

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9, 1972 ● No. 916 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

TORIES TRAMPLE ON WORKERS' RIGHTS

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

THE WORKING class now faces an unprecedented situation. The Tory government has decided to deprive it legally of its most basic right of all—the right to a decent standard of living. It has only taken three days of Heath's bill to prove that this is the real and sinister aim of the laws against inflation.

TUC 'no' to a special Congress

BY DAVID MAUDE

THE TUC will not talk with the government over pay, but it has come out against any special conference of the movement to discuss the Tory measures on inflation.

These two decisions were taken yesterday at a meeting of the TUC economic committee—the six-man body which voted unanimously to break off talks as long as the freeze continues.

But there will be no special meeting of the TUC General Council on the measures or any re-call of union executives. Calls from some unions for a special TUC Congress to work out a campaign of action against the dictatorship over wages have also been ignored.

This is a policy of complete inaction in face of the Tory attack.

The economic committee said the problem of inflation would not be solved by the 'precipitate action' taken by the government.

The TUC remains convinced that a solution must eventually be found through 'realistic discussions and joint argument'.

But it must be understood that it is impossible for such discussions to be held in circumstances where the results of collective-bargaining are to remain frozen by such ill-judged and objectionable provisions,' it added.

Chancellor Barber repeated the Tory offer of talks in the Commons yesterday. He said all in the government hoped that the tripartite discussions could be resumed.

● TUC secretary Victor Feather would not state specifically that yesterday's decision meant there would be no further talks with the Tories. He declared:

'We shall judge the circumstances in relation to the standstill in the light of any changed atmosphere or any new developments that might take place.'

Workers have been caged in by the penalties and fines against wage increases but are suffering a flood of price increases. The vast majority of the population in Britain have already experienced a serious fall in their real wages.

In the two weeks before the decree over pay was announced on Monday all the big food and commodity bosses went on an orgy of profiteering. No less than 5,000 prices were increased.

But this is only a start, worse is to come. All basic foods like meat, fish, vegetables and fruit are exempted from the freeze. Experts safely predict that all these items will register sharp rises. These make up 16 per cent of family food expenditure.

The prices of processed foods will go up and up as well. This is because the cost of imported foods and raw materials will rocket as the pound loses its value and the foreign monopolies increase their profit margins.

This is no small item. Over 45 per cent of food and nearly all industrial raw materials come into Britain from abroad—these are completely exempt from control.

Of course the rich will not suffer. The millionaires and Stock Market speculators will shoulder the cost-of-living rises safe in the knowledge that their 'frozen' dividend increases will be paid back in the big profit hand-out which is sure to follow the freeze.

In other words Heath's Britain is one where there is no justice for anyone outside the Tory magic circle of bankers, monopolists and speculators.

The wages plan deprives workers of the right to a standard of living while the Industrial Relations Court robs workers of rights built up to protect their unions and working conditions. The offensive has started on this front too. Yesterday the court began once more to slap big fines on unions.

The court and the inflation law represent the most serious onslaught yet launched against the working class. Literally all basic rights won during 200 years of bitter struggle are up for auction. This is the meaning of Toryism 1972.

But the Tories want the middle class to suffer as well. The introduction of the Value Added Tax is designed to drive hundreds of small businesses and shops into bankruptcy.

Price rises will also hit the pockets of the professions hard—the inhabitants of suburbia too will have to swallow the Tory medicine.

TURN TO PAGE 12



Henry Goad: Took union to NIRC.

We'd no intention of breaking the law—Conway

JIM CONWAY, right-wing general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, yesterday gave a strong hint he would like to co-operate with the National Industrial Relations Court and pay the £5,000 fine imposed yesterday for contempt.

Asked if Britain's second largest union could afford to pay the fine, Conway replied: 'Oh yes. We are not a poor union.'

The union's executive will meet next Tuesday to decide whether to pay or not. Conway said: 'We will give serious consideration to the judgement on Tuesday. We have no intention of defying the law to that extent.'

The fine is an immediate challenge to the executive of the engineering section of the AUEW. They have held a hard-

line in the past urging unions to defy the court.

The executive has already declared it is bound by its own annual conference decision not to co-operate with the NIRC or any of its institutions.

Last Monday the engineering section executive went into session on the financial position of the union, but no firm decisions were taken on the question of payment of fines, though I understand the consensus was against payment.

The official response from the union yesterday was 'no comment at this stage'. ● See NIRC story p.12.

Talk with any govt — Jones

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

JACK JONES, the leader of Britain's biggest union, yesterday recommended a policy of social contract with the government of the day—be it Tory or Labour.

Speaking to the parliamentary Press gallery at a House of Commons luncheon, Jones outlined his policy of trade union integration with the capitalist state.

Referring to the breakdown in the Downing Street talks, Jones said: 'We wanted an understanding because sooner or later it must become common practice in advanced industrial countries like this that social policy becomes a matter of negotiation between the unions, the employers and the government of the day.'

Jones said that the talks had not broken down; they had faded out because of the Tories' commitment to join the Common Market.

Cold war

FROM OUR OWN REPORTERS

UNITED Kingdom Cold Storage, the Hay's Wharf subsidiary at Dagenham, Essex, has announced last-minute terms to keep its £1.5m cold stores open.

The company said yesterday it wanted firm guarantees that lorry drivers would cross dockers' picket lines.

On the eve of the company's decision to close down the stores, Eric Rechnitz, the lorry drivers' unofficial leader, told the 'Daily Telegraph': 'We agreed the dockers had gone on long enough. We have decided to cross picket lines.'

At the Midland Cold Storage in east London, dockers maintaining their six-month picket at the main gate were scornful of Rechnitz's threat.

A picket said: 'In every war there has to be casualties. If workers are being sacked, it is because Vestey [store owner] is doing it, not us.'

BARBARA CASTLE, Minister of Labour in the Wilson government and author of 'In Place of Strife', lost her place in yesterday's elections to the Shadow Cabinet.

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9, 1972 ● No. 916 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

TORIES TRAMPLE ON WORKERS' RIGHTS

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

THE WORKING class now faces an unprecedented situation. The Tory government has decided to deprive it legally of its most basic right of all—the right to a decent standard of living. It has only taken three days of Heath's bill to prove that this is the real and sinister aim of the laws against inflation.

TUC 'no' to a special Congress

BY DAVID MAUDE

THE TUC will not talk with the government over pay, but it has come out against any special conference of the movement to discuss the Tory measures on inflation.

These two decisions were taken yesterday at a meeting of the TUC economic committee—the six-man body which voted unanimously to break off talks as long as the freeze continues.

But there will be no special meeting of the TUC General Council on the measures or any re-call of union executives. Calls from some unions for a special TUC Congress to work out a campaign of action against the dictatorship over wages have also been ignored.

This is a policy of complete inaction in face of the Tory attack.

The economic committee said the problem of inflation would not be solved by the 'precipitate action' taken by the government.

The TUC remains convinced that a solution must eventually be found through 'realistic discussions and joint argument'.

'But it must be understood that it is impossible for such discussions to be held in circumstances where the results of collective-bargaining are to remain frozen by such ill-judged and objectionable provisions,' it added.

Chancellor Barber repeated the Tory offer of talks in the Commons yesterday. He said all in the government hoped that the tripartite discussions could be resumed.

● TUC secretary Victor Feather would not state specifically that yesterday's decision meant there would be no further talks with the Tories. He declared:

'We shall judge the circumstances in relation to the standstill in the light of any changed atmosphere or any new developments that might take place.'

Workers have been caged in by the penalties and fines against wage increases but are suffering a flood of price increases. The vast majority of the population in Britain have already experienced a serious fall in their real wages.

In the two weeks before the decree over pay was announced on Monday all the big food and commodity bosses went on an orgy of profiteering. No less than 5,000 prices were increased.

But this is only a start, worse is to come. All basic foods like meat, fish, vegetables and fruit are exempted from the freeze. Experts safely predict that all these items will register sharp rises. These make up 16 per cent of family food expenditure.

The prices of processed foods will go up and up as well. This is because the cost of imported foods and raw materials will rocket as the pound loses its value and the foreign monopolies increase their profit margins.

This is no small item. Over 45 per cent of food and nearly all industrial raw materials come into Britain from abroad—these are completely exempt from control.

Of course the rich will not suffer. The millionaires and Stock Market speculators will shoulder the cost-of-living rises safe in the knowledge that their 'frozen' dividend increases will be paid back in the big profit hand-out which is sure to follow the freeze.

In other words Heath's Britain is one where there is no justice for anyone outside the Tory magic circle of bankers, monopolists and speculators.

The wages plan deprives workers of the right to a standard of living while the Industrial Relations Court robs workers of rights built up to protect their unions and working conditions. The offensive has started on this front too. Yesterday the court began once more to slap big fines on unions.

The court and the inflation law represent the most serious onslaught yet launched against the working class. Literally all basic rights won during 200 years of bitter struggle are up for auction. This is the meaning of Toryism 1972.

But the Tories want the middle class to suffer as well. The introduction of the Value Added Tax is designed to drive hundreds of small businesses and shops into bankruptcy.

Price rises will also hit the pockets of the professions hard—the inhabitants of suburbia too will have to swallow the Tory medicine.

TURN TO PAGE 12



Henry Goad: Took union to NIRC.

We'd no intention of breaking the law—Conway

JIM CONWAY, right-wing general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, yesterday gave a strong hint he would like to co-operate with the National Industrial Relations Court and pay the £5,000 fine imposed yesterday for contempt.

Asked if Britain's second largest union could afford to pay the fine, Conway replied: 'Oh yes. We are not a poor union.'

The union's executive will meet next Tuesday to decide whether to pay or not. Conway said: 'We will give serious consideration to the judgement on Tuesday. We have no intention of defying the law to that extent.'

The fine is an immediate challenge to the executive of the engineering section of the AUEW. They have held a hard-

Talk with any govt — Jones

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

JACK JONES, the leader of Britain's biggest union, yesterday recommended a policy of social contract with the government of the day—be it Tory or Labour.

Speaking to the parliamentary Press gallery at a House of Commons luncheon, Jones outlined his policy of trade union integration with the capitalist state.

Referring to the breakdown in the Downing Street talks, Jones said: 'We wanted an understanding because sooner or later it must become common practice in advanced industrial countries like this that social policy becomes a matter of negotiation between the unions, the employers and the government of the day.'

Jones said that the talks had not broken down; they had faded out because of the Tories' commitment to join the Common Market.

Cold war

FROM OUR OWN REPORTERS

UNITED Kingdom Cold Storage, the Hay's Wharf subsidiary at Dagenham, Essex, has announced last-minute terms to keep its £1.5m cold stores open.

The company said yesterday it wanted firm guarantees that lorry drivers would cross dockers' picket lines.

On the eve of the company's decision to close down the stores, Eric Rechnitz, the lorry drivers' unofficial leader, told the 'Daily Telegraph': 'We agreed the dockers had gone on long enough. We have decided to cross picket lines.'

At the Midland Cold Storage in east London, dockers maintaining their six-month picket at the main gate were scornful of Rechnitz's threat.

A picket said: 'In every war there has to be casualties. If workers are being sacked, it is because Vestey [store owner] is doing it, not us.'

BARBARA CASTLE, Minister of Labour in the Wilson government and author of 'In Place of Strife', lost her place in yesterday's elections to the Shadow Cabinet.

Organizers of union face 20 years' jail

THE DEFENCE lawyer for ten imprisoned members of the illegal Spanish Workers' Commissions, Ruiz Jimenez, claims that the public prosecution is seeking a 20 years' sentence for Marcelino Camacho and terms of ten to 20 years for the others.

Camacho has spent most of the last six years in prison for his work in building the underground Commissions.

He has been held with the others in Madrid's Carabanchel prison since their arrest last June. All requests for bail have been refused.

Since the Tribunal of Public Order is not going to deal with their offence of fighting for trade unions independent of the fascist Sindicato until next spring, they will have spent a year in jail before facing trial.

This typical example of fascist 'justice' should endear the Franco regime even more to the Stalinist bureaucrats constantly being entertained in Madrid.

DUFFell



Yugoslavia: Managers resign

WORKERS at the Elektronska Industrija factory at Nis, Serbia, have forced the resignation of 18 members of the top management who tried to cut their wages.

Several thousand workers at the factory, Yugoslavia's largest electronics plant, struck last Saturday demanding the resignation of director-general Vladimir Jasic and other managers.

Jasic and his colleagues had cut the workers' wages in order to make up a big deficit on the factory's accounts. Workers said the system of self-management at the factory operated in name only and they had no real control over management decisions.

The workers' council at the factory has also decided to force out other managers who refused to resign voluntarily. They will have to stay at their posts until their responsibility for the firm's deficit has been examined by the council.

The situation at Elektronska Industrija indicates the growing anger of Yugoslav workers against the bureaucracy which is striving more and more to free itself from the remaining constraints imposed by the 'self-management' system.

PRESIDENT Nixon's crushing majority in the US presidential election was above all assured by the bureaucratic rulers in Moscow and Peking.

Thanks to their collaboration, the President was able to present himself as bringing 'peace with honour' in Vietnam while preparing further brutal war against the Indo-China revolution.

According to Reuter correspondent John Hefferman:

'The major factors in President Nixon's victory were probably his two foreign trips this year—to China to end a generation of hostility with Peking and to Moscow to patch up differences with the Soviet Union and to sign the first treaty limiting nuclear arms.

'His already strong position with the voters was consolidated by the recent announcement of a nine-point tentative agreement with North Vietnam to bring about a ceasefire in Indo-China and the proclamation that "peace is at hand".

'X' for trade war

By courtesy of Peking and Moscow support



'The fact that the agreement has still not been signed and peace may still therefore be delayed apparently had no effect on the vote.

'The voters obviously believed that the President, in having brought the country so near to peace after seven years of war and nearly 50,000 American dead, should be given the opportunity to begin the process towards normalcy.'

This belief was fostered quite fraudulently because, whether or not a ceasefire agreement is signed, there will be no peace in Vietnam until capitalism is

Nixon will intensify war on working class at home and abroad.

driven out.

This is recognized by both the Americans and the North Vietnamese, who are making frantic efforts to build up forces in the south.

What is more, Nixon is committed to nothing in Vietnam and has a free hand to carry on the air war which he has waged for the past four years.

Nixon won the presidency by attacking the Lyndon Johnson record on the war.

Yet in his four years of office the war has been intensified and extended to the whole of Indo-China.

Close to \$100,000m has been spent on the war since Nixon took office and the bombardment of Indo-China has reached a tempo never before seen anywhere on the planet.

He has promised further legislation to break the power of the transport unions as a prelude to crushing the organized power of the whole US working class.

On August 15, 1971, he introduced a total wage

freeze which has kept down wages while prices and unemployment have spiralled upwards.

Nixon has also mounted vicious attacks on workers' rights and organizations. He used the infamous Taft-Hartley Act to break strikes, including the drawn-out dockers' strike last year.

At the same time the police forces all over the United States have been showered with money and equipment to build up a striking force against the threat of revolution in the United States.

These measures have gone together with the opening of full-scale trade war against the other main capitalist countries.

With the re-election of the president a new round of economic war against Europe and Japan will begin.

During the campaign, Nixon's adviser Pierre Rinfret revealed plans for 150-per-cent tariffs on foreign imports to the United States to protect home industry and crush foreign competition.

The election result will be the signal for stepping up these economic battles and throwing Europe and Japan into even deeper social and political crisis.

What we think

Redouble the fight against Stalinism

THE THEME of the marches and speeches in Moscow on the 55th anniversary of the October Revolution was the need to collaborate even more closely with American imperialism under the slogan of 'peaceful coexistence'.

One of the first floats in the Red Square parade carried a giant 'Pravda' headline calling on the public to support the recent series of agreements between Moscow and Washington.

And in his speech afterwards at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, Politburo member Kiril Mazurov laid heavy stress on the opportunities for 'making the international situation more healthy' opened up by Nixon's visit to Moscow.

The real meaning of Mazurov's speech is well appreciated by the leaders of world imperialism and the hangers-on internationally. It is sufficient to examine the list of greetings received at the Kremlin and broadcast on Moscow Radio.

These included messages from the Shah of Iran, Emperor Hirohito, Queen Elizabeth II, Turkish President Cevdet Sunay, President Leone of Italy and Ceylon premier Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike. From Washington there was a telegram signed by the biggest counter-revolutionary butcher of them all, President Richard Nixon.

It is clear to everyone that these monarchs, dictators and big business representatives are the mortal

enemies of revolution. When they send greeting to the Kremlin on the anniversary of the Russian Revolution, they are congratulating the men who destroyed Lenin's Bolshevik Party and forcibly robbed the working class of political power.

Nixon's visit to Moscow marked a new turn in the collaboration between the Soviet bureaucracy and imperialism. The Vietnamese liberation fighters are being forced to accept a rotten compromise involving the continuation of capitalism in South Vietnam.

The Vietnamese revolutionaries have been isolated by Moscow and Peking and left at the mercy of Kissinger, Thieu and Nixon. According to reports from Saigon 200,000

prisoners in South Vietnamese concentration camps face extermination if the ceasefire deal is signed.

Moscow is now preparing for the European Security Conference next year, bringing together the countries of eastern Europe with the capitalist powers of the EEC and the fascist and military dictatorships of Spain, Portugal, Turkey and Greece.

The purpose of this conference is to ratify the status quo in Europe at a time when the workers of every country are engaged in unprecedented struggle with a capitalist class which is in mortal crisis.

To cement his pact with Hitler in 1939 Stalin physically destroyed thousands of communists, culminating in the assassination of Trotsky by a GPU agent in 1940. Stalin's heirs will try to seal their pact with Nixon in the blood of workers and revolutionaries.

The Soviet leaders' ties with imperialism are fully supported by the leaders of the British Communist Party which is exerting every effort to isolate the Socialist Labour League with the aid of the revisionists.

The Moscow celebrations are a renewed warning that the fight against Stalinism is a life-and-death question for the British working class.

Fighting the Tories' rent Act

£9m cash freeze on rebel councils

THE TORY government has withheld payment of £9m of housing subsidies to 22 Scottish local authorities for refusing to implement the Housing Finance Act.

The money was due to have been paid this week. Instead the councils received a brief letter on Tuesday from the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr Gordon Campbell, explaining he 'proposed to take no decision for the present as to the timing of such a payment

to your council'.

Campbell added that it would assist him in reaching an early decision 'if it were established to his satisfaction that councils have taken appropriate steps to secure implementation of the Act'.

Worst hit will be Glasgow Corporation. They were due to receive £4m of the total as an interim payment of their residual subsidy, which is paid to local authorities to help offset loan charges on council house building.

Tory councillors in Glasgow are to table a resolution to-night calling for an immediate

review of the decision not to implement the Act.

But Cllr Richard Dynes, leader of the Labour group, said there was absolutely no chance of the decision being reviewed. He said the government's decision was 'grossly unfair'.

The decision could eventually force the councils to borrow and charge the cost to the housing revenue account. This would mean increased housing deficits and could eventually force up rates.

Last year Glasgow had to find about £7m to offset a housing deficit.

Other councils hit by the decision will be Lanark County Council who were due to receive £1.3m; Dundee who expected £1m; Midlothian £260,000; Falkirk £290,000; Clydebank £320,000; Kilmarnock £270,000; Fife £250,000; Kirkcaldy £190,000; Rutherglen £170,000; Dunfermline £170,000; Saltcoats £160,000; Renfrew £150,000; Whitburn £120,000 and Alloa, Barrhead, Buckhaven and Methil, Cowdenbeath, Cumbernauld, Dalkeith, Denny and Dunnipace and Lochgelly, who should have got between £10,000 and £80,000.



Ex-Drug Squad chief Victor Kelaher

Drugs Squad detectives on perjury charges

AFTER a series of investigations dating back almost 18 months, the ex-head of Scotland Yard's Drug Squad, Victor Kelaher, and four other detectives have been summonsed on charges alleging conspiracy and perjury.

They are not due to appear in court until next year — on January 22.

The summonses were issued at Guildhall, London, on Tuesday afternoon by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of another ex-police officer, Detective Sergeant Norman Pilcher, said to have left Britain in July.

The summonses follow an Old Bailey 30-day trial in June and July last year which resulted in the jailing of a cannabis drugs ring. At the same time as the summonses were issued the detectives were all suspended from duty.

Apart from Kelaher, the accused are: Detective Sergeant George Nicholas Pritchard, of 'Q' division, Wembley area; Detective Constable Nigel Patrick Lilley, Harrow Road police station; Detective Constable Adam Acworth and Woman Detective Constable Morag McDonald McGibbon, both of Scotland Yard's Central Detective Pool.

All had connections with the drugs squad formerly headed by Detective Chief Inspector Kelaher (42).

High Street meat hike

EEC entry means exorbitant prices

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

ENTRY INTO the Common Market is going to mean huge increases in the price of meat. This has been the main theme of the annual conference of the government-sponsored Meat and Livestock Commission being held at Harrogate.

Mr Michael Higgins, purchasing manager of a Paris meat firm, told the conference the price of beef will rise by between 25p and 30p in the £ by the middle of next year.

By next spring, he said, British housewives will be paying the exorbitant prices of their counterparts in France.

Meat prices in Britain were today still lower than on the Continent, but UK prices would increase under the double pressure of Continental buying and import costs.

At the conference yesterday Mr Colin Cullimore, general manager of a large butchery chain, said yesterday Britain's 'cheap meat' policy was no longer practical in today's economic situation.

Cullimore, general manager of Dewhursts Limited, said the meat producing countries were operating on a sellers' market and the world demand was rising at an unprecedented rate.

By 1980 it would be 40 per cent higher than it was in 1970.

Prices would continue to rise inside the Common Market, he said.

Mr Eric Royle, past president of the National Federation of Meat Traders, said there would be a period during the transition to the Common Market when housewives' spending power would lag behind rising prices. 'This will be a crucial time for the independent trader,' he said.



Prices lower than on Continent, but only until January 1.

Prices protest lines jammed

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry's prices unit was deluged with calls yesterday as angry High Street shoppers phoned to complain about the latest prices ramp.

Within a couple of hours of opening the switchboard, the six civil servants manning the unit had received well over 1,000 calls...and all the lines were jammed.

The verdict on the unit is that it is a fraud.

We spoke to housewives who had called to complain about increased prices in local shops. They were told:

- The unit is not concerned about staple foodstuffs like vegetables, fruit and meat.

- The unit cannot obtain refunds from food chains which overcharge.

- Although the state control of wages comes in immediately, action against greedy grocery chains cannot be started until the Bill is law.

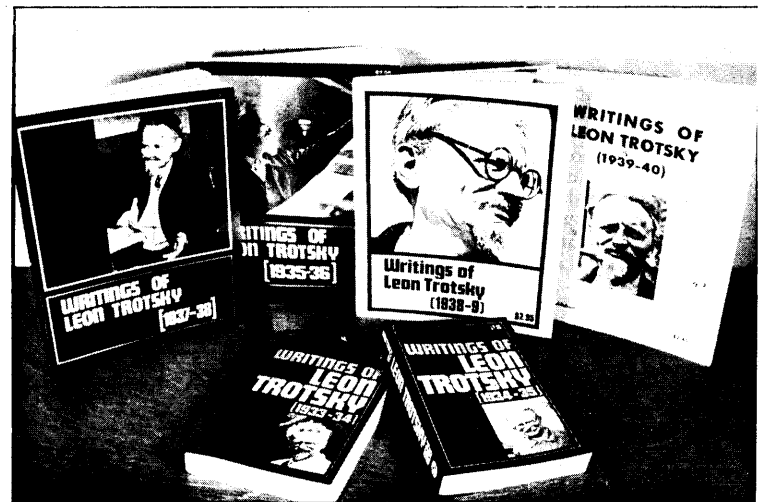
The Tories have manoeuvred the legislation so that a swift

round of price increases can be brought in before the Bill receives Royal Assent.

At the same time workers are being told that they must obey the state wages plan or face court action.

Writings of Leon Trotsky

1933-1934	£1.43
1934-1935	£1.43
1935-1936	£1.25
1937-1938	£1.25
1938-1939	£1.25
1939-1940	£1.05



These extremely vital writings by Leon Trotsky between the years 1929 and 1940—his third and final exile from the Soviet Union—are now available in Britain from the Paperbacks Centre (see advert below).

Hole in motorists' pockets

FORD Motor Company confirmed yesterday that it had put up prices of spare parts by an average of just under 5 per cent. 'The prices were increased last Thursday, at the same time as the 5 per cent rise in car prices, although we did not announce it then', said a spokesman. Some spares had risen by 7 per cent, but others were unchanged.

MOTORISTS will have to pay

increases in premiums which have been announced by insurance companies—despite the freeze. Many leading motor insurers announced premium increases effective from October 1 or November 1.

A spokesman for the Department of Trade and Industry said motorists would have to pay higher insurance because the increase was announced before the standstill.

Tyne fitters take 'beat-the-freeze' offer

TYNE shipyard outfitters and general trades workers have accepted increases of £4.50 and £3.23 in a bid to beat the Tory pay freeze.

The 5,200 outfitters, who work for the Swan Hunter consortium, will get the £4.50 in four stages over the next

nine months which was recently awarded to the consortium's 8,000 boilermakers.

But the general workers—also in for £4.50—get only £3.23 in two stages.

A meeting with management has been arranged for tomorrow to take the rest of the claim through procedure.

PAPERBACKS CENTRE

28 Charlotte St
London W1



BOOKS ● PERIODICALS ● NEWSPAPERS

NOW OPEN
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
9 a.m.—6 p.m.
Fri 9 a.m.—7.30 p.m.
Sat 9 a.m.—5 p.m.



Left: Alger Hiss, witch-hunted by a young Richard Nixon and subject of two trials in which he was convicted of being a Communist Party member. Inset: Photographs of Hiss's accuser Whittaker Chambers are used to try and get his confession.

first hearing threw the committee into consternation, as Nixon himself admits. Something special would be needed to break him.

Nixon sought and obtained the co-operation of John Foster Dulles, later Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Allen Dulles, later secretary of the CIA, and banker C. Douglas Dillon.

A staged confrontation between Chambers and Hiss failed to produce the breakthrough that Nixon wanted. Hiss challenged Chambers to repeat his allegations outside Congressional privilege.

On August 27, 1948, Chambers repeated his allegations against Hiss on a radio programme 'Meet the Press'.

The following month, Hiss sued.

Up to now, Chambers had merely claimed that he had known Hiss and that Hiss had been a CP member. In the civil libel suit, however, he produced for the first time handwritten, typewritten and microfilmed copies of classified government documents which, he said, Hiss passed to him to be relayed to the Soviet Union.

Asked why he had not produced this evidence earlier, Chambers said he had only decided to do so after prolonged 'Quaker meditation'.

It was a nervy time for Nixon. Early in December, Chambers produced microfilm from a hollowed pumpkin which he said Hiss had passed to him in 1937. A test indicated that the film was new. A second test, however, produced the desired result.

This was to become one of the longest-lasting libel cases in legal history.

On December 15, 1948, a federal grand jury in New York indicted Hiss for perjury in denying that he ever turned over government documents to Chambers. The first trial failed to bring a conviction.

Nixon's fury was beyond belief. Together with three other members of the House on Un-American Activities Committee, he accused Judge Samuel H. Kaufman of bias for Hiss and demanded that his fitness be investigated.

A second trial took place in November 1949, before Judge Henry W. Goddard and Hiss was convicted. Herbert Hoover wired Nixon:

'The conviction of Alger Hiss was due to your patience and persistence alone. At last the stream of treason that existed in our government has been exposed in a fashion that all may believe.'

When General Eisenhower nominated Nixon for vice-President in 1952 he introduced him to the Republican National Convention as 'a man who has shown statesmanlike qualities in many ways, but has a special talent and an ability to ferret out any kind of subversive influence wherever it may be found, and the strength and persistence to get rid of it'.

Nixon was on the way up. Throughout the 1952 Presidential campaign he repeatedly alleged that a Democratic victory would mean 'more Alger Hisses, more atomic spies, more crises'.

His major attack on Adlai Stevenson was that he had been a character witness for Hiss:

'In my opinion, his actions, his statements, his record, disqualifies him from leading the United States and the free nations in the fight against communism at home and abroad.'

Nixon was ready to raise all the political capital he could out of the fate of Alger Hiss.

CONTINUED TOMORROW

The Rise of Richard Nixon. By Jack Gale. Part One

THE CASE OF ALGER HISS

In 1939 one Whittaker Chambers broke with the Communist Party and went to Assistant Secretary of State A. A. Berle Junior with a story of government employees with whom he had worked while in the Communist Party from 1934-1937.

Another rabid anti-communist was Father John F. Cronin, who had been working full-time digging out 'facts' on the Communist Party and trying to get Congressmen interested.

In 1947 he spoke to a new, young Congressman from Cali-

fornia—Richard Nixon.

The young Nixon's opponent had been Jerry Voorhis, a Democrat endorsed by the CIO's Political Action Committee. A Nixon campaign slogan ran: 'A vote for Nixon is a vote against the communist-dominated PAC with its gigantic slush fund.'

Despite this, Nixon was somewhat slow off the mark when he was approached by Father Cronin.

But when, in August 1948, Chambers (by this time a senior editor of 'Time' magazine) made his notorious deposition to the House Un-American Activities Committee, Nixon saw his opportunity.

He spent a great deal of time with Chambers. The

future President of the United States was on the threshold of his first political triumph—the Alger Hiss case.

Chambers had named Hiss as someone he had known in the Communist Party in the 1930s. At this stage, that was his only allegation against Hiss.

Leaders of the Republican Party were worried. Anti-communism had not been tried out as a national weapon in American internal politics since the war. The extremely close war-time collaboration between American imperialism and Russian Stalinism was fresh in the memory.

And Hiss was no pushover. He was president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (and John

Foster Dulles, the Republicans' spokesman on foreign affairs, had been chairman of the board which appointed him to this \$20,000-a-year post). He had been principal adviser to the American delegation at the first United Nations General Assembly Session.

He had been secretary-general of the conference in San Francisco which created the United Nations. He had accompanied the Roosevelt party to Yalta and been executive secretary of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference.

Altogether, it was a hot potato — which is probably why it was left to a relatively minor figure like Nixon, who was prepared to 'gamble his political future.'

Hiss's performance at his

BOLIVIAN FASCISTS SMASH WORKERS LIVING STANDARDS

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Bolivia is about to make a great leap on the road to economic and social progress. The government is doing everything possible to make basic necessities cheap, including electricity, according to President Hugo Banzer Suarez.

He was speaking from the balcony of the government palace in La Paz on August 21, one year after his successful coup dismissed Juan Torres and illegalized all working-class organizations.

His optimism was echoed by speeches of the other two leaders of the coup at the victory rally.

Paz Estensoro, of the National Revolutionary Movement, talked about national construction and Mario Gutierrez, of the Bolivian Socialist Falange, spoke of restoring dignity to the citizens.

Two and a half months later, Banzer outdid even 'cut-prices-at-a-stroke' Heath in going back on his promises. He devalued the Bolivian peso by 66.6 per cent. While he assured the Bolivian people that it was necessary 'in order to secure the economic future of the country and its children'.

DISRUPTIVE ELEMENT

The tanks of his army were out on the streets of La Paz to suppress workers who had struck work in protest against a measure which cut their already bare and meagre standard of living by two-thirds.

This working-class resurgence against dictatorship in Bolivia has not been the only problem facing Banzer since August 21 when he was hailed as the leader by lines of black-shirts and white-shirts.

At the beginning of October, tension mounted after the expulsion to Brazil of the former chief of the army's second division, Colonel Ayoroa, and the former deputy head of the MNR, Guillermo Bedregal.

A laconic government communiqué said that Bedregal was 'invited to leave Bolivia' because he was a 'disruptive element in the MNR and the Bolivian family and because he had injured respect for the armed forces'.

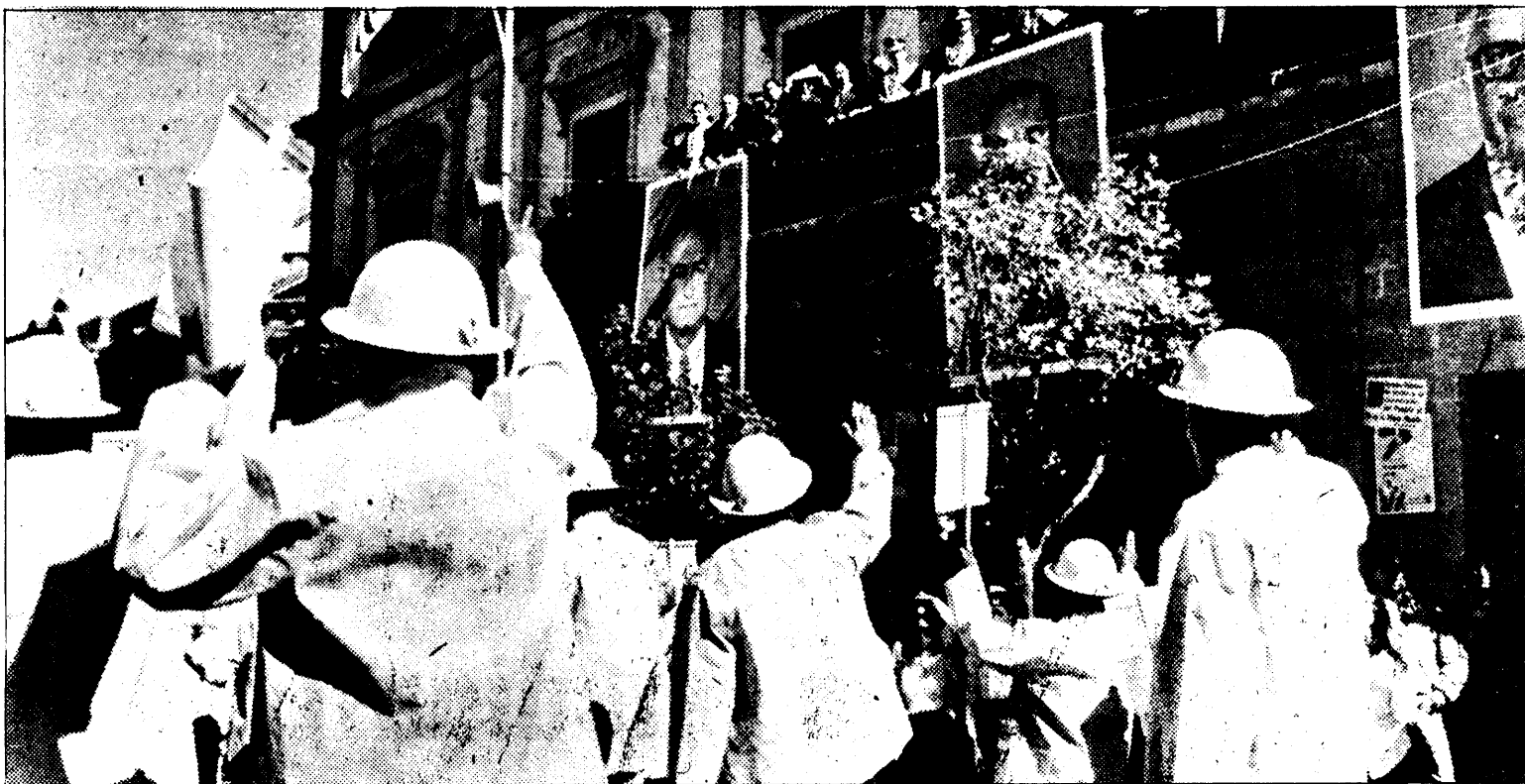
Bedregal, who had only just returned from 'voluntary exile' in Venezuela, is the author of the book 'The Military in Bolivia', a book which contains a fierce attack on the present army chief, Colonel Joaquin Zenteno.

He also used to be president of the Bolivian Mining Corporation (COMIBOL) which enabled him to collect a considerable fortune and to survive a succession of governments.

His departure removes at least one threat of another palace revolution.

A Bolivian who was in La Paz at the time of the coup told Workers Press about the conditions facing the working class and what the devaluation would mean for the tin miners:

The workers in the mines like Siglo XX earn about £20 a month and work a 48-hour week. Before the devaluation, the average life-span of a tin miner was 35 years because of lack of protein and silicosis caused by the lack of protection and safety



Top: the three leaders of the Bolivian counter-revolution at their victory rally: left, Mario Gutierrez, Bolivian Socialist Falange, centre, Hugo Banzer, right, Paz Estensoro, MNR leader. Above: fascist demonstrators march past the Presidential Palace, giving the fascist salute.

regulations in the mines. The devaluation will make that life span even shorter.

The nationalization of the mines carried through by Paz Estensoro as a result of the MNR revolution in 1952 brought the miners nothing.

COMIBOL dominates every aspect of the miners' lives. They and their families live in company-owned, one-roomed huts which are about three yards square and have no water or heating. It is very cold, dry and isolated in the mountain valleys where the mines are.

Most of the miners are illiterate because COMIBOL is not interested in educating them—that would be dangerous!

Before the coup, there were quite strong unions which were semi-illegal. Now they are completely illegal and their leaders are either in concentration camps or in exile. Every week in January and February, a list was distributed of ten to 20 workers and students who had been shot.

When the military uprising

took place, all the miners were not to able to come to La Paz.

Only the Milluni miners came with their dynamite. In La Paz, there was great confusion. At a student meeting in the university, a decision was taken to go to the mass meeting at lunchtime in Miraflores to take over the military barracks—headquarters of the army's General Staff.

GREAT MISTAKE

Everybody thought General Torres would give us arms and that was the great mistake. There were no arms. The armoured divisions of the army were able to break up and kill the opposition very easily.

For three or four days, the forces of the Falange and the MNR patrolled the streets, burning houses and killing students and workers. There were machine-guns surrounding the university. The priests told student leaders that they had an agreement with the army to let them out without any

killings.

Students knew they would be killed anyway, so the 'peace' plea was rejected. The troops killed many students and others were put in concentration camps.

Since then repression has never stopped. At the last meeting of right-wing Ministers of the Interior in Latin America held in Paraguay, Bolivian Adett Zamora said it was necessary for the armed forces in all Latin America to get together to put down revolutionary movements.

Earlier in the year, Zamora was responsible for expelling 120 Soviet diplomats from Bolivia. On a television programme he claimed they were involved in an anti-Bolivian plot.

These diplomats had come to Bolivia under the government of Torres and Ovando. With them were technicians from Russia, Yugoslavia, Poland and Czechoslovakia, who were modernizing the mining processes in Bolivia.

What most people don't realize is that these tech-

nicians still remain, although the Soviet diplomats have gone. Every week, a team of mining experts from eastern Europe is flying in or out of La Paz with new data.

Another interesting aspect of the Bolivian counter-revolution is the role of the German Nazis who live mainly in Santa Cruz where the coup began.

The colony is led by Klaus Altmann, who is the best of friends with Banzer and the ruling clique in Bolivia. He began work in Bolivia with a quinine extraction firm and then founded a company called the Bolivian Transmaritime Company.

With government support, he started a campaign called 'Build a boat for Bolivia'. In schools and churches, collections were taken and everyone was forced to contribute to the fund which was supposed to be established in the Central Bank of Bolivia.

Nothing has been seen since, either of the boat or the money!

RUBBER GIANTS GANG UP

AND SO DO THEIR WORKERS

Alex Mitchell conducts an investigation into the strifetorn £900m Dunlop-Pirelli tyre merger.

In 1969 the Dunlop Rubber Company produced a booklet for its 102,500 employees entitled 'Dunlop at Work in Britain'. It was a back-slapping, public relations exercise.

But there was one paragraph which Workers Press took very seriously and we drew Dunlop workers' attention to it.

The paragraph stated: 'The growth of competition due to falling tariffs and technical innovation puts a high premium on the creation of an environment in which changes must come to be accepted as normal and necessary.'

Within months of the publication of the booklet Dunlop workers in Britain had a large dose of the 'era of change' which had been forecast.

In July 1969 stewards at Dunlop's toolroom in Coventry allowed PA Time Consultants to work in the factory drawing up productivity proposals.

In May the following year management declared war on workers at Fort Dunlop when they rejected a £6-a-week pay claim. In return the company asked the 1,500 engineers to accept £3, half the claim, plus redundancy for 100 of their brothers. The six-week strike ended only after the intervention of AUEW councillor Bob Wright and Mark Young of the electricians' union.

The men returned with a £4 rise—Wright had argued for a return at just over £3—plus increased redundancy pay for the 100 'volunteers' and detailed proposals for productivity.

In February the next year the company announced that it was 'taking action in the near future to reduce overheads he is talking about jobs, the livelihoods of men and women.

The Dunlop workers knew that the savings would not be made in the boardroom where ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer and deputy leader of the Tory Party, Mr Reginald Maudling, was then in residence.

In April the axe fell. The company announced that 1,200 workers, or 15 per cent of its office staff, were to be sacked. They included 750 men and women in the clerical and administrative departments at Fort Dunlop in Birmingham, Speke in Liverpool and Inchinnan in Glasgow. Another 450 were to go with the phasing out of the plant at St. Mary's Mills, Leicester.

With the white-collar staff sorted out, the company then attacked production workers. Jobs were eliminated, older workers were not replaced after retirement and productivity was introduced wherever it could be sold on the shop floor.

By this year the impact of the company's new strategy had begun to demonstrate itself.

'Dunlop at Work in Britain', produced in May 1972, showed that strike days lost dropped from 249,000 in 1970 to 90,000 in 1971. The firm showed a profit only after paying off 4,276 workers, and reducing the total labour force by 6,424, of around 13 per cent.

These, if you like, have been some of the national characteristics of the Dunlop outfit over the past few years. But on the international scale much bigger questions are being resolved.

Enter Signor Leopoldo Pirelli.

The international tyre business is an immensely profitable one. For generations various big names have dominated the markets in various countries on a basis which almost seemed to be pre-arranged.

Goodyear and Firestone dominated the US market, Michelin in France, Bridgestone in Japan, Continental in Germany, Pirelli in Italy and Dunlop in Britain. They largely depended on massive contracts with their own car manufacturers, but competed with each other in the colonial and semi-colonial countries.

The collapse of the post-war boom and the intensification of world trade disrupted these cosy and mutually-enriching relationships. By the end of the 1960s the companies were beginning to mount fiercer competition in their colleague's backyards.

Against this background Signor Pirelli began a series of secret meetings with his UK rivals, Dunlop. Special executive jets were chartered to take the tyre magnates to mysterious assignations in Basle, Frankfurt, Milan and London.

The joint announcement made simultaneously in London and Milan in March 1970 was greeted enthusiastically by the Tory Press.

INCREASED PROFITABILITY

'This is the first major Anglo-Italian move towards industrial integration since Britain's application to join the Common Market,' said 'The Times'.

Dunlop's chairman, Sir Reay Geddes, boosted the merger with a series of euphoric Press statements: 'This is an aggressive move,' he told 'The Sunday Times'.

He said it was 'a marriage of equals' and described it as 'a union for expansion'.

At the annual meeting in May 1970 he told shareholders:

'The primary purpose of our union is to increase the profitability of the parent companies. We believe that it can be done.'

The publicity reached a crescendo in December 1970 when final plans for the £900m merger were made public at a lavish London reception.

The 'Financial Times' said:



The new group will challenge Firestone for second place behind Goodyear as the world's biggest tyre and rubber group.

Geddes told the 'City Press' that the deal was 'a union for growth and expansion'.

'Our sights cover not just the next few years but the decades beyond,' said the visionary chairman. But he passed the curious comment that its success depended on 'both judgement and faith'—hardly issues likely to make much of an impression on the hard-faced Dunlop shareholders.

Perhaps this piece of Christian parsimony can be ignored when we look at another comment he made to 'The Times'. That newspaper commented:

'Sir Reay said that with ever-increasing changes in markets, technologies and the political and industrial environment it was essential to take advantage of opportunity when it occurred.'

This politically-incisive remark was followed by one from Lord Thorneycroft, another former Chancellor of the Exchequer, who said it was 'unwise' to talk of the merger in terms of 'attacking' the Americans. 'We are more vul-

nerable to attack than they are,' he added soberly.

And so it was to be.

Three weeks ago the results of the first 18 months of the merger were announced. The Italian end of the operation ran up a loss of £9.8m in the first six months of this year. This gave a grand total of £30m losses since the merger. A statement added that 'it is unlikely that the second-half experience will be any better'.

The 'Birmingham Post' com-



Left: Leopoldo Pirelli. Right: Sir Reay Geddes, Dunlop's chairman. Above: Pirelli and Fiat factory workers stage a joint demonstration.

mented sourly: 'At best only a slow improvement is expected in 1973 which could mean that in 1973 Italian losses will have increased to £50m.'

These results had 'a horrid' effect on the share price. From a peak of 295p at the time of the merger, the price slumped to as low as 104p, wiping millions of pounds off the company's paper value.

Pirelli's troubles can be directly traced to the trade war. Firestone has entered the

Italian market in a big way and so has the French group, Michelin, which has quadrupled its investments in Italy in the past four years.

Michelin through its business connections with Citroën has also got a leg into the Fiat group and is now supplying that big Italian car producer with tyres.

Pirelli's response has been to lead attack after attack against its own workers. In the past few weeks, for example, 870 staff have been laid off and 1,900 workers in Milan put on a 32-hour week.

Since the merger in March 1970 some 8,500 workers at Dunlop-Pirelli have been sacked. A number of factories have either been or are about to be closed and there has been extensive short-time working in both Britain and Italy.

UNION RESPONSE

Writing in the 'Guardian' Roman Eisenstein said: 'Another possibility being studied by the group is, I believe, the closure of parts of Industrie Pirelli's operations. This may,

however, run up against both Italian government policy—Pirelli employs 38,000 people in Italy—and the unions.'

It is to the response of the unions that we now turn.

Not long after the merger took place, shop stewards in both Britain and Italy made their first informal contact. Their objective was to plan action against Dunlop-Pirelli's rationalization plans which were clearly aimed at mass sackings.

The crisis of capitalism which had brought together two giants of international monopoly had, at the same time, forged a unity of interest between the Italian and British workers.

In September 1970 a delegation of Pirelli shop stewards took the initiative. With three union officials they arrived in Birmingham saying they wanted to discuss matters of common interest. Soon they had made contacts with about 50 Dunlop shop stewards.

Then the Dunlop stewards went to Italy, returning the visit and learning about the problems the Italian workers faced in their factories. An international steering committee was quickly established, with

an eight-man delegation from the British plants.

It was not long before the sackings and closures began to hit both groups of workers. Said Joe McGough, leading engineers' steward: 'All that we have got from the merger so far is closures, loss of overtime, short-time working and a series of productivity deals which have led to a reduction of the labour force.'

'The only people who are better off are the shareholders and the directors,' he said earlier this year.

A joint strike by British and Italian workers was fixed for June 9 this year. A bilingual news sheet printed in Rome was given to all Dunlop-Pirelli workers. It was the first of the 'Euro-strikes'.

The four-part demands called for a halt to sackings and short-time working and an end to importing products into a country 'where workers of the group making the same product are not engaged in full production'.

Said the news sheet: 'The committee will not tolerate any more of this so-called rationalization carried out on the backs of the men and women who work for Dunlop-

Pirelli.' Wherever the company planned redundancies 'we must stand together and fight'.

The strike received no official backing from the union leaderships in either Britain or Italy, proving that the labour bureaucracies were also united in their opposition to mobilizing the working class.

In Britain, Dunlop's second largest plant at Speke, Liverpool, was totally hit, with almost 2,000 workers out. Another 1,000 workers struck at the nearby belting and footwear factories.

JOINING HANDS

Some 300 workers came out in Grimsby, Lincs. In the rest of the country the maintenance engineers came out on strike and production at Fort Dunlop, Birmingham, the group's largest plant in Britain, was also hit.

In Italy the first test of the trans-European strike met with more success, partly because it was only a two-hour stoppage. Up to 30,000 Italian workers in 15 plants stopped and took part in demonstrations.

Tory Press talk that the merger may blow up is nonsense. These big European monopolies are driven by the depth of the economic crisis to join hands and consolidate their power in a desperate attempt to stave off the rising militancy of their workers.

But just as these capitalists merge their economic strength, they merge their weaknesses too. The militancy of the men at Speke is fused with the militancy of the men at Milan.

There is only one answer to the threat posed by this monopolistic conspiracy in the Common Market. The fight for a Socialist United States of Europe, where the anarchy of capitalist production is replaced by a planned economy developed for the needs of the working class in Europe and internationally.

The first step in this historic task is the mobilization of the working class in Britain to force the Tory government to resign.

A Labour government returned to office must be mandated by the mass movement to nationalize big business like Dunlop-Pirelli without compensation and under workers' control.

In January next year the Soviet Union and Franco's fascist state enter formal trade relations. The trade and cultural pact with Spain is signed and delivered in the blood of thousands of Spanish and international workers who fought against the fascist forces during the Spanish Civil War. Today we begin a vital series of six articles which trace the growth of links between the Moscow Stalinists and the fascists. Our special writer on Spanish affairs, Juan Garcia, has translated key documents in this accord and combed libraries and the embassies to present this series of articles exposing Stalinism. The British Communist Party and the 'Morning Star' remain absolutely silent on this counter-revolutionary pact between the Kremlin and Franco.

MOSCOW AND THE SPANISH FASCISTS

PART 1 FOUNDERS OF THE FALANGE

September 15, 1972, was an historic day in the development of the counter-revolution in Europe. In the 'neutral' territory of the Spanish section of the OECD in Paris, two men sat down at the negotiating table and signed an agreement which began:

'The government of the Spanish state and the government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, desiring to foment and increase commercial relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit have agreed the following . . .'

While Moscow Stalinist A. N. Manzhulo and Spanish fascist José Luis Ceron signed together in Paris, the glad news of this new friendship for his 'Spain, united, Catholic and great' was related to Generalissimo Francisco Franco at his Council of Ministers in San Sebastian.

The culmination of many years of diplomatic coming and going, the pact is crime against all those who fought against fascism in the Spanish Civil War.

Thousands of intellectuals, workers and peasants died in the battles of Guadalajara, Jarama, Ebro and the University City in Madrid, fighting against troops backed by aid from Hitler and Mussolini.

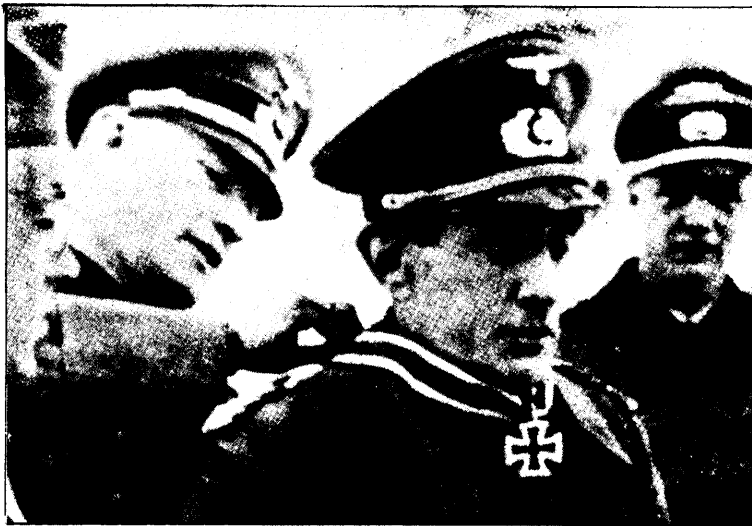
The British Communist Party organized campaigns in defence of the Popular Front in factories and the universities. Many Party members took the long road to Spain to fight fascism, to join the British Battalion of the International Brigades.

Party secretary John Gollan and 'Morning Star' Foreign Editor Sam Russell, who remains silent on the trade pact, must remember those who died. Remember Ralph Fox from Swindon, shot in the battle on the road to the Escorial on December 29, 1936, or Christopher Cauldwell, who fell at Jarama, a victim of Franco's Moorish legions?

The struggle of workers and intellectuals in Europe against fascism in the 1930s was betrayed by the policies of the Stalinist Comintern, which stated that it was a war in defence of bourgeois democracy and not an offensive for socialism. Stalin coupled this policy with an attack on all its critics as 'Trotskyists', who in Spain were 'agents of Franco'. José Antonio Primo de Rivera, founder of the Falange, spelled out in the Cortes (parliament), in July 1935, the anti-communist aims of the counter-revolution:

'Bolshevism is essentially an attitude of materialism before the world . . . He who arrives at Bolshevism makes his point of departure a purely economic interpretation of history . . .'

'We who today . . . sacrifice comforts and advantages in order to achieve a readjust-



Top: a meeting of the 15th International Brigade, the British Battalion, during the Civil War. Above: the intervention of Franco's Blue Division on the battlefield in the Soviet Union won the highest distinction of Hitler's Third Reich for its leader, Munoz Grandes, here being decorated with the Iron Cross. He was Franco's vice-premier until October 1967.

ment in the world, without failing the spiritual aspect, are the negation of Bolshevism . . .'

One of the co-founders of the Falange, the official party in Franco's Spain, was Don Alfonso García Valdecasas. Valdecasas (now 68) still sits in the Cortes and was recently appointed the new deacon in the Faculty of Law in Madrid University—the former deacon resigned after the recent purge of teachers and students.

Valdecasas' career is of considerable importance to those who want to defend the gains of the Bolshevik Revolution and study the friends the Soviet bureaucracy is making in Spain.

In 1932, Valdecasas and his friends established the Spanish Front, a party inspired by the ideals of the Spanish 'philosopher', Ortega y Gasset. Ortega was a worshipper of Spengler

and the military organization of the German ruling class. He yearned for a strong man for Spain.

José Antonio approached Valdecasas, with fellow fascist Ruiz de Alda, in August 1933 to discuss the dissolution of the Front into the National Syndicalist Organization.

The new united movement was launched on October 29, 1933, at a meeting in the Comedia Theatre in Madrid: the Spanish Traditionalist Falange was greeted by platform speeches by Valdecasas and José Antonio.

Antonio clamoured: 'We desire that if on some occasion this [the total unity of the Fatherland] must be achieved by violence, there must be no shrinking from violence . . . no other dialectic is admissible save the dialectic of fists and pistols when justice or the

Fatherland is offended.'

A month later, Valdecasas, tired by the rhetoric of José Antonio, married a marquesa and went off on a long honeymoon.

After the death of José Antonio and the outbreak of the Civil War, he returned to the fold of the Falange which was being reorganized by Franco in his Salamanca war headquarters.

As a result of his contribution to the fascist victory, on September 9, 1939, Valdecasas was appointed as the head of the Institute of Political Studies which was conceived as the brain-box of the Falange where the leaders of the new state would be trained. The position went together with a place on the junta which ruled Spain in those years of concentration camps for all opponents.

This junta sent 180,000 soldiers between 1941 and 1943 to fight alongside Hitler's troops in Russia. The famous Blue Division participated in the siege of Leningrad.

While he occupied his position on the junta, Don Alfonso was in favour of bringing the young technocrats into the leadership of the Falange. Technocrats like Lopez Bravo and Luis Ceron who negotiate with Moscow . . .

In the era of Lopez Bravo and Juan Carlos, Valdecasas' impeccable record as a pioneer of the Falange and his pragmatic commonsense not only recommend him for a period of rule in the university, but also for a very special task.

On October 24, this task was revealed: he will lead a three-man committee to review the protocol to be established

between the Spanish government and the government of the USSR on behalf of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Cortes.

Also on the committee will be Jesus Fueyo Alvarez, a member of the political junta of the Falange to which he was appointed by Franco, and Julio Martinez de Bujanda, the 58-year-old head of the National Union of Farmers.

Valdecasas will be looking into the 'inviolability' of the headquarters of the 12-man delegations which will be set up in Madrid and Moscow, as well as questions of comfortable accommodation and direct communication home through telex and telephone. (Details from the protocol for trade-relations; as published in the Official Bulletin of the Cortes on October 24.)

In the development of their relations with Spain, the Moscow Stalinists are then dealing directly with the very butchers of the working class in the Civil War.

On this treachery, there is a complete silence in the 'Morning Star'. It carried a brief Reuter news agency report on the trade pact. This must have surprised readers of the Stalinist daily, for it broke the complete silence which the paper has kept on the long period of reciprocal visits of Spanish and Stalinist bureaucrats.

That silence is in the tradition of its forerunner, the 'Daily Worker', which diatribed against the Trotskyist movement in the 1930s as the 'main agent of fascism'. It is in the tradition of the GPU squads in Spain who murdered any workers who had connections with Trotskyism. CONTINUED TOMORROW

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

SPECULATION

The Lancashire seaside resort of Morecambe used at one time to be nicknamed 'Bradford on Sea', because of the large number of middle-class Yorkshiremen who retired there. More recently it has been called 'a cemetery with lights', by northern comedian Colin Crompton. He further ridiculed the resort's facilities with cracks such as 'What do they do with the dead in Morecambe? ... answer, They prop them up in bus shelters and stick bingo cards in their hands.'

These sort of cracks naturally upset those concerned with the resort's image who are anxious to attract more holiday-makers — although some of the local young people seem inclined not only to laugh at Crompton's jokes, but to agree with the criticism implied by them.

The mayor, Mr George Tiplady, and his Tory corporation are also contributing to the fun.

Among their recent turns was an apparent attempt to strike a blow against 'permissiveness', by refusing the Campaign for Homosexual Equality facilities to hold its annual conference. Presumably it was felt that the resort's character might be harmed by the prospect of anyone having 'A Gay Time in Morecambe!'

The CHE conference, however, is to be held in Morecambe after all, a hall being privately hired. This raises the question whether the Homosexual Equality conference will have the opportunity of enjoying the usual privileges given to conferences held in Morecambe — a welcoming speech by the Mayor?

Miners who attended their union's annual conference in Morecambe this year will remember with particular affection the mayor's address, when he departed from the usual polite cordialities, normally considered appropriate for such occasions, in order to warn delegates against alienating public sympathy by any more strikes over wage demands. He suggested that if they were going to demand any more, they had better insure themselves against price increases.

The prospect of Mr Tiplady addressing the CHE conference has opened up imaginative speculation as to what his sermon might contain in the way of advice to homosexuals.

TRAINING TOUGH

A group of Belgian paratroopers may be tried for torturing prisoners. They are alleged to have tried various techniques, including the use of electrodes to administer shocks to their victims.

The prisoners just happened to be fellow Belgians, captured as 'prisoners' during recent NATO exercises. Apparently, the paras got just a little too enthusiastic to try out their interrogation methods!

Would the use of torture have been reported in the Press if the victims had been, say, Africans in the Congo? And imagine the outburst of indignant denials if someone had then alleged that good NATO soldiers like the Belgian paras were actually trained to use torture!

Which reminds me of a story I heard from a friend who served in the British Army Intelligence Corps.

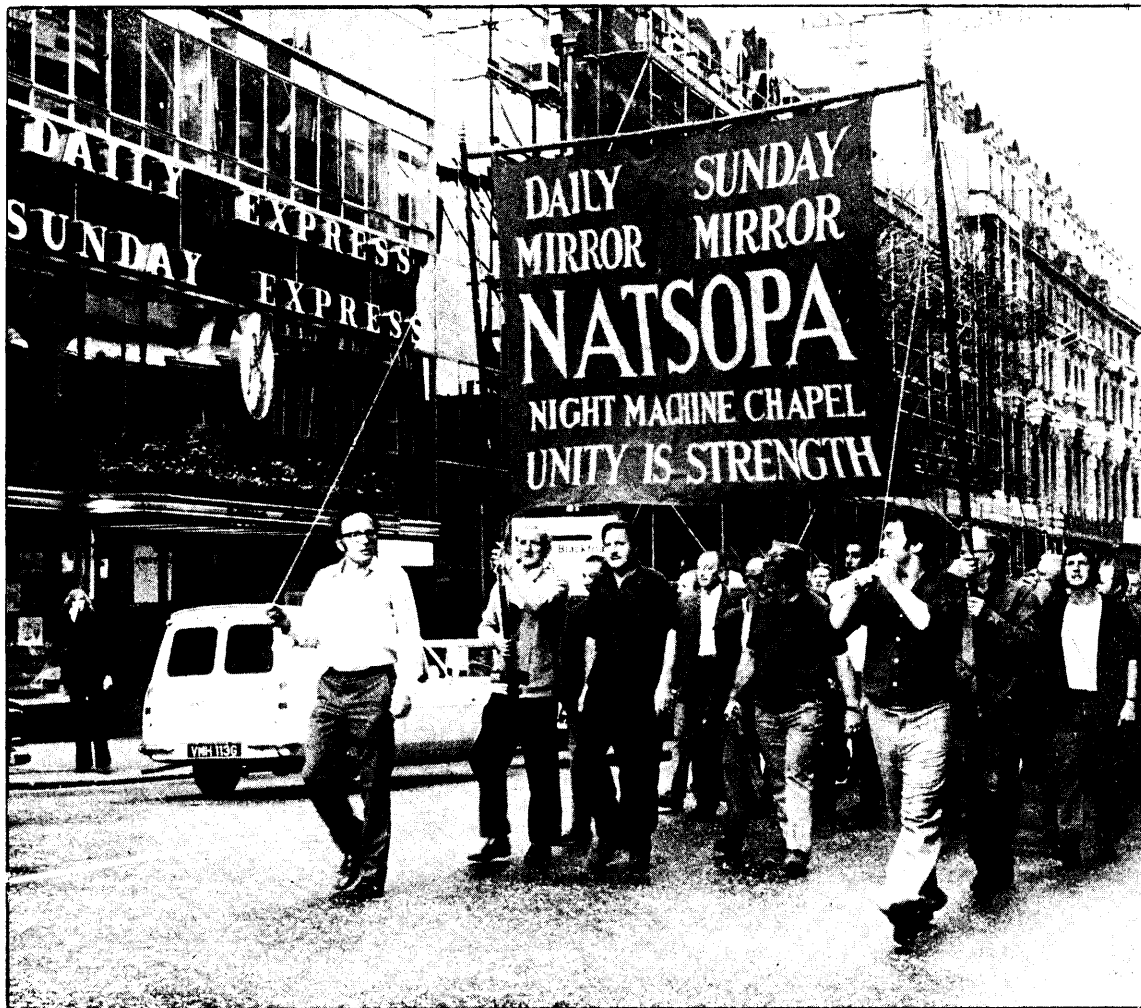
It seems that some British paratroops were dropped over Germany during a NATO exercise, held not far from the East German border. They landed in a wood, and found themselves surrounded and captured by what appeared to be Soviet troops—they wore Red Army uniforms and spoke Russian.

The British paras were taken away for interrogation, during which one of them was made to lie down on the floor with his arms stretched out and had his hand smashed with a rifle butt.

My friend was present at the time, since the 'Russians' were, in fact, British Intelligence Corps men, also on 'manoeuvres'. It seems his colleague with the rifle butt just got a bit carried away by his keenness in training!

But of course, stories about British torture in Northern Ireland, are not to be believed. Or, if they did happen, it was an isolated incident, probably because of the tension at the time; and anyway, the alleged victims were all Irishmen, and terrorists (or they wouldn't have been detained, would they?).

Any suggestion that some British units are specially trained to use torture is just left-wing propaganda. As for the suggestion that they might be prepared to use the same methods against 'fellow-Britons' this is clearly fantasy!



July 1972: Printworkers come out in support of the dockers jailed under the Industrial Relations Act

PRESS BARONS AND POLITICS

From outbursts of hysteria on immigration, or anything a shade off white, to strikers, the Beaverbrook Press will never let you down.

It is not surprising, therefore, to find Cummings' cartoons, which regularly appear in the 'Daily Express' and 'Sunday Express', being reproduced — with permission — in 'Spearhead', the journal of the extreme right-wing National Front.

For the last 13 years, Charles Wintour has been editor of the Beaverbrook-owned London 'Evening Standard'. His new book, 'Pressures on the Press', is published today.

Yet it was 'The Times' which last Monday chose to publish an enormous extract from Wintour's book on its centre pages. Its purpose was to defend that fine abstraction called 'Press freedom', so fondly defended (like 'consumer freedom') by the Fleet Street proprietors.

Of course the Tory newspaper owners know how mythical this 'freedom' is. The serialized memoirs of former 'Daily Mirror' chief Cecil King in the 'Sunday Telegraph' make that clear.

In a graphic way King is revealing what actually goes on between the proprietors and the politicians in either the Tory Party or their collaborators in the Labour Party leadership.

His diary is filled with nothing more than dinners with this or that politician, rushing from Tory to Labour men and back again. Businessmen are wined and dined in between King's trips to the Bank of England where he was a governor at the time.

Within a few weeks of being told the 1966 General Election date by Harold Wilson (before the Cabinet knew) he was round at the Albany to tell Edward Heath the good news. The last to know were the millions of Labour voters.

Back to Wintour, who has now seen fit to smash down all and sundry who claim some sort of editorial control of his newspaper. In doing that he

TORY PRESS



reveals every reactionary aspect of the class he represents.

He has no trouble in dealing with the groups who campaign for and spread the illusion about the possibility of 'editorial control' by journalists on newspapers.

Wintour knows they present no real threat. But they are a convenient starting point for a general attack on anyone who challenges or dares to criticize his paper's views.

Early on in his article, he deals with contempt with a small group of 'Evening Standard' journalists who protested about a headline used during the 1970 election — 'I witness Enoch's magic'.

It capped a story written by George Gale (now editor of the Tory 'Spectator'), who had been following Powell around during the campaign.

The journalists 'were apparently convinced on this slender evidence that the "Evening Standard" was about to go Powellite,' writes Wintour.

'I invited them all to my office and indicated they were being silly ... and I later received an apology from one of its sponsors.'

The centre of his article is reserved — naturally enough — for an attack on the National Union of Journalists, who, he claims, have imposed 'the most threatening development' on his paper.

'When I became editor of the "Evening Standard" in 1959 it was a simple matter to recruit talented people direct from the university or from wherever they could be found [sic], he writes fondly.

But by 1970 the situation had changed. With growing

unemployment among journalists in Fleet Street, the NUJ, quite correctly, imposed restrictions on recruitment from outside the union when so many of its members were on the dole.

Another attack on 'Press freedom', Wintour screams, revealing just a little more of his anti-union philosophy. 'The editor should retain control of appointments.'

Presumably a free-for-all with trade unionists suffering as a result would be just what Wintour would like.

For any journalist working for Wintour, he proposes a simple formula for learning about what the paper stands for: read it! 'This might seem a rather primitive technique, but it possesses one great advantage: it works,' he adds.

As for any discussions between staff and management, they are fine 'for an occasional exposition of the financial state of the "Evening Standard"', but they do not 'produce an interesting or useful discussion about the paper'.

Wintour continues to hit out in all directions, at one point trying to play the journalists off against the rest of the workers on his paper, like the printers.

Of course the extract conveniently forgets to mention the time printworkers struck in 1970 against a Jak cartoon depicting powerworkers as murderers during their work-to-rule.

While Wintour's attacks seem directed against journalists demanding some form of editorial control — which is, of course, nothing less than an illusory impossibility on capitalist newspapers — they serve another purpose.

The Tories need their newspapers to direct the fire of propaganda against the working class and to whip the middle class into line against the trade unions.

They were sorely missed by the ruling class in July when printworkers came out in support of the jailed dockers.

The appearance of such an article in 'The Times' surely means the newspaper bosses are getting ready to strike back against printworkers, to try and break their militancy, in preparation for the big class battles that lie ahead.

BOOKS



LEON TROTSKY:
Germany 1931/1932
Paperback £1.25—cloth £1.87½
Where Is Britain Going?
Paperback 37p
Revolution Betrayed
Paperback 62p—cloth £1.05
Problems of the Chinese Revolution
Paperback £1.12½—cloth £1.87½
Permanent Revolution:
Results and Prospects
Paperback 75p
In Defence of Marxism
Paperback 75p
Lessons of October
Paperback 60p

Postage 10p per book, 3p per pamphlet. Order from:
NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS
186a Clapham High Street,
London SW4 7UG.

All Trades Unions Alliance MEETINGS

CROYDON: Thursday November 9, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road.

WILLESDEN: Thursday November 9, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Hall, High Road, NW10. 'Common Market conspiracy'.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Thursday November 9, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers Club, New Cross Road (opposite New Cross station). 'Stalinism and the fight to force the Tories to resign'.

MANCHESTER: Thursday November 9, 7.30 p.m. Milton Hall, Deansgate.

SWANSEA: Thursday November 9, 7.30 p.m. The Council of Social Services, Mount Pleasant Hill (next to fire station). 'Inflation is deliberate Tory policy'.

CLAPHAM: Thursday November 9, 8 p.m. Clapham Manor Baths, Clapham Manor St, SW4.

CASTLEFORD: Saturday, November 11, 6.30 p.m. The Ship, Aire Street.

WIGAN: Sunday November 12, 12 noon. 'Dog and Partridge', Wallgate.

TYNESIDE: Sunday November 12, 7.30 p.m. 'Robin Hood', Wallsend High Street, WALLSEND. 'The Crisis in Shipbuilding'. Speakers: Stephen Johns (Workers Press), P. Daley (secretary Swan Hunter's boilermakers shop stewards' committee), Les Jordan (boiler-maker, Walker naval yard).
Chairman: Vincent Foy.

READING: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Club, Minster Street.

ACTON: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Road, W3. 'Transform the SLL into revolutionary party.'

WATFORD: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. Trade Union Hall (upstairs). Woodford Road, opposite Watford Junction Station. 'Transform the SLL into revolutionary party.'

NORTH KENT: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. 'The Greyhound', Rochester Avenue, Rochester.

HULL: Monday November 13, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Kingston Square.



Faith Brook as Countess Rostova and Morag Hood as her daughter Natasha in part seven of BBC 2's 20-episodes of Tolstoy's 'War and Peace'.

REGIONAL TV

CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 2.30 Women today. 3.00 London. 4.20 States of Jersey lottery results. 4.25 Skippy. 4.50 Elephant boy. 5.20 Dave Cash radio programme. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.15 Sports roundup. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The African Queen'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 10.30 Smith family. 11.00 Cinema. 11.35 Frighteners. 12.00 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.57 News. 6.00 Diary. 10.30 Report. 10.59 News, weather. 12.00 Faith for life.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 London. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.20 Bugs Bunny. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.45 Junkin. 7.15 Film: 'Appointment in London'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Guideline. 11.15 Film: 'The Brain Machine'. 12.35 Weather.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 4.25 Merry melodies. 4.50 Elephant boy. 5.20 Gustavus. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Sky's the limit. 7.00 Des. 7.30 Film: 'The Long Duel'. 9.30 London. 10.30 The night the all-electric road show came to town. 11.00 Spyforce. 12.00 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales 7 and 41 as above except: 2.30-3.00 Hamden. 4.25 Miri mawr. 4.35 Cantamil. 6.01-6.15 Y dydd. 10.30-11.00 Studio one.

HTV West as above except: 6.15-6.30 Sport West.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 2.30 Women only. 3.00 London. 4.25 News. 4.20 Land of the giants. 5.20 Dave Cash radio programme. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'It Started in Naples'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 10.30 Broadcasters. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Frighteners.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 2.30 Women today. 3.00 London. 4.25 Land of the giants. 5.20 Dave Cash radio programme. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Incident in San Francisco'. 8.45 Cartoon. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 11.00 Angling. 11.30 Film: 'Finders Keepers'.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.31 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 3.00 London. 3.25 Women today. 3.55 Harriet's back in town. 4.23 News. 4.25 Rovers. 4.50 Phoenix five. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Protectors. 7.30 Film: 'Viva Las Vegas'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 11.00 What's it all about? 11.20 Champions.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 2.30 Farmhouse kitchen. 3.00 London. 4.25 Charlie Brown. 4.50 Junior showtime. 5.20 Dave Cash radio programme. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Kings of the Sun'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 Department S. 12.30 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 2.30 Yoga. 2.55 London. 4.20 Lone Ranger. 4.50 Adventures in rainbow country. 5.15 Peyton Place. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. Police file. 6.30 Crown court. 7.00 Cartoon. 7.10 Film: 'Cool Million'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 11.00 On the line. 11.35 Dick Van Dyke.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 London. 2.30 News. 2.31 Let's face it. 3.00 London. 4.25 Funky phantom. 4.50 Junior showtime. 5.20 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 5.45 Cartoon. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Secret of My Success'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 Police call. 11.05 Cinema. 11.35 News. 11.50 Scotland Yard mysteries. 12.25 Revolving chair.

SCOTTISH: 9.30 London. 2.30 Dateline. 3.00 London. 4.25 Lost in space. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.30 A place of her own. 7.00 Film: 'Battle of the Villa Fiorita'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Journey to the unknown.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.40 Cartoon. 2.50 News. 3.00 London. 3.25 Women today. 3.55 Harriet's back in town. 4.25 Elephant boy. 4.55 Junior showtime. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Try for ten. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'Behold A Pale Horse'. 9.00 Des. 9.30 London. 11.00 Spyforce. 12.00 Meditation.

TV

BBC 1

9.42 Schools. 12.10-12.25 Boomph with Becker. 12.30 Disc a dawn. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Pogles' wood. 1.45-2.00 Dressmaking. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 2.50 Nurses in training. 3.15 Jimmy Young asks. 3.40 There's lead in them there hills. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Magic roundabout. 4.40 Jackanory. 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.** Duck Doctor.

7.00 **TOMORROW'S WORLD IN ISRAEL.**

7.25 **TOP OF THE POPS.**

8.00 **SYKES.** Ankle.

8.30 **DOCUMENTARY: ONE MAN'S CHINA.** Part 1 'The Red Chinese Army. A report in three parts by Felix Greene.

9.00 **NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.** Weather.

9.25 **COLDITZ.** Welcome to Colditz.

10.15 **MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS.**

10.45 **MIDWEEK.**

11.30 **LATE NIGHT NEWS.**

11.35 **ANIMAL DESIGN.** Fish.

12.00 **Weather.**

ITV

9.30 Schools. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Diane's panda party. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Jokers wild. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 3.00 Out of town. 3.25 Mind of Mr. J. G. Reader. 4.25 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 5.20 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 5.50 News.

6.00 **TODAY.**

6.30 **CROSSROADS.**

6.55 **DES.** Des O'Connor with guest Esther Ofarim.

7.25 **FILM: 'THE AMOROUS ADVENTURES OF MOLL FLANDERS.'** Kim Novak, Richard Johnson in 17th century England a young orphan dreams of becoming a gentlewoman.

9.30 **THIS WEEK.**

10.00 **NEWS AT TEN.**

10.30 **CINEMA.**

11.00 **SOMETHING TO SAY.**

12.00 **WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.**

12.15 **ROAD TO DAMASCUS.**

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school.

6.35-7.00 **ROSLA AND AFTER.** Resource-Based Learning.

7.30 **NEWSROOM.** Weather.

8.00 **EUROPA.** Two West German films about life in election year.

8.30 **WAR AND PEACE.** New Beginnings.

9.15 **BACKSTAGE.** Sir John Gielgud talks about the legendary actress Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

9.25 **HORIZON.** The Billion-Dollar Marsh. A look at the work of scientists trying to save 2,000 miles of marsh along the US eastern seaboard from developers.

10.10 **NEWS ON 2.** Weather

10.15 **THIRTY-MINUTE THEATRE: 'I WOULDN'T TELL ON YOU, MISS.'** By Susan Pleat. With Leslie Sands.

10.45 **PAUL WILLIAMS.** In Concert.

11.30 **LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.**

Jack Hedley is Lt Col Preston, the new senior officer at Colditz, the rather comfortable PoW camp kept especially for officers—presumably by (Nazi) officers—which is the subject of BBC 1's 15-part drama series.



I would like information about THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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

Name.....

Address.....

Subscribe! workers press

The daily paper that leads the fight against the Tories.

£20.28 for 12 months (312 issues)
£10.14 for 6 months (156 issues)
£5.07 for 3 months (78 issues)

If you want to take Workers Press twice a week the rates are:
£1.56 for 3 months (24 issues)
£6.24 for 12 months (96 issues)

Fill in the form below NOW and send to:

Circulation Dept., Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St., London, SW4 7UG.

I would like to take out a subscription to Workers Press.

Days required	MONDAY	THURSDAY
(Please tick)	TUESDAY	FRIDAY
	WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY

Or Full subscription (six days) for months.

Name

Address

Amount enclosed £

Two-year sentence 'atrocities' says youth

WOMEN SCREAMED and fainted at the Old Bailey yesterday when three men were jailed and another was sent to Borstal for attempting to steal from passengers on the London Underground and assaulting police officers who tried to arrest them.

As one of the four was taken to the cells he shouted: 'These atrocities will be repaid when we come out.'

Judge Edward Cussen, who was constantly interrupted by screams and shouts from women in the public gallery as he passed sentence, told the four:

'You must know that interference with citizens using the underground system will not be tolerated by the courts.'

'You must be dealt with in such a way as will indicate to you and to others the seriousness with which the courts must regard matters of this kind.'

Winston Neville Trew (21) of Furley Road, Peckham; Constantine Boucher (25) of Thorncombe Road, East Dulwich and Stirling Hector Christie (21) of Ermine Road, Lewisham were sentenced to two years' imprisonment. George Griffiths (20) of Grovehill Road, Camberwell, was sent for borstal training.

They were found guilty by a jury last night of attempting to pick pockets of passengers on the Northern Line at Oval station on March 16. They were found guilty of trying to steal from a passenger on an escalator.

The judge discharged the jury from giving a verdict on charges of conspiracy to rob and steal from unknown people on trains, in railway stations and at suburban market places, on which they had failed to agree.

The jury was also discharged from giving a verdict on Boucher and Griffiths on a charge of robbing an unknown person; on Christie on a charge of stealing a purse; and on Trew and Boucher on a charge of robbing an unknown person of £10.

Trew was acquitted on three charges of stealing purses and Christie on one charge of purse stealing. Griffiths and Christie were found not guilty of robbing an unknown person of a handbag.

The four denied all charges.

OXFORD

Thursday November 9
Basic essentials of Marxism

Thursday November 16
A theory of knowledge

Thursday November 23
Opponents of Marxism
Thursday November 30
Marxism—the science of perspective

SOUTH OXFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE
Lake Street, 8 p.m.
Lectures given by G. Healy
SLL national secretary

LIVERPOOL

Wednesday November 15
The Third International 1919-1924

ROOM 'A' MUNICIPAL ANNEXE
Dale Street, 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday November 22
The Third International 1924-1929

Wednesday November 29
Stalinism 1932-1938
Wednesday December 6
Trotskyism and the founding of the Fourth International

COMMON HALL HACKING HEY
off Dale Street, 7.30 p.m.

Lectures given by Tom Kemp (SLL Central Committee)

Lead tests for seven children

SEVEN CHILDREN living near a south London lead factory have been referred for further tests after blood samples showed higher-than-normal lead levels.

The children—all living near H. J. Enthoven Ltd., lead merchants, in Rotherhithe Street, Southwark—have been referred by their family doctors for more tests at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Or-

mond Street, Southwark Council spokesman said yesterday.

Preliminary results of blood samples taken last Monday from families showed lead levels 'above the normal limit indicating a need for further investigation,' said the spokesman. Lead in dust in the

neighbourhood was also above normal

So far seven children had been sent for more tests, said the spokesman, and further sampling will be done in the Acorn, Lavender and Amos housing estates in the same street as the factory.

As well as blood and dust tests, mud, soil and plant life tests are also being carried out.

Union officials face sharp criticism

Telegraphists rap productivity dealing

BY DAVID MAUDE

POST OFFICE union leaders will today face sharp criticism of their decision to sign a three-year productivity deal involving their 4,500 overseas telegraphist members.

The criticism will come at a meeting between telegraphists' leaders at the Electra House, London, overseas cable headquarters and the union's telecommunications assistant secretary, Kim McKinlay.

A particular source of anger to the telegraphists is the fact that the Union of Post Office Workers' executive went ahead and signed the deal, on October 26, without first consulting either the rank and file or their branch officials.

Tom Jackson, UPW general secretary, has admitted in a circular to his members that the main factor in the signing was the Tories' possible imposition of a pay freeze.

This, he argues, would have prevented the telegraphists getting the flat-rate payments of up to £95 a year he has negotiated.

The union executive has since conceded a ballot on the issue.

Telegraphists reply that since the deal paves the way for a 36-per-cent cut in their grade they are opposed to the deal in principle.

Jackson told Workers Press that there was no real difference between signing and then balloting and balloting first.

'If the membership don't like the deal, we will of course rescind it,' he said.

The Electra House branch of the UPW will attempt today to commit the union's London district council to a campaign against the slashing of jobs in the Post Office through productivity deals and mechanization.

It wants the council to call a demonstration to highlight the dangers of redundancy.

Arthur Lee's men still striking

ARTHUR LEE'S engineering workers are to continue striking at the Sheffield steel plant. Over 300 maintenance men out for five weeks decided this at a mass meeting yesterday. Alan Bentley, the convenor, told Workers Press afterwards: 'The meeting voted five to one against a return to work.' They wanted a 'tangible offer' from management, but declined to put a figure on their claim.



UPW's Tom Jackson

Inflation rampant in Italy

AN UNPRECEDENTED rate of inflation has hit the Italian economy. It was announced yesterday that there has been a five point rise in Italy's wage-related cost-of-living scale over the last three months.

This means that inflation is now at an annual rate of 10 per cent and increasing very rapidly.

The opportunity has been grasped by Italian capitalist spokesmen to call on the trades unions to hold down their wage claims.

Treasury Minister Giovanni Malagodi has called for a 'voluntary policy of responsibility and self-discipline'.

On Tuesday, Guido Carli, Governor of the Bank of Italy, stated that an incomes policy was the only way to overcome the dilemma of unemployment and inflation.

Socialist Labour League
Greater London Rally

CELEBRATE 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF WORKERS PRESS

BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19

7 p.m. Porchester Hall Queensway, W2

PREMIERE

SHOWING OF A NEW FILM

THREE

YEARS

OF

WORKERS

PRESS

Showing the developments and gains since the first issue of Workers Press

Amin's Rolls in wrong gear

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ROLLS-ROYCE workers at Crewe, Cheshire, are going slow on an order for gear box spares for the Rolls of President Idi Amin of Uganda.

The President has asked for the spares to be sent in time for a state procession later this month.

But a worker said he 'very much doubted' that President Amin would get the spares in time.

'We are working slow on this order deliberately,' he added.

A spokesman for the company said the President's request was being considered, but he refused to discuss the matter further.

Bus strike 'freeze'?

A DELEGATE conference is expected to be held in Falkirk today to discuss the strike by 1,100 maintenance engineers employed by the Scottish Bus Group.

The men are demanding a weekly increase of £7.50. The company's offer of £2.23 a week for skilled men was totally rejected.

However, the men may now have to call off their strike since it has fallen foul of the Tory government's proposed 'freeze' legislation.

The strike by 150 bus workers in Grangemouth over the sacking of a conductor has spread to

Larbert. Platform staff are demanding the immediate reinstatement of the man who was dismissed instantly on Monday for allegedly smelling of drink while on duty.

After a meeting between transport union officials and bus group representatives, the dismissal was changed to a sentence of seven days' notice to allow for discussion.

But platform staff have refused to accept this and have rejected union officials' advice to call off the strike in favour of this settlement.

They are demanding the conductor's immediate reinstatement.

Young Socialists

Grand Xmas Bazaars

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25

East India Hall
East India Dock Road, E14

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9

Corn Exchange
Leeds

doors open 12 noon

GIVE US ALL YOUR SUPPORT

Can you knit — sew — do woodwork — bake — make gifts
give jumble — donate tins and bottles

If you can help us make some gifts or assist in any way please write to:

Young Socialists
Grand Xmas Bazaar
186a Clapham High Street
London, SW4 7UG
or phone: 01-622 7029.

Speakers:

G. HEALY
(SLL national secretary)
CONNIE FAHEY
(Wilmslow tenants' leader)
CORIN REDGRAVE
(Equity)

ROY BATTERSBY
(ACTT)

ALAN THORNETT
(Deputy senior steward
Morris Motors Assembly,
Cowley, Oxford)

GARY GURMEET
(Editor Keep Left)

Chairman:

MIKE BANDA
(SLL Central Committee)
(Union and tenant speakers
appear in a personal capacity)

Admission 15p

Workers Press MONTHLY APPEAL FUND

NOVEMBER FUND NOW STANDS AT £199.42

WE ARE still lagging behind in the campaign for this month's Fund. Our total so far stands at £199.42 which leaves us a long way from raising our target of £1,750 by the end of November. In this political situation, there is no difficulty in winning ever greater support for Workers Press. Anger is mounting among workers everywhere as

they face constant rises in the cost of living. The decision by the Tories to bring in laws to keep down wages will force thousands of trade unionists all over the country into decisive struggles against this government.

Our paper, alone, has prepared for this fight. Therefore let's not waste another moment

in raising our Fund this month. Instead let us try and raise a record amount. Collect as much as you possibly can. Post every donation immediately to:

Workers Press
November Appeal Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London, SW4 7UG

WORKERS' RIGHTS

FROM PAGE 1

While these measures have already created a massive groundswell of opposition against this government they have also revealed the absolute cowardice of the Labour and trade union leaders.

The latest act of betrayal comes from the TUC. They say that the unions cannot join with the Labour Party and work out a programme to fight this government. The reason they give is that some unions in the TUC are not affiliated to the Labour Party. What treacherous rubbish is this?

Is the entire working class to be told by its leaders that workers can take no political action against this government because they are held prisoner by a handful of right-wing bureaucrats who lead a tiny minority faction in the TUC?

This is yet another disgusting evasion by the bankrupts who are supposed to lead the working class.

The Labour Party, too, is in a state of collapse—its 'reasoned amendment' to Heath's plans was kicked into the dustbin where it belongs.

The time for dithering and rank cowardice is over. The Tories have declared war and the working class must be mobilized to fight back. The aim should be to remove this government by mass action and return a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

The All Trades Unions Alliance resolution passed in October at the annual conference in Birmingham warned of the coming struggle. It stated:

'The political situation is now on a knife edge. So far the working class has, by its determination and strength in industrial struggles held the line against the Tory enemy.

'But the government is forced on by the crisis.

'This situation cannot last indefinitely. Either the working class goes forward to defeat the government and the capitalist system, or the Tories achieve a position where they can defeat a decisive section of workers and institute a dictatorship to destroy trade unions and democratic rights.'

The ATUA and the Socialist Labour League were the only organizations in the labour movement to make this analysis—and they have been entirely vindicated by the events of the last three days.

But now it is time to fight for the other section of the Birmingham resolution which was carried unanimously. This called for the building of the League into a revolutionary party and extending its influence throughout the entire trade union movement.

This fight is overdue. The conditions for revolutionary leadership have arrived. Every day wasted is a day for Heath. All workers must join this essential struggle now.

AUEW fails to turn up at NIRC

'Non-co-operation' costs AUEW £5,000

BY PHILIP WADE

THE AMALGAMATED Union of Engineering Workers was fined £5,000 for contempt yesterday after refusing an order to attend the National Industrial Relations Court. Sir John Donaldson, president of the NIRC, said the union had shown 'a complete misunderstanding of the laws of the country enacted by parliament and the courts whose duty it is to enforce those laws'.

He added: 'A refusal to obey the court order is not "non-co-operation", it is simple law breaking.'

A member of the NIRC staff left the court's Chancery Lane premises in a taxi at about midday to serve the order on Jim Conway, AUEW general secretary.

The AUEW thus became the second union to be fined for contempt of the NIRC. Earlier this year the Transport and General Workers' Union was fined and paid £55,000 in the Heaton case.

And it was on the basis of the Taff Vale principle re-established by the House of Lords in the Heaton case that the AUEW was fined yesterday.

The union has two weeks to pay the £5,000 and the costs involved in the case brought against them by Mr Henry Goad.

It was made clear that the court will enforce payment if necessary—although union property will not be seized at this stage.

An Evangelist, Goad cannot get into the AUEW branch meetings at Sudbury, Suffolk.

He left the union in 1967 after working during an unofficial strike at the CAV plant, Sudbury, where he works as a quality control inspector.

Although he rejoined last year to assist his promotion the local branch has since refused him entry to their meetings.

Last month the AUEW was instructed to appear at the court yesterday to explain reasons for Goad's refused admission. But they refused by letter.

In the court's judgement Sir John Donaldson laid great emphasis on the rule of law

through parliament and the courts.

The union had told him that the policy decision of the union prevented them from attending.

But even if this were true, he added, they did not 'occupy a position in which they can resolve that the law does not apply to them.'

'But in any case we know of no published decision of the union's conference or National Committee which instructs the executive council to act outside the law.'

Non-co-operation was 'lawful'. But a refusal to obey a court order went further. It was 'law-breaking'.

The union, if it had wanted, could have gone to the National Committee for 'fresh instructions' and 'it is not too late for them to do so'.

Outlining the AUEW's legal responsibilities for the action of Sudbury branch, Sir John added: 'The union executive council has produced no expression of disapproval.'

Their attitude also 'gives rise to even more serious considerations.'

'Doubtless the council intends only to disregard those laws and court orders of which it disapproves.'

'But others will take this as approval and indeed encouragement for them to apply the same principle to laws or orders which do not appeal to them. This court would be failing in its duty if it took no action.'

He said the AUEW could appeal against the NIRC's decision.



Gormley: Different view from conference decisions.

Miners' union chiefs put off claim again

BY DAVID MAUDE

MINERS' union leaders yesterday presented a bold front of ignoring the Tory pay freeze—but agreed a further delay in submitting their big new pay claim.

The freeze, said union president Joe Gormley after a morning meeting of his executive, had not been discussed.

Neither had the follow-up legislation for state pay control promised by Heath.

He did not go so far as to

claim, however, that they had not shaped the atmosphere in which the executive's discussion had taken place.

At the last meeting of the executive on October 12, it was decided that detailed demands would be formulated yesterday for negotiation with the National Coal Board in December.

Yesterday it was left to the December meeting to decide when formal negotiations will begin.

In the meantime the national officials have been mandated to hold informal talks with the NCB on 'the implications' of the union's conference decisions on wages, hours and differentials.

In July, the NUM conference set its sights on pay rises of £5.50 to £7, a shorter working week and changes in existing differentials.

Miners may have thought the implication of those decisions was the submission of a claim on those lines. Gormley's view yesterday was somewhat different.

The conference, he pointed out, had decided that the increases 'should be' £5.50 to £7. The Board would no doubt want to argue that they shouldn't be.

Commenting on the nature of the informal talks that will now be sought by the union, Gormley said:

'We and the Board will no doubt wish to reach each other's minds. We want to have a new agreement ready to apply from the end of February. We hope to get a settlement and are not seeking a confrontation.'

Early talks would be sought also with the Coal Board on efficiency schemes, he said. 'We want to see if we can gain something for our members from this.'

Teachers first in line for pay clash with Tories?

LONDON teachers will be asked at a mass meeting tonight to support a call for a half-day strike against the offer of £15 a year additional London allowance.

At present the 60,000 London teachers receive £118 year—a sum which nowhere near meets the extra expense of living in London.

In negotiations held during September, the teachers representatives were led to believe that a £60 to £80 offer would be effective from November 1.

However, Education Secretary Margaret Thatcher stepped in. She halted any offer

and postponed the talks until after the TUC-CBI-Heath negotiations.

The £15 offer is backed by Thatcher, but tonight's meeting—called by the two London NUT branches (the Inner London Teachers' Association and the Extra Metropolitan Teachers' Committee)—will demand action.

But a half-day token strike will achieve nothing.

The teachers are not just involved in putting pressure on the Burnham Committee, but in a fight against the government.

In addition to the London allowance claim, the National Union of Teachers has

submitted a £5 to £8 a week wage claim. This would be a 21-per-cent rise.

Every teacher knows that it is now government policy to halt completely all such claims.

Edward Britton, NUT general secretary, was absolutely right when he said: 'Overall, the signs are that the government intends to use unions in the public sector to impose restrictions on wages and incomes.'

But Britton was in favour of the TUC talks with Heath and the employers, the purpose of which was to impose state control over wages.