

# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● THURSDAY MARCH 16, 1972 ● No. 715 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

## TORIES MAY CALL SNAP ELECTION

BY ALEX MITCHELL

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- The decision to invest £35m in the bankrupt Upper Clyde Shipbuilders
- The 'leaked' Ulster proposals which are expected to phase out internment and reduce troop activity.
- Lord Gardiner's report recommending the ban on torture
- The record £70m subsidy to farmers announced in the annual Farm Review.

● Next Tuesday's early budget by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Anthony Barber, which is designed to create a miniature spending 'boom'.

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Another more subtle part of the campaign can be detected in Heath's post-strike appearance on national television when he asked viewers to consider 'what sort of Britain you want'.

### Playing into hands

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As we said in yesterday's Workers Press, the 'stench of coalition' pervades the Labour Party. Wilson and the Parliamentary Labour Party demonstrate day after day that

they will go to any lengths to perpetuate Heath's rule.

It is the politics of coalition being pursued by Wilson that represents the most sinister and disarming force for the working class. If Heath does call a snap election, the Labour Party will be without policies—other than those taught to Wilson by Heath!

It would mean that Labour would enter the election fight disastrously handicapped and in conditions which would put the Tories at considerable advantage. Even as Wilson collaborates over Ulster and the Market, the Tory Party is managing the capitalist press to promote leadership splits in the Labour Party.

An innocuous and anaemic speech by Jenkins is blown up by every newspaper in Fleet St into sensational articles and solemn editorial comment about challenges to Wilson's leadership. This is good old rag-time Tory stuff. Whenever there is a whiff of an election, the Tories start promoting leadership squabbles and propaganda about the 'party of disarray'.

The Labour Party does have a split—and it can be swiftly remedied by the expulsion of the splitters in the Jenkins camp.

By coalescing with the Tories and allowing the right-wing to operate as it pleases, the Labour Party is opening the door for Heath to win any election clash.

## BUILDERS MARCH FOR £1 AN HOUR

OVER 2,000 building workers from Merseyside, N Wales, Wigan, St Helens and the Heysham nuclear power station demonstrated through Liverpool yesterday in support of their demand for a basic £35 a week for 35 hours.

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The demonstration was called officially by the Transport and General Workers' Union.

At a Pier Head meeting afterwards there was a sharp contrast with the mood of the platform and the rank-and-file marchers.

Speakers limited themselves solely to the wage demand, congratulating the solidarity of the building workers.

Said Bill Craigton, ASW delegate: 'If the miners were a special case, then we're an extra-special case.'

Dissatisfaction with the platform was expressed in continuous calls from the crowd to let the rank and file have a hearing from the platform.

## Print offer is 'final' say bosses

THE BRITISH Federation of Master Printers and Newspaper Society yesterday announced that their £2.40 pay offer to craftsmen was 'final'.

In a joint statement they said that any further increase would 'seriously endanger' the industry and the employers would resist any pressures from union members.

The statement said that both councils 'unanimously confirmed' that £2.40 is their final offer for a 15-month agreement with the printing unions.

And it adds, 'Stanley Clarke, the employers' chairman, said that the only obstacle to the settlement is the refusal of the NGA executive to ballot their members on an offer which would "substantially improve their position in relation to other industries and the cost of living".'

## AGENCY SHOP AFTER SACKINGS See p. 12

Some of the 38 night shift workers at Hunter Plastics Ltd, Woolwich, who struck on January 28 after two trade unionists, including a shop steward, were sacked. The company has now set up an agency shop which takes direct negotiations out of the hands of the trade unions under the Industrial Relations Act.

## G&MWU not to register

THE EXECUTIVE of Britain's third largest union, the General and Municipal Workers, yesterday decided to recommend that the union should not register under the Industrial Relations Act.

A rider added that the matter will be considered further if they find the union is unable to give satisfactory service to members.

Yesterday's decision reversed a previous executive decision not to follow TUC policy and to register the union. A special conference of the union next week will be asked to endorse the recommendation.



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FORMS P. 11



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## AROUND THE WORLD

# No one held without trial—claim

S AFRICAN security police chief Tiny Venter announced yesterday that no one was being held under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act, which allows indefinite detention without trial.

His announcement came a day after the release of Mohammed Timol, brother of the Indian school-teacher Ahmed Timol who fell to his death from a tenth storey window at Johannesburg police headquarters while under detention.

The brothers were detained on October 24 last year. Three other prisoners who had been arrested and held in a nationwide security operation at the same time fled to Botswana earlier this week.

They were due to appear this week in Johannes-

burg on charges under the Suppression of Communism Act.

Venter refused to disclose how many prisoners had been detained without trial under the Terrorism Act.

'We are still investigating the cases against people who have not yet been arrested,' he said.

Forty-seven people were detained in the October raids and nine have been charged under the Terrorism or Suppression of Communism Acts.

General Venter said the charges against them amounted to furthering the aims of communism. 'Anyone convicted of furthering the aims and objects of communism is guilty of a dangerous offence,' he said.

## EEC POSES FARM PROBLEMS

INCREASED investment and productivity on British farms to meet competition from other Common Market countries is urged in the latest government farm price review.

The white paper setting out the review terms, published yesterday, says that Britain's share of the market for farm produce will depend on the farmers' ability to compete.

The review indicates that markedly higher prices for farm produce can be expected within the Common Market:

'Some costs will be higher but the general prospects are clearly good,' it says.

The government has given the farmers a £72m increase in the value of their price guarantees and capital grants to encourage expansion, according to the white paper.

IN THE Common Market itself, the long-standing deep divisions over agricultural policy emerged

sharply at the Farm Ministers' meeting in Brussels.

The Common Market Commission has proposed price rises averaging about 8 per cent. France and Italy are opposed to such large increases, but the German representatives broadly support the Commission's plan.

## Mitchell testifies

FORMER Attorney-General John Mitchell, a key figure in the International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) anti-trust scandal, yesterday admitted he had met the ITT chairman but said their discussion was 'purely theoretical'.

Mitchell was testifying to a Senate committee examining a deal between the Nixon administration and ITT, under which ITT paid \$400,000 into Republican funds in return for favourable settlement of anti-trust suit.

## Bhutto to discuss Soviet security plan

A SOVIET plan for an Asian security system is expected to figure largely in talks between Kremlin leaders and Pakistan President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto beginning in Moscow today.

Bhutto's visit, expected to last only three days, follows a similar trip to Moscow by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of Bangla Desh.

Soviet leaders who supported India in the war with Pakistan last year are hoping for a friendly working relationship with Bhutto, who took over from General Yahya Khan after the Indian victory.

In particular the Kremlin hopes to woo Pakistan away from China. Pakistan is one of China's main allies on the Asian continent.

The proposal for an Asian security system was aired at a recent Kremlin banquet in honour of Afghan premier Abdul Zahir, who visited Moscow recently.

Alexei Kosygin, the Soviet premier, has listed three principles which could form the basis for an Asian security system: peaceful co-existence, peaceful settlement of disputes and development of mutually beneficial co-operation.

## Tories must soften on prices and anti-union law—Scanlon

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT DAVID MAUDE IN EASTBOURNE

PRESENT 'abrasiveness' between government and the unions might be softened by Tory concessions on two main issues, engineers' president Hugh Scanlon hinted yesterday.

The issues were the Industrial Relations Act and prices.

Speaking at his union's engineering section women's conference in Eastbourne, Scanlon said that these would be 'very basic issues in any further discussions which might emerge' from last week's TUC confab with Heath.

The AUEW leader's speech—heard physically by only 23 women delegates and 12 union officers—was clearly aimed at stemming two tides of mass criticism in the union.

First, he tried to justify the executive's 'alleged abrogation of leadership' in dropping its national pay claim.

Members of the policy-making national committee, which had been recalled by the executive for 'a long and serious debate' on the subject, were 'not fools', Scanlon said.

To have accepted the Engineering Employers' Federation's insulting offer would have made nonsense of negotiation. The government pay norm was well known, but the executive would be surprised if the EEF offer exceeded 1½ per cent.

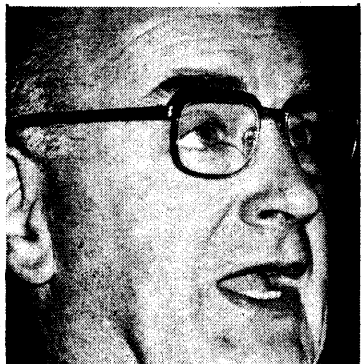
Equally to have gone back into national negotiations in the hope of getting some more would have imposed an obligation on

the executive to settle there at some point.

'The facts speak for themselves,' he claimed.

'The national committee did accept the course of action the executive proposed, and this is now in the process of being fought for in each locality.'

In the stormy period which lay ahead in engineering, Scanlon



SCANLON: STEMS TIDE?

urged equal pay for women should be made a central issue.

The second concern of the engineers' leader was to allay some of the growing rank-and-file anxiety about the TUC's desperate overtures to the Tories.

'This government has, since its inception, tried an open policy of confrontation with our movement', he said.

'Now, since the victory of the miners, it has apparently become

a little more co-operative.'

Scanlon warned: 'This doesn't mean they have changed their objectives, but only that they will go about achieving them in a different manner.'

However, he then deliberately threw away the all-important conclusion from this statement.

Any government that sought to operate its functions 'in defiance of and in complete abrasiveness to the trade union movement' would undoubtedly call forth the opposition that the Tories had, he said.

But there was no point in continuing this abrasiveness for the sake of it.

Quickly qualifying this remark, Scanlon added that there were a number of central issues on which the unions had to stand firm.

There could be no meaningful co-operation with the government while the sort of industrial relations legislation now in force remained on the statute books.

A real indication that the Tories were earnest about controlling prices was also needed, he said.

On the vexed issue of disputes procedure in the engineering industry, he claimed that more had been conceded in negotiations with individual companies than the EEF had given in three years.

The lesson was that 'if we take the fight to the factories, involve our membership and act as ambassadors for the things we want, we can win'.

## WHAT WE THINK

### JAMES REID AND THE TORY GOVT

IN A 'Times' interview published yesterday, James Reid, leader of the UCS work-in and national executive member of the Communist Party, traces the roots of industrial 'trouble' to attitudes and personalities. It seems there are good bosses and bad bosses, bad management decisions and good management decisions.

We quote: 'If some element in management does something indefensible, then there will be trouble anyway.' . . . Attitude and not a disputes procedure was what mattered.'

Reid is apparently moving towards a conception of capitalist society where the class struggle is abolished, where employers no longer maximize profits solely and at the expense of the working class and where exploiters merely engage in 'defensible' and 'indefensible' actions.

To prove how sincere he is, Reid ends his statement with a panegyric of the Tory government's role at UCS: 'If the government now agrees to help Marathon take on Clydebank, then what has really emerged is the prospect of a really modern shipbuilding industry on the upper reaches of the Clyde. I can only applaud the government's courage in taking these initiatives. It makes economic and social sense.'

Pause a moment. Reid is speaking of a Tory government that has helped to force over one million workers onto the dole. In his own town of Clydebank unemployment among men stands above 15 per cent and at the shipyards 1,000 redundancies have already been declared with the prospect of 1,200 more.

Those latest remarks place Reid on the extreme right of the labour movement. Indeed the most reformist of Labour MPs rarely bestows such abject praise on the class enemy.

There is, however, a sinister aspect to Reid's praise of Tory policy and his claim that dispute procedures do not really matter. They are primarily a smoke-screen behind which the Stalinists, in alliance with the reformist union leaders, hope to smuggle in agreements which will destroy the ability of the UCS worker to defend his wages and conditions.

Remember, the Stalinist James Airlie has already promised that strikes will not be allowed to halt progress on the Irish Shipping contracts at the Govan yard of UCS. The disclaimers by both Reid and Airlie that no-strike agreements are an irrelevance because they are unworkable, represent more than complacency. They are an ultimate act of class-collaboration.

The Tories are serious. They did not pass the Industrial Relations Act for nothing and big American capitalists like Wayne Harbin of Marathon Manufacturing are not joking when they say they want legally-enforceable contracts with no-strike guarantees on the Clyde.

The Stalinists have already agreed to trade jobs. Now they are preparing to negotiate the government second line of attack—the destruction of pay rates through speed up as well as working practices.

## CROCODILE TEARS FOR JOBLESS

THE CAPITALIST press continue to pour out the sickening prose on unemployment. How they love that folk-lore image of the defeated man without a job who staggers from bar to street corner and back.

The 'Times' joined in the moaning chorus yesterday with a half page on a Church of Scotland press release on the jobless crisis. Not so long ago the same newspaper commented with glee that even given economic recovery, unemployment would remain high, and that this was basically a good thing because big dole queues were an excellent aid to greater efficiency.

But beneath the overdrawn metaphors and gloomy adjectives, lies a real fear of workers who fight for the right to work.

At no time was this better illustrated than during the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work marches. The policy of this campaign was either ignored or distorted by the press. In particular its aim—to defend the right to work by mobilizing the whole working class to force the Tories to resign—was hardly ever reported.

One recalls that infamous 'Guardian' headline—'Five-week trek to nowhere'—which was this paper's comment on one of the most spirited and defiant youth rallies ever held in London.

The Glasgow Young Socialist leader, John Barrie, who had walked 500 miles to rouse the working class, was described as 'indefatigably pessimistic'. This kind of distortion is born out of fear that the men who fight against the dole will not only deal with the Tories but their scribbling servants in the capitalist press as well.

# The Great European Jobs Chase—by Carr

**ROBERT CARR**, the Employment Secretary, has given W German capitalists a taste of how the Tory government intends to try to tame and intimidate the British working class. Carr was speaking at a Human Resources conference in Dusseldorf.

Although much of the speech was couched in typical Tory ambiguities, Carr did give a clear insight into the post-market epoch in Britain.

He completely accepted that high unemployment would continue for the next period. He said: 'We can expect to be left still with different rates of unemployment in different regions.'

'We can expect, moreover, that the rapid advancement of technology will necessitate more people changing their job more frequently. We are reaching the stage where a significant and growing number of people will find the skill they acquire when young will not last them throughout a lifetime of work.'

'Where people want to find new jobs of the same kind as those they have been doing, information and advice will be sufficient. But where it is necessary for them to look for change in occupation during their working life, it will be necessary for many of them to go through a retraining process.'

'What we are now proposing is to raise the target for government-sponsored training to 100,000 people a year. . . . The need may turn out to be larger. I have made the point already that more and more people are going to have to change not only their job but the kind of job which they do, once or even several times during their working life.'

'Although the labour force is remarkably resilient and there is a great deal of spontaneous movement between different parts of the country, between industries, and (to a lesser degree) between occupations, there is little doubt that the government will need to take action to ease and encourage mobility in order to correct the imbalances which are likely to arise.'

'I am sure that there will also remain a real need for people to be prepared to move about to different jobs in different parts of the country and indeed perhaps in W Europe as a whole.'

'I think that British workers are probably rather less ready to move about than many workers in W Europe. We are however now proposing to try and give more help to those workers who either wish or find it necessary to move their homes in order to improve their chances of getting a job.'

Carr's speech unfolds the Tories' blueprint for the future—if they can get away with it.

It means millions of out-of-work families forced to travel across the country (and Europe, if necessary) to find employment.

The Common Market conspiracy must be defeated by the defeat of this government.



EMPLOYMENT SECRETARY CARR

## FOREMAN LEVIED MEN FOR OVERTIME 'PRIVILEGE'

FOR 13 years coloured workers at a Sheffield steelworks were told they could not do overtime until they paid their foreman a levy.

At Sheffield Crown Court this week the foreman, Thomas Cos-

grove (47), was jailed for three years after pleading guilty to three charges of corruption. The case only came to light when one of the men told the police.

Mr G. Milner, prosecuting, said Cosgrove began demanding the levy soon after his

appointment in 1958. It was not known how much he received.

In the last two years, it was at least £1,000, he added.

Cosgrove admitted: 'I have taken money from numerous coloured men over the years. It has

been as much as £20 but usually £2.'

Mr Justice Boreham told him:

'It is a dreadful story. People were forced into believing they could not earn as much as they wanted or they would lose their jobs if they did not pay up.'

## STEP-UP IN BRITISH TRADE WITH CHINA?

THREE Chinese trade missions are now visiting Britain. One arrived yesterday to attend a conference and trade exhibition on oceanography to be held at Brighton next week.

Another group of electrical engineers are touring the country as the guests of the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association. And the third group is visiting synthetic fibre plants including the huge Imperial Chemical Industries plants.

A Department of Trade and Industry spokesman said that a Chinese mission interested in fertilizer production is due next month.

Since the exchange of ambassadors announced on Monday, trading contacts are expected to

be considerably increased, he said.

Senior representatives from a wide sector of British industry will be in a top-level trade mission to the People's Republic of China next month.

The 18-strong London Chamber of Commerce and Industry mission, led by Lord Ebbisham, is going at the invitation of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade.

It will include importers and exporters, and the main purpose is to explore the possibilities of expanding two-way trade.

## Americans investigate British dumping

THE AMERICAN Treasury Department has opened an investigation into allegations that British companies are 'dumping' textile machinery in the United States.

'Dumping'—selling abroad at a lower price than on the home market—was common practice during the 1930s slump as manufacturers strove desperately to retain overseas markets.

## TORIES TO SCRAP PUBLIC TRUSTEE OFFICE

The 66-year-old Public Trustee Office is to be scrapped on the recommendation of a government committee of inquiry.

The Public Trustee was set up under an Act of Parliament in 1906 because of losses incurred by beneficiaries through the incompetence or dishonesty of private trustees. But now, it seems, incompetence and dishonesty have been purged from private law firms.

When it announced the inquiry the Tory government said the Public Trustee's 'modern role' should be examined 'including the extent to which its continued existence is justifiable given the alternative facilities now available'.

On the basis of the inquiry's report legislation will be brought forward to stop the Public Trustee accepting new business. And the office will be eventually

merged with the Solicitor General's Department.

The Tories also want all the business at present held by the Public Trustee to be hived off into private firms.

Talks will begin soon with representatives of the Commercial Corporate Trustees and the Law Society on the recommendation that settlers and beneficiaries of trusts now with the Public Trustee should be given the chance to accept transfer to another trustee free of expense.

The inquiry was undertaken by Mr H. R. Hutton, formerly a director of Hambros Bank at present on secondment to the Civil Service Department: Mr D. J. W. Dryburgh, a senior partner in Taylor Humber, solicitors and Sir Clifford Jarrett, formerly permanent secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security.

## Will warning

IN A will published yesterday a retired company director warned his grandchildren that on becoming adults 'you will have fully comprehended the policy of confiscation and pillage followed by the socialist party'.

Donald Robinson of the Waldernheath Hotel, Harrogate, left £33,791. He said he had been robbed of much of his fortune by the nationalization of road transport in 1949 and hoped his grandchildren would support 'an honest political organization'.

## Busmen's conference to discuss offer

BUSMEN are to hold a delegate conference to consider a new pay offer from London Transport.

After prolonged talks on Tuesday, the Transport and General Workers' Union busmen's negotiating committee agreed to recommend acceptance of the new offer.

In February, busmen turned down a 74-per-cent increase which would have meant an extra £1.70 for drivers and conductors and £1.85 for one-man bus operators.

London Transport have refused to give details of the new offer until it is disclosed at the delegate conference. Basic rates at present range from £23.15 for conductors to £26 for one-man bus operators.

## Goring goes

MARIUS GORING has resigned from the council of Actors' Equity. In an interview with 'The Times' yesterday, Goring objected to 'the activities of a group in council, led by Corin Redgrave, which he believes to be politically motivated'.

Goring said the group was devoted to 'The Cause'—'Unspecified, but I think we all know what it means', said Goring.

During the miners' strike Goring issued a writ against Equity designed to prevent the union from contributing to the miners' strike fund. But the donation was never made, so the writ was not heard.

## Mayhew—no action

LABOUR MP for Woolwich E Christopher Mayhew said yesterday no further action is to be taken by his constituency party over his abstention on the second reading of the European Communities Bill. In the all-important vote, the Tories retained office by only eight votes. Mayhew, a former Minister in the Wilson government, said his constituency decided not to take any action after an executive committee meeting on Tuesday night.

## Union recognition strike on nuclear site

FOUR HUNDRED workers at the Heysham nuclear construction site in N Lancs are on strike against the main contractors, Taylor Woodrow, over the sacking of 18 men.

Constructional workers' union shop stewards say they were having to ask Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers' stewards to negotiate for them because the management would not recognize their union.

On March 1, the 18 men were sacked for attending a meeting about union recognition. Management claimed they had failed to honour an agreement not to leave the job while concreting was in progress.

The workers say they warned site management not to pour the concrete as a meeting was due.

After hearing of the sackings, the 400-strong site walked out.

Since then, notices have been sent to another 12 men.

## BOOKS



Moscow Trials Anthology  
Paperback, 62½p  
**MAX SHACHTMAN:**  
Behind The Moscow Trial  
Paperback 75p  
**ROBERT BLACK:**  
Stalinism In Britain  
Paperback £1.12½—cloth £2  
**LEON TROTSKY:**  
Death Agony of Capitalism  
(The Transitional Programme)  
Pamphlet 5p  
Class Nature of the Soviet State  
Pamphlet 20p  
In Defence of the October  
Revolution Pamphlet 15p  
The Theory and Practice of  
Revisionism Pamphlet 15p  
Postage 10p per book, 3p per  
pamphlet. Order from:  
**NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS**  
186a Clapham High Street,  
London SW4 7UG.



# THE MARCH GOES ON

The five Right-to-Work marches organized by the Young Socialists have climaxed their fight against the Tory government by a massive rally at the Empire Pool, Wembley. Now a new stage of the fight opens up. All the determination and political consciousness raised during the nationwide marches is today turned towards making a huge success of the YS annual conference at Scarborough on April 8 and 9. Scarborough becomes the next signpost on the march to build the revolutionary party in 1972.

In the coming weeks this page will be devoted to interviews with the young marchers.



## SUPPORT AT THE RALLY

Desie McCormick (above left) and Michael Hughes (above right) were two members of the Ulster delegation which travelled to London to take part in the Empire Pool rally.

Desie, who comes from Newry, a town 40 miles from Belfast, points out that his area has always suffered great unemployment.

'It has been a depressed area for as long as people remember. There are people there who have never had a proper job. This has bred pessimism and a feeling of hopelessness.

'It's up to the youth really to change this. And,' said Desie, 'we are determined to do it.'

Seventeen-year-old Michael Hughes, a student, faces the same future as thousands of other youth all over Britain.

On leaving school most young

people go straight on the dole. There are many Michael knows who have been rotting on the dole for years despite the fact that they have got 'A'-levels.

'If this Tory government remains, this is the future facing all youth—in England as well as Ireland.'

During the last weeks leading up to Wembley about 20 youth from the Newry area campaigned vigorously to raise money to make the trip across.

'I fully support the Right-to-Work campaign because it is the only ray of hope in an otherwise black future.'

So spoke Joe Curran (right) convenor of Reids factory in Warrenpoint, Co Down, N Ireland.

Joe was among a delegation who travelled across from Newry to the Wembley rally.

The real issues affecting workers have been deliberately obscured by the reactionary Unionist government, Joe maintains.

'The impression that is given in the capitalist media is that Irish workers only think about violence.

'The marches, the rally and particularly the fight to raise the finance to make the trip across to London has enabled us to get down to the real issues which workers can bite on.'

Also from Warrenpoint came 17-year-old Gerry Heaton. He said that nationalism by itself is a blind and dangerous path that Irish workers must cross.

'Because of their particular history and because workers in both countries are now opposed by Tory governments—which includes the capitalist Lynch government—the struggles of Irish workers are irrevocably linked with that of their British comrades.'

**A fantastic experience—this was Kelvin Oakes' reaction to the mass rally at Wembley which climaxed the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign.**

A former miner and ex-member of the Communist Party, he now works as a packer at the Trebor sweet factory in London's Forest Gate.

'The first thing that impressed me about the rally itself was the spontaneous reaction when the two official mineworkers' delegations came in,' he said.

'Although some of the youth had obviously come at first mainly to hear the pop groups later in the day, there was something else there as well in that.

'And when the marchers moved in tired, but obviously determined and disciplined—you could feel how the whole audience was deeply impressed.'

The CP, he thought, would have been incapable of organizing either the marches themselves or the events at Wembley.

'This is the new revolutionary movement', he said. 'We've got to have a party and an organization willing to really fight for socialism.'

'What's happening here is that the youth are seeing that someone's really capable of doing something for them.'

A Transport and General Worker union cardholder, Kelvin



added: 'The example of the marches—following on from the miners' struggle—can be an enormous boost to working-class solidarity.

'These youth haven't read Marx yet, which they'll have to. But they're beginning to understand.'

**The Young Socialists magnificent rally at Empire Pool, Wembley, is over but support for the Right-to-Work campaign is still pouring in.**

We have received £44.30 from a raffle held in the British-Leyland Motor Corporation service division at Oxford. BLMC service joint shop stewards have sent £6.20.

Cowley, Oxford No 10 AUEW branch sent £2.

Workers at Rolls-Royce Parkside, Coventry, donated £20. Alvis shop stewards, also in Coventry, gave £20. Coventry Dunlop shop stewards sent £5.

Welling No 1 AUEW branch

has sent £5. The branch has already gone on record as supporting the Right-to-Work march.

The T&GWU 1/776 branch at Truman, Hanbury and Buxton has sent £10.

Students at the London Film School have sent another £10.04.

One of the many messages of support for the Wembley rally came from Ellesmere Port Trades Council.

Alf McCabe, the honorary secretary, sent this message:

'We are, as a very small trades council, sending four delegates from Ellesmere Port in the hope that our small number will help swell the great numbers anticipated.'

'Their cause is worthy of praise from every corner of this great country. We wish them luck in their enterprise through the columns of your newspaper.'

'Meanwhile we, in conjunction with other Merseyside trades councils, continue our fight on behalf of all unemployed.'



Three years ago Neil Lynch took a boat and a train to London to find work after two-and-a-half years on the dole in his home town of Londonderry, N Ireland.

When you have had just two jobs lasting a total of 17 months in six years, you think you really know something about unemployment. Especially when to get one of the jobs you had to travel 400 miles.

But, as Neil points out, knowing about unemployment isn't the same thing as knowing how to fight it.

So this week he arrived back in London after walking from S Wales with the Right-to-Work marchers after a three-week search for some of the answers.

Like the rest of the marchers, he has changed a lot in that time.

Normally he is a man of few words. But in Reading last week he was the marchers' chosen speaker at a meeting of local trade unionists—winning us an enthusiastic reception.

'Before coming on the march,' he says, 'I agreed generally with the Republican movement—seeing it as the only defence for the people in areas like Creggan Heights where I come from.'

'In that sense, although I supported both wings I saw the Provisionals as our most active defenders.'

'But I was always opposed to the bombing of factories. There's enough unemployment in Ulster without that.'

After his spell on the road, Neil's political thinking has become more complicated.

'I came back to Derry three

days after the troops went in in August 1969,' he says.

'At that time my feelings were very high against the police, but I didn't have anything against the army. We all thought they were there to protect us from the B-Specials.'

'Of course, that's all been over for a long time now.'

'I think the march has made me more experienced—if that's the word—in the struggle to get the troops out.'

'The working class throughout Wales and the parts of England we went through showed they were behind us for the right to work. To get the troops out and some work into Ulster we need a united fight with them to get the Tory government out.'

Neil's first and only real job in his home town was at the BSR record-player factory, which closed down five months after he was taken on there.

When he was 18 he worked for a year in London as a bricklayer's labourer taking home £13 a week.

At 19, he got four weeks' potato-picking at £9.50 a week, but has had nothing since.

'Since BSR closed down, Derry's closed down,' he says laconically. 'The docks have gone to the dogs. They're only handling spuds.'

'I've never been offered a thing by the Department of Employment; you sign on, but you have to look for your own work.'

'Before I came I wasn't much interested in the idea of socialism. It didn't mean much.'

'But since I've got down to listening to things I know that's what we're fighting for.'



Franco (left) is already receiving considerable military aid from Pompidou (above)

## Basque refugees hounded in France

Constant and systematic harassment of Spanish and Basque refugees is being carried out by the French government in close collaboration with the Franco regime.

It has been noticeably stepped up in the last few weeks, following a meeting in Paris between Raymond Marcellin, the Minister of the Interior, and Eduardo Blanco, colonel in chief of the fascist security services.

Franco needs Marcellin's assistance to crush the growing tide of workers' struggles in Spain, where the illegal Workers' Commissions now wield great influence despite the enormous weight of fascist repression.

The French, whose Common Market plans involve close economic co-operation with Spain, are only too willing to oblige.

After May-June 1968, the last thing Pompidou wants to see is the outbreak of revolutionary struggles in Spain.

France already gives considerable military aid to the fascists. The latest arms deal is the sale of 21 Mirage F-1 interceptor jets to the Spanish air force.

With 645,000 Spaniards working in France—many of them actively hostile to the fascist government at home—Pompidou's collaboration is a vital link in the chain of repression against the Spanish revolution.

A particular target for Marcellin's police are the refugees from the Basque country, which straddles the border between France and Spain. The Spanish Basques have received support from their co-nationals across the border, and one of Marcellin's prime tasks is to cut the

links between the two groups. Among the victims of the French harassment are:

- Angel Campillo, member of the Spanish Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist), arrested in Bordeaux on February 20, 1969.

He was handed over two months later to Spanish police at the border and is now in the Jaen prison, where he is known to have been tortured.

- Bonifacio Casado, a former Asturian miner, 54 years old and working in Paris as an electrician. On October 23 last year he went to the border railway station at Hendaye to meet his daughter off a train from Spain.

Spanish police crossed the frontier, arrested him and dragged him across the border into Spain under the eyes of French gendarmes who made no effort to intervene.

He is now imprisoned in Spain and is known to have been tortured.

- Julen Madariaga, one of the founders of ETA, the left-wing Basque nationalist movement. Arrested a fortnight ago by the French police he was bundled onto a plane for Chile. He is the holder of a Chilean passport. Madariaga's wife and family were not informed that he was being deported and their first news of his whereabouts was a postcard from Chile.

- Santiago Carrillo, general secretary of the Spanish Communist Party, was expelled from France for allegedly violating his conditions of residence.

The Spanish CP has long had its headquarters in Paris.

- Ten members of ETA who escaped from a Spanish jail in January 1970 were split up by the French authorities and put under house arrest.

- Monzon Txillardegui, a member of the Basque nationalist organization Anai-Artea has also been placed under house arrest.

The French government's persecution bears down most heavily on the politically active Spaniards. But the police also have an arsenal of legal weapons against all foreign workers in France.

There are more than 3 million foreign workers, most of them unorganized and many of them exploited by the employers under appalling conditions.

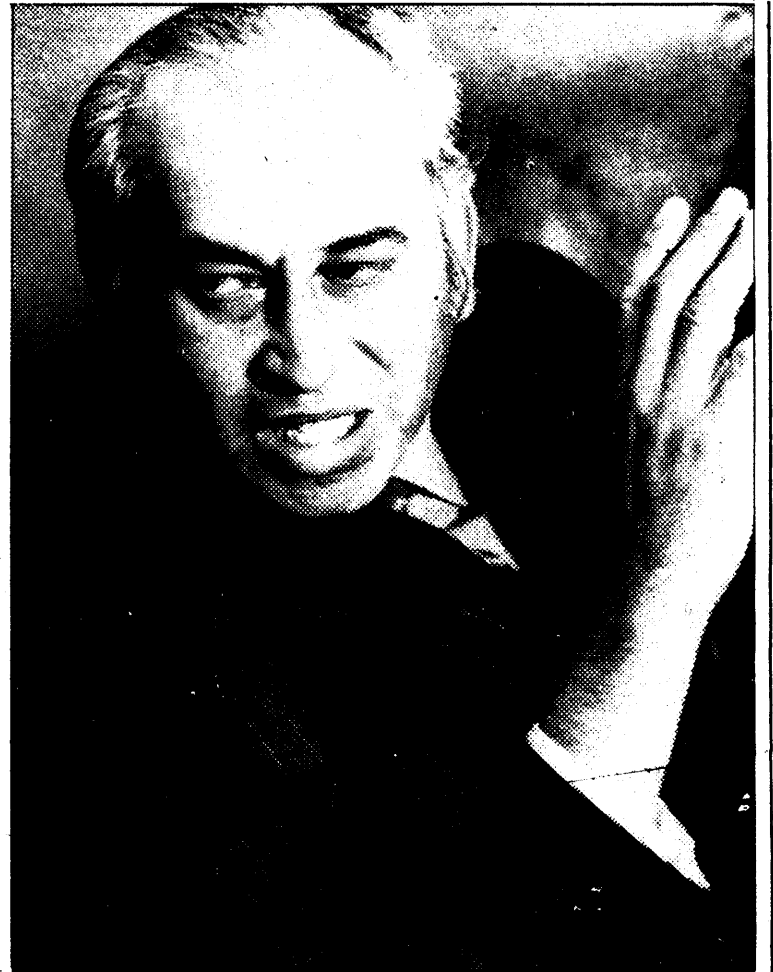
The official trade union leaders, notably the Stalinist-dominated CGT, have a long history of neglecting these workers—a policy which greatly assists the government in its attacks on the political exiles.

Under French law, the rights of foreign workers are severely limited. They must report regularly to the police and their lives are hedged by a bewildering variety of papers and official forms.

In particular, the foreign workers are not allowed to take part in the leadership of trade unions. They may be appointed to local positions (the equivalent of shop stewards' posts), but they can rise no higher.

This situation is complacently accepted by the CGT bureaucracy, which occasionally mounts a token protest campaign against the worst aspects of it.

The persecution of Spanish exiles in France has highlighted once again the complicity between the French and Spanish governments. It also demonstrates the inability and unwillingness of the French Stalinists to mobilize their forces in defence of Spanish workers' rights.



## Bhutto seeks proletarian cover

Pakistan President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto will pay a three-day visit to Moscow from March 16.

The initiative from the Soviet leaders reflects their anxiety to nip in the bud any revolutionary upsurge in Pakistan by giving Bhutto a 'left' face.

Bhutto is himself doing everything to cultivate the idea that he is genuinely a man of the people.

His latest move is to prematurely retire 1,300 civil servants which, according to Pakistan Minister for Political Affairs, Mustafa Jatoi, has been riddled with corruption and 'a cancer on the body politic'.

Their removal, the Minister added, 'has been made on the demand of the people and it fulfilled yet another of the President's pledges to them.'

Bhutto's populist stance is a deliberate and desperate attempt to hold Pakistan together after its disastrous defeat in Bangla Desh by heading off the growing unrest among workers and peasants.

Although Pakistan broke off diplomatic relations with a number of countries because they recognized Bangla Desh, she was careful to maintain them with the USSR, even though the Kremlin backed Bangla Desh.

Cloaked with the mantle of champion of the oppressed Bengalis, the Soviet Union offers Bhutto an ideal 'left' front behind which he is trying to repair

and expand capitalism in Pakistan.

The arrangement gives Moscow the chance of attempting to hold back revolutionary developments in Pakistan—the task of Soviet-backed Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Bangla Desh.

It is also a setback to Chinese hopes in the sub-continent for over a decade based on the hostility between Pakistan and India.

Growing popular unrest in the sub-continent has not only spurred the Moscow Stalinists to intervene, but it is also forcing national bourgeoisies—willy nilly into each others arms.

Indian President V. V. Giri said on Monday that he hoped Pakistan would accept an offer of talks.

He added: 'We want this sub-continent and indeed the entire S Asian region and the Indian Ocean to be free from power rivalries and domination and to develop into an area of peace and co-operation rather than an area of confrontation.'

Moscow, Delhi and Islamabad certainly agree on this.

Mrs Gandhi breathed a sigh of relief after this week's sweeping election gains for her ruling Congress Party based on her victory over Pakistan, but peace in the sub-continent is fragile and it is only a question of time before new political eruptions shake the area.

Top: President Bhutto. Below: Sheikh Mujibur Rahman







Above: Maudling and Hoffman (right) with friends. Below: Former secretary of Nato Paul-Henri Spaak with Wilson. Right: Jerome D. Hoffman



# TALES OF HOFFMAN (JEROME D. THAT IS)

A Workers Press investigation by Alex Mitchell

Just over a year ago the Real Estate Fund of America and Fund of the Seven Seas, two internationally promoted offshore funds, crashed in spectacular fashion.

American financier, Jerome D. Hoffman, who built the funds into a reputed \$100m enterprise, ended the operation with characteristic gusto.

He called together his remaining executives in a Rome hotel and told them: 'If things get worse, Abboud [his senior vice-president, Mr Bichara Abboud] and me are going to take the money and run and you guys can look after yourselves.'

Hoffman left town in his limousine—without paying the bill.

Then followed an international set of investigations which involved Interpol, the FBI, the British Board of Trade, the Rome fraud squad and the banking authorities in Switzerland.

Hoffman, like the other notorious US financier, Meyer Lansky, sought refuge in Israel. He went back to New York earlier this year and was convicted of mortgage fraud. He is now serving a two-year sentence in a state penitentiary.

His disappearance to Tel Aviv promoted an extraordinary exodus from the board of directors. Offices around the world closed down. The 'fastest-growing company in the world' vanished in a matter of days.

The British subsidiary was placed in the hands of the liquidators. Sadly for the 200-odd employees in London who were unceremoniously sacked, the bankrupt company had only £100 share capital.

Sales of the two funds were suspended—and so were redemptions. This meant that shareholders all over the world began clamouring to get their money out. But from whom?

The company's last outpost at Buckingham Gate, a stone's throw from the Palace, was besieged with letters and litigation. What actually happened to the money Hoffman's sales team acquired from clients is not fully known. Some of it was put into real estate in the United States, as explained in the prospectus. The rest? Nobody knows.

The confusion about the state of the company's finances is largely created by the fact that the auditors, Arthur Young and Company, did not produce a set of accounts—as promised in the prospectus.



## RECEPTION

But this, as we shall see, is not the only promise Hoffman failed to deliver during his mercurial appearance in the offshore world.

### SNARE

Now that the dust is settling on the collapsed House of Hoffman, everyone is asking—how did he do it. How did he snare Reginald Maudling, now Britain's Home Secretary and the deputy Prime Minister, as his first president? How did he catch for his board of directors big international names like M. Paul Henri Spaak, former secretary-general of NATO; Lord Brentford, former Tory Minister of Fuel and Power; Brentford's son, the Rt. Honourable Crispin Joynton-Hicks, senior partner in one of London's most prestigious law firms; Holmes Brown, president of the New York Board of Trade; and a clutch of senior White House and Pentagon aides including Henry Kiss, Dixon Donnelly and James Morton? To a large extent the 'success'

of the Hoffman operation depended on the man himself. He is a wildly irrepresible individual. In his own publicity material Hoffman says modestly: 'I'm from Missouri and I'm as stubborn as a Missouri mule. I'm restless, resilient, controversial—these all add up to the man from Missouri.'

Hoffman has one consuming vice. His astonishing energy has been devoted single-mindedly to the acquisition of money. One of his colleagues who remembered him as the small-time operator from St Louis, Missouri, once said: 'Jerry lives and breathes money.'

Anything that interferes with his plans to obtain money, he fights with violent passion. When a business journalist once asked him for details of his fund operation, Hoffman exploded and said: 'Are you some kind of subversive? Leave me alone. You're all trash—dogs.'

The primary means of obtaining quick money in the American business world is through 'deals'. It was understandable, therefore, that Hoffman found his way to the real estate industry where he soon built a reputation as a young man who was very fast on his feet.

But the New York property

business is an exceedingly sinister line of work heavily penetrated and controlled by the Mafia. Hoffman was first publicly connected with the Mafia—albeit tangentially—in 1967. As president of Institutional Monetary Corporations, he was involved in a takeover bid for a small New York bank. The controlling stock in the bank was held by S. Mort Zimmerman, a financial entrepreneur connected with a string of banks in the Deep South.

The transaction was so fishy it attracted the attention of the 'Wall Street Journal' and later the office of the Attorney-General for the State of New York. Zimmerman's unsavoury business connections are revealed in a confidential memorandum compiled by the US Internal Revenue Service (i.e. the taxation department).

### LOOTED

One entry on Zimmerman says: 'This department is currently investigating Capital General

Corporation. This corporation is a publicly-owned corporation with which Mort Zimmerman controlled and allegedly looted State Fire and Casualty Co. This was accomplished, in part, through Louis Roussel. Roussel is a close associate of Carlos Marcello who is on the Organized Crime List. Angelo Bruno and John Marcello, both of whom are on the Organized Crime List, used guarantee bonds illegally issued by State Fire and Casualty Company as a means to obtain substantial loans from the Royal National Bank of New York.'

### WATCH

With these sort of business associates, various Federal and State agencies decided to keep a close watch on Jerome D. Hoffman.

As it happened, it was only a matter of months before their snooping was rewarded. In March 1968 the New York Attorney-General, Louis J. Lefkowitz, investigated Supreme Court proceed-

ings against Hoffman and his Institutional Monetary Corporation.

In his indictment, Lefkowitz accused Hoffman of engaging in a reckless, improvident and fraudulent mortgage scheme. Actually, Hoffman's offence was fairly straightforward. In June 1966 he had sent thousands of letters to developers and building owners in the United States, Canada and Latin America offering to raise mortgage money at a time when the mortgage markets were tight. The offer drew 630 replies.

This is how Hoffman cleaned up. He first charged a \$500 fee for sending one of his 20 employees to inspect the property. The client then came to Hoffman's plush suite on Madison Avenue where he was told the amount of mortgage money he could get. Lefkowitz alleged that Hoffman then called one of 20 specially-retained appraisers who would give an appraisal for a fee of between \$2,500 to \$25,000. Then, in all but three of the mortgage applications, the deal collapsed, usually because Hoffman told the client he could not obtain the whole amount required or because the terms were impossible.

Inevitably, however, Hoffman

kept the lucrative fees. Lefkowitz said the 630 clients had asked for more than \$1.1 billion from the mortgage scheme.

'The fact is,' Lefkowitz said tersely, 'Hoffman never had nor could round up that much money.'

The New York 'Daily News' (March 23, 1968) took the story a bit further and declared: 'Mob Financing Hinted in Deals of Lending Firm'. The reporter said a triple investigation had been launched into Hoffman's operation involving the Securities and Exchange Commission, the FBI and the Federal Attorney-General's office.

It is interesting to discover Hoffman's own interpretation of these events. In one of his company publications produced a few months ago he said: 'The business [Institutional Monetary Corporation] was an instant success. An official of Ford Motor Company remarked on the "quality workmanship". Within three and a half years the company had grown from a one-man, one-desk operation to one with a staff of 125, occupying entire floors of a building on New York's Madison Avenue. "Real Estate Weekly" featured me as front page Man of the Week in March 1967. The boy from

Missouri was now in the Big League!')

### SWINDLE

Under the curious and complex administration of justice in America, Hoffman was never called to answer the swindle charges brought against him by Lefkowitz. Instead he agreed to sign what is known as a consent decree. The decree to which Hoffman put his name is a tough, uncompromising four-page document. It bars him permanently from engaging in virtually any business activity in the State of New York. A sample paragraph reads:

'It is ordered, adjudged and decreed that the defendant be restrained and enjoined permanently from acting and engaging or attempting to act and engage as agent, broker, salesman, owner, trustee, officer, associate or partner of any corporation, company, association and trust . . . for the issuance, or sale, or promotion, or negotiation, or adver-

tisement, or distribution, or purchase, to or from the public within or from the State of New York.'

To any lesser man, the New York injunction would have meant an end to wild business practice. Not Hoffman. Fourteen months later the incorrigible Hoffman was sitting beside Reginald Maudling in the banquet room of London's Waldorf Hotel at the launching of his Real Estate Fund of America.

And a further six months later he proudly proclaimed that he was riding 'the fastest growing company in the world'. Unable to contain his enthusiasm for his own business genius, Hoffman published thousands of publicity pictures of himself. The caption with unconscious irony said: 'I'm growing like a weed.'

CONTINUED TOMORROW

**PART II: How Jerome Hoffman recruited an international sales team and went into the 'hot money' business.**



# ON THE WATERFRONT

The first of a two part series on the history of the US dockers by Jack Gale.

The recent long strikes of the American longshoremen show that portworkers in the United States face the same struggle over wages and jobs as their brothers in this country.

The US dockworkers' struggle goes back well over 100 years. But they did not win their first real collective bargaining agreement until 1916, when the International Longshoremen's Association—American Federation of Labour (AFL) union supported by the majority of New York dockers—won a wage increase and union recognition.

A year of stormy strike struggles followed World War I, but was held back by the AFL leadership of T. V. O'Connor and Joseph P. Ryan. From 1919 to 1945, the ILA fell increasingly into the grip of Ryan's machine.

A rebellion against Ryan was defeated in 1919 and this was followed two years later by 80 cents to 65 cents an hour wage-cuts and from \$1.20 to \$1 an hour for overtime.

Ryan set up his own 'Joseph P. Ryan Association' which solicited contributions from the employers to 'fight communism on the waterfront'.

Ryan was not only a raging right-winger, he was corrupt. A New York State Crime Commission revealed in 1953, that he took \$17,000 of the Association funds for his own personal use over a five-year period.

While his anti-communism endeared him to the bosses, there was no effective union protection on the job, no job security, no grievance machinery or effective code and a continual practice of 'short-ganging' by the employers.

Yet, only a short time before he ordered the State Crime Commission to investigate the ILA, New York Governor Thomas Dewey wrote to Ryan:

'On behalf of the people of the entire state, I congratulate you for what you have done to keep the communists from getting control of the New York waterfront. Be assured that the entire machinery of the government of New York State is behind you

and your organization in this determination.'

From 1945 to 1953 opposition grew to Ryan's collaboration with the employers.

But throughout this period, 'anti-communism' was used as a cover for attacks on workers' conditions.

The Waterfront Commission Act of 1953, for example, was a screening process to weed out militants.

This anti-communism, which linked communism with Stalinism, had the effect of presenting the Stalinists as the real opponents of the bosses in the eyes of many militants—even when the Communist Party were practising the most open class-collaboration.

This is clearly illustrated in the career of the so-called 'progressive' W coast leader, Harry Bridges. Bridges was an extreme patriot in the late 1930s and during World War II declared that the unions had to become 'instruments of speed-up'. He was one of the first to accept automation and containerization, which today threaten jobs on the American docks as they do in Britain.

On the W coast, the dockers were for years without even the protection that the ILA provided on the E coast. All they had was a company union known as the 'Blue Book'.

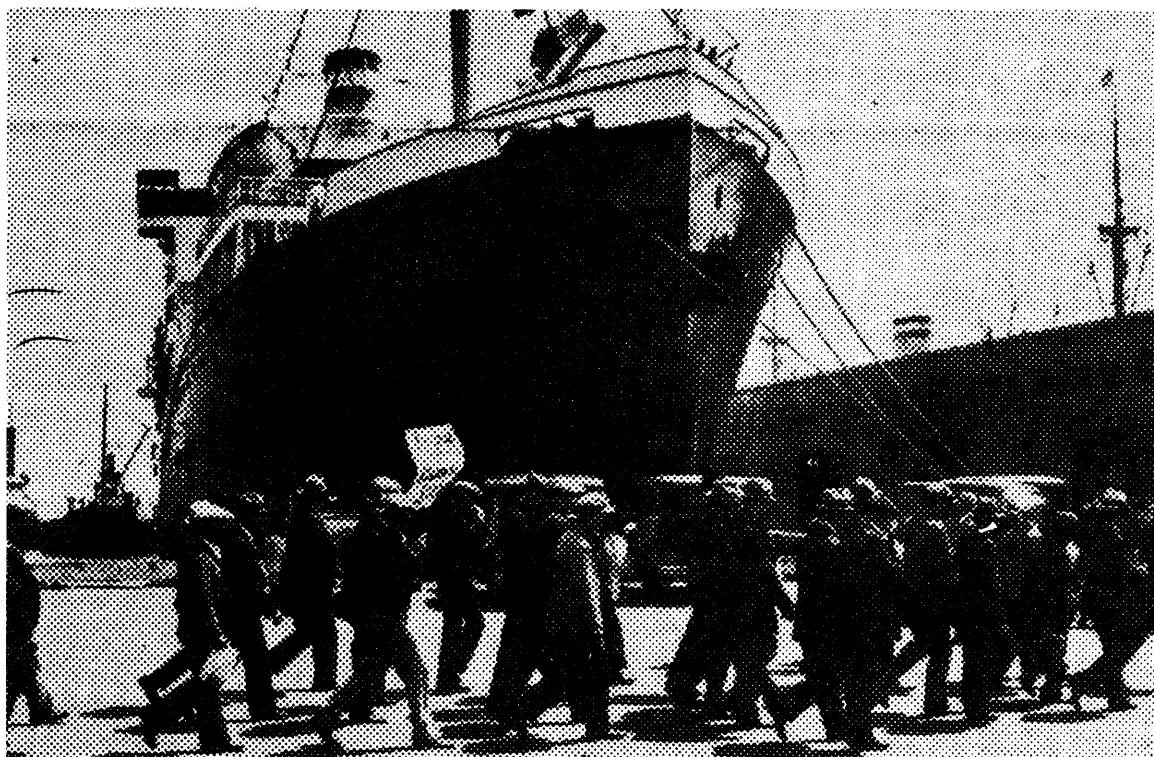
In 1933 the nationwide upsurge of the American working class brought 95 per cent of the W coast men into the ILA.

In February 1934, a strike broke out around the demands for union recognition, wage increases and a coastwide agreement. Involving 100,000 workers and frequent battles with the police, this was the biggest strike in American history since the Seattle General Strike of 1919.

The strike leaders, however, appealed to the W coast governors and mayors to get Roosevelt to intervene.

The Communist Party—ardent supporters of Roosevelt and the New Deal—offered no alternative.

Nevertheless substantial gains were made and it was out of this battle that the International Longshoremen and Warehouse-



Top left: Joe Ryan of the International Longshoremen's Association. Top: Roosevelt. Bottom: Dock strikers in 1934

men's Union grew, the first wave of the movement of the American workers that built the CIO in the mass-producing industries.

During the war, however, and in the immediate post-war period, the Stalinist policies of Harry Bridges—involving no-strike pledges and wage-freezing—nearly allowed the employers to take away the gains of the 1934 strike, which had to be defended in another major strike in 1948.

This did not prevent Joseph Ryan—and his successor Thomas Gleason—from using the alleged 'communism' of Bridges to drive a wedge between the ILA in the E and the ILWU on the W coast.

This allowed the employers to withstand long E coast strikes, and to hold E coast wages down—though another factor in this was the systematic use of thugs and gangsters by the E coast employers.

Nevertheless, the American dock worker fought back. In the New York docks, for example, there has never been a 'peaceful' contract settlement since 1945.

On September 30, 1945, the contract between the ILA and the New York Shipping Association expired. Ryan negotiated a new contract which was rejected by the men and the unofficial

New York dock strike was on.

The now-familiar device of government intervention in the form of arbitration was used to prevent the strikers winning all their demands, but nevertheless they gained substantially more than Ryan negotiated on their behalf.

In fact, from that day to this, the clash between the rank and file and the bureaucracy, backed by the various arms of the local, state and Federal government has continued almost uninterruptedly.

During this time the Taft-Hartley '80-day cooling-off period' injunction has probably been invoked more often against the ILA than against any other union—usually because of unofficial strikes.

By 1950, Ryan was clearly losing the control he had maintained for 31 years over the rank and file.

In 1951 Governor Dewey instructed the New York State Crime Commission to make a thorough investigation into 'waterfront crime'.

These investigations were no more concerned with crime or with the welfare of portworkers who were victimized by the gangsters, than were the later investigations into the Teamsters'

union under the Senate McClellan Committee and Robert Kennedy's investigations of Jimmy Hoffa.

Their purpose was to hamstring and control unions with a militant membership, particularly in transport.

At the same time AFL chief George Meany wanted to expel the ILA and replace it with the ILA-AFL. This was to demonstrate both to the government and the CIO (with which the AFL was about to merge) that a superior 'clean' bureaucracy could run the labour movement without tolerating either communists or racketeers.

ILA members opposed both the Dewey hearings and the Meany take-over—not out of love for Ryan, but to defend their union. After a long and bitter struggle, they maintained their independence, with Ryan discreetly retiring.

But a new threat was approaching, one now familiar to British portworkers—containerization.

Material for this article has been taken from 'Showdown on the Docks' by Dan Fried, Bulletin Labor Series No. 2. Distributed by Labor Publications, New York

CONTINUED TOMORROW





Police officers—off duty—listen to Mike Reid, star of the television show 'The Comedians' at a stag show at a N London public house. The striptease act followed.

Commander Kenneth Drury, head of the Flying Squad, has told the press that his suspension from duties has come 'as a great shock'.

'I'm very upset over the matter,' the commander told the 'Daily Mirror', 'but I have nothing to fear from any inquiry.'

He is on suspension—and on full pay—while his fellow officers conduct an investigation into newspaper allegations that he spent a holiday abroad with strip-club owner James Humphreys.

Humphreys is a former resident of Dartmoor prison.

Mrs Joan Drury, the commander's wife, said she was 'disgusted' by the suspension. 'We had a good holiday and everything was completely innocent.'

Peter Burden, crime reporter of the 'Daily Mail', agrees with Mrs Drury.

He was given a full page in his Rothermere-owned paper to tell the harrowing inside story of the copper's lot.

What a moving piece of journalism. Full of sympathy and pathos. Burden wrote:

'Several Scotland Yard detectives are this weekend making new arrangements for their summer holidays. Their travelling companions were to have been their underworld contacts—most of them with convictions.

'But now the police seem more frightened than the crooks of being found out. And I am not sure that this is such a good thing.'

When Mr Burden writes in this disturbed vein, something must be up. After all, the headline describes Mr Burden as one of the 'Mail's' specialist reporters 'who give the "Mail" its incomparable mark of authority'.

Mr Burden's comprehension of the difficult role of the policeman knows no bounds. He says: 'Much of a detective's time is spent in a murky no-man's land. It is unavoidable . . . there is no room for the puritan.'

As far as I know there have been no sociological surveys done on the police force to discover the number of puritans who offer themselves to the recruiting centre at the Home Office.

But the 'Sunday Times Colour Magazine' recently published a feature article showing members of the vice squad attending a stag night at a pub in N London.

Apart from a low-brow comedian, the evening featured a number of exotic females with enormous breasts who insisted

## TORY PRESS



## What happened to Dixon of Dock Green?

BY ALEX MITCHELL

on taking their clothes off to the accompaniment of a jazz band. As the ladies walked around the tables waving baubles in the noses of the officers, it is widely believed that they applauded. Clearly no puritans at that particular gathering.

Mr Burden attempted in his article to explain this curious relationship between strip-tease and law and order. He says that good results in crime-busting can only be achieved 'by the police getting closer to the world they are trying to destroy'.

From this thesis, it's a quick step to this conclusion: 'There has to be mutual trust between a policeman and his contacts and this can often only be built up on social occasions. Flying Squad detectives say, for example, that mixing with celebrities, crooks and ex-criminals is an essential part of their life.'

'The nightclub visits, meals at expensive restaurants, even holidays abroad result in a steady flow of information and a panel of experts to call on when a major crime breaks.'

An interesting theory . . . Mr Burden was not satisfied with testing our intellects on the intricacies of fighting crime. The following day (March 8) he wrote another piece on the same subject. But this one was straight, unadulterated purple prose.

He began like this:

'There was no Scotland Yard chauffeur-driven car at 103 Bexley Lane, Sidcup, yesterday morning. The driver had been told "The Governor" was not going to work for a while. Then came a special delivery—a huge bouquet of flowers from "The Squad".'

Mr Burden went on to say that the commander, or 'Trumpet' as he is affectionately called in 'The Squad', was receiving great support from his colleagues.

His daughter, Sandra, was quoted as saying, 'We all know he has not done anything wrong.'

The Scotland Yard inquiry which has been set up by Sir John Waldron will decide whether he has or not.

Meanwhile, another branch of the law is in trouble—this time in Gibraltar.

This item did not receive great prominence in the national press although it is precisely in line with Mr Burden's theory about the police getting close to the action to get information.

It appears that the police in Gibraltar stopped two British subjects boarding a London-bound plane.

They found the men were carting along vast quantities of hash. In court one of the men, Donald Rowlands (47), revealed that he was not a drug smuggler but in fact a *de facto* employee of the Cheshire constabulary. He told the court he was smuggling drugs in an attempt to smash a drugs ring.

The story must have sounded highly implausible until into the witness box strode Inspector Stanley Holloway of Cheshire CID. He said the police had paid Rowlands' fare and asked him to travel to Gibraltar to ascertain names and details of a mysterious drugs ring.

The local magistrate, Mr John Alcantara, said he accepted that Rowlands had been helping the police.

He pointed out that his job was to uphold the laws of Gibraltar. He sentenced Rowlands to six months' jail and his accomplice to a year.

As law-abiding citizens we must only hope that Rowlands' unfortunate detention does not create any serious setbacks in Cheshire police's vigilant campaign against crime.

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## BOMB

The recent wedding of Prince Alfonso of Bourbon and Dampierre and Maria del Carmen, General Franco's granddaughter, in the chapel in Franco's Pardo Palace on the outskirts of Madrid attracted the gilt-edged aristocracy and dictators from all over the world, together with the international jet-set.

First Lady of the Philippines, Imelda Marcos, the Begum Aga Khan, Mr and Mrs Henry Ford II, and the children of Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner were all there swapping tales with tennis star Manuel Santana and bullfighters El Litri and Antonio Ordóñez.

Apparently, everybody was eager to chat with Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco, just back from the Burtons' jamboree in Budapest.

Nobody spared a thought, however, for the former chief of the Institute for Surveying National Opinion. Before the marriage he was engaged by the Franco entourage to carry out a survey of public opinion to see whether the Spanish people would rather have as successor to Franco, Bourbon and Dampierre than Juan Carlos of Bourbon.

Juan Carlos is getting a bit too rebellious nowadays! The survey showed the 'people' preferred Juan Carlos. The chief public opinion pollster immediately got the sack.

Asked about his honeymoon plans, Alfonso showed an unusual sense of realism for a Bourbon by replying: 'I have found an atomic-bomb proof shelter . . .'

During the wedding, students and workers demonstrated and protested in the centre of Madrid. Later three petrol bombs were thrown through a shop window.

## DOLL

The big French supermarket chain Carrefour had a doll on sale priced 23.50 Francs and labelled 'Jew'—worthy of the Streicher days in Nazi Germany.

They have now been removed from the shelves following the protests of the International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism. They were on sale alongside other dolls labelled 'monkey', 'devil' and 'witch'.

Evidently the buyer and manager of the supermarket saw no harm in this piece of

blatant anti-Semitism. The dolls were manufactured in W Germany where anti-Semitism is obviously very much alive.

## MURKY

The hunt for Nazis in Latin America has temporarily stolen the headlines from a significant story a little closer to home.

It concerns the W German counter-espionage organization (which goes under the misleading title of 'Office for the Protection of the Constitution').

Hubert Schruëbbers, the current head of this organization, is going into premature retirement as a result of certain embarrassing revelations about his past in the weekly 'Der Spiegel'.

During the war, Schruëbbers served the Nazis as a prosecutor in the cases of German communists who had fled to Holland and Belgium and been captured there by the Nazi armies.

Not that he made much effort to conceal this record, which has long been known to his employers, the social-democratic government.

In fact Schruëbbers has stated that there is 'nothing immoral' in what he did for the Nazis. He believes that the communists he sent to the block were all guilty of high treason anyway.

Once his services to the Nazi regime became public property, however, the Brandt government could hardly claim him as a suitable man to defend the 'democratic' W German constitution.

So Schruëbbers is leaving next month with a substantial golden handshake, four months in advance of his scheduled retirement date.

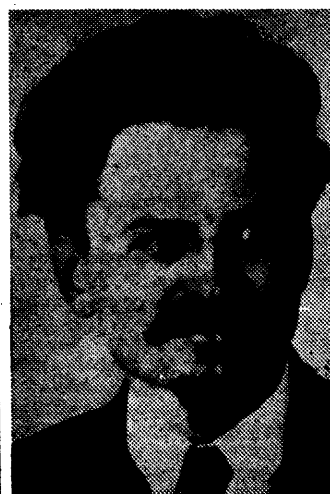
That leaves the task of finding a successor. The favoured candidate is Gunther Nollau, who served under Schruëbbers before being appointed head of the Department of Public Security in the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

Nollau has always been built up as a life-long social-democrat. But it turns out that his past is equally as murky as Schruëbbers'.

He applied for Nazi Party membership in 1942, while he was serving as a prosecuting lawyer in occupied Poland!

So far, the government has yet to comment publicly on this embarrassing series of revelations. It is believed to be having great difficulty finding a man with a clean record to protect the constitution.

## BOOKS



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**AROUND THE WORLD**

# Guerrillas denounce Hussein's kingdom plan

**KING HUSSEIN** of Jordan yesterday formally put forward his proposals for linking the Israeli-occupied W bank of the Jordan with his own territory in a new federal kingdom.

He announced his plans at a special meeting in the Royal Palace in Amman attended by about 500 Jordanian officials and W bank representatives.

His scheme has already been denounced by the Palestine Liberation Organization, which unites most of the Palestinian commando groups.

## SECRET TALKS

Under the plan, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan would change its name to the United Arab Kingdom. It would consist of two regions:

- The region of Palestine, consisting of the W bank (including Jerusalem) and any other Arab territories (like the Gaza Strip) whose population wished to join.

- The region of Jordan, comprising the E bank area. Amman would be the overall capital, with Jerusalem the capital of the Palestine region.

Hussein's ministers have denied that the proposals represent a deal with Israel or are the product of secret talks with the occupiers.

## Deal concocted with Israeli aid?

But it is clear that Hussein, who has already renounced further hostilities against Israel and held talks as long ago as last summer with Israeli chief of staff General Moshe Dayan, relies on Israeli agreement to get his plan off the ground.

Hussein's vicious suppression of the Arab guerrillas in Jordan has opened the road to a deal along the lines he suggests.

By staking his claim in advance to the W bank territories, Hussein intends to ensure that the Palestinian people are kept firmly under control between the Zionists and the Hashemite dynasty.

The PLO said the plan had been categorically rejected by the Palestinian masses and it accused the 36-year-old monarch of trying to destroy the resistance movement and make the commandos appear to be subversive armed groups.



HUSSEIN

## Habash camp splits

A GROUP calling itself the Left Command has split from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, headed by Dr George Habash.

The PLFP is on the left wing of the Palestinian movement, though its leaders have reluctantly accepted the various deals and agreements in which the Arab states have entangled the guerrillas.

The Front was a particular target for the Jordanian murder squads turned loose on the guerrillas in September 1970.

Left Command members have set up a new organization called the Revolutionary PLFP and

announced their separation from Habash's Front.

A Left Command spokesman announcing the split attacked Habash's group for hijacking the Lufthansa jet diverted to Aden last month and ransomed for \$5m.

The spokesman also said that other guerrilla organizations had had prior knowledge of the hijacking operation.

He also accused Habash of unilaterally directing the PFLP and of failing to abide by its decisions.

The Left Command plans to hold a congress in the near future to elect a leadership for the Revolutionary Popular Front.

# Racialism and anti-communism George Wallace's recipe for victory on home ground

**GOVERNOR** George Wallace of Alabama has romped home as the Democratic nominee in the Florida primary elections. He won over 40 per cent of the votes.

His campaign, based on racist innuendo, law and order and anti-communism, won him support from the southern segregationists in the state.

He was backed by extreme right-wing organizations like the John Birch Society, which enjoys considerable support in Florida.

Wallace is notorious for enforcing racial segregation in Alabama, using the state troopers to prevent black children entering white schools.

This time, his campaign was centred around the issue of 'bussing'—the transport of children from one area to another to ensure that the schools are not segregated.

His home state has one of the lowest per capita incomes in the US, meets only one of the eight key standards for child-labour laws, and has one of the highest illiteracy rates in the US.

his support was gained largely from the five states of the deep South, though he tried hard to make an impact among working-class voters in other parts of the US.

Perhaps more significant for the campaign as a whole is the fact that

Hubert Humphrey, who ran against president Nixon in 1968, won 18 per cent of the Democrat vote—more than had been predicted.

Senator Edmund Muskie, who was badly mauled in the New Hampshire primary

earlier this month, did badly in Florida as well, coming a poor fourth among the Democratic candidates.

President Nixon, the only serious candidate in the Republican primary, won over 80 per cent of the Republican vote.



GOVERNOR GEORGE WALLACE STANDING UP FOR RACIALISM

# ASLEF CHIEFS IGNORE ACTION

THE EXECUTIVE of ASLEF, the locomen's union, ignored widespread calls for strike action on their pay claim when they met in London yesterday.

Instead they unanimously decided to keep talking and will accompany the other two rail unions when they meet the Railways Board next Monday.

Yesterday's meeting had been arranged to consider 'appropriate action to further our claim'. But the one proposal for action—including a 24-hour stoppage—found no seconder.

But train drivers on the Southern Region are already threatening action if there is no settlement by April 10.

'There was no alternative but to go to the meeting on Monday. We shall want negotiations to continue until a decision is reached,' said ASLEF general secretary Ray Buckton.

'We hope the decision will be successful to us. If not, we shall examine the position from then. The board and everybody know where they want to be and there is no need to break off next week's talks,' he added.

ASLEF has demanded rises of 16 per cent. So far they have been offered between 8 and 11.3 per cent.



Peter Katjavivi, a member of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) speaking at an Anti-Apartheid rally in support of Namibia (SW Africa) on Tuesday night in London.

## Ovambos still on strike

THE VAST majority of Ovambo workers in Namibia (SW Africa) are still on strike despite police and military intimidation. At least eight workers have been killed by police since the workers returned to Ovamboland in N Namibia last December.

The strike has brought the country's economy to a virtual standstill. It is against the contract labour system which divides and keeps families separated for up to two years at a time, earns the black worker about one-tenth the pay of the white worker and denies him the right to move or change his job.

The workers have rejected the new contract labour system which the S African government is trying to foist on them. The new deal leaves the old system untouched in its essentials.

The Namibians point out that S Africa's illegal hold over the territory is aided by the support it has received in western countries, particularly Britain.

British firms with investments in Namibia include Rio Tinto Zinc, Stewarts and Lloyds, Selection Trust, Metal Box, George Wimpey, Portland Cement and the SW Africa company.



# White-collar pay 'blackmail' was planned

**PLANS DRAWN up by W Midlands engineering employers during the recent power crisis shatter irretrievably any idea that the capitalist class is committed to a special relationship with white-collar workers.**

While taking account of certain tactical considerations, the area branch of the Engineering Employers' Federation proceeded absolutely ruthlessly to map out how to defend profits against staff employees.

The relevant documents are now in the hands of Workers Press.

What they reveal is that the employers were hoping to cover their onslaught with the legal-sounding excuse that the miners' strike had created 'situations which were not under contemplation when the national agreements and understandings on overtime were agreed with staff unions'.

There can be little doubt that, if implemented, these proposals would have created a storm of militancy among many thousands of white-collar workers.

It cannot be just a coincidence, therefore, that a matter of hours after they were drawn up, the Wilberforce inquiry decided to make the miners a special case.

What the W Midlands EEF was proposing was this:

- Cuts in salary under the threat of redundancy;
- Precautionary notices that all salaries would be stopped if the crisis continued; and
- Blackmailing demands for free overtime at weekends.

In a document on 'The Position of Staff Employees', the employers' strategists point out that these sections of workers are theoretically entitled to their salary as long as their contracts subsist.

This applied even if there was no work for them to do.

Any interference with the white-collar worker's 'concept of security of employment', the document says, 'could have adverse long-term effects for employers through alienation of staff'.

**workers press exclusive**

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT DAVID MAUDE

This might make him try to win other advantages—perhaps higher pay, horror of horrors—to compensate.

The EEF's message to its W Midlands members, therefore, was to 'give very careful consideration to possible longer-term repercussions' before trying to reduce overheads at the expense of staff.

But this is obviously just a preamble to ease the consciences of the more faint-hearted member-firms.

The document goes on: 'With this important factor duly weighed, however, it of course remains open to a firm to seek the agreement of their staff to a temporary variation of the contract which would allow some lesser amount than the full salary to be paid for periods when work is not available.'

'The chances of securing agreement to this course are likely to be much improved if it has been made clear to the staff that the longer-term prospects of employment at the company are dependent on both the manual and staff employees not insisting upon their strict rights under their contracts of employment.'

In other words, a judicious use of the word redundancy could work wonders.

So anxious were the employers' leaders to crack the whip that they developed the point at some length. How about this for solicitous concern for the interests of your faithful staff:

'Even if a company at this stage does not envisage any departure from the strict terms of the contract of employment under which salaries are paid whether or not work is available, it may be wise and necessary, when discussing working arrangements in the present situation to sound an early warning that the

continued obligation to pay full salary could not in all circumstances be guaranteed regardless of the length or effects of the current crisis.

'It is conceivable that, arising from such a warning, proposals could be developed leading to agreement for the payment of some lesser amount than the full salary as a means of safeguarding employment.'

Apart from the possibility of agreeing a temporary variation in contracts which would allow some lesser amount than the full salary to be paid for periods when work is not available, the document suggests that a point may be reached when economic circumstances could force them into a situation where 'it would in any case be imprudent to continue to pay full, or even a reduced, salary to staff'.

The document suggests the form of precautionary notice which should be served at this point:

'Notice is hereby given by the company that your contract of employment will be varied from (insert appropriate date) to the extent that the company from that date, will reserve the right to cease payment of your salary for periods when work is not available to you because of the failure of electricity supply.'

'This temporary variation of your contract will continue during the period of the current emergency, and until the restoration of normal working is possible. On the restoration of normal working, the current terms of your contract of employment will be restored.'

Charming, isn't it?

By this time, the EEF strategists had obviously got the old master-servant bit well and truly between their teeth. There was no holding them.

It would be appreciated, they wrote, that some white-collar workers would prefer to treat the suggested notice as dismissal and claim redundancy payments.

With the thought of shedding a good number of staff stirring the writers' ruling-class blood, they went on to discuss the prospect of getting a bit of weekend overtime buckshee.

During the power emergency, the document suggested, situations might arise in which it would seem entirely reasonable to make arrangements which stood outside the precise terms of the existing national overtime agreements with the trade unions.

'It says: 'If staff retained on their full weekly salary are able to work on Monday and Tuesday only, but cannot be provided with work on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, it would seem reasonable to press that they should work a full day on Saturday (if the factory is at work on that day) without any additional premium or consideration on the grounds that they have been paid their full five-day salary for three days of work.'

'It would hardly seem reasonable for staff to be paid five days' salary for two days' work, and then be paid for Saturday at time and a third—so receiving six and a third days' pay for three days' work.'

But what if they won't wear it? comes the unspoken question. Well, the document has the answer:

'It could be that some staff may press for optimum treatment in such circumstances, and refusal to co-operate with the company in such cases may prompt the question of whether it might be more economical simply to tell the staff concerned that, failing such co-operation, for the duration of the emergency the company is able to offer them neither work nor pay.'

Brutal, but direct. This is the real face of the ruling class towards all workers—and the sooner we realize it the better.

For this is the degree of determination they take into the next big pay fight: with the engineers.

# TV

## BBC 1

9.38 Schools. 12.55 Tresarn. 1.30 Herbs. 1.45 News, weather. 2.05 Schools. 2.25 Cheltenham racing. 4.30 Deputy Dawg. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Boss Cat. 5.44 Crystal Tipps. 5.50 News, weather.

## 6.00 NATIONWIDE.

6.50 THE BEST OF THE FESTIVAL. Highlights of 1972 National Hunt Meeting.

7.00 SPY TRAP. Check Point. Episode 4.

7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.

8.00 THE GOOD OLD DAYS. Old-Time Music-Hall.

8.50 DO YOU REMEMBER? August 1962.

9.00 NEWS, Weather.

9.20 'THE LIE'. By Ingmar Bergman. Frank Finlay, Gemma Jones. Smooth surface of marriage cracks into violence.

10.50 24 HOURS.

11.25 PEOPLE LTD.

## BBC 2

11.00 Play School. 6.35 Rosla and After. 7.05 Open University.

7.30 NEWSROOM, Weather.

8.00 THE SHADOW OF THE TOWER. 11. The Strange Shape of Reality.

8.50 EUROPA.

9.20 SHOW OF THE WEEK. Harry Secombe, Shirley Bassey.

10.05 NEWS, Weather.

10.10 WORLD CINEMA: 'THE TRUE GLORY'. The Art of Compilation. Allies' victorious progress through Western Europe from D-Day to VE-Day.

11.35 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

## ITV

10.20 Schools. 2.32 All Our Yesterdays. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.10 Tea Break. 3.40 Marcus Welby. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Roadrunner. 5.20 Maggie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY.

6.40 CROSSROADS.

7.05 FILM: 'THE LAST HUNT'. Robert Taylor, Stewart Granger. Hunting of the last of the great buffalo herds in the Dakota territory, 1883.

9.00 MY GOOD WOMAN. Episode 4.

9.30 THIS WEEK.

10.00 NEWS.

10.30 CINEMA.

11.00 SOMETHING TO SAY.

12.00 THE CHURCH AND REVOLUTION.

## REGIONAL ITV

**CHANNEL:** 10.20 Schools. 4.05 Origami. 4.18 Puffin. 4.22 Nanny. 4.50 Skippy. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 What's on where. 6.15 Farming news. 6.20 Sport. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Warriors'. 8.30 This is your life. 9.00 London. 11.02 Theatre stars. 11.55 News, weather.

**WESTWARD.** As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun. 4.18 News. 6.00 Diary. 10.59 News. 11.55 Faith for life. 12.00 Weather.

**SOUTHERN:** 10.20 Schools. 3.35 Tea break. 4.05 Houseparty. 4.17 Sean the Leprechaun. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Superman. 5.20 Maggie. 5.50 News. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film: 'Call Me Bwana'. 9.00 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Drive in. 11.40 I spy. 12.35 Weather. Discoverers.

**HTV:** 10.20 Schools. 3.50 Beloved enemy. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Huckleberry Finn. 5.30 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.10 Film: 'Jason and the Argonauts'. 9.00 London. 10.30 The Splendour Falls. 11.00 Marcus Welby. 12.00 Weather.

**HTV West as above except:** 6.18 Sports West.

**HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/Wales as above except:** 4.15 Miri Mawr. 6.01 Y Dydd.

**ATV MIDLANDS:** 10.20 Schools. 3.10 Yoga. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women today. 4.10 Family affair. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Film: 'Blueprint for Robbery'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Marcus Welby. Weather.

**ULSTER:** 10.20 Schools. 4.00 Yoga. 4.30 Remper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.15 Tommy. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Dr Simon Locke. 7.30 Film: 'The Jackpot'. 9.00

London. 11.00 What's it all about? 11.20 Get Smart.

**YORKSHIRE:** 10.20 Schools. 2.33 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 Matinee. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Lone ranger. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.20 Film: 'Girl Happy'. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive in. 12.00 Weather.

**GRANADA:** 10.58 Schools. 3.40 Another world. 4.05 News. Odd couple. 4.35 Once upon a time. 4.50 Arthur. 5.15 London. 6.00 Police file. 6.25 Peyton place. 6.55 Villains. 8.50 Sylvester. 9.00 London. 11.00 On the line. 11.30 Monty Nash.

**TYNE TEES:** 10.20 Schools. 2.32 Face the press. 3.00 Pied piper. 3.05 Time to remember. 3.35 News. 3.45 Women today. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Captain Scarlet. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Smith family. 7.00 Film: 'Girl Happy'. 8.50 Love, American style. 9.00 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Drive in. 12.00 News. 12.15 Yours faithfully.

**SCOTTISH:** 10.20. 1.40 Schools. 3.30 Once upon a time. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 Fireball. 5.20 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.15 Cartoon. 6.30 Stuart Gillies. 7.00 Film: 'Seven Hills of Rome'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Ice skating.

**GRAMPIAN:** 11.00 Schools. 3.38 News. 3.40 Dick Van Dyke. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Origami. 4.55 Rainbow country. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Lesley Blair. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'A Girl Named Tamiko'. 9.00 London. 11.00 Rise and fall of the Great Lakes. 11.20 Epilogue.

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# Equal pay strike—for one day!

A NATIONAL day of action by women engineers was urged yesterday to 'unite and co-ordinate' the struggle for equal pay at factory level.

This was the call—carried by 23 votes to one—at the women's conference of Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' engineering section in Eastbourne.

Together with a demand for industrial action, opposed by only six of the 24 delegates, the call now goes forward to the section's full national committee in five weeks' time.

Backed by Communist Party members and supporters, the diversionary day of women's action stands every chance of being endorsed by the same national committee that in January called off a united national pay struggle by engineers.

The prime mover of the call, Vi Gill from Sheffield, said she was 'not naive enough' to believe employers would pay up for the women after one day outside the factory gates.

She described the move as 'an impetus to negotiation'.

● See Scanlon speech p. 2.

## Devlin fined

MID-ULSTER MP Bernadette Devlin and 23 other people were found guilty and given six month suspended sentences by an Ulster court yesterday for marching on the highway on February 6 in protest against internment and the 'Bloody Sunday' (January 30) massacre of 13 people. Miss Devlin and two others were also fined £15.

## £1,250 MARCH FUND REACHES £296.19

WE are now half-way through the month. Let's make a really big effort to push our appeal fund right up.

For the fight against the Tories, Workers Press must be developed in every way. Help us expand the circulation, reach out into new areas and win fresh readers everywhere.

Press ahead immediately. Step up the fight for this month's fund. Post all your donations right away to:

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## LATE NEWS WEATHER

## AGENCY SHOP AFTER STEWARDS SACKED

TEN MEN at a Woolwich plastics factory are in the seventh week of a fight for the basic right to engage in trade union activities.

### Half labour force cut

DURING the miners' strike Tory Trade and Industry Secretary John Davies slapped an injunction on the Department of the Environment's new telecommunications centre at Cannon St, London, prohibiting the use of lights at night.

The Cubitt management responded by laying off the entire 60-strong night shift, but when the strike ended they not only refused to re-employ the men, but axed a further 110 jobs.

When the lists of sacked men were circulated—picked eventually from the full 340-strong work force—they included stewards and militants on the site.

Cubitt's decision to sack half their labour force came in response to the Tories refusal after the coal strike to continue to subsidize the two-shift system at the site.

Union of Construction and Allied Technicians federation steward John Buckner told me: 'There was nothing we could do to stop them sacking the 170 men, but we did get them to reinstate the trade unionists and men associated with political parties.'

Mr Buckner estimates that with the remaining 170 men working a five-day week—they won't work overtime after the sackings—two years will be added to the time needed to complete the building.

The Cannon St site was the first in London to obtain a £1-an-hour consolidated rate—but it was tied to the now defunct shift system.

Said Mr Buckner: 'We're afraid they will try and take the £1 away now and offer us a wages deal based on productivity.'

ENGLAND and Wales will have dry, sunny weather after the clearance of early morning mist patches.

Scotland and N Ireland will also be dry, and although partly cloudy, there will also be a good deal of sunshine. A few mist patches are likely at first. It will be generally warm or rather warm.

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## TUC knee-crawling to Tories on internment

TUC CHIEFS have once again come to the aid of the Tory government — this time on N Ireland.

In an hour-long meeting with Home Secretary Reginald Maudling yesterday, general secretary Victor Feather asked for some modification in Tory internment policy.

With Feather was Sir Frederick Hayday, chairman of the TUC international committee, and transport workers' leader Jack Jones.

The TUC's completely bankrupt policy was further elaborated when they called for the switching of responsibility for security from Stormont to Westminster.

The knee-crawling went still further when the delegation asked the Tories to launch a massive investment programme in N Ireland to

restore full employment.

Feather later told reporters he had asked for a date for the ending of internment.

This did not mean the release of gunmen and terrorists from internment on to the streets of Belfast or Dublin or anywhere else.

'What it means is some assurance should

be given on the basis of ending imprisonment without trial, particularly in respect of procedures.'

Some people were offended by a situation where individuals 'may be called on in the middle of the night and then returned home after a couple of hours,' he added.

Internment without trial of thousands of Irish working-class fighters becomes a matter of procedure for Feather.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS' NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-WORK CAMPAIGN PRESENTS

# 'The English Revolution'



Written by Tom Kempinski

Directed by Corin Redgrave

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Cost approximately £4.50. For tickets apply to John Simmance, National Secretary, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG

## Minis start up

A STRIKE which halted production of Mini cars at the Austin-Morris factory at Longbridge, Birmingham, ended yesterday after talks with management. The dispute started on Tuesday night when machinists on a crankshaft line stopped work over a work-booking dispute. About 150 machinists went on strike and another 1,200 workers were sent home.

## Yarrow deal

YARROW shipbuilding workers, Glasgow, on strike for six weeks yesterday voted to accept a £3 pay offer. Out of the 1,800 workers, 704 voted for and 509 against.