

# The Newsletter

WEEKLY JOURNAL OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Vol. 6, No. 248

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1962

**Spain: 100,000 out**    **Saar: Miners fight pause**    **Rhodesia: shutdown**

## GREAT STRIKE WAVE

### Franco Troops Rush to Smash Miners

By Our Foreign Correspondent

**A** GROWING army of Spanish workers and students are hitting hard against the iron-fist regime of dictator Franco. More than 100,000 workers (miners in the Asturias provinces and sympathisers in many other parts of the country) are now on strike demanding a living wage.

Franco declared a 'state of emergency' at the week-end and 30,000 troops have been moved into Asturias to attack workers and break up the strike.

This repressive act led to a massive outbreak of solidarity strikes throughout the country.

In **Bilbao**, 22,000 steel and chemical workers walked out, including engineers from the British-owned Babcock & Wilcox firm.

In **Cordoba** province, 5,000 coalminers and 2,000 lead and wolfram miners downed tools.

Five thousand more miners have struck in the Villabino mines in **Leon** province. They have been joined by the workers in the Sagunto steel plants.

On Tuesday, despite arrests and beatings-up on recent demonstrations, hundreds of students poured into the streets of Madrid, chanting slogans of support for the Asturias miners.

The police moved in in force, heavily armed, backed up by cars, and swung into the students with truncheons, arresting many of them.

There have also been a large number of arrests in Asturias; 100 miners are said to be in prison and face long jail sentences.

But despite arrests, brutality and heavy jail sentences, the strikers are solid: one return to work move has partially collapsed and more and more workers are downing tools throughout the country to join a movement that with a strong leadership and a political programme could crack wide open the fascist terror regime so popular with the statesmen of the West.

### Clashes in Lisbon

Across the border in Portugal, the Salazar government is also under continual and heavy pressure from workers and students.

Following the demonstrations on May Day which led to violent clashes between workers and armed police, leaflets were issued by the banned Portuguese Communist Party calling for demonstrations during May.

On Tuesday security forces were alerted in Lisbon and Oporto.

Demonstrators marched through the streets of both cities with heavily armed forces guarding factories and offices.

The demonstration in Lisbon quickly flared into a clash with the police that led to brutal beatings and attacks.

### Biggest since 1923

In the Saar, 45,000 miners are now on strike against Erhard's pay pause. This is the biggest Saarland strike since 1923.

Pickets are out in force as more and more miners join in the demands for an immediate 8 per cent pay rise.

They have rejected the management's offer of a 6 per cent increase now and the rest in October.

Adenauer's government is viewing this situation with concern, and understandably so, for this is a further and very strong indication of the growing militancy of German workers who are now starting to fight back against government policies.

It is also a further defeat for Erhard; having failed to force a reduction in Volkswagen car prices, he is now threatened with defeat by the Saar workers,

### 'No Politics'

**A total strike has closed down the rich copperbelt of Northern Rhodesia, an area which is one of the main reasons for British imperialism's determination to maintain its domination over Central Africa.**

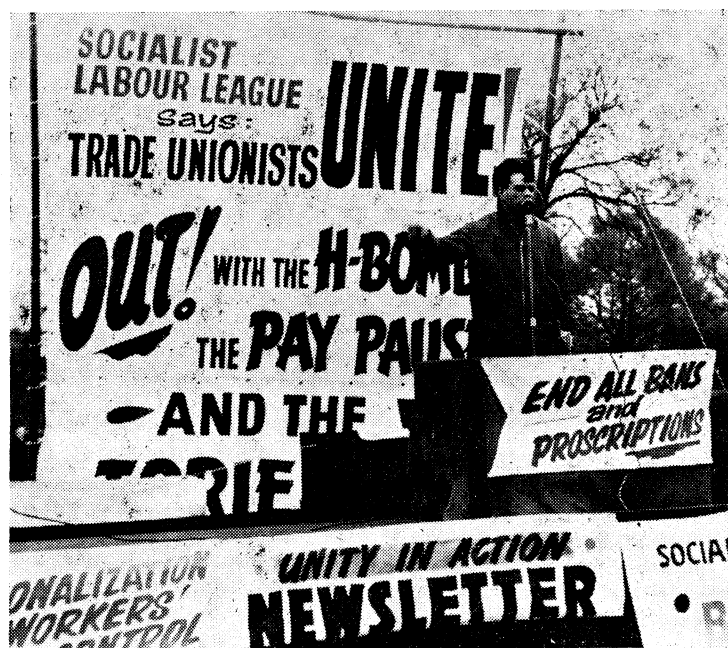
African workers at Mufulira and a further 1,800 at the Broken Hill lead and zinc mines downed tools this week and made the dispute 100 per cent effective.

Mufulira area had held out for some time against the demand for better wages and conditions because of suspicion of the influence of the United National Independence Party in the union leadership. Mufulira is a stronghold of the African National Congress.

Union leaders, however, convinced the men that the strike was industrial and had nothing to do with politics.

It is clear that unless a political lead against the reactionary government and its British backers comes forward, then the keen but divided Africans will be defeated.

It is the question of correct leadership that holds the key to the success or failure of the moves by workers in Germany, Iberia and Africa as they gather against the forces of capitalism and reaction.



## SLL May Day Meeting Carries Important Resolutions

Newsletter Reporter

**A** LARGE crowd in Hyde Park on Sunday, May 6, heard Dave Finch, Mike Banda and Reg Perry, at the Socialist Labour League meeting, call for a powerful campaign in the Labour and trade union movement against the Tories, against the extreme Right wing and for a policy based on socialist policies to bring down the Tory government.

Members of the Communist Party and the YCL heard Mike Banda condemn the policies of the French Communist Party in relation to the struggle of the Algerian people.

It was the duty of the Labour movement of Europe to help colonial workers in their struggles against imperialism, he said.

If this had been done the war could have been ended long before. The Communist Party and the Socialist Party had helped de Gaulle towards his aim of crushing the French working class and protecting capital in Algeria by telling their supporters to vote 'Yes' in the recent referendum.

On May Day 1962 the Socialist Labour League called for independent action organized by the working class movement in

the struggle for independence, peace and socialism.

The meeting carried two resolutions:

The first proclaimed undying hatred of imperialism as the main enemy of the metropolitan working class and the colonial people. It pledged its solidarity with the embattled peoples of Viet Nam and Algeria and demanded the immediate withdrawal of French and American forces from these territories and the cessation of these aggressive wars.

In particular it supported every action of the French and Algerian workers against the Gaullist regime and the fascist OAS, and called upon the TUC and National Council of Labour to black French shipping.

It further demanded the lifting of the US trade embargo on Cuba and the withdrawal of US naval forces from the Caribbean. It called upon the Labour movement in Britain to start a massive campaign to aid the Cuban people with food and medical supplies and prevent the subversion of the Cuban revolution from within and over-

### A Statement by the National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League

**T**HE *Daily Herald* of May 7 contained a report of the incidents at Mr. George Brown's meeting in Hyde Park on May 6. The final paragraph of this report said:

'Trouble began yesterday after the Socialist Labour League—who are Trotskyists—and nuclear disarmers joined the crowd with their banners. Speakers were shouted down and demonstrators stormed a crush barrier to seize the microphone.'

Mr. Alfred Richman, the author of the article, has denied that this is what he wrote.

In other words, somewhere someone in the *Daily Herald* building, who was apparently not present at the meeting, is responsible.

No member of the Socialist Labour League had anything to do with the disturbances at George Brown's meeting. The London Area Committee of the League had its own meeting and demonstration in Hyde Park and the instructions of all our members and supporters was that they should support this.

The report in the *Daily Herald* is libellous and we have asked them to retract it at once.

throw from without.

The second resolution said:

'This May Day meeting declares its solidarity with all sections of the Labour and trade union movement fighting to defend their wages and living standards from the attacks of the employing class and the Tories.'

'It resolves to launch a campaign within the movement to bring down the Tory government and replace it by a Labour government with a socialist policy. This campaign must (1) unite the working class in a fight for higher wages to keep pace with the rising cost of living and to improve their conditions; (2) mobilize opposition to rent increases and evictions; (3) unite coloured and white workers against racial discrimination and restrictions on immigration; (4) defeat the witch-hunt and the attacks against any section of the Labour movement; (5) aim to win 100 per cent trade unionism; (6) gain the support of the organized Labour movement for the extension of nationalization to the main industries and for nuclear disarmament; for freedom for the colonies and the withdrawal of all troops; for the defeat of all bans and proscriptions.'

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Bureaucrats' Friends

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## After the May Day Clashes

# Don't Play into Gaitskell's Hands

By James Watts

**A**FTER the Tory pay pause and the credit squeeze comes the electoral pay-off. The council and Parliamentary by-election results show a steady decline in Tory votes. Thousands of disgruntled Tories are voting for the Liberal Party, whilst the working class still solidly supports Labour.

No socialist can be pleased with such results. The middle-class vote, which was decisive in sweeping Labour to power in 1945, has moved from the Tories to the Liberals.

Although Labour is sure of its traditional support in the heavily populated working-class areas, it is far from certain in the marginal constituencies.

The Right wing talk in terms of a Labour victory with a very much increased Liberal representation in the House of Commons. Secretly a number of them are thinking in terms of some agreement with the Liberals should such a situation arise.

From a Parliamentary point of view, a Labour government elected under these conditions would be at best most unstable and at worst quite unable to carry out even a programme of mild reforms.

This state of affairs does not worry Gaitskell overmuch. He recognizes that under his leadership the best that can be achieved is a form of caretaker government until the Tories again return to Westminster.

But history may not repeat itself in quite the same way as it has done in the past, even assuming that Mr. Gaitskell continues to toe the Tory line.

The movement to the Liberal Party is not so much a support for Liberalism as an anti-Tory, right-wing vote, which may in the not-too-distant future form a substantial basis for the emergence of extreme, semi-fascist tendencies.

On the eve of entry into the Common Market, British capitalism will continue to press home its attack on wages and working conditions. The next government will take office either immediately before or shortly after entry into the Common Market.

If it is a Labour government then it must assume full responsibility for the consequences that will follow. Monopoly capital will seek out agreements with its

European counterparts which will in effect be a conspiracy to intensify the campaign against the working class of Western Europe.

**The only effective answer to the economic dangers of the Common Market is to deprive the monopolists of their power.**

**Such a step would require the nationalization of the basic industries under conditions where the danger of bureaucracy would be removed by the institution of a system of workers' control.**

**This would also offer a solution to the major problems of the middle class, although they themselves refuse to recognize it. Many of the problems of this section of the community arise because of the reactionary effects of monopoly.**

Increased transport charges and interest payments on house property, while salaries remain the same, tends to inflame the denizens of suburbia against the Tories.

But, unless the Labour Party can demonstrate that it has an effective answer to the monopolists it cannot gain their support.

In such circumstances, Mr. Gaitskell's policy of 'Signposts for the Sixties' may well become known as a 'Signpost to the Graveyard' so far as the Labour movement is concerned.

On home affairs, it is nothing more than a mild version of the same kind of policy which lost the General Election in 1959. On foreign affairs, he is committed to the policies of American imperialism even more than the Tory Party.

The Scarborough conference of 1960 adopted a unilateralist policy on the H-bomb. This was not only ignored by Gaitskell and his friends in the Parliamentary Labour Party, they went all out to violate it on every conceivable occasion.

This year they propose invoking the constitutional measure of the three-year rule to prevent it from being discussed at the next conference.

In practice Mr. Gaitskell has provided an excellent example of the contempt which the bureaucracy of the Parliamentary party and the Right wing of the trade unions have for democratic decisions.

It must be said, however, that such a policy could not have been carried out by Mr. Gaitskell alone. He was able to call to his assistance people such as

Walter Padley of USDAW and Richard Crossman, who had no difficulty in gaining the support of the fake Lefts of 'Tribune'.

Everyone now knows that the 'Tribune'-supported Padley-Crossman proposals of 1961 paved the way for Gaitskell's victory at Blackpool. At his 1962 union conference, Mr. Padley came forth not as a supporter of compromise but as an open advocate of Mr. Gaitskell's H-bomb policy. Here is the background to the dangerous confusion which is now spreading through the ranks of CND and the Left of the Labour Party.

This year's Aldermaston march revealed tendencies who want to pull away from the Labour Party and adopt their own candidates at the next General Election. It was this confusion which was responsible for the noisy interventions at the rallies addressed by Gaitskell and Brown on May Day.

**We all appreciate the sincere feeling behind their outbursts, but that is by itself not enough. So far as Mr. Gaitskell and company are concerned, they are now laying plans to proscribe the CND.**

**If this takes place then it will create havoc in local parties and thousands of active workers in the Labour Party will be driven into the wilderness.**

**Gaitskell doesn't care about these people. The Right wing feel that they will hold a substantial base in the trade unions and they are heartened by the lack of active support given by Mr. Cousins to the anti-H-bomb movement.**

Mr. Cousins makes militant speeches once a year and then goes back to his office at Transport House and does nothing about them.

The proscription of the CND would be a dangerous blow to the Labour Party but it would not immediately affect the trade unions and the Labour Party simultaneously. Such a movement is essential if Gaitskell is to be defeated. Much work has still to be done to develop a Left wing inside the unions.

The Socialist Labour League was proscribed by the Right wing because we asked for the right to form a Marxist organization inside the Labour Party, in the same way as the reformist Fabian Society functions.

The only answer that we received to this request was one of proscription of our organization. Such a ban, whilst weakening the Labour movement, did not in any way force us to reconsider our policy in relation to the Labour Party.

We believe that the experience of another Labour government will form a vital part of the mass education of the working class. We are in favour of the election of such a government

even under the leadership of Gaitskell.

Such support is in no way support for Gaitskell. Since the working class will want a Labour victory against the Tories, the Socialist Labour League believes that by participating in the campaign for such a victory it can influence the Labour movement by demonstrating the correctness of Marxist policy.

The Communist Party is not concerned about the possibility of proscription of the CND because it believes that it will bring them a small increase in membership.

We are concerned because we look upon the fight against Gaitskell as part of a long-term process which cannot be resolved by interventions at public meetings and slogan shouting. It requires a perspective for struggle inside the Labour Party and the trade unions.

Members and supporters of left-wing policies in the Labour Party have to be persuaded that their job is not to confine their opposition simply to the H-bomb but to work out a socialist policy for the Labour Party and to fight inside its ranks, as well as in the trade unions, for the achievement of such a policy.

A struggle along these lines will encourage the rapid development of an alternative socialist leadership to the now discredited fake Lefts who retreated from the Scarborough policies.

**It would be a great mistake if the CND and its supporters were to provide the Right wing of the Labour Party with an opportunity to proscribe their organization.**

**They must intensify their activities inside the trade unions and inside the party for policies which call for the nationalization of the trade industries under workers' control, the abandonment of all nuclear weapons and freedom and independence for the colonial peoples.**

A struggle to educate a leadership pledged to these policies inside the trade unions and the Parliamentary party must mean an open split with Gaitskell and the extreme Right.

The Labour Party cannot for very long now include both Mr. Gaitskell and left-wing socialists.

Gaitskell recognizes this and is prepared to break with the Left and CND as soon as he is provided with an opportunity to do so.

We appeal to the tens of thousands of young and old members of the Labour Party who have marched each year from Aldermaston, who have demonstrated in the sit-downs and in the many hundreds of local demonstrations not to play into Gaitskell's hands.

**Let us face up to our responsibilities and instead of turning away from the Labour movement play an even more active part in its ranks in the coming months.**

## Big Blast for Brown

Newsletter Reporter

**T**HE long column of the London May Day march wound its way along the snooty length of Park Lane and into Hyde Park, bands blaring. Young Socialists shouting fiery slogans against the bomb, the pay pause, racialism, Macmillan and Gaitskell.

The first speaker was Walter Padley. His empty phrases quickly annoyed the audience.

The even more fruity voice of 'Brother' George Brown then boomed out

The deputy leader of the Parliamentary Party has the happy knack of antagonising audiences with his opening sentences. He quickly told the audience of CNDers, Labour Party members and Young Socialists that they could be quite certain that their attitude would do nothing to help a Labour victory.

This, from the arch-Right winger and lover of American



Brown: too much for the marchers

imperialism, was too much for some of the marchers.

They milled around the platform drowning Brown with cat-calls and boos.

A well-known Labour Party official was laying into people with a dexterity clearly admired by many policemen who were also stepping in to break up the crowd.

Brown's booming protests were suddenly cut short as the microphone was snatched from his hands and a youth attempted to make a speech.

Chaos reigned for five minutes, then the microphone was restored to Brown who said the police had instructed him to close the meeting.

It was clear that many older Party members, although by no means right-wingers and highly sympathetic to the CND, were disturbed by the angry scenes and swayed by Brown's talk of how best to lose the election.

Angry scenes in Hyde Park.



**T**HE appraisal of the increasing diversity displayed within the world communist movement in recent years is a major task for Marxists. The bitter polemical exchanges between the Albanian Communist Party and Khrushchev, evidently part of a serious rift between the Chinese and the Russians, and the heightened anti-Stalin campaign of the 22nd Congress of the CPSU have made this still more urgent.

It can be said that every effort is being made by the leaders of the CPs to prevent a full and frank discussion of the problems by the rank and file.

★

As after the 1956 'revelations', a process of bottling-up is taking place which can only have the effect of preparing even more startling explosions in the future.

The soft-peddling on the Soviet-Chinese dispute obviously accords with the temporary and tactical needs of both sides, though it represents no resolution of the questions at issue.

Only in Italy, where there is a mass Communist Party deeply enmeshed in national political life at the parliamentary and municipal level, have the issues raised by the 22nd Congress been accorded serious attention.

★

Even there, however, it is clear that the intention has been less to reach a full Marxist understanding of the roots of Stalinist degeneration than to enable the Italian party leaders to free themselves from the taint of Stalinism and operate with more freedom in their political combinationism at home.

In the course of a controversy which, if the position of the Yugoslavs is added, has ranged over much ideological and tactical ground it is not surprising if, on all sides, some statements have been made which are correct from the standpoint of Marxism.

It should be borne in mind, however, that they have been

# 'There's some good in all of 'em!'

by Tom Kemp

made by members of the bureaucracy for their own ends, confronted by demands from the workers at home and in the course of polemics in which their own authority in the communist movement is at stake.

In other words, these statements have not been made by people seeking the truth or trying to be genuine Marxists. During the very time in which they have been making them they have been continuing as before with all these doctrines and even practices of Stalinism which still suit their book.

There can be no possible grounds for seeking conciliation with such people or taking their statements at their own valuation. They are made in particular circumstances where not only Stalinism, but their own rule, is under challenge from the working class. Where they make ostensibly correct statements, the role of Marxists should not be to say 'hear, hear' but to expose their hypocrisy.

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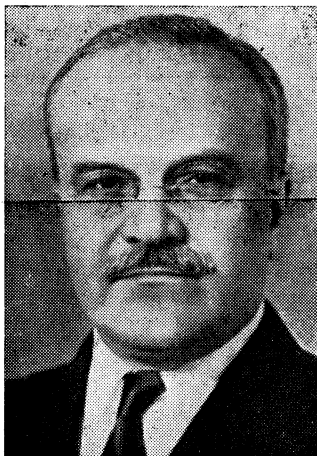
Such a method is not employed by the Pabloites. They wish to see a bit of good in all the disputants, or nearly all. Thus, in a Resolution on the 22nd Congress they declare:

'Concerning the Khrushchev

tendency, we give it critical support in its struggle for de-Stalinisation against the more conservative tendencies.'

It is true that they add a demand for rehabilitation of the victims of Stalinism and will, they say, continue to criticise Khrushchev where they think he is wrong.

Likewise they give 'critical support' to Mao Tse-tung's



Molotov: 'International discussion'

tendency 'where it defends a sharper attitude towards imperialism and the colonial bourgeoisie', and to the Yugoslavs 'on the question of workers' councils and the more democratic administration of the

economy in general'.

As for the Albanian CP and the Molotov group, they 'denounce the extremely bureaucratic character of these tendencies, the crimes in which they have been implicated and still commit in Albania' and only ask that their statements should be made available for international discussion.

★

This eclectic approach is well summed up by a leading Pabloite luminary, E. Germain.

'We may assert that the present debate in the international communist movement refracts the revolutionary Marxist positions in a "split up" way, as a crystal splits up a ray of sunshine into the colours which it contains. All the Trotskyist positions may be found among the different participants in the debate, but no tendency adopts all of them: the Russians are liquidating the Stalinist legacy, the Chinese approach the theory of the permanent revolution, the Cubans affirm that a workers' state must call on the masses of workers and peasants to make a revolution on an international scale, the Yugoslavs explain that the management of the factories must be in the hands of workers' councils, the Italians (and to a lesser extent the Poles) are renewing the links with the Leninist tradition of free discussion within the party and the trade unions, the Albanians proclaim the principle of the equality of rights of all Communist parties, whether large or small, and the need to work out differences by means of frank and loyal international discussions.'

Only one 'little' thing is missing; none of these parties has yet put forward:

'The absolute necessity for a revolutionary international, founded on democratic centralism, to co-ordinate and guide the international communist movement.'

★

What Comrade Germain apparently wants is a central bureau which can pick out the good bits in this extraordinary hash and make a palatable dish to his particular taste.

Despite his criticism of the bureaucracy and bureaucrats, he begins by crediting various sections with wisdom on particular questions and then postulates the need for a new Communist International which could only be composed of representatives of the bureaucracy.

'Out of its present fractionalism and disorder the world communist movement is finding its way inexorably according to the laws which are proper to it, (!) towards unity and organisation at a higher level, towards a Communist International reconstituted on the basis of a Leninist programme, adapted to the realities of our epoch.'

This high-flying language is as remote from practical realities as the analysis which preceded it. If we take each of the Communist parties or movements mentioned by Germain

and examine not its good bit but its whole programme and practice we are bound to be struck by their inability to throw off the legacy of Stalinism.

It is no accident, for example, that Khrushchev is unable to give an account of the origins of his caste, for that would involve a re-writing of Soviet history which would undermine its political position.

It is no accident that Tito, strong on workers' councils (and how much real power do they have?) is also an adherent of the view, sired by Stalin, that 'the construction of socialism is



Khrushchev (seen here in company with Stalin at a Party congress early in the 20s) silent about his caste.

possible even if a country is completely surrounded by capitalism'.

One could go on with examples of the crass, opportunistic thinking of the ideologists of the bureaucracy, which far from indicating the need for 'critical support' or supporting Germain's 'refraction' theory, show that its characteristics have not changed and that there is no place for conciliation or compromise with it.

Some people may think that there is a bit of good in the Pabloites: they do say some 'correct' things in the course of their political soliloquising. That is to employ with respect to them the very same methods which they use towards the leaderships of the Communist parties.

★

In fact it is a case of the spoonful of tar which spoils the barrelful of honey. It is for this reason that the ridiculous conclusions which the speculations of the Pabloites lead them to as a result of the mistakes of their approach, impairs the often correct observations which they may make in the process.

To give 'critical support' to any tendency which may at some time or another have a similar view to oneself on a particular question means ending up without a principled position on the question of the bureaucracy as a whole.

In next week's issue Cliff Slaughter writes on a new leadership in the Labour movement.

## City Slants by colin chance

### Delivering the goods

With an average wage of £15 for a 50 to 60-hour week the docker has plenty to complain about. Twelve months ago his average weekly earnings were £2 greater, but with declining imports less work is available.

The degrading system whereby men have to rely on being 'called' by the employer who may select as his fancy takes him, blatantly exemplifies one of the canons of capitalism—the right to hire and fire.

If there is no work the weekly 'fall back' pay is £7 8s. 6d. on which a worker is expected to support a family. When he is working, his basic wage for a 44 hour week is £9 7s.

Since he has to be 'on call' twice a day, he cannot supplement his wage by doing other work when none is available at the docks.

With this sort of background,

no wonder the dockers are solid in their intentions to achieve their demands of a 40-hour week and a substantial pay increase, even if it means a strike on May 13.

Exhortations by the capitalist press to the Tory government to resist the dockers' claims, strike or no strike, are significant in the attitudes they reveal. Talk of the 'national interest' and the need to 'contain inflation' obscures the basic facts of the situation.

For instance, a vast volume of export trade is now done on a system whereby heavy fines are payable when delivery dates are not kept. Jaguar, the car manufacturers, have a £22 million contract with the U.S. which calls for completion by December. Even under normal conditions a period of nine months elapses between securing and delivering an order.

Maintaining delivery dates is supposed to be one of the most important selling points of European competitors. At a time when

British capital seeks entry into the Common Market, it will want to avoid undermining foreign confidence in its ability to deliver the goods.

But this need does not mean that it will not resist the dockers' claims. 'The Economist', May 5 writes: '... it would be better to stand up to the strike, provided that the government handles it resolutely. Resolution in this respect would mean allowing both troops and non-striking labour to handle cargoes during the stoppage.'

This journal further states, 'It should also involve using and allowing and enabling outside labour to put export cargoes on the ships, even though this might mean running the gauntlet of sympathetic action by some other unions.'

If the government feels that it can get the best of both worlds, that is, resist the dockers' just claims and deliver the goods, it is in for a rude awakening.

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# Industrial Newsletter

## Byrne Moves Against the Left Again

Newsletter Reporter

WITH the decision of the courts once again backing them, the right-wing leaders of the Electrical Trades Union are now determined to carry through their plans to smash the Left wing of the union.

Seven members are being charged with infringements of rules in connection with previous ballots held in the union and with bringing discredit on the union.

The seven are: Mr. H. West, a member of the Executive Council for South Lancashire and North Wales division; S. Goldberg, J. Sell, and J. Feathers, all former members of the executive; R. Carr, secretary of Jarrow branch; Frank Fraser, secretary of Preston branch; and M. E. H. Welton, secretary of Southend electronic engineers' branch.

Two other members of Grays branch, Bro. E. Parks and J. Battie are to be disciplined for obscure reasons.

### DIG OUT

In their determination to make the union safe for their Right wing policies, the leadership will now dig out the scantiest infringements of a complicated rule book to use against their opponents.

With the vote to continue with the special conference in October, the EC are now clearly preparing a full-scale witch-hunt to deplete the forces of the Left at that conference.

Bans and proscriptions are sure to follow. At the last meeting of the London Area Committee of the union, Frank Chapple, representing the executive, warned that they were determined to deal with 'Communists' and 'Trotskyists'.

These moves should be a warning to members of the Communist Party who have been avoiding a real fight with the new leadership.

### SAVAGE

The basis for the witch-hunt in the ETU is the requirements of the ruling class as they prepare to solve economic problems by the most savage attacks on the working class.

The witch-hunt can be defeated only by a fight against the employers' attacks which will rally

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Published by The Newsletter,  
186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4  
Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), r.o.  
180 Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4

rank-and-file electricians and expose the leaders for what they are.

Already the refusal of the executive to extend the strike of electricians at BEA London Airport and their sell-out of the strike at West Thurrock power station shows clearly the role they will play in the future.

It is around these issues that the brought to the witch-hunt.

Left can be rallied and a halt If this is not done the next step by the executive may well be to ban all those they label as 'Communists' and 'Trotskyists' from holding office.

rank-and-file electricians and expose the leaders for what they are.

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**ANNE UNDER FIRE**  
AN audience of miners, boiler-makers, engineers and Labour Party members applauded vigorously in Doncaster Market Hall when Dan McGarvey, of the Boilermakers' Society, strongly criticised Miss Anne Godwin, chairman of the TUC.

Miss Godwin had denounced as 'irresponsible' those trade unionists who had taken action in support of the nurses.

Mr. McGarvey announced that if the boilermakers took token strike action in support of the nurses, they would not be opposed by their leaders.

He declared that trade union leaders who could not assist workers in struggle should 'keep their mouths shut and not help the other side'.

The Doncaster parade was made colourful by several colliery bands and by pit banners from Brodsworth, Bentley, Armthorpe, Edlington and Ackton.

### GIVE MAC HIS OWN MEDICINE

AN eighty-strong youth contingent organized by the West Yorkshire Federation of Young Socialists was the highlight of May Day in Leeds.

YS branch banners declaring 'Ban the Bomb, Ban the Bosses', a jazz band, and a tableau in support of the nurses ('Emergency at No. 10—Give Mac His Own Medicine') made this the liveliest May Day march seen in Leeds for a very long time.

The Young Socialists marched separately from a 100-strong Trades Council contingent. The Labour Party Right wing had forbidden them to join the Trades Council march because of 'Communist influence'.

But they needn't have worried.

# Dockers Can Turn the Tide

by Reg Perry

**D**OCKWORKERS are in no mood for a pay pause-style settlement of their claim for a substantial wage increase and reduction in working hours. With tempers running high throughout the major British ports, union leaders on Tuesday rejected the offer of the port employers of 3 per cent immediate increase in wages and a reduction of the working week in January from 44 hours to 42.

On Wednesday, deadlock was reached after discussions with the Minister of Labour.

The dockers' determination to fight has struck a major blow at the policy of the Tories and the plans of the port employers.

It has been clear throughout the negotiations on the dockers' claim that the employers would much have preferred to grant an increase in fall-back pay and in the minimum guarantee for day wage workers.

This would have fitted in well with the decasualisation scheme plans they are preparing behind the scenes and which would cost them far less than a direct increase in wages for time working and piece rates.

The confidence of the employers has been seriously shaken during the past few

weeks by the defeat they suffered in Liverpool when they supported attempts by TGWU official O'Hare to smash the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers Union. This week the walk-out by 6,000 dockers in support of the nurses has further warned them of the feeling amongst portworkers.

Leaders of the dockers have demanded an increase in wages of 7½ per cent.

Representatives of the tally clerks in London have also been actively pressing for a regular minimum wage of £14 a week. The present minimum is £9 8s.

There can be no doubt that if the leaders stand firm these claims can be won in full. May 13 can well mark the turn of the tide against the Tories and their pay pause.

# May Day Round-up

For one of the few people antagonistic to the Young Socialists was Bert Ramelson, Yorkshire Area Organizer of the Communist Party. 'This is the last May Day march in Leeds', fumed Ramelson, as he agrily denounced the presence of the Young Socialists' contingent.

Respectability was the hallmark of the official Labour Party May Day 'demonstration' in Leeds.

Mr. James Callaghan said what a nice man Mr. Gaitskell was; Miss Anne Godwin thought we really ought to do a bit more about education; the 200 or so people scattered thinly at the door complained that the Party wasn't vigorous enough; and everybody went home.

### STORMY PASSAGE FOR GAITSKELL

TO bring Hugh Gaitskell to speak in Glasgow on May Day is just about the most provocative action which the Right wing could think up.

The Scottish TUC is unilateralist, as are the majority of Young Socialist branches and many sections of the Labour Party. Any idea that the event would pass off without opposition was dispelled as soon as Gaitskell rose to speak.

Listening to Gaitskell were some 1,500 ticket-holders seated inside the band enclosure in the Queen's Park.

Outside the enclosure were three or four thousand trade unionists, Young Socialists and Communist Party members with banners which proclaimed their opposition to the right-wing policy of support for the H-bomb.

Above the roars of boeing which greeted the speaker he could be heard to shout 'go back to Moscow', and, to the police who were called in to protect him, he bawled 'take them out'.

He had, shouted Gaitskell to the crowd, a speech to make and he intended to make it. It turned out to be nothing but some general phrases and appeals for 'unity' to fight the next general election.

Gaitskell made great play with the fact of Scotland's 80,000 unemployed, but said nothing about a fight to prevent sackings; he deplored the Macmillan government's handling of the nationalised industries but was quiet about his own campaign to withdraw Clause 4 from the constitution of the Labour Party. His 'unity', therefore, turned out to be an acceptance of Tory policies.

The Labour leaders have hopes that they will be returned in a majority to the next Parliament. They have no intention, however, of being subject to any form of control by the Labour Party and the trade unions.

Following the demonstration on Sunday there have been threats made by the Transport House and other bureaucrats of reprisals to come. We must, they say, have the right of free speech.

Meanwhile they prepare to lengthen the list of organizations proscribed by the right-wing dominated Executive and to remove the right of criticism from the Labour movement.

### NURSES TO THE FORE

HUNDREDS of nurses marched behind the NUPE banner in Sheffield, despite rumours that the matron of Sheffield Royal Infirmary had placed a ban on the demonstration.

Many nurses carried placards announcing 'Nurses thank Trade Unionists for their support'.

Factory gate meetings are to be held outside Sheffield engineering works this week to organize support for the nurses.

# Nurses March in Liverpool

Liverpool Reporter

**L**ED by nurses in chains, 2,000 health workers, many wearing uniform against instructions from matrons, marched through Liverpool last Friday night.

Watching the demonstration form up one could not fail to be impressed by the freshness and enthusiasm of this wages movement.

Slogans like 'Overworked nurses have empty purses' and '2½ per cent mixture not to be taken by nurses' were plentiful in a march that included groups of firemen, seamen and building workers.

'The angels have pawned their halo's' said another poster, clearly mocking the sentimental rubbish that has helped the government to depress the living standards of hospital workers for many years past.

Speaking to some of the demonstrators the impression was clearly formed that these workers have had enough talk of 'vocation' and 'dedication'.

### MORE THAN DIGNITY

They do a useful job in the world and that is dignified enough for them; now they want more pay for doing that job.

Four and five deep, the column made its way through the town. I spoke to passers-by, newspaper sellers and workers going home. I have never known such unanimous support for a wage claim.

Young girls ran along the pavement to join the marchers and were greeted by cheers. With plenty of slogan shouting it was a militant march.

Along the pavement people shouted encouragement. Clapping, led in many places by office cleaners on their way from work, was infectious.

At the meeting, Mrs. Braddock, MP, told the nurses how they might lose support. Anne Godwin, TUC chairman, has not lost any time in condemning those who have struck work in support of the nurses.

How outrageous are these trade union leaders. For years they do nothing and then when by their own demonstrations the health workers win support they hastily condemn 'unofficial action'.

### Engineers Support

ON Wednesday, 800 workers at the Projectile and Engineering works in Battersea downed tools and marched 1½ miles to the Town Hall in support of the nurses.

Posters saying 'E-Nochs the Nurses, we knock the Tories', and 'Tory freedom shirks nurses pay' were carried by marchers, among whom were many women and coloured workers.

Tommy Smith, convenor at Projectiles and member of the Constructional Engineering Union, told a Newsletter reporter that the stoppage at the factory was 100 per cent, although many had not been able to manage the full march.

### DOCKS

**STOP PRESS:** Strike breaking plans by the Tories in alliance with the employers which include the use of troops must be opposed by the whole Labour movement. The government must be warned that such moves will be met by the extension of the strike throughout industry.