## Who is Monty Johnstone?

That we think

THE 'MORNING STAR' gave its readers the following news on Monday, November 11: 'The £100 Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize for 1969 has been awarded to Martin Nicolaus for his two essays "Proletariat and Middle Class in Marx" and "The Unknown Marx". . . . Next year's prize of £100 will be awarded in Autumn 1970 for a work of Marxist scholarship. . . . Jury members for this year's prize were Perry Anderson, E. H. Carr, Tamara Deutscher, Eric

Hobsbawm, Monty Johnstone and Ralph Milliband'. Though a great deal could be, and in fact will be, said about the political position and record of some of the other members of the jury, the case of Monty Johnstone deserves special and immediate attention. On what basis does he participate in the work of a committee whose job it is to objectively evaluate the Marxist scholarship of others?

others?

Johnstone is without a shadow of a doubt amongst the worst and most unprincipled enemies of Marxism in the British Communist Party today. His record speaks for itself.

According to the Young Communist League journal 'Challenge' of May 1, 1954, Johnstone joined the YCL in 1941. Without, it seems, severing his links with that organization, he then joined the Trotskyist Revolutionary Communist Party in 1945, and left it in 1946 to openly rejoin the YCL.

The same number of 'Challenge' then outlines Johnstone's career in the YCL up to his appointment as editor of 'Challenge' in May 1954:

'Since then he has held quite a number of responsible positions in the movement. These include being full-time district organizer of the Young Communist League in the Midlands,

organizer of the Young Communist League in the Midlands, chairman of the National Student Committee of the Communist Party and YCL National Education Officer'. Today Johnstone is acquiring a reputation amongst the revisionists and in the capitalist press as the spokesman and theoretician of a new, anti-Stalinist trend within the British Communist Party.

British Communist Parry.

It is presumably on the basis of his 'anti-Stalinist' credentials, awarded by both the 'Sunday Times' (April 13, 1969) and by Bob Purdie of the International Marxist Group, that Johstone has maintained his position on the Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize jury.

We should point out that Johnstone has not always been so free with his condemnations of the crimes of Stalinism, a position he now adopts without in any way attacking the political line of Stalin which led directly to these

As a frequent contributor to 'Challenge' (the YCL paper) Johnstone was called upon to write several important articles, including the YCL obituary to Stalin and the justification for the 1952 Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia. This is what Johnstone wrote on the death of Stalin in 'Challenge' of March 14, 1953:

'In the passing of J. V. Stalin the working people of the whole world have suffered an irreparable loss. . . No man in our times has done so much as Stalin to change the course of world history through the inestimable leadership and help he has given the oppressed of the world in their struggle for freedom and a happier life. . . . For 30 years Stalin led the Soviet people from victory to victory in the face of the most terrible obstacles so that it is today well on the road to communism.

endure through the ages".'
That is how Johnstone, who was and is very familiar with Trotsky's writings, knowing every word of this revolting

'tribute' to be a lie, commemorated the death of the grave-digger of the Bolshevik Party.

As part of Johnstone's present 'anti-Stalinism', he is loud in us condemnation of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. (This opposition, it must be stressed, has nothing to do

with a revolutionary struggle against Stalinism.) Today, Johnstone defends Dubcek and condemns the crimes of Novotny era. But this is what he wrote at the time of the 1952 Slansky trial, when 14 innocent members of the Czech Communist Party were framed and executed by the Stalinist bureaucracy: Slansky, former general secretary of the Czech CP, and 13

associates were found guilty of spying and sabotage for the US and its satellites. Many were shown to have acted as spies in the labour movement since the pre-war days. These people unwillingly confessed their crimes in the face of the irrefutable testimony of fact, documents and the evidence of witnesses. . . Such activities can and must be rooted out in this as in other countries wherever this takes place; through the vigilance of the workers the movement is rendered stronger and healthier.' ('Challenge',

January 10, 1953.) Despite Johnstone's repeated claims to the contrary, he has never publicly acknowledge political responsibility for defending the crimes of Stalinism in the Soviet Union and

eastern Europe.
Yet all the time he knew, from the basic training he received whilst a member of the Trotskyist movement from 1945 to 1946, that the Moscow Trials were all frame-ups and that their counterparts in eastern Europe after 1948 were equally fraudulent and reactionary.

On what political basis does Johnstone therefore function as a member of the Deutscher Prize Jury? Who does Johnstone really represent—the British Communist Party? Nobody really knows, except Johnstone himself. His whole political past, especially that part of it spent as a member of the British section of the Fourth International, is full of unanswered questions and uncertainties.

Did Johnstone break from Stalinism when he joined the RCP in 1945? And if so, why did he return to Stalinism in 1946? What political factors and historical events attracted him to Trotskyism one year and back to Stalinism the next?

These questions are very important and involve much more than the workings of the Deutscher Prize Jury. Johnstone is without doubt a key man both for the various revisionist groups and the Stalinist leadership of the British

Communist Party. Monty Johnstone, by virtue of his record in the Trotskyist movement, is better equipped to form a link with pro-Stalinist revisionists such as Bob Purdie of the International Marxist Group (IMG) than any other member of the

The first open contacts were established through the journal 'New Left Review', which under the editorship of Perry Anderson (another member of the Jury) published an article by Johnstone (January-February 1967) defending Stalinism from a 'liberal' and essentially opportunist

In this article, Johnstone attacked the ultra-left 'Third Period' Stalinism of 1929-1933, but defended its right-wing policies

followed at all other times. He then returned to the 'Review' (July-August 1968) to defend Stalinism again—this time its theory of 'socialism in one country'

The political collaboration of Johnstone and Anderson in the New Left Review' soon became a springboard for even Intervening on the side of the Stalinists in the dispute between

the Young Socialists and the YCL on the conditions for a debate on the theme 'Trotskyism and Stalinism' (brought about by Johnstone's 'Cogito' article attacking Trotskyism)
Bob Purdie of the IMG seized on Johnstone as a new
type of CP member who could become a leader of the

● PAGE 4 COL. 8 →

## Big U.S. aircraft competition grows

# CONCORDES 50% OBSOLETE BY 1972?

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE DECISION of President Nixon on October 23 to give the go-ahead for a United States supersonic transport aircraft (SST) threatens aircraft workers in Britain with big redundancies.

At the time of the announcement the British capitalist press went out of its way to reassure all concerned that the proposed Boeing 2707 would not affect the Concorde programme.

Mr Pat Burgess, sales director of the Concorde Unions Alliance shows the project, was reported as only way forward.

'It [Nixon's decision] is most encouraging, because it reinforces our conviction of the commercial viability of SSTs. By the time the Boeing comes into service, towards the end of the next decade, Concorde will have been in service for five years or so. By that time there is going to be a tremendous build-up in traffic which will require these two aircraft types to support it. They are in no way

The Americans had no such

### Opponent

Mr William Hamilton, en-gineering director of the Boeing programme, said:

'We view the Concorde as an opponent . . . people will fly on it in preference to the subsonic airliners which we produce. When our supersonic airliner is introduced there will be a sufficient number of lesser routes that the Concorde will suit.'

What is the real prospect facing aircraft workers?

Previously unpublished testimony given by the US Aviation Agency to the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee in support of a request for about £40 million in SST funds has come to light.

This report says: 'If the US SST is as superior as expected, it would result in the gradual retirement of almost half the Concordes produced up to 1972.'

### Massive blow

This would be a massive blow against British aircraft manufacturers' plans, already floundering in the cut-throat battle for world markets.

The threat to the Concorde programme must now mean a stepping up of the attacks on the wages and conditions of this section of workers with the possibility of largescale redundancies used as the big whip.

The employers are now increasingly turning to their classic weapon to hit the working class.

In the fight against speed-up and redundancy, the pro-gramme of the All Trades

OVER a 1,000 ground staff

staged a 40-minute demonstra-

tion around the seven-storey

control building on Monday in

protest against the threat of legal action against three of

All ground services were

halted. Porters and loaders

joined the demonstration and

passengers had to be driven

to their aircraft by manage-

The three stewards were

The letters were signed by

British Airports Authority

This accusation concerned

the resistance of ground staff

and their stewards to a con-

industrial action on

handed letters accusing them

of inciting their members to

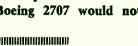
their shop stewards.

ment staff.

Friday night.

(BAA) solicitor.

at London's Heathrow airport



The aircraft industry must be nationalized without compensation along with the other basic industries.

The development of alternative leadership inside the trade unions around this pro-gramme is now the urgent

### Soviet writer



Solzhenitsyn

### expelled from union

IT WAS officially confirmed Moscow Monday night that Soviet writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn has been expelled from the writers'

The decision to expel Solzhenitsyn, one of the leaders of the anti-Stalinist opposition in the Soviet Union, had been taken at a meeting of the union of the Russian Federal Republic last Thursday, though this was officially denied at the

The main grounds given were the writer's 'black' attitude to Soviet life and his failure to take adequate steps to prevent his writings being published in the West. This second charge is a

classical Stalinist frame-up, as at least two of Solzhenitsyn's works have been 'leaked' to the West by agents of the bureaucracy precisely in order to provide the 'evidence' now being used to expel him.

Stalin is dead, but the methods of repression which he perfected live on.

**Workers in airport march** 

By a Workers Press reporter

tract for ground handling

awarded by the authority to a

Canadian company.

The men fear that the new

contract will bring redun-

stewards to sign an under-

taking within three days to

halt further activity against

ing the withdrawal of the

letters, saying that blacking

the Canadian company was not illegal and had been

approved by the trade unions

have discussed the letters

The three senior stewards

e Transport and Workers Union's

Shop stewards are demand-

the contract.

at national level.

with the General

The letters requested the

## 'No strike' pledge angers firemen

end the action-

We're telling, not asking, you to

'Dusty' Miller, London firemen's leader

LONDON FIREMEN may resume normal working tomorrow after having refused all duties apart from emergency calls for two-and-ahalf weeks. Their November 19 strike for a new rent allowance is also in jeopardy.

Firemen also report strong rumours that it is planned to circulate them with forms demanding the signing of a 'no strike' pledge. disgust.

If they refuse to sign, say the rumours, they could be suspended.

Mr Terry Parry, Fire Brigades Union general secre-tary, has told station delegates that he knows nothing of this. But Communist Party and firemen's executive member, have told them that the Home Office might well move on this and that they might as well sell such an agreement 'for a

'The last nails in the coffin', as one station delegate described them, were hammered home by members of the Fire Brigades Union's national executive and London Brigades Committee at delegate conference on Monday.

On orders from the national executive, the committee in-structed delegates to call off their 'emergency calls only' action and the threat of strike action on November 19.

### REJECTED

By an overwhelming majority the delegates rejected this instruction and affirmed that their stations would con-

Brigades Committee chairman Mr 'Dusty' Miller insisted however, that they were telling, not asking, firemen to do that any such action would be unconstitutional and that they would have to face the consequences if they went

If the firemen go ahead now, it could mean suspensions and sackings.

The FBU's reported agreement with the Home Office for sole negotiating rights could further strengthen local councils in this direction.

No amount of 'left' talk from the Brigades Committee, nor its attempts to paper over the cracks with the union

general secretary, Mr Jack Jones, and the union's legal

The importance of the dispute is that the BAA is challenging the right of a union to defend the jobs of

its members at a time when

this question is being posed

The Labour government

may have chosen to make the

airport workers' dispute a test

case in order to step up the

campaign for legal restrictions

the airport workers' growing dissatisfaction with the

attacks being made on their

wages and conditions under cover of the productivity

concessions demanded by the

Prices and Incomes Board.

Also in the background lies

on the right to strike.

throughout industry in various

### By David Maude

crisis of leadership now facing the firemen. Already a number of firemen—some with many years of active union membership have torn up their cards in

But many firemen stubbornly refuse to be demoralized in this way.

As one told Workers Press on Monday: 'We'll have to pick ourselves up, dust ourselves down and

start over again-we've got to

weekend, the committee condemns the behaviour of members towards executive members at last week's mass meeting and warns that 'those who resort to this\* are not wanted as members of the Fire Brigades Union'.

\* Union leaders were forced off a platform by a barrage of build a new leadership now!' flour, eggs and tomatoes.

IN a letter signed by Mr. 'Dusty' Miller and London

Brigades Committee secre-tary Mr. Jim Stracey, received by firemen at the

### **MERSEYSIDE**

## Dockers accept £20 with strings

TRANSPORT and General Workers' Union stewards have informed Merseyside's port employers that most of the port's dockers accept their new interim pay offer.

Company meetings were held along the Liverpool docks on Monday, with stewards recommending acceptance of the offer. A majority of the men are said to have voted in favour.

HULL

### BLUE UNION (NASD) shop stewards on Hull

docks sent a letter last week to the employers demanding £35 for a 30-hour week. They said that they would

not accept shift working or any other 'strings'. Although this decision was

taken before the details of the London port employers plans were available, Hull dockers fear that the local employers are preparing a similar scheme. There have been no reports

from the local modernization committee, but individual employers have leaked information that they would be prepared to pay £35 provided dockers 'kept up a high stan-dard of work' or were prepared to work short-handed in a gang. One docker said that with

the quicker turn-round and changes in the work, the employers should be able to pay this wage demand. No doubt the employers think differently.

One thing is certain. To begin a campaign on the docks for £35 with no strings attached means to prepare a head-on collision with the employers and government plans outlined in Phase Two of Devlin.

### Birkenhead dockers con-

This would give dockers a guaranteed weekly wage of £20, £16 basic plus the 2s an hour modernization payment won in 1967.

### Piece-work

Unlike the London proposals, which are tied to full implementation of the Devlin rationalization scheme's second phase, Liverpool's interim proposals do not abolish While most of the special

cargo awards existing at present are abolished, tonnage

payments continue and are estimated to make possible top earnings of £40 a week.

Dockers feel that while the
employers are gradually attempting to reduce the field of action for improving wages by cutting out the awards, they are hanging fire to a certain extent because they want to 'sort out London

London dockers are ex-pected to return their ballot papers accepting or rejecting proposals linked to the second phase of the Devlin 'modernization' scheme by the middle of next week.

### WEATHER

(For 24 hours from Tuesday

Outlook for 48 hours: Change-

able with showers and some longer periods of rain. Sunny intervals in most places and near normal temperatures. London area, S.E., Central Southern and Central Northern England, E. Midlands:
Mostly cloudy with outbreaks
of rain, heavy at times,
especially over hills. Some bright intervals. Wind southerly fresh or strong. Warm, maximum 15C (59F). W. Midlands, Channel Islands, S.W. England: Generally cloudy with periods of rain,

heavy at times. Hill fog. Becoming brighter tomorrow with showers. Wind southerly strong, perhaps gale force veering westerly on Wednesday. Rather warm, maximum 14C (57F).

'The combine should have

wasted.'

N.W. England: Cloudy with periods of rain, perhaps bright intervals Wednesday. Wind variable or southerly moderate. Near normal, maximum 10C (50F). Edinburgh, Glasgow area, N.

Ireland: Showers and sunny intervals. Perhaps some long southerly or variable, light or moderate. Near normal, maximum 9C (48F).

### A.T.U.A: meetings

**OLLERTON (NOTTS)** 'Lessons of the miners'

strike' Saturday, November 15

1 p.m. Hop Pole Hotel Speakers:

Two Yorkshire miners

**ELLESMERE PORT** 'Report back from the

Motor Workers' Conference' Sunday, November 16

10.30 a.m. Railway Hotel Little Sutton

### GREET **WORKERS PRESS**

at two public meetings

See the film of the first issue being prepared and printed and the film 'Young Socialists, 1969'

### **OXFORD**

Friday, November 21, 8 p.m. Northgate Hall St. Michael's Street

### **GLASGOW**

Sunday, November 23, 7.30 p.m. Partick Burgh Hall (nr. Merkland Street underground) Speakers at both meetings will be: MIKE BANDA (Editor of Workers' Press) SHEILA TORRANCE (National Secretary of the Young Socialists)

Young Socialists

### **GRAND XMAS BAZAAR** Saturday, Nov. 29

Canning Town Public Hall doors open 12 noon Can you sew? knit? paint? make something for our Bazaar? give something towards our bazaar? Have you a tin of grocery? jumble? Help us make this the best bazaar ever held! Help us raise the money for our daily paper—

THE WORKERS' PRESS

## Standard men suspicious of return terms

WORKERS at Merseyside's Standard-Triumph plant returned to work yesterday after 11 weeks on strike for lay-off guarantees and increases in bonus pay.

Many workers remain highly suspicious of the five-point plan for ending thought another. 'We don't the strike put forward by really know what we're gettthe strike committee at Monday's 90-minute mass duct of the meeting, one trade meeting.

Despite pleas for unity from Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers' convenor Mr Bill Moore, a sizeable minority voted against a return.

### Five points The five points put to the

'Sell-out' strikers were: Negotiations on a cash 'It's a sell-out', one striker offer within one hour of a told the Workers Press as he return to work. left the meeting. A personal representa-'We don't know what we're tive of Lord Stokes to be going back on-it's 11 weeks present.

No staggered return.
No victimization.
Immediate reinstate-No staggered return. a shop steward sacked during the strike.

Nothing was said at the meeting about either lay-off

By our industrial reporter

Commenting on the con-

unionist claimed angrily that

'the chairman closed the meet-

ing when we were still throw-

ing questions at him'.

pay, parity of earnings with Midlands British - Leyland plants or the amount of the company's cash offer.
The convenor had to plead with the strikers to return to work, saying:

### 'Reached end'

'We can't go any further. We've reached the end of the road.'

Production at Standard-Triumph's Coventry plant would resume as soon as a full inspection of the position at the Merseyside plant had been carried out, a company spokesman said on Monday

## Who is Monty Inhostone?

THE 'MORNING STAR' gave its readers the following news on Monday, November 11: 'The £100 Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize for 1969 has been awarded to Martin Nicolaus for his two essays "Proletariat and Middle Class in Marx" and "The Unknown Marx". . . . Next year's prize of £100 will be awarded in Autumn 1970 for a work of Marxist scholarship. . . . Jury members for this year's prize were Perry Anderson, E. H. Carr, Tamara Deutscher, Eric

Hobsbawm, Monty Johnstone and Ralph Milliband'. Though a great deal could be, and in fact will be, said about the political position and record of some of the other members of the jury, the case of Monty Johnstone deserves special and immediate attention. On what basis does he participate in the work of a committee whose job it is to objectively evaluate the Marxist scholarship of

Johnstone is without a shadow of a doubt amongst the worst and most unprincipled enemies of Marxism in the British

and most unprincipled enemies of Marxism in the British Communist Party today. His record speaks for itself.

According to the Young Communist League journal 'Challenge' of May 1, 1954, Johnstone joined the YCL in 1941. Without, it seems, severing his links with that organization, he then joined the Trotskyist Revolutionary Communist Party in 1945, and left it in 1946 to openly rejoin the YCL. The same number of 'Challenge' then outlines Johnstone's career in the YCL up to his appointment as editor of 'Challenge' in May 1954:

'Since then he has held quite a number of responsible positions in the movement. These include being full-time district organizer of the Young Communist League in the Midlands, chairman of the National Student Committee of the Communist Party and YCL National Education Officer'. Today Johnstone is acquiring a reputation amongst the revision

Today Johnstone is acquiring a reputation amongst the revision-

ists and in the capitalist press as the spokesman and theoretician of a new, anti-Stalinist trend within the British Communist Party.

It is presumably on the basis of his 'anti-Stalinist' credentials, awarded by both the 'Sunday Times' (April 13, 1969) and by Bob Purdie of the International Marxist Group, that Johstone has maintained his position on the Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize jury.

We should noint out that Johnstone has not always been so

We should point out that Johnstone has not always been so free with his condemnations of the crimes of Stalinism, a position he now adopts without in any way attacking the political line of Stalin which led directly to these

As a frequent contributor to 'Challenge' (the YCL paper) Johnstone was called upon to write several important articles, including the YCL obituary to Stalin and the justification for the 1952 Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia.

This is what Johnstone wrote on the death of Stalin in 'Challenge' of March 14, 1953:

'In the passing of J. V. Stalin the working people of the whole world have suffered an irreparable loss. . . . No man in our times has done so much as Stalin to change the course world history through the inestimable leadership and help he has given the oppressed of the world in their struggle for freedom and a happier life. . . . For 30 years Stalin led the Soviet people from victory to victory in the face of the most terrible obstacles so that it is today well on the road to communism. . . .

His life is an example to every young socialist of courage, tenacity, faith in the people, the combination of study and action, constant devotion to principle. . . . On his passing we can say, as Engels said of Marx's death exactly 70 years ago: "Mankind is shorter by a head, and the greatest head of our times at that. His name and work will

endure through the ages".'
That is how Johnstone, who was and is very familiar with
Trotsky's writings, knowing every word of this revolting 'tribute' to be a lie, commemorated the death of the grave-digger of the Bolshevik Party.

As part of Johnstone's present 'anti-Stalinism', he is loud in

us condemnation of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. (This opposition, it must be stressed, has nothing to do

with a revolutionary struggle against Stalinism.) Today, Johnstone defends Dubcek and condemns the crimes of the Novotny era. But this is what he wrote at the time of the 1952 Slansky trial, when 14 innocent members of the Czech Communist Party were framed and executed by the Stalinist bureaucracy:

'Slansky, former general secretary of the Czech CP, and 13 associates were found guilty of spying and sabotage for the US and its satellites. Many were shown to have acted as spies in the labour movement since the pre-war days. These people unwillingly confessed their crimes in the face of the irrefutable testimony of fact, documents and the evidence of witnesses. . . . Such activities can and must rooted out in this as in other countries wherever this takes place; through the vigilance of the workers the movement is rendered stronger and healthier.' ('Challenge',

January 10, 1953.) Despite Johnstone's repeated claims to the contrary, he has never publicly acknowledge political responsibility for defending the crimes of Stalinism in the Soviet Union and

eastern Europe.
Yet all the time he knew, from the basic training he received whilst a member of the Trotskyist movement from 1945 to 1946, that the Moscow Trials were all frame-ups and that their counterparts in eastern Europe after 1948 were

equally fraudulent and reactionary.

On what political basis does Johnstone therefore function as a member of the Deutscher Prize Jury? Who does Johnstone really represent—the British Communist Party? Nobody really knows, except Johnstone himself. His whole political past, especially that part of it spent as a member of the British section of the Fourth International, is full

f unanswered questions and uncertainties. Did Johnstone break from Stalinism when he joined the RCP in 1945? And if so, why did he return to Stalinism in 1946? What political factors and historical events attracted him to Trotskyism one year and back to

Stalinism the next? These questions are very important and involve much more than the workings of the Deutscher Prize Jury. Johnstone

is without doubt a key man both for the various revisionist groups and the Stalinist leadership of the British Communist Party. Monty Johnstone, by virtue of his record in the Trotskyist movement, is better equipped to form a link with pro-Stalinist revisionists such as Bob Purdie of the International

Group (IMG) than any other member of the British CP. The first open contacts were established through the journal 'New Left Review', which under the editorship of Perry Anderson (another member of the Jury) published an article by Johnstone (January-February 1967) defending

Stalinism from a 'liberal' and essentially opportunist

In this article, Johnstone attacked the ultra-left 'Third Period' Stalinism of 1929-1933, but defended its right-wing policies followed at all other times. He then returned to the 'Review' (July-August 1968) to defend Stalinism again—this time its theory of 'socialism in one

The political collaboration of Johnstone and Anderson in the

New Left Review' soon became a springboard for even Intervening on the side of the Stalinists in the dispute between the Young Socialists and the YCL on the conditions for a

debate on the theme 'Trotskyism and Stalinism' (brought about by Johnstone's 'Cogito' article attacking Trotskyism) Bob Purdie of the IMG seized on Johnstone as a new type of CP member who could become a leader of the

● PAGE 4 COL. 8 →

## Big U.S. aircraft competition grows

# CONCORDES 50% OBSOLETE BY 1972?

end the action-

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE DECISION of President Nixon on October 23 to give the go-ahead for a United States supersonic transport aircraft (SST) threatens aircraft workers in Britain with big redundancies.

At the time of the announcement the British capitalist press went out of its way to reassure all concerned that the proposed Boeing 2707 would not affect the Concorde programme.

Mr Pat Burgess, sales director of the Concorde Unions Alliance shows the project, was reported as only way forward. saying:

'It [Nixon's decision] is most encouraging, because it reinforces our conviction of commercial viability of SSTs. By the time the Boeing comes into service, towards the end of the next decade, Concorde will have been in service for five years or so. By that time there is going to be a tremendous build-up in traffic which will require these two aircraft types to support it. They are in no way

The Americans had no such fillusions.

### **Opponent**

Mr William Hamilton, engineering director of Boeing programme, said:

'We view the Concorde as an opponent . . . people will fly on it in preference to the subsonic airliners which we produce. When our supersonic airliner is introduc**ed** there will be a sufficient number of lesser routes that the Concorde will suit.'

What is the real prospect facing aircraft workers?

Previously unpublished testimony given by the US Aviation Agency to the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee in support of a request for about £40 million in SST funds has come to light.

This report says: 'If the US SST is as superior as expected, it would result in the gradual retirement of almost half the Concordes produced up to 1972.'

### Massive blow

This would be a massive blow against British aircraft manufacturers' plans, already floundering in the cut-throat battle for world markets.

The threat to the Concorde programme must now mean a stepping up of the attacks on the wages and conditions of this section of workers with the possibility of largescale redundancies used as the big whip.

The employers are now increasingly turning to their classic weapon to hit the

In the fight against speed-up and redundancy, the pro-gramme of the All Trades

OVER a 1,000 ground staff at London's Heathrow airport

staged a 40-minute demonstra-

tion around the seven-storev

control building on Monday in

protest against the threat of

legal action against three of

All ground services were

halted. Porters and loaders joined the demonstration and

passengers had to be driven

to their aircraft by manage-ment staff.

handed letters accusing them of inciting their members to

illegal industrial action on

The letters were signed by

This accusation concerned

and their stewards to a con-

British Airports Authority

The three stewards were

their shop stewards.

Friday night.

(RAA) solicitor.

The aircraft industry must be nationalized without compensation along with the other basic industries.

The development of alternative leadership inside the trade unions around this programme is now the urgent

### **Soviet** writer

in jeopardy.

pledge.

suspended.

few bob'.

Firemen also report

If they refuse to sign, say

the rumours, they could be

Mr Terry Parry, Fire Brigades Union general secre-tary, has told station delegates

that he knows nothing of this.

firemen's executive member,

Mr Ken Head, is believed to

have told them that the Home

Office might well move on this

and that they might as well

sell such an agreement for a

'The last nails in the cof-

fin', as one station delegate described them, were ham-

mered home by members of the Fire Brigades Union's national executive and Lon-

don Brigades Committee at

delegate conference on

On orders from the national

executive, the committee in-

structed delegates to call off

their 'emergency calls only' action and the threat of strike

REJECTED

majority the delegates rejected this instruction and affirmed that their stations would con-

Brigades Committee chair-

man Mr 'Dusty' Miller insisted

however, that they were tell-

ing, not asking, firemen to do

this, that any such action

would be unconstitutional and

that they would have to face

the consequences if they went

If the firemen go ahead

now, it could mean suspen-

The FBU's reported agree-

ment with the Home Office

for sole negotiating rights could further strengthen local

councils in this direction.

No amount of 'left' talk

from the Brigades Committee,

nor its attempts to paper over the cracks with the union

executive, can conceal the

general secretary, Mr Jack Jones, and the union's legal

The importance of the dispute is that the BAA is

challenging the right of a union to defend the jobs of

its members at a time when

this question is being posed

throughout industry in various

The Labour government

may have chosen to make the airport workers' dispute a test

case in order to step up the

campaign for legal restrictions on the right to strike.

the airport workers' growing dissatisfaction with the

attacks being made on their

wages and conditions under cover of the productivity

concessions demanded by the

Prices and Incomes Board.

Also in the background lies

sions and sackings.

ahead.

tinue with these actions.

a n overwhelming

action on November 19.

But Communist Party and



### expelled from union

IT WAS officially confirmed in Moscow Monday night that Soviet writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn has been expelled from the writers'

The decision to expel Solzhenitsyn, one of the leaders of the anti-Stalinist opposition in the Soviet Union, had been taken at a meeting of the union of the Russian Federal Republic last Thursday, though this was officially denied at the

The main grounds given were the writer's 'black' attitude to Soviet life and his failure to take adequate steps to prevent his writings being published in the West. This second charge is a

classical Stalinist frame-up, as at least two of Solzhenitsyn's works have been 'leaked' to the West by agents of the bureaucracy precisely in order to provide the 'evidence' now being used to expel him. Stalin is dead, but the

methods of repression which he perfected live on.

Workers in airport march

By a Workers Press reporter

tract for ground handling awarded by the authority to a

Canadian company.

The men fear that the new

contract will bring redun-

stewards to sign an under-

taking within three days to

halt further activity against the contract.

ing the withdrawal of the letters, saying that blacking

the Canadian company was

not illegal and had been approved by the trade unions

The three senior stewards have discussed the letters

Transport

Workers Union's

at national level.

General

The letters requested the

### By David Maude

We're telling, not asking, you to

'Dusty' Miller, London firemen's leader

'No strike' pledge

angers firemen

LONDON FIREMEN may resume normal working tomorrow after

having refused all duties apart from emergency calls for two-and-a-

half weeks. Their November 19 strike for a new rent allowance is also

strong rumours that it is crisis of leadership now facing planned to circulate them the firemen. with forms demanding the Already a number of firemen—some with many years of active union membership signing of a 'no strike' have torn up their cards in

disgust. But many firemen stubbornly refuse to be demoralized in this way.

As one told Workers Press on Monday: 'We'll have to pick ourselves

build a new leadership now!' flour, eggs and tomatoes.

this\* are not wanted as members of the Fire

start over again—we've got to off a platform by a barrage of

### **MERSEYSIDE**

### **Dockers accept** £20 with strings

TRANSPORT and General Workers' Union stewards have informed Merseyside's port employers that most of the port's dockers accept their new interim pay offer. Birkenhead dockers con-

Company meetings were held along the Liverpool docks on Monday, with stewards recommending accentance of the offer. A majority of the men are said to have voted in favour.

### HULL **MORE**

BLUE UNION (NASD) shop stewards on Hull docks sent a letter last week to the employers demanding £35 for a 30-hour week.

not accept shift working or any other 'strings'.

Although this decision was taken before the details of the London port employers' plans were available, Hull dockers fear that the local employers are preparing a similar scheme.

think differently. One thing is certain.

pare a head-on collision with the employers and government plans outlined in Phase Two

IN a letter signed by Mr. 'Dusty' Miller and London Brigades Committee secre-tary Mr. Jim Stracey, received by firemen at the weekend, the committee condemns the believiour of members towards executive members at last week's mass meeting and warms that 'those who resort to

Brigades Union'. \* Union leaders were forced

sidered the offer yesterday. This would give dockers a guaranteed weekly wage of £20, £16 basic plus the 2s an hour modernization payment won in 1967.

cargo awards existing at present are abolished, tonnage

They said that they would

There have been no reports from the local modernization committee, but individual em-ployers have leaked information that they would be prepared to pay £35 provided dockers kept up a high standard of work' or were prepared to work short-handed in a gang.

One docker said that with the quicker turn-round and changes in the work, the employers should be able to pay this wage demand. No doubt the employers

To begin a campaign on the docks for £35 with no strings attached means to pre-

### Piece-work

Unlike the London proposals, which are tied to full implementation of the Devlin second phase, Liverpool's interim proposals do not abolish While most of the special

payments continue and are estimated to make possible top earnings of £40 a week.

Dockers feel that while the employers are gradually attempting to reduce the field of action for improving wages by cutting out the awards, they are hanging fire to a certain extent because they want to 'sort out London

London dockers are expected to return their ballot papers accepting or rejecting proposals linked second phase of the Devlin 'modernization' scheme by the middle of next week.

### WEATHER

(For 24 hours from Tuesday

Outlook for 48 hours: Changeable with showers and some longer periods of rain. Sunny intervals in most places and near normal temperatures. London area, S.E., Central Southern and Central North-ern England, E. Midlands: Mostly cloudy with outbreaks of rain, heavy at times, especially over hills. Some bright intervals. Wind southerly fresh or strong. Warm, maximum 15C (59F), W. Midlands, Channel Islands, S.W. England: Generally cloudy with periods of rain,

tive of Lord Stokes to be going back on-it's 11 weeks present. wasted.'
'The combine should have No staggereu ....
No victimization.
Immediate reinstatecontinued with its action',

heavy at times. Hill fog. Becoming brighter tomorrow with showers. Wind southerly strong, perhaps gale force veering westerly on Wednesday. Rather warm, maximum 14C (57F). N.W. England: Cloudy with

periods of rain, perhaps bright intervals Wednesday. Wind variable or southerly moderate. Near normal, maximum 10C (50F). Edinburgh, Glasgow area, N. Ireland: Showers and sunny intervals. Perhaps some long outbreaks of rain. Wind southerly or variable, light or

moderate. Near normal, maxi-

### A.T.U.A:

### meetings

**OLLERTON (NOTTS)** 'Lessons of the miners' strike'

Saturday, November 15 1 p.m.

Hop Pole Hotel Speakers: Two Yorkshire miners

### **ELLESMERE PORT**

'Report back from the Motor Workers' Conference'

Sunday, November 16 10.30 a.m. Railway Hotel

## **GREET**

### at two public meetings

**WORKERS PRESS** 

See the film of the first issue being prepared and printed and the film 'Young Socialists, 1969'

### **OXFORD**

Friday, November 21, 8 p.m. Northgate Hall St. Michael's Street

### **GLASGOW**

Sunday, November 23, 7.30 p.m. Partick Burgh Hall (nr. Merkland Street underground) Speakers at both meetings will be: MIKE BANDA (Editor of Workers' Press) SHEILA TORRANCE (National Secretary of the Young Socialists)

Young Socialists

### **GRAND XMAS BAZAAR** Saturday, Nov. 29

Canning Town Public Hall doors open 12 noon Can you sew? knit? paint? make something for our Bazaar? give something towards our bazaar? Have you a tin of grocery? jumble? Help us make this the best bazaar ever held! Help us raise the money for our daily paper—

THE WORKERS' PRESS

## Standard men suspicious of return terms

WORKERS at Merseyside's Standard-Triumph plant returned to work yesterday after 11 weeks on strike for lay-off guarantees and increases in bonus pay.

Many workers remain highly suspicious of the five-point plan for ending the strike put forward by the strike committee at Monday's 90-minute mass meeting.

Despite pleas for unity from Amalgamated Engineers and Foundryworkers' convenor Mr voted against a return.

### 'Sell-out'

'It's a sell-out', one striker told the Workers Press as he return to work. left the meeting.
'We don't know what we're

a shop steward sacked

during the strike.

Nothing was said at the meeting about either lay-off pay, parity of earnings with Midlands British - Leyland plants or the amount of the company's cash offer. The convenor had to plead with the strikers to return to work, saying:

By our industrial reporter

thought another. 'We don't really know what we're gett-

Commenting on the conduct of the meeting, one trade

unionist claimed angrily that

'the chairman closed the meet-

ing when we were still throw-

Five points

strikers were:

Negotiations on a cash

offer within one hour of a

A personal representa-

The five points put to the

ing questions at him'.

### 'Reached end'

'We can't go any further We've reached the end of the road.'

Production at Standard-Triumph's Coventry plant would resume as soon as a full inspection of the position at the Merseyside plant had been carried out, a company spokesman said on Monday

THE British Communist Party goes into crisis than at any previous time in its history.

For many Party members, the issue which has provoked the greatest controversy is the continued Kremlin occupation of Czechoslovakia.

Numerous letters for and against the invasion have appeared in the various Party periodicals.

A roll-call at the last District Congresses of the Party registered 40 per cent of the local leaderships as being in opposition to the present central Party leadership on the Czech question.

But like the invasion itself, the crisis has a long history which present events and conflicts are dredging slowly to the surface.

Despite the intentions of the Stalinist leadership of the British Communist Party, these developments cannot be walled off from an inquiry into the great historical and international questions, issues that reach back to Lenin's death and the degeneration of the Bolshevik Party and the Communist International under Stalin's leadership.

And just as it would be wrong to see the crisis of British Stalinism in national terms, so would it also be a mistake to see the present stage of the conflict within its ranks as a power struggle between two leadership factions.

At the Party's working-class base the membership is being affected in different ways by the radicalization of the working class, as we have seen it expressed in the movement of the dustmen, motor workers and miners.

Some workers in the Communist Party are drawn towards this movement and struggle to give it leadership.

Others, steeped in years of opportunist collaboration with the trade union 'left' bureaucrats and their shop-floor supporters, stick to the Stalinist Party line of 'left unity', leading, as we saw in the recent miners' strike, to a situation where CP miners stood on opposite sides of the

We have to place the CP controversy and possible split in this living context of the developing class struggle. It is this international movement of the class against capitalism that brings CP workers al over western Europe face to to face with the treachery of Stalinist policies:

Italy, France — and now Britain.

And when we turn to examine the political content of the current discussion, we see that this conflict with Stalinism does not take a pure

Far from the most militant rank-and-file workers moving in a straight line to Trotskyism, which is, of course, the only Marxist solution to all the questions which they are now raising, many appear to move towards the most hardened and unrepentent spokesmen for Stalinism within the British Communist Party; the group supported, if not led, by R. Palme Dutt, who has from the beginning



Golian: Reflects liberal opinion.

upheld the Kremlin's invasion and occupation of Czechoslovakia.

This development within Stalinism is not new.

Maoism, which has defended all Stalin's crimes and purges, still attracts many militant workers all over the world because of the Peking regime's attacks on the Moscow line of 'peaceful-coexistence'.

What such workers support in the Chinese line is not its defence of Stalin, but its rejection of the peaceful road to

And this, we shall see, is also the case with the current split in the British Communist

What becomes clear at

# its 31st Congress on November 15 more divided and in deeper erisis than at any previous time in its PRE-CONGRESS DISCUSSION REVEALS STALINIST CRISIS

once is the conscious indentification by the Gollan leadership of 'Dubcekism' with the Party's reformist programme 'The British Road to Socialism'.

Supporters of the present Party policy make the connection explicit:

'Recent discussion . . . regarding the invasion and occupation of Czechoslovakia has left me wondering if the majority of Communist Party members understand the meaning of socialism and democracy. sovereignty of socialist states, or come to that, the "British Road to Socialism". Or is the Party split 50-50 on these issues as the ratio of letters published would indicate?' (J. Bridges, 'Comment', October 4, 1969.)

In this, as in most other anti-invasion contributions, the class aspect of the question is played down or even ignored altogether.

The issue of national independence, Party sovereignty and parliamentary immunity, of which were indeed violated by the Soviet invasion, are given precedence over the anti-working-class role of the Kremlin occupation.

This, of course, plays into the hands of the pro-Moscow faction, organized it seems by Sid French of the Surrey District Committee, and politically inspired by the veteran Stalinist R. Palme

Thoroughly in his element when morally protected by full weight of Soviet armour, Dutt has thrown down the gauntlet to Gollan and company on the issue of Czecho-

'. . . I think it is unwise to ask the Congress to endorse today on Czechosloresolutions which were adopted prior to the fuller knowledge now available. . . . There is a deep division in our Party on this matter, with opposing views sincerely and strongly held on both sides.

'The votes at the District Congresses last year showed this when 40 per cent of the delegates either voted against or abstained from supporting the viewpoint put forward with all the prestige [!] and ability [!] of spokesmen of our Executive. This is a situation without precedent in the Party.' ('Comment', October 11, 1969.—Our emphasis.)

The irony of the present conflict is that both sides are scoring freely off each other because they both defend false

The Dutts and the Rothsteins are able to argue, quite correctly, that the Gollan faction's support for Dubcek puts them in the camp of liberal-bourgeois opinion in Britain, and wins them applause from anti-communist and anti-Soviet elements. All this is true.

But in rejecting Gollan's adaption to the pressure of his own ruling class, Dutt treads instead the well-worn path of servility to the Soviet bureaucracy.

The 'old guard' leadership, trained directly by Moscow in the early Stalin era, now

openly clashes with the current Party leadership under Gollan, which came into its ranks during the long period opportunist, right-wing policies that began with the Popular Front, and with a short break during the Stalin-Hitler Pact, reached right through to the present.

Both Dutt and Gollan remain 100 per cent Stalinists.

Let there be no confusion

Dutt is very careful to separate himself from other critics of the present Party leadership when he makes it clear that he is not making an attack on the 'British Road' opposing Gollan over Czechoslovakia:

. . I believe that our Executive Committee and the Editorial Board of the detract from the fact that it lacks any real support evidenced by the continuing decline in our work and the voting on the Czechoslovak issue.' (Jerry Spring, 'Comment', September 27, 1969.)

This is an idea expressed over and over again in letters attacking the leadership of the Party: Gollan equals Dubcek.

Therefore to hit back at Gollan and the ultra-reformist policies he personifies, workers either vote against or abstain on the official Czechoslovak policy.

Of course, many such votes

The Soviet bureaucracy's reactionary invasion of Czechoslovakia last year has created deep divisions in the British Communist Party leadership.

were cast because of explicit agreement with the Soviet invasion, though even here the motive was with many a perverted desire to defend the gains of 1948, which they wrongly saw as being underbuild up one or other of the factions in the leadership as some sort of alternative to Stalinism, as being a development towards revolutionary

As we have shown, the two groups feed on each others' opportunism. This is best exemplified in the case of the ex-YCL leader, Monty Johnstone.

In their recent overtures towards the 'liberal' wing of the Stalinists (See 'Grovelling before Stalinism' by Cliff Slaughter. Workers Press No. 22. October 28, 1969), the revisionist 'International Marxist Group' has upheld Johnstone as an 'intellectual' seeking a genuine debate with Trotskyism, as a man trying to break with his Stalinist past.

For these renegades from the Fourth International,

lovakia is far from being a diversion from the vital need to consider how we can build our Party here in Britain. On the contrary it concerns the crucial question of whether we really mean what we say in the "British Road to Socialism" about extending democratic rights and freedoms under ('Comment', socialism.'

October 11, 1969.) Who are to be the bene-factors of these 'extended democratic rights'?

This is where the real antiworking class essence of Johnstone's brand of Stalinism comes out into the open. He is for the 'democratic rights' of all classes:

'In advocating in the "British Road" freedom for all democratically organized parties, including those hostile to socialism, we go

Remember, this is the same Johnstone boosted by Purdie and the other leaders of the IMG as typical of the new, 'anti-Stalinist' wing within the British Communist Party.

Purdie embraces Johnstone at the same time as Johnstone comes forward as the defender of the rights of the Tory Party under the dictatorship of the working class.

What better proof of revisionism's utterly counterrevolutionary role could there be than this?

Johnstone's 'support' for Dubcek plays directly into the hands of Dutt and the Soviet

Any class-conscious worker must reject his defence of the Tories with contempt.

bureaucracy.

Within the CP, such hostility to Johnstone's pro-capitalist programme at the moment drives workers to reject the whole case against the Soviet intervention, which they wrongly identify with a firm class line against the type of revisionism personified by Iohnstone.

The discussion is still in its early stages.

It cannot, except in a few cases, flow through any other channels than those carefully provided for it by Dutt and Tohnstone.

But with the sharpening of the national and international class struggle, the conflict will burst through the Stalinist framework imposed on it by the leadership.

Beneath the exchanges on Czechoslovakia there is a profound unease about the steady decline in CP membership, activity and literature sales:

'[It] will require a dramatic and inspirational upsurge of our activities on all the fighting fronts, to build the Party, YCL and "Morning

'But judging from the kind of inspiration of the last two years this is unlikely to happen.' (Charlie Doyle, 'Comment', October 11, 1969.)

'The decline of the Party, the YCL and in sales of the "Morning Star" is so serious for the British people that many comrades feel we should make a fresh appraisal of both our international and domestic policy.' (Doris Tuchfeld, Comment', October 11, 1969.)

This pessimism has taken hold of entire districts, as is proved by the letter from the Hants & Dorset District Com-

'We in the Hants and Dorset, believe the decisive issue facing our Party at this Congress is the decline of the Party over a whole range of work, membership 6 per cent down, and the low average dues-paying membership, "Morning Star" sales declining, despite considerable fund-raising efforts, much less direct Party public activity and the steady decline in the number of full-time workers.' ('Comment', October 8, 1969.)

The same letter draws attention to what might on the surface appear a contradictory

'This trend includes a drop in sales of "Comment" and other Party literature to our members, contrary to the trend outside the Party of a broadening interest in Marxist works. . . . The decline in our public work

... is again in contradiction to the rise of militancy in the organized labour movement. . . The continued failure to establish our position amongst the young as the only genuine Marxist revolutionary party in this country would seriously in-

Numerous other letters relate the same story—wonderful opportunities, but instead of expansion, a decline in membership, sales, funds, activity and enthusiasm.

hibit our future growth.'

This contradiction lies at the core of the relationship between Stalinism and the working class.

Just as it grew strong in periods of defeat, now it goes into crisis and decline when the working class begins to fight politically.

After nearly two decades of foot-slogging along Stalin's parliamentary road to socialism, the leaders of the British **ROBERT** 

Communist Party have to their credit the loss of the only two seats they held in 1945: West Fife and Mile End.

Each new swing towards reformism and vote-chasing has led to a further decline in votes, both at local and national elections.

The absymal performance in the Gorbals, and the resignation of J. Reid as the Party organizer for Scotland, may not be unconnected events. Even more alarming for the Stalinists was the performance of the Young Socialist firstever candidate, Frank Willis,

in the Swindon by-election. At their first attempt, the Young Socialists came within 64 votes of the CP candidate in a constituency which has been contested many times before by the Party.

Today, more than ever before, voting is a class question and for that very reason the Stalinists now lose heavily at

Votes are certainly there to be won, but only in the course of the overall struggle to build the revolutionary party on a principled Marxist foundation.

This is a different working class to the one that, full of social - democratic illusions, voted for Wilson in 1964 and again in 1966.

Since then big sections of the class have clashed head-on with the government on wages and unemployment. They are beginning to learn instinctively about the reactionary nature of the 'parliamentary road to

When the Stalinists come along and cynically offer the working class the same mix-ture as before, only dressed up with a few left phrases, they get the treatment they deserve. The worker votes Labour

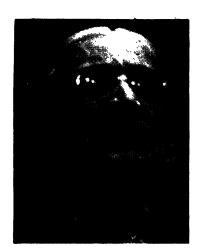
with clenched teeth, but he votes Labour as the only way he knows to fight the Tory in an election.

The Stalinists provide no answer to that problem.

Indeed, in the factories they collaborate with the staunch-est supporters of Wilson in smoothing the way for speedup and sackings.

Unlike the revisionists, and the vultures of the capitalist press (eager as ever to seize on any scandal that can be used to discredit Marxism), we are not speculating on a 'Moscow takeover' at next week's CP Congress.

We are intervening in this crisis of Stalinism to fight for the principles of Trotskyism, which alone can point out the road ahead for those CP



Dutt: Upholds Kremlin invasion.

workers and intellectuals struggling to break from the opportunist policies enshrined in Stalin's 'British Road'. Neither Dutt, Gollan nor

Johnstone represent anything but Stalinism in crisis. It is the crisis that now

hurls them at each others' throats, but it remains a struggle between counterrevolutionaries.

Marxist principles and quotations are invoked to defend one opportunist line against another.

Here, as in all its other aspects. Stalinism remains as cynical as ever in its prostitution of Marxist theory and method.

Despite the completely unprincipled nature of the split in the Party leadership, rankand-file members will take sides on the basis of their own problems and differences with the Party leadership.

Here we must be patient, and always prepared to open a discussion on the historical origins of the present crisis and the necessity for a break with Stalinism.

The 31st Congress of the British Communist Party will undoubtedly be a landmark in the decline of British Stalinism.

We shall do everything in our power to make that decline as rapid and as complete as

B.B.C.-1

9.15 a.m.-12 noon Schools. 1.25 p.m.-12.50 p.m. Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye: Make Yourself at Home. 12.55-1.25 Ble Carech Chi Fynd? 1.30 Watch With Mother. 1.45-1.53 News and Weather. 2.05-2.50 Schools. 3.45-4.15 Representing the Union. 4.20 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 The Singing, Ringing Tree. 5.15 Wild World. 5.44 Hector's House. 5.50

National News and Weather. 6.00 London—Nationwide. 6.45 The Newcomers. 7.10 Tom and Jerry. 7.25 The Laugh Parade.

The Main News and Weather. 9.00 What are you going to do about all these strikes?: Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Conserva-

tive and Unionist Party.
9.10 The Wednesday Play: 'Happy'. 10.30 24 Hours. 11.05 Springboks in Wales.

11.05 Springboks in Wales.

11.35 Weatherman.
All regions as BBC-1 except at the following times:
Midlands and East Anglia: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Midlands Today, Look East, Weather, Nationwide. 11.05-11.55 A Prize for Good Behaviour. 11.55 News, Weather.
Northern England: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Look North, Weather, Nationwide. 11.37 Northern News Headlines, Weather. Wales: 10.25-10.45 a.m. Gwald A Therf.

'Morning Star' are doing an

outstanding job over so many issues, especially in

promoting left unity.' ('Comment', October 11, 1969.

Rank-and-file members, who

for the moment have not been

able to separate themselves

from Dutt's reactionary posi-

tion on Czechoslovakia, have

voiced criticisms of the

'British Road' and 'left unity':

The present "British

Road to Socialism" has not

been arrived at over years

of discussion, but is a

qualitatively revised pro-

gramme determined at one

Congress after a discussion

that never even got off the

ground. Smug references to

it getting an overwhelming

majority at Congress cannot

Our emphasis.)

6.00-6.45 p.m. Wales Today, Nation-wide. 6.45-7.10 Heddiw. 11.37 Closedown.

Scotland: 2.30-2.50 p.m. Modern

Studies. 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland,

Nationwide. 11.05-11.20 Sportsreel.

11.37 Epilogue, Scottish News Head-Northern Ireland: 10.25-10.45 a.m.
Schools. 6.00-6.45 p.m. Scene Around
Six. Nationwide, Weather. 11.37
Northern Ireland News Headlines, weather.
South and West: 6.00-6.45 p.m. Points
West, South Today, Spotlight South,
Weather, Nationwide. 11.37 South
and West News Headlines, Weather.

**B.B.C.-2** 

11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 7.00 p.m. Expecting a Baby. 7.30 Newsroom, Weather. 8.00 Man Alive. 9.00 What are you going to do about all these strikes? 9.10 Show of the Week. 9.55 My World . . . and Wel-

10.20 Know Your Onions. 10.40 Doubts and Uncertainties. News Summary, Weather. 11.10 Line-up.

mined by the break-up of the

Other sections have their

doubts on the invasion, yet

cannot bring themselves to

vote for the openly oppor-

tunist line put forward by

Here are the seeds of big

future conflicts and splits

within the Communist Party.

Their future impulse will not

only come from eastern Europe, but from the class

It is at such times as these

We must be particularly

severe in our condemnation of

any tendency which seeks to

that the greatest clarity is

called for in our analysis of

struggle in Britain.

the Stalinist crisis.

Novotny leadership.

Gollan.

I.T.V.

11.00-11.57 a.m. Schools. 1.40-11.00-11.7 a.m. Schools. 1.10-2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 The Tingha and Tucker Club. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Lift Off. 5.20 Sexton Blake Versus The Gangsters. 5.50 News From ITN.

6.35 The Saint. 7.30 Coronation Street. It Takes A Thief. Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Conserv-9.00 ative Party.
9.10 Special Branch.
10.10 News From ITN.

10.40 Association Football. 11.35 Professional Wrestling. 12.05 The Papers. 12.20 Impact On Africa.

Yorkshire 11.00-11.57 a.m. Schools. 1.40-2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.00 House-party. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 Paulus. 4.30 Survival. 4.55 Lift Off. 5.20 Sexton Blake. 5.50 News. 6.00 Calendar, Weather. 6.30 Hogan's Heroes. 7.00 Joker's Wild. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Saint. 9.00 Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party. 9.10 Special Branch. 10.10 News and Weather. 10.40 Footbail. 11.35 Professional Wrestling. 12.05 a.m. Late Weather.

Stalinism is not first of all the

theory of 'socialism in one

country', which Johnstone con-

sistently upholds, but the Moscow Trials and the purges.

Iohnstone intervene in the

For him, the Kremlin invasion of Czechoslovakia

serves above all as a peg on

which to hang a special plea

The core of this CP pro-

gramme—the section dealing

with the peaceful, parliament-

was drafted by none other

on in our Party on Czechos-

'The debate now going

ary transition to socialism—

for the 'British Road to

present discussion?

Socialism'.

than J. V. Stalin.

How does the 'anti-Stalinist'

### Westward

11.00-11.57 a.m. Schools. 1.40-2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.01 Hatty Town. 4.13 Westward News Headlines. 4.15 Open House. 4.41 The Gus Honeybun Show. 4.55 Lift Off. 5.20 Sexton Blake. 5.50 News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Terasure Hunt. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Saint. 9.00 Conservative Party Political Broadcast. 9.10 Special Branch. 10.10 News. 10.40 Football. 11.35 Professional Wrestling. 12.05 a.m. Faith For Life. 12.11 Weather.

### Anglia

10.58-11.57 a.m. Schools. 1.38-2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.05 Katie Stewart Cooks. 4.30 Anglia Newsroom. 4.35 The Romper Room. 4.55 Lift Off. 5.20 Sexton Blake. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Survival. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Avengers. 9.00 Conservative Party Political Broadcast. 9.10 Special Branch. 10.10 News. 10.40 Football. 11.35 Professional Wrestling. 12.05 a.m. Reflection.

# 11.00-11.57 a.m. Schools. 12.55-2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.09 North East Newsroom. 4.11 News Headlines. 4.13 Torchy. 4.30 Freud On Food. 4.53 North East Newsroom. 4.55 Lift Off! 5.20 Sexton Blake. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today At Six. 6.30 Police Call. 6.35 Castle Haven. 7.00 The Legend Of Jesse James. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Man In A Suitcase. 9.00 Conservative Party Political Broadcast. 9.10 Special Branch. 10.10 News. 10.40 Football. 11.35 Professional Wrestling. 12.05 a.m. Late News Extra. 12.17 Making Good.

Tyne Tees

further than the Czecho-

slovaks ever did in Spring

1968. If we were to sanction

the right of a group of

socialist states to take it

upon themselves to inter-

vene against the allegedly

dangerous consequences of

then we should be conceding

in principle their right some

time in the future to invade

a Britain building socialism

according to our "model"

which is even less acceptable

to them.' (Emphasis added.)

This is Johnstone the inter-

nationalist speaking: Defend

Dubcek now, because one day,

we might require similar assis-

tance if our support for

'parties hostile to socialism'

makes us unpopular in other

"revisionism".

Dubcek's

countries.

Grampian 10.58-11.57 a.m. Schools. 1.38-2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 The Tingha and Tucker Club. 4.30 Castle Haven. 4.55 Lift Off. 5.20 Sexton Blake. 5.50 News. 6.00 Gramplan News. 6.10 Grampian News. 6.10 Grampian Week. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Survival. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Baron. 8.55 Police News. 9.00 Conservative Party Political Broadcast. 9.10 Special Branch. 10.10 News. 10.40 The Human Jungle. 11.35 Professional Wrestling.

### Scottish

11.00-11.57 a.m. Schools. 1.40-2.55 p.m. Schools. 4.20 Scotland Early. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Lift Off. 5.20 Sexton Blake. 5.50 News. 6.00 Scotland Now. 6.35 Peyton Place. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Saint. 9.00 Conservative Party Political Broadcast. 9.10 Special Branch. 10.10 News. 10.40 Scotsport. 11.35 Professional Wrestling. 12.08 a.m. Late Call.

# SOCIALISM AND E

REVOLUTIONARIES have always taken a clear attitude to the fascists and their friends on the Tory right wing. We do not engage in 'debate' with people and have always treated them as enemies with whom we are at war.

This is the only principled position to adopt towards the avowed enemies of the working class.

This principle retains all its force today, when the development of the class struggle is forcing a large section of the Tory Party into the arms of Enoch Powell.

As yet, decisive sections of big business have not thrown weight fully behind Powell, but there can be no doubt that his strength is

growing at the 'grass-roots' of the Tory Party.

Powell represents a marked change in the politics of the Conservative Party.

His racialist demagogy is something new in the Tory leadership—a tendency towards authoritarian right-wing rule on a Bonapartist basis.

Powell is not a fascist, but he is opening the door for the fascists. In particular, his racialism serves to split the working class, weakening it and laying it open to further attacks from the employers and the fascists.

### Powellism

The rise of Powellism is related to the closely emergence of the working class as an independent political

It is the ruling class's preparation for the class battles which lie ahead.

While the reformists continue their attacks on the working class, the Powellites are quietly preparing their striking force in the back-

Orders for the Second Debate

The University of Leicester Debating Union



Thursday, 16th October, 1969 at 8 pm in The Queen's Hall

### "This House considers **Socialist Internationalism** to be a necessary and endemic policy of the Twentieth Century"

Speaking for the Proposition: Mr. Tariq Ali

Mr. Tim Smith President of Nottingham University

Speaking for the Opposition: Prince Michael Grousinski

Mr. John Tyndali of the National Front

Chairman: CHRISTOPHER C. CHEESMAN

about the attempts by a group of Powellites in Surbiton to present MP, replace their build-up of shows the Powellite forces that is taking place in the Tory local

associations. The polarization of class which produces a forces Powell also produces some remarkable effects among the centrist and revisionist groups, like the International Marxist Group ('Pabloite'), the 'state capitalist' International Socialism group and the rump of the Independent Labour Party.

Instead of preparing for battle with Powell and with the even more right-wing tendencies that are gathering under his umbrella, these people have suddenly discovered an urge to take part in debates and discussions

The most blatant example of this tendency comes from the Independent Labour Party. which takes a real pride in its discussions with the National

In fact, on the eve of the teach-in organized between the ILP and the National Front, the ILP sent out the following press release.

It is worth reproducing almost in full, because it illustrates so well the liberal, mealy-mouthed, middle-class politics that lies behind this move to 'discussion' with the National Front.

'Recent months', the release begins 'have seen a strong upsurge of racialist activity and propaganda by extremist right-wing organizations in London and many provincial cities. By far the strongest and most militant of these groups is the National Front, an amalgamation of the League of Empire Loyalists with the British National Party and other groups, including some formerly connected with Colin Jordan's National Social-

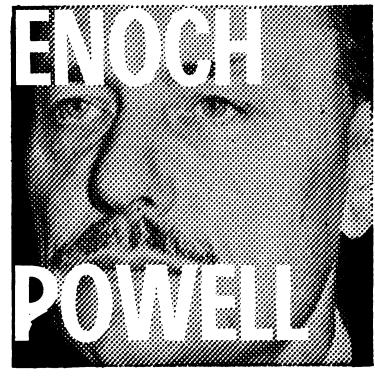
### Teach-in

'The activities of the racialists have often led to violent clashes with the ex-

'The London Division of the Independent Labour Party considers that opposing views, however repugnant, cannot be put down by organized hooliganism. A reasoned argument against racialism must be put forward; and we are confident that if this is prevail. . . .

'Accordingly, a TEACH-IN is to be held on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, at 7.30 p.m. . . . The theme will be:-

WHICH WAY FOR THE



### BY JOHN SPENCER

BRITISH PEOPLE—SOCIAL-ISM OR NATIONALISM? and the speakers will be Bill Turner and Terry Liddle for the London Division of the ILP, opposing Philip Maxwell for the National Front.

'This is the first time since before the war that two such diametrically opposed view-points of the left and right have met in open debate, and we anticipate a most lively

### **Condemns**

Comment on this document is almost superflous. Sufficient to note that it condemns those who have fought to drive the National Front and similar bodies off the street as organized hooligans.

Instead of warning of the danger from this right-wing movement, it tries to reduce the whole question to a 'teach-

We would like to ask, who is 'teaching' whom? What does the ILP propose to learn from the National

And what happens if the views of the National Front should happen to prevail when everybody has liberally 'seen both sides'?

The leaflet does not even indicate clearly where the ILP stands on the question of racialism—presumably it might prejudice the 'debate' if either side were to publicise their own position in advance!

Hence we have good old

Fabian do-gooding gone rancid. To advocate fair play for fascists of the National Front variety abrogate every principle. There can be no discussion, no 'debate', least of all a 'teachin' with these enemies of the working class.

The ILP appears here al-

most as a caricature, but the move to cosy discussions with Powellites is not confined to

The University of Leicester Union had to cancel on October 15 a debate that had been advertised for the following day.

The inevitable Tariq Ali was billed to speak alongside one Tim Smith in support of the motion 'This house considers Socialist Internationalism to be a necessary and endemic policy of Twentieth Century'.

Opposing the motion were to have been Prince Michael Grousinski, a right - wing monarchist, and John Tyndall of the National Front.

The cancellation notice posted in the University Union on the eve of the debate gives three reasons for the cancel-

Many students, quite correctly, were hostile to the Union's providing a platform for Tyndall.

The University security officer refused to guarantee the safety of Tyndall and Grousinski.

### Cancellation

The most important reason for the cancellation, however, was that 'The main speaker of the evening, Mr Tariq Ali, who would doubtlessly [sic] have enhanced the intellectual flavour of the debate has flown to Canada (the reason not stated).

'However, in his letter, he also expressed the view that "to debate with a fascist way". (Despite my informing him that a National Front representative would be opposing the motion.) The late timing of this letter prevents a substitute of equal calibre [!].'

This notice contradicts Mr Ali's own verbal assurance that he did not know Tyndall was billed to speak against him, but the episode should be a sharp warning to Ali him-

It shows clearly the use to which publicity-seeking can

### Debate

Anyone who takes on the task of enhancing the intel-lectual flavour of student unions up and down the country can easily be used to reduce revolutionary politics and principled issues to the level of a debate with the arch-enemies of the working

It is, of course, absolutely correct for Ali to refuse to debate with Tyndall, and this is to his credit.

There can be no discussion with such people.

Unlike the Leicester University Debates Committee, who think that 'a point of however distasteful, should be allowed a hearing' and that 'A debate should be the very time when the ideal of the right to speak is freely granted', we consider that no rights should be extended to fascist and racialist enemies of the working class, and that where possible they should be prevented from expounding their views.

Instead of disarming the working class in this way and reducing a struggle with fascism to the level of a 'debate', it is necessary to stand extremely firm on the principle that racialism and fascism are our irreconcilable enemies, and must be treated accordingly.

This principle unfortunately seems to have by-passed Paul Foot, journalist and member of the International Socialism

'state capitalist' group. As part of the preparation for a book Foot has just published on Enoch Powell. he accepted an invitation from

Powell to interview the man. The Workers Press spoke to Foot about his interview with Powell. His answers to some of our questions show clearly how far he is from a principled position on this vital question.

### Racialist

The basic principled difference between Foot's position and ours is that he is prepared to discuss with Powell, while we do not consider discussion permissible with a man whose racialist policies are opening the door to fascism.

If the fight against Powellism is a life-and-death question, then every effort must be made to prepare in principled way for this type of

Foot's attitude to the question whether or not to interview Powell is steeped in precisely the same liberalism as the London ILP and the Leicester University Union.

If the question were simply one of Foot and Powell as two individuals, the matter might have ended there.

But the interview was immediately publicized in the Tory press, in the Charles Greville column of the 'Daily

The Tory press, with an unerring eye for every violation of principle on the part of these revisionist adventurers, is quick to circulate it round

the country, suitably embellished with cynical comments. This can only serve to disorient and confuse the struggle against Powellism, no matter how much 'information' Foot was able to extract from the

interview. Marxist principles are more important than the journalistic acquisition of information, which must be entirely subordinated to the fight for principled revolutionary poli-

That is why Foot's speculation about debates and interviews with Powell or with working-class Powellites is entirely frivolous. The Socialist Labour League will participate in no such debates.

Powellism will not be defeated in the course of debate.

Those who think this are victims of the same middleclass illusions which sustain the 'peaceful road to socialism'.

In the case of the revisionists and 'lefts' who are now displaying such eagerness to debate and interview the heroes of the right, their abdication of principles must be fought to a finish in the process of building a revolutionary leadership in the working class.

Only such a leadership can defeat Powell.

### **Enoch Powell and Paul Foot** An interview with Paul Foot

DO YOU not think that an interview between you and Powell will serve to whitewash a man PAUL FOOT: 'This is absolutely

split the working class? PAUL FOOT: I don't think it's any more dangerous interviewing Powell than anybody else to whom your own views are totally

'When I wrote my book on immigration in 1965 I spoke to all sorts of people—immigrant asso-ciations, the British National Party and several others. Often the

only way to get information is from the people themselves. One can do this as long as they know where one stands. 'I wouldn't have gone to Powell if he hadn't offered. But I only took his offer up after making clear exactly where I stood. 'If you read the book when it

comes out, there's no question of a whitewash. 'I agree, of course, with what ing class."

DO YOU recognize that the struggie against Powell is one of life and death for the labour movement, and if this is so, cannot be reduced to a journal istic question. What is your attitude to this point of view?

true, it's a life-and-death struggle. 'But what is a "journalistic question"? The book is a call to absolutely reject Powell's ideas. 'Of course Powellism is against the working class and the trade unions. Powell is a supporter of the capitalist system and out of this arises his racialism.

regard the struggle against this as an extremely urgent political question. 'This is not a journalistic question, but if one has the informa-tion about the people one's ex-

posing, the exposé is more valuable. 'I'd defend the interview 100

'Are you saying it's wrong to interview people you're opposed 'if you're exposing someone, you make it clear, but if you turn down an interview on the basis of political opposition you're turning down an opportunity.

This is part of the political iournalist's business. SINCE it is traditional for

fascists, do you think that this principle applies to Powell who -whilst not a fascist--is certainly opening the door to a fascist movement in the future.

socialists not to debate with

PAUL FOOT: 'Is it traditional to make no examination of the ex-'The question of a debate is an interesting one. It's not the same,

though. 'Would the Workers Press turn down a debate against Powell, or at least against Powellites? It's doubtful if it would.
'To turn down the interview

would have been a kind of ab-stentionism. I think it would have been wrong to say "he can't tell me anything I don't know" and tell him to go to hell. 'Of course fascists shouldn't be

debated with. This is not in the same bracket, though.

'When I was writing the Penguir in 1964-1965 I went and spoke to John Bean of the Southall Residents' Association, Tim Jones of the Racial Preservation Society and others. I'm not ashamed of that at all—the stuff in the book is very valuable for socialists.'

# THEATRE

### THE BLOOD ON THE MARSH IS NO REFLECTION OF MY RED COAT'

Written by James Pettifer Playhouse, Oxford

AT THE Playhouse, Oxford, last week the University Experimental Theatre Club staged the first performance of a play by 20-year-old undergraduate James Pettifer. If it is anything to go by, it indicates a far more serious turn to Marxism in the univer-

sities. Pettifer's subject is the agricultural (or 'Swing') riots of 1830-1831, an important movement in the history of British labour struggles agricultural labourers, were facing the threat of the Enclosures Act and were driven finally in search of employment from the intolerable conditions on the land into the rapidly swelling industrial towns and cities.

modern proletariat was given, as it were, forced birth. Rural England could never remain the same again, not only for the expelled agricultural labourers, but for the then ruling class of squires and

It was a period when the

aristocrats. Power shifted dramatically to the cities and into the hands thrusting of the new industrialists.

The class nature of these struggles is well understood by

The conflict between the father, Sir Alexander Croake, and his illegitimate son returned from the colonies, is

the conflict between the old

paternalism and conservatism

of the landed gentry and the new idealism of the French

revolution. The age-old historical complacency of the squire, surrounded by his books, his volumes of verse, the end of the line of the 18th century notion of cultured man of letters, is rudely shattered when the labourers take over his house and burn his property.

His is a way of life totally inadequate to deal with the rapidly-changing situation and it is the newer elements from the city who grasp the initiative and bring in the

His rebel son reflects all the vacillations and uncertainties of idealism.

The labourers themselves are reacting to this changing situation, trying to organize themselves into the Association, a primitive form of

Here their militancy is met by the conservatism of the older ones, traditionally rooted in religion and respect for authority. Their rebellion has only the partial success and ultimate

development could allow. Such historically premature struggles could only be fought through and won by an organized and politically mature

defeat that their historical

proletariat. That task still lies

James Pettifer has attempted an extremely ambitious canvass and for that he must be congratulated.

But one must say that his intellectual understanding outstrips at this stage his creative and imaginative abilities. He has struggled not only with the subject matter, but also for a new form necessary

to meet the task of what he

rightly describes 'class-conscious' theatre. In this he leans heavily on Brecht, but without his deftness or his ability to extract the dramatic essence of a

scene with wit and variety. In trying to create a new rich language, Pettifer often falls into turgid excesses of overwriting and there is this patchiness and contrasts of hard-edged and poetic dialogue with over-indulgent floweri-

Neither is he helped by an unimaginative production which at no point reaches out to grapple with the problems and challenges of the play. There is a muted lack-lustre

ness.

quality in performance where a more confident, daring and innovatory style could transform the play.

If such criticisms seem harsh, it is because I think

that Pettifer has attempted a

real breakthrough in both

dramatic and political terms. The lessons of the failures in the play can be a great help to other writers who are turning more and more to political questions and are struggling for ways of expressing them.

In this he has made a valuable contribution. I wait with a great impatience and interest for his next play.





James Pettifer's play 'The Blood on the Marsh is no Reflection of my Red Coat' is about the agricultural riots of 1830-1831. Above an agricultural labourer of the same period.

# 

By Brian Moore

### **'EVENTS'**

Directed by John Llewelyn

JOHN LLEWELYN is also young (25) and his first film, 'Events', will be shown as one of the two British entries for the London Film

Festival. The other is 'Kes', which

we shall review next week. Llewelyn has a lot of enterprise. He made this full-length feature film for £5,000 in colour, which, in the world of the industry, where a low budget means £18,000, is a remarkable achievement.

He is also afflicted with a terrible pessimism and despair. The film attempts to find the connection and contradiction between political involvement and a private life of love and enjoyment.

The unconscious contradiction, as I see it, but not, I think, the director, is that neither the so-called political or sexual involvements have anything that remotely corresponds to passion or commit-

It is a catalogue of bored posturing and for that is very often an accurate portrait of certain 'trendy' dispossessed of the middle and lower middle class.

It is that world of feckless, jobless hustlers of the Kings Road and Finches. Both politics and sex are no more than conversation pieces

between drags of hash. They recite and read out and

At the London Film Festival discuss Black Power, Vietnam, the Middle East, sexual attraction, blowing up Big Ben; buy records, get busted by the police and have their hair done at expensive hairdressers.

It is such an isolated and

You can only draw conclusions of despair, for there is no way forward here. In a sense the film has a great authenticity. Maybe several hundred

desperate world.

will identify with the characters in this film, but more than that. . What it does serve is an unconsciously inarticulate expression of the cul-de-sac of this kind of so-called politics which have attracted so much

young men and women in Chelsea or Ladbroke Grove

That it exists, one doesn't deny. That it is one expression within dispossessed and primarily middle-class groupings of the crisis of capitalism, one agrees.

attention over the last few

But its resolution is not found in the flat inarticulacy of bored political gossip, but in the conscious struggle for raising the political conscious-

ness of the working class.

The contrast with Pettifer's play and this is striking and is indicative of the various levels of political development at this stage.

'Events' also stands as a very pale second to the very real wit and humour and irony of a really very good film which has received hardly any attention at all now showing at the Essoldo in the Kings Road,

made by another young director, 25-year-old Brian de Palma from New York. Its story is simple. Three young men are waiting for the draft and are doing everything

It is called 'Greetings' and is

in their power to get out of it. They devise a whole story to tell the draft board that they are perverts, sadists, members of an ultra-right political organization and want nothing more than to be given the opportunity to kill.

While they are waiting for the results, they pursue their own preoccupations.

One is obsessed with the Kennedy assassination. Another goes on several computer dates. The third pursues his particular form of voyeurism.

Their adventures add up for the most part to a very funny account of American capitalist obsessions, neuroses, hang-ups and frustrations. There are some marvellous

performances by unknown actors and it has all the vitality and anarchy of youth. It is by no means a great

film, but as a gust of real American life, limited ob-viously to certain sections of the metropolis, it is very refreshing. It has energy and invention.

It is well worth seeing. Needless to say, the trio gets drafted.

### 50 p.c. PAY RISE **FOR SCANLON**

MR HUGH SCANLON, Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundry-workers' president, may have his salary increased by more than 50 per cent. The union's executive council will propose to raise his salary to £3,500 or about

revision conference next April. Engineering workers will no doubt be asking if Scanlon's rise was accompanied by the type of productivity strings which were foisted on them in the engineering package deal last November.

**2,000** Devon

engineers

in wages

LIGHT engineering factories in Exeter, Newton Abbot

and Heathfield (Devon) were hit on Sunday when

2,000 Centrax workers decided to strike after a week

Hawker

foremen

of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs at Hawker-Siddeley Aviation's Woodford,

Cheshire, factory are not ex-

pected to return to work until tomorrow after striking

on Monday over the com-pany's recently-introduced

merit pay system.

The 200 foremen and rate-fixers claim it will reduce salaries below those of the

average shop-floor production

A similar pay system was

one of the issues in the recent

strike of Lucas chargehands

and foremen in the Birming

There the strikers were in-

structed to return to work by the ASTMS, but their strike

**TUBE GUARDS** 

**STRIKE** 

**TODA**Y

LONDON tube guards strike

today despite Transport Board threats of no talks on mileage

payments until unofficial

action stops.

LTB expected support from the NUR and ASLEF who

forced a 35s. pay rise.

worker.

ham area.

of guerrilla actions to back their pay demands.

Deputy convenor Mr D.

Ferguson told the strike

'This is a struggle for a decent wage structure. With a basic rate of £11 to £14,

some only taking home £9, a man cannot afford to live in

this area. The struggle for parity with the Bristol area, which would involve a 4s.-an-

hour rise, has been going on for the last 20 months. All official channels, right up to the Department of Employ-

ment and Productivity at Bris-

Centrax workers see their strike as a fight for all low-paid west of England work-ers.

Second class

steward, said:
'We've been second-class

citizens too long; the bosses

accept sub-standard profits.'

factory, Wally Stringer said:

At the gate of the Exeter

'I'm one of the higher paid

workers at this factory and I

find it difficult to live. The

general feeling here is that if

we lose this struggle, we'll lose the whole battle for the

low-waged workers in the south-west.'

to the three unions involved

(T&GWU, AEF and ETU) say

that a pay increase can only

come from productivity agree-

meeting demanded the firm

disclose its profits, books, etc. before any talk of productiv-

Adamant

Shop-floor workers were

Asked what he thought of

'Once you start negotiating

Picket Michael Close told

rather see this firm

Workers Press: 'Most of us

close down than go back on

This mood of confidence

They now see how useful

create unemployment

prices and incomes policy has

It gives them government backing to hold down wages

under the guise of productiv-

ity-thus boosting profits with

the Labour government's sup-

All trade unionists, espe

cially boilermakers, must black

Centrax factories to support

their demands met, without

become to the employers.

represents a great advance in south-west workers.

our present rates of pay.'

with capitalism in his way, it's

tantamount to admitting that

capitalism is here for perpe-

productivity deals Mr Galla-

gher said:

Union officials at Sunday's

Letters came from the firm

here certainly don't

Hugh Gallagher, ETU shop

tol, has been exhausted.'

meeting:

£70 a week at the rules

# B-P refinery, Grangemouth POLICE ATTACK BOILERMAKERS' By an industrial correspondent

PICKETS clashed with police for the second time in a week outside the B-P refinery at Grangemouth on Monday.

Sixty police, in places

lined up three deep,

fought to keep 300 pickets from preventing busloads of scabs enter-

One picket was arrested. The number of police was double the force out

at last Thursday's demon-

The dispute at the plant, now in its fifth week, is over the sacking of 500

Pickets are demanding

that the other unions on the

site should not allow their members to take on the

boilermakers' welding jobs.

The boilermakers were sacked because they refused

to operate a productivity deal signed by their leaders.

The other unions on the

ing the refinery.

stration

boilermakers.

PICKETS

## **Ulbricht approves Brandt's move for**

AFTER a delay of two weeks, 'Neues Deutschland', the main East German Socialist Unity Party newspaper, commented on West German Chancellor Willy Brandt's statement of October 28 in which he announced a change of policy towards East Germany.

The editorial of Sunday's edition noted that while Brandt's speech to the Bunde-stag contained much that was contradictory, there were also 'certainly some accents which were registered everywhere, and naturally in East Germany, with interest'.

duction. British capitalists have over a billion pounds invested in South Africa.

British dividends from South Africa come to over £100

Workers should remember that British imperialism fought a three-year war—the so-called 'Boer' War—to clear the way for capitalist goldmining in South Africa.

Today, the most class-conscious Tories, especially those in the Monday Club, take their ideological lead straight from South Africa on

one question after another—from racialism to 'penal clauses'.

Our struggle

South Africa is our struggle.

But workers in Britain can

only give real support to the

order to exploit our labour.

working class.

The workers' struggle in

million a year.

BY ROBERT BLACK

This statement in the official press of the ruling East German Stalinist party must be regarded as Ulbricht's approval for the opening of talks, either secret or through normal channels, between the East and West German

### New Israeli

THE outgoing Prime Minister of Israel, Mrs Golda Meir, has accepted President Shazar's government after the recent General Election in which her Labour coalition lost an over-all majority.

### Israeli ambassador

THE Israeli Ambassador in London, Aharon Remez, called on the Labour Foreign Secre-

### Rumania to allow private enterprise

By a foreign correspondent ACCORDING to reports from

and carpets.

They will be marketed through government - owned shops.
This concession by the Rumanian government

small-scale capitalist produc-tion coincides with its turn towards the capitalist world market and closer diplomatic

# C.A.V. (Acton)

QUALITY control turned to work on Monday after the management withdrew proposals based on a

the company to grant a 15s

# government

# visits F.O.

tary on Monday. A statement issued after the meeting (which was at Stewart's request) said 'matters of mutual interest' had been discussed.

Belgrade, the Rumanian gov-ernment has lifted restrictions on the private household manufacture of consumer goods such as shoes, clothing

slaves in the mines, factories and farms of South Africa if they see through the petty-bourgeois antics of 'antiapartheid'. It is no use tailing behind the bishops, cabinet ministers, sell-out trade union 'leaders', student guerrillas, Stalinists, Liberals and so on who make ties with imperialism. a great fuss about deploring

### The only fight against racialism that can win is the revolutionary struggle of the Racialism is simply one way which capitalism holds down the working class in

It will not be eliminated until the capitalist system is at CAV's Acton works re-The only way to avenge the death of our brothers in South Africa is to fight for the interrecent work-study survey.
Their stay-in strike forced

national workers' revolution. Support the South African wage increase, drop proposals to make 13 workers surplus to struggle in every way as a workers' struggle! requirements and remove its threat to re-grade 16 in-

## South African mining tragedy exposes Springboks' tour

workers were killed by blast and rock-fall in a dynamite explosion in the capitalist gold mines of South Africa last Friday.

SIXTY - FIVE mine-

Thirty of their comrades, who were working on a stage above the explosion, which happened nearly 8,000 feet below surface, were injured.

Nearly all the dead miners were African workers.

The dead men worked in the mine belonging to the Buffelsfontein gold mining company, part of the Anglo American-Federale consortium of goldproducing monopolies.

The chairman of the capitalists who own the mine is Dr T. F. ('Tommie') Muller, whose brother, Dr Hilgard

Muller, the South African Foreign Minister, arrived in Britain last week to strengthen the ties between the South African slave-owners and their capitalist friends in

On the same day that our class brothers were killed in the mines in South Africa, shares in 'Kaffirs' stood very well on the London Stock Exchange.

All the City gents with shares in 'Buffels' must have been reassured to know that their investment in death delivered a very satisfactory yield of 6.7 per cent.

Back in 1967, the surplus labour of the workers in the Buffelsfontein mine fed the capitalists of the world with over £7 million in profits. Great profits are also made

by the South African company that made the dynamite that killed the mineworkers, AE &

The company is half-owned by the British monopoly ICI.

### **Protection**

The day after the 65 workers were killed in South Africa
—sacrificed to the capitalist
god of GOLD—the so-called Labour government in this country sent 1,000 police to protect the Springbok rugby team in Leicester.

Even Harold Wilson knows that the all-white 'Springboks' are hated as the sporting ambassadors of fascism by every coloured worker in South Africa.

Coloured workers always boo the Springboks and shout for the foreign team whenever they get a chance to see an international game.

But, of course, the hypocritical Labour government was simply carrying out the orders of its 'sporting' masters in the boss class by sending police to protect the Spring-boks.

So what if 65 workers died the day before?

### Slave conditions

Every worker in Britain should know about how capitalism works in South Africa. The gold-mining workers in South Africa labour under near-slave conditions to produce the money-material for world capitalism.

They are directly enslaved the capitalist system, in which gold functions as the measure of value and international means of payment.

Real wages for African workers in the mines have remained the same since before the First World War -about £14 a month.

The men are forced to sign legally-binding contracts for 18 months at a time. If they break the contract, they are

The men are forced to live away from their families in barracks called 'compounds' where they are guarded day and night by police.

● Half their wages are paid in kind—the terrible 'truck' 5. The works' committee claim that only 420 machines are out of action, say the system. Every African worker has electricians, is ridiculous unto carry a 'pass' so that the capitalists can control his

> him at any time day or night to check his pass. If his pass is missing, the worker is sent to jail. ● No trade unions are allowed. The last strike of African mine-workers, in 1946, was broken when armed police drove the men

> > down the pits at bayonet point, killing at least nine workers. Conditions in South Africa

> > > World capitalism depends

ovements. Police can stop

### Oppose the Springbok tour as workers!

Marxism, the most objective of sciences, demands that history, including one's own, be assessed objectively. Johnstone has consistently refused to do this. Instead he hides

world's communist parties. The number one question is, where does Johnstone himself stand on his own past 'sectarian habits'? He remains

Does this silence mean that he is seeking to use the Deutscher Prize and the various people involved in it as a bridge

The IMG were so anxious to build up Johnstone as a genuine anti-Stalinist that they even cast doubt upon the authenticity of the quotations from 'Challenge' that we have reproduced here from our reply to Johnstone in the January 1969 number of the Young Socialists paper 'Keep

Johnstone could serve as an ally in the fight against the Socialist Labour League. On that basis, he and the YCL

were defended by the IMG. All are bitter enemies of Trotskyism and the SLL.

possibility of the peaceful, parliamentary road to socialism in not only Britain, but all the advanced capitalist countries.

struggles of the semi-colonial peoples who, Johnstone states, must all pass through a period of capitalist 'development' before carrying out the socialist revolution: i.e. the Stalinist-Menshevik theory of the 'two-stage-

an anti-Marxist, and as a long-established slanderer of

serving on the Deutscher Prize Jury. The man is a political charlatan and an imposter in the field of Marxism. The Socialist Labour League will step up

We warn them that the fight against these gentlemen has

only just begun. struggle for revolutionary leadership in the British

At all costs, Marxist principles and theory must be defended from the attacks of their Stalinist and revisionist enemies.

### would agree the guards' action was 'irresponsible and un-necessary'. On Saturday guards rejected a ls.-a-day rise. B'ham rent strike must be won

OVER 40 council tenants in Balsall Heath, Birmingham, have now withheld their rents for nearly three months.

not to pay any rent at all while they are forced to live under slum conditions (see Workers Press, October 22). A tenants' association has been formed, which recently held an 'Ideal Slum' exhibition

in 'stockbroker' Solihull during a royal tour of inspection by Princess

### 'Protest' level

On Wednesday, Tory housing committee chairman Beaumont Dark met strikers' representatives for the first

A report-back meeting was to be held.

There must be no sell-out of the strike. The tenants reportedly include Birmingham university graduates, who have denied that they are 'using' the

strike 'for their own political ends'. The political nature of rent struggles must be understood by tenants and not denied.

### site are implementing the deal and are allowing their members to do the boiler-makers' work under the 'interchangeability of labour' Biggest need

The boilermakers' struggle shows very clearly the need for leadership which will take up the political fight. act over merit pay For the boilermakers' face not only a bureaucratic leadership intent on selling defensive practices through

A political programme to take on and defeat both these agencies is necessary if the boilermakers' fight is to be pushed through to

productivity deals, but state



Near slave labour works to provide money material for world

## Rolls Royce, Scotland, sparks claim

the top and lower grades.

They also claim the new

wage deal makes them worse

off than production workers.

### A fight on two fronts against wage deal SEVENTY electricians on

strike at the Rolls-Royce factories at Hillington and Cardonald, Glasgow, for 14 weeks claim they are fighting against not only the management, but also the works' committees, who are determined to keep produc-

The electricians refuse to accept the grading structure introduced as part of a new agreement, 'wage structure—

This divides them into

### tion going. The deal reduces wage rates dates some bonuses into the basic rate. Its designation as 'part 1' is significant as clause 9 of the

grades S4, S5 and S6 with a

### agreement shows: Both parties accept that as a follow-up to this agreement —part 1, negotiations will imnediately proceed on the introduction of changes to increase productivity within the area engine division, Scotland, such negotiations to include the amount and timing of staged increases in wages derived from resultant sav-

### Thrown out

Thrown out by the East Kilbride factory committee the agreement was accepted by the Hillington and Cardonald committees in which there are at least three leading Communist Party mem-

bers.
George McCormack, Hillington works' convenor, stated in a printed circular: 'We were able to do this without a major dispute. After many discussions between works' committee, shop stewards' committee and workers, part 1 of the scheme was accepted by the workers.'

McCormack, an Amalgamated Union of Engineering and

> b) says that at the final works stage the 'works convenor is asked to intervene. He will, at

deal with the grievance'. The CP may argue that this is no more than normal procedure in any factory, but the role of such convenors who accept Measured-Day Work and job-evaluation agreements -as was done at Rootes, Lin-

The position of the Rolls-Royce works' committee under Stalinist leadership folcommittee lows along this path

The electricians have been on strike for 14 weeks bethe grading scheme. In an interview with the

Workers Press they alleged that their strike was being damaged by the activities of the CP-led works' committee. To George McCormack's remark that this accusation is a 'smear' they demand an answer to the following points. They allege:

1. Apprentices were instructed to do journeymen's work and that the works' committee endorsed this. The heat treatment charts and maintenance of electrical meters came under this instruction. McCormack's comment was that all that involved was the changing of a

piece of toilet roll.

2. Apprentices were instructed to maintain electrically driven stacker trucks. mately these were 'blacked' by the 40 transport drivers who were then given hand barrows so that production should not cease. The drivers were later The electricians say this home because they ob-

jected to hand trucks. 3. Maintenance of the £1 million effluent plant is vital for the safeguarding of the public drainage system from pollution and that it is electrically controlled. They ask agement in Glasgow in imposing productivity agreements, and softening up the workers who is keeping it going.

4. Electrical machinery such as extractor fans and a lot of other ancilliary machinery has to be kept going if the factory is to function. A lot of this chinery can only be started by electricians.

> less scabbing has been taking place. Over a 14-week period they say 420 only represents a fraction of the breakdowns normally experienced.

A management spokesman has stated that 'the strikers are annoyed because workers in nine other unions are cooperating with the manage ment in preventing the full effects of electrical breakdowns being experienced.'

> are not something abstract for British workers. on South Africa's gold pro-

● FROM PAGE ONE 'anti-Stalinist opposition in the world communist

movement'. Deutscher Prize thus becomes all things to all men. Doubtless some members of the Prize Jury—E. H. Carr for example—honestly seek to promote Marxist scholarship and research, and that is of course to their credit. But how can Johnstone even begin to make any contribution to Marxist theory while he refuses to face up objectively to his own political past?

behind the meaningless formulation that 'old sectarian habits' ('Cogito', p. 2) are being discarded by many of the

between the revisionist groups and individuals attracted to Johnstone's variety of Stalinism, and the 'liberals' of the British Communist Party?

What mattered most to Purdie and the IMG was that

Johnstone is notorious for his anti-Marxist views on the

is equally reformist and anti-Leninist in relation to the

Trotskyism, Johnstone has absolutely no credentials as a Marxist authority either political or academic, for

the fight to expose and politically destroy the influence of the Johnstones and their revisionist admirers, such as

working class today demands that such a fight be waged with the utmost severity.

### **Commission** on building merger

THE Monopolies Commission is to produce a report within four months on the planned merger between Redland Brick and Marley Tile. If the merger goes ahead the new company will be valued at about £60 million.

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.

## The tenants have decided

Birmingham's 'Ideal

Homes' exhibition. Last week, tenants demon-

However, the strike leadership, by keeping the struggle on the 'protest' level, has failed to forge any fighting links with other slum tenants and lower-paid council workers, particularly the dustmen. This is the only way the Tory council can be defeated.

The Labour 'lefts' can have a field day in sounding off at Under the growing crisis of

capitalism, Wilson and the Tory councillors can offer no reforms to the working class. indissolubly linked with the fight against unemployment and wage freeze.

This fight can only be carried out on the basis of building a socialist leadership around policies of nationalization without compensation of all the basic industries, and workers' control of all banks, building societies, insurance companies and the land.

### By a Workers Press

M.P.s to stamp

out Royal poverty PARLIAMENT is becoming more and more exposed as a talking shop in which the real interests of the work-

ing class are not at all represented. This was never more so than in the current speculation as to whether a select committee will be set up to 'investigate' whether the Queen's income should be increased.

'colossal nerve'

Prince Philip in pleading such poverty that he has to give up polo.
The establishment uses the exercise in a completely vain attempt to project the monarchy with a more homely image affected by

So all are hoping to get a prize. None of this can, however, disguise the deep crisis of the monarchy and the system on which it rests.

the same problems as 'ordinary' families.

carrying out the policies of his president, Hugh Scanlon, who told Rootes shop stewards only a year ago to accept

Measured-Day Work. This was 'sold' to the engineering employers in December last year with the wage agree-ment which tied up the whole engineering industry to pro-

### ductivity strings. CP guided

The electricians allege the works' committee leadership is guided by the Communist Party's support for productivity deals. They point out, however, that two AEF members are

on strike and receiving union

backing.

Like these two AEF members the electricians are in conflict with their own union district committee which convened a meeting to try and reach a settlement.

meeting, which was attended by five CP members, recommended them to go back to work. The Communist Party is not only determined to collaborate with the Rolls-Royce man-

in preparation for 'stage 2'. The role of George McCormack, full-time convenor of the Hillington plant, is even incorporated in the 'part 1'

### Grievance procedure Grievance procedure (clause his discretion contact the members of management whom he feels appropriate to

wood, and at the Upper Clyde Shipbuilding Company Ltdshould be remembered.

### 'Co-operation'

He continued, 'we are get-

ting considerable co-operation in this respect from employees and representatives of the works' committee'.