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BY A CORRESPONDENT

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## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

The Pilkington struggle and the right to strike!  
Defeat the proposed Tory anti-union laws!

St George's Hall, Lime St  
LIVERPOOL

**Saturday October 3**

2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Credentials and visitors cards 5s each from Conference Secretary, W. Hunter, 58 Leighton View, Liverpool 8.

BY ROBERT BLACK

## COUNCIL WORKERS LOBBY DELEGATES



SEVERAL HUNDRED London council workers lobbied delegates to the 102nd TUC in Brighton yesterday. There were cheers as Labour leader Harold Wilson left the morning session, but—while applauding—many dustmen commented 'We wouldn't have been doing this a few months back!'

Explaining the lobby's aim, Hackney dustmen's leader Len Stubbs told Workers Press:

'We're seeking the support of delegates for our justified claim. Many of the people here are getting only £13 a week—for instance those in hospitals—and we think the TUC should take action in our support.'

'The government has said it may use troops. I don't know whether this will come off, but the delegates have certainly got to bear that in mind as well.'

### Six affected

Six London boroughs were affected by the workers' lobby decision. In Lewisham about 100 workers out of 1,140—including dustmen, maintenance workers, gardeners and electricians—stayed away from work and three coach-loads of lobbyists travelled to Brighton.

They were joined by about 30 Lambeth council workers, mostly caretakers, park-keepers and road-sweepers.

### Two-thirds

All the Millfield depot dustmen in Hackney—two thirds of the borough's dustmen—struck work though two other depots were working normally. Other boroughs involved were Redbridge, Kingston and Romford.

## 102ND TRADES UNION CONGRESS BRIGHTON

# Talk... but no action on wages

From our Industrial correspondent  
DAVID MAUDE in Brighton

TORY CALCULATIONS that the union leaders are bluffing in their calls for 'an offensive wages strategy' are unlikely to take more than a temporary buffet from the unanimous support given this afternoon to a three-pronged wages resolution from the Trades Union Congress.

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And if the union leaders cannot put forward a policy for fighting unemployment how are they going—as today's resolution declared—

- SECURE higher wages and shorter working hours.
- OPOSE restrictions on wage bargaining 'whether legally enforced or otherwise'
- SCOTCH government plans to 'use the public sector as an "example" for the rest of industry in wage restraint'

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But the talk, despite the vehemence, remains . . . talk.

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'Even £20,' he said, 'is a modest figure.'

But while complaining that the Tories were covering abandonment of their election pledge to halt inflation with their attack on wages, he still hoped that they 'would respond by changing their course'.

And, like Congress secretary Feather before him, he stressed that the government

'needs co-operation'—but would not get it if it insisted on curbs.



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## We are open to argument - TUC boss tells Tories

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These were passed on the basis of an appeal to the Tory government for an expansionist economic policy which steers away from incomes restraint.

After last month's furze rise in the jobless totals nor the enthusiastic lobby of delegates by militant London council workers could spark one iota of hard policy—or even a real life—into either debate.

Only one of more than a dozen speakers—Leicester draughtsmen's delegate Harry Smith—so much as mentioned the deleterious effect of trade-union backed productivity deals:

**Warning**  
'To continue to stress productivity bargaining,' he warned, 'can only lead to further unemployment.'

A few delegates applauded as he stressed that 'redundancies created by capitalism are one thing. But it's another when workers' representatives are negotiating money for some of their mates getting the sack'.

However, the line, by and

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Cunningham: Rationalization not bad

## THIS WEEKEND

# YS SPORT

Organized by London Region Young Socialists

### Swimming Gala

Saturday  
September 12 6 p.m.

YORK HALL  
BATHS  
Old Ford Rd, E.2

### Sports Day

Sunday  
September 13 2 p.m.

PARLIAMENT  
HILL  
FIELDS

## Trotsky Memorial Lectures



### Monday, 14 September

'Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism'

### Monday, 21 September

'Trotsky's fight against revisionism'

BEAVER HALL

GARLICK HILL  
Near Mansion House tube

Starts 8 p.m.

Admission 2s

Both lectures given by G. HEALY (SLL national secretary)

## Robens fears new militancy

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

IF THE new spirit of industrial militancy abroad in industry spread to miners it would be a 'disaster' for progress in the coal industry, said Coal Board chairman Lord Robens yesterday.

Introducing the Board's report and accounts for 1969-1970, he said that the unofficial miners' strike last October was a personal blow for him.

'The unofficial strike was led by militants and achieved nothing . . . what will be done by the Board in this industry as far as I am concerned will be done without coercion,' said Robens.

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### Reflected

The substantial miners' pay claim which would cost £75 million was bound to be reflected in prices, but this would not affect the domestic consumer, though coal supplies to power stations would be likely to go up.

Lord Robens expressed his disappointment at a productivity increase in the industry of only 2.1 per cent during 1968-1969, but stated that there were now improvements being made, 'provided this new spirit of industrial militancy among industrial workers does not lead to a disaster as far as the coal industry is concerned.'

### 'Bedevilled'

He added that the industry had been bedevilled by hundreds of different wage rates—to improve industrial relations 'the sooner we get rid of piecework and bonus the better'.

On the current wage claim he pointed out that in October 1965 miners were top of the pay league but were now 13th. Something would obviously have to be done about this. And yet the government had given no indication that

## Esso drivers' strike spreads

ABOUT 200 more tanker drivers yesterday joined the strike over parity rates of pay which began on Tuesday at the Esso oil terminals at Purfleet, Essex, and Stanwell, Middlesex.

The Purfleet terminal was again at a complete standstill due to the strike of 127 drivers and 150 operators.

The strikers claim that outside authorized distributors are delivering Esso fuel oil cheaply by paying their drivers up to £7 a week less than Esso.

The company has warned them that their action is 'in breach of constitutional procedures' agreed with the Transport and General Workers' Union and may result in disciplinary action.

## Big support for Pilkington blacking

A MEETING of about 30 shop stewards and trade unionists from building sites, docks, car and engineering factories in the North West passed the following resolution at a meeting called by Pilkington's Glassworkers' Committee.

● That we campaign for a blacking of all Pilkington products.

● That we campaign for all committees to sponsor a one-day stoppage and demonstration on October 12.

● That we report back at a meeting in a fortnight's time.

Workers at Rowlinson's building site in St Helens also added their support to the glassworkers' struggle by turning Pilkington's glass away yesterday.

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## Interest charges kill profit

THE NCB report shows an operating profit in the industry of £6.8 million, but after interest charges of £35.1 million there was a deficit of £26.3 million. Total production at 147.4 million tons, registering a fall of 31.2 million tons from the previous year's total, could be attributed to the heavy closure programme of 1968-1969 and the unofficial strike of October 1968-1969, said Robens.

they would interfere in pay negotiations which start next week.  
Pit closures in the coming year 'should not reach two figures' he said.  
This compared with 55 closures in 1968-1969 and 19 in 1969-1970.

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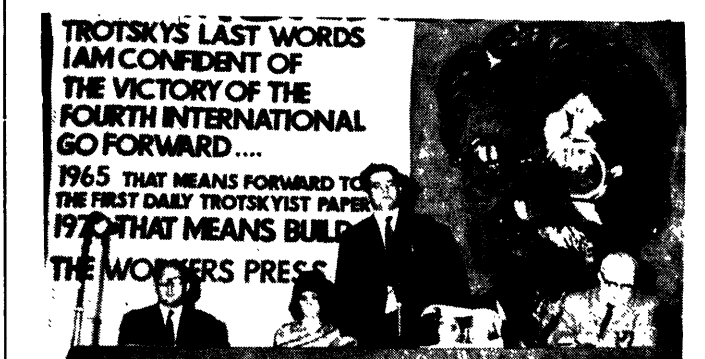
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Left: The massive demonstration to parliament in March 1963 when unemployment reached the highest figure since the war. Below: Young Socialist candidate Frank Willis leads a march through Swindon.

# 2 Perspectives & party building

struggle for power. Marxism is remote from him. What is the need for Marxism, for the dialectical method, if one deduces what is 'possible' from what is 'under one's nose', as Whelan suggests to us?

The Marxist method is the exact opposite of Whelan's series of impressions. For all his claims to being 'scientific', compare his approach with that of Lenin; who wrote:

'The first and most fundamental demand of scientific research in general and of Marxist dialectic in particular is that a writer should examine the link between the present struggle of trends in the socialist movement... and the struggle that preceded it for whole decades.'

Whelan, on the contrary, dodges about from one selected incident or document to another, contrasts us with his own norms, defends an incidental passage from one of his revisionist friends, notes that the SLL had a 'better' position than International Socialism on the class nature of the USSR, but that in other respects IS is 'improving', etc. etc.

What an indescribable hotch-potch! What typical petty-bourgeois playing with theory and politics, hostile to all serious building a movement and serious attention to the theory and history of the movement!

If Whelan were presenting a criticism of the SLL from a Marxist standpoint, he would have to ask, as the same article by Lenin indicates: 'What is the origin of the SLL's mistakes? What has given strength to the persistence of this "mistaken" course, and why is it getting stronger? How should it be combated?'

Whelan cannot answer any of these questions. The policy and programme of the SLL—what Whelan calls our mistakes—derive from a principled struggle to develop Marxism in struggle against the revisionists, who have now embraced Whelan, and from our continuous turn into the working class.

The strength behind our growth comes from the renewed upsurge of the working class in the present crisis of capitalism, in a generation which has recovered from the defeats of the 1920s—and 1930s.

To 'combat' this means to line up with all the middle-class and revisionist opponents of Trotskyism whose position has consistently developed over the last 20 years. This is what Whelan has done, and his evolution is by no means over.

This very 'reasonable' British intellectual will be led by his rationalism to abandon all association with Marxism, and in a very short time.

WE take from his attack a number of examples of the method which makes this conclusion inescapable.

According to Whelan (p. 32), the question arises, 'Why are the SLL leaders living in cloud-cuckoo land?'

To this 'scientific' question, our scientist replies:

'The answer... can hardly be sought in any personal qualities of the leadership; we should not replace Marxism with demonology. In fact it is very difficult to answer it; most probably, the explanation is that their rapid recruitment in 1960-1964 was just too much for them. They could neither understand it nor do anything successfully with those recruited; moreover, it served as justification for and encouragement of their split with the rest of the Trotskyist movement. Consequently, the Fourth International has been unable, despite its best efforts, to correct the increasingly incorrect course of the Triumvirate (Healy-Banda-Slaughter) and its followers.'

'We must admit that we don't feel too happy with that explanation; it seems sound, but too many of the details are left out, the ideological aspects of the SLL's evolution are ignored. Accordingly, we will return to the problem elsewhere.'

In other words Whelan explains nothing, and it is difficult to see what alternative there is to the very 'demonology' he disavows.

Indeed, a few pages later Whelan is forced back to such psychological explanation. Asking why the SLL persists in its division from the revisionist United Secretariat, he answers:

'... deep in their minds, they believe that they cannot turn back.'

Similarly, on the Workers Press, he explains:

'The present writer can only conclude that the SLL leadership, having decided to have a daily when they had one assessment of the situation, are unable to change course, and remained determined to have a daily, come what may.'

In point of fact, the launching of the daily Trotskyist newspaper was a definite political objective set before the Socialist Labour League at the time of the Young Social-

ists' expulsion from the Labour Party in 1964.

Our Conference 'Perspectives Document' of that year is directed towards the coming process of radicalization of the working class, having to fight through its trade unions, under a Labour government.

From the very beginning, as even Whelan is forced to admit we warned that the policies of Wilson could only lead to betrayal of the working class and would bring the return of the Tories.

In accordance with this perspective, we set course for a daily paper in five years time. The essential political preparation for this was to turn to the trade unions with the cadres won from the youth, and to campaign on every political issue facing the working class under the Labour government.

At the centre of this orientation was our initiative in the whole campaign to defeat the prices and incomes legislation, support the 1966 seamen's strike, and prevent the anti-trade union legislation.

No other political tendency whatsoever was able to campaign in this way, because every one of them was opposed to our central, Leninist and Trotskyist strategy of building the independent revolutionary party; every one of them considered it 'sectarian' to oppose the Labour government as a capitalist government; they all collaborated with the Stalinists to denounce our initiatives in 1965 and 1966 against the Prices and Incomes Bill, against anti-union legislation, and to make the left MPs fight, as premature and sectarian.

Whatever Whelan's asides now, to the effect that he may agree with one or another of these policies, he has inevitably ended up with those who opposed us, because he opposes us on the fundamental strategic question, the building of independent revolutionary parties.

Now, as he contemplates the great tasks being undertaken by SLL members in fighting for the paper, he has to ignore all the political content of this achievement, and cannot explain in any way why, at every stage of the organizational and financial campaign over five years, the League members attained targets which seemed to people like him 'impossible'.

## 1 Impressionism and Marxism

THE Socialist Labour League and the Workers Press constitute, by virtue of simply existing, an insoluble problem for a certain species of 'left-wing' middle-class commentator in Britain.

This country, they feel with all their heart and soul, is just not the place where you do that kind of thing.

They regard the insistence on principle, the unrivalled discipline and capacity for revolutionary work, of the members of the Socialist Labour League, as something which offends the comfortable British virtues of taking things in one's stride, not getting excited or enthusiastic, approaching everything with due modesty, always stopping to hear the other fellow's point of view, and being prepared to give one's opponent the benefit of the doubt.

These are not accidental 'virtues', but are the characteristic attitudes impressed for centuries on the English intelligentsia, the middle class, and the 'respectable' layer of the working class, by a capitalist ruling class able to develop the technique of compromise in relative comfort because of its historical priority.

It is therefore quite in order that the Marxist Party, proceeding from the analysis of those historical forces which prepare the revolutionary overthrow of the capitalist system, must invite the frustrated wrath of all those who adapt to the political system of the old order.

There are in Britain, as in other countries, gentlemen who want to live politically by tailoring Marxism and Trotskyism to the requirements of this adaptation.

They use 'Trotskyist' phrases

and quotations, and are thus regarded by reformist circles as somewhat daring, even suspect at times, but they are recognized as actually harmless.

Their special value is that they provide a steady supply of political argument, and an atmosphere of unprincipled gossip and innuendo, about the Trotskyist movement, the Socialist Labour League.

Some of these gentlemen are at present grouped together in the International Marxist Group (IMG), whose best-known spokesman is Tariq Ali. The IMG has published this summer an 82-page booklet, 'The Credibility Gap—the politics of the SLL', by one Tony Whelan.

This is Whelan's first public identification with the IMG, but we learn from the publishers' introduction that:

'... the IMG is extremely pleased to publish Cde. TW's study of the SLL and its policies since 1964, and that, the IMG offers this pamphlet as a contribution to the discussion necessary for the building of a mass revolutionary socialist party in Britain.'

Further: 'This pamphlet shows concretely where the SLL has deviated from Trotskyism...'

The IMG, like the 'state capitalist' group of Tony Cliff ('International Socialism' or IS) has many times prophesied with confidence the imminent disappearance of the SLL, on the grounds that we are hopelessly out of line with the realities of the modern world, and above all because we undertake more and more back-breaking tasks of a type which no reasonable Englishman could stand.

Whelan has known the SLL long enough to understand that we are not at all going to disappear, and so he helps out the IMG with another line: perhaps they can persuade the SLL members, and those attracted to the SLL,

# Reform or Revolution

### — a reply by Cliff Slaughter to T. Whelan's booklet 'The Credibility Gap—the politics of the SLL'



that all the hard work is just not worth it.

Despite Whelan's promise of a 'scientific' approach to SLL politics, he never really gets above this level. We shall show that, where he ventures into political argument, he has to resort to the most elementary distortion of our position.

This arises in all probability not from intellectual dishonesty, but because Whelan has never in any way learned to advance from the empiricist and impressionistic method of bourgeois thought to materialist dialectics, to Marxism.

And this has one cause: he has never at any time adopted the standpoint of building the revolutionary party as the instrument for changing the world, but remains the individual intellectual making a series of judgements on the movement according to some rational norms.

These norms appear to be 'plain common sense', but are really the unquestioned assumptions of the middle class, though in this case dressed up with 'Marxist' and 'Trotskyist' phraseology.

## Building a party

For this reason Whelan feels no embarrassment about launching a stream of criticisms of this or that aspect of the work of the Socialist Labour League, without explaining why he himself has never built anything whatsoever!

He never at any time contemplates, to the supposed mistaken SLL perspectives, the results achieved by him (or by the IMG and its predecessors) as a result of having 'correct' perspectives. His 'correctness' (if he was correct) is purely abstract, whereas we are talking about perspectives as a guide to revolutionary action, to the building of the Trotskyist party.

From this standpoint, Whelan is therefore quite incapable of understanding that all his criticisms of the SLL are in fact criticisms of its strongest sides. According to him, '... the leaders of revolu-

tionary organizations should not drive the rank and file to carry out impossible tasks (sic).'

We have, apparently, a 'characteristic hyper-activism'; our 'whole organization only exists on the basis of driving the membership at top speed while they last.' (Whelan's emphasis.)

What Whelan and his associates object to is precisely that the Socialist Labour League works in a Bolshevik way: it sets itself definite political objectives, based not on the surface events, but on the objective forces at work; it fights determinedly to build the organizational resources necessary to achieve these objectives; its members change their consciousness in the course of making these political changes, and actually do achieve what the petty-bourgeois considers to be 'impossible' tasks.

Whelan can never see politics from this standpoint, the standpoint of party members fighting to actually get a change in the working-class movement and prepare for the

## TV

### BBC 1

- 12.55-1.25 p.m. Maas a mor. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Adventure weekly. 5.20 I want to be—a footballer. 5.50 News and weather.
- 6.00 LONDON. Nationwide.
- 6.45 THE DOCTORS. 7.10 TOM AND JERRY.
- 7.15 TOP OF THE POPS.
- 8.00 THE EXPERT. 'The Sardonian Smile'.
- 8.50 NEWS and weather.
- 9.10 PRIZEWINNERS. 'Cilla'. With Cilla Black with guests Peter Cook, The Thickheads, Ronnie Corbett, Des O'Connor, The Hollies.
- 10.10 SWIMMING. European Championships.
- 10.30 24 HOURS. 11.10 Weather.
- 11.12 THE SELLING GAME. 'Strategy'.

### REGIONAL BBC

- All regions as BBC 1 except:
- Midlands, E. & A. 6.00-6.45 Midlands today. Look East, weather. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather. Road works report.
- North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland. 6.00-6.45 Look North, weather. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather.
- Wales. 6.00-6.45 Wales today, weather. Nationwide. 6.45-7.10 Heddliw.
- Scotland. 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather.
- N Ireland. 6.00-6.45 Scene around six, weather. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather. Road works report.
- SW, South, West. 6.00-6.45 Points West. South today, Spotlight SW, weather. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather.

### BBC 2

- 11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL.
- 7.30 p.m. NEWS and weather.
- 8.00 LINKPIX. Quiz show.
- 8.30 BEETHOVEN MASTER CLASS. Paul Tortelier works with young professional cellists on Beethoven.
- 9.10 OUT OF THE UNKNOWN. 'The Little Black Bag'.
- 10.00 JAZZ SCENE. Ronnie Scott Club.
- 10.45 NEWS and weather.
- 10.50 LINE-UP.

### ITV

- 9.30 a.m.-12.45 p.m. London. 2.15 Racing from Doncaster. 4.17 Origami. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Flipper. 5.20 Maggie. 5.50 News.
- 6.02 TODAY.
- 6.30 PEYTON PLACE.
- 6.50 NEVER MIND THE QUALITY, FEEL THE WIDTH.
- 7.30 FILM. 'A Place to Go'. With Rita Tushingham, Bernard Lee and Mike Sarne. Story of a docker's family in London.
- 9.00 THE WORKER. 'I Babble, Babble as I Flow to Join the Brimming River'.
- 9.30 THIS WEEK.
- 10.00 NEWS.
- 10.30 CINEMA.
- 11.00 THRILLER. 'Breakout'. With Lee Patterson and Hazel Court. Prison escape thriller.
- 12.10 a.m. HELP YOURSELF.

### REGIONAL ITV

- CHANNELS. 2.15-3.45 London. States Film: 'Street of Shadows'. With Cesar Romero and Kay Kendall. A society girl married to a brutal husband finds sympathy in a sleazy gambling joint. 4.30 News. 4.55 News. 5.20 News. 5.50 News. 6.00 News. 6.35 News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News.
- WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.30-12.45 London. 4.25 News. 4.27 Gog Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 11.55 Faith for life. 12 midnight Weather.
- SOUTHERN. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 London. 4.55 News. 5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.35 Never say die. 7.05
- HARLEIGH. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15-4.23 London. 4.25 Women today. 4.40 Hubble bubble. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 London. 6.01 Report. 6.10 Mad movies. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Movie: 'Trouble Along the Way'. With John Wayne. Donna Reed. A Roman Catholic college in New York must close unless it can pay off its debts. 9.00 London. 11.00 Edgar Wallace. 12 midnight Weather.

HITV (West) colour channel 41 as above except: 4.23-4.25 and 6.01-6.35 Scene West.

HITV (Wales) colour channel 41 as above except: 5.20-5.30 Y gwybit. 11.00 Y dydd. 11.30-12.00 Hyd a lied.

HITV Cymru/Wales black and white service as above except: 5.20-5.30 Y gwybit. 6.01 Y dydd. 6.30-6.35 Report Wales.

ANGLIA. 9.30-12.45 London. 4.30 Newsroom. 4.40 Paulus. 4.50 Flipper. 5.15 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Survival. 7.30 'Quebec'. With Corinne Calvet, Patrick Knowles, Barbara Rush, and John Barrymore Jr. British rule in Canada is threatened by rebels. 9.00 London. 11.00 Prisoner. 11.55 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.02 Women today. 4.10 Pepton place. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Stingray. 5.15 London. 6.00 ATV Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Movie: 'Knight of the Round Table'. With Robert Taylor, Ava Gardner, Mel Ferrer, Anne Crawford and Stanley Baker. Adventure based on Mallory's classic. 9.00 London. 11.00 Untouchables. 11.56 Pulse, weather.

ULSTER. 10.30-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Mr. Piper. 5.20 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Nanny and the professor. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Cartoon treat. 7.10 Branded. 7.40 Name of the game. 9.00 London. 11.00 Avengers.

YORKSHIRE. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15-3.40 London. 4.10 Origami. 4.25 Matinee. 4.55 Skipton. 5.20 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.35 Sain't. 7.30 If it moves, file it. 8.00 Mannix. 9.00 London. 11.00 Avengers. 11.55 Weather.

GRANADA. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.10 News. Short story. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.15 London. 6.00 Newview. 6.10 On site. 6.30 Champions. 7.25 Film: 'Wonderful Things'. With Frankie Vaughan, Jeremy Spenser, Jackie Lane and Wilfrid Hyde White. Comedy about a Gibraltar fisherman who comes to London. 9.00 London. 11.00 Invaders.

TYNE TEES. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.05 Newsroom. 4.10 Please Sir! 4.40 Hatty town. 4.55 Skippy. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.30 Police call. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.05 Love—American style. 8.00 Invaders. 9.00 London. 11.00 Something else. 11.30 News. 11.45 Science and faith.


BORDER. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.14 News. 4.15 Ghost and Mrs Muir. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Mr. Piper. 5.15 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 'After Midnight'. With Alan Ladd and Wanda Hendrix. After the war an army officer who worked with the partisans in Italy cannot forget the betrayal that cost the lives of two of his friends. 8.30 If it moves—file it. 9.00 London. 11.00 Homicide. 11.55 News, weather.

SCOTTSIDE. 9.30-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.15 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Wally Whyton. 6.35 High living. 7.05 Film: 'Cargo of Innocence'. With Charles Laughton, Brian Donlevy and Walter Brennan. 9.00 London. 10.30 Festival now. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Court martial.

GRAMPIAN. 11.15-12.45 London. 2.15 London. 4.20 Freud on food. 4.50 Win a word. 5.15 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 F troop. 6.35 Crossroads. 6.55 Movie: 'The Left-Handed Gun'. With Paul Newman. 8.45 Miss Grampian 1970. 9.30 London. 11.00 in a suitcase.

IMPORTANT READING

**REVOLUTION BETRAYED**



WHAT IS THE SOVIET UNION AND WHERE IS IT GOING?

**TROTSKY**

NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS  
186A CLAPHAM HIGH STREET  
LONDON SW4

## Cloud-Cuckoo land

But let us return to the substance of Whelan's assertion that the leadership of the Socialist Labour League was 'living in cloud-cuckoo land'.

This seems to mean that in anticipating a worsening of the capitalist crisis and preparing for Wilson to hand power back to the Tories, we were in an imaginary world.

In support of this notion, Whelan quotes from certain League documents and Workers Press articles.

As we have indicated already, our perspective of leading struggles against the Labour government's capitalist policies was richly confirmed.

Whelan makes great play of the fact that in 1965 and 1966 we warned the working class of the dangers of a rapid worsening of the economic situation and severe unemployment. Now it is perfectly true that the downward trend of unemployment after the peak of 1963 continued and did not level out until the July of 1966. It then climbed steeply to 540,000 in February 1967, and, with some slight variations, has climbed steadily ever since.

Every month this year has recorded the highest figure since the war, and it is clear from the August figure that the winter will show a higher figure than 1963.

Everyone knows that the effects of a growing trade war from the USA are still to be added.

Whose was the right perspective?

That which emphasized 'neo-capitalism' and the ability of the system to avoid the slump and unemployment of the 1930s, condemning the Marxists as victims of outdated and sectarian conceptions?

Or our perspective, which turned the advanced workers towards the need for political solution to the crisis?

Marxism is the science of perspective, guiding the revolutionary party of the working class. It is not an exact science, and it is certainly not what Whelan wants, 'a precise, accurate analysis' which, by the way, he defines only after the event!

He never, we repeat, points to some tendency—himself? the IMG?—which actually worked on such a perspective and whose achievements can be listed.



## 3 The Swindon By-election

WHELAN deserves special wrath for an attack on the Young Socialists' candidature in the Swindon parliamentary by-election of October 30, 1969, a campaign which he evidently considers to have been a major error.

Our decision to contest the Swindon by-election was of course taken when it first became known that the right-wing Labour MP, Noel-Baker, would resign. At that time, the labour movement was dominated by the mounting struggle against the threat of anti-trade union legislation.

The Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists had taken the initiative in this struggle.

Swindon was a vital industrial centre, a Labour constituency and one where trade unionists had already responded to the political fight against the legislation.

Frank Willis, a leading engineering worker and prominent member of the All Trades Unions Alliance and Socialist Labour League, was named as the Young Socialists' candidate, and his policy had as its axis the slogan: A vote for Willis means: Hands off the Unions!

Is it possible that Whelan and the International Marxist Group oppose the carrying of the fight on anti-union laws into the electoral field?

Were we wrong to show that the prices and cost-of-living issues for the working-class housewife, for example, must be tackled above all by a political struggle against the government on anti-union laws?

We considered it essential to take the politics of this fight into the trade union movement in the town, and to use the impending election to focus this political fight.

We were also prepared if a Labour candidate were to adopt the policy of opposing the anti-union laws, for the Young Socialist candidate to consider withdrawing.

The fact that the Labour government continually postponed the by-election, until it finally took place only on October 30, 1969, five months after Wilson had been forced to withdraw the legislation (June 1969), does not alter any of these facts, or invalidate any of these policies.

We now have, for example, Whelan arguing that Wilson's retreat on the anti-union laws 'proves' that pressure can change the policies of government.

An important question of programme is at stake here. Of course, revolutionaries work to defeat the policies of governments, as in the case of the anti-union laws.

But we did not draw from this stage of the struggle the conclusion that what was required was simply more pressure to ease the Labour government into a more 'left' position.

On the contrary, the very fact that they had been forced to retreat on this question only sharpened the alternatives. Anti-union laws were not just a passing phase of policy, but represented the basic needs of the employing class in the crisis.

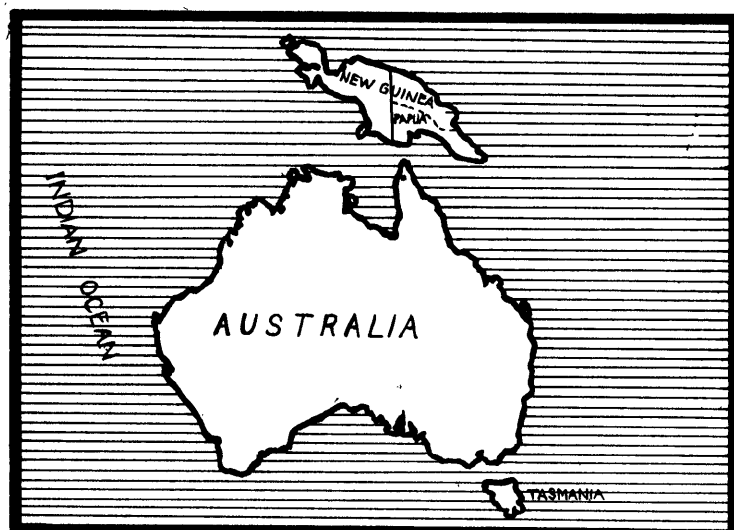
Consequently, the defeat of these laws meant that the employers would have to find a new channel for the meeting of these basic needs, i.e. if the Labour government could not do it, then there must be a Tory government.

What then was the task of the revolutionaries, the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists?

To withdraw from the political struggle in the by-election? On the contrary, to change the emphasis decisively to socialist policies to meet the whole crisis and answer the Tories!

Continued tomorrow

In place of N. Makanda's 'Class Struggles in Africa' we publish a short article by our Australian correspondent which takes up the theme raised in N. Makanda's articles on S Africa's repressive measures and police state law.



## Tighter police powers for Australian colony

N. MAKANDA'S quote from Alexis de Tocqueville (Workers Press August 27), that the deformities of a government are best judged in its colonies where they 'are seen as through a microscope', is of relevance when applied to Australia and its colony, the Territory of Papua, New Guinea.

In both places repressive law-and-order measures are being prepared at full speed, but it is in the Territory that the full brute force of capitalism is most apparent.

Recent proposals to tighten up the law there are so repressive and so reminiscent of S Africa that even representatives of bourgeois law have felt compelled to protest.

Among the things planned in the Territory are: police powers to stop and search vehicles; provide magistrates with power to order 'vagrants' or people whose words or actions are likely to lead to disorder, to return to their home district for specific periods; permit prosecution of trespassers who wrongfully remain on land or premises after being asked to leave; provide a penalty of \$500 (£233) or 12-months' jail for those who incite or encourage a crime.

There is also provision in the Bill to provide controls over public meetings which are considered likely to lead to disorder (it would appear that the Bill also gives prophetic powers to its police).

The political strength this would put into the government's hands when a possible leader is ordered out of a city or a mine back to his home in the bush, or when permits for meetings are refused because such a meeting might lead to disorder (for whom?) is readily seen.

Opposition to the Bill has come from the Australian Branch of the International Commission of Jurists, whose members are from various Australian universities and the University of Papua and New Guinea.

They have suggested that two sections of the Bill should be deleted and 14 others should be amended, although it is doubtful if even the changes they propose would prevent further powers being given to the police.

Other signs of fight have come from a political part in the Territory, the Pangu Pati, a newly-formed 'black power' movement, and the trade unions. There is talk of a united front between the groups.

But workers threatened by the Bill should not have too much faith in what the trade union leadership will do for them if the statements of one man, Mr Albert Maor Kiki, are any indication of official thinking.

Mr Kiki, who is described by some as the most influential trade union leader in the Territory, had this to say: 'It is a great temptation paving the way for misuse of the laws by the first government after independence. Our benevolent white colonial masters will very likely not misuse these powers, but a ready-made opportunity

exists to shove anybody opposing them into jail.'

The power behind the Bill for the Territory is obvious, but this should not blind Australian workers to the same, but less obvious, moves being taken against themselves.

The recent national three-hour stoppage in protest against the Federal Budget has been used as a peg on which to hang a further call for repressive legislation.

Prime Minister Mr John Gorton has claimed that there can be no excuse for inciting people to break the law in a community where the opportunity exists to change the law through the ballot box.

From there we are led to the fact that the Federal National Attorney-General, Mr Tom Hughes, is preparing legislation against people advocating law-breaking—for which we can read, trade unionists, socialists, and others prepared to fight for the working class, or against any form of government action they believe to be wrong.

Other measures, such as penalties for the invasion of private and public places to the detriment of citizens, are cut from the same cloth as the Territory Bill.

Attorney-General Hughes can speak of the invasion of private property at first hand. A few weeks ago a peaceful demonstration of students and trade unionists marched on his suburban Sydney home to give him some factual advice.

He had earlier made a statement which put the number of young men who have failed to register for national service far below the actual figure.

(There are possibly thousands of young men who have refused to comply with the National Service Act, but the government is desperately trying to avoid prosecuting them.)

In making a public display of correcting these figures, the demonstrators found in Mr Hughes a personification of capitalist class rule.

When confronted with the peaceful protest he called the police, grabbed a cricket bat, and, when the police had arrived, proceed to grab a few of the demonstrators by the neck and attempt to throw them from his garden.

As a result of this action six youths appeared in court on charges of trespassing.

In an act of defiance they each raised their arms in a clenched fist salute—for which they were sentenced to 14 days for contempt of court.

'IF THERE are billions of stars, chances are there must be intelligent life somewhere in the galaxy.'

This argument is often used to 'substantiate' the contention that other civilizations exist elsewhere in the universe and was, indeed, almost the only basis on which the astronomers of antiquity could argue.

To a large extent, present theories concerning the origin of life on earth give some substance to these probabilistic arguments.

Today, it is largely accepted that the formation of terrestrial life was a process that started with the mixing of non-living chemicals in a primeval 'soup' millions of years ago and which 'by chance' gave rise to the simplest molecular structures, which could develop at the expense of the environment.

However, simply to base the argument for life on other worlds on the laws of probability is not very helpful. We have to know where to look and even a cursory glance at the night sky reveals to the naked eye millions of stars from which to choose for our examination.

Astronomical observation, particularly with the use of the radio-telescope, has given us a fairly detailed picture of the observable universe.

On this scale, the distances involved are so immense that it is necessary to deal in light-years rather than miles.

As light travels about six million million miles in a year, we can begin to grasp the smallness of our own solar system and the immense distances over which our instruments pick up their signals.

The moon, our nearest extra-terrestrial neighbour, is a mere one-and-a-third light-seconds away, while a meagre eight light-minutes separate us from the nearest star, our own sun.

At the speed of light you can be out of the solar system in five hours, a journey which will take our own rockets around ten years at the present level of technology.

The nearest star which lies outside our solar system, but which is not visible from the northern hemisphere, is Proxima Centauri, and at a distance of 4.2 light-years (l.y.) it is about a million times further away than the nearest planet.

### UNIFORM

The stars themselves do not form a uniform pattern in the sky. On a clear night, the Milky Way—a great belt of mainly faint stars—stretches from one horizon to another and, in fact, divides the sky into two equal halves.

It has been concluded that our sun is part of a system of around 200 billion stars—the galaxy—which is shaped like a discus.

This disc is about 20,000 l.y. across and 1,000 l.y. thick and when we look at the Milky Way, we are seeing the galaxy 'edge on', so that stars seem to pile up along a narrow band of the sky.

It has been calculated that our sun is very close to the central plane of the galaxy and about half-way from its centre to the rim.

To find any substantial concentration of matter outside our own galaxy, we will have to travel a distance of 1½ million l.y. until we reach yet another galaxy.

In fact, galaxies—sometimes called 'island universes'—appear at fairly regular intervals in space at approximately this distance between neighbours.

However, the picture is not one that can be exhausted simply by thinking of millions of billiard balls clustered in various regions of space and interacting through gravity.

The 'gaps' between the stars and the galaxies contain regions of gas as well as 'matter' in the form of radiation fields.

In fact, it is the radiation that we receive from the stars that yields the majority of man's information about them.

Ordinary daylight is made up of light waves of many different wavelengths. When



In the centre of this photograph is the Cygnus A radio source as it appears in our most powerful optical telescopes. At radio frequencies, it is one of the brightest objects in the sky—sometimes 'brighter' than our sun.



Typical stellar spectra. In the negative, the absorption lines appear bright against a darker background.

### PART THREE

we think of waves, we may think of water waves where the wavelengths—distance between crests—are measured in feet.

However, when we are dealing with light, or any radiation, we are dealing with distances which are measured in millions of a centimetre and the usual unit of length is taken as one Angstrom (1A) which is a hundred millionth of a centimetre.

Visible light, which can be detected by the eye or an optical telescope, comprises wavelengths that lie between 4,000A and 7,000A, corresponding to deep violet and deep red respectively.

Wavelengths below 4,000A are in the ultra-violet region of the spectrum (that is, the complete range of wavelengths); below about 100A, in the x-ray region; and below 1A, in the gamma-ray region.

As we can see, the shorter the wavelength, the more penetrating is the radiation.

Wavelengths longer than 7,000A give rise to the phenomenon of heat and therefore infra-red radiation is also called heat radiation.

### WAVELENGTHS

Moving to still higher wavelengths, we pass into the region of radio waves where, on 'long wave', we deal with wavelengths of hundreds of metres.

Radio telescopes receive and register radiation over a much wider range than optical telescopes and therefore can amass a vast amount of information.

Sometimes the flow of radio radiation may exceed by many times the flow of visible radiation in terms of energy output. Such a case is the galaxy Cygnus A. In terms of visible radiation, the galaxy appears as two insignificant specks of light in our most powerful telescopes.

Actually the absolute output of visible light is very great—about ten times our own galaxy—but the 'faintness' is due to the immense 600 million l.y. gap between us.

Yet the flow of radio radiation reaching us from Cygnus A in meter wavelengths is so great that it exceeds that from the sun during periods of low sun-spot activity!

The spiral galaxy M104 in the constellation Virgo. This galaxy is oriented so that we can see it edge-on.



It is extremely fortunate that this tremendous outpouring of energy is not visible!

The visible spectrum alone can give a wealth of information about the composition of the stars. How?

Ordinary light can be split up into its different components by passing it through a glass prism. As most of us know, this is what happens in the formation of a rainbow, where the rain droplets take the place of the laboratory prism.

If we pass the light from a star through a prism, we also get a rainbow, but a rainbow in which certain 'lines' are missing.

This is because each chemical element present in the star has absorbed a part of the radiation with a particular wavelength.

We may think of this in terms of soldiers marching across a bridge. If they march at a particular pace, resonance is set up in the structure and the bridge collapses. Radiation at a particular wavelength is 'captured' by atoms (although they don't collapse).

All the physicist has to do is to study the stellar spectrum and this tells him the elements that are present within the star itself.

These 'absorption lines' are usually very strong in the parts of the spectrum corresponding to hydrogen helium, sodium, calcium and potassium.

Hydrogen and helium are the principal constituents of almost all stars, while the others are present in relatively minor quantities.

### SPECTRA

Not only do stellar spectra tell us the chemical composition of stars, but also their speed away from us and their velocity of rotation.

This is because of the Doppler effect, and is fairly commonplace when dealing with sound waves. If we stand by a railway line and listen to the whistle of a fast train as it passes us, we experience this effect.

The pitch of the whistle seems to drop as the train goes by.

As the sound source approaches, the wavelengths are decreased; as the source moves away, they are increased. If a light source—such as a star—approaches, the wavelengths are decreased, and the spectral lines are displaced towards the blue end of the spectrum.

If the light source is receding, the wavelengths are increased and the lines shift towards the red end of the spectrum.

When a star rotates, part of its surface is moving towards us and part away from us and this is recorded in its spectrum—providing that its axis of rotation is not pointing directly at the earth.

The chemical composition of a star has an obvious relevance if we can assume that these elements will also be present in its planetary system (if any). This is because we know that certain elements are necessary as the basis for life as we can imagine it.

However, the relevance of the speed of rotation of the star is not so obvious until we examine the possible theories of the origin of our own solar system.

To be continued next week.

### JUST OUT

NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS

## STALINISM IN BRITAIN

A TROTSKYIST ANALYSIS  
BY ROBERT BLACK

NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS, PR...

## INTERNATIONAL YOUTH NEWS

Due to pressure of space the usual Youth Column is being held over until next week.

## 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# Recession hits diesel sales Drastic cut-back planned at Lucas-CAV

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

MANAGEMENT in the Lucas-CAV combine is planning drastic economy measures.

They claim these are necessary because the US recession has hit diesel sales and because of the GKN-Sankey components strike.

## Speed-up 'strings' behind Alcan sackings

THE PROPOSED sacking of 1,800 Alcan-Booth metal workers in the Midlands and Wales is a direct result of a productivity deal carried through over the last nine months.

The purpose of the deal was to bring about a rationalization of the merger between Alcan Industries and James Booth Aluminium.

This is made clear in a letter from the managing director to the company's 11,000 labour force.

He says studies were undertaken to achieve best use of equipment, longer production runs, better productivity and lower production costs.

This has meant 950 workers losing their jobs at Banbury, Oxfordshire, due to the closure of a sheet mill, another 550 to go at Rogerstone, Monmouthshire, when an expansion plant is shut down, and 300 sackings at Kitts Green, Birmingham, following the running-down of dye design, tool making and billet machining.

## Porters to hear DEP answer

A MASS meeting this morning of Covent Garden's 1,000 fruit and vegetable porters will hear Transport and General Workers' Union officials outline the employers' proposals in answer to their claim for a £25-a-week guaranteed minimum wage.

The porters have been operating a work-to-rule in the market for the last nine days, but the employers refused to budge from their £20 offer.

Talks at the Department of Employment and Productivity between employers and union officials took place on Tuesday and a 'recommendation' will be put to porters at today's meeting.

### DEAL SOON

DIPLOMATS in Peking report that the Chinese government may soon sign a trade agreement with the Soviet Union—their first for three years.

## Post Office rapport

WRITING in the current issue of the Post Office Engineering Union journal, the union's general secretary, Lord Delacourt-Smith calls for a new grading structure for telecommunications.

This, he says, will be a 'real contribution to higher productivity over the next few years'.

He also remarks that such a grading structure could result in economies in the number of staff.

At the present time, the Post Office Corporation is spending huge amounts on automation systems and, in particular, on computers, and is increasingly on the lookout for ways of breaking down all demarcations between trades so that a mass of jobs can be eliminated.

## Two more planes sky-jacked

FROM PAGE ONE

Sunday in an abortive attempt to hi-jack an Israeli El-Al airliner.

The PFLP yesterday claimed that Britain had no legal right to detain or question the girl and warned that the Tory government would bear the responsibility for the consequences of her continued arrest.

But the Zionists were not forgotten. As the Israeli government requested the Tories to hold Khaled pending extradition proceedings, another El-Al plane was hi-jacked and was on its way to the guerrilla's stronghold.

### NO ILLUSIONS

The Tories and the Zionists are being left under no illusions that the guerrillas are determined to take their struggle through to the end.

They are engaged in a war with no holds barred. The British labour movement must express its solidarity with the Arab revolution by demanding the immediate release of all Palestinian guerrillas.

## Whitbread office staff strike

FIFTY office staff at Whitbread's Luton plant voted yesterday to stay out on strike indefinitely in support of a wage claim.

They are the third group of workers to strike at the brewery in recent weeks.

## US missiles for Thailand

THE US is to give Thailand a battery of surface-to-air missiles one year earlier than planned to 'compensate' for the withdrawal of 9,800 American troops.

## Builders & miners head Spanish strikes

THE FRANCO regime now faces a growing wave of strikes led by miners and building workers.

Yesterday over a quarter of Madrid's 150,000 construction workers were out, demanding minimum pay of 350 pesetas a day (about £2 2s), and many major sites, including those paid under government contracts, were paralysed.

Their action comes only a month after police turned their guns on a demonstration of striking building workers in Granada, killing three.

Police have been used against the Madrid strikes, arresting militants and those distributing leaflets, and guarding the most important sites.

On Monday they attacked a demonstration outside the offices of the government-controlled 'union'.

### Supporting strike

In the Asturias, 2,000 miners have struck in support of 15,000 others locked out by the state-controlled Hunosa company in 18 of the region's pits.

And in Gerona, 2,000 workers are on strike in support of a wage claim.

## We are open to argument

FROM PAGE ONE

large, remained broadly within the terms of general secretary Victor Feather's call—in his introduction to the economic policy discussion—for a change of Tory and employing-class heart.

### 'Surprised'

'Puzzled' and 'surprised', he claimed, by the restrictive attitude both of the government and of the Confederation of British Industry. Feather warned that the continuation of their present policies was 'the one sure way—the one certain way—to make absolutely certain that we get neither economic growth nor industrial peace'.

And harping again on his theme for this week ('the TUC does not sing one song when Conservative governments are in power and another when Labour governments are in power'), he declared that if Heath's cabinet gave 'a positive and constructive lead' for growth, trade unionists would respond.

### Agreement

'Of course there will always be arguments between us—but surely we can all agree on one thing, and that is the need to get Britain moving...'

'We will listen,' he went on, 'and we too are open to persuasion by rational argument.'

Of course, unemployment and the debate on Newcastle-based General and Municipal organizer Andrew Cunningham to Belfast sheet metal workers' delegate Bill Wallace—came out in favour of an attack against the tap-roots of Tory power.

### 'Rationalization'

Cunningham, 'having lived under conservatism,' warned that 'they mean what they say,' but went on to express the belief that 'some rationalization of industry... is not bad for us'.

But it seems somewhat incongruous the union which has proved unable to defend the jobs of several hundred St Helens and Pontypool glassworkers should be the main proponent of a resolution purporting to fight unemployment.

And the woolly five-point programme vaunted by Wallace as 'a step to giving us full employment for all our people' did not so much as mention rationalization.

Stewards at CAV, Acton, have been told that overtime and labour recruitment are to be terminated and short-time working introduced where necessary.

Workers past retirement age and those near retirement age may be retired prematurely.

The recruitment of temporary labour will be stopped and if possible subcontracting work diverted to other Lucas-CAV plants.

These latest cut-backs come on top of the announcement this week that workers at CAV Rochester and Chatham in Kent will be working a four-day week from Monday.

### 'Solution'

Acton management has indicated to stewards that if similar steps could be taken throughout the combine the company's 'liquidity problems' could be solved.

There would be, they said, no immediate redundancies.

Transport and General Workers' Union steward, Mr. Fred Keene, Communist Party member, did not let the occasion go without a protest.

Overtime, he claimed, was necessary in his department 'because of safety in the factory'.

CAV, which is a member of the £250 million Joseph Lucas group and employs 14,000, announced in April a £13.5 million expansion programme.

This provided for a new £5.7 million plant at Gillingham to bring their UK total up to nine.

## Prediction

At the same time they predicted a 40 per cent increase in the world production of diesel engines.

... many experts are now forecasting a 'golden age' of diesel engineering.

CAV, the leading international supplier of diesel fuel injection and electrical equipment will play a major part in this expansion, said the company's April statement.

But the Zionists were not forgotten. As the Israeli government requested the Tories to hold Khaled pending extradition proceedings, another El-Al plane was hi-jacked and was on its way to the guerrilla's stronghold.

But he made no reference to his own policy—if it exists—for fighting pit closures.

'We still believe in negotiation,' said public employees' general secretary Alan Fisher. '... We don't want a strike in the public service if it can be avoided, but this should not be taken as a sign of weakness.'

Calling for a 'fearless reappraisal' of the national wage system, dyers' and bleachers' leader Jack Peel expressed hopes for an adjustment in 'wage relativities that are not rationally based', but expressed general support for the motion.

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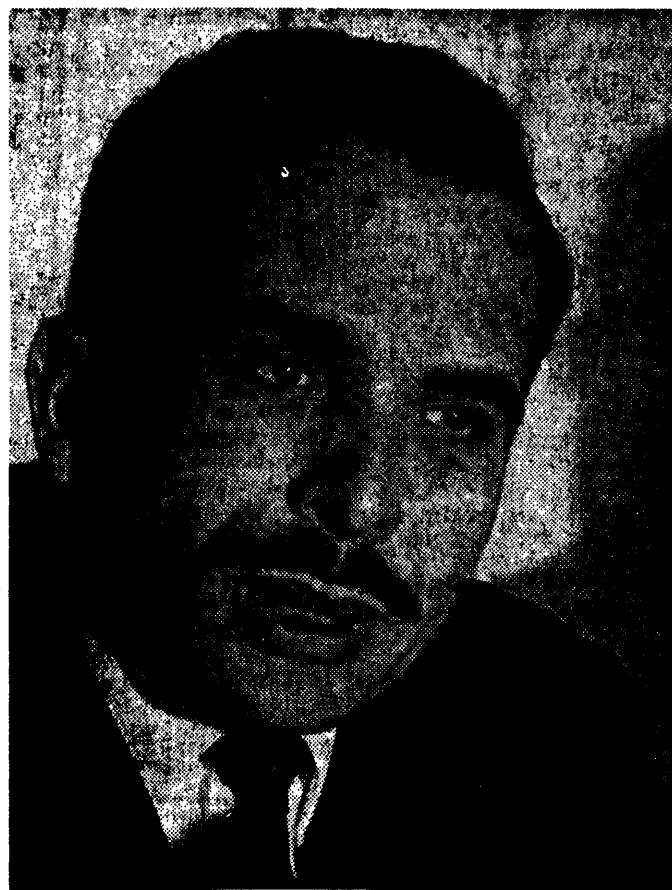
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Jordan's King Hussein

## US plots to murder guerrillas

FROM PAGE ONE

tween the ruling classes of Israel and Egypt.

### Merge

The deepening world crisis of capitalism, hitting hardest of all at Dayan's US patrons, is creating favourable conditions for the Arab revolution to win, despite the treachery of the Zionists.

So our struggle against the Tories, the captors of Leila Khaled, merges with the colonial revolution in Indo-China and the Middle East.

Solidarity with the Arab revolution is the test of every socialist in the British labour movement.

The Stalinists' attitude to the hi-jackings is significant.

Moscow Radio remains completely silent on the events which have dominated the world's press this week, but Prague broadcast a Czech press agency statement on Tuesday which refers directly to 'acts of terrorism under international law... methods which civilized society refused to accept'.

### Reluctant

Hatred and fear of the Arab revolution, which threatens to strike at the heart of British imperialist interests in the Middle East, is also the basis of the Tory government's reluctance to deal with the guerrillas over the release of Leila Khaled.

There is a real opportunity to unite Jewish and Arab workers in a common struggle for a socialist Palestine.

This is why the war-monger Dayan now calls for peace between the ruling classes of Israel and Egypt.



Dayan

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

# Youth continue hostility to Husak regime

AFTER MORE than two years of Soviet occupation, the Czech Stalinists have still failed to draw young workers and students into the organizations of the bureaucracy.

A report from the Prague correspondent of the Yugoslav news agency tells how 'the greatest problems, particularly in high schools, are encountered in the ideological sphere...'

The teacher and professional staff have been thoroughly sifted this year—many have been dismissed and many have been requested to admit their 'digressions of 1968'.

The hatred of the youth is most clearly reflected in the shrunken membership of the mass organizations. The 'Socialist Youth Union', reconstituted after

the Soviet invasion, embraces only 12 to 15 per cent of Czech youth.

Before August 1968 the figure was more than double—about 36 per cent.

FORMAL Membership of this body is largely a formal matter. This is not true, however, of the so-called 'Leninist Youth Union', whose militant commitment to the Husak regime is calculated to turn the vast majority of Czech youth against genuine Leninism.

This ultra-Stalinist body, which aims to win recruits from the country's 2,500,000 school pupils and university students, has so far won 15,000 youth to the cause of Czech Stalinism.

The Czech press and radio constantly bemoan the inability of its leadership to increase this figure, which is unprecedentedly low in a country where the Stalinist bureaucracy holds state power.

ISOLATED The bureaucracy's failure to win over any sizeable section of Czech youth proves that despite all Husak's claims to the contrary, his regime is still isolated from the vast majority of the Czech people.

DEVELOPMENTS It is clear that private and public operators do not regard these as final objectives, but are constantly on the look-out for new technical developments like articulated buses which can enable a further reduction in the numbers of bus workers.

# President Allende begins a retreat

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

SALVADOR ALLENDE, Stalinist and Socialist supported president-elect of Chile, is claimed to have reassured the Chilean stock exchange chief that he will 'respect private enterprise'.

Yet the pressure from workers and peasants for him to carry through the Popular Alliance's programme of nationalization has produced a run on the banks and the export of large fortunes by both Chilean employers and foreign companies.

Most important foreign investors in Chile are the US copper mining companies, Kenneco and Anaconda, valued together at nearly \$500 million.

Allende also pledged the nationalization of all banks and sweeping reform of the land, where 700 families own more than half the arable acreage.

### DISCLAIMS

All these pledges are thrown into the melting pot as Allende now disclaims having any 'Marxist' programme and enters into negotiations with President Frei and the Christian Democrats for a parliamentary coalition.

Despite these retreats, the right-wing and military supporters of Alessandri, the runner-up in the presidential election, remain ready to seize their chance.

Since no candidate got an absolute majority, parliament must choose between Allende and Alessandri in November.

The Christian Democrat protestations of support for Allende, in chorus with the celebration of the 'peaceful road' by the Popular Alliance leaders, can only disarm the labour movement before the threat of a right-wing coup, with or without a constitutional pretext.

### CLASS ACTION

Only preparations for class action can defend the electoral victory, both against the danger of the reactionaries and the retreats of the Popular Alliance leaders.

## WEATHER

London area, SE England, E Midlands: Occasional heavy showers. Sunny intervals. Wind SW, strong. Rather cool. Max temp 16C (61F). Central southern, SW, NW and central northern England, W Midlands, Channel Islands, Edinburgh, Glasgow, N Ireland: Heavy showers. Bright intervals. Wind SW to West, strong or gale. Rather cool. Max temp 14C (57F).

Outlook for Friday and Saturday: Rather cool with sunny intervals and showers.

## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

NOTTINGHAM: Thursday, September 10, 7.30 p.m. People's Hall, Heathcote St. Workers Press and the Fight against the Tories.

COVENTRY: Thursday, September 10, 7.30 p.m. City Arms, Smithford Way. Significance of the Rolls-Royce DATA lockout.

SHEFFIELD: Thursday, September 10, 7.30 p.m. Victoria Hall, Room 46, Norfolk St. Fight the Tories attacks.

## SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

## Trotsky Memorial Meeting

GLASGOW Partick Burgh Hall (nr Merkleland St underground)

7.30 p.m. Admission 2s.

'Trotsky and the coming English Revolution'

Speaker: G. Healy (SLL national secretary)

Sunday October 4

## LETTER Teachers' wages

TEACHERS' concern about the future of their £1,250-£2,200 scale pay claim can only have been deepened by the National Union of Teachers (NUT) statement issued in response to the National Association of Schoolmasters (NAS) proposals last week.

In opposition to the NUT's claim for a £5-a-week increase in the basic pay of all teachers, the NAS wants to sacrifice the interests of young and women teachers on a low basic in return for substantial increases for what it calls 'the career teacher'.

Mr Terence Casey, NAS general secretary, felt his union's claim would be more acceptable to the government.

'We are not opponents of the pragmatic approach of the Tory administration,' he said. 'In its reply the NUT was more than willing to consider the NAS proposals.'

The statement said: 'The claim submitted by the teachers' panel of the Burnham Committee seeks to do more for the experienced teacher than the NAS policy could do; so the argument seems to be partly a matter of degree, not objectives, (our emphasis) but it is a pity that the NAS had nothing to say on these questions when the teachers panel met to formulate its claim.'

'They are about four months late in coming forward with their ideas and it is regrettable that even now the other teacher organizations have not received either the NAS salary policy or the EU (Economist Intelligence Unit) report.'

The NUT statement confirms the fears of some teachers that their union may well agree to the setting up of a working party on salary structures where the NAS proposals could be discussed and partly incorporated into the NUT claim.

At the July Burnham meeting the NUT refused to exclude the possibility of a working party, but said: 'They went further in saying that any working party plans should only come into force after the management's reply had been heard (at the end of September).'

The NUT leaders are not opposed to the banded salaries scheme. As they say, it is 'partly a matter of degree not objectives'.

Their complaint seems to be that the NAS are disturbing professional unity, and not discussing their proposals with the NUT first.

The precondition for victory for the teachers' basic pay claim is therefore to prepare a new leadership in struggle against the opportunism of the present NUT executive.

London teacher

Lea Trotsky's last words: 'I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International Go forward!'

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LATE NEWS PHONES CUT OFF Amman, Wednesday—All telephone links here with the outside world were cut this afternoon. CHEERS AS ARMS CHARGES DROPPED Cheering and clapping broke out in a Belfast court yesterday when arms charges against six adults and five juveniles were withdrawn by the crown. They had been charged with the unlawful possession of 1,344 rounds of assorted ammunition on July 4. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office, Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.