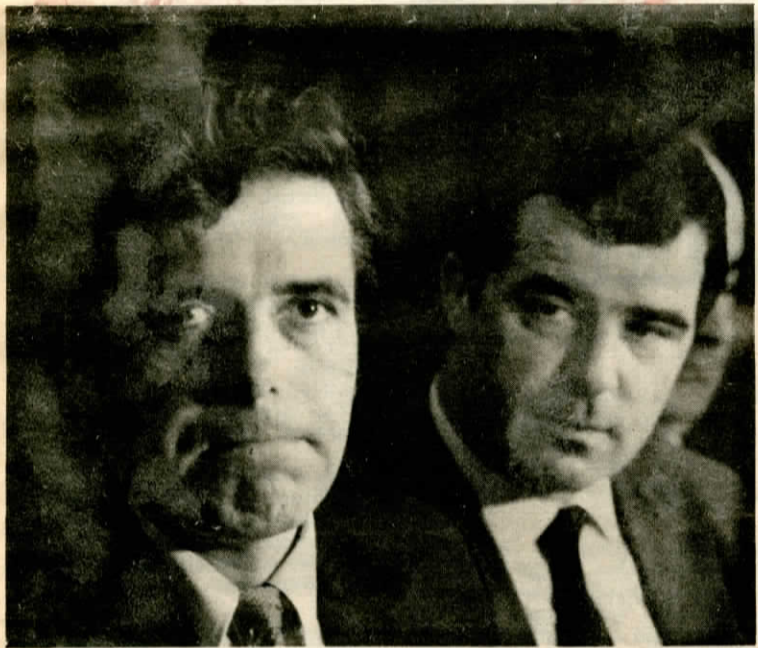


# WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 1972 ● No. 874 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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Reid had intended to ask the Govan men to raise a 50p levy to support a new work-in at Clydebank.

One bulk-carrier was towed to Princess dock, Glasgow, on Monday night, and by the end of next week work on two others will be nearing completion.

The immediate crisis has been triggered by the completion of one carrier and a New Zealand ferry, and 300 men are expected to be sacked next Friday week.

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The agreements themselves—until published by Workers Press a week ago they had only been seen by a minority of shipyard workers—have become a key issue in the wave of hostility to the Stalinist leadership.

The boilermakers' stand focused attention on wages and the exact wording of the agreements.

At Govan fears have spread rapidly that the work-study-based incentive schemes to which the co-ordinating committee agreed are not the same thing as bonuses.

With up to 1,000 workers fighting for their lives at Clydebank, the Stalinists' decision to split the UCS workforce by signing two different, but equally vague

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With barely a week to go before crunch day at Clydebank, the joint co-ordinating committee

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They were still trying to find some way of calling a mass meeting, but the chances are slim. At Tuesday's conference of 200 stewards the meeting was split three ways—for a four-yard meeting, against the boilermakers, who, although they opposed the meeting, appeared to feel something should be done to help Clydebank.

The only suggestion that has emerged so far is that if the Clydebank men hand back their redundancy pay this might persuade workers at Govan to agree to a levy.

But even if the levy came off, any new work-in would be very different from the last one. Marathon work crews are already busy razing the shipyard to the ground and there will soon be nothing left to work at.

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Opposition to Reid's plan for a second work-in at Clydebank, financed by a 50p levy of all four yards, came first from boilermakers at the Govan yard, of whom he said on September 4: 'We are in no doubt that the majority of boilermakers have been deceived by people who want to apply the concept of the rat race to the trade union movement'.

It is not the boilermakers' fight for wages which has undermined trade unionism on the Clyde, however, but the policies of Reid, Airlie and the Communist Party.

Reid's attack came as the full fruits of the Stalinist betrayal at UCS were beginning to be reaped—in the form of 3,600 jobs lost, reduced wage claims, union-management co-operation, speed-up, mobility of labour, no-strike pledges and a divided labour force.

From the outset of the Clyde-side jobs struggle last June, the Communist Party has collaborated with the imposition of all the recommendations of the original 'Butcher' report of Tory Nicholas Ridley. Ridley's plan, essentially was to split the yards and split the men.

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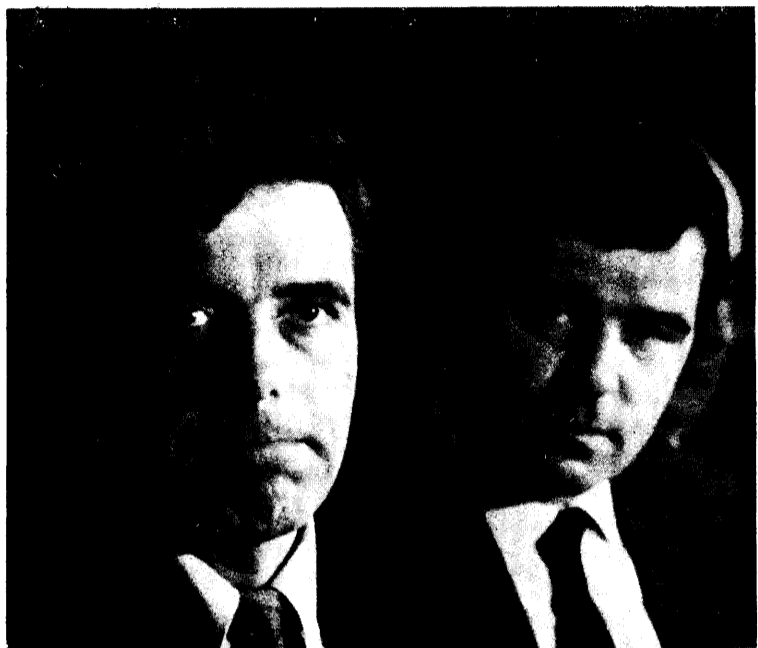


# workers press

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# Nixon barrage in IMF trade war

BY JOHN SPENCER

**A NEW American trade war 'bombshell' is being prepared by President Nixon who is expected to spell out its terms when the International Monetary Fund meets in Washington on Monday.**

According to Pierre Rinfret, the President's economic adviser for his election campaign, the US is studying in detail what will happen to its economy and the economies of the Common Market, Japan and Canada if it launched a 'far-reaching and brutal' trade war.

He warned that Nixon is not bluffing and said if the Europeans thought this they were kidding themselves: 'This is not an election gambit, this is a fundamental posture.' Rinfret described the tariff reductions of the Kennedy round agreed during the 1960s as 'a fundamental mistake—a disaster for American trade'. And he said that American efforts to negotiate a new world trade agreement in the aftermath of Nixon's August 15 measures last year had 'won no support, no help and no sympathy'.

He spoke with contempt of the Japanese agreement to take \$1,000m-worth of the US 'emergency exports' and the Washington currency realignment agreement of December last year. Everyone, he said was doing his best to undermine the Washington deal. The measures under discussion in Washington include a 150 per cent import surcharge on cars, textiles and steel which contribute \$8,500m to the \$10,000m US trade deficit. America is far and away Europe's largest overseas market and such punitive tariffs would devastate European industry.

Rinfret warned that counter-action against companies like Ford and General Motors with plants overseas would be met by the freezing of foreign assets in the United States.

Thirteen months ago, Nixon abruptly ended the convertibility of the dollar with gold and introduced a 10 per cent surcharge on all imports. In December, European countries and Japan were forced to accept big revaluations of their currencies against the dollar.

But these measures—acclaimed at the time by Nixon as the greatest ever economic deal—have failed to overcome the enormous US balance-of-payments deficit and open up markets for US products.

These can only be obtained at the expense of America's competitors, primarily Europe, Canada and Japan. The new threats of intensified economic warfare come at a time of great crisis in the world economy when the value of all currencies is openly in question and the world's reserve gold holdings are effectively frozen in central bank vaults.

Share prices on the London stock exchange have fallen by over 50 points since the middle of August, raising the prospect of big commercial crashes. All eyes are on the IMF meeting in Washington—and if Nixon's speech is anything like Rinfret's forecast it could well result in an immediate share collapse.

## Protectionist

Nixon is driven by a powerful protectionist lobby in the United States which wants even more stringent measures to export unemployment and crush foreign competition. One of the lobby's spokesmen, Senator Vance Hartke, said yesterday that the US was facing 'an economic Vietnam'.

But as Rinfret indicated, the US plans are not just an election gimmick, they are entirely consistent with Nixon's policy since August last year. In the likely event of Nixon's re-election the plans are certain to be operated with increased rather than decreased vigour.

The consequences for Europe of a new round of trade-war measures from the United States would be catastrophic—mass unemployment, wholesale bankruptcies and roaring inflation amid a full-scale slump.

The break-up of the post-war monetary system entails a ruthless struggle for supremacy between the main capitalist nations and poses the working class of Europe with revolutionary tasks on a scale never before seen.

## A VITAL CONFERENCE

NOT SINCE the Tory government came to office in June 1970 has the question of leadership in the trade unions been posed so directly in front of the working class.

That is why the national conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance at Birmingham Town Hall on October 22 assumes such historic importance.

At the centre of this conference will be the vital lessons of recent industrial struggles and the problems of political leadership in the unions to carry forward the fight against this hated government.

On the question of leadership there is much to be discussed! In the past eight months there have been a series of crucial pay struggles against the government which forced the Tories on two occasions to introduce state of emergency powers.

First the miners staged their powerful wages showdown with the government and smashed the pay 'norm'. Then the railwaymen confronted the government and this time the government brought into force, for the first time, the cooling off provisions of its Industrial Relations Act.

And then the dockers went on national strike—in the first

instance against the jailing of five of their brothers and then for the right to work.

Discussion with miners, railwaymen and dockers today reveals in a flash that they have totally

### What we think

lost confidence in their union leaders.

Hardly were they back at work when the miners' pay award was eaten up by huge price increases and hit by the announcement of more pit closures.

Railwaymen returned only to hear news that British Rail was pressing forward ruthless plans to close workshops, branch lines and introduce super trains thus cutting more jobs. And now the dockers. In the immediate aftermath of the strike there are big merger plans on Liverpool docks and in the Port of London the international meat traders,

Vestey's and Borthwick's, are to completely remove the meat trade to ports like Sheerness and Avonmouth where non-dock labour is used.

For workers in these three industries, the conclusions are inescapable. Although they moved into conflict with the government with enthusiasm and utter determination, they were sold out. Their fights have been short-circuited by the unwillingness of their own leaders to lead.

This question of leadership in the trade union movement is not new. At the turn of the century Lenin described precisely the crucial importance of building such a political leadership.

'It is not enough that the class struggle becomes, real, consistent and developed only when it embraces the sphere of politics... Marxism recognizes a class struggle as fully developed, "nationwide", only if it does not merely embrace politics, but takes in the most significant thing in politics—the organization of state power.'

In complete contrast to Lenin's fighting perspective to lead the working class to smash the bonds of capitalism, are the utterly bankrupt views of people like George Smith, TUC president and building workers' leader.

At this month's TUC congress at Brighton, Smith warned delegates that the trade union movement 'must never imagine that we are an alternative form of government'.

Smith and his ilk not only decline to lead the trade unions against the government, they actually throw themselves enthusiastically into the job of helping the Tories to shore up their bankrupt and desperate rule.

Workers throughout the country have watched on television the grisly scenes as Feather, Jones and Scanlon cross the threshold of No 10 Downing St to prostrate themselves before Heath.

The answer to this treachery expresses itself in various ways. At Liverpool on Tuesday 8,000 building workers rejected the return to work, attacked the Stalinist leaders who had been recommending acceptance and decided to strike on.

This vote came only five days after men at the Royal docks in London rejected the advice of their own stewards and showed that they wanted to continue an overtime ban until the Temporary Unattached Register (TUR) is abolished.

On both these occasions the workers showed a healthy contempt for their present leaders. It is a shift in the feeling in the rank and file which should not be underestimated.

It shows that workers are no longer content with the so-called leaders who represented them in the boom period.

As British capitalism plummets into deeper and deeper decline and tries to stay afloat by more vicious punishment on the backs of the working class, trade unionists will demand leaders who are fighters. Fighters to the finish.

What does 'to the finish' mean? It means a leadership rooted in the working class which will not sell out and will always tell the truth to the working class. But above all it is a Marxist leadership which knows where it is going—on to the conquest of state power.

Next month's ATUA conference, on October 22, is a milestone in the building of just such a leadership. Every factory, pit, dock, every trade union branch and every trades council must immediately take steps to send delegates to this crucial meeting in Birmingham.

Trains and coaches from all over will be bringing workers from all industries to this conference. It is your duty to be there.

## Shootings and arrests in Vigo as strike hardens

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

**STRIKERS in Vigo, northern Spain are hardening as Citroën employers refuse to take on nine dismissed men and grant workers a 44-hour week. Police shot at demonstrators yesterday near the shipyards and made a large number of arrests.**

Negotiations between the employers and representatives of the fascist union have not yet been able to find a solution to the strike which is paralysing industry in the northern port.

The union's daily paper, 'El Pueblo', says the 44-hour week demand is 'not unreasonable', and that it is surprised that such a dispute 'should arise overnight'.

They ignore the fact that the shorter week was part of an earlier agreement.

The engineering union president and the central director of Social Affairs have flown from Madrid to Vigo to intervene in discussions with the provincial civil governor.

The witch-hunt against strikers by the Social Affairs department is paralleled by the statement by the new Rector of Madrid yesterday against 'politics' in the university.

Munoz Alonso called on the state to remove those teachers who did not loyally teach their subjects and those students who did not want to learn but preferred to work in 'clandestine laboratories', elaborating 'the semantic alchemy of political prejudices'.

THE SOVIET news agency Tass has issued a laconic communique acknowledging the signing of the trade-pact with Franco's government.

Spain will export foodstuffs, tobacco, leathers, textiles, cars, lorries and ships, while Russian exports will include machine tools, crude oil, aircraft, plant machinery and aircraft.

Tomorrow, a 13-man Rumanian trade delegation will end three days of talks with the Spanish Chamber of Trade in Madrid.

A Spanish stand at a Leningrad trade fair.



## Tax trouble in Holland

THE outgoing Dutch government has called for wide-ranging tax increases to meet the worst inflationary spiral in the Common Market.

Finance Minister R. J. Nelissen told Parliament that there would still be a budget deficit if his tax measures were accepted.

They consisted of increases in the rates of many direct and indirect taxes including VAT. He proposed higher car licence fees and social insurance contributions.

The tussle over the budget is

expected to be hard since it comes at a time when the political situation is extremely unstable. Having heard the budget proposals and the Queen's speech, which emphasized the seriousness of the situation, parliament will dissolve in preparation for the General Election to be held on November 29.

The likelihood is that the election will produce a coalition between the reformist Socialists and the Catholic party, with a deepening of the economic and political crisis.

# Pits: Aid blackmail

Tory Party  
agenda p. 12

## Hold down wages or we cut back grants -- union told

By DAVID MAUDE Our Industrial Correspondent

**MINERS' leaders have been told that unless they pledge to hold down the wages of their members the government may withhold financial aid to the industry.**

This blackmail threat was issued by Minister for Industry Tom Boardman in reply to a joint plea for aid from the unions and the National Coal Board.

Before recommending that large sums of money should be given to the industry, Boardman said, he wanted to be sure any government contribution towards 'getting the industry back on course' after the strike would not lead to further demands in the future.

In other words, if the unions fail to come up trumps the Tories will let pits die. They will wield the jobs axe yet again in the coalfields without compunction.

There have been continual rumours in recent months of government plans to use its financial grip on the coal industry to whip the miners, who blew a gaping hole in their pay policy last winter into line with unemployment this autumn.

At the National Union of Mineworkers' conference early in July one delegate warned that between 30 and 40 of Britain's present 290 pits might be in jeopardy.

Later that month Lawrence Daly, NUM general secretary, claimed in Scotland that there had been secret talks about a new round of closures between the NCB and the government.

NCB chairman Derek Ezra denied the claim. But in August Yorkshire miners' MP Edwin Wainwright was telling the House of Commons that 50 pits were rumoured due for shutdown over the next two to three years.

The basis of the rumours is this: the industry lost £157m in the financial year ending in March, and is likely to show a further loss of £100m in the current year; consumption is down in nearly every sector of the market; productivity, on the other hand, is rising.

In this situation the Tories see an opportunity of slashing back the labour force still further while fulfilling all their needs in terms of output, and at the same time paring to a minimum the price the government has to pay to provide the employers with cheap coal.

The union leaders' answer to this, however, is . . . not to fight

to get the Tories out of office, but to submit joint plans with the NCB for the Tories to implement.

And these contain the dangerous proposal for a 'fair and effective' productivity scheme in the industry.

This, of course, was immediately seized on by Boardman, who said after meeting the unions and the NCB on Tuesday night:

'It is accepted by all concerned that prices cannot be increased. Therefore much depends on in-

creased productivity to increase real earnings . . .

'I made it clear to the industry that costs must be contained.'

This is dangerous ground.

The responsibility for the Coal Board's losses rests not with the miners, but with the crippling interest burden on the industry and the Tory governments vindictive refusal to settle the miners' last pay claim.

The only possible answer to the Boardman blackmail lies in mobilizing the unions to force the Tories to resign and elect a Labour government pledged to workers' control of the pits and nationalization under workers' control, without compensation, of coal distribution, the mining machinery industry and the banks.

**ROLLS ROYCE** have announced they are to close their Tennant Avenue factory at East Kilbride and transfer work and the 125 hour-paid and 31 staff employees to their Hillingdon plant, Scotland within a year. Rolls have said there will be no redundancies, but they have also made it clear that anyone not wishing to move will not get severance pay.



## Cheap coal threat —Germany claims

**THE CRISIS** in the West German coal industry may be greatly aggravated if cheap British imports flood in after the extension of the Common Market next year.

Dr Hans-Helmut Kuhnke, chairman of Ruhrkohle, told a committee of the North Rhine-Westphalia state parliament that British coal was being sold to German power stations at 25 mark (£3.15) a ton below the domestic price.

The Ruhr coal industry, which is privately owned, is making heavy losses and is supported by state subsidies. In the first seven

months of this year the loss was £41.2m.

Many pits have been closed and a rationalization programme is being ruthlessly applied. Despite a fall in output there are large unsold stocks.

West Germany imports about 1.6m tons of coal a year at present, most of it going to power stations. The German industry has been unable to get costs down to compete with British prices.

The miners' union leader, Adolf Schmidt, predicted that the consequences of Britain's entry would be more drastic than appeared. He called for the curtailment of imports from non-Common Market countries.

## School selection still dominates

BY AN EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

**TWO OUT** of every three children are still undergoing selection for secondary schools, and 111 out of 164 education authorities are still using selection procedures for transfer to secondary school, the National Foundation for Educational Research discloses today.

Three days after Labour's deputy leader, Edward Short, attacked the 'appalling injustice' of the 11-plus and promised to end a 'thoroughly evil and immoral system' by legislation, a document published by the Foundation discloses evidence of a slowing down in the move towards fully comprehensive education.

'Transfer at Eleven', the latest in a series of NFER surveys of how local education authorities allocate pupils to secondary schools, shows that the major change to comprehensive education forecast in its 1968 survey has not materialized.

(This, of course, has a lot to do with the election of a Tory government in June 1970 — an administration of grammar school advocates who have tried to run down the comprehensive schools system.)

At present, only 50 authorities have fully comprehensive systems without selection, com-

pared with the 104 forecast by an NFER survey four years ago.

Only 24 out of that 104 have gone ahead and completely abolished selection in their areas.

The picture for the next few years, says the Foundation, is one of only very gradual movement towards fully comprehensive education, with many authorities continuing to maintain mixed systems of selective and comprehensive schools.

While the major move has not materialized, it says there has been a considerable increase in the number of authorities—106, compared with 68, in 1968—that have abolished selection procedures in at least part of their areas.

There are 117 with some comprehensive schools.

Of 108 authorities which were not comprehensive, only 58 (54 per cent) said that they had plans for comprehensive reorganization for September 1972.

There were 79 authorities with comprehensive plans beyond 1972-1973, but only 13 indicated a specific year when they expected the plans to be completed.

The NFER says it seems likely that there will be only a slight increase in the number of 'comprehensive' authorities by 1976. 'Transfer at Eleven', C. J. Hill, NFER, 63p by post.

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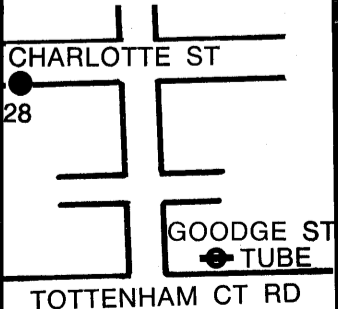


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## PAPERBACKS CENTRE





# PICKETING AND THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT

Part 20 of a series on Picketing by Bernard Franks

**The Industrial Relations Act is a vicious piece of anti-working class legislation. Nothing less than total opposition and repeal will suffice to maintain the hard-won rights which the Act sets out to destroy.**

By March this year the government was already saying that the scope for legal proceedings against picketing 'has been effectively widened since the Industrial Relations Act became fully operative at the end of February'. (Speech by Sir Peter Rawlinson, Attorney-General, March 10, 1972.)

At the same time, a Home Office review of the picketing law was said to be under way 'and will continue'.

On the face of it, the Act has little to say on picketing. The 1906 Trade Disputes Act is entirely repealed, but its main formulas on the subject are apparently more or less reproduced in section 134 of this Act. In fact, other sections of the legislation place a large number of new restrictions on the right to picket, as well as giving enormous encouragement to strike-breakers, company spies and others.

It would be extremely dangerous to take the special picketing section as the only part containing strictures on the subject. Some of the industrial Relations Act's powers affecting picketing are:

## Peaceful picketing

Section 134 allows peaceful picketing of the workplace, but withdraws the right to picket a person's place of residence, i.e. it is legal to 'in contemplation or furtherance of an industrial dispute, attend at or near:

- (a) a place where a person works or carries on business, or
- (b) any other place where a person happens to be, not being a place where he resides'.

The Act says that this shall be only for the purposes of: I. Peacefully obtaining information, or II. peacefully communicating information, or III. peaceful persuasion to work or not to work.

It adds that such picketing shall not be an offence under the 1875 Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act or any other enactment or rule of law and shall not itself constitute a tort (wrong or injury to person or property remediable by a civil action for damages, e.g. libel).

Five points follow from this:

- The obtaining and communicating information and 'persuading' allowed in the Trade Disputes Act of 1906 continues — though with restriction which will be looked into later.

- Picketing—under this section—is not illegal even for a strike called 'unfairly'.

- Protection is for an 'industrial dispute' only, so does not include political strikes.

- Some Tories say that even section 134 of the Act would have invalidated much of the picketing of the miners' strike as mass picketing itself must count as intimidation beyond normal peaceful persuasion.

- The present Act cuts down the 1906 law by prohibiting picketing of a person's residence.

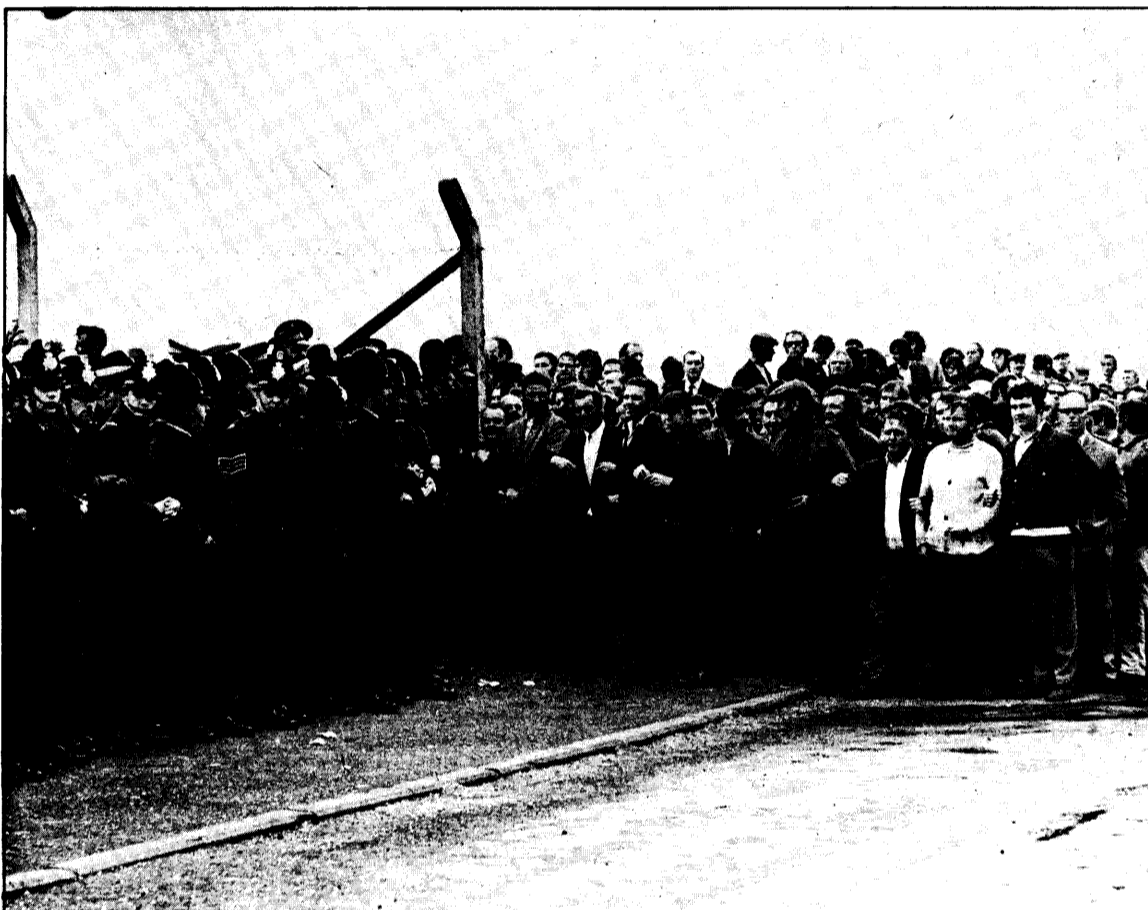
This last point is not necessarily a small one. Numerous cases have occurred in the past of employers providing living accommodation to try to avoid their scabs having to pass picket lines.

In the 1880s and 1890s the shipping companies regularly housed blacklegs on ships in the docks for use in breaking strikes by merchant seamen. For example, in 1900 the Shipping Federation lodged 37 men, part of a force of 'free labour' on a depot ship and paid daily wages until they were needed to ship in place of union labour.

Men picketing the ship were found guilty of 'watching and besetting' under the 1875 Conspiracy Act—not for compelling the scabs to refrain from taking the work, but for trying to prevent them living on the depot ship. (Farmer v Wilson, 1900.)

Farm, docks and building employers have also used living-in systems to avoid pickets and to 'protect' low-paid labourers from union organizers. But in any case, a scab does not cease to be one merely because he has gone home. Livelihoods are at stake and workmates may decide that he still needs to be informed and persuaded of the damage he is doing to his own community. Pickets must necessarily have the right to pay a visit as they think fit.

One example, during the 1926 General Strike, was of the Swindon workers who went from door to door of the blacklegs' houses in a mock funeral procession carrying nine coffins which were ceremoniously burnt on the municipal rubbish dump. Such methods of making a point may seem drastic, but they are nothing compared with the loss of a strike with its consequent victimization of everyone by the employers.



Top: dockers picketing Dagenham Cold Storage in the early days of the dock strike. Centre: mass picketing at Neap House Wharf brought police action and many arrests. Above: Sir Peter Rawlinson, Attorney General.

## Strike-breakers and company spies

The outlawing of the closed-shop, the right to hold no union membership and the protection given to scabs against disciplinary action by workers,

all provided for in the Industrial Relations Act, must surely encourage strike-breaking and directly weaken the unions.

For example, any prospective scab refused employment because of a pre-entry closed-shop agreement can go direct to an industrial court to have

the closed-shop agreement declared void.

He may also complain of this as an unfair industrial practice to an industrial tribunal. Also, an employer forced by workers' action to dismiss a blackleg can complain to the industrial court.

Even the suggestion of action can justify court proceedings. Section 33 of the Act refers to inducing dismissal as 'unfair industrial practice' when brought about by:

- '(a) calling, organizing, procuring or financing a strike, or threatening to do so;
- '(b) organizing, procuring or financing any irregular industrial action short of a strike, or threatening to do so.'

The fact that the employers require evidence for the courts of preparation for, or even mention of, an illegal action by workers means the further encouragement of company spies and informers. In 1971 the TUC gave evidence to the Committee on Privacy about existing systems of plant spies in factories and at union meetings and the compiling by companies of blacklists of trade unionists.

The case of private detectives obtaining evidence on pickets at Midland Cold Storage Ltd, east London, and the details of the general use of surveillance methods given in the Younger Report are types of activity that will increase a hundredfold if the Act continues to operate.

**CONTINUED TOMORROW**





**The cold-blooded massacre of 16 political prisoners at the Trelew air force prison has focused attention on the brutal military dictatorship which rules Argentina.**

The prisoners, members of various urban guerrilla groups, were killed at the prison a week after they had surrendered to the military following a daring prison break-up.

With great cynicism, the Argentine government put out an obviously fabricated story to explain the massacre, saying that the prisoners were 'shot while attempting to escape'.

The government spokesman made only perfunctory attempts to substantiate this implausible story with melodramatic details about a guard whose gun was taken and who supposedly asked his fellow guards to open fire regardless of his own safety.

The official story is flatly contradicted by the three surviving guerrillas who were wounded in the fusillade. They accuse the guards of systematic murder.

The guerrillas included members of three groups devoted to terrorist attacks on the reactionary regime and its functionaries.

## HUGE FORCE

These are the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), which has close connections with the Pabloite revisionists, and two Peronist commando organizations, the Montoneros and the Peronist Armed Forces (FAP).

These organizations, rejecting the organized power of the working class, have turned to 'urban guerrilla' tactics in isolation from the Argentine masses, hoping in this way to stimulate an upheaval against the regime.

Despite their heroism the guerrilla organizations ignore the powerful force of the workers' movement which remains in the hands of Peronist leaders, many of them corporatists who collaborate with the

military to restrain and hold back the workers.

The merciless struggle between the guerrilla groups and the military regime takes place of necessity behind the backs of the masses, who are reduced to waiting impotently for the latest spectacular coup by the commando organizations.

At the same time their isolation from the workers leaves them open to the most ferocious repression, torture and massacre by the military regime.

The killings led to protests and strikes all over the country. Hundreds of militants were arrested and held without trial in the main working-class areas.

Students who tried to organize demonstrations were met with huge forces of armed soldiers, as at Cordoba, where the army turned out ten assault cars, two trucks and a van from the explosives brigade.

In Rosario, another main working-class centre, the population were formally warned by the military commander to remain calm and pay absolutely no attention to appeals for demonstrations, drive carefully and stay clear of 'disturbances'.

There were similar warnings in other parts of the country where some students succeeded in holding lightning protest demonstrations, despite the heavy military guard.

In Cordoba, workers at the Renault, Fiat and General Motors car plants walked off the job when the local branch of the powerful CGT labour confederation ordered a general protest strike.

In response, the CGT headquarters was closed down and the police issued warrants for the arrests of all the union's local organizers. In a statement, the military command accused the union of departing 'entirely from the proper functions of a trade union' to undertake political actions.

The CGT's statement protesting at the Trelew massacre was described as 'an incendiary incitement to crime' and the army recalled that the CGT had organized 13 strikes last year and six this.

They smashed into the building and took away the coffins, obviously terrified that the bodies of the dead guerrillas

would become the focus for a big popular demonstration against the regime.

The biggest outcry came two days after the shootings, when troops with Shortland tanks attacked the Buenos Aires headquarters of the Peronist Party, where the bodies of three of the guerrillas were lying in state.

Faced with rampant inflation and growing discontent among the powerful working class, the Argentine military rulers have little option but to intensify the repression, hoping at the same time to reach an accommodation with the right-wing of the Peronist movement.

The Trelew killings, however, have exposed the phoney character of the attempts to win over sections of the Peron movement, and the ageing former dictator, now in exile in Madrid, has cannily refused to be drawn into Lanusse's game.

Leonardo Franco, a young Peronist lawyer recently in London to campaign for political prisoners in Argentina, described the regime as the third most repressive in Latin America, rivalled only by Brazil and Uruguay.

'And this is not because the Argentine military are more polite or less brutal than the Brazilian counterparts. The Argentine military have been unable to eliminate the opposition of the population. They have less possibility of repression than, say, Brazil,' he said in an interview with Workers Press.

Mr Franco belongs to the MRP, the left wing of the Peronist movement, which claims to be fighting for socialism and advances the need for a 'prolonged people's war' to achieve this aim by 'stages'.

'They have tried to corrupt the popular masses and incorporate and domesticate them. But this has proved impossible. The mass strike in Cordoba last year was the end of this attempt by the Argentine military,' he said.

'The new tactic is to divide Peronism in order to be able to work with the more bourgeois elements and the men we call "traitors". This has been backed up by a policy of "selective" repression.

# ARGENTINA: HUNDREDS ARRESTED AND HELD WITHOUT TRIAL AFTER THE TRELEW MASSACRE

'The army bears down with all its weight on three sectors: all guerrilla groups are ferociously repressed as are their "links", for example, the lawyers who defend them and who may be liberals but stand up for the rights of people in jail.

'The same fate awaits prominent trade union leaders who refuse to be bought off by the regime. One such man is Augustine Tosco, well-known leader of the Cordoba light and power workers, who has been held in prison without trial for two years.

'The third prong of the attack is against student leaders who are treated with great severity by the regime. The regime's actions against these groups correspond to Lanusse's policy of seeking a "great national agreement" through which the military hopes to perpetuate its rule.

## SHOT DOWN

'The military rulers have offered elections to put in a civil government, but they have warned that they will "keep an eye" on the new government "until social and economic stability has returned."

'They were hoping to have Peron as their ally in this policy and asked him to approve the call for an election on these lines, without himself standing as a candidate. They also asked Peron to condemn the left-wing groups, and particularly the guerrilla fighters.

'Though he was offered certain advantages by the regime, Peron refused these demands. He said he would accept the elections only if they were really free and refused to condemn the left-wing groups.

'The terrible Trelew events came just two days after the deadline expired for Peron to return and contest the elections. There was a series of popular demonstrations announced for those days and the country was in considerable ferment.

'Trelew represents a new stage in the repression of the country. It has been accompanied by a series of measures.

A new crime has been established under which every publication making reference to the guerrillas can be punished with six months to three years in prison.

'The reaction from the people to the massacre was fantastic. Even those who did not support the type of operation which the fighters were carrying out joined in the protests against their deaths.

'The army's story about the massacre is absurd. These prisoners had just given themselves up at the commercial airport at Trelew in a situation where they were holding 50 hostages.

'How could they then try to escape from the most secure prison in Argentina in an extremely isolated place, on an extended almost treeless plateau with no villages around?

'In this so-called break-out none of the guards were even injured. The survivors say they were taken from their cells and suddenly the guards shot them down. The three who escaped death jumped back into their cells.

'Though the army communiqué claims they were shot with automatic weapons, one of the survivors has normal pistol bullets in his body. This prisoner says he was shot at close range in his cell. The idea of a cross-fire put forward by the army is absolute nonsense.

'Despite these obvious discrepancies the government is making no effort to put out a more plausible version of the events at Trelew. The massacre has lost the government a great deal of sympathy, especially among liberal and middle-class circles.

'It will be no surprise if the repression is now considerably stepped up. The prisons are already full to the brim. Prior to the massacre there were perhaps 1,200 political prisoners in Argentina, now there are at least 1,500. Many of them have been sentenced by special tribunals, arbitrary courts set up in violation of the constitution.

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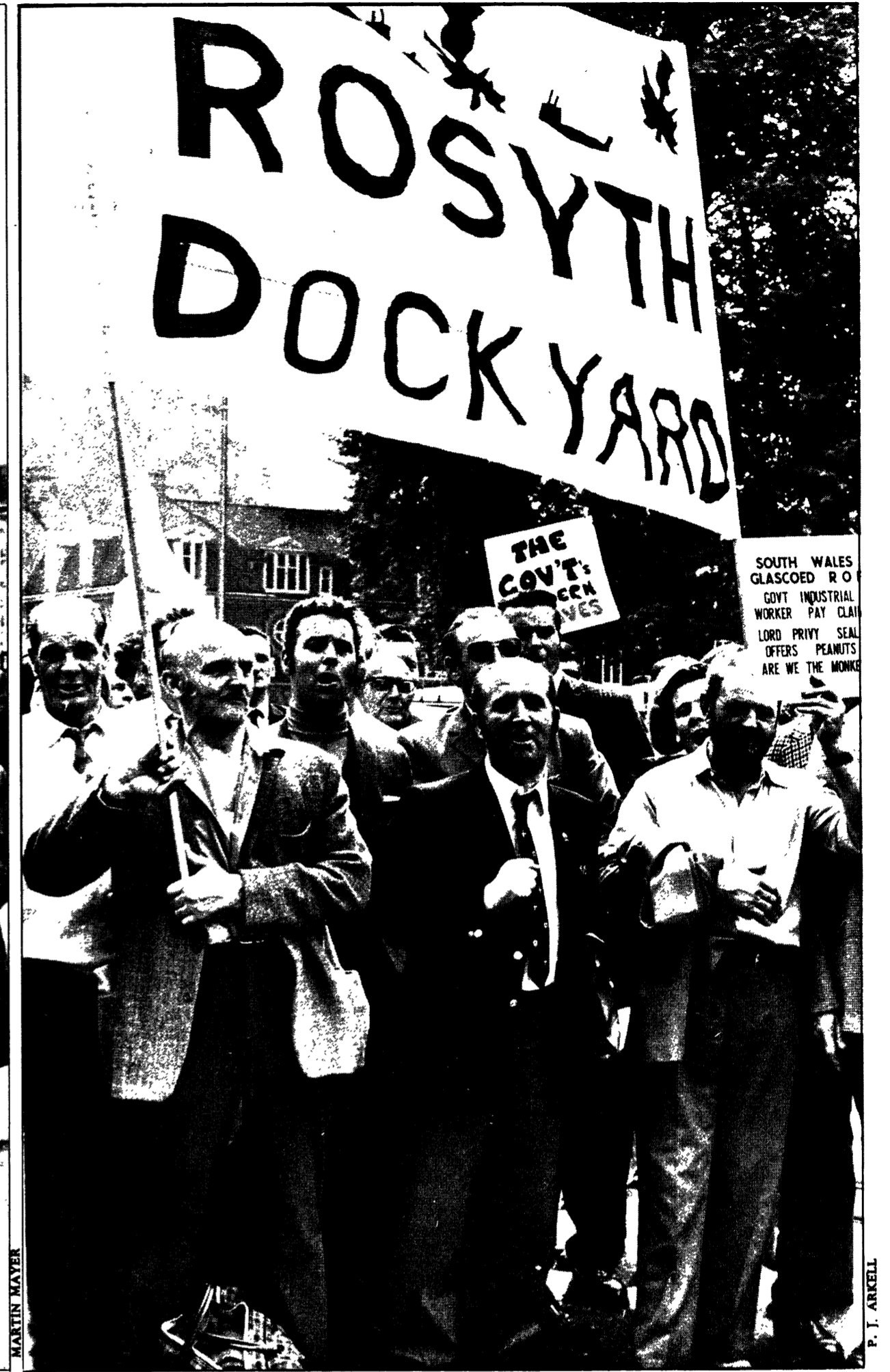
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# GOVERNMENT WORKERS IN REVOLT

BY DAVID MAUDE

Union leaders representing government industrial workers will meet today to plan their next moves in achieving the 'substantial' pay increases demanded by their members.

The 194,000 workers involved have been locked in struggle with the Tories over the claim since the beginning of June.

Workers in dockyards, ordnance factories, research centres, government departments and the Houses of Parliament itself, are often extremely low paid — having to work long hours of overtime to earn a decent living wage.

The Civil Service Department's latest offer of £1.75 a week, in fact, would not even bring the lower-paid within the TUC's £20 minimum wage target.

And of late dissatisfaction has been growing amongst the rank and file with the cam-

paign of overtime bans, working to rule and selective strike action to which their union chiefs have tried to confine them. A recent meeting of shop stewards from all over the country called unanimously for escalation of the campaign.

One demonstration of this mood came in Scotland on Monday, when 1,200 workers at the Faslane nuclear submarine base walked out on indefinite strike with 300 other workers from armaments depots at Arrochar and Coulport.

Some 4,000 men at Rosyth dockyard have been out for the past six weeks in support of the claim.

This turn in the situation could mean a major change in the Tories' front-line defence strategy, since the only three yards servicing the key Polaris submarine are Rosyth, Faslane and Chatham, Kent.

Strikers from the Deptford naval storage establishment are picketing Chatham in an attempt to bring it out, too. If this happens the Ministry of Defence could be forced to

bring the old V-bomber force back out of mothballs to cover the primary nuclear strike role at present filled by the four Polaris vessels.

On Tuesday the dispute had even more immediately embarrassing, if slightly less tactically serious, effects in London.

There maintenance workers stopped the Palace of Westminster for a day in support of the claim.

Blackleg clerical workers couldn't raise the usual-sized flag over St Stephen's lobby. So an item approximately the size of a postage stamp went up.

The Civil Service Department, which negotiates pay with the government industrial workers' leaders, claims that average earnings in the service range from £20.87 at the lower end of the scale to over £36 a week.

But basic rates range from a mere £17.30 for unskilled workers up to only £23.35 for craftsmen. And many, many men end up taking much, much less than this to their families.

Here are just two examples collected by Workers Press reporters of the real-life situations those fighting the claim face:

**1** A semi-skilled worker in the middle pay range at Portsmouth dockyard, married with two children, takes home £16.50 a week for 40 hours.

His rent is £8.15 and is to rise even further when the Housing Finance Act comes into operation on October 1. Which will immediately axe to £7.35 the sum on which he is expected to feed and clothe himself and his family and get to and from work.

**2** A storekeeper at Deptford dockyard, married with one child. With an hour a day overtime he can earn £17.50, but without the extra five hours his take-home pay dropped to £12.

On the day the government's last offer—estimated to be worth about 8½ per cent—came through, he received notice that his rent was to rise 9½.

This is why the government industrial workers are fighting;

Top left: workers at Deptford Royal Naval Yard on strike. Top right: Rosyth Dockyard workers lobbying parliament on July 13. Right: another section of workers on the July 13 lobby. Far right: Palace of Westminster maintenance workers on their one day strike last Tuesday.

why after months of indecisive, totally inadequate action on the part of their union leaders their militancy is growing.

It would be difficult to find a single one of the 194,000 workers involved in the dispute who wants anything to do with arbitration—apparently favoured by some of the officials who will get together today.

What the rank and file wants is all-out action, and they want it now.

But in the service, where the government is the direct employer, it is impossible to escape the implications of the fight against the Tories. Which is one more reason why the union leaders must call all-out action, in concert with other sections, to force the Heath government out.





# ORIGINS OF RACIALISM

## PART ONE: THE ANTI- IMMIGRATION FRAUD

By a special  
correspondent

The proposed admission of several thousand Ugandan Asians into Britain is sending sections of the political right into well-controlled frenzies.

From Enoch Powell's dire warnings of riot and bloodshed, and the National Front's cruder hysterical screams, to the more 'moderate' hypocrisies about unemployment and housing shortages, all are united in trying to give the impression that immigration is the root-cause of all the ills facing the British working class.

If only immigration was stopped, so the argument runs, we would be able to solve our problems. Unless this is done a bad situation will only get worse and desperate British workers will turn in a fury on those who come here to compete for 'our' jobs, live on 'our Social Security and inhabit 'our' homes.

Of course, everyone wants a job and a home and certainly everyone should be able to have both. However, there is one detail that those who express such concern for the well-being of the British worker fail to mention. When it comes to unemployment and housing shortages, immigrant workers, like their British brothers, are the victims and not the causes.

Unemployment is Tory government policy. It is the weapon with which the employers hope to curb the militancy of the working class and cow it into submission. It is not immigrant workers who are closing factories, mines, railway lines, shipyards and docks, or who are introducing new technical methods of work which require fewer men.

It is our own, home-grown, lilly-white employers, British almost to a man, whose only concern is their profits.

For all their talk of patriotism, they are currently investing in the region of £727m a year in Europe in order to take advantage of the large mass of cheaper unemployed labour there.

## SHORTAGES

Housing is becoming more and more scarce as the property speculators move in, tearing down existing houses and building hotels, luxury flats, shopping centres and office blocks, many of which remain empty for months if not years.

Council building, already practically at a standstill in many areas, will become virtually non-existent with the implementation of the Housing Finance Act which, as well as raising rents, also ends government housing subsidies to local authorities.

If all immigration was stopped immediately, and if all immigrants were repatriated, there would still be unemployment and housing shortages. There always will be under capitalism. And as the world monetary crisis grows worse, the Tory government is driven towards a confrontation with the working class in a desperate attempt to solve its problems by wresting away every basic right fought for and won in the past.



This confrontation is being prepared now. The opening shots have already been fired.

There have been the legal moves against trade unions, such as the Industrial Relations Act, the rulings of the National Industrial Relations Court and the House of Lords, which led to the imprisonment of picketing dockers and the imposition of a £55,000 fine and £25,000 costs on the Transport and General Workers Union which was held responsible for the actions of its members.

As well as this, there have also been the moves towards more repressive legislation generally, the proposed alterations to the Judges' Rules and the harsher sentences now being regularly meted out in the courts.

There are the open clashes on picket lines in which striking miners, dockers and building workers find themselves attacked and run down by organized scabs, arrested and beaten by swarms of policemen and confronted in court by paid industrial spies and informers.

There is the constant barrage of press and TV propaganda directed against strikers, 'reds'—anyone who is prepared to stand up and fight for his or her rights.

There is the wooing of trade union and Labour leaders, willingly allowing themselves to be groomed for the role of policemen against their own members. The decisions of the TUC at Brighton, aided and abetted by the Communist Party, which amount to acceptance of the Industrial Relations Act and continued talks with the Tory government, means that they are moving closer to corporatism and the imposition of a legal wage freeze on the working class as the cost of living zooms upwards.

And then there is racialism. 'Divide-and-rule' was the strategy in every colony in the British Empire. Catholics against Protestants in Ireland, Hindus against Moslems in India, tribe against tribe in Africa—any difference will do to set one section of oppressed people against another so they cannot unite against the common enemy who exploits them all.

This policy has also been used in Britain itself time and time again. Before the war it was the Jews and the Irish. Today it is blacks and Asians.

Peter Rachman, the west London landlord, whose activities and connections with some of the highest circles of the ruling class came to light during the 'Profumo scandal' which rocked the Tory government ten years ago, employed this tactic with some success for a number of years.

It was alleged that he would deliberately install a noisy, troublesome coloured tenant in a houseful of white tenants, and vice versa, in order to inflame racialist feelings.

He was able to stave off for some time the formation of an active tenants' association which could fight his high rents, appalling conditions and the gangs of thugs he employed to collect the money from white and coloured families alike.

If deliberate attempts are being made now to make racialist capital out of the immigration of Ugandan Asians, with front-page coverage given in the Tory press to every anti-immigrant statement and demonstration, however small and insignificant, it is precisely because the Tory government is setting out to create more unemployment and to worsen the already terrible housing situation.

Racialism is a deliberately-cultivated attempt to divide the working class and weaken its struggle to defend and improve its conditions. It feeds on the desperate competition among workers for a diminishing supply of jobs and homes, and on the demoralization of those workers and middle-class people who see no way out of their dilemma, find no leadership capable of showing them their true enemy, and feel that the only thing they can do to fend off impoverishment and ruin is to fight each other for the few crumbs left.

The trade union leaders, both right and 'left', and the Communist Party and revisionists who cover for them, bear a big responsibility in this situation. By holding the working class back from an all-out struggle to force the Tory government to resign they add

to the demoralization and desperation of workers and the middle classes facing the brunt of the Tory attacks.

They are helping to create a Frankenstein monster which could rend them limb from limb.

For racialism is more than just a diversion to turn workers' anger away from the Tory government. It is also the spearhead for the coming confrontation with the working class as a whole. The same people who organize marches against coloured immigrants today will be organizing attacks on workers' picket lines tomorrow.

The trade union leaders in Germany in the 1920s and early 1930s failed to give any lead in the fight against unemployment, inflation and anti-semitism. They allowed the Nazis to come to power while they tried to carry on with their policy of collaborating with the ruling class, right up to the very gates of the concentration camps in which Hitler incarcerated and murdered the majority of them.

Today in Britain, if these so-called leaders are not replaced by a revolutionary leadership, the growth of extreme right-wing movements here, which will attempt to destroy the trade union movement as a whole, including its leaders, cannot be combated.

The racialists do their best to bring out the most backward ideas in sections of the middle and working classes.

They speak as if all whites have a common aim, regardless of class. They call for defence of 'our British heritage'. But just what does the 'British heritage' mean for Tories?

## LUXURY

For their political predecessors, the Tories of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, the 'British way of life' was very nice indeed. They amassed their 'fortunes', built their stately homes, sent their sons on world tours, and lived in pampered luxury surrounded by well-trained servants who anticipated their every want.

For the British working class, however, and the mass of colonial workers and peasants, life was short, brutish, exhausting, plagued

Above: some of the first expelled Ugandan Asians to arrive with hunger, disease and misery.

Families in Britain were driven from the land, forced into the overcrowded city slums and had to work until they dropped in the factories, the mines and on the docks. Those who had no work were arrested as rogues and vagabonds—if they did not actually starve to death first—and whipped through the streets at the tail end of a cart.

They were branded with hot irons or hanged for the most minor offences.

## SLAVE TRADE

Children were bought and sold on the open market, starved, raped and flogged by their masters with impunity. Orphans could be hired out to masters who were paid a sum of money by the parish for their keep.

There are several recorded instances of masters taking in such children, working them to the point of exhaustion for several months, and then murdering them so they could go back and get paid to take in a few more.

British ships sailed to Africa, Asia and the New World, bringing the so-called 'advantages' of civilization and Christianity. They also, of course, brought such other incidental 'advantages' as the slave trade, the forcible breakup of a number of complex and quite highly-developed societies and the suppression of any social or technological advances so that the colonies could be turned into lucrative suppliers of raw materials and markets for the goods produced in the 'mother country'.

The slave trade, in particular, laid the basis for massive fortunes among many of the most prominent businessmen in Britain. If they were not actually engaged in slaving direct, as many of them were, they built the ships, fitted them out, manufactured the iron manacles, fetters and branding irons, or traded in the sugar, cotton and rum produced with slave labour in the West Indies and the southern states of America.

CONTINUED TOMORROW



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correspondent

The proposed admission of several thousand Ugandan Asians into Britain is sending sections of the political right into well-controlled frenzies.

From Enoch Powell's dire warnings of riot and bloodshed, and the National Front's cruder hysterical screams, to the more 'moderate' hypocrisies about unemployment and housing shortages, all are united in trying to give the impression that immigration is the root-cause of all the ills facing the British working class.

If only immigration was stopped, so the argument runs, we would be able to solve our problems. Unless this is done a bad situation will only get worse and desperate British workers will turn in a fury on those who come here to compete for 'our' jobs, live on 'our Social Security and inhabit 'our' homes.

Of course, everyone wants a job and a home and certainly everyone should be able to have both. However, there is one detail that those who express such concern for the well-being of the British worker fail to mention. When it comes to unemployment and housing shortages, immigrant workers, like their British brothers, are the victims and not the causes.

Unemployment is Tory government policy. It is the weapon with which the employers hope to curb the militancy of the working class and cow it into submission. It is not immigrant workers who are closing factories, mines, railway lines, shipyards and docks, or who are introducing new technical methods of work which require fewer men.

It is our own, home-grown, lily-white employers, British almost to a man, whose only concern is their profits.

For all their talk of patriotism, they are currently investing in the region of £727m a year in Europe in order to take advantage of the large mass of cheaper unemployed labour there.

## SHORTAGES

Housing is becoming more and more scarce as the property speculators move in, tearing down existing houses and building hotels, luxury flats, shopping centres and office blocks, many of which remain empty for months if not years.

Council building, already practically at a standstill in many areas, will become virtually non-existent with the implementation of the Housing Finance Act which, as well as raising rents, also ends government housing subsidies to local authorities.

If all immigration was stopped immediately, and if all immigrants were repatriated, there would still be unemployment and housing shortages. There always will be under capitalism. And as the world monetary crisis grows worse, the Tory government is driven towards a confrontation with the working class in a desperate attempt to solve its problems by wresting away every single right fought for and won in the past.



This confrontation is being prepared now. The opening shots have already been fired.

There have been the legal moves against trade unions, such as the Industrial Relations Act, the rulings of the National Industrial Relations Court and the House of Lords, which led to the imprisonment of picketing dockers and the imposition of a £55,000 fine and £25,000 costs on the Transport and General Workers Union which was held responsible for the actions of its members.

As well as this, there have also been the moves towards more repressive legislation generally, the proposed alterations to the Judges' Rules and the harsher sentences now being regularly meted out in the courts.

There are the open clashes on picket lines in which striking miners, dockers and building workers find themselves attacked and run down by organized scabs, arrested and beaten by swarms of policemen and confronted in court by paid industrial spies and informers.

There is the constant barrage of press and TV propaganda directed against strikers, 'reds'—anyone who is prepared to stand up and fight for his or her rights.

There is the wooing of trade union and Labour leaders, willingly allowing themselves to be groomed for the role of policemen against their own members. The decisions of the TUC at Brighton, aided and abetted by the Communist Party, which amount to acceptance of the Industrial Relations Act and continued talks with the Tory government, means that they are moving closer to corporatism and the imposition of a legal wage freeze on the working class as the cost of living zooms upwards.

And then there is racialism. 'Divide-and-rule' was the strategy in every colony in the British Empire. Catholics against Protestants in Ireland, Hindus against Moslems in India, tribe against tribe in Africa—any difference will do to set one section of oppressed people against another so they cannot unite against the common enemy who exploits them all.

This policy has also been used in Britain itself time and time again. Before the war it was the Jews and the Irish. Today it is blacks and Asians.

Peter Rachman, the west London landlord, whose activities and connections with some of the highest circles of the ruling class came to light during the 'Profumo scandal' which rocked the Tory government ten years ago, employed this tactic with some success for a number of years.

It was alleged that he would deliberately install a noisy, troublesome coloured tenant in a houseful of white tenants, and vice versa, in order to inflame racist feelings.

He was able to stave off for some time the formation of an active tenants' association which could fight his high rents, appalling conditions and the gangs of thugs he employed to collect the money from white and coloured families alike.

If deliberate attempts are being made now to make racialist capital out of the immigration of Ugandan Asians, with front-page coverage given in the Tory press to every anti-immigrant statement and demonstration, however small and insignificant, it is precisely because the Tory government is setting out to create more unemployment and to worsen the already terrible housing situation.

Racialism is a deliberately-cultivated attempt to divide the working class and weaken its struggle to defend and improve its conditions. It feeds on the desperate competition among workers for a diminishing supply of jobs and homes, and on the demoralization of those workers and middle-class people who see no way out of their dilemma, find no leadership capable of showing them their true enemy, and feel that the only thing they can do to fend off impoverishment and ruin is to fight each other for the few crumbs left.

The trade union leaders, both right and 'left', and the Communist Party and revisionists who cover for them, bear a big responsibility in this situation. By holding the working class back from an all-out struggle to force the Tory government to resign they add

to the demoralization and desperation of workers and the middle classes facing the brunt of the Tory attacks.

They are helping to create a Frankenstein monster which could rend them limb from limb.

For racialism is more than just a diversion to turn workers' anger away from the Tory government. It is also the spearhead for the coming confrontation with the working class as a whole. The same people who organize marches against coloured immigrants today will be organizing attacks on workers' picket lines tomorrow.

The trade union leaders in Germany in the 1920s and early 1930s failed to give any lead in the fight against unemployment, inflation and anti-semitism. They allowed the Nazis to come to power while they tried to carry on with their policy of collaborating with the ruling class, right up to the very gates of the concentration camps in which Hitler incarcerated and murdered the majority of them.

Today in Britain, if these so-called leaders are not replaced by a revolutionary leadership, the growth of extreme right-wing movements here, which will attempt to destroy the trade union movement as a whole, including its leaders, cannot be combated.

The racialists do their best to bring out the most backward ideas in sections of the middle and working classes.

They speak as if all whites have a common aim, regardless of class. They call for defence of 'our British heritage'. But just what does the 'British heritage' mean for Tories?

## LUXURY

For their political predecessors, the Tories of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, the 'British way of life' was very nice indeed. They amassed their 'fortunes', built their stately homes, sent their sons on world tours, and lived in pampered luxury surrounded by well-trained servants who anticipated their every want.

For the British working class, however, and the mass of colonial workers and peasants, life was short, British, exhausting, plagued

Above: some of the first expelled Ugandan Asians to arrive with hunger, disease and misery.

Families in Britain were driven from the land, forced into the overcrowded city slums and had to work until they dropped in the factories, the mines and on the docks. Those who had no work were arrested as rogues and vagabonds—if they did not actually starve to death first—and whipped through the streets at the tail end of a cart.

They were branded with hot irons or hanged for the most minor offences.

## SLAVE TRADE

Children were bought and sold on the open market, starved, raped and flogged by their masters with impunity. Orphans could be hired out to masters who were paid a sum of money by the parish for their keep.

There are several recorded instances of masters taking in such children, working them to the point of exhaustion for several months, and then murdering them so they could go back and get paid to take in a few more.

British ships sailed to Africa, Asia and the New World, bringing the so-called 'advantages' of civilization and Christianity. They also, of course, brought such other incidental 'advantages' as the slave trade, the forcible breakup of a number of complex and quite highly-developed societies and the suppression of any social or technological advances so that the colonies could be turned into lucrative suppliers of raw materials and markets for the goods produced in the 'mother country'.

The slave trade, in particular, laid the basis for massive fortunes among many of the most prominent businessmen in Britain. If they were not actually engaged in slaving direct, as many of them were, they built the ships, fitted them out, manufactured the iron manacles, fetters and branding irons, or traded in the sugar, cotton and rum produced with slave labour in the West Indies and the southern states of America.

CONTINUED TOMORROW



## MARCHAIS WOOS THE 'LEFT' — BUT REMAINS LOYAL TO THE KREMLIN



The differences between the French Communist Party and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, over the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968, apparently extend into the field of culture.

In the course of a TV debate with Alain Peyrefitte, Party secretary Georges Marchais referred to the case of Alexander Solzhenitsyn and admitted to a difference on the problem. This amounted to a condemnation of Soviet policy.

### Adapted

The question is whether there is a real difference or whether Marchais has simply adapted himself to pressure from intellectuals the Party wishes to attract to its side.

Certainly a verbal difference has existed for some time. A more 'liberal' attitude on cultural and artistic expression than had prevailed in Stalin's time appeared after 1956 and may be seen as an attempt to deal with the opposition in the party which appeared in the wake of the CPSU's 20th Congress.

Initially, however, the policy change did not go very far. No debate was permitted and when it was challenged by the Union of Communist Students in 1965 the Party moved in swiftly against the critics.

By this time there had been a marked tendency for the Party bureaucracy to find its own base in French bourgeois society. Whether or not the Soviet bureaucracy liked this state of affairs, its own difficulties and the crisis in the world communist movement prevented it from reacting.

So the French Party leadership had a freer hand to elabo-

rate a cultural policy which would not alienate left-wing intellectuals in the same way that hard-line Stalinism would have done. In 1966 it proclaimed a policy of non-intervention by the Party on matters of science, literature and the arts.

Now, while the Soviet bureaucracy suppresses Solzhenitsyn's book, the Writers' Union expels him, preventing him from earning a living as a writer, and he is under pressure to leave the country, CP-controlled journals in France publish extracts from his works. Certainly the Party could not sustain and defend the Soviet Party's action and preserve any credibility.

The electoral pact and common programme with the Socialist Party has made this shift towards 'liberalism' all the more necessary.

SP leader Francois Mitterand's followers are uneasy about the alliance. They are afraid that they will be swallowed up in the event of an electoral victory. They have to be re-assured by the Stalinist leaders, so tame intellectuals have to be harnessed to write articles defending and explaining the 'liberal' policy on culture and the arts.

### Controlled

In a word, Marchais' declarations can be summed up simply — opportunism. The Stalinist leaders have no intention of permitting real discussion or debate inside their ranks and the concessions made to the intellectuals do not amount to very much.

In the Soviet Union literature and art has to be strictly controlled to prevent it from becoming a vehicle for a

criticism of Stalinism and mobilizing opposition to its power and privileges.

Solzhenitsyn's novels reveal him as a powerful critic not only of the Stalin terror—but of which he was a victim—but of the corrupt and parasitic rule of the bureaucracy.

### Danger

It is because the bureaucracy cannot permit an historical reckoning with its own past that it suppresses the novels and persecutes the writer. Words on paper are politically charged and represent a danger.

While Marchais does not try to defend the Soviet bureaucracy's action, he is unable to explain it either, because that would raise the question of the origins and growth of Stalinism—a key question carefully excluded from the literature of the French Communist Party just as much as it is from that of its Soviet counterpart.

The real analogy would be a novel about French Stalinism, handled truthfully and dealing with the party's cover-up for the Moscow Trials, its inaction at the end of World War II with power in grasping distance, its complicity in the trials in eastern Europe (the case of Arthur London) in the 1950s the hounding of veterans André Marty and Charles Tillon from its ranks and so on.

Who can doubt that if such a novel were to be written its author would be denounced as a police agent and that he would become an untouchable for even the most 'liberal' Party intellectual. If Marchais were in Brezhnev's position of power, who can guarantee that the author would fare any better than Solzhenitsyn?

pare the way for a deal with President Nixon.

Dr Henry Kissinger, Nixon's foreign affairs adviser, has been having talks with Soviet leaders in the Kremlin in the greatest secrecy. Only the topics to be discussed were hinted at, and they included Vietnam and European security.

Kissinger, who played a key role in preparing Nixon's visit to Peking, was also the go-between in the last attempt to pull off a secret deal to end the Vietnam war. The bureaucracy likes to negotiate with Kissinger, a discreet and business-like functionary after their own heart.

Secret diplomacy can only mean the betrayal of the working class and support for counter-revolution. The Bolsheviks were clear about that and what they said and did in the field of foreign policy is as sharp a condemnation as could be wished for of the shady deals of the bureaucracy today.

## SECRET DEALS OF STALIN AND BREZHNEV

One of the first acts of the Bolshevik government after the Revolution of 1917 was to denounce secret diplomacy and to publish the contents of the archives of the Tsarist Foreign Ministry.

One consequence of the Stalinist degeneration was that the bureaucracy adopted the habits and practices of bourgeois diplomacy which Lenin had denounced, from the wear-

ing of tails to the making of secret treaties with capitalist states.

Stalin's pact with Hitler in August 1939, with the sudden abandonment of the 'struggle against fascism', was negotiated in complete secrecy and came as a complete surprise not only to communist workers, but to the leaders as well. The understanding contained secret protocols for the supply of commodities which Nazi Germany needed for its war effort.

After Nazi Germany's attack on the Soviet Union in June, 1941, which came as a complete surprise to Stalin despite many warnings by secret agents—Soviet diplomacy entered into private deals with the other capitalist countries.

The practice has continued since. Stalin bargained away the revolution in Greece in discussions with Churchill and his successors use the blood of the Vietnamese people to pre-

# WORKERS NOTEBOOK

## NIRC

The National Industrial Relations Court came back from vacation two weeks early last Friday from one of its briefest hearings ever.

But the brevity of the hearing in which a Cypriot shipping firm withdrew a complaint of unfair industrial practice, concealed a source of grave potential embarrassment for the present round of talks between the Tories and the union leaders.

Kornof Shipping Co Ltd, of 20 Costi Palama, Nicosia, was to apply for interim relief to the court under Section 101 (1) of the Industrial Relations Act. It would have been the first foreign-based company to do so.

Counsel for the company, Marcus Edwards, informed the court immediately the hearing began, however, that the dispute which had given rise to the hearing had been settled. His clients therefore sought leave to withdraw the application.

In its original case, Kornof had named as respondents that International Transport Workers' Federation, the National Union of Seamen, the Transport and General Workers' Union and Bristol Corporation.

Union members at Avonmouth docks had been blacking the motor vessel 'Elikon' since September 6, refusing to operate lock gates or provide tugs to tow it out of the docks.

The company also claimed that the unions had induced or threatened to induce breaches of contract between the company and members of the ship's crew by inducing them to strike or take other industrial action.

Kornof named the ITWF because the action taken at Avonmouth appeared to be in response to a call from the federation to bring the ship in line with its agreements regarding pay and manning scales. These issues now appear to have been speedily got out of the way.

This is certainly very convenient, not only for judges Sir R. Phillips, R. E. Griffiths and R. Boyfield, who can now go back to their holidays, but for the Tory Cabinet, the CBI and the TUC General Council, too.

The Law Lords have thrown responsibility for union members' actions back squarely into the union leaders' court, and had the Kornof application been proceeded with the T&GWU at least (not represented in court last Friday) would have stood a good chance of having an order

made against it.

The court would certainly have had to judge the case of the NUS, which is registered under the Industrial Relations Act, differently from that of the non-registered T&GWU.

None of which would make it any easier for the union leaders to cuddle up to the Tories as they tried to at Chequers last week.

## HARD DAY

Joke of last week from a press conference with George Smith, the man who led a million builders into a two-year pay trap: 'We've had a hard day wringing this out of the employers.'



George Smith: two year trap

Some less well-informed reporters wondered why one nattily-dressed individual with a military-cut grey moustache was laughing so much on the top table. Turned out he was Sir Kirby Laing, chairman of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

## WITCH-HUNT

The combined effort of the right wing and Stalinists in Croydon, Surrey, failed to prevent the Council of Action meeting last weekend.

All trade union branches in the area had been circulated with copies of a letter from the TUC and the secretary of the Surrey Federation of Trades Councils 'instructing' that the setting-up of the Council of Action was unconstitutional because it invited all working-class organizations and this included the Communist Party, which was proscribed.

The irony of the situation was that the Stalinists on the trades council had opposed the Council of Action and refused to send delegates to Saturday's meeting and supported the witch-hunt.

The second irony is that there has not been a proscription on the CP attending the trades councils national conference for years. And only two weeks ago the TUC lifted its own ban on the CP.

## BOOKS



LEON TROTSKY:  
Germany 1931/1932  
Paperback £1.25—cloth £1.87;  
Where Is Britain Going?  
Paperback 37p  
Revolution Betrayed  
Paperback 62p—cloth £1.05  
Problems of the Chinese Revolution  
Paperback £1.12—cloth £1.87;  
Permanent Revolution:  
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Postage 10p per book. 3p per pamphlet. Order from:  
NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS  
186a Clapham High Street,  
London SW4 7UG.



## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

**SHEFFIELD:** Thursday September 21, 7.30 p.m. Manchester Hotel, Nursery Street. 'The builders' pay claim and the fight against the Tory Rents Act.'

**MANCHESTER:** Thursday, September 21, 7.30 p.m. The Milton Hall, Deansgate. 'Defeat the Tory Rent Act'.

**WATFORD:** Monday September 25, 8 p.m. Trade Union Hall (upstairs room), Woodford Road (opposite Watford Junction station). 'Force the Tories to resign.'

**SOUTH WEST LONDON:** Tuesday September 26, 8 p.m. Small Hall, Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor Street, SW4. 'ATUA national conference.'

**BASILDON:** Tuesday September 26, 8 p.m. Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, Laindon. 'ATUA national conference'

**WANDSWORTH:** Tuesday September 26, 8 p.m. Selkirk Hotel, Selkirk Road, Tooting. 'Lessons of the builders' strike'.

**LUTON:** Wednesday September 27, 8 p.m. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Road, 'Stalinism and the capitalist class.'

**HOUNSLOW:** Thursday September 28, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Bath Road.



The winner of tonight's Madison Square bout between Floyd Patterson and Muhammad Ali (above) on independent channels might get a crack at world heavyweight champion Joe Frazier. Below: Tom Paxton sings to 600 Bristol University students in 'The Dave Cash Radio Programme' on most independent channels.



# TV

## REGIONAL TV

**CHANNEL:** 9.30-12.00 London. 2.00 Golf. 4.23 Puffin. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 Primus. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.15 Sports round up. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 And mother makes three. 7.30 Champions. 8.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Marcus Welby MD. 12.05 News, weather.

**WESTWARD. As Channel except:** 12.15 Gus Honeybun. 12.25 Liberal Party. 1.00 Golf. 4.23 News. 6.00 Diary. 11.12 News. 12.05 Faith for life.

**SOUTHERN:** 9.30 London. 12.05 Liberal Party. 1.00 London. 3.55 Houseparty. 4.10 Twizzle. 4.25 London. 5.20 Bugs Bunny. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.35 Junkin. 7.05 Film: 'Revenge'. 8.30 London. 10.30 And mother makes three. 11.00 London. 11.45 News. 11.55 Guideline. 12.00 Odd couple. 12.30 Weather.

**HARLECH:** 9.30 London. 2.30 Minutes that changed history. 3.00 London. 4.10 Tinkertainment. 4.25 Merry melodies show. 4.50 Elephant boy. 5.20

Gustavus. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Dick Van Dyke. 7.00 And mother makes three. 7.30 War of nerves. 8.30 London. 10.30 Gallery. 11.00 London. 11.45 Spyforce. 12.45 Weather.

**HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except:** 2.30-3.00 Hamden. 4.10-4.25 Miri mawr. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd. 10.30-11.00 Ryland Davies with John Morgan. **HTV West as above except:** 6.15-6.30 Sport West.

**ANGLIA:** 9.30 London. 3.00 Golf. 4.10 Sean. 4.20 News. 4.25 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sale of the century. 7.30 Jokers wild. 8.00 And mother makes three. 8.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. 11.45 Avengers.

**ATV MIDLANDS:** 9.30 London. 12.45 Golf. 2.30 Horoscope. 2.35 Women today. 3.00 Liberals. 4.00 Golf. 4.25 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00 And mother makes three. 7.30 Cade's county. 8.30 London. 10.30 Golf. 11.15 Cinema. 11.45 Film: 'No My Darling Daughter'. Weather.

## BBC 1

9.42-11.45 Schools. 1.00-1.25 Telewele. 1.30 The herbs. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 2.50 Racing from Ascot. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Parsley. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.50 Deputy dawg. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 John Craven's newsround. 5.25 Yogi bear. 5.45 News and weather.

**6.00 NATIONWIDE.**  
**6.50 TOM AND JERRY.** Mouse in Manhattan.  
**7.00 TOMORROW'S WORLD.**  
**7.25 TOP OF THE POPS.**  
**8.00 SYKES.** Uncle.  
**8.30 EXPERTS IN ACTION.** For Those in Peril. Three months with the Bridlington Lifeboat.  
**9.00 NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.** Weather.  
**9.25 THE MAN WHO WAS HUNTING HIMSELF.** Second part of a three-part thriller by N. J. Crisp.  
**10.15 NAIRN ACROSS BRITAIN.** Trans-Pennine Canal.  
**10.45 MIDWEEK.**  
**11.30 LATE NIGHT NEWS.**  
**11.35 PLACES FOR PEOPLE.** Playgrounds for the Ruhr.  
**12.00 Weather.**

## ITV

9.30 Schools. 12.00 Nuts and bones. 12.15 Liberal Party Assembly. 1.00 Wills open golf tournament. 2.05 Castle haven. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Wills open golf tournament. 3.30 Marcus Welby MD. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.20 Dave Cash radio programme. 5.50 News.

**6.00 TODAY.**  
**6.40 CROSSROADS.**  
**7.05 ... AND MOTHER MAKES THREE.** Father Figure.  
**7.35 THEATRE OF STARS.** Four Kings. Peter Falk, Susan Strasberg.  
**8.30 INTERNATIONAL BOXING.** Muhammad Ali v Floyd Patterson and Roberto Duran v Carlos Ortiz.  
**9.30 THIS WEEK.**  
**10.00 NEWS AT TEN.**  
**10.30 CINEMA.**  
**11.00 THE WILLS OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT.**  
**11.45 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.**  
**12.00 THE 'TOO DIFFICULT' FILE.**

## BBC 2

9.30 Liberal Party Assembly. 11.00 Play school. 11.25-4.30 Liberal Party Assembly.  
**6.05 OPEN UNIVERSITY.**  
**7.30 NEWSROOM AND CONFERENCE REPORT.**  
**8.05 EUROPA.** Britain As She Is.  
**8.30 LOVE AND MR LEWIS-HAM.** Part 4 of the dramatization of H. G. Wells' story.

**9.15 INDUSTRIAL GRAND TOUR.** Tolgus Tin.  
**9.25 SACHA'S IN TOWN.** Sacha Distel with guests Olivia Newton-John, Ted Rogers and Sammy Cahn.  
**10.10 NEWS ON 2.** Weather.  
**10.15 FILM: 'THE IDIOT.'** Directed by Akira Kurosawa. With Toshiro Mifune, Setsuko Hara.

## Clerks to reject new staffing

AN OFFER of an extra 1,100 staff in Social Security offices where clerks are operating an overtime ban over staffing—is certain to be rejected.

The Social Security policy committee of the Civil and Public Services Association—which ordered its 45,000 members to start the ban from Monday—is to discuss the offer today.

An Association spokesman commented:

'It is certain to reject the offer ... which was made in response to its claim for an extra 5,000 staff.'

Representatives of the Association and the 18,000-strong Society of Civil Servants, which is also operating a ban, are to meet officials of the Department of Health and Social Security on Friday or Monday.

## Fewer schools

SCOTLAND had more children at school last year, but fewer schools, statistics released by the Scottish Education Department revealed yesterday.

Primary schools dropped by 27 to 2,526 and secondary schools by 32 to 541 compared with 1970.

Primary pupils rose to 636,350 from 631,181, and the secondary figure to 327,514 from 317,027.

# More deaths without 'life-line' phones

LOCAL AUTHORITIES are failing to back the free telephone scheme for the elderly, the chronically sick and the disabled, said Hugh Faulkner, director of Help the Aged, in London yesterday.

He said unnecessary deaths and suffering would continue unless the service was provided.

'It is necessary for the government to urge local authorities to make telephones for the aged a priority,' he told a press conference on the Help the Aged report, 'Telephones for the Aged—a matter of life and death.'

The report shows that in one year a group of old people with telephones had half the deaths of another group without telephones.

Mr Faulkner said people working at local level were either not aware of the guideline laid down by parliament, or had decided to use their own criteria in making grants.

'Help the Aged has received requests by every post from people in quite desperate need,' he said. 'But the most disturbing letters have been those received from local authority

workers who realize the plight of many old people in their care they are powerless to help.'

Cases included an elderly woman unfit to live alone who had been waiting to enter a residential home for three years. There was no neighbour within call and the local authority was unable to help provide a phone.

In another case a man with heart trouble often needed urgent medical help. At night his wife had to walk a quarter of a mile to a farm to phone.

Mr Faulkner said: 'The distress of both can be imagined, and yet they fall outside their local authority guideline for the provision of a telephone.'

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Fill in the form below and send to NATIONAL SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE, 186A CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON, SW4 7UG.

Name .....

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## 'Auntie' pays up

NEARLY 19,000 monthly-paid staff of the British Broadcasting Corporation will receive an average 8 per cent increase with slightly more for lower-paid workers, under an agreement announced by the BBC yesterday.

They are within a wide salary scale and include producers, journalists, secretaries and other office staff.

The last increase was of just under 8½ per cent from October 1 last year.

## Mersey ferry wages strike

THE FERRY service across the Mersey between Birkenhead and Liverpool used daily by 10,000 commuters will be halted for the next five days by an unofficial strike of 40 seamen, stagehands, mates, assistant engineers and toll collectors.

The stoppage began yesterday at the end of the rush period. The men will return to work at 7 a.m. Monday morning.

They are claiming that there has been undue delay in talks on a new pay and conditions agreement.



# Behind campaign on terror

BY CLIFF SLAUGHTER

WHAT is the reason for the complete unanimity yesterday in condemning violently the bomb attack which killed an Israeli diplomat? Every single capitalist paper made this its main story. The Tory government denounced 'this underhand act of terrorism'.

And of course Harold Wilson chimed in against what he called a 'murderous and outrageous attack'. Wilson could not open his mouth against the vicious and murderous reprisal carried out on the Palestinian emigre camps by the Israeli air force after the Munich killings.

He has nothing to say about the thousands of Arab guerrilla fighters incarcerated in Israeli jails, or the hundreds of thousands driven off their land.

The Israeli Ambassador, the Chief Rabbi, and other Jewish bourgeois leaders, added their voice.

Behind all this is a plan of imperialist reaction on an international scale. Those who join in the chorus are adding their weight to these plans, with which imperialism in Europe and all over the world is whipping up the hue and cry over terrorism and hijacking in order to devise entirely new, legalized systems of terror against the working class.

On the same day as the Embassy assassination, the Interpol Conference in Frankfurt was discussing strengthening the police and the law in every country.

## Brickback

ALL THE 7,000 London Brick Company men—99 per cent of the workforce—who walked out over a pay claim nine days ago, are expected to be back at work today.

Some of the men had claimed a 16-per-cent increase to bring them in line with a recent percentage rise for men who stack the bricks and load them, but struck when offered 4.4 per cent on the basic rate. After national negotiations, shop stewards from all the yards—in the Bedford, Bletchley, Bucks., and Peterborough areas—heard that the London Brick Company was offering 4.4 per cent on differential and piecework rates as well.

They hope to use police repressions beyond anyone's control to deal with the working class on the grounds that anyone who fights capitalist governments is a 'terrorist'.

Mr Arie Schurr, head of the Israeli CID and delegate to the Interpol Conference, said:

'A killing is a murder in this field and murder is a crime which should be dealt with first. The motive is of secondary importance.'

Delegates are hoping that the outcry around the London bombing will enable them to press successfully for allowing police free reign, internationally, to deal with political offenders.

Reformists Brandt and Wilson have taken the front rank in preparing the ground for this.

These are not lone voices. The Interpol conference follows last



The Israeli Embassy after Tuesday's bombing

week's meeting, attended by Barber, of the EEC economic ministers.

While they met, a sub-committee from all ten countries agreed to submit a working paper on international measures to co-ordinate their actions against 'terrorism'.

The Israeli ambassador gives an invaluable clue to the thinking of the ruling class and its servants.

He says:

'What is required is vigorous action by the British and other governments to combat terrorism and hijacking of planes, which have become an international menace.'

'These terrorist groups now find it much easier to operate in western countries, generally because of the traditional freedom and tolerance in these countries, and the difficulties they have encountered in the Middle East.'

What is actually being prepared is to transform the capitalist states into Bonapartist dictatorships. Within these countries, workers and students from abroad as well as the native working class will be subjected to crippling surveillance, and an atmosphere will be built up where imprisonment, exile and

even legal assassination will be 'justified' on the grounds of suspected terrorism.

The position of the Trotskyist movement against the method of individual acts of terror is well known. We consider that it is no substitute for the mobilization of the masses against im-

perialism. It condemns devoted and self-sacrificing heroes of anti-imperialist resistance to frustration and defeat.

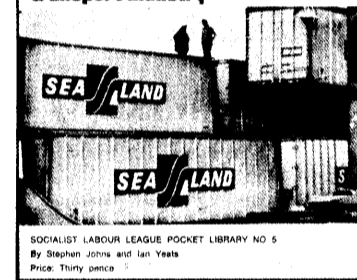
The working class in Europe and America, however, has interests identical with those of the Arab workers and peasants in the Middle East—and with those of the Jewish workers.

The social-democratic and trade union leaders of the Jewish workers in Israel are tied hand and foot to imperialism just as are Wilson and Brandt. The common struggle is to expose the reactionary plans of the shouters against terrorism, to build the international unity of the working class in the major capitalist countries and in the Middle East, and to win from the most devoted fighters against imperialism those elements who will build revolutionary leaderships of the Fourth International in every country.

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# LETTER: Unions must fight with tenants

THE NEED to involve the trade union movement in the rent struggle was emphasized on the demonstration. I took part in the rent strike campaign in Liverpool in 1968 which was isolated to the tenants.

We fought on the principle of making the 'left' MPs in the Labour Party fight. We demanded that the Labour government should nationalize the land and the building societies and cut out the property speculators.

Today we are fighting the same battle, only this time we are faced with a Tory government hell-bent on smashing organized labour as unemployment grows and workers are pushed into the Common Market.

They must do this to preserve their system. In the factory where I work, the company is moving its computers into Europe and all the big orders are going to the factories in Europe, and the workers in our factory are going to have to face up to redundancies. When capital is moved into Europe, whole sections of workers will be thrown on the dole.

The north west has already suffered. Whole communities dependent on shipbuilding, steel and cotton are being dissolved into long-stretching dole queues. The Tories use the dole as a rod to beat the workers, together with the Industrial Relations Act, which legally ties the unions to the state.

We look to our leaders inside the labour movement and what do we find? Vic Feather runs down to Chequers for a cosy chit-chat with Heath, while other leaders say 'Ignore the Act'. How can we ignore a carefully thought-out piece of vicious legislation like this? The Tory government is determined to smash

A DEMONSTRATION of 800 people demanded action against the Tory Rent Act in Kirkby, near Liverpool, last Sunday. A resolution was passed calling for a total rent strike and for industrial action if any councillor or tenant who refused to implement the Act was threatened. Tenants from Northwood, Southdene, Westvale, Towerhill, Bootle and Fazakerley also condemned those Labour councillors on Merseyside who voted for the implementation of the Act and called for their expulsion from the Labour Party.

In this letter to Workers Press, Mike Downes, a member of the Southdene Action Group and of the local Co-ordinating Committee, explains the background to the demonstration.

the trade union movement and turn the clock back 100 years.

On all the major issues the Labour Party leaders prop up the system they are supposedly against.

Now they are in opposition they say they'll throw out these unfair Acts when they return to power. I can't believe this. They ought to throw out Jenkins and the others who kept the Tories in power when they voted with them on the Common Market.

When Kirkby's Labour-controlled council voted 10 to 9 to implement the Tory Housing Finance Act, there were many excuses. There was talk of going to jail or even being surcharged. They were not alone—Liverpool Council also voted for implementation. I condemn all the councillors who voted for implementation.

Our local action groups, through our co-ordinating committee, are calling for the expulsion of these traitors from the Labour Party.

When a councillor is elected he ceases to be an individual; he represents tenants, owner-occupiers, workers and unemployed alike.

The tenants should not fight alone on this issue. It should be taken into the workplaces and there should be immediate action if any tenant is threatened or evicted, if any 'attachment of

earnings' is slapped on anyone or if any councillor is threatened for refusing to collaborate with the Act.

At our meeting the call was to unite tenants, workers and unemployed to defeat the Act and bring down the Tory government.

Eddie Loyden, who heads the Liverpool Trades Council and is a councillor who voted against implementing the Act, said:

'There is a crisis of leadership inside the labour movement. What we should be working for is the mobilization of the working class to kick the Tories out.'

Housewives also spoke of unemployment, of inflation, of the struggle to make ends meet and also of the need for the unions and tenants to take up the fight for the old age pensioners.

I believe a fair rent for an old-age pensioner is no rent.

But what I think was missed was the role of the TUC. On the rents issue alone they should be mobilizing the trade union movement to bring down this Tory government. Big trade unions have already backed the tenants in words, but this is not enough.

They must force the Tories out and a Labour government in, pledged to nationalize, without compensation, the building industry, land and the building societies.

## POCKET LIBRARY

### Why a Labour Government?

A reply to some centrist critics

By Cliff Slaughter

A series which appeared in Workers Press in June, 1972 is now available as a pamphlet in the Socialist Labour League Pocket Library.

'WHY A LABOUR GOVERNMENT? A Reply to some centrist critics.' By Cliff Slaughter Price 5p

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# Stern Tory agenda

THE USUAL paranoiac demands for flogging, hanging and birching litter the conference agenda of the Tory Party, meeting in Blackpool from October 11 to 14.

There are 78 resolutions on law and order. In addition to the calls for corporal punishment, including birching, and the death penalty, Tories want 'spartan conditions' in jails with 'all forms of luxury' (!) cut out. There are also resolutions urging that 'the punishment should fit the crime'.

Concern at the rising militancy of the working class is reflected in a number of local Tory parties who want picketing to be made illegal.

Housing and education are the two other main questions exercising the minds of the reactionaries.

The 100 resolutions on housing largely applaud the Housing Finance Act, which has increased the cost of living for thousands of working-class families. But even some of the middle-class Tories are getting uncomfortable at the soaring price of houses. Several resolutions reflect this anxiety.

On education (94 resolutions) the emphasis is on retaining the selective principle (See p. 3.) This, of course, operates in favour of the middle-class child at the expense of workers' children.

The pattern is to preserve privilege and wealth by means of a strong, repressive state apparatus.

But these Tories gather at the sea-side as their system slides into ever-deeper crisis. It would take more than words to save them.

**SEPTEMBER FUND £560.29 ONLY 10 DAYS LEFT**

WE'RE getting very close to the end of the month and there still is a long way to go to completing our target. Over these last ten days, we need every effort to raise the outstanding £1,189.71.

We must not slip back this month. More than ever before, Workers Press must remain out in front. Workers everywhere are looking for an alternative revolutionary leadership. Our paper must be used to mobilize trade unionists from all over the country to attend the ATUA Conference on October 22, and show them that such a leadership is being built.

Our Fund therefore, must be kept in front of everything we do. We know if we step up the fight now, we can complete our total in time. So don't waste a moment. Rush all your donations to:

Workers Press  
September Appeal Fund  
186a Clapham High Street  
London SW4 7UG.

STRIKERS from Deptford naval storage establishment in London and the Rosyth dockyard, Scotland, picketed dockyard workers at Portsmouth yesterday. The 40-strong contingent was trying to escalate the government industrial workers' struggle for a substantial pay increase on the eve of key strategy discussions between union leaders today.

● See pages 6 and 7, 'Government workers in revolt'.

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# Various London sites come out again Building strikes flare

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

DISPUTES have flared on several London building sites despite the general return to work on the 26-month, pay-trap settlement agreed by the union leaders.

Pickets from the World's End site, Chelsea, were out at the nearby Ashburnham Primary School site yesterday.

World's End came out completely within four hours of the return over the refusal of a sub-contractor to pay the new rates to their bricklayers. Since the walk-out two men working for another sub-contractor have been sacked.

Yesterday's picket was designed to bring out bricklayers employed by the first sub-contractor on the primary-school site.

The dispute has been backed by the building workers' London action committee.

Official backing from the Transport and General Workers' Union may be given to a five-month-old dispute at Guildford Street, London, now resumed following the general return.

There a steel-fixing firm is trying to force two steel-erectors onto the labour-only sub-contracting system, the 'lump'.

But the Fulham Hospital site returned to work yesterday after dismissed shop steward Charlie Kelly was unconditionally reinstated.

● Merseyside building workers, who are still on strike against the national deal, will meet again today.



Police question pickets at the World's End site, London, yesterday.

ENGINEERS on strike at the Lower Clyde shipyards have voted by a two-to-one majority to continue their 14-week-old stoppage. The 750 men on strike are claiming a substantial wage increase and improved conditions. Several weeks ago they rejected the national settlement signed by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers leadership stating that it fell short of their demands. Yesterday's voting was 230 to 108.

## Socialist Labour League

### LECTURES

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MARXISM

given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

## Liverpool

Historical materialism today Tuesday September 26

AEU HOUSE Mount Pleasant Liverpool 1, 7.30 p.m.

## London

Development of Marxism through working-class struggle Sunday September 24

Nature of the capitalist crisis Sunday October 1

Historical materialism today Sunday October 8

EAST HAM TOWN HALL Lister Room Barking Rd, 7 p.m.

## Swan men

### reject McGarvey

SWAN HUNTER boilermakers on Tyneside yesterday decisively voted down a personal bid by union leader Dan McGarvey to end their fortnight-old pay strike. By a five-to-one majority in a secret ballot, they decided to stick out for a 17½-per-cent cost-of-living rise despite McGarvey's warning that the Industrial Relations Act might be used against them. The company has told the 3,800 men that it will not negotiate their claim 'under duress'.

# Sit-in textile workers hope to inspire action

FROM PHILIP WADE IN GREAT YARMOUTH

TEXTILE WORKERS occupying their Great Yarmouth factory for the right to work hope their action will inspire the rest of the working class in this Norfolk town.

Over 340 of them occupied the Gainsborough Cornard factory nine days ago when they found out by accident that management intended to shut down immediately.

In fact the plant is part of the giant Carrington-Viyella group, which in turn is 49 per cent owned by the monopoly ICI.

It is one of the few stable places of employment in this small town on the North Sea and has been established there since 1812.

'Yarmouth people have always been told what to do, to work in the summer and be unemployed in the winter, be laid off and not to strike—often by the boarding-house keepers', convenor Dave Arnold told me yesterday.

'Now we sincerely hope the rest of the working class here will say "You lit the torch and we'll carry it on"', added Dave, a Labour councillor.

Unemployment in the winter at the end of the tourist season rose to over 2,000 last year—8 per cent of the male working population.

The only other big employers in the town are Bird's Eye and the Erie electronics company, who give work to 4,000 between them.

'Our policy is clear', added Dave. 'We are fighting for our jobs—we want work and will stay here until something is decided.'

The morale of the occupiers—mostly members of the Amalgamated Society of Textile Workers

and Kindred Trades—is extremely high. It soared on Tuesday when local Tory MP Anthony Fell, a Monday Club member, paid a visit and accused them of 'industrial anarchy'.

'We've since felt more determined to fight because it was clear he was not interested in us. No one wants to be paid off. How cheaply do we sell ourselves? For two or three weeks' pay?' said Dave.

The men feel there has been a deliberate and planned attempt to shut the plant down. Since the take-over by Gainsborough Cornard two years ago they have shifted out several new, advanced machines.

Another suspicion is that the 14-acre site might be involved in a property deal. The factory is situated in a prime position from

the real estate point of view—just back from the sea-front.

Local estate agents have estimated that the land could fetch up the £2m on the open market.

'We want support from the entire trade union movement, including all textile workers throughout the industry. We must remember that the background to all this is the mass unemployment of 1 million workers', said Dave.

The workers' representatives will be meeting management on September 27 and plan a mass march through the town this Saturday.

Financial support for the textile workers' sit-in can be sent to: c/o Dave Arnold, 15 Forsythia Road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

# Stalinists to blame for split

FROM PAGE 1

and sell (cheaply) to Lower Clyde and others the assets of UCS.'

This is what has happened at Clydebank-Marathon.

For the rest of UCS, Ridley envisaged a possible closure of one or two yards, and a new chairman for the company which would 'stand or fall on its own'.

This is basically what has happened at Govan.

The Stalinists have permitted this split of the work force by their collaboration with Marathon and with the Tory government's new Govan consortium.

This is consistent with the Stalinists' strategy of splitting off the fight against the Industrial Relations Act from a fight to force the Tory government to resign. At all times, the Stalinists have striven to sabotage such a fight.

The theory of 'the peaceful road to socialism' begins by refusing to fight to bring down the Tories and inexorably leads to collaboration with them.

The UCS workers have learned the hard way that compromise and conciliation with the employing class cannot save jobs and conditions.

The same strategy in the building workers' strike blocked the movement for a national, all-out strike to win the claim.

But it is significant that the Govan rebuff to Reid followed shortly after the almost unanimous rejection by 8,000 Merseyside building workers of an appeal to return to work made by Billy Jones, Stalinist chairman of the local Action Committee.

As the economic crisis of capitalism deepens, hundreds of thousands of workers are thrown into conflict with the employers and the Tory government.

Everything the working class has established in decades of struggle has to be defended. In the course of this, the real nature of the reformist and Stalinist leaders will emerge.

The question of those workers who are now rejecting these leaderships is: who must replace them?

A policy for a new leadership will be discussed at the Conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance at Birmingham on October 22. We urge all shipyard workers to attend this conference and participate in this discussion.

● See What We Think p. 2.

BRITISH-LEYLAND Austin Morris division has suspended 302 production workers on the Adderley Park East, Birmingham, assembly line in a dispute over the plant's closure. All production at the plant was stopped yesterday.

The suspensions followed management warnings that unless the men dropped their two-month-old work-to-rule and overtime ban, the assembly tracks would be stopped. In the past few weeks the 302 men have intensified their action with a series of one-day stoppages every Monday.

Under rationalization plans announced 18 months ago assembly is to be moved to the Birmingham Common Lane body plant. Five hundred jobs have been guaranteed there for the men displaced from Adderley Park.

# YS Right-to-Work campaign

## Best reception yet

MINERS and youth turned out to greet enthusiastically the Right-to-Work march at Sacristan, Co Durham, on Tuesday.

Sacristan, a colliery town of 2,000 people, suffers from the scourges of unemployment, depopulation and a lack of any facilities for youth.

One housewife supporting the march said that she had to pay £2,000 for a terraced house built more than a century ago

and sold by the colliery 40 years before.

'On top of that I had to pay £500 to have the house modernized,' she added.

Two girls joined the march at Sacristan and walked four miles to the next town, Chester-le-Street.

Olwen Wallace, 15, an apprentice hairdresser in the village, works 48 hours a week for £4. 'In two years' time I'll get only 73p more,' she said.

The reception that the marches received at Chester-le-Street was easily the best of the whole march. Factory workers from the new housing estate turned out to welcome them and to buy Workers Press. Forty papers were sold in 20 minutes.

One building worker, only days back at work after the 12-week strike, said: 'I support any movement to get the Tories out.' He donated 35p to the march fund.