 for taking a full-time job outside the industry.

### Intervened

When work restarted a week ago, the Polkemmet men refused to work with Robertson, a non-unionist, and stayed on strike. But Scottish miners' leaders, Mick McGahey and Bill McLean, both Communist Party members, intervened to urge the men back to work. The men returned to work last Wednesday.

At a Polkemmet branch meeting last weekend Robertson denied the charges against him saying they were 'a lot of lies'.

He produced a letter from a union official at Lothian Industrial Cleaners which proved he had no part in the strike there.

After a noisy meeting, Robertson was reinstated by 57 votes to 19. The Whitrigg miner, Alex Ferguson, who worked with Robertson at the cleaning works, said later he hoped he would get his union card back from the members of his branch.

'This has given me encourage-

ment,' he said. 'It was a good decision.'

The unnamed union official who wrote the letter for Robertson about the cleaners' strike also says that Ferguson wasn't implicated. The Whitrigg branch has no plans to hear from Ferguson.

After Sunday's branch decision, Mr Hillis said: 'I am very disappointed with this decision, accepting this man's statement (Robertson's) against allegations made by the shop steward from the industrial cleaners who furnished all information.'

The men at both Polkemmet and Whitrigg will continue an overtime ban and weekend working until the dispute is completely resolved.

## Portuguese Minister here for more cash

PORTUGAL'S Foreign Minister Dr Louis Patricio arrived in London yesterday for five days of talks with Edward Heath and other senior ministers.

Main item on the agenda will be Portugal's colonial rule in Guinea, Angola and Mozambique. In all three territories the Portuguese regime is being challenged by armed liberation movements.

For many years Portugal has been using NATO arms tacitly supplied by Britain and the United States to wage war against the guerrillas.

Portugal, which spends 40 per cent of the national budget on defence, now finds that it is unable to continue the fighting on all three fronts without further aid from Britain and other capitalist countries.

Also on the agenda will be talks with Geoffrey Rippon, Britain's Common Market negotiator.

## ESSAYS

YESTERDAY'S page 10 article on 'Poverty: Labour's dismal record' was a review of 'Labour and Inequality', 16 Fabian Essays edited by Peter Townsend and Nicholas Bosanquet. 304 pages. Hard cover: £3.80, Paperback: £2.20. Available from Fabian Society, 11 Dartmouth St, SW1H 9BN.

## HULL STRIKERS BOUND FOR JOBS RALLY

THE TASS—technical and supervisory section of the AUEW—strike committee at Fenner's, the Hull engineering firm, have decided to send a delegation to the Young Socialists' Empire Pool rally and have agreed to try to find the money for those unable to pay for the fare.

The strike, by 102 members, is

against 28 redundancies and the alleged victimization of leading trade union committee members.

Continuous picketing of the plant has turned away lorries and the strike committee is seeking support from dockers.

Engineers at Fenner's are refusing to handle any work normally done by the strikers, which is now being done by non-unionists.

## HAWKER'S BROUGH MEN MEET ON STRIKE

TWO THOUSAND production workers at the Hawker-Siddeley plant at Brough, E Yorkshire, meet today to decide the future of their six-week-old strike.

The men are striking for a £4 across-the-board wage rise. The management tried to split the men with a sliding scale offer which would have given the lowest paid £4, but substantial numbers of workers almost nothing at all.

It has now paid out nearly £100,000 in wages to workers rendered idle by the strike. Albert Akrill, AUEW steward,

told Workers Press: 'This proves to me they have the money to concede our claim.'

All Hawker Siddeley factories have blacked work from Brough, which is the lowest-paid factory in the combine. And the Kingston-upon-Thames factory has raised substantial cash for the strike fund.

The men want to extend the strike by mass picketing of all the combine's factories and the Hull AUEW district committee has voted to call out all the engineers in the area in token support of the Brough strikers.

## BOOKS



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**YOUNG SOCIALISTS**

# NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK CAMPAIGN

There are now well over one million people out of work in Britain, the highest joblessness for a quarter of a century. These huge levels of unemployment are as a direct result of Tory policies. The Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign is a challenge to these policies and, therefore, the continued rule of this government.

## MARCHERS ARRIVE

**SATURDAY MARCH 11**

The marchers will arrive at the outskirts of London and will be greeted at:

- EAST INDIA HALL**, East India Dock Road, E14. 7 pm
- HANWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE**, Westcott Crescent, W7. 7 pm
- LIME GROVE BATHS**, Shepherds Bush, W12. 7pm

## MARCH THROUGHOUT LONDON

**MONDAY MARCH 13**

Assemble: 10 am, Speaker's Corner, Marble Arch  
March: 11 am through West End to the Temple.

## MASS LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT

Lobby your Labour MP: 2 pm  
Meeting: 4.30 pm Central Hall, Westminster

## RALLY EMPIRE POOL WEMBLEY

**SUNDAY MARCH 12, 3 p.m.**

Speakers: **G. HEALY** (SLL National Secretary)  
**CLIVE NORRIS** (National Secretary of Right-to-Work Campaign)  
**JOHN BARRIE** (YS leader of Glasgow march)  
**CHRISTINE SMITH** (YS leader of Liverpool march)  
**MIKE BANDA** (Socialist Labour League Central Committee)  
 The following in a personal capacity:  
**ALAN THORNETT** (Deputy senior steward, Morris Motor)  
**BRIAN LAVERY** (National Union of Mineworkers, Wheldale colliery)  
**SIDNEY BIDWELL**, MP

Chairman: **CLIFF SLAUGHTER** (Socialist Labour League Central Committee)

**TOP LINE ENTERTAINMENT, 7.30 p.m.**

Larry Adler. Lesley Duncan. McGuinness Flint. Ram John Holder. Paul Jones. Vinegar Joe. George Melly. Spike Milligan. Annie Ross. 'Rock 'n Roll All Stars'. Slade. Comperes Joe Melia and Stuart Henry

Tickets: £1, unemployed 50p.

## RALLY

NAME .....

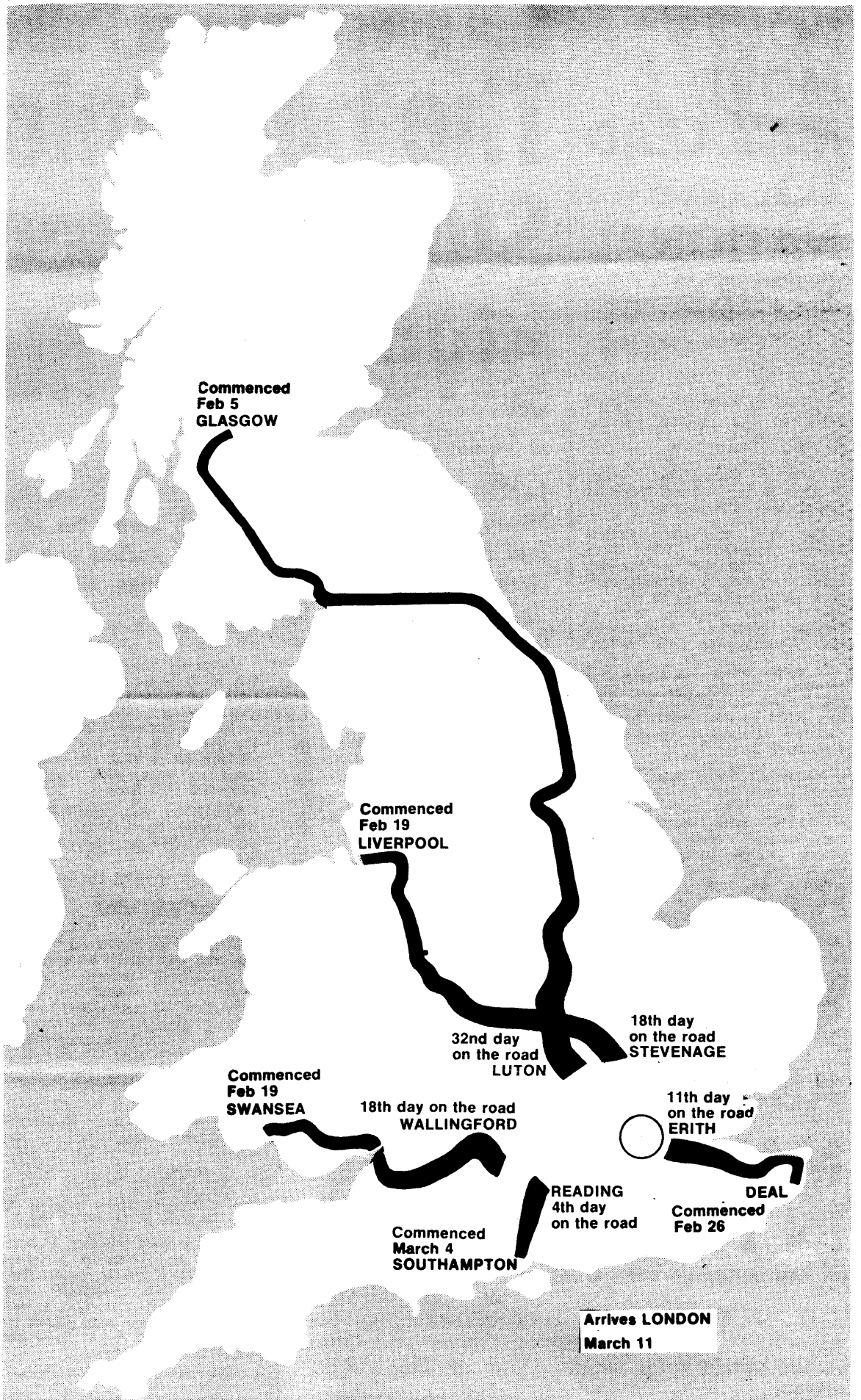
ADDRESS .....

I would like ..... tickets

Amount enclosed £ .....

Please send details of transport to the Empire Pool

Complete form and send to:  
Clive Norris, Right-to-Work Campaign,  
186a Clapham High St,  
London, SW4 7UG.  
Or phone 01-622 7029.



Spike Milligan



McGuinness Flint



Joe Melia



Togliatti, Stalin's errand-boy ensured the continued presence of fascist laws on the statute book.

## 'NATIONAL RIGHT' TO CAMPAIGN IN ITALY

The Italian monarchist party has signed an electoral pact with the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement (MSI) and will submit a joint slate of candidates at the forthcoming general election on May 7.

The pact was ratified at the monarchists' fifth congress last weekend at which Almirante, the MSI leader, laid down terms which caused a split in the monarchists' ranks. About a quarter of the party's national committee refused to accept the fascists' terms.

They objected because the new formation, known as the 'National Right', has dropped even token reference to the restoration of the monarchy.

The 'National Right' will campaign under the fascist symbol of the tricolor, not the monarchist crown and castle. To symbolize the MSI's dominant role in the partnership, the monarchist anthem, the Royal March, was not played at the congress.

### QUESTED

The monarchists want the return of the Savoy dynasty which was ousted by plebiscite following the defeat of fascism. Their disagreements with the fascists date back to the last two years of World War II, when a German-backed republic was formed in N Italy behind the king's back.

The southern monarchist

regime, headed by Marshal Badoglio who led the Italian army in Abyssinia, was established soon after Sicily fell to the allies in July 1943.

At the time, the local Communist Party leaders opposed the formation of Badoglio's government, which was a blatant attempt to maintain in power the monarchy which had backed Mussolini.

But Stalin had different ideas, and his Italian errand-boy, Palmiro Togliatti, was not slow in putting them into practice. He had foreshadowed the formation of the Badoglio government in May of that year, writing in 'World News and Views' that:

... among officers in the army and navy, the Catholic bourgeoisie, monarchist circles, industrialists and intelligentsia and in the fascist party, there is a growing number of those who realize the necessity for Italy to break with Germany before it is too late. . . .

Togliatti's line was that of the Kremlin, and four months after the formation of Badoglio's government, the Soviet diplomat Vyshinsky (the prosecutor in the infamous Moscow Trials of the 1930s) began official negotiations with the Marshal. The talks prepared the way for the entry of the Communist Party into the Royal government headed by this fascist butcher.

On April 22, 1944, the Communist Party entered into a coalition with the monarchists

and Togliatti took a leading portfolio, the Ministry of Justice.

It was from this vantage point in the capitalist state machine that Togliatti not only ensured the continued presence on the statute book of the fascist laws which today are used against working-class militants, but signed a new Concordat with the Vatican.

### MEDDLE

This Concordat, which besides giving the Church extraordinary powers to meddle in civil affairs actually outlaws divorce, has contributed mightily to the present Italian crisis.

The recent fall of the centre-left coalition was brought about in large part by the reactions of the right-wing members of the coalition who wanted to maintain divorce at all costs.

When the Italian Communist Party today restrains the working class under the slogan of 'structural reforms' and organizes futile protest strikes on economic questions—rather than challenge the employers for power—it is following the same political line pioneered by Togliatti 28 years ago.

If the fascists are now able once more to beat up militants in the streets and pose as strongmen rising from the ruins of discredited parliamentary democracy, they owe much to the Stalinists who have made all this possible.

'socially and culturally worthless publications'.

According to Tanyug, the Yugoslav official news agency, 'many of the questions concerning the cultural significance and effect of this "fiscal cultural" move of the republican administration still remain undefined and wide open'.

The tax aroused a heated discussion at a recent gathering of several dozen 'cultural and public workers' at the Serbian Cultural and Educational Association. Their meeting was called mainly to draw up and comment on the preliminary list of 'specially valuable' publications which are to be exempted from the tax.

All other publications come into the category 'trash' and are taxed under the law.

Some of the delegates at the meeting pointed out that there was precious little 'cultural' motive behind the tax, which was primarily aimed at raising

revenue. The law had been passed without consulting the publishing industry, speakers said.

Other speakers asked how the bulk of publication would be able to survive, particularly as their prices have already been frozen by government decree.

The actual list of 'specially valuable' publications also aroused critical comment. Writer Berislav Kosijer asked how the government proposed to define 'social' and 'cultural' value. More to the point, he added that among the publishing houses exempt from tax were some which had published nationalist and pornographic material.

Official spokesman Aleksandr Ackovic had an answer to all these objections. The introduction of the tax, he said, would give 'full freedom to trash, because now, being taxed, trash is legalized and can lead a normal life'.

# COLOMBIAN PEASANTS GRAB LAND

BY JOHN SPENCER

Landless peasants in the Magdalena and Cauca valleys of Colombia in Latin America have launched a big movement to occupy the huge landed estates.

Land occupation has long been a feature of the class struggle in Colombia, where more than 1 million families out of a total population of some 20 million, have no land of their own and are forced to sell their labour to the owners of the big estates.

The occupations have frequently been symbolic because the peasants, armed only with sticks, are easily driven off the land by the landlord's men or by the police.

But symbolic or not, the movement is now taking on a mass character. Recently, the peasants took over 4,500 acres of coffee estate belonging to an absentee landlord. The landlord turned out to be none other than the Minister of Agriculture, Hernan Jamillo Ocampo.

The government's grandiose plans to ameliorate the misery of the landless poor in the countryside and the unemployed in the towns is nothing more than window-dressing for the continued dictatorship of the big fruit and coffee companies.

The so-called Alliance for Progress, formed by the US government under John F. Kennedy, involved a 'reform' of the Colombian land-holding system. In the ten years since this law was passed, the situation of the peasants has worsened considerably.

Agricultural prices are falling rapidly, and there is a world surplus of coffee, one of Colombia's main crops. Many of the dispossessed peasants are forced to migrate illegally across the border into Venezuela, where industry is more developed.

Others have moved to the towns where they join the vast pool of unemployed living in appalling conditions on the

margins of the local industries.

The failure of the agrarian reform is illustrated by the government's own figures. These show that from 1961 to 1971, 40,000 families benefited from the division of 900,000 acres of land.

Most of this consisted of what the government calls 'colonization'. The peasants have re-baptized the process under the derisory name *confinacion* (imprisonment).

Others have been established on fallow land bought at inflated prices from the former proprietors.

Much of this process has been organized by the semi-official National Peasants' Association, established as a safety valve for the peasants' discontent. Since June 1970, when President Pastrano Borrera took office, the pace of the so-called reform has slowed down considerably.

It was he who installed Ocampo, a member of the ruling financial oligarchy, as Minister of Agriculture. Not unnaturally, Ocampo is a vicious opponent of the peasant movement.

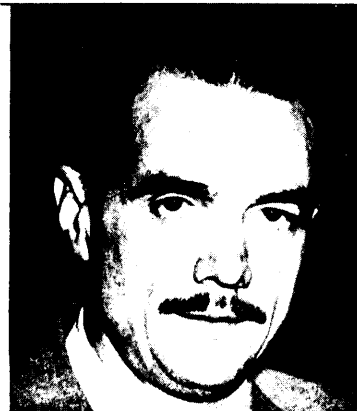
The government's latest effort is the 'reform of the agrarian reform', rejected out of hand by the landless peasants and treated with equal hostility by the *latifundistas* (big landlords) who dominate Colombian agriculture.

The *latifundistas*, entrenched on their estates, have no intention of abandoning even the most minor of their privileges. The same goes for the urban landlords who consider their position is threatened by the mild rent reform which the government has advanced.

They point to the growth of land occupations as an indication that the peasants' demands will keep on increasing so long as the government offers even the mildest reforms. They want a total clamp-down on the 'pretensions' of the urban and rural oppressed.

## HUGHES' HIDE-OUT

Howard Hughes, the mystery man at the centre of the Clifford Irving fake autobiography saga, is on the verge of becoming dictator Anastasio Somoza's favoured partner in exploiting Nicaragua's resources.



The Somoza family, which has been running Nicaragua since the United States invasion of 1927, at present possesses a fortune estimated at \$300m.

Somoza himself announced earlier this month that Hughes was interested in making sizeable investments, in different spheres of the Nicaraguan economy, including his own airline 'Lanica'.

Hughes' own fortune owes a good deal to his aircraft manufacturing interests.

According to sources in Managua, Nicaragua's capital, Somoza plans to turn the town

into a gambling and fun-in-the-sun spot, which could well explain the Hughes-Somoza partnership.

Hughes arrived secretly in Nicaragua in the middle of February aboard a two-motor jet which landed at an airforce base not far from Managua.

So far no one can actually claim to have seen the elusive magnate, who is at great pains to remain in hiding. He is reported to have been living in the Bahamas in a kind of 'golden underground' for the past 15 months.

He reached the Bahamas from Las Vegas after unleashing a battle for control of the Nevada gambling business.

In Nicaragua, his affairs are being carried on with the customary Hughes secrecy. Somoza's only proof of the joint enterprise is a brief note from Hughes written on poor quality paper.

Although oil is at the bottom of the Hughes fortune, he has also piled up a rich harvest from sales of helicopters for use in Vietnam and precision instruments for the space race.

Irving's phoney autobiography, which drew on published material about the millionaire, claims that Hughes provided the family of Richard Nixon with a considerable sum of money a few years ago.

Columnist Drew Pearson disclosed that Nixon paid back the debt with special favours during his stint as Eisenhower's vice-President.

Gossip has it in Managua that Hughes' bodyguards are former CIA and FBI agents who are now out of circulation. No one knows where he is staying, though at first he was rumoured to have reserved three floors of the town's only luxury hotel. However, one of Somoza's 33 states, called 'El Murcielago' (The Bat) is also considered a likely hide-out.

## A NEW TAX ON 'TRASH'

Literary 'trash' is the target of a new tax recently introduced in the Yugoslav republic of Serbia.

The law—which gives the Tito bureaucracy a rather obvious means of enforcing control over books, magazines, brochures and newspapers, provides for a 31.5-per-cent levy on what are termed





# MUSSOLINI: WHO LET HIM IN?

BY JACK GALE

The present total instability of parliamentary government in Italy, the growing militancy of the working class in the industrial centres, the re-emergence of fascism, and the almost daily clashes between workers and fascists, reveals a political crisis unequalled since the war.

Apart from the period at the end of World War II, when the workers hung up Mussolini by his heels, the present offensive mood—continuing unabated since the so-called 'hot summer' of 1969—has been unequalled since 1920.

In that year the working class was prevented from taking power only by the treachery and cowardice of the Italian Socialist Party leadership.

The Socialist Party went through a severe internal struggle and split in the period before Italy entered World War I. In the course of this, the most chauvinist elements were discarded. One of these was Benito Mussolini who—while still a Socialist Party member, launched his paper 'Il Popolo d'Italia', advocating Italian intervention in the war.

He was expelled in November 1914, and in January 1915 formed his first fascist group.

After this split, the Socialist Party opposed the war and participated in the anti-war Zimmerwald Conference in September 1915.

After the war, the spirit of the Italian working class was, in Trotsky's words, 'purely revolutionary'.

Throughout 1919 there were pitched battles on the streets between socialists and fascists. In April, army officers and police had to be called in to protect Mussolini's newspaper from 20,000 marching workers.

In July there were riots throughout Italy. Some of these were the 'housewives' riots when working-class women broke open shops, split shutters with crow bars, and distributed food and clothes. In Florence, the workers forced the local authorities to reduce prices by 50 per cent.

It was this temper of the working class which impelled the Socialist Party into the Communist International, though its leader, Turati, was openly hostile both to the Russian Revolution and the International.

This Party was put to the test in 1920, when the Italian working class, in fact, began the revolution.

In January of that year there were two national strikes—by post office workers and transport workers. Between February and April there were 297 more at national, regional and local level. On March 31 the state-owned industrial enterprises struck.

In May the country lurched closer to revolution. At Viareggio, for example, strikers burned down the police barracks and forced all government officials to withdraw.

The counter-revolution heeded the warning signs. Industrialists and church leaders called on Mussolini, whose fascist forces were at that time very small. General Pecori Giraldi promised immediate and nationwide assistance to help organize Mussolini's squadristi into a para-military force. Falche, then on the staff of the army corps at Trieste, arranged to supply Mussolini's lieutenant D'Annunzio and fasci as far west as Milan with arms and ammunition.

Milanese and Torinese businessmen left cheques, one donation alone totalling 1 million lire.

In May a large number of army officers were released on full pay and detailed to local fasci as secretaries, organizers and leaders of punitive expeditions into the workers' quarters.

In July, Trieste fascists burned down the socialist headquarters and the new Prime Minister, Giolitti, offered Mussolini a place in the 'national bloc' he was preparing to contest the General Election he planned to hold in 1921. Mussolini accepted.

In August, workers throughout Italy occupied their factories, took down the names of the owners and substituting that of Lenin or Trotsky.

Throughout September, workers' soviets were established in factory after factory. But the Socialist Party, when it could have taken the power, instead

abandoned the workers and the September movement was defeated. As Trotsky said:

'No other organization so lost its head and became so paralysed by fear as the Italian Socialist Party which had itself paved the way for these events.'

The Italian question was a special issue at the Third World Congress of the Communist International, held in June and July 1921. At its Livorno Congress in 1920 the Italian Socialist Party had refused to accept the '21 Conditions' for affiliation to the Communist International because of their revolutionary content. A split occurred out of which the Italian Communist Party developed. The CI ruled that in Italy this Communist Party alone constituted a section of the International.

But the ECCI had to struggle against both right and left for a clear principled position on Italy. Although expelled from the International, the Italian Socialist Party declared that it had no principled differences and sent three delegates (Lazzari, Maffi and Riboldi) to the Congress. The ECCI admitted these ISP delegates to the Congress in order to educate the 100,000 workers who were still party members.

On behalf of the ECCI, Trotsky insisted that the ISP right wing must be expelled before readmittance to the International could be considered. He pointed out that, after the September events, the desire to keep communists, centrists and reformists together within the one party, the position put forward by Lazzari, was itself reformist.

The working class had been prevented from taking power in September, not because they were not revolutionary, but because their party had not cleansed itself of the non-revolutionary elements which paralysed it. At the same time Trotsky had to struggle to convince the leaders of the young Italian Communist Party not to turn their back on the workers who still supported the Socialist Party.

These comrades had objected to Socialist Party delegates being admitted to the Congress and wanted to write off the ISP.

Trotsky pointed out that the presence of ISP leaders at the Congress reflected pressure on them from the Italian working class. At the same time, the fact that the Italian Communist Party, with a membership of 50,000, was half the size of the Socialist Party meant that it was necessary to educate the Italian workers in the role of their leaders.

The Italian Communist Party had to find its way to the workers. Revolutionary speeches alone would not suffice, since the Socialist Party leaders had made similar speeches before the betrayal of 1920. They had, indeed, been members of the same International in the name of which the Communist Party was speaking in 1920. The Socialist Party had, as Trotsky said, 'called for the revolution, but not prepared for it'.

That lost opportunity now created additional difficulties for the Communist Party:

'The workers say to themselves "We must wait, we must see what this means, we must examine..." In other words, they are demanding, perhaps not very articulately or consciously, but in the nature of things very persistently, that the new Communist Party prove itself in action.'

'The leaders must demonstrate in practice that they are made of different stuff from the leaders of the old party and that they are inseparably bound up with the masses in their struggle. It is necessary by word and deed, by deed and word, to conquer the confidence of ten of thousands of worker-socialists who still remain at the crossroads, but who would like to be in our ranks.'

The urgency of this was underlined in August 1921 when a truce was signed between the National Council of the Fasci di combattimento and the Socialist Party Executive.

In 1922 Pius XI was enthroned in the Vatican. This Pope was openly sympathetic to Mussolini, as indeed was the entire Catholic hierarchy.

(When the Lateran Pact was signed in 1929 between the fascist state and the Vatican, the church's representative, Cardinal

Gasparri, declared: 'We have made a good bargain, because above all we have reached an understanding with a regime which in its principles agrees intimately and profoundly with the Catholic ethic.'

Mussolini also enjoyed considerable support inside the Royal Family—particularly from the Queen Mother.

By this time parliamentary government was paralysed. A stop-gap premier, Facta, had assumed office in February 1921. In June, he resigned saying it was the happiest day of his life. In July he was back again because no alternative could be found.

Facta spent the next three months trying to form a coalition, finally confessing to the king that not only would nobody join his government—no one would even talk to him on the telephone!

With the fascists preparing to march on Rome, Facta appealed to the king to proclaim martial law against Mussolini. The king's reaction was: 'Mussolini is certainly the man of the hour.'

On October 29, 1921, Mussolini was invited to form his own government. The next day, the fascists marched into Rome.

The young Communist Party had not had time to build the mass support to halt fascism. The responsibility for Mussolini's victory rests entirely on the Socialist Party which, as Trotsky said, while nominally a member of the Third International, had 'its ideological roots in the Second International'.

The coming to power of Mussolini heralded a wave of reaction that swept over Europe, aided from 1924 by the development of fascism. The lesson for the Italian working class today is that only a principled revolutionary party, with deep roots in the working class, can prevent a repetition of 1920-1922.

<sup>1</sup> 'First Five Years of the Communist International', Vol. 1, p. 262.

<sup>2</sup> Trotsky 'The School of Revolutionary Strategy' in 'First five years of the CI', Vol. 2, p. 16.

<sup>3</sup> Roy MacGregor Hastie: 'The Day of the Lion', p. 198.

<sup>4</sup> MacGregor Hastie, op. cit. p. 128.



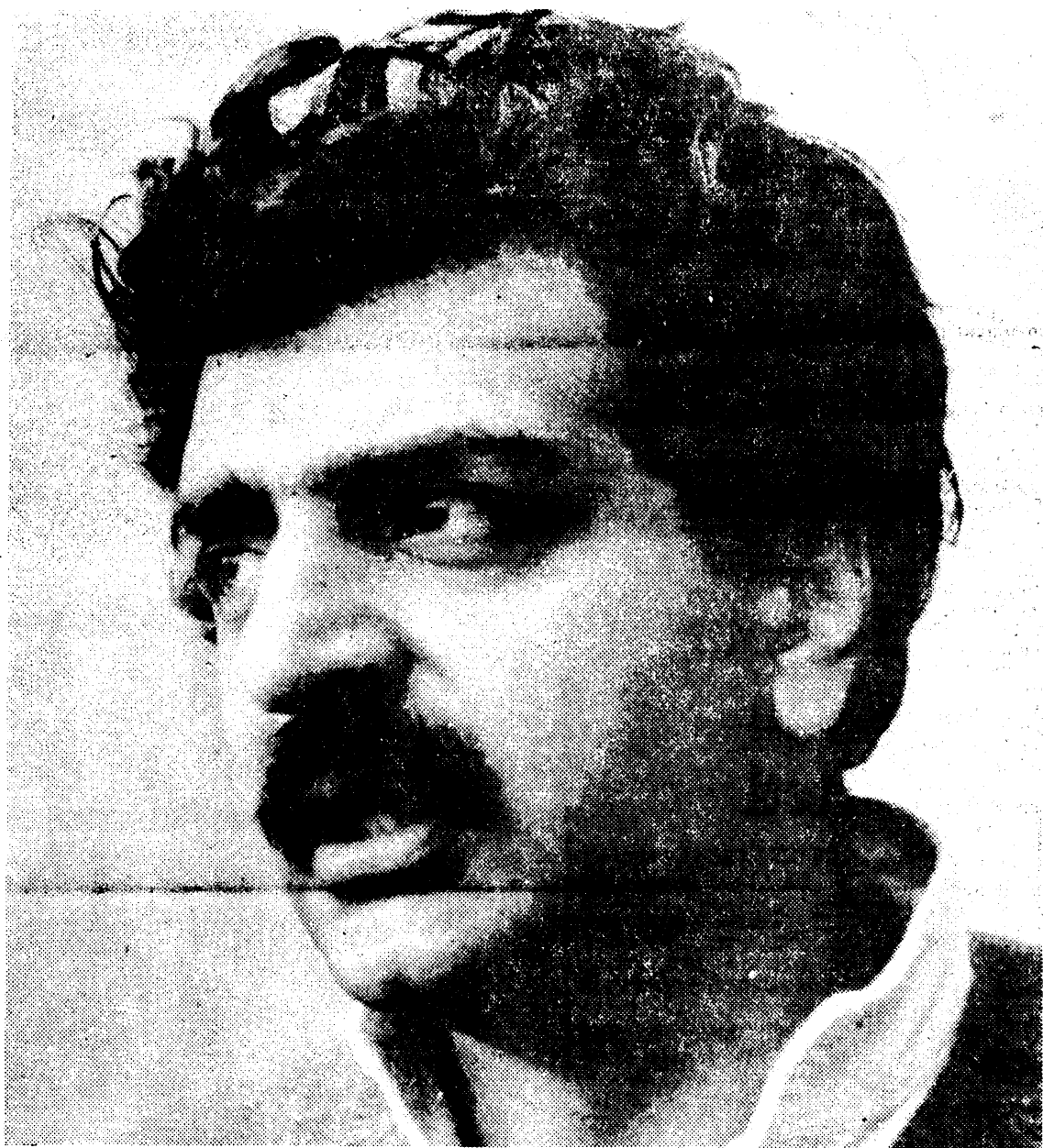
Top: October 1922, the march on Rome. Left: 1919, Communists guard a factory they have occupied and posted with notices. Below: Mussolini.



# OFFICINE COMUNISTE



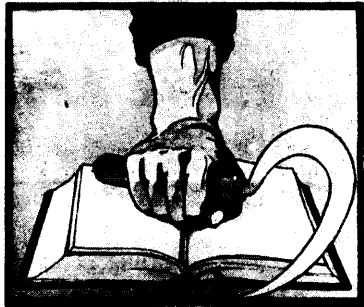
# MR TARIQ ALI'S RADICAL MUMBO JUMBO



Tariq Ali: more optimistic for the future capitalism than the serious bourgeois economists.

BY CLIFF SLAUGHTER

## BOOK REVIEW



The Coming British Revolution, by Tariq Ali.

### Revolutionary perspectives?

Predictably, Tariq Ali's book is being well received in liberal and reformist quarters. These gentlemen, of whom the Fabian 'New Statesman' is representative, sniff him out with a sure instinct.

Now that capitalism's long post-war boom is so obviously dead that even they are beginning to realize it, they sense also that something might be needed to help reformism keep its hold.

Perhaps, they think, someone with a more revolutionary-sounding phraseology will prove useful. 'It won't exactly shake Wall Street . . .', says the 'New Statesman' reviewer, and ' . . . there will be more books like this one'. He waxes enthusiastic only over Tariq Ali's attack on the Socialist Labour League.

The purpose of this book is to claim for Tariq Ali's International Marxist Group, entirely spuriously, the role of organizing for a revolutionary party in Britain. To this end, it is designed above all else to dismiss and discredit the Socialist Labour League, the British section of the Fourth International, and its paper the Workers Press.

Before we discuss the distortions of Marxism in Ali's book, let us say just what is the reality behind the coming socialist revolution in England. There is nothing abstract or demagogic about this reality.

Mass unemployment and open class warfare in Ireland and Britain result from the most profound crisis of British capitalism. Because of the long-accumulated and incurable decline of British imperialism, now thrown into the melting-pot of international trade war and

slump, and no longer sheltered by world boom, the employing class has been compelled to embark on a policy of destroying the basic rights of the working class.

This attack means discarding the reliance on compromise mediated through the trade union bureaucracy. Such a change in the method of rule adds to the economic crisis a profound political crisis.

Because the Socialist Labour League, in opposition to all revisionists such as the IMG, has always worked on this perspective, we have been able to pose concretely the path to working-class power in Britain: demand that the unions mobilize the working class to make the Tories resign and replace them with a Labour government to legislate the Charter of Basic Rights.

Tariq Ali and the IMG have consistently opposed the perspective of capitalist crisis and struggle for power, but now Ali rushes into print under the title 'The coming British revolution'. A careful reading of the book shows that he still opposes the revolutionary perspective. Far from being an analysis of the developing situation, it is a charter for continuing the old game of middle-class radical protest. In order to sound more plausible, Tariq Ali covers up the past of his own movement.

Even at this late stage, Tariq Ali shows some sort of split mentality on the economic crisis. In the introduction, he talks about he and his friends 'laying bets' as to which company will be the next to go bankrupt. But Ali hedges his bets on the big question of the capitalist system.

'Many people still seem to doubt that Britain is in a crisis and feel that the situation will be stabilized once again as it was after World War II. Certainly this is a short-term possibility [particularly if Britain enters the Common Market], but the structural problems of British capitalism could only be sorted out if the working-class organizations were viciously smashed.' (p. 21.)

This is mumbo-jumbo. The 'structural problems' have been there for scores of years. The question is precisely whether the present acute crisis can be solved through 'stabilization' like that of 1944-1945. And Ali's answer is that of the ruling class itself: that entry into Europe makes it a possibility!

Actually Tariq Ali—the 'revolutionary'—is more optimistic than the serious bourgeois economists. He says: 'There are even certain indications that in the short term there might be tendencies in operation which are favourable to this country's economy.'

Tariq Ali's determination to

look on the bright side for British capitalism is not surprising in view of the predictions made in the past by his co-thinkers. He recommends to his readers the IMG pamphlet 'The Credibility Gap' by Tony Whelan for its criticisms of the SLL, but he prefers to forget the economic and political perspectives upon which Whelan—and the IMG—based themselves in that pamphlet.

Is it possible to take seriously a political tendency which based itself on the following perspective, for example? Ernest Mandel, international 'theoretician' of the IMG tendency, wrote as late as 1971 that armament expenditures, ' . . . make it possible to put a damper on cyclical fluctuations by stabilizing an important part of investment volume. In this way, the American economy is protected against a crisis like that of 1929.' (Reprinted in the Canadian 'Labour Challenge', October 25, 1971.)

Even after the Nixon measures of August 15, Mandel saw only a stage of 'slower growth', and paid no attention to the role of the working class in a situation where international crisis forces the bourgeoisie to attack every basic right.

Because of this completely wrong economic perspective, the IMG and its international collaborators worked on a political programme which opposes the revolutionary role of the working class.

### Marxism and idealism

In 1970, in a pamphlet published by the IMG, Tony Whelan predicted that Wilson would create a 'pre-election boom!' Politics would go on in the same old way:

' . . . the British working class is not, yet, moving in a revolutionary direction or even, in its masses, accessible to revolutionary socialist propaganda: the situation is neither pre-revolutionary nor rapidly developing into a pre-revolutionary situation.' (T. Whelan: 'The Credibility Gap'.)

It is this perspective, writing off the working class as a revolutionary force, which led the IMG to conclude that it was from students, and from the protest movement on Vietnam, that any gains could be made. They condemned the Socialist Labour League's orientation towards the working class and the building of the daily Workers Press. They denounced the refusal of the SLL to participate in their bogus

'united front' in the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, which, according to Whelan, would provide the basis of a new revolutionary leadership. He wrote:

' . . . the struggle in solidarity with the Vietnamese Revolution has drawn into activity, particularly around VSC, thousands of youth, both students and young workers, who, despite many elements of mistaken ideas, adventurist tendencies, etc., are eager for a showdown with capitalism. And not only can the SLL not reach them, but they are by-passing the SLL on the left. It is from these youth that the core of the new revolutionary party will be built: therefore for Trotskyists to be unable to influence them is a very serious matter . . . we are eager to prove the superiority of our theories in action.'

No one can deny that the years since 1968 have provided ample opportunity for this 'proof' of the positions of the IMG and the Socialist Labour League. The IMG, working on the perspective that capitalist crisis was far away and any development of working-class revolutionary consciousness indefinitely postponed, relied upon its optimistic impression that the protest movement, devoted at that time to Vietnam, would provide something they called a 'revolutionary party'.

Everyone knows the actual outcome of the Vietnamese Solidarity Campaign. It disintegrated completely, in as many different directions as those from which its supporters had come.

They were in any case brought together, like the IMG itself, on a completely idealist basis, sharing the impression from immediate events that sufficient 'revolutionary' feeling could be aroused for their 'showdown with capitalism'. This is what lay behind the whole policy of 'confrontation' pursued by the political protesters, especially in the universities.

Tariq Ali's pretensions to being a Marxist have only survived this experience because of the diligence of the capitalist press and TV in building him up as the 'extreme left' in Britain. The one virtue of his new book is that he bursts this bubble himself. If anyone doubted that the philosophical-basis of the IMG and Tariq Ali was sheer idealism, one paragraph in this book suffices to settle the issue.

Chapter II begins: 'Marxism maintains that consciousness determines history. In that respect it does not differ from other theories of history. What Marxism demands is that consciousness itself must be

explained; that not only must it be examined as it exists at the moment, but the factors which determine its future development must also be constantly subjected to analysis. In late capitalist society the sole agency of social change is the working class. It is therefore essential to put into perspective the historical features which have shaped the present level of consciousness of the working class and attempt to analyse how this consciousness could develop and change in the future.'

Here are the germs of the whole IMG position. Tariq Ali tries to make Marx an idealist! Marx and Engels wrote over and over again that the basic question of philosophy was that of the relation between being and thought, being and consciousness.

Marxism is founded upon materialism. The world of nature, and the social relations of production entered into by men to struggle with nature, are objective, they exist independently of whether we are conscious of their laws or not. The class struggle growing out of these social relations of production is objective; it exists independently of our consciousness. Our consciousness is the reflection of these objective realities in our brains.

What sort of a 'Marxist' tendency is it that permits Tariq Ali to write down and publish such a monstrosity as: 'Marxism maintains that consciousness determines history'?

The only effect of such a book is to confuse and mislead any reader who is interested in Marxism. Marx's struggle against idealism was in order to show that not the will of man but the necessities of production and the social relations produced by it determined history. Freedom could be achieved only in the recognition of this necessity.

The idealists are those who are misled by the apparent independence of their ideas, which seem to come out of their own heads. Contrast Tariq Ali's 'consciousness determines history' with Lenin:

'In actual fact, man's ends are engendered by the objective world and presuppose it—they find it as something given, present. But it seems to man as if his ends are taken from outside the world, and are independent of the world ("freedom").' (Lenin, 'Collected Works,' Vol. 38 (Philosophical Notebooks) p. 189), and further:

'Life gives rise to the brain. Nature is reflected in the human brain. By checking and applying the correctness of these reflections in his practice and tech-



nique, man arrives at objective truth.' (p. 201).

Finally, paraphrasing Hegel with approval, Lenin stamps firmly on Tariq Ali's 'consciousness determines history':

'The "objective world" "pursues its own course," and man's practice, confronted by this objective world, encounters "obstacles in the realization" of the end, even "impossibility".' (p. 214.)

Tariq Ali tells us later in his book that Marxist theory has been fought for in Britain in the present generation by the group round the 'New Leaf Review'. He no doubt accepts the view often propounded by that group that Lenin was some crude materialist, whereas the true Marx cannot really be called a materialist. Let us see, therefore if Tariq Ali fares any better with Marx than with Lenin in the sphere of philosophy.

The best known of Marx's writings on historical materialism is the 'Preface' to his 'Introduction to the Critique of Political Economy' (1859). What does it say about consciousness and history?

'The mode of production of material life determines the general character of the social, political and spiritual processes of life. It is not the consciousness of men that determines their being, but, on the contrary, their social being determines their consciousness.'

Is there a last resort for Tariq Ali? Was there perhaps a young Marx who could be found to agree that 'consciousness determines history'? Here is an extract from 'The German Ideology' (1845-1846), when Marx was 27 years of age:

'... we do not set out from what men say, imagine or conceive, nor from what has been said, thought, imagined, or conceived of men, in order to arrive at men in the flesh. We begin with real, active men, and from their real life-process show the development of the ideological reflexes and echoes of this life-process... Life is not determined by consciousness, but consciousness by life.'

### The fruits of idealism

It is because Tariq Ali and his IMG advisers in writing this book, such as Pat Jordan and C. van Gelderan, have substituted idealism and empiricism for this materialist outlook that they are politically only a protest movement and theoretically a purely revisionist tendency on every basic question of policy and programme.

It is for the same reason that Ali, in writing in one chapter on 'The British Labour Movement' does not deal with Chartism, the first mass proletarian movement in history, nor with the bourgeois revolution of 1640. Not only Trotsky but Lenin, Marx and Engels all laid a solid foundation of theoretical investigation of these class struggles as the starting point for understanding the workers' movement in Britain today.

Tariq Ali thinks he can analyse Social-Democracy and Stalinism in Britain purely on the basis of his impressions, and not from the necessary study of bourgeois class structure and bourgeois ideology in Britain. For the same reason the IMG can never understand itself and its own history.

Anything in Tariq Ali's book on the Trotskyist movement itself is purely for the purpose of attacking the Socialist Labour League. The IMG itself is a scraping together of anti-Bolsheviks who find the SLL an obstacle to their good relations with the reformist and Stalinist bureaucracies and the middle class. They have clutched the tattered banner of the Pabloite clique (Mandel, Frank, Hansen, Maitan) who falsely claim to be the Fourth International (the 'United Secretariat').

This split first came into the open in 1953 and has never been healed. This split, and the open participation of the Pabloite sections in Ceylon and Algeria in bourgeois governments merits one page in Tariq Ali's book! He provides not a shred of analysis or explanation of the IMG's own origins and theoretical questions of the split.

Similarly, he ignores completely the early years of the Fourth International, when Trotsky fought a bitter struggle for dialectical materialism as its theoretical foundation, against



1968: With Cohn Bendit, Ali appears for the TV cameras.

the pragmatism and idealism dominant in the Socialist Workers' Party (1939-1940).

Instead of presenting his case for the IMG in such a historical and theoretical way, Tariq Ali serves up once again the impressionism and gossip peddled by his group for years, always a servile assistant to the right-wing reformists and Stalinists. In the face of all the achievements of the members of the SLL—the daily Workers Press, the Young Socialists' movement, the unrelenting campaigns on all the major working-class issues, the building of a new leadership which has begun in the factories and unions—Tariq Ali repeats the tired old allegations that the SLL's members are driven too hard, are non-political activists, and only stay a short time in politics.

This rubbish was never given a serious hearing outside the coffee-bars and common-rooms, and in the workers' movement today it is pushed aside contemptuously, as the policies and campaigns of the SLL win more and more support and as the SLL fights consistently, and successfully, for the broadest possible interest in Marxist theory.

It is worth dealing with just one of Tariq Ali's distortions, since it exposes at the same time the IMG's own complete departure from any Marxist perspective.

Tariq Ali says (pp 122-123) that the SLL ceased to work inside the Labour Party, and created the SLL (1959) as an open revolutionary organization, because of the 'pressure' from ex-Communist Party members who had joined the Trotskyists only since 1956. Says Tariq Ali, this withdrawal was carried out behind a smokescreen of exaggerated claims of a witch-hunt by Transport House.

The record speaks differently. When the SLL was formed it applied immediately for affiliation to the Labour Party, requesting the same rights to speak and publish independently as, say, the Fabian Society. This was refused, and the League proscribed. We had reached a stage where it was necessary and principled to assert our right to work within the Labour Party, but without sacrificing the open struggle for our party and platform.

The forces we sent into the Labour Party after that date, i.e., in the Young Socialists from 1960 onwards, understood first and foremost this struggle for independent revolutionary politics and party, and it was for this reason that they won the youth movement from Transport House, despite the assistance

given to Transport House by the immediate predecessors, and some of the present members, of the IMG.

The Young Socialists came out of the Labour Party in 1964-1965 on the same basic principles. The alternative was to allow the reformists to smash the youth movement built up since 1961 by trampling on the decisions of the majority, who had supported the League's policies and elected a National Committee with 'Keep Left' supporters in the majority.

The same people, now in the IMG, who opposed the SLL's struggle for independent revolutionary politics in the early 1960s now team up with Tariq Ali and Robin Blackburn in an ultra-left attitude to the Labour Party, and condemn the SLL policy of fighting for the return of a Labour government pledged to socialist policies. They devoted themselves in the 1970 General Election to 'revolutionary propaganda, rather than canvassing for the return of a Labour government.' (p. 144.) This has now led Tariq Ali to a totally reactionary conclusion:

'The Labour Party is totally bureaucratized and the only orientation which revolutionaries can have to it is to devise a strategy of destroying it, which means in effect destroying its trade union links.'

The idealists of the IMG work therefore to turn the best elements in the working class away from the most essential crisis of all: the crisis of revolutionary leadership. In Britain this new revolutionary leadership will be forged only in the actual struggle to overcome and go beyond the dominance of reformism, of trade union consciousness, of bourgeois consciousness.

And at this very point, Tariq Ali advocates breaking the trade unionists' links with the question of a Labour government. Everything written by Lenin and Trotsky on the class struggle, strategy and tactics, is thrown into the rubbish bin, and this is inevitable once the IMG has dispensed with the philosophical foundations laid by Marx and Engels.

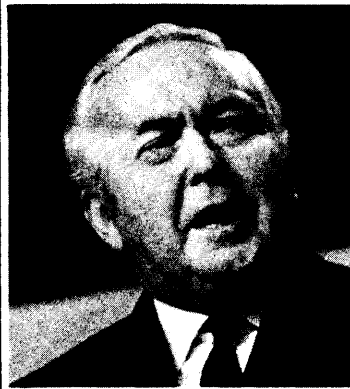
To answer all the falsehoods and absurdities in Tariq Ali's book would require another book of greater length. Serious workers—all those who start from the necessity of building a revolutionary leadership based on Marxist theory—will be unerringly guided by the fundamental questions of philosophy and programme on which Tariq Ali and the IMG have exposed themselves as anti-Marxist through and through.

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## FUTURE

Mrs Jill Foot, wife of Labour front-bencher Michael Foot, claims that the family's mongrel dog—called Vanessa—can see into the future.

Some years ago Michael Foot wrote a fulsome, not to say nauseating, biography of his hero, Harold Wilson.



Wilson

All about what a principled, reliable and generally marvelous fellow old Harold was.

But that was before Wilson became Prime Minister and merrily ran up a 600,000 unemployed figure and prepared—together with another old 'left' Barbara Castle—a juicy piece of legislation against the unions.

Poor Michael hadn't foreseen all that. Maybe he should have consulted the dog.

## SACRED CGT

Father Pierre Forgeot d'Arc, of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Billancourt, near Paris, has received a letter 'vehemently protesting' at his action in allowing the Renault Struggle Committee (a Maoist group) to hold a meeting in the church hall.

The letter deplored that 'in a sacred place, where you preach the liberty of others, you should allow agitators to advocate violence, contrary to the teachings of your own church'.

The protest comes, not from the Ladies Guild or some such organization of outraged virtue, but from the secretary of the local federation of the Communist CGT union.

CGT members, the letter explains, belong to 'different currents of philosophical and

religious thought', but they consider it to be 'inadmissible' that 'odious and lying accusations against the Renault CGT organization should be made in a spiritual place'.

The Stalinists certainly intend making it hot for the parish priest! They demand that he displays their letter in his church and—just to show they know where true help can be found—they've sent a copy to the Bishop of Nanterre!

## TALKING

It's all in the mind. Unemployment in Scotland, that is. Mr Allan Campbell Fraser, managing director of the giant Lyon Group, has just been lecturing everybody on the myth of joblessness.

'We have talked ourselves into recession,' Fraser told a plush luncheon the other day.

'Recession starts as a whisper somewhere, it gathers momentum and size, and rolls across the face of the industrial world like a vast choking cloud. The evil result is a stifling of enterprise, initiative and investment and a multitude of good men and women out of work.'

'The more men talk about it, the worse it gets. It spreads like a disease and nowhere is it more virulent than in our own country of Scotland. Here we seem to have a death wish. We have talked ourselves into believing that our ills are terminal.'

So, to all the Right-to-Work marchers from Scotland, take a hint from Fraser. Don't talk about the fact you can't find a job, and unemployment will just fade away. It's as simple as that. Or is it?

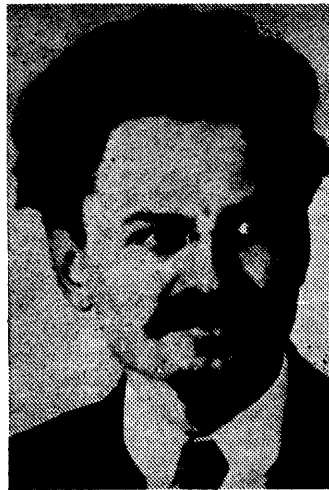
## DUMPED

Australia, land of plenty. Queensland's Egg Marketing Board has just dumped 720 million eggs in the sea. And the government has claimed this act as genius.

A statement said that by dumping the eggs it will save eight cents a dozen, the present cost of processing the eggs into pulp.

A statement said: Australia today pulps surplus eggs for export, but even at give-away prices the market is dead. Simple capitalist economics!

# BOOKS



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BY OUR OWN REPORTERS  
STEPHEN JOHNS, IAN YEATS,  
DAVID MAUDE, PHILIP WADE  
AND GARY GURMEET

AMONG the most dramatic and spirited scenes I have witnessed, four of the five Right-to-Work marches met for the first time on Sunday night in Northampton Guildhall.

The climax came as the 600-strong audience erupted when the weather-battered Glasgow banner was marched through the ranks—a moving tribute to the hardy Scottish contingent who have walked over 400 miles.

'It's like Rangers and Celtic,' said Ayrshire miner John Hampson after the meeting. 'It makes me forget I'm tired. If this was Northampton what will Wembiey Pool be like with its many thousands?'

Earlier another memorable scene took place on the city borders.

The Glasgow contingent was marching in full order along the Rugby road. As they reached the junction with the Daventry highway, the Liverpool comrades were sighted. There was an immediate roar and over 100 clenched fists were raised up. Then we joined together and marched to the city centre.

At the Guildhall, Gerry Healy, national secretary of the Socialist Labour League greeted the contingents:

'It is true to say that these marches are now giving day-to-day leadership in the working class against the Tory enemy. This was the intention but this is only a beginning. Youth who have displayed such determination will build a mass movement to deal with the Tories for ever,' he said.

The political situation had changed dramatically since the march left Glasgow on February 5. After the miners' strike, workers everywhere now clearly recognized that their main enemy was the Tory government and their fight would have to be political.

'The working class is now seeking to give expression to this understanding against the cowardly trade union and Labour leadership who still want the most desperate and abysmal compromise.

'But the marchers aim to build a leadership to get the government out and deal with the traitors inside the labour movement. This is the message they take into every town and village in the country. This is why they have separated the friends off from the enemies in the labour movement.

'Every ordinary worker, the Labour voter, the good trade unionist, will come forward and support this march. Without them we could not keep on the road for one day. That is why the leaders at Transport House hate us so much, because we are separating friends from enemies.'

Comrade Healy said the movement would continue to reject those revisionists who wanted to join the march so that they could separate the issue of the right to work from the struggle to build a revolutionary leadership and make the Tory government resign.

The silence of the Fleet St press over the march was in itself the best publicity of all, because it emphasized the class issues in the marches.

'We do not need publicity from

## Right-to-Work

# DIARY

WE DEMAND  
THE  
RIGHT  
TO  
WORK



# Joint rally: Spirited scenes

## Witney LP ranks behind marchers



The Glasgow-London and Liverpool-London marchers meet up

TRADE UNIONISTS and Labour Party members in Witney laid on a great reception for the Right-to-Work marchers from S Wales and the W.

On hand to march with us the last stretch of the road from Swindon were a group of Labour rank-and-filers who condemned a last minute pull-back by the local party leadership.

The marchers were welcomed at Witney Technical College by the students' union and leading members of the area's trade union and labour movement.

First they marched through the town, population roughly 12,000, to a meeting at its central, 17th century Buttercross. There Alan Thornett, deputy senior shop steward at Morris Motors, Oxford, welcomed the youth contingent, now swelled by two comrades from Swindon.

Then it was on to the technical college, where Cliff Small, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers district secretary, warmly greeted us in his capacity as a college governor.

Unemployment in Witney is currently relatively low, but local leaders are worried.

Besides the woollen blanket factories, for which the town is famous, the main employer is Smith's Industries, whose labour force has already been cut from 2,000 to 1,400. It is estimated that two-thirds of the labour force commutes out of the area for work.

It is in this context that the Right-to-Work campaign won support from the Witney Trades Union Council, the Witney No 2 branch of the AUEW, the Clerical and Administrative Workers' Union branch at Smith's and the technical college students' union.

Ted Cooper, secretary of the Trades Union Council, told me that the policy of his organization was 'complete backing for the Right-to-Work campaign'.

He pointed out that the opponents of the campaign locally had fought tooth and nail against giving the marchers accommodation and support, but had lost.

Carole Douse, one of Witney's three Labour councillors, said she was 'extremely angry' with the local party leadership's attitude that only individual support should be given to the marchers.

After marching with us for the last four miles into the town, she said: 'We've got to support this campaign, there's no alternative.'

Malcolm Saunders, a party committee member who marched with us, agreed.

John Taylor, a rank-and-file party member and AUEW member at Smith's, criticized the failure of the 'left' union leaders to fight unemployment.

'This campaign is absolutely right', he said. 'The Tory government has got to take us on and drive us back to the 1920s.'

Our thanks to Cliff Small, the students, maintenance and teaching staff at Witney Tech., who waited until the small hours of Monday morning to serve us tea after the tyre burst on the trip back from the magnificent Northampton rally.

They were up again early to help us with breakfast.



Filming the documentary 'The English Revolution' in Northampton on Sunday

## Play was terrific

KENT Right-to-Work marchers travelled over 90 miles to the first big rally of their campaign at Northampton.

Said Bob Charman: 'I was surprised to see so many people there and when we were walking into the Guildhall we had a really good reception. Everyone was on our side.'

'I thought the play was fantastic. It took you back in history and showed you how parliament came to power.'

'Cromwell was fighting the King and today we're doing the same thing—only this time it's

the Tories.'

After only four hours' sleep the marchers were on the road to Dartford early yesterday morning spurred on by the tremendous spirit of the rally and singing the Right-to-Work song they had learned the night before.

Commenting on the play, Dennis Dawson said: 'It showed you a lot of things about the government, but most of all it showed that Cromwell won because his army would not break. As long as we don't break, we'll end up politically strong.'

the capitalist press. We have our own daily newspaper, Workers Press. The working class is our most powerful ally.

'Just as the heart cannot function without the blood, the marches could not take one step forward without the spirit of the working class, expressed in the way they help the youth,' said Comrade Healy.

'They do this not out of sympathy, but because they know the fight of the boys and girls on the road is their own great fight for emancipation.

'They will be with us at the Empire Pool, next Sunday, March 12.'

Also speaking at the meeting were John Barrie, Young Socialist leader of the Glasgow-London marchers, Christine Smith, YS leader of the Liverpool-London marchers and Gerry Mulherne, a shop steward at the Triumph-Meriden factory.



# Bagpipes welcome to Daventry hospitality

SUCH IS the strength of the Right-to-Work campaign that Daventry workers, few of whom had previously heard of the Young Socialists, organized the best overall reception we have received since Liverpool.

The Labour council, the trades council, shop stewards and convenors and Communist Party members, combined to virtually overwhelm us with their hospitality.

It began on Saturday night after a four-hour march through a driving blizzard from our midday stop at Southam. There had been talk of a band meeting us, together with some workers.

And as we swung towards town we heard the sound of bagpipes! Yes the trades council were there with four pipers to escort us into Daventry.

To help us dry out, the Red Cross brought blankets and towels. And many workers came in with gifts of spare clothing for those marchers who hadn't a second change.

Next stop was a restaurant for an excellent three-course meal before we reached the modern hall where we stayed the night.

In the morning it was breakfast at the new Daventry Community Centre cooked by Labour Party members and their wives. Leading the servers was Jim Humphries, AUEW convenor at the local Ford plant.

Yet it was only seven days ago that the trades council had received a request to help the marchers when they reached Daventry. In a week factory collections were organized to pay for accommodation and food and all the machinery prepared for action.

From the moment we stepped inside a hall to dry out, we saw that local organizers couldn't do enough to help the marchers.

The first to welcome us was Don Tooby, chairman of Daventry Labour Council, who praised the determination and courage of the marchers. His thoughts were echoed by another councillor, Stanley Harrison.

'I'm a socialist and tears came to my eyes as the pipes struck up. It brought back memories of Jarraw and indicated one thing—the Tories are back,' he told us.

'Heath got into Downing St by a trick, with false promises on prices, unemployment and the social services. It is now our unalterable resolve to get the Tories out.'

'What greater indignity is there than to see a man without a job and the means to keep his family sustained?'

Roy Sharp, trades council secretary and an AUEW steward, told me:

'We supported the march purely on the principle of the right to work. It hardly needs to be said this right is coupled with the removal of the Tory government. It needs a concerted effort of all the unions to force the Tories out.'

Jim Humphries, who is also a Labour councillor, is like many Daventry workers in that he hails from other parts. In fact he worked at Ford's Dagenham plant for many years before moving north.

'This campaign, as I see it, is another nail in Heath's coffin. It will wake up workers who think they are secure in their jobs.'

'I agree, you certainly can't wait three years for another election and I'd like to see the government out, there's no doubt about that.'

'But we missed a great chance in the miners' strike. There should have been a General

TOP: JIM HUMPHRIES, AUEW CONVENOR AT FORD, DAVENTRY. BOTTOM: ROY SHARP, TRADES COUNCIL SECRETARY



Strike. The struggle at the Saltley depot showed how serious the strike was.

'On the other hand there are too many bureaucrats in the TUC, which doesn't reflect the aspirations of the rank and file,' said Jim.

'The engineers will certainly have an opportunity of beating the Tories, but the turn to plant bargaining has weakened our position. We'll have to keep a wary eye on our own union leaders.'

Finally, our thanks to Roger Peach and his wife Valerie, both Communist Party members. They helped make coffee for the marchers for all of Saturday evening.

Roger was impressed with the long, theoretical discussion which took place later on between several committee members.

'That is my main criticism of the Communist Party. They don't place such an emphasis on theoretical preparation,' he told me.

## March will open people's eyes to Toryism

OUR FIRST full day of walking was on Sunday—and there were no signs of blistered feet or tiredness. We trudged 13 miles from Southampton to land in the middle of strong Tory territory in Winchester.

As we walked into the town, represented in the Commons by Rear Admiral Morgan Giles, toffee-nosed occupants of big, expensive cars looked amazed. Some even dared to wind down their windows and mumble a few hostile words.

The marchers, on the other hand, were thinking about their next meal, which was paid for by collections made in the town.

We did not need to worry about accommodation. That was arranged by students at the local art college.

During the day the march passed through more favourable areas. At the half-way stop in Eastleigh, for instance, our meal was paid for by a railway worker.

Mr Edward Moody, a woodworker at the town's huge rail works, said he supported the campaign because there was no backing likely to come from the TUC.

It had to come from ordinary

people who are affected by unemployment, he added.

Eastleigh is the main rail-repair workshop on Southern Region railways and will soon be hit by British Rail's plans for a national cut-back in its work force.

From Eastleigh onwards we gradually began to enter Tory country.

One local Tory even felt compelled to stop his car and argue that there was no shortage of work. To prove it he offered anyone a job—as a gardener in his house!

But such hostility far from deterred the marchers.

The Winchester experience in fact inflamed 18-year-old Jack Week's hatred of Toryism.

Jack has been on the Southampton dole queue for 14 months. In all that time the labour exchange only sent him for one job interview.

'They stopped bothering about me. Now the experience gets me down. What else could you do with an income of £4.80 a week?'

'It's about time such a march was organized. I think it is going to achieve a lot.'

'It's going to open up the eyes of the working class. And that is something these Tories are really worried about.'

# TV

## BBC 1

9.38-12.30 Schools. 12.55-1.25 Fo a fe. 1.30 Andy Pandy. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.55 Schools. 3.45 Rosla and after. 4.15 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Vision on. 5.20 Motor mouse and it's the wolf. 5.44 Crystal Tipps. 5.50 News and weather.  
6.00 NATIONWIDE. Weather.  
6.45 QUIZ BALL.  
7.05 TOMORROW'S WORLD.  
7.30 FILM: 'DO YOU TAKE THIS STRANGER?' Gene Barry, Lloyd Bridges, Diane Baker. In order to inherit a million dollars a man must die.  
9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather.  
9.20 THE BRITISH EMPIRE: ECHOES OF BRITANNIA'S RULE. 'Beyond the Black Stump'.  
10.15 FILM 72.  
10.45 24 HOURS.  
11.20 VIEWPOINT. 'The Hidden God'.  
11.52 MEDICINE TODAY. 'The Treatment of Oedema'.  
12.17 News.

## BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 1.15-1.40 Medicine today. 5.35-6.30 Open University.  
6.35 HANDLING MATERIALS. 'Picking by Numbers'.  
7.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.  
7.30 NEWSROOM and weather.  
8.00 THE SPACE BETWEEN WORDS. 'Diplomacy'.  
9.00 LOOK, STRANGER. 'Giant Leeks and Magic Brews'.  
9.20 PLAY. 'The Grievance'. Zena Walker.  
10.50 NEWS ON 2 and weather.  
10.55 THE OLD GREY WHISTLE TEST. David Elliott, Plainsong.

## ITV

10.20 Schools. 2.35 Time to remember. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.15 Tea break. 3.45 Matinee. 4.10 Dr Simon Locke. 4.40 Once upon a time. 4.55 Sooty show. 5.20 Magpie. 5.50 News.  
6.00 TODAY. Eamonn Andrews.  
6.40 CROSSROADS.  
7.05 DES. Des O'Connor with guest Petula Clark.  
7.35 FILM: 'QUARANTINED'. John Döhner, Gary Collins, Gordon Pinsent. A visitor to Dr John Bedford's clinic collapses with cholera.  
9.00 LOVE STORY. 'A Memory of Two Loves'.  
10.00 NEWS AT TEN.  
10.30 DOCUMENTARY: 'WE WAS ALL ONE'. Decline and fall of Cockney culture.  
11.30 DRIVE-IN.  
12.00 NOTHING IF NOT CRITICAL.

## REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 10.20-2.33 London. 4.10 Enchanted house. 4.20 Puffin. 4.25 Dr Simon Locke. 4.55 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Police file. 6.15 Lookaround. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Cattle Drive'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.55 Gazette. 12.00 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.20 News. 6.00 Diary. 11.55 News. 11.58 Faith for life. 12.03 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 10.20-2.33 London. 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Tea break. 4.05 Houseparty. 4.18 Pingwings. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Film: 'Tanganyika'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 News. 11.40 Farm progress. 12.10 Weather. Discoverers.

HARLECH: 10.20-2.33 London. 3.50 British Museum. 4.15 Miri Mawr. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 London. 6.01 Y dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.35 Odd couple. 7.05 Film: 'Column South'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Drive-in. 12.00 Weather.

HTV Channel 10 and HTV West as above except: 6.01-6.18 Report West.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 6.30 Dan sylw. 11.15 O'r wasg.

ATV MIDLANDS: 10.20-2.33 London. 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Dr Simon Locke. 4.40 Once upon a time. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Reckless Moment'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Who knows? Weather.

ULSTER: 10.20-2.33 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.15

Daws explores. 6.35 London. 7.00 Bonanza. 8.00 Deadline. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Short story.

YORKSHIRE: 10.20 London. 2.34 Fortitude in adversity. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 Matinee. 3.55 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Dr Simon Locke. 7.00 Film: 'The Guns of Fort Petticoat'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Great painters. 12.05 Weather.

GRANADA: 10.18-2.30 London. 3.40 All our yesterdays. 4.05 News. Hogan's heroes. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 London. 6.00 Newsway. Put it in writing. 6.25 Peyton Place. 7.00 Film: 'East of Sumatra'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Living writers.

TYNE TEES: 10.20 London. 2.33 Unit 2. 3.05 Pied piper. 3.10 Play with a purpose. 3.35 News. 3.45 Taste and style. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Dr Simon Locke. 7.00 Film: 'Calamity Jane and Sam Bass'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Snooker. 12.15 News. 12.30 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH: 10.20-2.33 London. 3.30 Foo foo. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.20 Hogan's heroes. 6.50 Film: 'Finders Keepers'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Late call. 11.35 British Museum.

GRAMPIAN: 11.00-3.00 London. 3.38 News. 3.40 Nanny and the professor. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Once upon a time. 4.55 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Royal Clansmen. 6.35 London. 7.00 Film: 'Three Guns For Texas'. 8.30 Des. 9.00 London. 11.30 Epilogue.

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## SLADE WILL BE THERE

The five Right-to-Work marches from Glasgow, Liverpool, Swansea, Deal and Southampton converge on London for next Sunday's

### GIANT RALLY

at the **EMPIRE POOL, WEMBLEY**

At 3 p.m. the marchers will be welcomed at a meeting. At 7.30 p.m. there will be top-line entertainment

Introduced by Joe Mella and Stuart Henry.

Latest addition to the star-studded bill is the sizzling, stomping group at present nearing No. 1 in the Top Ten with

'Look Wot You Dun'

### SLADE

Details of tickets, p. 4.



NODDY HOLDER



DAVE HILL



JIM LEA



DON POWELL

## EVERY NEW DAY A NEW DONATION

IT'S STILL coming in! Support from workers all over the country is growing with every new day of the campaign, and not just from workers in the towns the youth pass through.

Jack Bruce, a member of the original 'Cream' pop group has donated £200, but regrets that he is unable to appear at the Empire Pool, Wembley, because he has a prior engagement with his own group in the US.

Mechanical contractors at Stanlow Oil Refinery, Ellesmere Port, near Liverpool, have sent £100.

Didsbury Ward Labour Party, outside Manchester, has collected £2.45 for the campaign.

The Liverpool Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' Union district committee has donated £10, as has the Luton Labour Club. The T&GWU 1/49 branch has also given £10.

Reading West AUEW gave £5; T&GWU district committee at Bracknell, near Reading, also gave £5.

Islington, E London joiners' branch has donated £2. Wallingford Labour Party sent £10. Wood-cutting machinists at Reading have given £5.

Transport and General Workers' Union members at Ibrox bus garage, Glasgow have sent £25, as have engineering union members at ICI Huddersfield.

London Overseas Telegraphists have collected £17.70 for the campaign. Railway workers — members of the W Brompton ASLEF branch — have donated £10.

Coventry Divisional Council of the AUEW (Technical and Supervisory section) has donated £5. Slough, Buckinghamshire AUEW branch gave £1.

Also in Southall, the AEC shop stewards' committee has given £5. Coventry No. 25 AUEW collected £1.55.

Messrs D. Stewart and C. Milton have donated £2 each. Students at Southbank Polytechnic, SE London have voted their support for the Young Socialists' campaign.

## WATFORD READY TO WELCOME MARCHERS

WATFORD Trades Council are drawing up impressive arrangements to look after the Young Socialists Right-to-Work marchers when they arrive in the town on Thursday.

The local paper 'The Evening Echo' reported that the marchers will be escorted to a public meeting in The Precinct, after which they will march to the Trades Union Hall where they will be given a meal and a bed for the night.

Trades Council chairman Mr Chris Norwood, in a statement to

# One visit qualified paras for Bogside

A BRIGADE Commander of the Londonderry area told the Widgery tribunal yesterday that paratroopers were used on 'Bloody Sunday' because they were 'more experienced and knew the area'.

Yet Brigadier Pat McLellan, commanding the Eighth Brigade, told the inquiry—now in its third week—that the 'paras' had been in

Derry only once before their operation on January 30 in which 13 people were killed.

He told the one-man tribunal that Maj-Gen Ford, Commander, Land Forces in Ulster, had allotted the parachute regiment to him as the 'arrest force'.

Asked about the army plan to deal with the civil rights march that day, McLellan said the police had recommended the wisest course was not to stop the march,

but to identify marchers and prosecute later.

He added that it was 'quite untrue' that the plan was to draw the gunmen into a confrontation with the army. 'The purpose was to contain and stop the march in Bogside and the Creggan'.

And it was his intention to 'reduce the risk to the absolute minimum' of people being hurt by rifle fire. The role of the army

anti-snipers, he said, was to protect the troops at the barricades from IRA snipers.

On the arrest operation, it was normal practice for men to go in on foot followed by armoured vehicles.

McLellan said he was 'not in the least bit surprised' that the armoured vehicles got behind the rioters. The role of the vehicles was 'purely as transport' he added.

# Coal and electricity prices up

THE NATIONAL Coal Board proposed to make 7½-per-cent across-the-board price increases with effect from March 26, said Trade and Industry Secretary John Davies in the Commons yesterday.

Domestic bituminous coal is likely to be increased by slightly less than £1 a ton and smokeless fuel by slightly more than £1 a ton.

Davies said the price increase would mean that electricity charges would go up in the order of 2 per cent.

Yorkshire miners' council yesterday turned down a call for immediate action to support demands that miners should get coal concessions they lost during their strike.

Instead the delegates voted to refer the issue to the national executive on Thursday. But they urged that their leaders should hand the National Coal Board a two-week ultimatum threatening an overtime ban unless the coal is delivered.

The miners claim the Coal Board owes them each 24 cwt of home coal they lost during the strike.

But the NCB claims they should not get the concession for the seven-week period because they broke the terms of their employment agreement.

## Job-finder?

WILLIAM PALFREY, who retired last week as Chief Constable of Lancashire, is considering a job with the county council to create greater job opportunities, especially for young people.

A council policy committee said Palfrey was 'pre-eminently suited' for the task.

Palfrey was co-sponsor of the 'marches for god' held last year. These were the forerunner of the Festival of Light.

A spokesman for the committee said that if unemployment in the area remained unchecked, the situation would cut at the roots of family to the point where the fabric of society was threatened.

**£1,250 MARCH FUND NOW £84.80**

AS THE five Right-to-Work marches draw closer into London, enormous support is coming in. Trade unionists throughout the country are becoming more determined than ever to fight back and defeat this Tory government.

We know that you, our readers, are completely behind the Young Socialists on the march. Workers Press has been the only paper to follow and support all the marches day by day. Help us, therefore, with an extra big effort this month. Our March Fund is already underway. Do your best to boost it up as much as possible. Post all donations immediately to:

Workers Press  
March Appeal Fund,  
186a Clapham High St,  
London, SW4 7UG.

## Rail workshops short reprieve

BRITISH RAIL yesterday announced a month's stay of execution on the issue of scheduled redundancies notices to railway shopmen.

Jobs are threatened at three main depots at Barassie in Scotland, Ashford in Kent and Swindon in Wiltshire.

After talks with management yesterday Sir Sidney Greene, NUR general secretary, said: 'No new redundancy notices will be issued during the next month in the light of trying to negotiate a new redundancy agreement.'

Socialist Labour League lecture

LIVERPOOL: Wednesday March 8, Common Hall, Hackins Hey, off Dale St, 8 pm.

'Marxist theory a guide to action'

## ULSTER MPs IN COURT

MISS Bernadette Devlin and Mr Frank McManus, both MPs, appeared in court yesterday on charges arising out of the Enniskillen demonstration against internment. They both pleaded not guilty.

A total of 70 people were charged with unlawful assembly under the Special Powers Act.

Troops and police patrolled the area around the court and helicopters hovered above the town.

A crowd of 100 sang and chanted outside the court, but were later dispersed by police reinforcements.

The hearing is expected to last about three days.

## IRISH YS PAPERS HELD

ABOUT 1,500 copies of a special edition of the Irish Young Socialists youth paper have been seized by the Ulster Special Branch.

The special eight-page issue contained details of the 'Bloody Sunday' massacre in which 13 civilians were shot dead.

The papers arrived in Belfast from Dublin at the weekend, but when members of the Young Socialists went to collect them they were told the copies had been 'impounded'.

When they returned to the station yesterday a railway official said plainclothes men had seized the whole consignment.

## Lightermen's chief supports campaign

RON HAMLIN, President of the Lightermen's Union, pledged support for the Right-to-Work campaign at the weekend.

Speaking at a Right-to-Work rally on Sunday, he said that the fight for the right to work was inseparable from the fight to bring down this Tory government. In his view the miners could have brought down the Tories with another week on strike. But, as usual, when the working-class seemed powerful, the leaders backed down.

Ever since he first voted in 1945, he had lived under Tory governments or Labour governments with Tory policies. There was a need now for new leaders in the labour movement, he said.

## Guards cash

MRS Mercy Gilbey of Middle Green, Langley, Buckinghamshire, has left more than £75,000 to the Grenadier Guards.

## LATE NEWS WEATHER

MOST parts of the country will be cloudy and cold, with outbreaks of quite heavy rain.

N Ireland and W Scotland will be brighter, with only scattered showers.

Outlook for Wednesday and Thursday: Mostly cold and cloudy with rain at times, but some sunny intervals in the West.

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