The daily paper that leads the fight against the Tory government

INCORPORATING THE NEWSLETTER • FRIDAY JANUARY 7, 1972 • NUMBER 656

THE DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

What we think

Bukovsky: A savage sentence

THE VINDICTIVE sentence imposed on Vladimir Bukovsky at his semi-secret trial in Moscow is an indication of the Soviet bureaucracy's hatred and fear of the courageous anti-Stalinist opposition.

Having excluded foreign reporters and Soviet civil rights campaigners, the court imposed the maximum possible sentence on Bukovsky—two years in prison, five years in a strict regime labour camp and five years of exile in a remote corner of the USSR.

His 'crime' was that he spoke out against the barbaric practices of the KGB secret police, supported the persecuted writers Daniel Sinyav sky, Ginsburg and Galantsov and could not be broken by so-called 'psychiatric treatment' at the hands of the KGB.

According to the prosecution Bukovsky had been 'trying to persuade Soviet army officers to transmit inform ation abroad; trying to organize illegal smuggling of printing machinery from abroad for duplicating illegal anti-Soviet material; and circulating among Soviet citizens, and in some foreign publications, slanderous inventions about the social and political system of the

Under the Stalinist bureaucracy, which rightly regards truth as the biggest single threat to its power and prinileges only the leaders are allowed access to printing presses, despite explicit guarantees of the 'freedom of the press'.

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Bukovsky has already served three periods of imprison ment at the hands of the bureaucracy.

His 'first offence' in 1963 was possessing a copy of the book 'The New Class' by Milovan Djilas. That earned him 18 months in a KGB

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For that he spent another year in the infamous Serb-Psychiatric Institute. On his release he was again arrested and sentenced to three years in a labour camp for demonstrating in support of two other writers, Ginsburg and

Galantsov. The Stalinist bureaucracy is determined to smash Vladimir Bukovsky and destroy his courageous resistance. They hate him because six years of brutal imprison-ment in the KGB's hellholes have not broken his

The British Communist Party bears a heavy responsibility for the fate of Bukovsky and other oppositionists. Not once has it spoken out persecution against the persecution being waged against them by the Kremlin.

In its report of the Bukovsky trial yesterday, the 'Morning Star' observed a mealy-mouthed 'neutrality', noting without comment the Tass reports of the case. Its correspondent Colin Williams was among foreign reporters excluded from the

We ask editor George Matthews and the rest of the British Stalinist leadership: Do you support the sentence on Bukovsky, or are you prepared to speak out in protest against the hounding of yet another opponent of Stalinism in

And, once again, where do you stand on Stalin's in-famous Moscow Trials of the 1930s?

DAUGHTER of Housing Minister Julian Amery, Caro-line Louise Amery (20), was fined £30 yesterday at Oxford after pleading guilty to posletter before the court from the principal of Sommerville College said Miss Amery had 'considerable intelligence and moral standards'.

Miners under Tory fire The real issues in pit strike

BY AN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE COAL STRIKE is on. Twenty-five years after nationalization, miners are once again called upon to wage the fight of their lives to protect their living standards from the threat of low wages and unemployment.

In 1926 they were in the front line against the coalowners and the Baldwin Tory government.

Today, they are in the forefront of the fight against the Tory government of Edward Heath and his puppets on the National Coal Board.

Times have changed, but the enemy remains the same.

Now, as in 1926, the outcome of the miners' strike could well be decisive for the whole of the working class.

The Tories foster a traditional class hatred towards their old enemy, upon whose half-starved bodies their tunes under conditions where men were at times buried alive hundreds of feet deep in the bowels of the earth.

While capitalism lasts, profit from coal will be tainted with blood.

Small wonder therefore that the miners are among the pioneers of trade unionism. Their strike, in effect, is inseparable from the defence of trade unionism, because it the Tories defeat the miners, then they will use the Industrial Relations Act to destroy

The miners' strike is political because it is a direct confrontation with the Tory government. It can be speedily won if the major trade unions join with the miners in creating an industrial and political situation which requires an immediate General Election.

But this is the last thing which the leaders of the trade unions, including the NUM want to do. They will follow in the footsteps of the postmen's leaders last year and confine the fight to wages.

This is the certain road to

Nationalization

Every miner knows that wages alone is not the only issue in this strike.

How come the Coal Board bosses follow in the footsteps of the old coal-owners? Because Labour's 1947 nationalization of the mines meant they were still dominated by the capitalist economy as a

It is imperative, therefore, that the Labour Party leaders be forced to accept the policy that the next Labour government be committed to the legislation of workers' control in the mines.

The present NCB structure must be smashed, and substituted by the election of all officials from the bottom to the top.

The miners' strike can and must be won by mobilizing the industrial and political strength of the working class to make the Tory government

Replace it with a Labour government pledged to the legal establishment of workers' control in the mines.

As can be seen in Plesseys, Fisher-Bendix and Allis Chalmers, this is the only answer to wages cuts and the threat of unemployment.



It's the Tories we're taking on— S Wales miners

From IAN YEATS in S Wales

'I DON'T think there is a man who wants this strike, but the Tories have forced us to act and we are prepared to go on until the lights go out.' Britannia Lodge treasurer

Harry Gant typified the mood of quiet, almost reluctant determination at pitheads throughout S Wales vesterday as the news broke that the National Coal Board's latest offer had been overwhelmingly rejected.

He said: 'We've not had a me said: 'We've not had a national strike in 47 years. We've complied with both governments, Labour and Tory, over productivity and wages and all we've achieved is less and less money.' is less and less money.'

A majority of S Wales' 27,000 day-wage men take home £12 to £13 a week after stoppages and officials estimate that as many as 25 per



Don Canniff, Oakdale Lodge

made up to a living wage by the Ministry of Social Security.

pay charts, miners claim the time has come when it is impossible to make ends meet.

and cheaper and less durable

types of shoes and clothes for their children.

Sixteenth in the national Living standards are plumeting with families buying lamb instead of beef, margarine instead of butter

Said Gant: 'A package deal now would have been the worst thing we could possibly have got hold of. Any rise would have been lost in the cost of living. 'If they're going to close

the mines let them do it. We're sick of looking over our shoulders. It isn't kid gloves we need now. It's pit boots-to kick.' NCB spokesmen in Cardiff

say there is less evidence of militancy on the coalfield today than during any other recent strike. But behind locked doors meetings are being held throughout the valleys and

plans are being laid, solidly, plank by plank, for what is expected to be the longest, hardest strike since 1926.
The most notable feature
The Most notable fe of S Wales strike preparation is that the political blusterers of yesterday have disappeared their places taken by men who openly describe themselves as 'mild trade unionists' and who are the bedrock of the Welsh working class.

Yesterday's NUM S Wales executive meeting at Ponty-pridd and today's delegate conference at Porthcawl are expected to endorse overwhelmingly the national executive's rejection of an offer the miners say is

derisory. Everyone is expecting a long, hard strike and there is talk of families being forced to sell cars, televisions and furniture before it ends. But the miners are confident they will not be fighting

'It's the government we're taking on, said Oakdale Lodge chairman Danny Canniff.

'Other unions have promised us support, but any union with a wage claim coming up in January or February should think about

January Fund starts-£142.40

year for Workers Press. Every month you, our readers, raised well over the £1,250 target for the Appeal Fund. Our Second Anniversary Fund collected the impressive amount of £10,500—beyond all our expectations.

1972 we are sure, will be

another magnificent year. As the Tories step up their attacks with huge fare increases, major price rises, and unemployment increasing rapidly, the Workers Press will be more vital than ever to fight back against this onslaught.

Make sure we expand the circulation—ask your library, your friends, your workmates to take a copy each day. Pre-pare immediately for our great expansion next month to the 12-page tabloid. Start today. Make January's Fund another grand achievement. Post all donations immediately

Workers Press Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High St, London, SW4 7UG.

nationalist Dafydd

Wigley has pleaded with the

Tories to keep the factory

open. He has told Peter

Thomas, Welsh Secretary, that

the closure planned for next

month was contrary to Tory

policy. He said it should be

suspended pending an inquiry

and if a private buyer could

not be found the government

should take over production.

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soldiers went into the valleys.

say the miners, 'the whole thing will go up'.

afterwards said the TUC chief had not been asked to intervene in the dispute.

Employment invited both

sides to separate talks

has no intention at this

moment of intervening in

JAPAN will obtain its own

atomic wéapons if Nixon moves closer to China, says

columnist Jack Anderson in

more sensational revelations from top-secret US security

His latest scoop broke yesterday, as President Nixon was meeting Japanese

premier Eisaku Sato for pre-Peking talks in the

H-BOMB FOR JAPAN?

the dispute.

But the D of E says it

Later the Department of

tions Act.

And if it happens again,

Everyone realizes the miners

SIXTEENTH in the national wages scale, these miners are ready to take on the Tories. Below left: Harry Gant, treasurer of the Britannia Lodge says: 'Any package deal rise would have been lost in the cost of living.' He is with Gwilym Burton (secretary. Gwilym Burton (secretary, middle) and Tom Bowden (chairman, right).

Talk is cautious, but there

are frequent references to

many in the coalfield believe

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could go all the way to a General Strike.

The S Wales men say the

union is their trump card.
Said Canniff: 'It wouldn't
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If they can't move it they

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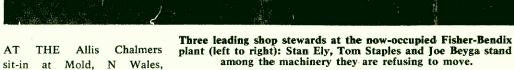
Victor Feather.

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Already there is speculation

of the transport

1912, 1921 and 1926



FISHER-BENDIX OCCUPATION

Strike on the inside not outside

FROM DAVID MAUDE in Kirkby

FISHER-BENDIX workers occupying their factory on Merseyside have 'gone beyond protesting against unemployment', they said yesterday.

On Wednesday evening, the Amalgamated Union of

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The committee also de-

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shifting completed radiators

and heaters from outside stores into the main plant,

further demonstrating their

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ask a mass meeting to turn the struggle out to other

Convenor Jack Spriggs yesterday kicked off the

campaign with a visit to leaders on the Liverpool

Donations can be sent to:

Tom Staples,

Fighting Fund treasurer,

42 Kennelwood Avenue,

Northwood,

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factories all over

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The words are those of

Tom Hornby, an engineers' union inspector at the 1,000factory on the industrial estate, outside Liverpool. And they typified the

mood there yesterday as workers settled down to organize their battle against the closure of the big washing machine making plant.

'The boss and this government have thrown down the gauntlet and we've picked it up,' stressed Tom Staples, treasurer of the Bendix stewards' fighting fund. Mr Staples added: 'We decided on a strike inside the factory instead of out-

side. That's the difference between our stand and a work-in.' While he spoke, workers were arriving for the second of the day's four six-hour occupation shifts—s o m e men running to avoid being

'The more workers unite to make this kind of response to the threat of unemployment, the more we are going to worry the Tories,' Mr Staples went on.

'This is the way to begin are in the front line against the Tory wage policy and against the Industrial Relathe fight to get shot of The occupation began on Wednesday, after represent-atives of the parent firm, But there is no dragging of feet.
'I don't think they will use Thorn Electrical Industries, refused to withdraw notice the Act,' said Canniff. 'They of 60 redundancies by haven't got the jails to hold Ianuary 28: they made clear us all and they can't take they intended to close the money because we haven't got

factory completely by the end of May. Starting as a spontaneous shop-floor movement, the take-over action was unanimously backed by both manual and staff workers at a mass meeting on Wednesday afternoon.

'We could not put our members in a position

where they could be disciplined or even dismissed for refusing to carry out management instructions,' Jenkins, chairman of the factory's 230 staff workers told me yesterday morning. 'So we made clear to management that we concurred with the action of the manual unions,'

Western White House at

According to secret

papers, says Anderson, the

Japanese have warned it would be a mistake for Nixon to tell Peking that

the Japanese-American security treaty deters Japan

from 'going it alone' and

re-arming.

SEE p. 4. Leak story.

San Clemente.

say Plessey occupiers

Encouraging

AT PLESSEY, Alexandria, the oldest sit-in of them all

Convenor Eddie McLafferty and shop steward Jack Green visited the Allis Chalmers workers who are occupying their plant in Mold, N Wales,

yesterday.

A spokesman for the Plessey workers said yesterday that the spirit of the men was still high.

'The occupations of the lads at Liverpool and Mold give us tremendous encouragement. We will fight until we get justice,' he said.

Plessey workers took over the gates at their factory when the firm formally closed them on September 3.

Prices still going up

WORKERS' wages are being cut by about 9 per cent a year because of the increase in the cost of living. And the rate of price increases has been steadily increasing since the Tories came to power in June 1970.

Food prices rose by more than 10 per cent in 1971, according to the food price index in the magazine 'Grocer'. The rise compares with 7.74 per cent registered in 1970.

And the magazine warns

that 'the fairly sharp rise in food prices in the last month of 1971 is likely to continue into the first quarter of 1972'. It predicts, however, that price rises will tend to level

off later this year.

Overall, food prices have risen by 27 per cent since the 'Grocer' index started in 1968.

Among the rises listed for last year are: butter up 48 per cent; fresh fish 43 per cent; cheese 38 per cent; fresh fruit 32 per cent; fresh vegetables 15 per cent; canned and powdered milk 15 per cent and fresh milk 10 per

Forward to a weekly 'Keep Left' in 1972!

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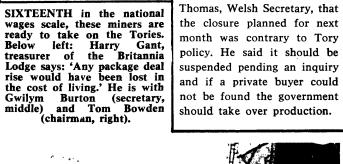
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The most notable feature of S Wales strike preparation is that the political blusterers of yesterday have disappeared their places taken by men who openly describe them-selves as 'mild trade unionists'

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THERE WAS no hope of avoiding a miners' strike, said NUM president Joe Gormley yesterday after he and secretary Lawrence Daly had met TUC chief Victor Feather.

They were prepared for the eventuality that it will be a long strike. 'We are hoping for a lot of support,' added Daly. A meeting with all the unions which handle coal will take place in a few days time to co-ordinate support.

Asked by Workers Press about the possibility of the Tory government applying 60-day cooling-off period under the Industrial Relations Act, Daly said: 'My personal view would be to ignore it.'

Yesterday's two-hour meeting was arranged to put Feather in the picture about A joint statement issued

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afterwards said the TUC chief had not been asked to intervene in the dispute. Later the Department of Employment invited both sides to separate talks

But the D of E says it has no intention at this moment of intervening in the dispute.

Three leading shop stewards at the now-occupied Fisher-Bendix plant (left to right): Stan Ely, Tom Staples and Joe Beyga stand among the machinery they are refusing to move.

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Wednesday, after represent-atives of the parent firm, Thorn Electrical Industries, refused to withdraw notice of 60 redundancies by January 28; they made clear they intended to close the factory completely by the end of May.

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Encouraging say Plessey occupiers

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Food prices rose by more than 10 per cent in 1971, according to the food price index in the magazine 'Grocer'. The rise compares with 7.74 per cent registered

in 1970.

And the magazine warns that 'the fairly sharp rise in food prices in the last month of 1971 is likely to continue into the first quarter of 1972'. It predicts, however, that price rises will tend to level off later this year.

Overall, food prices have risen by 27 per cent since the 'Grocer' index started in 1968.

Among the rises listed for last year are: butter up 48 per cent; fresh fish 43 per cent; cheese 38 per cent; fresh fruit 32 per cent; fresh vegetables 15 per cent; canned and powdered milk 15 per cent and fresh milk 10 per

Forward to a weekly 'Keep Left' in 1972!

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H-BOMB FOR JAPAN?

atomic weapons if Nixon moves closer to China, says columnist Jack Anderson in more sensational revelations from top-secret US security documents.

JAPAN will obtain its own

His latest scoop broke yesterday, as President Nixon was meeting Japanese premier Eisaku Sato pre-Peking talks in the

Western White House at San Clemente. According to secret papers, says Anderson, the Japanese have warned it would be a mistake for Nixon to tell Peking that

the Japanese-American security treaty deters Japan from 'going it alone' and re-arming.

SEE p. 4. Leak story.

Lessons to be applied Tom

Kemp

'LESSONS OF OCTOBER' holds an important and unique place among Leon Trotsky's writings.

It is much more than an account of how the first successful working-class revolu-tion took place. It also analyses and explains the pressures to which the Bolshevik Party was subjected in the period before October.

It provided lessons from its history intended for the young parties of the Third International which conserve all their validity today. This book is, therefore, of great immediate interest.

'To be sure', Trotsky writes, 'mere study of the October Revolution is not sufficient to secure victory in other countries; but circumstances may arise where all the prerequisites for revolution exist, with the excepttion of a far-seeing and resolute Party leaderhip grounded in the understanding of the laws and methods of the revolution.'

Challenge

Such had been the situation in Germany in 1923, when the Communist Party, advised by the Russian party leaders, had been unable to take advantage of the revolutionary opportunities. Many similar situations have arisen since—one has only to refer, for example, to the situation in France in May-June 1968.

At the centre of this work is the question of the revolutionary party and its preparation for the taking of power. Trotsky ex-amines how the Bolshevik Party faced up to this tremendous challenge. He finds that but for the intervention of Lenin against those who had taken over the leadership since his death, it, too, would have missed its opportunities and the revolution would not have passed beyond the bourgeois-democratic stage begun in March 1917.

Since then the old guard in Russia — including the ruling triumvirate of Stalin, Zinoviev and Kamenev—had supported the Provisional Government and adopted a defensive position to-wards the war.

Pressure

Until Lenin's return from exile in April, the leadership, under the pressure of the petty bourgeoisie, took up essentially a Menshevik position.

It envisaged a period in which the bourgeois revolution would be completed before there could any question of a struggle

The Party leadership adopted a position which led 'in the last analysis, to the subordination of proletarian policies to the requirements of bourgeois society'.

Even after the Party had adopted Lenin's April Theses, the opposition to the revolutionary

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BOOK REVIEW

Lessons of October by Leon Trotsky

New Park Publications

course continued right down until the October Revolution.

On the war issue, 'Pravda' was still talking in March about defending the fatherland, putting pressure on the Provisional Government (a familiar policy, that) and hailed with enthusiasm the defencist manifesto of the Petrograd Soviet 'To the People's of the World'.

Overthrow

Pressure politics, as Trotsky points out—and he might be writing for today—is the road of reform: 'State power cannot be obtained by reforms. "Pressure" can never induce the bourgeoisie to change its policy on a question which involves its whole fate.'

The question of the revolu-onary overthrow of the Protionary Government was taken

> paper that leads the fight against the Tories.

up from the beginning by Lenin Trotsky, both then in exile and to all appearances separated by an enormous political and personal gulf. Both took the view that the proletariat should be mobilized in a struggle for state power to overthrow capitalism.

> This meant Lenin had to abandon the slogan of 'the democratic dictatorship of the proletariat the peasantry' to which the old Bolsheviks still clung.

That he should adopt the policy of a 'non-Bolshevik', only admitted into the party in May, particularly angered Stalin and his followers.

On the great issue of the nature of the party, Trotsky admitted his mistake. He accepted that the character of the Russian Revolution—as revealed by the theory of the permanent revolution—required a centralized and disciplined 'party of a new type'. He had bitterly opposed this since 1903. It was the cause of his estrangement from Lenin and bitter polemics between

Intervention

From the moment of his his Station, Lenin came into head-long collision with the Party leadership and 'Pravda' editors who had been supporting the Provisional Government. party was in permanent crisis right up to the time of the October insurrection.

Lenin's intervention with unanswerable theoretical and practical arguments succeeded in swinging over the great majority of the Party, including many of the March and April waverers.

But the opposition did not give up and the crisis in the party was not resolved.

Kameney and Zinoviev. particular, came out publicly against insurrection two weeks before the October Revolution. The main argument which they used was that the enemy was too strong and the workers and soldiers not ready to take power. The same thing was said in Germany in 1923 and effectively paralysed the German Com-munist Party and prevented it from taking advantage of a favourable situation. The decisive moment was lost.

The whole art of insurrection lies in recognizing and seizing the favourable opportunity, Trot-

'To rise in arms, to overwhelm

Trotsky describes in some

advanced capitalist countries, Trotsky points out, will have to deal with a stable state appara-Resistance

However: 'The very possibility

obstinate, and prepared', making

it 'all the more necessary to view

ticular and civil war in general

The appearance of Trotsky's 'Lessons of October' as the pre-

face to a volume of his speeche

and writings from the year 1917

was the occasion for a sustained

personal and political attack in

which misrepresentations and

distortions of every kind were

as an art'.

prepared and why it was success-

ful. The Provisional Government

had not had time to consolidate

itself, while revolution in the

October 1917.

of proletarian insurrection implies an extremely advanced process of the disintegration of the capitalist state.' The resistance of the ruling class will be 'much more serious,

Timing

the enemy, may be possible today, but tomorrow may be impossible. But to seize power is to change the course of history. Is it really true that such a historic event can hinge upon an interval of 24 hours? Yes, it can.'

detail how the insurrection was

Trotsky had struck home and his enemies felt themselves en-

He had replied to the insinuations about his Menshevik past by showing with irrefutable evidence that if Stalin, Kamenev and Zinoviev had carried the day in 1917 there would have been no October Revolution. Their failure in Germany in 1923 was a result of the same political line.

Warning

Trotsky's work was a warning to the Communist Party in the Soviet Union and to the whole Communist International. It was a challenge to the emerging bureaucracy, with Stalin as its un-disputed head, which was taking its stand on 'socialism in one country' and an abandonment of Marxism and Bolshevism—for

Stalin's policy in China and in Britain in the mid-1920s was to carry the theoretical degeneration a stage further.

'Lessons of October' is a brilliant contribution to revolutionary Marxist theory. A refutain advance, of all the opportunist policies to Stalinism was to lead.

Commissars of the Military Revolutionary Committee address a factory meeting of railway workers in Petrograd,

Vicious No wonder that the counter-attack was so vicious and that

every attempt was made to denigrate and discredit its author with every weapon of character

This was before Stalin, having made himself master of the bureaucracy, went on to liquidate physically all those who stood on position Leninism upheld in this book, and all those, like Kamenev and Zinoviev, who knew the truth

about his own position and role in 1917.

The Stalinist history of 1917 as told in books, films, plays and even paintings, was a complete distortion, depicting Stalin as Lenin's chief lieutenant and erasing Trotsky altogether from the

Lessons

'Lessons of October', like Trotsky's 'History of the Russian Revolution', are required reading not simply to understand the revolutionary process, but to see how the lessons of 1917 apply

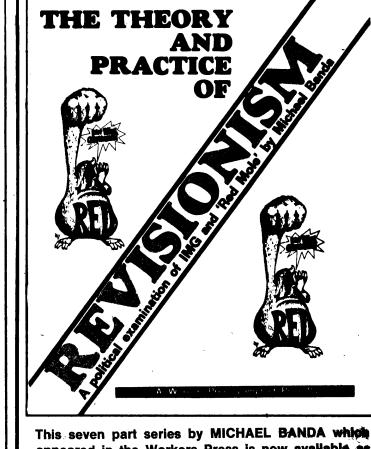
studied and discussed by all those building the revolutionary party in Britain today.





July 1917: The slogan reads 'All Power to the Soviets'.

BOOKS



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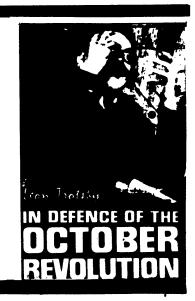
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(US Round-up)

Release of Hoffa

It's another deal

by Philip Wade

THE FREEING of former Teamsters' leader 58-year-old James Hoffa by President Nixon last week shows the fear the US ruling class has of the working class and on the other hand the confidence it has in the trade union bureaucracy.

Hoffa's release comes at a time when the working class, especially members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, is fighting Nixon's wage freezing and unemployment.

This year the Teamsters are expecting to get big increases won in bitter struggle against the bosses in 1970. In some states they had to battle with Nixon's National Guard to win

In addition they had to fight attempts to sell out the strike by the present IBT leadership.

At the same time Nixon feared that Hoffa, jailed in 1967 after a frame-up charge of pen-sion fraud and jury tampering, could become a symbol of defiance in the eves of workers who would see him as a political

In the fight against the wage freeze imposed after August 15, the fight against Nixon could have been linked up with the imprisonment

James Hoffa was sent to jail in the first place after a cam-paign to smash the Teamsters' union initiated by the Eisen-

The union had come to symbolize the powerful organization, the aggressive fight for better wages by the working class throughout the 1950s and early

It was Bobby Kennedy who finally succeeded when the Democrats returned to power. Hoffa got 13 years and has served about one-third of the

One of the conditions of his release was that he had nothing to do 'directly or indirectly' with leadership of any union until March, 1980. The penalty for breaking this provision is a return to prison.

But Nixon's confidence in the ability of the trade union bureaucracy is unbounded. He sees them attempting to head off the mounting anger against the wage

In this he is, of course, correct. On the other hand, the steam building up within the rank and file will undoubtedly shatter this alliance with the government, creating the conditions for the building of a new leadership.

For the time being, anyway, Nixon has seen fit to reward the open collaboration of the Teamleaders with Hoffa's release.

The IBT leaders on the Nixon's Pay Board are far and away the leading collaborators with his policies. There is even talk of the IBT endorsing Nixon

labour under a police state.

sons involved.

The Bill is aimed primarily at

the programme of Aid for Families with Dependant Child-

ren, particularly the 2.6 million parents in the 17.7 million per-

for all adults in the AFDC programme, except for the aged, ill or disabled, those in school and

Work registration is required



Former Teamsters' leader James Hoffa being released from prison.

In any case, Hoffa's acceptance of conditions of release, which exclude effective engagement in union activity, shows his weakness in the situation of deep crisis for American capitalism.

Hoffa long ago made a conscious decision to break from a political understanding of the against capitalism and instead chose the path of 'pure-and-simple unionism'. As such he was unprepared when the offensive against his union finally reached out and jailed him.

He recevied his real training

in trade unionism from the Trotskyists in the Minneapolis

But Hoffa always saw their work in non-political terms, as 'organizational methods' 'techniques'.

Thus in 1943-1944 he had no qualms in assisting the Teamsters' leadership in removing the Trotskvists. The new generation of union

militants now stepping into line will have to learn the bitter any good reason for the turning points in this wave-like movefruits which followed the path ment or explain why it was chosen by James Hoffa. likely to continue. Jay has unearthed these mystical theories in a period of growing anxiety about the devel-

A blow to workers' rights mothers of children under six

by Philip Wade

PRESIDENT NIXON last Nixon government. The logic of veek signed a Bill which involves compulsory work registration as a condition for receiving any welfare hand-outs from the govern-

It marks a new and sinister turn to the extreme right by the years old.

They will have to take up jobs

or sign up for job training.

But the US ruling class knows full well there will be no jobs for any of these workers to take up, even if they do complete a training course. There are almost 6 million

workers unemployed now in America as the world recession bites deep into former big employment industries like aero-

The number of jobless has risen 73 per cent over the past two years, the fastest growth rate in the entire capitalist world.

To make the meagre welfare benefits available on condition of ioh registration must mean that the White House is considering to do other things with the unemployed.

Jay, that Keynes was wrong and that 'the deeper more inscrutable Nixon signed the Bill while in Florida for talks with W German Chancellor Willy Brandt. forces noticed by Kondratieff' have been operating all along. In a statement he said the After all, Kondratieff did

key 'work-incentive' feature of the legislation 'represents a significant step in the direction of welfare reform'. Congress would return this

month to complete the remainder of the 'welfare' programme, he failed, why not grasp at astro-logy, to which Kondratieff's added. In the trade war launched by views are akin?

the United States, every single right will be taken away from workers if the ruling class gets its way.

That is the meaning of the wage freeze, mounting unemployment and compulsory work regis-

Results of a broken strike

by Alex Mitchell

THE STATE of New Jersey has opened a campaign of political vengeance against members of the Newark Teachers' Union.

Since the end of November almost 200 teachers have been

Their offence? Participating in the 1970 NTU strike.

The courts have given members of the leadership up to three months' jail while other supporters have been thrown behind bars for ten to 20 days.

The prison terms are only part of the assault on the NTU.

The union is paying off a fine of \$270,000 and has assumed responsibility for fines totalling \$100,000 against individual teach-

Responsibility for the defeats of the NTU lies primarily on the shoulders of Charles Marciante and other leaders of the AFL-CIO (American TUC).

It was their refusal to carry out their pledge to call a General Strike of Newark labour in defence of the NTU that made it possible for Mayor Gibson to break the teachers' strike.

The isolation of the NTU has persisted right through the jail-

As teachers surrendered them-selves to the courthouse, there were no organized demonstra-tions by sections of New Jersey

As they entered Essex County Courthouse they gave the 'V' for victory sign in a display of union solidarity. That, of course, was before they were carted off to

BBC I

Roundabout. 5.50 News and weather.

9.20 THE ONEDIN LINE. Cry of the Blackbird.

6.00 LONDON THIS WEEK.

Laurence Harvey.

Greer, Kirk Douglas.

8.00 MONEY PROGRAMME.

10.40 CHRISTIAN SCIENCE. 11.20 NEWS and weather.

11.25 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

11.00 Play School. 6.30 Sounds of Music.

9.00 NEWS and weather

10.10 COME DANCING.

10.45 24 HOURS.

BBC 2

7.30 NEWSROOM.

Guinness.

10.10 THE GOODIES.

12.55 Canu'r Bobol. 1.30 Mr Benn. 1.45 News. 4.15 Play School.

11.15 FILM: 'BUILD MY GALLOWS HIGH'. Robert Mitchum, Jane

9.00 SOLO. A selection from E. E. Cummings read by Sir Alec

REVIEW. British Sculptors 72 and Tolkien in Oxford.



Relative of Newark teacher who was jalled last week for 1970 strike.

1.05 Racing from Sandown Park. 3.00 Houseparty. 3.10 Tea Break. 3.40 Treasures of the British Museum. 4.10 Drive-In. 4.40 Pinky and

Perky. 4.55 Arthur! 5.20 Bright's Boffins. 5.50 News. 6.00 TODAY.

6.30 F TROOP. 7.00 THE SKY'S THE LIMIT.

7.30 THE PERSUADERS. 'Five Miles to Midnight'. 8.30 WHO DO YOU DO? Top impersonators.

9.00 JUSTICE. 'A Licence to Build Your Own Money.' 10.00 NEWS.

4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Deputy Dawg. 5.05 Crackerjack 72. 5.44 Magic 10.35 THE MARTY FELDMAN COMEDY MACHINE. 11.35 THE PRISONER. 6.20 FILM: 'THE ALAMO'. John Wayne, Richard Widmark,

12.25 THE FUTURE OF THE FAMILY.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 1.40 London. 4.05 Pinky and Perky. 4.20 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.25 Smith family: 4.55 Maverick. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Channel report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 Weather. 10.32 Name of the game. 11.50 News, weather.

WESTWARD, As Channel except: 3.55 Gus Honeybun show, 4.20 News, 5.20 Ask Westward, 6.00 Diary, 6.25 Sports desk, 10.30 Faith for life, 11.35 Weather.

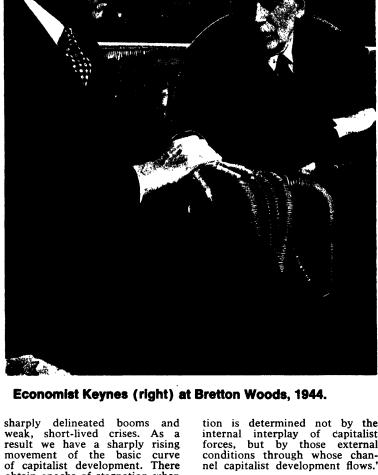
SOUTHERN: 1.05 Sandown races.
3.35 Horoscope. 3.40 Tea break.
4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Cartoon.
4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Bottom of
the sea. 5.50 News. 6.00 Day by
day. Scene SE. 6.40 Out of town.
7.00 London. 8.30 Doctor at
large. 9.00 London. 10.30 Weekend.
10.35 Film: 'House on Haunted

Hill', 12.05 News, 12.15 Weather.

HARLECH: 2.15 Sandown races. 3.50 Women only. 4.15 Tinkertainment. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Cowboy in Africa. 5.50 News. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Bonanza. 7.30 London. 8.30 Fenn St gang. 9.00 London. 10.30 Press call. 11.00 Department 'S'. 12.00 Weather. Fenn St gang, 9.00 London, 10.30 Press call, 11.00 Department 'S', 12.00 Weather. HTV West as above except: 6.01-6.35 Report West. HTV Wales and HTV Cymru/ Wales as above except: 6.01-6.18 Y Dydd, 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

ANGLIA: 1.05 Racing. 3.55 Newsroom. 4.00 Romper room. 4.25 Tea break. 4.10 Houseparty. 4.23 Cartoon. 4.30 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 Bygones. 11.00 Film: 'The Secret of Convict Lake'.

ATV MIDLANDS: 1.05 Racing. 3.35 Horoscope. 3.45 Women



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of capitalist development. There obtain epochs of stagnation when this curve, while passing through partial cyclical oscillations, remains on approximately the same level for decades. And finally, during certain historical periods, the basic curve, while passing as always through cyclical oscillations, dips down-ward as a whole, signalizing the decline of productive forces.'

Resorting to

economic

astrology

by an economics

ECONOMICS editor of 'The

Times', Peter Jay, recently

lighted on the two hefty

tomes of the Austro-American

economist Joseph Schumpeter

called 'Business Cycles' and

refreshed his memory about

a little known Russian

economist of the 1920s called

Kondratieff claimed that the

development of capitalism had taken place in a series of long

waves of about 60 years dura-

tion comprising an upward move-ment followed by a downward

In the first phase booms tended to be strong and slumps

weak, in the second the booms

were weak and the slumps more

Proceeding from the observa-tion of historical trends since

Britain, Kondratieff went on to express the opinion that capi-

talist development would con-

tinue to take place in this way. Neither he, nor Schumpeter, who

adopted his scheme, could gi**ve**

oping crisis of capitalism. As he

says, the point is reached now when, if Kondratieff is right, the

long downward trend should

'Deeper forces'

make some correct predictions:

there was a long downward trend in the 1920s and 1930s, followed

by an upturn in the 25 years after 1946.

Perhaps Jay does not know that

when Kondratieff's views were first expounded in the Soviet

Union, they caused quite a con-

questions was open in the early

1920s. Among those who took

part was Leon Trotsky in an

important written communica-tion to the 'Vestnik Sotsialistich-

eskoi Vestnil', a learned publica-

theory just after the 3rd World

Congress of the Communist International ('painstakingly evading the formulation of the ques-

tion adopted by the Congress itself', Trotsky comments).

Cycles

In his lengthy report of the

world economic situation Trot-sky took up the question from the standpoint of dialectical and

historical materialism, which differs fundamentally from Jay's

hit-or-miss empiricism and theoretical confusion.

'Entire epochs of capitalist

development exist when a num-

ber of cycles is characterized by

Trotsky conceded:

Kondratieff developed

tion of the time.

troversy—discussion of economic

economic 'science' has

Supposing, says the worried

Industrial

N. D. Kondratieff.

correspondent

He says of Kondratieff's long wave theory:

ally-stylized construction, major economic cycle consists of some five minor cycles, and fur-thermore half of them have the other half is that of crisis, with all the necessary transitional

Formal

'The statistical determinations of major cycles compiled by Kon-dratieff should be subjected to careful and not overcredulous verification [N.B. Mr Jay] both in respect to individual countries as well as to the world market as a whole. It is already possible to refute in advance Professor Kondratieff's attempt to invest epochs labelled by him as major cycles with the self-same "rigidly lawful rhythm" that is observable in minor cycles; it is an obviously false generalization from a formal analogy.

'The periodical recurrence of minor cycles is conditioned by the internal dynamics of capitalist forces, and manifests itself always and everywhere once the market comes into existence.

'As regards the large segments of the capitalist curves of development (50 years) which Professor Kondratieff incautiously proposes to designate also as cycles, their character and dura-

today, 4.10 Julia, 4.40 Hatty town, 4.55 Lost in space, 5.50 News, 6.00 Today, 6.55 Crossroads, 7.00 Fenn St gang, 7.30 London, 8.30 Sky's the limit, 9.00 London, 10.30 Film; 'The Secret of Blood Island'.

YORKSHIRE: 1.10 Sandown races. 3.20 Houseparty. 3.35 News. 3.45 Katie Stewart cooks. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 News. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Parkin's patch. 7.00 London. 8.30 Fenn St gang. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'The Gorgon'. 12.15 Weather.

GRANADA: 1.40 Sandown races. 3.40 Yoga. 4.05 News. Here's Lucy. 4.35 Magic ball. 4.50 Captain Scarlet. 5.15 Rainbow country. 5.50 News. 6.00 Newsday. Kick off.

ITV 10.35 p.m. 'The Marty Feldman Comedy Machine'

internal interplay of capitalist forces, but by those external conditions through whose channel capitalist development flows.' Trotsky goes on to make a

plea for an enrichment of 'the theory of historical materialism with conquests far more precious than the extremely dubious speculative juggling with the concepts and terms of the materialist method which has, under the pens of some of our Marxists, transplanted the method of formalism into the domain of the materialist dialectic; which has led to reducing the task to rendering definitions and classifications more precise and to splitting empty abstractions into four equally empty parts . . .'

No way out

As Jay is a friend and supporter of capitalism, he would like it to overcome its problems. But there is a sting in his

Speaking of the Group of Ten meeting and the compromises with which it concluded, he ends by saying:

'If they enable the United States fully to correct its \$10,000 payments deficit, then, but only then, would Kondratieff be likely to prove stronger than Keynes.'

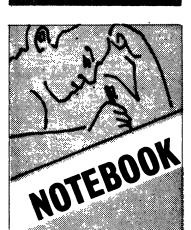
Get the point? World capitalism has depended upon the dol-lar outflow and if it dries up it is in for trouble. Poor Jay: there is really no way out of the contradictions of capitalism.

FOOTNOTE:

For some reason best known to himself, Jay insists on calling Kondratieff (or Kondratiev) Konratieff without the 'd' Konratieff without the 'd' throughout his article. The fate of the Russian economist is uncertain, but he certainly perished sometime during Stalin's purges in the 1930s.

SCOTTISH: 1.05-3.15 Sandown races. 3.30 Kiri. 3.45 Crossroads. 4.10 Dateline. 4.55 Fireball XL5. 5.20 Skippy. 5.50 News. 6.00 Dateline. 6.20 Mr Magoo. 6.30 Jimmy Stewart show. 7.00 London. 10.30 In camera. 11.00 Late call. 11.05 Film: "The Mad Magician".

GRAMPIAN: 1.05 Sandown races. 3.38 News, 3.40 Jimmy Stewart show. 4.10 Yoga. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Grattan's war. 5.50 News. 6.00 News, weather. 6.05 Mr and Mrs. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 Hogan's heroes. 11.00 Film: 'The Tingler.' Road and ski report. 12.25 Epilogue.



When Boothby met Hitler

THIS INCREDIBLE item appeared in 'The Guardian' at the weekend:

In an interview with Robert McKenzie on Radio 4, Lord Boothby said he had talked with the Führer for two hours in Berlin before the war. He had first shocked Hitler's

private secretary, Hanfstaengel. when in response to Hitler's upraised right arm and shout of 'Hitler'—'the hock and brandy came to my rescue and I clicked my heels together and put up my right arm and shouted "Boothby".

Hitler had asked him suddenly:

Hitler had asked him suddenly: 'What would you have done if we had beaten you in the last war and driven a corridor between England and Scotland?' 'And I said—I thought it was time to lighten the conversation a little—'You forget, Herr Hitler, I'm Scottish—we should have been absolutely delighted." 'And there was not a flicker of

'And there was not a flicker of smile on his face. He brought his fist down on the table with a crash and said: "So...I had no idea the hatred between the two peoples was so great." I believe that is the reason why

bombed during the war.'

Boothby is a former Tory
minister and was parliamentary private secretary to Churchill.

He belonged to the notorious
Cliveden set which was so
passionately for appeasement with
Hitler. He is now president of the Anglo-Israel Association. For a number of years Boothby was a close friend of the Kray twins, Ronnie and Reggie.

The Krays are now serving 30-year sentences in Parkhurst

Not so mysterious

A MYSTERY surrounds the fate of Guatemalan multi-millionaire Roberto Alejos, whose financial contributions aided the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.

Alejos' estate in Retaluleu was used as a training centre for the US-backed invasion force sent to Cuba by John F. Kennedy in 1961.

He vanished in August, and the disappearance was laid at the door of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR), a left-wing guerrilla group.

FAR has always denied any part in the former presidential candidate's vanishing act. This did not stop the legends

accumulating around Aleios' fate

The guerrillas were rumoured to have released him just after Christmas without any ransom or exchange being involved. Other versions of the story claimed that the wealthy landowner had been tried and sentenced to death by an FAR revolutionary tribunal.

Still another account said the

death penalty had been com-muted in exchange for \$200,000 ransom payment.

None of these reports turned out to be accurate, and the millionaire's whereabouts are still unknown. In fact, there is no proof that he really was kidnapped and the Guatemalan press, on government instruc-tions, has tried to draw a curtain of silence over the affair.

This may not be unconnected with the fact that his disappearance followed the bankruptcy of a major bank in which he held a large interest.

Out of control

THE CENTRAL Committee of the CPSU has come to the belated conclusion that there is not sufficient workers' participa-tion in management. It calls on closer consultation in order to get big increases in production and productivity.

With typical contempt for the facts, the 'Morning Star' (Wednesday, December 29) headlined this as 'Soviet move towards control by workers'. It is nothing of the sort nothing of the sort.

The 'economic reform', which

had greatly strengthened the powers of plant managers, is not working out as expected. It has simply encouraged high-handedness and arbitrary decision-making which creates opposition from the rank and file.

The Central Committee wants something done about this—but it is not proposing workers' con-

trol, only a more effective gearing of the workers to the produc-tion plans by what is called 'participation'. What the French Communist Party, for example, supports in opposition to work-

Festival of Light moves N

THE FESTIVAL of Light has now moved north of the border to Glasgow.

On Wednesday, in St George's Square, 2,000 middle class men and women heard Scottish churchmen condemn the 'great deal of filth' in the

Among speakers were the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Sir Donald Liddle; Moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Rt Rev Andrew Herron; Nigel Goodwin, one-time TV compere who did the honours; and Keith Steven, secretary of the Moral Welfare Board of the Church of Scotland.

Also present were students Colin Sinclair from Stirling University and Hazel Murdoch from Strathclyde University. Leading off the hymns was

singer Moira Anderson. Bishop Herron said Glasgow was one of the first places in Britain to take the lead in becoming a 'clean air

Warming to his 'filth' line, he continued: '... the dirty smutty joke and the filthy language of which we hear so much, the illicit relationships which spoil and mar courtship and marriage, all the evil habits which can do so much to render life a poor and worthless thing and bring ill health into our living.'

The Bishop seemed to have forgotten the city's 7.5 per cent unemployment problem which helps so much towards 'marring' the quality of life and which goes a long way towards bringing 'ill health' to the population.

A proclamation from the 'Festival' called on church leaders to make a stand against permissiveness, perversion and commercialism.

Pay Board holds back aerospace wages

By a Workers Press

PRESIDENT Nixon's new pay board has rejected a 12 per cent wage claim by 200,000 aerospace workers on the same day as a bonanza multimillion space project was

announced.

The US Pay Board, set up on November 13 to implement Nixon's post-August 15 policy of cutting wages, turned down the claim by nine to five with all the trade union side voting

It was the board's first Sources say that the board was likely to set an 8 per cent limit on wage increases. Wednesday's decision was the first time a government agency has ordered a reduction in pay increases in peace

On the same day as his stooges were reducing living standards, Nixon threw out 'plans' for a £2,200m spaceshuttle project.

But commentators see the move as political gimmickry. First of all there is the problem of getting it through

Nixon claims Although 50,000 jobs would be saved, the whole project is not due to begin until the end of the decade, by which time thousands of more aerospace workers will be made

The Pay Board's decision has heightened the tensions between unions and the Nixon administration. There is now talk of a strike by aerospace

And Leonard Woodcock. president of the United Auto-Workers' Union, said it was doubtful if the board, of which he was a member survive after this

A SPANISH miner was dug out alive from a mine near Oviedo, the capital of Asturias, yesterday, after being trapped 18 hours underground after a methane gas explosion. Two other bodies were found by rescuers who gave up hope of reaching five other miners caught underground by the explosion.

MATERIEVS

NEWS DESK

01-720 2000

CIRCULATION

01-622 7029

TV PROGRAMMES that do

All regions as BBC-1 except:

Wales: 1.30-1.45 Ar Lin Mam.
4.40 Cadi Ha. 4.50-4.55 Adventures of Parsley. 6.00 Wales
Today, weather. 6.15 Walt Disney. 6.50 Heddiw. 7.15 Dau a
Hanner. 7.40 Star Trek. 8.309.00 Cywain.

Scotland: 6.00-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 9.20 Current Account. 9.5510.45 Onedin Line. 12.47 News, weather.

weather.

N Ireland: 6.00-6.20 Scene Around
Six. 10.00 Behind the Head-

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not appear on p. 3.

All regions as BBC-1 excepts

Apprentices fully behind ALAN WASSELL, Steve Hague and Steve Link are members of the Castleford miners' strike

Young Socialists branch in Yorkshire. Alan $\ell(19)$, is an apprentice fitter at Glasshoughton colliery and a member of the National Union of Mineworkers' liaison com-mittee which supervises the ban on overtime there.

Glasshoughton NUM branch has decided to pull out the apprentices in the miners' strike and has sent a resolution to the union's Yorkshire Area Council demanding that apprentices are called out

everywhere.

'That decision's right,' says
Alan. 'It's a lot better than
the NEC line of leaving it up
to each pit to decide whether the apprentices come out or not. We should have all the apprentices out all over the country. We've got to have solidarity with the other men. It's our living as well and we can't leave them to fight it vithout us.'

Alan sees the liaison committee developing into a

A LECTURER in social studies at the Poly-

technic of N London, Miss Pauline Conroy,

was acquitted this week on charges of con-

spiring to cause explosions. She was awarded

costs of £150. Lord Gifford said his client,

PAULINE Conroy had just fin-

ished feeding her four-month-old

baby. It was 7.45 in the morning on

hostel rents

railway workers stay overnight.

At Old Oak Common, Lon-

don, which is home to over 200 rail workers, the W

Region rail board say that the weekly charge will have to increase from £2.50 to £5.25

or the hostel will have to

Similar increases are

planned at the country's hostels in Reading and Ilford.

In a letter to rail unions at Paddington, W Region welfare officer W. Freeman

explains the position thus:
'In consequence of the railways' adverse financial

position, it has been decided that the W Region is no

longer able to meet the costs

of operating the hostel at Old Oak Common, which involves a deficit of approximately £18,000 per annum.

If the men agree to it the

new rent, Freeman adds, would be payable from February 20.

Angry residents at the hostel point out that the massive rise will more than

The increase will net W

Region approximately an

extra £27,000 a year.
Others say the move is

ULSTER: 1.10 Sandown races. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Lost in space. 5.50 News. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Sky's the limit. 7.30 Theatre of stars. 8.20 Cartoon time. 8.30 Fenn St gang. 9.00 London. 10.30 Spectrum. 11.00 Film: 'Crossroads to Crime'.

TYNE TEES: 1.50 Sandown races. 3.15 Newsroom. 3.20 Racing. 3.45 Katie Stewart cooks. 4.15 Crossroads. 4.40 Pinky and Perky. 4.55 Flintstones. 5.20 Tom Gratton's war. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today. 6.30 McQueen. 7.00 London. 8.30 Fenn St gang. 9.00 London. 10.30 Film: 'A Taste of Fear'. 12.05 News. 12.20 Epilogue.

cover the deficit.

BY A WORKERS PRESS REPORTER

BRITISH RAIL is planning to more than double

rents at its hostels where train drivers and other

November 23 last year.

She began preparing a

cup of coffee when there

was a knock at the front

door of her flat in

Notting Hill, W London.

On opening it she was confronted by a plainclothes police officer. 'Is Mr Sirros

(Michael Sirros is the father of Miss Conroy's baby, Cormac Jackson — Jackson after Soledad brother George Jackson.)

As Miss Corroy was

As Miss Conroy was explaining that Sirros was

away, seven other plain-clothes men rushed down

there?', he asked.

'We'll be organizing the picketing', he says. 'We'll need mass pickets to stop the movement of coal—except to old age pensioners, hospitals

'But stopping coal from moving is the only way to win. We want the backing of the other unions, if necessary.' But—like many older

miners—Alan thinks the union leadership needs watching: We've got to make sure they don't wangle a way out on a productivity deal'.

STEVE HAGUE (19), also works at Glasshoughton as an apprentice electrician. Steve was involved in the unofficial 'surface-hours' strike of 1969, but not in the 1970 strike, because the Glasshoughton apprentices were not called

Arrest

and questions

the stairway to her basement flat, pushed open the door and began ransacking

identify themselves, refused to let Miss Conroy read

their search warrant and refused to let her phone a lawyer. When she attempted

to pick up the telephone to

call her solicitor, a police

officer chopped her wrist

Their chief pre-occupation

The hostels in the past

housed the long-distance drivers who manned London-

bound trains then drove back

to their homes in the pro-

But with faster services, the demand for this kind of

accommodation has declined.

stay on a semi-permanent basis in the hostels. If they

refused to pay the rent and the Board closed the hostel

down, they would be forced onto the London housing

market to pay exorbitant rents

to private landlords.
Freeman denied yesterday

that the decision to raise the

hostel charges was connected with the economy drive launched by ex-Labour Minister, Richard Marsh, now British Rail's boss.

He said that any arithmetic

regarding the increase was

open to argument.
First we have to get the

response of the residents to the increase, then the Board

can make their decision,' he

WEATHER

E ENGLAND will have mist

or fog at first which will clear during the day, followed by

The Midlands, NW England,

N Wales and Scotland—apart from E and NE—will be dry with variable cloud and some

S Wales, SW England, N Ireland, and E and NE Scot-

land will be mostly cloudy,

It will be rather cold in E England but elsewhere

temperatures will be near or

Outlook for Saturday and

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with

rain at times, but a few

sunny intervals later in the SW.

Temperatures rising to near,

or a little above normal, but remaining rather cold in the

a little below normal.

with a little rain in places.

sunshine.

weather with variable

Now many rail employees

vinces the next day.

seemed to be what Miss

The officers refused to

the place.

'Well, naturally. It's our rise as well and it's our We've got to be out with

'Things seem to be going all right at the moment', he told us. 'At least we've got a strike. The principle is absolutely right, but the trouble is we can't be sure about our leaders. I don't think they really want a fight against the Tories. They'll look for a deal to get out of it.'

STEVE LINK (16), is an apprentice electrician at Ackton Hall, Featherstone. He's he hasn't been involved in a strike before. He's not sure whether the apprentices will be brought out at Ackton:

Conroy read and what she wrote. For example, they delved right through her

correspondence, they examined more than 300

books which comprise her

library and looked through a number of newspapers.

After two hours the police had taken posters from the walls, lifted floor-

boards, turned over her baby's cot and even carried

out a minute examination of

the police kept the doors and windows locked and

The leader of the contingent, Det Insp Mould, then announced that Miss

Conroy was being taken to

correctly, that she hadn't

been arrested or charged

with anything. But when i

became clear that to resist would be hopeless, Miss

Conroy asked if she could

It so happens, however,

that a lawyer lives in the same block of flats where the creche is situated. On

arrival at the baby minder's

Miss Conroy was able to

Then followed a shouting row in which the lawyer

was also refused the names

of the officers. With the mothers of other babies

standing around in a state

of considerable shock, Miss

Conroy was grabbed by the

The police drove her to

Albany St police station

Pauline Conroy

where she met Commander

Bond, the so-called Com-mander 'X' of the Special

basically about people I knew. They wanted to

know my political views.
"Was I an anarchist?"—
that sort of thing. They
also asked where I had

travelled. By the way, they

took my passport, two

large cases of books, my

typewriter, my car £360 which I had

drawn out of the bank.

tioning to a close.

the truth. He said,

'I would either say

to answer that question".'

comment" or "I'm not going

brought the two-hour ques-

Miss Conroy said: Bond told me he had reason to believe that I was not telling

are going to be charged

with conspiracy to cause

explosions between January

1968 and August 1971 with Jake Prescott and others".

of bombs or Prescott or anything like that.

'I said, "You're out of your mind".'

TOMORROW: Pauline Con-

roy spends a 'week of hell in Holloway'.

was the first mention

About 1.50 p.m. Bond

questions

and hauled bodily

attract his attention.

take her baby to the nearby

creche where he is cared

Throughout the search

a Teddy bear.

a police station.

for each day.

police

Branch.

out to the car.

guarded.

Miss Conroy (25), was the victim of 'a deplorable cause of political persecution'. In this series of articles Miss Conroy tells Workers Press reporter Alex Mitchell the

disturbing story of her arrest, confinement

and eventual release.

they're trying to get them out, though single men won't get any benefit during the strike.' Like the other lads, Steve knows where the crunch will

'We should try to get the backing of the other unions, the railwaymen and such. If we can do that, we'll win. But if the government can move the stocks and get foreign coal in, then they'l Though inexperienced

industrial action and relatively

new to the pit, Steve knows what life in the mines can

Five years ago, his father was badly injured when he was knocked over by a tub down Ackton Hall colliery.
Now he is confined to the surface as a fitter and getting substantially lower earnings

Davis trial already

costs £300,000

Testing time

for Italy's

shaky alliance

AMERICAN 'imperialism

is sparing no expense in order to convict Angela

Davis on a framed murder charge. Her trial begins in San José, Cali-fornia, on January 31. Almost £300,000 has

already been spent on

security measures for the

so-called murder trial

which follows the slaying

of a judge and three

others outside a court-room in August 1970.

ITALY'S shaky coalition

government is faced with

collapse if it cannot resolve

within the next two weeks.

The eight-year-old alliance

Republicans, Social Democrats and Socialists is breaking

apart under the impact of the

world economic crisis and the

worsening position of Italian

industry.
The Republicans, who stand

on the right wing of the

coalition, have threatened to

join the opposition when

parliament reopens on January

18, unless the government ties wages to productivity and

abandons part of its reform

programme.

If they leave the coalition,

t could mean the end of the

17-month premiership of Emilio Colombo, who has proved one of the longest-

lived Italian premiers since the

war. Colombo's Christian Demo-

crats are also moving to the

right following the electoral successes of the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement in

Sicily. Their fear of the working class is far more acute than their dislike of

fascism.

The Republicans' attack on

Colombo's meagre 'reforms' is opposed by the Socialists, at least in public.

With unemployment at record levels and the working class pressing strongly in industry, the Socialist Party cannot afford to publicize its sympathy with capitalism.

The party's executive was meeting on Wednesday to consider its attitude to the

government crisis. Some executive members are

believed to support the party

leaving the coalition.

The Liberal Party, which is

not a member of the coalition,

is eager to take the place of the Socialists, moving the

whole coalition to the right.

internal differences

Among the more expensive items are £100,000 to remodel the courtroom

devices, including closed-

circuit TV cameras and

special cell

Angela Davis is being provided at a cost of more than £30,000.

Officials say her trial is

expected to last up to

Liberal support was essential during the election of President Giovanni Leone,

who was finally elected last month only after 23 ballots

The government parties now that if they cannot

Chief responsibility for the

MSI's successes lies with the

Italian Communist Party, which has restrained the

working-class movement through its control of the biggest trade union federa-tion and tried to fritter away

workers' militancy in a series of futile guerrilla strikes.

themselves forward as can-

didates for a place in a new coalition to be built on the ruins of the present line-up.

policy is opening up big dangers for Italy's workers.

The Stalinists are pressing

Their treacherous reformist

had failed.

for

and install

metal detectors.

nine months.

Leak shows weakness in Nixon's **Asia policy**

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT NIXON strongly backed Yahya Khan in the Indo-Pakistan war last month and ordered economic aid to India to be cut. This is shown clearly in the reports of the Washington Special Action Group of the National Security Council leaked to the press by columnist Jack Anderson.

The papers cover three days of meetings attended by the Chiefs of Staff, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Dr Kissinger, the President's

Assistant for National Security Affairs, and other top officials.

Anderson has invited Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Senator Fulbright to use the documents as the basis for an investigation of SE Asian

The security leak, which must involve top-level officials, has placed dozens of similar in Anderson's documents

The source is now being investigated by the FBI.

'If the sources were identified,' says Anderson, 'it would embarrass the administration more than it would me. It would make a very funny

Photocopies of the documents which Anderson supplied to the 'Washington Post' showed that the originals were on stationery of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Assistant Secretary for International Security, G. Warren Nutter. They were stamped 'secret sensitive' at the top and bottom.

Anderson has claimed in a TV interview he is being fed classified information by several high Nixon administration sources 'who believe that the government doesn't have the right to lie'.

He says documents show Nixon considered sending fighter planes as 'sneak' aid

Nothing was ever said at he security meetings about he massacres perpetrated by Yahya Khan's forces, but Kissinger said that attention should be called to the plight of the Biharis (non-Bengalis ngla Desi

A detailed examination was made of the military situation. Mr Sisco, assistant Secretary of Defence, felt the Indian army would turn over the military effort to the Mukti Bahini once the Pakistan army had been disarmed. A long-term presence of Indian forces in Bangla Desh would have to be considered.

Gen William Westmoreland, of Vietnam fame, discussed the order of battle in W Pakistan and considered the Indian position 'not advantageous'.

The papers show that 'Dr Kissinger also directed that henceforth we should show a certain coolness to the Indians -the Indian Ambassador is not to be treated at too high a level'.

Sisco argued that as therehad been no formal declara-tion of war, the Indians had no legal right to declare a blockade of the Pakistan coast and a diplomatic protest was ordered to

patch together some agree-ment, a radical shake-up in the party alignment will be necessary. With an election less than a year away, they want to hang on to office. Chief responsibility for the prepared. Kissinger also raised the uestion of transferring American military equipment from Jordan and Saudi Arabia to Pakistan. He suggested that if the Pakistanis made emergency requests for arms, the President might wish to honour them-the President is not inclined to let the Paks

> The leaks show that there is opposition to Nixon's policy at the highest level. But they also reveal that the policy completely failed to realize its objective.

be defeated'.

publication further undermines the credibility of the Nixon administration and shows the bankruptcy of its whole policy in Asia.

Early attack caught Laotians on the hop

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

SURPRISE TACTICS by the National Liberation Front fighters in Indo-China have caught the Laotian government forces and their US backers completely off guard.

Usually the liberation fighters have not got into full swing until February or March when the dry season is well under way. But this year they have pushed puppet forces off the Plain of Jars and now threaten the strategic Meo guerrilla army base at Long Cheng in N Laos.

Government military sources in Vientiane believe the fighting round the base —headquarters of the guer-rilla army commanded by Gen Vang Pao — could develop in the next few weeks into the bloodiest battle ever fought in Laos.

Capture of the base, which is maintained by the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) would be a major blow to US involvement in Laos and weaken the American position just as President Nixon prepares for his historic visit to

The collapse of Gen Vang Pao's army would also be a major blow to the morale of the Laotian government forces and would vastly limit the effectiveness of the Meo guerrilla force which for years has successfully hindered liberation fighters in N Laos.

Since the all-out artillery bombardment of the base, 82 miles NE of Vientiane, began last Friday Gen Vang Pao has been forced to redeploy nearly all his troops
— estimated to number
about 10,000—to defensive positions outside the base. An accurate bombard-ment completely destroyed

the base's ammunition dump and put out of action its airfield, halting the inward flow of supplies.

There are now some 8,000 liberation forces around the base and government sources in Vientian tiane have admitted that Long Cheng is seriously in danger of being overrun.
Military observers believe

much earlier than usual with Long Cheng as the

main objective.

The war in Laos since 1965 has followed an almost predictable pattern regulated by the monsoons. At the start of the year, the beginning of the dry season, the NLF push westward.

Once the rainy season sets in, about June, government forces then reverse the push and recover lost

According to informed sources, the early NLF drive caught the Americans and Laotians by surprise.

Three divisions swept across the strategic Plain of Jars from the eastern side, (overrunning government forces who had expected the annual push to come from the N and S). the same time, the

NLF began their annual push in S Laos, gaining control of the Bolovens highland plateau. But this action was seen

by military observers in Laos as partly a diversionary move aimed at pinning down as many government prevent them being flown N to help Long Cheng.

Reassuring troops

THE PRESENCE of American troops in Germany is reto the Russians claims Republican Senator

Speaking in Bonn he said that a substantial reduction in the 310,000 men in Europe would upset the balance of power.

'I would like to point out', he said 'that the Soviet Union has an almost paranoiac fear of Germany and the presence of US troops in Europe tends, notwith-standing what they may say, to give them [the Russians] a sense of reassurance that they will not have to face a supernationalistic Germany

To some degree the rightwing Senator is right. The bureaucracy's dropping any aim of German reunification and its pressure for a European Security Conference all mean that it is ready to do a deal with imperialism. It fears revolution even more than German nationalism.

workers press

READERS' MEETINGS Westgate Rd Meet Editorial Board

speakers. Discuss your ideas for the expanded

> COVENTRY Sunday January 9

Angel Hotel, Folehill Rd Speaker:

LEICESTER Wednesday January 12

> Queen's Hotel, Rutland St Speaker:

lan Yeats NEWCASTLE

Thursday January 13 7.30 p.m.

Speaker: Alex Mitchell LEEDS Sunday January 16 3 p.m.

Quarry Hill Flats Leeds 1 Speaker: Stephen Johns SHEFFIELD

Sunday January 16 **YS Premises** Western Works, Speaker:

GLASGOW Monday January 17

Stephen Johns

Room 1 **Partick Burgh** (Nr Merkland St Tube Stn.) Speaker: Stephen Johns

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

Make the Tory government resign!

Return a Labour government pledged to restore full employment and repeal all

laws against the unions! DONCASTER: Sunday January 9, 7 p.m. Wood-lands Hotel, Great North

Rd, Woodlands. The miners' strike and the Tory govern-OXFORD. (Joint meeting with Young Socialists): Sun-

day January 9, 7,30 p.m. 'Cape of Good Hope', The Plain. 'Right-to-Work' campaign.

WILLESDEN: Monday January 10, 8pm. Trades and Labour Hall, High Rd. Support the miners.

BRACKNELL: January 11, 7.30 p.m. 'Red Lion', High St. Discuss ATUA Manifesto.

Tuesday

BEXLEYHEATH: Tuesday January 11, 8 p.m. 'The Upton', Crook Log. Trade unions and basic rights.

DAGENHAM: Wednesday January 12, 8 p.m. Room 11, East Ham Town Hall. The struggle for socialism in Bangla Desh.

LUTON: Thursday January 13, 8pm. Recreation Centre, Old Bedford Rd. Support the miners'.

CORBY: Wednesday January 19, 8pm. Civic Centre. The 'Right-to-Work' campaign.

secretary Giacomo Mancini warned in an interview in

parties wants this, but the

in the senate by an independent left-wing member,

mature elections.'

The next Italian General Election is due in the spring of 1973, but if the Socialists leave the government, the ensuing chain reaction of political events would probably leave President Leone with little alternative but to call a premature General Election.

Socialists may decide to use the threat anyway in the hope of jerking the Christian Democrats into supporting the speedy parliamentary approval of a new divorce law.
This law has been tabled

Tullia Romagnoli Carettoni. Roman Catholics have mobilized mass support and overcome most legal hurdles facing a referendum specifically aimed at abro-

paign will collapse for lack

-Referendum move

the weekly 'L'Espresso' yesterday that: '. . . if we do not have a satisfactory answer on the question of the referendum [on a new divorce law], there may arise the question of pre-

None of the coalition

of a target.

gating the present, December, 1970, divorce law. But if this law can be replaced in time by a new one, the referendum cam-

ITALIAN Socialist Party