

WORKERS PRESS

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER ● SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25, 1972 ● No. 930 ● 4p

DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE



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Dictatorship!

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BY ALEX MITCHELL

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The union says it cannot alter the decision of the Sudbury officers because this is against rules.

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Since his arrest the IRA leader has been on thirst and hunger strike. He has been treated for kidney pains and his solicitor, Mr Myles Shevlin, said he was extremely worried about the deterioration in MacStiofain's health.

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'My experience is that a Republican has very little chance of getting justice in a Free State court.'

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EDWARD HEATH and his closest advisers have drawn up a secret plan to reorganize the power structure in Whitehall. It gives Heath sweeping, presidential-style powers. The plan involves the integration of the Cabinet, the civil service and the highest echelons of the Tory Party into an 'executive' to run the country.

The idea is that No 10 Downing Street should become a sort of White House from which Heath, the president, controls the levers of power.

Under the plan the House of Commons becomes no more than a talking shop to which the 'president' pays an occasional visit while Cabinet becomes an executive not only of ministers, but also of trusted political and big-business advisers.

Heath's plan for presidential rule comes at the same time he is launching his corporatist state wages plan. This Bill and the Industrial Relations Act seek to smash the trade unions and to deprive workers of their basic rights to strike, picket and black.

Heath knows that his attacks on the trade unions and the standard of living of the working class will provoke massive unrest in the labour and trade union movement. He is taking steps towards establishing a right-wing dictatorship in a desperate attempt to defeat this coming tide of revolt.

Heath's two closest advisers in his presidential moves are:

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He was engaged in military intelligence throughout the war and then joined Shell Research Limited where he met another senior Shell director, John Davies.

Immediately Heath came to power in 1970 he appointed Rothschild as 'head of the Central Policy Review Staff in the Cabinet Office'. It is better known as Heath's 'Think Tank', and Rothschild, the multi-millionaire scientist, is known as 'Dr Strangelove'.

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THE NATIONAL Liberation Front has quelled an uprising by opponents of a cease-fire within its ranks, the Paris newspaper 'Le Monde' reported yesterday, quoting 'reliable and very well informed Saigon sources'.

Correspondent Jean Claude Pomonti said that on November 10 at dawn some 1,000 dissident North Vietnamese troops led by General Le Vinh Khoa attacked a camp housing the main leaders of the NLF and provisional revolutionary government, but they escaped.

A tribunal sentenced the leaders of the revolt to various penalties.

● See p. 2.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS XMAS BAZAAR

Lucky number
programme



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Trade war leads to NATO tensions

ECONOMIC and political conflicts between the United States and western Europe held the centre of the stage in the closing sessions of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's conference which ended in Bonn yesterday.

American delegates to the conference, attended by over 200 MPs from 14 NATO countries, laid heavy emphasis on the dangers facing the alliance as a result of the trade war in international capitalism.

Senator Jacob Javits, a top Republican spokesman, warned that NATO was affected by 'a number of tensions, which, if exacerbated, could drive a wedge of catastrophic proportions between the transatlantic partners'.

In what was obviously a reference to growing rivalry in trade between the US and the Common Market, Javits said the tensions in the alliance were primarily economic, but also political and military.

The European imperialists are particularly annoyed that their American 'partner' should have gone behind their backs to conclude a far-reaching economic and political deal with the Kremlin bureaucracy.

Senator Edward Kennedy, an opponent of the Nixon administration, referred to this sentiment among the European NATO members when he said that direct dealings by America with Russia and China had caused her to neglect her ties with Europe.

NATO, Kennedy said, ought to be a means of arranging a common approach to economic affairs. 'The style of politics exhibited during the international monetary crisis cannot be permitted to recur,' he said.

This pious sentiment has no place in President Nixon's calculations. He has already intimated that the top foreign policy job in his second-term administration will go to former Texas governor John B. Connally, the chief practitioner of tough anti-European economic diplomacy.

The rifts within NATO are caused by Nixon's efforts to foist the economic burden of the capitalist crisis onto Europe. This goes hand-in-hand with the preparation of military action against the USSR, including the mining of the Baltic to keep the Soviet fleet out of the Atlantic.

The growth of these tensions within the Atlantic alliance is concealed by a façade of détente with eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

But while the preparations go ahead for the European Security Conference in June, the basis is being laid for armed conflict in Europe.

TOKYO stock exchange ended the week on a new surge of speculation which drove up share prices all round. This artificial boom does not reflect the profit prospects of the firms whose shares are being bought, but a belief that the yen will not be revalued in the immediate future.

Moscow holds back anti-B52 weapons Vietnam a pawn in global deal

BEHIND the smokescreen of talks over peace in Vietnam President Nixon is preparing a new strategy for the imperialist domination of south-east Asia.

First priority in this strategy is to supply President Thieu's reactionary regime in Saigon with huge quantities of first-rate military equipment.

The South Vietnamese army has received more equipment since the 'peace' talks began than it had ever received before. These arms are intended to continue the struggle against the revolutionary forces after the 'cease fire'.

A Saigon broadcast warned the population that then a new kind of war would begin. 'We should be ready to fight the enemy in the other war,' it said. Special anti-communist committees are being set up to continue the struggle.

Meanwhile Saigon troops are trying to strengthen their grip on areas of the country near the demilitarized zone. These probes have been accompanied by heavy

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

US bombing raids. A second B52 bomber has been brought down by a missile during a raid on North Vietnam.

If the Soviet Union supplied the latest surface-to-air missiles to the north, such raids would become impossible. But the bureaucracy is putting pressure on Hanoi to stop the fighting as part of its attempt to bring about a global deal with US imperialism.

The cease fire now being arranged is the last stage in the betrayal of the Vietnamese revolution. Symbolically, the French Communist Party has lent a house it owns for Nixon envoy Dr Henry Kissinger's talks with Hanoi negotiator Le Duc Tho.

While these talks are going on, the US administration continues its attempt to bomb the north into submission. Already practically every town in North Vietnam has been reduced to rubble. This has greatly increased Hanoi's dependence on arms and supplies from the Soviet Union

and China to continue the war. But this 'aid' is tainted from the start.

It means that the Russians are using the US bombing—which they could have made impossible—in order to force Hanoi to make peace. This is then offered to the US imperialists as a token of goodwill by the bureaucracy in its pursuit of a global deal. That is the reality of the betrayal.

But it also means that Nixon, with the threat of still heavier bombing, is able to put the screws on the Russians to force them to make the maximum of concessions on other questions.

Vietnam has thus become a pawn in a power game between US imperialism and the Soviet Union in which the former holds the initiative.

Both the Soviet Union and China allowed the ports of North Vietnam to be mined without lifting a finger. The stepped-up bombing raids followed Nixon's visit to Moscow and were met with only verbal protests, although the Soviet Union could have supplied Hanoi with the means to stop them.

This greatly strengthened the hawks in the US administration who now feel confident that they can go even further in forcing the Soviet Union and China to accept their terms not only in Vietnam, but in other parts of the world.

Since both the Soviet and Chinese bureaucracies fear revolution and have a narrow nationalist position in face of the threat from US imperialism, they want to bring the Vietnam war to an end as soon as possible. They do not want to see it end with a victory for the NLF and the overthrow of the Thieu regime.

That is why they retreat all the time in the face of US blackmail.

The retreat in Vietnam repeats the betrayal of the Arab revolution which has already been carried out. Arabs who thought that the Soviet Union was supporting them against US imperialism's pawn, Israel, should now recognize that the arms supplies were tainted.

These arms supplies were intended not to advance the cause of revolution but to stifle it.

The great historical precedent for that was Spain in 1936-1937 when Soviet arms were used to prevent revolution and to back up a bourgeois republic which could not fight Franco because this could only be done in a revolutionary way.

Kissinger, versed in modern history, is probably guided by the Spanish precedent in his dealings with the bureaucracy over Vietnam.

Wall St, as well as Nixon, are following up this valuable insight. Their goal is the restoration of capitalist social relations in eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and China.

BELGIUM faces a long political crisis following the failure of out-going prime minister Gaston Eyskens to form a new government. The bitter conflict between the French- and Flemish-speaking parts of the country has split open the Catholic-Socialist Party coalition. Two weeks of discussion have failed to heal the breach.

Rhodesia tightens apartheid grip



Africans on their way to work. They are not allowed on public transport. Picture Abisag Töllmann.

THE RHODESIAN government is steadily tightening its racialist restrictions on black Africans and moving rapidly towards full South Africa-style apartheid.

The Identity Pass Bill, now well on its way through parliament in Salisbury, will force Africans to carry passes at all times.

And during the debate on the Bill Internal Affairs Minister Lance Smith hinted at further

legislation to tighten the restrictions still further.

Smith said that the Identity Pass Bill would facilitate the introduction of other laws. Once Africans could be easily identified, the introduction of controls to stop the influx of Africans into Rhodesia's cities would be easy, he said.

The government has also tabled an African Affairs Amendment Bill providing the government with the power to refuse individual Africans the right to speak

at public meetings and extending the area where the government has power to prohibit meetings being held.

The Bill also prohibits missionaries from entering tribal areas without government permission and empowers the government to refuse missionaries the right to live and work in tribal areas.

The Rev Canaan Banana, vice-president of the African National Council, said the ANC was planning to take the

government to the International Court at the Hague for crimes of racialism.

The ANC has denounced the legislation as a move to prevent unemployed Africans from living in Rhodesia's towns.

Like the unemployed Africans of South Africa, they are to be driven away from the cities by harsh police measures and confined to specially designated areas in the countryside.

Honecker praises 'two Germanys'

GERMANY will never be reunited and this is the best for all Europe, says Erich Honecker, the party boss in the German Democratic Republic.

In an interview with 'The Times' correspondent, C. L. Sulzberger, he added it 'is an advantage to the world to see two sovereign states on German soil'.

Honecker envisaged a future in which the GDR will 'continue to develop on a socialist basis' while the Federal Republic went its own way.

Honecker, who survived ten years in a Nazi concentration

camp (he might not have been so lucky if he had taken refuge in the Soviet Union), is a faithful exponent of the Kremlin's views.

While making it clear through Honecker that it does not want the Bonn government to interfere in the GDR's affairs it also makes it plain that it does not want to see capitalism overthrown in the Federal Republic.

STUDENT UNIONS in Turkey have been dissolved by Act of parliament and the military regime has adopted measures to outlaw all forms of student political activity. Student associations 'cannot be formed with a view to furthering political aims of any sort and will never

The bureaucracy, represented by Honecker, is ready to write-off West Germany in return for an undertaking by imperialism to allow it to do as it pleases in the eastern part of the country.

The working class will repudiate this betrayal in both parts of Germany which in fact opens the way for the restoration of capitalism in the GDR.

indulge in politics and matters which do not have to do with academic life'. Many of the urban guerrilla units which made up the Turkish People's Liberation Army came from the Revolutionary Youth Union, which was active in the universities and was banned last year by the military regime.

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Mosley's stepson to fight Lincoln for the Tories

THE TORY choice to fight the Lincoln by-election, the Hon Jonathan Guinness, is the step-son of Sir Oswald Mosley. His mother, Diana Mitford, was the first wife of Lord Moyne and later became Mosley's second wife.

A prominent member of the Guinness brewing family and a merchant banker, the 42-year-old Tory candidate is chairman of the right-wing Monday Club. In June this year he said the BBC had a 'leftist' bias that was 'against the whole of society'.

● The Tory candidate for Thanet East will be Mr Jonathan Aitken, an Old Etonian and a great-nephew of the late Lord Beaverbrook.



Guinness at a Monday Club rally guarded by the National Front in September.

Strong union position won at gas-fire plant

FIVE HUNDRED workers at the Robinson Willey gas-fire factory at Old Swan, Liverpool, have returned to work after winning their demand for recognition of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Three shop stewards who led the four-week recognition strike have been accepted as representatives of the workers and already five other stewards have been elected.

Two stewards sacked before the beginning of the strike remain suspended on full pay, however, pending the result of independent arbitration.

Stewards and union officials are in the course of negotiating a procedure agreement with the company which is part of the £13.5m United Gas Industries group.

Since the return to work, recruitment into the union has grown and the stewards have successfully defended three workers against the threat of disciplinary action over an alleged breach of clocking-off rules.

A woman worker who supported the strike was also protected from a move to transfer her to a different job which would have cut her earnings in half.

Shop steward Dave Parkinson told Workers Press:

'I think they have been testing us out, but have found that since the strike support for the union has increased.'

BRIEFLY

CAMDEN Trades Council this week passed the following resolution, submitted by the AUEW-TASS London central branch:

'We, Camden Trades Council, urge the TUC to ask unions in the newspaper industry to give special dispensation to the Workers Press, "Morning Star" and other socialist papers to print normally during any political strike, such as we saw during the jailing of the five dockers, to counter biased reporting from elsewhere.'

LAND-ROVER parts were being supplied again yesterday at the Solihull, Warwickshire factory, where 85 lorry drivers stopped production on Thursday. They are protesting at the renewal of a six-month contract with an outside firm transporting parts between the Cardiff depot and Solihull. This will be reviewed in February, a company spokesman said.

NORWICH firemen yesterday refused all duties except emergency calls after a colleague was fined £20 and lost a day's pay for being away sick for a day more than the six a year allowed without a doctor's certificate. The protest could go on until the fireman's appeal is heard by the Fire Brigades committee in the middle of December.

Clockwork picketing at CAV

Workers concentrate on 3 plants

FROM DAVID MAUDE ON MERSEYSIDE

VEHICLE components workers from the occupied CAV factory at Fazakerley, Liverpool, have turned out in earnest to force a rapid and successful conclusion to their seven-week-old sit-in.

Attention has now shifted decisively to their picketing campaign at three Merseyside factories: Ford's, Standard Triumph and the Lucas aerospace works at Broadgreen.

Its aim, as CAV shop steward Bill Towner summed it up, is to 'make Lucas realize it will cost them more to close than to keep open and maintain our 1,000 jobs on Merseyside'.

A new picket rota — involving all the workers taking part in the sit-in two hours at a time — was working with clockwork

precision yesterday morning. Stewards organizing the rota collected lists of the lorries turned away by the pickets with grim satisfaction.

At the Broadgreen factory the early turn successfully persuaded drivers carrying vital supplies of oil and food not to enter the gates.

Ford labour relations

director Robert Ramsey is understood to have told a Transport and General Workers' Union national officer that the company's Merseyside factory will be in serious difficulties because of the picketing by this weekend.

A black imposed by transport drivers from Lucas' headquarters group of factories in the Mid-

lands is already biting hard. Pickets have not seen a lorry from the Midlands for several days.

'We've been treating Lucas too soft until now,' a picket at the aerospace works told Workers Press. 'I think we thought if we all sat quiet and made polite noises about the 60,000 on the stones on Merseyside, they'd take us back with tears in their eyes.'

'After seven weeks you learn different; now it all depends on how hard we can hit them.'

Anti-freeze action in engineering and docks

ACTION against the Tory laws controlling wages is spreading among engineering workers in the London area. A dispute has already broken out at one large engineering plant and maintenance workers on the docks are threatening to strike.

At the CAV-Lucas complex at Acton, west London, shop stewards are resisting a bid by management to freeze piecework prices. The servicing of several important machines has been stopped and production is expected to be affected soon.

The action coincides with a visit to Acton by a management team from the Lucas headquarters in Birmingham.

They are advising local management how to implement the policy of the Engineering Employers' Federation to halt the 'drift' in piecework prices in line with the standstill on wages.

A SECOND dispute has occurred at the Silvertown engineering firm of UMP Venessas. One hundred and forty workers have gone on strike after management refused to pay a £4 increase agreed before the anti-inflation measures of November 6.

BUT MORE serious trouble is brewing on the docks. The Port of London Authority has told the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers that they cannot pay maintenance men an agreed rise because of the wages standstill.

Many stewards are advocating strike action which could eventually disrupt dock work in the Port of London.

Acton maintains delegates

SHOP STEWARDS at the CAV-Lucas plant in Acton, west London, have thrown out a management bid to reduce the number of works' delegates to the quarterly combine meeting.

Management offered to provide a venue and give the delegates wages and expenses if they curbed the numbers attending.

But the Acton stewards saw the move as another attempt by Lucas' management to absorb the meetings into the joint machinery set up for collaboration between unions and management embodied in the Joint Productivity Consultative Committee.

The meetings involve workers' representatives from Lucas plants in Sudbury, Suffolk, Rochester and Acton.

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MARXISM OR RANK- AND-FILE-ISM?

Michael Banda continues his analysis of the tactics and strategy of the International Socialism Group

Plekhanov

Anticipating the International Socialists by 90 years almost, Plekhanov in his remarkable work 'Socialism and the Political Struggle' ridiculed and condemned in the sharpest manner all those who disparaged the revolutionary role of the working class and doubted its ability to assimilate political ideas. Quoting the German economist Rodbertus who said:

'We look upon the workers as children whereas they are already head and shoulders above us.', Plekhanov wrote: 'Can the working class understand "abstract" questions of social economics and socialism at least as well as, if not better than, people who have spent years and years on their education?'

... the working class has many chances of understanding correctly the "most abstract" laws of social economics and of mastering the most abstract principles of scientific socialism ...

'Once the fundamental principles of social economics are mastered, the understanding of scientific socialism no longer presents any difficulty: here too the worker will only follow the directions of his practical experience. This aspect of the question was magnificently explained by Marx: "By heralding the dissolution of the hitherto existing world order" we read in a Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right, "the proletariat merely proclaims the secret of its own existence, for it is the factual dissolution of that world order. By demanding the negation of private property, the proletariat merely raises to the rank of a principle of society what society has raised to the rank of its principle, what is already embodied in it as the negative result of society without its own participation."

'So we see that the proletariat needs no material wealth to attain an understanding of the conditions of its emancipation. Its pauperism, determined not by the poverty or the barbarism of society, but by the defects in the social organization—this pauperism far from making the understanding of these conditions more difficult, makes it easier.' ('Philosophical Works', Vol. I. Lawrence and Wishart 1961. pp. 97-98. Emphasis in original.)

In case anyone gets the impression that Plekhanov was arguing for a spontaneous development of socialism within the working class, it should

be pointed out that Plekhanov was careful to qualify this statement with a quotation from the Communist Manifesto indicating the 'other social phenomena which also increase the probability of the proletariat's political victory.'

Among these, he includes the important role of the bourgeois intellectuals who join the revolutionary struggle:

'"Finally, in times when the class struggle nears the decisive hour, the process of dissolution going on within the ruling class, in fact within the whole range of old society assumes such a violent, glaring character that a small section of the ruling class cuts itself adrift, and joins the revolutionary class, the class that holds the future in its hands ... so now a portion of the bourgeoisie goes over to the proletariat, and, in particular, a portion of the bourgeois ideologists, who have raised themselves to the level of comprehending theoretically the historical movement as a whole." ('Communist Manifesto.')

One allegory, it is said, is worth a hundred arguments.

At the risk of oversimplifying the question, but for the benefit of the backward intellectuals of IS we reproduce the unique allegory of Plekhanov:

'There is a very remarkable legend among the Negroes of North Guinea. "One day," it says, "God summoned the two sons of the first human couple.

"One of them was white, the other dark-skinned. Placing before them a heap of gold and a book, God ordered the dark-skinned brother, as being the elder, to choose one of the two. He chose the gold, so the younger brother received the book. An unknown force immediately transported the younger one with the book to a cold, distant country. But thanks to his book he became learned, terrifying and strong. As for the elder brother, he remained in his native country and lived long enough to see how superior science is to wealth."

'The bourgeoisie once had both knowledge and wealth. Unlike the dark-skinned brother in the Negro legend, it obtained possession of both gold and book, because history, the god of human societies, does not recognize the right of classes which are under age, and commits them to the guardianship of their elder brothers. But the time came when the working class, slighted by history, grew out of childhood, and the bourgeoisie had to share with it. The bourgeoisie kept the gold, while the younger brother received the "book", thanks to which, despite the darkness and cold of his cellars, he has now become "strong and terrifying".

'Little by little, scientific socialism is ousting the bourgeois theories from the



Plekhanov: ridiculed and condemned those who disparaged the revolutionary role of the working class

pages of this magic book, and soon the proletariat will read in the book how they can gain material sufficiency.

'Then they will throw off the shameful yoke of capitalism and show the bourgeoisie "how superior science is to wealth".' [ibid., p.100]

To throw off the yoke of capital is to conduct a merciless struggle against the middle-class pedants and political parasites of the IS group who seek to deprive the working class of its 'magic book'.

The Party and the daily paper

From all that has been said it is manifestly evident that the most important weapon of the working class is the party based on the principles of democratic centralism armed with Marxist theory and tempered by an inflexible discipline.

Only such a party can inform, educate and inspire the working class and raise its revolutionary energy and initiative to overthrow capitalism.

Only by this persistent work of all round political agitation and propaganda based on an integrated perspective and the training of cadres can the disunity of the class be overcome.

Only through this struggle can the consciousness of the class be raised and the theory of the party enriched to meet the new problems constantly posed by the class struggle.

Next to the party and inseparable from it are the most important weapons of the party: the Workers Press, and All Trades Unions Alliance and the Young Socialists. These organs reinforce the party's struggle against syndicalism and enable it to conduct such a struggle on a much wider front. Like Lenin, the Socialist Labour League conceives the paper as the collective propagandist, agitator and organizer for the party.

The daily-paper is an indispensable instrument of revolutionary preparation and action. For the IS the question of such an instrument is an academic one since the question of power does not even remotely stir their minds. But for a revolutionary party it is a question of life and death. As Lenin described it:

'We have thus come to the last reason that compels us so strongly to insist on the plan of an organization centred round an All-Russian newspaper. Only such an organization will ensure the flexibility required of a militant Social-Democratic organization, viz., the ability to adapt itself immediately to the most diverse and rapidly-changing conditions of struggle, the ability, "on the one hand, to avoid an open battle against an overwhelming enemy, when the enemy has concentrated all his forces at one shot and yet, on the other, to take advantage of his unwieldiness and to attack him where he least expects it" ...

'The organization, which will form round this newspaper, the organization of its collaborators

(in the broad sense of the word, i.e. all those working for it), will be ready for everything, from upholding the honour, the prestige and the continuity of the Party in periods of acute revolutionary "depression" to preparing for, appointing the time for, and carrying out the nationwide armed uprising.' ('What is to be Done?' p.172.)

Together with the Workers Press, the YS and the ATUA, the SLL fights for the political independence of the working class from every form of bureaucratic domination and for the creation of the revolutionary party—without which no victory of socialism is possible.

But this struggle demands, completely and unconditionally, the political and organizational independence from all other parties inside and outside the working class. This—as we have shown—was how Lenin fought to build the Bolshevik Party against the economists and revisionist liquidators in Tsarist Russia who wished to subordinate the head of the working class to its ignorant and backward rump.

So it was in Russia; so it is today in Britain. Only those who assimilate the theory and practice of Leninism can claim to lead the working class to socialism.

In this scheme of things there is no place for the Cliff group, the successors of English syndicalism and of the 'economists'. It must be exposed, discredited and smashed politically into pulp. **CONCLUDED**

THE UN MAKES PEACE WITH APARTHEID

BY JOHN SPENCER

The United Nations is planning to sell out the national aspirations of the people of Namibia (South-West Africa) in return for worthless promises from the racist South African government.

Namibia is a former German colony awarded to South Africa under a League of Nations mandate in the terms of the Versailles treaty of 1919.

The mandate reverted to the United Nations after World War II and in 1966 the UN terminated the mandate in accordance with strong demands from the independent African states.

The country is run under a rigid apartheid system and the blacks who form the vast majority have no political rights. They form a pool of indentured labour forced to work at a pittance under contract to white mineowners, fishermen and farmers.

PIOUS WORDS

The great strike of Ovambo workers at the beginning of this year exposed the reality of the situation in South-West Africa to world attention.

The strike showed up the impotence of the United Nations, which has contented itself since 1966 with pious denunciations of apartheid without taking a single positive step to aid the Namibians who are legally under its 'protection'.

When Kurt Waldheim of Austria took over the post of UN secretary-general earlier this year his first Security Council assignment was to begin negotiations with South Africa for Namibian independence.

The representatives of Somalia, Yugoslavia and the Argentine were appointed by the Security Council to assist Waldheim and his personal representative former Swiss diplomat Dr Alfred Escher, in the negotiations with South Africa.

Waldheim and Escher toured South-West Africa and held talks in Pretoria with South Africa's premier Balthazar Vorster. Their report was being put before the Security Council this week.

It appears that not only has firm agreement been reached with South Africa to postpone real self-determination into the indefinite future, but the report has the backing of Somalia, Argentine and Tito's Yugoslavia, as well as Britain, the US and France.

It is predicted that the deal will win a majority on the Security Council, though opposition is expected from some of the member-states of Organization of African Unity.

Finer details of the deal are still secret, but enough has leaked out to show that what is proposed is a complete negation of the Namibian people's demands.

The deal is very reminiscent of the abortive Rhodesia settlement worked out between Sir Alec Douglas Home and Ian Smith earlier this year.

It makes no provision for immediate independence of Namibia as a single state on the basis of one-man one-vote. On the key question of self-determination, Vorster has said: 'There is no time-table whatever.'

'It is impossible to lay down a time-table for people at vari-



Vorster, South Africa's premier. Above: A woman, surrounded by her possessions, watches as her house is bulldozed to make way for the whites.

ous stages of development Mr Escher himself has said that it could take years.'

He added that whites had as much right to self-determination as any other peoples in the territory.

Vorster is naturally delighted with Waldheim's recommendations. They place the UN seal of approval on his scheme to break up Namibia into separate 'homelands' for the various tribes with the bulk of the most fertile and valuable land in the hands of the whites.

None of these projected homelands are viable economic units on their own—some, like the planned 'Bushmanland', consist entirely of arid desert. Under the agreement they are to be administered by regional authorities under the control of a new overall council.

FREEDOM

Waldheim and his fellow-officials have also agreed that 'investigations' should immediately be begun 'with a view' to abolishing restrictive legislation

on freedom of speech, labour and movement as well as freedom of expression in Namibia.

As Vorster indicated, there is no time-table for the deal, which also contains a clause that autonomy cannot be conferred on the territory without the inhabitants having had 'experience in self-government'.

No wonder Vorster finds the deal so acceptable! It ratifies his racist dictatorship over the Namibian blacks (subject, of course, to 'investigations . . . with a view') without committing him to doing anything.

The right-wing weekly 'To The Point' shares Vorster's enthusiasm. The deal, it says, 'would mean that South Africa has succeeded in selling its policy of differential development for the separate peoples of South-West Africa, leaving the whole question of independence as a unitary state up in the air.'

The imperialist powers which dominate the United Nations are extremely anxious to get

Namibia off the agenda as fast as possible. South-West Africa is a major outlet for capital from Europe and the United States, ensuring big profits for the mining corporations of the City and Wall Street.

Their ambassadors are lobbying for acceptance of the Waldheim report in the corridors of the United Nations. The big unknown quantity is the Soviet Union and China, which have yet to make their position clear.

SELLING OUT

But the attitude of Yugoslavia, which participated in drawing up the deal and is sponsoring the resulting report, indicates that at least one Stalinist bureaucracy has no objection to selling out the Namibian people's basic demands.

If the deal does go through it will be a major blow to those liberals and clerics who have placed their faith in the UN 'thieves' kitchen' to resolve the problems facing Namibian

workers. These people have consistently boosted the UN's worthless 'opposition' to apartheid in Namibia.

Their support in the last analysis has only provided the UN with the credibility it needs in the eyes of the masses to foist this dirty formula on the world.

The United Nations has never liberated a single colonial slave or bettered the lot of a single victim of imperialism. It is nothing more than the central organization of world imperialism, subordinated completely to the requirements of the US and its allies.

The heroic struggle of the Namibian strikers earlier this year served a warning on the South African bosses that their days are numbered. The Namibian workers will win their independence and smash the grip of apartheid.

But it will not be awarded to them by Vorster or the UN. It will be won in struggle against all the agencies of imperialism.

COUNCILLORS TENANTS MINERS SAY NO TO TORY RENT LAW

BY PHILIP WADE

Just 48 hours ago the Tory government began plans for an all-out assault on 11 Labour councillors in a small Derbyshire town who have refused to have anything whatsoever to do with the Housing Finance Act.

As the district auditor arrived in Clay Cross on Thursday, tenants jeered in defiance. He had come with instructions under his belt from the Tories to make a special examination of the council's housing account.

The council—100 per cent Labour—has not implemented the Housing Finance Act. Over £11,500 in rent revenue is missing to date as a result.

The entire Labour council in Clay Cross could soon be bankrupted by paying all the rent outstanding since October 2.

It would mean their automatic removal from the council for at least five years. If any court orders to obey the law are ignored it could mean jail for contempt.

Either way it means that the Tories intend to disenfranchise the workers of Clay Cross, to deny them their democratically-elected representatives.

And there is yet another blow being aimed at Clay Cross workers. The Tories have warned the council that failure to implement the Act could mean repayment of subsidies of about £25,000 given earlier this year.

'Who would have to pay that is anyone's guess,' said William Casterton, the council's chief financial officer.

Clay Cross is now right in the firing line against all the Tory attacks on the working class, on rents, on jobs, on prices and on basic democratic rights to elect who you want.

Every single council tenant is behind the ten men and one woman who sit in the chamber at the municipal buildings. Many of the 1,387 have stickers in their windows to prove it.

Miners have said they will support the councillors if they are touched by the Tories. Any such move by the government could touch off an explosion in the area.

Not that such struggles are anything new to Clay Cross. A few years ago the district auditor had to examine why the council was only charging 50p rent for new houses and subsidizing them out of the general rate account.

The council successfully denied Tory instructions to end free school milk.

On house building Clay Cross has a fine record, building at the rate of 2½ times the national average in the 1960s, sweeping away many of the slums that scarred this ex-mining town.

For years the council has had a policy of municipalizing

all private property coming on to the market.

When pits surrounded the town things were more prosperous. Now they have nearly all gone. The dole queue is staggering, with an 18-per cent unemployment rate.

Mass unemployment, the defence of basic rights gained over years of struggle, make Clay Cross Labour councillors unanimously opposed to the Tory government's attempts to destroy municipal housing once and for all.

Arthur Wellon, an engineer in the county council's 'bridges' department, is leader of the Clay Cross council. He told me that when the White Paper on 'fair rents' was first published 18 months ago, Clay Cross said they would oppose it. Ever since, they have refused to implement the legislation.

The majority of the working class want a solution to all their problems and we've got to take up this challenge and give a lead. Look, five days after the first round of tripartite talks, 4 million tenants were paying £1 a week extra in rents. Can we trust such a government?

Of course one of the sad things is that the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party sent out such a miserable document on 'fair rents', telling councils they could do what they liked. So the Party rank and file have not had any lead from the top.

The basic policy of this government is to put the working class back in its rightful place, to trample them underfoot. You can see the way they want to make people grovel by this Family Income Supplement scheme.

Now we have to put our principles first. There is a time when it's taken too far—when the working class have to dig in their heels. This is one of those times.

Someone, somewhere says that's enough. It stops here. That task has fallen to Clay Cross council even if we are alone. We must give this lead.

The only woman on the council is Mrs Eileen Wholey, who works as a cook in the local school. Her husband works down Arkwright Colliery.

We can't afford it and won't put up these rents. The Tories can never frighten us—we'll still go forward. For 18 months we've stuck it out while many councillors got frightened of the consequences.

We are all socialists here with very deep principles. If they take us, 11 more will come just the same. We thrive on this sort of thing in Clay Cross. But we haven't had the leadership from the top of the Labour Party.

Now the trade union movement must rally behind us. The Tories have been putting the working class down. But if the working class gets together we could put the Tories



Support from Derbyshire miners (left) is being sought by the council seen here (centre) leading a demonstration. Housewives (right) say school meals are going up as well. Eight of the 11 defiant councillors (above)

out of office. And it's brewing up for that, for another Ireland here.

One thing that will have to happen when Labour is returned is a clear out of the right wing in the movement, like what happened with Taverner.

Mrs Susan Williams lives on the five-year-old Danemoor housing estate.

I don't want to pay any more rent. If I did, it would mean scrimping and

scraping to find another £1 for housekeeping money.

Anyway, we've already had to cut down on food because of the prices going up. Biscuits are out, even though some people might consider them a luxury. We also have a smaller joint at weekends now.

The council must be supported. They've done such a lot for Clay Cross. All the slums have been cleared and these new estates built with

cheap rents.

This Tory government does not cater for us. It has told lies since it got in. Prices have absolutely shot up.

We put these councillors there and we are going to stick up for them. The Tories can't be allowed to get rid of them because we voted them in for us.

Gordon Butler is branch secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers at the Arkwright colliery, not far

from Chesterfield and about ten miles from Clay Cross.

As yet nothing has been decided by the Derbyshire area council of the NUM on Clay Cross's call for support.

If the Tories intend to inflict wounds on our membership and the councillors, the unions will react in a violent way, which is quite natural.

If the Tories have the reins that long they are taking us back to the 1930s and the

working class and the labour movement will react sharply and quickly. And I don't think that's long coming.

As far as strike action in support of the councillors is concerned, I would be in favour if it was on an area basis. Unilateral action would not work. Ever since the 1970 dispute which started in Yorkshire, and which we supported, the men will only act together and officially.

Basically, the main way to

bring down the Tory government is through the power industry. We nearly did it ourselves this year. Now that the electricity supply question is settled, it's up to us.

Now the question is whether our own leaders are going to fight for our claim in full as decided by conference or whether they appease the situation and order a ballot.

The fight is now on, provoked by the Tory govern-

ment. As Arthur Wellon says: 'Nothing can be solved while this Tory government remains in office. Unless the whole of the trade union and working class movement takes up the lead from us then all we've done is prove a point. There's going to be a clash with this government in which someone wins and someone loses.'

In Derbyshire itself, the miners' leadership has an enormous responsibility to see that Clay Cross does not remain on its own, to be picked off by the Tories at will.

The working class must be rallied to the defence of the councillors who are leading the battle against this reactionary and justly despised Tory government.

A defeat for Clay Cross would be a most serious blow against the entire labour and trade union movement. Hard-won basic and democratic rights would be trodden under foot by the Tory government of speculators and property men.

As the government prepares the apparatus of the corporate state with its Industrial Relations Act and now criminal action against those fighting for wage increases, they see

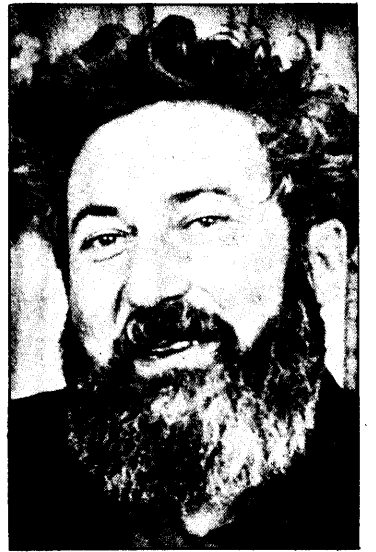
the defeat of Clay Cross as part of this strategy of rule by decree.

Only one thing can ensure victory at Clay Cross or anywhere else where the struggle is on against the government: The mass mobilization of the working class to force them to resign from office immediately.

In their place a Labour government must be put back compelled by the movement to carry out socialist policies of expropriation of the basic industries without compensation and under workers' control, and the repeal of all Tory legislation on rents, the unions and the health service.

And in that hotbed of rapidly-developing political consciousness among millions of workers, the revolutionary party will be built in Britain to sweep capitalism away finally and take the power to establish a workers' state.

**WE SAY
NO
TO RENT RISE**



Oppositionist Pyotr Yakir, whose trial will shortly take place in Russia. Left: Rommel in Africa, rendering his services to Nazi Germany. He now receives reinstatement as a 'much maligned man' on BBC TV.

EVERYBODY LOVES HITLER'S GENERAL

TELEVISION REVIEW BY ANNE BLAKEMORE

With the full range of right-wing policies prevailing across Europe and the western world, programmes like the new series 'The Commanders' appear ominously on the screen.

They go along nicely with the current trend on television where there is some sort of rehabilitation taking place for some of the slighted 'heroes' in capitalist mythology. There is a general nourishing of nostalgia and reverence for the 'good old times' of the war when terms like 'duty to country', 'honour and glory' and 'unstinting courage' were flung about in the face of holocausts of massacre, destruction and exploitation unprecedented in history.

Even in this context, homage to a full-blooded Nazi general is still uneasy ground. But writer Correlli Barnett and producer Harry Hastings did a lovely PR job in a generous (and useful—on the eve of entry into the Common Market) spirit of reinstatement, showing a simple, much maligned man ('wrapped up in family and profession and not a politician' says son Manfred), devoted to wife and children ('a tolerant father'), misled by Hitler ('... believed that Hitler was a well-meaning patriot and that it was his colleagues who were guilty of evil deeds') and loved even by his opponents ('a clean adversary in a dirty war').

The truth is that Rommel, from a middle-class, rigidly Protestant family, was trained in a crack regiment, the 124th Wertenberger which was run by Prussian aristocrats, and took to military life and its philosophies like a duck to water. He did spectacularly well during World War I, winning the highest military award in Germany for his victory at Caporetto when he routed the Italians and took 9,000 prisoners of war.

Deeply hurt by Germany's defeat he wasted no time in pledging his personal allegiance to Hitler and the Nazi party, becoming one of the staunchest members of the officer corps who assisted Hitler's climb to power in the 1930s.

In 1935 he and Hitler met for the first time and the two soon hit it off, particularly after the publication in 1937 of Rommel's book on military tactics which was used by Hitler as a model text over the years to follow.

Although plenty of colleagues were resurrected to speak eloquently on his behalf 'totally devoted to his duties ... worked from early morning to late at night' etc., equally as eloquent in their revelations, perhaps not in the way they were intended, were the letters written each day from the murderous battlefields to his wife.

After the invasion of Poland: 'Dear Lou, everything wonderful so far: am in splendid form, the war will be over in two or three weeks ... please

cut out all the newspaper articles about me as I have no time to read them now ...'

June 5, 1940: Germany moves south to cut off the French: 'the advance went straight forward ... your birthday was a thoroughly successful day ... two glorious days of pursuit.'

St Valerie: Capture of the 51st Highlander Division by Rommel: '... wonderful moments.'

But it was in Africa and in the desert that he triumphed, eventually driving across to Tobruk: 'We are attacking with dazzling success ...' and only saddened by Hitler's obsessions with Russia and his underestimation of the African theatre as Rommel saw it—plunder stretching before him, a new empire and the Persian oil fields to boot.

It was only when at last Auchinleck and Montgomery began to drive him back in the two stages of El Alamein did he begin to lose that 'schoolboyish enthusiasm' for the game of war. Only then did he begin to question his Nazi convictions, as Hitler ordered him to advance to certain extinction.

The programme did its best to promote his anti-Nazi phase, twice emphasizing over the scene of his funeral that it was 'nothing but a cynical lie churned out by the German propaganda machine'. But there was some difficulty in showing any active part that Rommel could have taken, even in the dubious bourgeois resistance

movement against Hitler, since for a start Rommel found assassination 'unethical'!

And even though the Gestapo did get him in the end, it was done with taste as befitting a national hero, and his family and staff lived on unmolested—a gift from Hitler for the many services rendered to Nazi Germany and all the horrors perpetrated in its name.

And for another sympathetic portrait of a different sort, but just as menacing in its way, Amnesty International, in their short interviews for 'Prisoners of Conscience' week did a job on Pyotr Yakir, whose trial will shortly take place in Russia and who was presented by Peter Reddaway of the London School of Economics as a man 'with a burning but moderate desire for self-justification and freedom for all men'!

Despite the fact that Yakir has raised many basic historical questions in his sharp statements against Stalinism and that his father General Ionnyr Yakir, ex-Red Army, was one of the longest-standing oppositionists and was shot by Stalin, Yakir was, in the space of ten minutes, castrated politically to become one who 'realized that revolution or overthrowing the regime was ridiculous and all that mattered was ... compassion and ... trying to ensure people had fair trials, etc'.

Yakir is certainly something of a liberal within the Stalinist context in that he has been isolated from the working class and from Bolshevism by

Stalinism. But to associate him with the tenuous and bloodless apolitical liberalism of Amnesty is a ludicrous distortion of the facts as Yakir himself and others like him in Russia, would see them.

Finally liberalism runs riot and turns to farce in true British fashion as Germaine Greer and William Buckley Jr faced each other across that arena of so many spirited and sterile, glittering and gutless 'battles—the Cambridge Union.

This is a university which is the bastion of all that is most reactionary (as even Greer was moved to imply) in our society and a debating chamber which harnesses to its training ground the cream of the runners in the race for power—in the banks, Stock Exchange, industries and properties of the capitalist state.

These young things will be tried before very long and, judging from the empty efforts at wit they engaged in, they should prove worthy candidates for all positions.

Most of the glitter is pretty rusty by now, especially when they dredge up the golden oldies of liberal campaigning such as 'the Women's Liberation Movement'.

Greer, holding herself up as the 'White Negro' of Women's Liberation, lavished a muddle of half-baked notions on the assembly about 'women without tradition' and 'opting for a new and exploding world in the future' and proved once and for all that Women's Liberation has taken its political stand—that of the liberal reformists with no concern with revolution or revolutionary principles.

Buckley, flannelling about in a welter of comely courtesies, anxiously looking at his watch, obviously had his thoughts elsewhere, being, after all, a man with little time on his hands: in the US he covers a number of important newspaper columns and has his own television programme in which he can display all the poisonous arrogance of the wealthy right-wing Republican and friend of Nixon that he is.

To see these two smirking and sparring feebly with each other and flirting with their young audience on issues which always managed (quite a feat) to remain peripheral, brought home the real conclusions that such a confrontation (if it can be dignified by the term) implies: camera fodder these two may be and farce their episode was, but nonetheless dangerous for it. Liberals and reactionaries have made cosy alliances before and they are courting each other now in the most unlikely places.

Thames: Saturday, November 18 11.30 p.m. 'PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE: Pyotr Yakir'.
BBC-1: Tuesday, November 21 9.25 p.m. 'THE COMMANDERS: 1. Erwin Rommel, Field Marshal, German Army' Written by Correlli Barnett, produced by Harry Hastings.
ATV: Tuesday, November 21, 10.30 p.m. 'BUCKLEY AGAINST GREER'. Director Mike Dormer.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

FRANCO AND THE 'MORNING STAR'

As this year's annual Communist Party congress approaches, the British Stalinists are taking desperate measures to boost the flagging sales of the 'Morning Star'...

So desperate that the 'Star' is on public exhibition in a Spanish government building. The self-styled 'only daily paper of the left' sits side-by-side with the full-colour pornographic magazines, 'Candy', 'Randy' and 'Rosie' as part of the British Press stand at a media exhibition in Madrid.

The Foreign Press Corps which is organizing this media-happening in Franco's capital made a precondition for holding the exhibition that there should be no censorship, and the Generalissimo agreed.

The Spanish police are usually in pursuit of the slightest whiff of porn or even liberal thought, but the British Press has touched that soft spot known as 'opening out to Europe'. The 'Star' is there to lead the way for Britain!

However, the Stalinist daily is getting poor recompense for its efforts—visitors are more interested in the delights of 'Candy', 'Randy' and 'Rosie' which rapidly disappear from the stand.

Perhaps the 'Star' should take the hint and enliven its pages with a nude or two—although, in truth, buxom beauties did not save the YCL's 'Challenge' circulation figures.



NEW MINISTER

Heath's new Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is Joseph Godber, MP for Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Godber found himself particularly suited to his first job as Minister: refusing the farmworkers their just-agreed increase in the name of the Tories' pay-control law.

For J. Godber Esq was proprietor of a horticultural firm, Manor Nurseries. And he was once managing director of Isaac Godber, a family farming firm run by his brother.

PROMISING

If you've got a grand or two to spare, why not do yourself a favour and invest in a nice plot of land. Or not land so much as land itself as an Agricultural Bond (paying up to 8 per cent a year tax-free), which a City investment firm will be only too happy to supply you with.

That's the message of a recent advertisement placed by Towry Law and Co Ltd, of 77 London Wall, in 'The Sunday Times' newspaper.

'With our approaching entry into the Common Market, farming land in Britain has become one of the most promising investments there is', the ad started brightly. 'Already it has doubled in value over the last six months. And experts believe there should be continuing growth.'

'Apart from the rising value of agricultural produce, there are increasing demands on land for homes, roads and industry. And land is the one thing they're not making any more of.'

One answer to beating the Tory pay-control law (if you can afford it), lies, it seems, in the soil...

GOD AND THE EEC

Talk about unifying church and state. A recent item from the 'Irish Times' introduced us to a gentleman who had it off to a T.

Said the Most Rev. Dr Pike, Bishop of Neath: 'We can only succeed if our works are of God; and all the evidence suggests that the European Economic Community is of God'. (October 28.)

We can only hope Dr Pike continues to peddle this line to his flock as Market entry sends prices soaring. Should do wonders for his attendance figures.



MAKE LOVE NOT WAR

FILM REVIEW BY BRIAN MOORE

'Triple Echo' is a low key, unglamorous film which is rare in the current state of the industry. It's the first film of a television director Michael Apted and is of some interest.

Adapted from the short novel by H. E. Bates it tells the story of a woman during the last war left to look after the small farm she owns. Her husband is a prisoner of war in Japan. She is very much on her own, her only company is a large ageing and ailing dog. She works hard, is no mean hand at a shotgun. A capable woman, unemotional, determined.

But for the absence of her husband, the war seems a remote event. Only the occasional Spitfire flying overhead and the wreck of a German fighter plane, brought down the year before in the Battle of Britain, rusting in a nearby wood, are reminders that hardly disrupt the hard routine of the land. With eggs to barter on the black market of the local village shop, a ration book is not a token of shortage. By accident into her life comes a young soldier, Barton, who trespasses on her land. Like her he comes from a farm. And he hates the army.

The two are drawn undemonstrably together. Barton helps her with jobs on the farm, repairs the tractor. He comes whenever he can get away from camp. She looks forward more and more to seeing him. When the time comes for him to go on a week's leave, he stays with her on the farm.

Glenda Jackson and an actor new to the screen, Brian Deacon, play this beautifully, with strength and understatement. The closer they become to each other, the more he hates the army. At the end of his leave he decides not to go back, to go on the run.

Yet the decision makes him a fugitive and her an accomplice. He must hide in disguise. The war intrudes in this quiet backwater. In these conditions a normal relationship is impossible.

It is her suggestion that he disguises himself as a woman. He resists, but she insists. There is no other way.

Then begins what he discovers to be his imprisonment. Their relationship changes with the new stresses.

It is here that the weaknesses of the film take over,



Glenda Jackson as Alice. Above: Oliver Reed as the sergeant with Brian Deacon as the young soldier, Barton.

for the director seems uncertain and indecisive about his material.

The new tensions, the fear of discovery, the reversal of traditional roles, are skated over. Their relationship is dealt with ambiguously. There is little sense of the trap that they are both in, or what both feel about it. There are sharp exchanges, the woman's growing resentment and also sense of power, the perverseness with which Barton begins to paint his nails and grow his hair.

But the real complexities of the situation are glossed over. And the film loses its centre.

The sudden arrival on the farm of an army sergeant adds a new twist. He is a bull-necked, coarse womanizer. Rebuffed by the woman on the farm he turns his attentions to the 'sister'. He wants to take her to the mess dance. Perversely 'she' agrees.

At the dance Barton's true identity is discovered. Enraged at being made a fool of, the sergeant pursues him. He discovers he is a wanted man and Barton is arrested by a squad

of MPs and brutally beaten up.

Rather than see her lover Barton treated in this way, dragged off back to military detention, the woman shoots him dead.

What is interesting in the film is the way outside circumstances penetrate and transform the most simple situations. For the husband the war means a prison camp, for the wife and Barton the entry into this bizarre and tragic situation. For the German fighter pilot death in an unknown wood.

The film is unsensational and serious, but its understatement actually reveals the indecision of the director. The crucial turn in the relationship is not explored fully enough to give credibility to the characters' motives. Why do they behave in the way that they do?

The absence of an understanding of the way the characters develop and change gives the film the uncertain outlines that it has. It is incomplete in this way, but it does show a definite talent emerging in Michael Apted. It's well worth seeing.

BOOKS



LEON TROTSKY:
Germany 1931/1932
Paperback £1.25—cloth £1.87½
Where Is Britain Going?
Paperback 37½p
Revolution Betrayed
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Students' conference opens in Margate Jacks' protest politics won't win grants

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

STUDENTS have little chance of winning any increase in grants for at least two years, according to Digby Jacks, National Union of Students' president.

He told the NUS annual conference at Margate last night that since October there had been 'a major determination to resist hall fees and other institutional costs which absorb excessive amounts of grants'.

Jacks, a Communist Party member, said students had to get away from 'pious resolutions' and 'actually do something for them'.

For Jacks, however, that was as far as it went. He made it clear there were too many obstacles in the path actually to win the campaign. 'None of this is going to be easy,' he told the first session of the conference, which represents 500,000 students.

He then revealed what was actually worrying him: The Tory government. 'We have a government wage freeze and other policies that are opposed to our interests.' What was needed was a well-organized campaign with 'maximum support from our own members, from trade unionists and from all those involved and concerned with education'.

Jacks admitted, however, that this pathetic apology for a fight against the Tories would win little, if anything.

'We may be successful', he said. 'We must try and fight. However, in the end, all that we may have done is to lay the basis for a better conclusion to the 1974 triennial settlement than would otherwise have been achieved.'

So while students' meagre grants are savaged

by rising prices, hall fees and rents in private lodgings Digby Jacks plans only a protest campaign to head off the growing movement for bigger grants immediately which inevitably means a clash with the Tory Government.

Instead, as he elaborated in his speech, the question was to get the government to change its mind and policies—exactly the line of the Stalinists, driven as they are by the perspective of peaceful co-existence.

On graduate unemployment, rapidly increasing, Jacks could only say: 'I hope this government will not be seduced by facile arguments about unemployable students.'

What then? 'The answer is a government policy which will solve the problem of unemployment.'

With Jacks and the Stalinists in general fast becoming advisers to the Tories on economic questions—although he re-

mained 'extremely sceptical' about their educational 'intentions'—it was not surprising that he ended with an attack on the students at Stirling University, now fighting a witch-hunt following the Queen's visit last month.

While claiming he was on their side, despite an NUS statement saying it was a 'non-event' at the time, Jacks asked:

'Why did a few students at Stirling offer a gift hostage to those who

wanted one? Was the issue of such importance that it was justifiable to obtain hysterically abusive front-page headlines?'

In a characteristic slander of the old Stalinist school he concluded: 'I suggest that it was not necessary to give our enemies the ammunition with which to weaken us.'

Many students at the conference will now ask that with such 'friends' as Jacks and the CP, who actually needs enemies?



Digby Jacks, NUS president and CP member, speaking at last year's conference.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Fight Rising Prices
Force the Tories to Resign

CENTRAL LONDON (Press and Entertainments Branch): Sunday November 26, 3 p.m. Royal Shakespeare Rehearsal Rooms, Floral Street. The Fight for Shepperton. Speakers: Yvonne Richards (ACTT), Roy Battersby (ACTT), Roger Smith (ACTT), Corin Redgrave (Equity), all leading members of their respective unions speaking in a personal capacity.

READING: Monday November 27, 8 p.m. Trades and Labour Club, Minster Street.

ACTON: Monday November 27, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, High Road.

LEICESTER: Tuesday November 28, 8 p.m. Southfields Library.

COVENTRY: Tuesday November 28, 7.30 p.m. Elastic Inn, Cox Street (opposite Theatre One).

WEST LONDON: Tuesday November 28, 8 p.m. 'Prince Albert', Wharfedale Road, King's Cross.

LUTON: Wednesday November 29, 8 p.m. The Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Road. 'The Tory Pay Law'.

PRESTON: (Please note date change), Thursday November 30, 7.30 p.m. Waterloo Hotel, Friargate.

SHEFFIELD: Thursday November 30, 7.30 p.m. The Grapes, Trippet Lane. The sell-out at Arthur Lee's and the fight against the pay laws.

BRACKNELL: Sunday December 3, 7.30 p.m. 'The Hop Leaf', Church Street.

BRACKNELL: Monday December 4, 8.00 p.m. Priestwood Community Centre.

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SLL LECTURES

OXFORD

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

LONDON

Sunday November 26
Basic Essentials of Marxism

Sunday December 3
A theory of knowledge

Sunday December 10
Opponents of Marxism

**BEAVER HALL
at Mansion House tube**
7.30 p.m.

Lectures given by
G. Healy
SLL national secretary

LIVERPOOL

Wednesday November 29
Stalinism 1932-1938

Wednesday December 6
Trotskyism and the founding of the Fourth International

**COMMON HALL
HACKINS HEY**
off Dale Street, 7.30 p.m.

Lectures given by
Tom Kemp (SLL Central Committee)

LEEDS

Monday November 27
Capitalism and the crisis

Monday December 4
The struggle for power

Monday December 11
Revolutionary theory and the Marxist Party

PEEL HOTEL
Boar Lane, Leeds 4
8 p. m.

BARNESLEY

Sunday December 3
Capitalism and the crisis

Sunday December 10
The struggle for power

Sunday December 17
Revolutionary theory and the Marxist Party

RED LION HOTEL
(Worsborough) 8 p.m.

Lectures given
by Cliff Slaughter
(SLL Central Committee)

SHEFFIELD

Monday November 27
Capitalist crisis

Monday December 11
Stalinism and Trotskyism

Monday January 8
Marxism and the revolutionary party

FORRESTERS HALL
Trippet Lane, 7.30 p.m.

Bus and tube halt in Glasgow

UNDERGROUND transport and bus services were halted in Glasgow yesterday and today as more than 3,000 bus workers joined underground staff in a two-day strike over shift allowances.

Thousands of commuters had to walk to work and British Rail reported that suburban trains were 'packed solid', while traffic crowded roads into the city.

Mr Philip Jenkins, Glasgow district passenger officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, estimated that 85 per cent of the city's buses were not working.

The strike ends at midnight tonight and union officials will be meeting the corporation on Monday.

The result of the talks will be reported to garage meetings on Tuesday.

Who'd have guessed?

PRINCESS ANNE will not be prosecuted for allegedly speeding at 90 m.p.h. on the M1. Instead she has received a police warning, it was revealed yesterday. She was stopped on November 11 by a patrol car when driving her sports car. It was the second time in a month that she had been stopped.

Fourth International

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THIS IS our most decisive week-end. It must be all out for a huge last-minute effort to complete our total of £1,750. We are sure you will do everything you can to raise this final amount. However much the trade union leaders try and reach agreement with the Tories, nothing they can do will

hold back this enormous movement of the working class. Thousands of workers everywhere are joining the fight for pay increases. This Tory government must now be made to resign. Our paper will remain in the forefront of this struggle. We

need all your support to complete our Fund in time. Let's make it a grand finish. Raise all you can. Rush every donation immediately to:
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LAST SIX DAYS! WE NEED £502.66

NUT disbands young teachers

BY IAN YEATS

THE NATIONAL Union of Teachers' executive has moved to spike the guns of militant young teachers as their pay claim runs into heavy weather.

The teachers are expecting a rise from April 1, but so far the management panel of the Burnham Committee has refused even to make an offer in deference to the government's pay policy.

And Tory Education Secretary Mrs Margaret Thatcher said yesterday in an implicit reply to the 10,000 teachers who had lobbied her on Wednesday that even the offer of an extra £15 on the London allowance had now been withdrawn.

Thousands of teachers who turned out on Wednesday are saying price rises are so serious that they face drastic cuts in their living standards in the next few months unless wages are improved.

Now the NUT executive has scrapped the Young Teachers' annual conference and the Young Teachers' Advisory Committee.

Young teachers represent 60 per cent of the NUT's membership and in the past two years they have acted as a powerful ginger group behind the union bureaucracy.

An amendment to retain the Advisory Committee was lost by 19 votes to 13 on the executive.

Larry Green told the executive that removing the committee would reduce the young teachers to a 'tea and buns affair'.

The NUT says the cost of the conference can no longer be justified. The concerns of young and old alike in the teaching profession are the same, they should be dealt with within the union as a whole.

JOHN BENTLEY'S purchase of British Lion had resulted in the stripping of the major assets 'to make a killing out of the result'. Mr Maurice Edelman, Labour MP for Coventry, said in the Commons yesterday: 'Asset stripping in the form we have seen it at Shepperton is a pernicious deadly wrong not only to the individuals immediately involved, but to the social and economic health of the nation.'

Cheng 'a political person'

A 35-YEAR-OLD Taiwanese who fled the United States after being convicted of an assassination attempt on Chiang Kai-shek's son acted from purely political motives, it was said yesterday.

Cheng Tzu-tsai, an architect, was secretary of a political committee which considered the assassination plans, Bow Street court heard.

Cheng, who was convicted of the attempted murder of Taiwan prime minister, Chiang Ching-

kuo outside a New York hotel in April 1970, is fighting an application for extradition by the US government.

Cheng is fighting the new extradition order under a British law which says that a fugitive offender should not be surrendered if his crime was of a political character.

For Cheng, Mr Brian Capstick said the evidence showed that the murder attempt was from conception to completion a wholly political act. Evidence had shown that Cheng belonged to a cohesive and organized political party, he claimed.

Not political trial - judge

NEARLY every police officer in the 'Angry Brigade' trial had been accused of improper conduct, said Mr Justice James on the second day of his summing up yesterday.

'This sort of thing, unfortunately, can happen. The question is, and the vital thing in this case, has it happened here?' he told the jury.

Eight defendants, four men and four women, have been on trial six months facing between them nine charges including the unlawful possession of arms and explosives.

Mr Justice James directed the jury that the trial was not a political one. The defendants were not being tried for 'their political beliefs which happen to be contrary to those in government'.

It was not an offence in Britain to hold views contrary to established government.



ABOUT 30 men from Ford's Dagenham, Essex, blastfurnace lobbied talks of the national joint negotiating council yesterday morning to demand action over the threatened closure of the plant.

The 600 men involved had been told they will be offered alternative employment, but they are sceptical. Plant engineering steward Cliff Jerman commented: 'What alternative is there? After the last scare about Ford's

pulling out of Britain, the company made a statement that there was far too much financial commitment in this country for them to leave. But since then they have partially closed seven plants throughout Britain.'

● Ford management and unions representing the company's 50,000 hourly-paid workers yesterday arranged a December 14 meeting to start talks on a £10 a week claim.

DICTATORSHIP: Tory secret plan ready

FROM PAGE 1

He won a seat in parliament in 1966 and in Heath's first ministry he was made parliamentary secretary at the Civil Service Department at the age of 34.

Heath has already taken cautious steps to implement some of Rothschild's and Howell's plans.

His Defence Minister, Lord Carrington, has taken over as party chairman and another close and trusted minister, James Prior, also doubles as a Cabinet Minister

and a party activist.

Two months ago John Davies, then Secretary for Trade and Industry, took on a full-time 'political secretary' with an office next to his own.

The appointee, John Cope (35), formerly worked at party headquarters and was personal assistant to party chairman Anthony Barber from 1967 to 1970.

There will be more obvious signs of the Heath strategy following the departure next year of the Cabinet secretary, Sir Burke Trend.

In his place Heath is hoping to install a Whitehall supremo, perhaps Sir William Armstrong, the present head of the civil service and one of the men in the background of the recent tripartite talks.

Heath and his monied, military-trained clique have railroaded legislation through parliament since they took over—the Industrial Relations Act, the European Communities Act, the Housing Finance Act and now the Counter-Inflation Bill.

If need be they will dispense entirely with parliament and rule by decree through their reactionary legislation backed by the judiciary and the police.

By entering into talks at No 10 Downing Street the trade union leaders only strengthen the development of Heath's plan to assume presidential powers. There must be no further talks with the Tories.

Heath's corporatist moves must be halted. This can only be done by forcing his government out of office. The political and industrial strength of the working class is the only force which can carry out this task.

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Massive bill faces T&GWU

BY STEPHEN JOHNS

THE GIANT Transport and General Workers' Union is facing a massive bill for compensation in the National Industrial Relations Court.

After a private hearing yesterday, three haulage firms are to work out the losses they suffered because dockers blacked their lorries.

They are Panalpina Services of Hull; Heaton's Transport of St Helens; and Craddock Brothers of Wolverhampton.

Court president Sir John Donaldson said that until now the claims for compensation had been adjourned. At yesterday's hearing technical directions were given to get the claims resolved.

Further technical direction would be given at a hearing on December 5.

Sir John said the black had been taken off Panalpina on October 24 and therefore the injunction against the union had been lifted.

But Charles Craddock said after the hearing that his firm was still totally banned. He would not say whether more action against the T&GWU in the court would be taken, though I understand this is under active consideration.

The dockers have blacked Craddock's 'for life' after the firm accused two shop stewards and a union official of demanding money with menaces. The three were cleared of the charge at Liverpool Crown Court.

Heaton's is partially blacked—containers stuffed or stripped by the firm are banned on the docks.

Any compensation awarded to Panalpina will be final, but in the case of Craddock's and Heaton's, it would be an interim order pending the lifting of the blacking.

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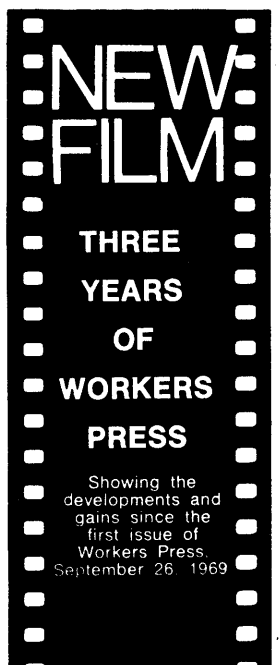
SUNDAY DECEMBER 3 7 p.m. Everyman Theatre LIVERPOOL

Speakers:

MIKE BANDA (SLL Central Committee)
CONNIE FAHEY (Wilmslow tenants' leader)

ALAN PEERS

(Young Socialists' national committee)
(Union and tenant speakers in a personal capacity.)
Details of other provincial meetings see p. 12.



SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE PUBLIC MEETING

SWINDON

Wednesday, December 13 8 pm
AEU HOUSE, FLEMING WAY, SWINDON

SPECIAL SHOWING OF THE 'RIGHT TO WORK' FILM.

A film made by ACTT showing the five Right-to-Work marches from Glasgow, Liverpool, Swansea, Deal and Southampton to London, ending with a huge rally at Empire Pool, Wembley, on March 12, 1972.

Speaker: G. Healy, National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League.
Chairman: F. Willis, AEU steward at British Rail Engineering Workshop, Swindon (in a personal capacity).

- We demand the right to work!
- Make the Tory government resign!
- Build the revolutionary party!

NEWCASTLE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 7 p.m.
County Hotel

Speakers:
MIKE BANDA (SLL Central committee)
DAVID JONES (YS national committee)
BOB MAINS (Unemployed)
VINCENT FOY (secretary Jarrow Trades Council. In personal capacity.)

BIRMINGHAM

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 7 p.m.
Assembly Hall

Digbeth Civic Hall
Speakers:

GLASGOW

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 2 p.m.
Woodside Halls
St George's Cross

Speakers:
MIKE BANDA (SLL Central committee)
JOHN BARRIE (YS national committee)
WILLIE DOCHERTY (chairman Paisley Tenants' Action Committee. In personal capacity.)

G. HEALY (SLL National Secretary)
WILLIE AITKIN (YS national committee)
PETER SMITH (Rover shop steward. In personal capacity.)