

THE WORKER

A CALL TO ACTION

THE workers of Britain are under attack. Their class enemies, the bosses, the financiers, the controllers and manipulators of the British economy, operating through the bourgeois state machinery which serves their interests, have declared open war on the working class.

What has forced them into the open is the economic crisis of the British Empire which is part of the general panic into which the entire Western capitalist bloc has been thrown by anti-imperialist struggle all over the world, sharpening inter-imperialist rivalry and intensifying class conflict within the homelands of imperialism.

British monopoly capitalists feeling this threat at home and finding super-profits abroad harder to come by, have turned viciously on the workers of Britain, increasing the level of their exploitation and trying to destroy their capacity to fight back.

We must be absolutely clear about what is happening in order to resist it effectively. We must understand in class terms exactly who is doing what to whom.

We are told, for example, that the International Monetary Fund is imposing economic restrictions on Britain. This is not true. The economic restrictions are being imposed on the WORKERS of Britain. They in no way hamper or restrict the monopoly capitalists of Britain who are delighted to accept these conditions and then, through their mouthpiece Wilson, shift the blame for the worsening plight of workers onto the "gnomes of Zurich."

We are told that US monopoly capitalists are penetrating Britain at the expense of British monopoly capitalism. This is not true. It is at the expense of the WORKERS of Britain in full collaboration with British monopoly capitalism. Monopoly capitalists here are very pleased to have US methods of anti-working class wage-bargaining introduced into such areas of the economy as the automotive industry which they increasingly dominate. The workers at Fords can bear witness to the co-operation between US management and Labour Government directed against them.

Not only must workers be clear about who the real enemy is, they must realise that defence against the attacks of the class enemy is not enough. They have to go over to the offensive and launch their own attacks against the monopoly capitalists.

This struggle will have to be political, not just economic. For political struggle there must be a working class revolutionary party. The Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) is such a party.

This political struggle has as its object the overthrow of the bourgeois state serving the interests of monopoly capitalism. It is not concerned with winning places in that state electorally. Parliamentary democracy is a fraud. Parliament is an instrument of the bourgeois dictatorship and can in no way serve the interests of the working class. The record of the Labour Government can leave no doubt about this.

Only by taking up the cudgels and joining battle can the working class halt the extension of the corporate state and end the threat of naked fascism. They must wage a tit-for-tat struggle by using revolutionary violence against counter-revolutionary violence. Wherever that struggle is, there the CPB(ML) will be.

NO! TO WILSON NO! TO FEATHER

In all our previous issues of "The Worker" we have consistently campaigned against any interference from any source in the workers' right to wage struggle against employers or government and to use their industrial power to defend their class interests or promote their aims. We reject the claim that there must be imposed order on the economy or the workers will suffer. This is a capitalist economy. A free for all for all kinds of speculators in stocks, shares, currency and property, regardless of the effect on "the economy".

The employers have always held it as a natural right that they can exploit any situation for profit regardless. The Labour Government has been their best friend, Britain has been a profit mongers' and speculators' paradise under Labour, even more so than under the Tories. No new legislation is directed against these people, but legislation is threatened against the working class to render less effective workers struggles which are engendered in the main by precisely these same people.

What do the government propose to replace strife? To do away with exploitation for profit which is the prime cause of industrial strife? Of course not. Under the transparent guise of peacemakers in industry they can easily be detected as the creators of a British Labour Front; and no Trade Union movement, if it is to serve any useful purpose at all to the workers, can have any part of it.

The proposed legislation has been denounced by the overwhelming majority of Trade Unionists. There has rarely been displayed such unity of purpose among the workers as on this issue, despite the efforts of phoney polls to dissuade us otherwise. The turn out on May Day on the streets of London and other cities throughout the country, the token strikes and mass factory meetings have given the government the workers' answer.

We have more than anyone else stressed that it is not only restriction by government that must be opposed; we have seen the danger that is now more apparent than ever before - that of restriction by a Trade Union bureaucracy. This TUC has never performed a positive role on behalf of the working class. The Trade Unions have hitherto jealously preserved their independence and autonomy. They have never really seen this amorphous body as a weapon for advance and have not equipped it with authority and powers to act on their behalf against employers or government. The powers they now seek are not to deal with attacks of employers against workers. On

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On May 1 many workers staged a 1-day political strike against the Labour Government's anti-trade union proposals. They are seen here marching through the City of London.



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LABOUR GOVT. BACKS RACIALIST BOSSES

THE Secretary for Employment and Productivity has set as one of the first tasks for the Commission on Industrial Relations the investigation of three Midland foundries belonging to the Birimid Qualcast Group with headquarters at Smethwick.

Understanding what is behind this move shows up in the clearest light the way the Labour Government intends to use the newly-formed CIR as trouble shooters to back up bosses in their dirtiest attacks on workers. Over the whole field of industrial relations who should these particular foundries have been singled out for examination?

Because of appalling conditions and low rates of pay, admitted even by the industrial correspondents of the bourgeois press, these foundries have for years been the last places on the list where out-of-work Midlanders were prepared to take jobs. This acute labour shortage has led to an influx of immigrant workers, amounting in some plants to as high as 80%.

This high percentage of mainly Asian workers, many of them unorganised to begin with, enabled managements for some while to get away with conditions and rates of pay which compared unfavourably with similar plants elsewhere. But within the last few years these black workers have become increasingly unionised and have been launching militant industrial action against their excessive exploitation.

Bosses reacted with mass sackings like the 110 workers dismissed by the Shotton Brothers foundry at Halesowen or the 90 men sacked by Newby's of West Bromwich. The naked use of racialism by the bosses is demonstrated by Newby's quietly offering jobs back to two white workers who had been sacked along with the others.

The bosses are also complaining that an outside body of left-wing agitators (by which they mean the Indian Workers Association) is responsible for stirring up trouble among immigrant workers. When this charge was put to Jagmohan Joshi, national secretary

of the IWA, he replied that the present unrest was the product of years of exploitation of Asian workers as a source of cheap labour.

"It is true," he said, "that when we are asked to give advice on the best way to achieve better working conditions and pay we give it, but we are not a trade union and do not operate as one. Many of our members were responsible for bringing trade unions into foundries where they had never been before. This means that managements are now having to face up to organised labour for the first time and this is not acceptable to them".

The bosses of these Midland foundries thought they could get away with bad conditions and pay and dictatorial methods because such a high proportion of their working force was black. Do Woodcock, Paynter and the rest of their colleagues on the Commission on Industrial Relations hope that an investigation of "industrial disturbances" by predominantly black workers will make their activities on behalf of the bosses more acceptable?

LIN PIAO'S REPORT TO NINTH CONGRESS

(One of the documents of the 9th Congress of the CPC which must be studied with great care by all who want to know why revisionism developed in the Soviet Union and how revisionism is being smashed in China is the report made by Vice-Chairman, Lin Piao. It is long, some 24,000 words, but so clearly written in that concise style which readers of his famous book, Long Live the Victory of People's War, will remember, that it makes easy reading. To facilitate your study we have made an outline of the report. It and all other documents of the 9th Congress can be obtained from the Bellman Bookshop, 155 Fortress Rd, London, N.W.5)

BACKGROUND OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION

EVER since the beginning of scientific socialism there has been a continual clash between it and incorrect ideas masquerading as socialism. Marx and Engels had to struggle against ideas of utopian socialism and sham socialism against the Marxist view of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Lenin's battle against the revisionists of the Second International is well-known. Mao has had to wage a tit-for-tat struggle against modern revisionism with Soviet revisionism as its centre. The Soviet renegades have usurped state power and turned the world's first proletarian dictatorship into "a dark, fascist state of the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie."

In order to prevent such an usurpation of power it is necessary to realise that the class struggle goes on long after the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat. In the first section Lin Piao gives a detailed history of the way in which the Chinese revisionist clique under Liu Shao-chi both before and after 1949 spread counter-revolutionary ideas, tried to infiltrate key positions in the party, and then, through poisoning people's ideology, to combat Mao's leadership. Throughout the last twenty years and especially since 1957 when Mao wrote "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People" the revisionist line has been strenuously fought whether over rural education, the transformation of private industry into socialist ownership and, since 1962, over the control of the party apparatus.

In September, 1962 Mao pointed out that the struggle between the socialist road and the capitalist road would be protracted and complex. It was essential to distinguish the contradictions among the people from the contradictions between the people and the enemy. Otherwise a socialist country like China would turn into its opposite and degenerate into a capitalist country.

COURSE OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION

Mao realised that the only way that the Liu Shao-chi clique could be exposed and defeated was by arousing the hundreds of millions of revolutionary masses. An organised and systematic method of arousing the broad masses to give fight to revisionism in all spheres of society was the reason for the proletarian cultural revolution.

Public opinion is always vital for overthrowing any kind of political force. To that end the Liu clique had tried to control all organs of culture and education. To repudiate this revisionist control of opera films, higher education, literature the first stage of the struggle concentrated on such cultural fields.

Under the guidance of Chairman Mao the proletarian revolutionary line was held by millions of people including young Red Guards whose attacks on the revisionists spearheaded a mass movement involving millions of workers and poor peasants. Realising that their schemes were being exposed the counter-revolutionaries tried more cunning methods. Posing as adherents of the proletarian line they began to work upon groups of students, workers and peasants deliberately sowing distrust. This is where the correct handling of contradictions was very necessary. A worker or poor peasant who had been deceived into supposing that the revisionists were his friends and had followed an anti-revolutionary line had to be differentiated from the enemies of socialism, lurking behind the scenes. "The problem is that those who commit ideological errors are mixed up with those whose contradiction with us is one between ourselves and the enemy, and for a time it is hard to sort them out." Lin Piao gives this quotation from Mao to describe the complex development of the cultural revolution especially from January 1967 when the Shanghai workers captured power by driving out the revisionists from the Shanghai Municipal Party Committee to September, 1968 when revolutionary committees had been formed in all provinces except Taiwan.

CRITICISM AND TRANSFORMATION

The proletariat of China had to re-establish their control over the party and state apparatus wherever this had been usurped by revisionists. This meant struggles in factories, offices, government departments, villages etc. Everywhere it was necessary to establish revolutionary committees which could fight erroneous ideas from the extreme right or left, apply Mao Tsetung thought to establish close ties between organs of state power and the masses. The workers and poor and lower-middle peasants have to sweep away the "dust of bureaucracy", practise frugality, oppose extravagance and waste and guard against "the bourgeois attacks with sugar-coated bullets" (economic incentives, perks and privileges) in all this the Peoples Liberation Army, whose political organisation is based on the closest ties with the proletariat, has been important for the consolidation of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

POLICIES OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION

These were made explicit in the Circular of May, 1966, and the 16-point decisions of August, 1966. Lin Piao gives details of the policy of treating different categories of cadres, a brilliant exposition of the dialectics of contradiction. Sons and daughters of intellectuals, when educated in Mao Tsetung thought and willing to integrate



themselves under proletarian leadership, should be encouraged. Those party cadres who have made mistakes but are now raising their political consciousness should be promptly "liberated", "assigned to suitable work and encouraged to go among the masses". Distinctions are made among the enemy as well. "Stress should be laid on the weight of evidence and on investigation and study, and it is strictly forbidden to obtain confessions by compulsion and to give them credence." Lin emphasises this point made by Mao. Active counter-revolutionaries must be punished according to the laws of the state but enemies who have confessed their crimes should be treated leniently, and given a way out. "We rely mainly on the broad masses of the people in exercising dictatorship over the enemy", says Lin Piao.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

With regard to economic development which has been tremendous over the last two years Lin Piao, like Lenin and Mao, places first priority on politics. "Politics is the concentrated expression of economics. If we fail to make revolution in the superstructure, fail to arouse the broad masses of the workers and peasants... how can we further consolidate the economic base...?" Only when the revolutionary initiative and creativeness of the people are aroused can production be stimulated.

The victory of the great proletarian cultural revolution has provided the guide lines for the building of the party. Following

the wise leadership of Chairman Mao the fruits of revolution for which millions of people lay down their lives will be protected. But for this the party must be re-built.

Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line on party building was most clearly expressed in his book - How to be a Good Communist - which deliberately omits the crux of the revolution; the dictatorship of the proletariat. Revisionist distortions and lies like the "masses are backward", "the dying out of the class struggle", "joining the party to climb up", and their infiltration into the Party, meant that the party ranks had to be purified. Moreover, because of the inevitable fact of inner-party contradictions, reflecting the class struggle outside the party, it is necessary to bring in new cadres from the most revolutionary sections of Red Guards, women, workers and poor and lower-middle peasants. Above all else they must apply Mao Tsetung thought which Lin defines as "Marxism-Leninism of the era in which imperialism is heading for total collapse and socialism is advancing to world-wide victory," by integrating theory and establishing close ties with the masses.

CHINA'S RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The great proletarian cultural revolution has scored decisive victories but final victory of the Chinese revolution can only be achieved when all the peoples of the world have overthrown imperialism and social imperialism, the neo-colonialism being practised by the Soviet renegades.

The major contradictions of our epoch, presented in the General Line of 1959 have been, therefore, amended in the Light of Soviet revisionism's new imperialist role. The four contradictions in the world today are: (1) the contradiction between the oppressed nations on the one hand and imperialism and social-imperialism on the other; (2) the contradiction between the proletariat and bourgeoisie in the capitalist and revisionist countries; (3) the contradiction between imperialist and social-imperialist countries and among the imperialist countries; (4) the contradictions between socialist countries on the one hand and imperialism and social-imperialism on the other.

Both US imperialism and Soviet social imperialism are "paper tigers" that can be defeated by the people. Although they are colluding to divide the world into two spheres of influence and are rabidly opposed to China, Lin Piao states: "... China has drawn a clear line between herself on the one hand and US imperialism and Soviet revisionism on the other. Today, it is not imperialism, revisionism and reaction but the proletariat and the revolutionary people of all countries that determine the destiny of the world."

China will on no account ignore the danger of US imperialism and Soviet revisionism launching a large-scale war of aggression. But the struggles of the peoples in all five continents all of which are supported by the Chinese, will develop, unite "and overthrow our common enemies".

SOLIDARITY WITH ZIMBABWE

SOUTHERN Africa is the heartland of British imperialism though today it is having to divide its loot with US monopolies. When Ian Smith and his clique defy British imperialism it is because they hope to gain favours from South African fascists and their allies. But the defiance is more apparent than real for the real crime of the Smith regime in the eyes of the Labour Government is not that it is going to perpetuate the exploitation of the people of Zimbabwe but that, by making the racist colonial oppression transparent it is going to put paid, eventually, to any scheme of neo-colonialism which likes to hide racialism behind a facade. The Smith regime has been foolish enough to let the whole world see that it stands four-square for white domination by proposing a new constitution, to be submitted to a "national" referendum on June 20, because the original British constitution contains "a number of objectionable features, the principal one being that it provides for eventual African rule..." "Eventual" African rule, a typical bit of British hypocrisy, is too much for the Smith gang who cannot afford the long-term strategy of neo-colonialism. For them it must be the direct smash-and-grab of immediate slavery. White supremacy, based on land-grabbing, cannot afford the luxury of working from behind the backs of ostensibly "free" Africans like British neo-colonialism in Nigeria or Kenya. For the Smith gangsters Africans must be permanently kept down as helots. That is why there can be no more than 16 Africans in the House of Assembly as compared to 50 European members although there are 4,280,000 Africans and only 225,000 Europeans. Moreover, so ominous is the prospect of any kind of African opinion other than the seditious and hypocritical voice of tribal chiefs, that half of the

8 will be elected by "tribal electoral colleges" and 10 African chiefs are to be allowed to sit in the Senate. Let there be any doubt that a black worker or peasant might crop in it is laid down, and here the Smith regime follows its British predecessors, the franchise for Africans will be strictly limited to those paying a basic level of income tax, in a country where the African people have been reduced to domestic servants, field labourers and unemployed this is a built-in safeguard.

With their usual hypocrisy the British ruling class, Tory and Labour - have deplored the new Constitutional proposals. But since they are the creators of Smith and the ultimate upholders of white supremacy in Southern Africa such criticism is strictly for Hansard. It is up to those who really want to see the people of Zimbabwe masters in their own land, to expose the British Government's policy which benefits the big companies with enormous interests in South African gold and diamonds, Rhodesian copper and tobacco etc. Even the phoney "sanctions" have never been applied to South Africa so that the British naval patrol boats off the coast of Portuguese East Africa never touch oil bound for South Africa although knowing full well that some of it will enter Rhodesia. But more important is to show full solidarity with the guerrilla fighters who have begun their liberation struggle. One small way of helping them is to see that the British Government, through its dirty racist immigration laws does not deport Zimbabwe people because they do not have the right kind of documents or labour vouchers. The least that this government can do is to permit Africans from its colonies to stay and work here until they are ready to go back and fight for their countries' independence.

CPB(ML) HAILS COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

THE Communist Party of India's revisionist leadership was fully exposed in October 1962 when the reactionary Nehru Government, acting on orders of its US and Russian masters as well as its own capitalists and landlords who desperately need chauvinism to divert the people from their just struggles, launched an attack on China over a disputed border. The CPI renegades sided with the government and helped to jail hundred of communists. Unfortunately, among those jailed were leaders whose Marxism lay in verbal attacks against revisionism, and whose opportunism enabled many rank and filers to suppose these were genuine Marxists and to obey the decision, from on high, to form a new Party in 1964 - the Communist Party of India (Marxist). The underlying revisionism of these so-called "left" communist leaders like Nambodiripad, Basu, Ranadive etc, was soon most clearly when, they were released from prison in 1966 - a release which was undoubtedly ordered in order to curb the militant rank and filers busy developing genuine mass struggles. The so-called Marxists crushed all such movements and mobilised their ranks to fight the 4th general elections. In their attachment to bourgeois parliament they were not a whit less revisionist than the Dangeites. After coming to power in West

Bengal and Kerala through shabby alliances with the class enemy, including big landlords, these supposed Marxists revealed their treachery by trying to suppress peasants and workers, rising up in revolt against the most appalling conditions of exploitation and oppression. When the poor peasants of Naxalbari, in the tea garden region of North Bengal, rose up in armed rebellion not simply against landlords but against an oppressive state, under the leadership of the local communist unit, they were attacked by armed police and soldiers being ordered by CPI(M) Ministers! Since Naxalbari in May 1967 to April 1969 the genuine communists of the land, pledged to the overthrow of the reactionary semi-colonial and semi-feudal Indian Republic, which is the puppet of both Anglo-US imperialism and Soviet social imperialism, spread armed revolt among workers north and south. On April 22, 1969, the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Lenin, they formed the first revolutionary communist party of India, pledged to carry the Indian revolution of the Indian peasants and workers through to the end, through protracted people's warfare to be launched in India's villages. We send our warmest revolutionary greetings to them and pledge our solidarity with them.



CPB(ML) DELEGATES PLACE WREATH ON TOMB OF ALBANIAN HERO OF THE ANTI-FASCIST WAR OF LIBERATION

A GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE

Two industrial comrades of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) have just returned from a two weeks visit to Albania having been invited by the Albanian Party of Labour and the Albanian trade unions to take part in the May Day celebrations. The following is a short account of their visit.

The scene in Albania today can be likened to an express train racing down the track towards communism and sweeping aside all that stands in its path be it political or nature itself.

From the very first moment of stepping on Albanian soil, to the last moment of our departure proved to us beyond doubt that the Albanian people, led by the Albanian Party of Labour and its greatly respected leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, are battling through to man's greatest goal - communism.

Tirana, a city of 200,000 people, gave us the most inspiring political experience of our lives. The May Day celebration (which we kept referring to as a "demonstration" and which the Albanians called a "manifestation") was a glorious mixture of Marxist-Leninist politics, gaiety and colour.

Hundreds upon hundreds of posters bearing socialist slogans, portraits of the really great men of history - Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Mao Tse Tung and Enver Hoxha. Political cartoons, the size of houses, exposing and denouncing US imperialism and Soviet revisionism. Enormous declarations of support for all struggling and oppressed peoples.

The parade took two hours to pass the stand where Enver Hoxha and members of the Central Committee stood, together with the international delegations. The parade

gave one set of figures after another of the staggering record of achievements and progress during the 25 years of socialist construction.

The celebration ended in a tremendous climax as it had begun with Albanian youth - a sight that has to be seen to be believed.

On Monday, May 5, National Heroes Day, the British delegation, along with all other international comrades, had the honour of laying a wreath on the Tomb of the Martyrs of the National Liberation Struggle. The ceremony was conducted with great dignity: no tears, just pride. Standing there gave us time to reflect on the heroic struggle of the Albanian people against Italian and German fascism.

From April 7, 1939, when Italy invaded Albania, there began, under the leadership of the Albanian Communist Party, a relentless and uncompromising struggle of the Albanian people against the invaders. During this struggle the National Liberation Army ranks swelled to over 70,000. On November 29, 1944, the northern city of Skodra, the last stronghold of the enemy, fell and Albania was liberated. During this struggle the Germans and Italians were forced to put 170,000 of their troops against "small" Albania, a country the size of Wales with a population of only 2 million people. The fascists lost 26,594 killed, 21,248 wounded and 20,870 captured. Albania gave 28,000 of its people to the common cause against fascists.

We had the great pleasure of visiting the 90 year old mother of one of Albania's heroes, seated in her spacious workers' flat which compared favourably with anything in Britain and for rent Albanians pay one day's pay for a whole month's rent or 1/28 of their wages.

NFL CALLS THE TUNE

THE extent to which the National Front for Liberation of South Vietnam holds the initiative at the conference table as a result of continuing military victories in the field has been clearly demonstrated by the recent exchange of peace proposals. The ten-point plan set forth by the NFL delegate, Tran Bui Kiem, forced Nixon to respond with his own eight-point plan - which the Vietnamese promptly rejected.

The ten-point proposals of the NFL are in substance exactly the same as the five-point stand first put forward in 1965 which was complementary to the four-point stand taken up by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in the north. The NFL has never departed from this principled position, the crux of which is the demand for the unconditional withdrawal of the US imperialist aggressors and their allies. Only the wording of this vital point has been changed. Instead of beginning with the stipulation of "unconditional withdrawal", it now reads "The US government must withdraw from South Vietnam all US troops, military personnel, arms and war material . . . without posing any condition whatsoever."

Why the New Peace Proposals?

If the ten-point proposals represent no alteration in the position of the NFL, why were they advanced instead of simply reiterating the original five-points? The purpose was to spell out the NFL's conditions for peace in such a way as to indict US imperialist aggression even more clearly in the eyes of the American people and the rest of the world and, not least important, in the eyes of neutral, non-communist elements in South Vietnam itself.

The crushing victories of the NFL against US and puppet troops from the great Tet offensive on have not only wiped out all remnants of the 'pacification' scheme in the countryside but established control over most towns as well. Along with this penning up of the aggressors in a few cities and bases has gone the winning over to the cause of national liberation of those who have not

so far been committed - middle elements, small businessmen, professionals, officers of the puppet army and others, thus completely isolating the Thieu-Ky regime and its big landlord-black marketer hangers on. By exploiting internal contradictions the NFL has won these people over in droves to the winning side.

The ten-point proposals have been entirely successful in putting Nixon on the spot and forcing him to expose the hopeless contradiction in US imperialism's position in Vietnam. On the one hand they have been defeated in every move to incorporate Vietnam or any part of it in their own economic empire and will have to get out. On the other hand they still futilely cling to demands for a peace settlement which will give them at the conference table what they have lost on the field of battle. How else can one interpret the ridiculous call for "mutual withdrawal" which amounts in terms of the actual situation to a proposal that "we will get out of Vietnam if the Vietnamese will too".

1954 and 1969

In putting forward their own ten-point proposals, why should the NFL think the US Government would respect an agreement based on them any more than they respected the Geneva Agreement of 1954? But 1969 is not 1954. US imperialism had not then been defeated in Vietnam and could still hope to take over the empire the French had lost. The same strength of the NFL which will force the US Government to agree to withdraw their forces will also see that they abide by the agreement. The NFL will not be leaving it to the "international supervision" mentioned in the ten-points to bring about US withdrawal. This they are doing themselves. An agreed international body will merely watch it happening.

Criticisms of the ultra-left

Ultra-leftists who claim to support the Vietnamese liberation struggle but are critical of the leadership of the DVR and the NFL for a "betrayal of the struggle"

Drinking cognac and eating sweet biscuits and chocolate (Albania is not the best place to lose weight) we learnt much of Albania's history.

This old comrade had a deep understanding of the problems and hardships of the British working class. She gave us a political lesson we will never forget. Her advice to us in Britain was: "Politics before money. Beware of the blind alley of economicism". Her parting words were, "You have much to do; do not waste any time." Such enthusiasm, from a 90 year old, gave us renewed strength.

"In the world today all culture, all literature and art belong to definite classes and are geared to definite political lines. There is in fact no such thing as art for art's sake, art that stands above classes, art that is detached from or independent of politics" (Mao).

The same is true of education. There is no such thing as education for education's sake or education that stands above class. A visit to Tirana University, a tremendous white-stoned building will prove even to the most sceptical observer that the future of Albania is in good hands because education serves the people and not a privileged few.

It is socialist education carried out under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

The University with its 6,300 day students, 2,700 night and correspondence students, covering 7 faculties, 68 departments and 85 laboratories, forms Albania's technological "shock force." There is a constant to and fro of students between the university, industry and agriculture.

In every factory, construction site and collective farm you will find eager, young students working alongside workers and peasants, learning from their experiences and together putting theory to the test. From there back to the university with the results of the tests and so the process continues.

It is clear that this policy of Theory-Practice-Theory has been the greatest single factor in the tremendous political and technological leap forward since the liberation. In Albania we found no conflict between workers, peasants and students. All were working for the common good of all in defence of Marxism-Leninism and for socialist construction.

With each day that passes the Albanian people gain new and greater confidence and

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NEW ALBANIA SOCIETY

An illustrated talk
on
ALBANIAN FOLK MUSIC

June 13 7.30 pm

All welcome

155 Fortress Road, NW5

MARXIST-LENINIST LEADS FIGHT AGAINST AUSTRALIAN PENALTY CLAUSES

WHEN Clarence O'Shea of the Australian Tramways Union was jailed for defying the Commonwealth Industrial Court, the country was swept by strikes in sympathy. The Union had been fined for ignoring arbitration orders and O'Shea was summoned on March 20th to appear for examination with the Union's account books.

He refused to appear. Summoned again on April 10th he still refused and once more refused a summons on April 30th. Fined £227 for contempt he did appear

on May 15th but refused to take an oath, answer questions or produce the books. He was then committed to prison. This was followed by the greatest industrial disruption for 20 years bringing Australia to the brink of a general strike.

We salute Clarence O'Shea, a leading member of the Australian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist), for a stand which will not go unremarked by working class leaders in Britain faced with similar anti-trade union legislation of a punitive nature.

THE TUNE

under the influence of Soviet revisionism are guilty of a number of errors from a Marxist-Leninist point of view.

1. It is perfectly true that the Soviet revisionists in their collaboration with US imperialism will do everything they can to liquidate the war in Vietnam short of the complete victory of the Vietnamese people. Nixon sent his eight-point proposals to the Kremlin the moment they were formulated with every assurance of support from the revisionist leadership of the USSR. But Brezhnev's attempts to end the war on terms acceptable to the US have been going on for years now without making the NFL yield anything at all in their just demands nor dissuading Ho Chi Minh from declaring only last November "As long as there is a single aggressor in our country, we must fight on to wipe him out". People who can defeat US imperialism can defeat Soviet revisionism in all its machinations.

2. There are, no doubt, revisionists in Vietnam, as there are everywhere. But a people and their leaders who are making every sacrifice necessary to roll back in military defeat the greatest imperialist power of all time and the main enemy of the world's people cannot be described by anyone in his senses as revisionist. In a protracted struggle of the nature of people's war there are bound to be lulls, though recently these lulls represent the inability of the aggressors to launch major attacks rather than any need of the NFL to recuperate for further blows. Apologists for US imperialism are always on the look-out for the slightest sign of a slackening in the war effort of the Vietnamese people and are continuously being disappointed. Ultra-leftists who claim every imagined lull as a proof of their "betrayal" these are no better than these apologists.

3. Confronted with an aggressive enemy of the deprived barbarity of the US forces for whom no savagery is too brutal to be used against a whole people, the Vietnamese leaders have a solemn duty to do anything they can to cut down the losses and minimise the enormous sacrifices of the fighting people of Vietnam. In this respect offensive and defensive weapons acquired from the

Soviet Union without any accommodation to the wishes of the Soviet revisionist leadership are exactly the same as weapons captured from the US aggressors. Are ultra-leftists so sensitive about where arms were made as to want the Vietnamese to get them solely from China or do they think the Vietnamese ought to make themselves every piece of equipment used? Let them come out then and say that they regard weapons as more important than people.

4. Ultra-leftists, as though they had never heard of Mao Tse Tung, utterly confuse a people's war of national liberation in which all classes who oppose the imperialist invader are united under communist leadership to establish a peoples' democratic dictatorship with a subsequent period of consolidating a dictatorship of the proletariat once those classes in alliance with the working class have been proletarianised. The demand that the Vietnamese should make revisionists and potential capitalist-roaders within their own ranks the main enemy now is like criticising the Chinese for not carrying out the proletarian cultural revolution before the Japanese or the US-backed Kuomintang had been defeated.

5. To see the willingness of Hanoi and the NFL to come to Paris and talk from a position of strength as a sign of faltering in the struggle is to have no better appreciation of the dialectics of talking and fighting than the American delegates who are thrown into complete confusion when they interpret talking as yielding and then see their forces in the field mauled by yet another offensive. People do not fight as the Vietnamese have for all these years to cave in at a coffee-break.

The traitorous role of revisionists must never be underestimated. But to play down the courage, self-sacrifice and iron determination of the Vietnamese people under the leadership of Ho Chi Minh and the NFL command, to doubt after all these years of struggle their will to carry the war against the US aggressors and their puppets through to a victorious end, however long it takes, is to play the enemy's game.

No! To Wilson No! To Feather

the contrary, they seek to do the work of the employers and to be given powers accordingly. THESE POWERS MUST BE DENIED.

The threatened Government legislation should present no real problem to the industrial working class. Once recognising this government for what it is, shedding false loyalty, the workers have the power in so time it all to smash any such legislation. To keep it off the statute book or, as the Australian workers are doing, force its repeal. The Government know this only too well.

They have committed themselves to this course in their efforts to woo the disenchanted electors and satisfy the international moneylenders. Yet they know it is not on. Their laws to exact fines are nonsensical in that they know full well it is virtually impossible to carry them into effect; but just the same it is their intention, if they can get away with it, to fasten shackles on the workers. Their strategy is clear and all workers must see through it.

The war between the Government and TUC over the Bill is a phoney war. The Government poses as blackmailer facing the TUC with the choice - you shackle the workers or we will. The TUC poses as unwilling victim and is endeavouring to muster on June 5th approval for a deal with the government which, despite Wilson's protestations that the TUC plan doesn't go far enough, gives the Government what it really wants.

All workers who oppose the Government plan must also oppose the TUC plan. Only the features are different, the intent and purpose are the same. Anyone who opposes the Government plan and is willing to accept the TUC plan is being hypocritical. No Trade Unionist should be deceived by this manoeuvre for a moment.

Some Trade Unions, notably the AEF have made their position clear already - opposition to plans to restrict the Trade Unions by Government OR ANY OTHER BODY. This is a clear position and those who seek to reverse this position do no service to their Trade Union and to the working class. This is a fundamental issue, not a question of tactic. IT IS BLACK AND WHITE. There is no middle course.

To switch policy now is to yield to blackmail. What is worse, it is the strong being blackmailed by the weak. How empty this blackmail is - "If the Government falls in this it will fall", IT HAS FALLEN ALREADY, it is dead; but it is taking its time to lie down. The treachery of this Labour Government is unpardonable and will NOT be pardoned. It cannot be saved. It is not worth saving. THE TRADE UNIONS MUST NOT STRANGLE THEMSELVES IN A VAIN EFFORT TO SAVE IT. When it is gone, the Trade Unions will remain to continue to take on its successors and the employers they, like the Labour Government, represent. It must remain unfettered to do this.

AGAINST SPONTANEITY

"THE theory of worshipping spontaneity is decidedly opposed to the revolutionary character of the working-class movement; it is opposed to the movement taking the line of struggle against the foundations of capitalism; it is in favour of the movement proceeding exclusively along the line of 'realisable' demands, of demands 'acceptable' to capitalism; it is wholly in favour of the 'line of least resistance'." The theory of spontaneity is the ideology of trade unionism.

"The theory of worshipping spontaneity is decidedly opposed to giving the spontaneous movement a politically conscious, planned character. It is opposed to the Party marching at the head of the working class, to the Party raising the masses to the level of political consciousness, to the Party leading the movement..." (Stalin: Foundations of Leninism)

RADIO

DAILY Broadcasts in English from Radio Peking: 9.30 pm-10.30 pm, 47, 45, 32 metre bands; 10.30 pm-11.30 pm, 47, 45, 42, 32 metre bands.

Daily Broadcasts in English from Radio Tirana: 6.30 am-7.00 am, 31, 42 metre bands; 4.30 pm-5.00 pm, 31, 42 metre bands; 6.30 pm-7.00 pm, 31, 42 metre bands; 8.30 pm-9.00 pm, 31, 42 metre bands; 10.00 pm-10.30 pm, 31, 42 metre bands.

Daily Broadcast in English from Hanoi: 9.00 pm-9.30 pm, 19 metre band.

A Glimpse of the Future

score even greater victories in socialist construction. A major factor in the rapid advance is that Albanian women for the first time in their country's history have been set free. A mighty force has been unleashed in factories, schools and on the land.

On a visit to the Tractor Spare-Parts Factory in Tirana, where soon they will be able to produce their own tractors, we came across a British measuring instrument. We asked the young woman worker, "What do you think of British instruments?" She replied, "All that is produced by the working class is good". This attitude is typical. The Albanian people have a tremendous regard and admiration for the skills of the British working class, including British football, particularly Manchester United.

It is difficult in a land where socialism is being built to single out one particular aspect that impressed us most. If we had to then our answer would be Albanian youth. The Albanian Party of Labour, from the very beginning, placed great faith and trust in the youth. They, in return, have responded to that. We saw their unwavering support for their Party, its leader, Enver Hoxha, and Marxism-Leninism. In building socialism they have no illusions about the dangers that face them but they have accepted the challenge that whoever dares to attack them will find them an invincible force.

A tour of Albania is in many ways a miniature of China. Everywhere there are Chinese machinery, equipment and technical experts. This is real international Marxist-Leninist cooperation and solidarity. Mao's name is greatly revered by all. His pictures and quotations are found in every factory along with pictures of Enver Hoxha and other giants of history.

During our visit we travelled to the four corners of the country, in every city, town and village, in every factory and farm we were given a tremendous welcome. On every occasion the people asked us to convey their warm fraternal greetings to the British working class.

Today in Britain, the world's oldest and most experienced working class, whose courage and skills second to none, stand at the crossroads. One is the old familiar road of exploitation, unemployment, bad housing and poverty plus the menace of fascism in Britain, which will lead to worker fighting worker while the employer grows richer. The other road is the one the Albanian people have taken. It is a road that requires workers to be of revolutionary thought and action. What we have seen and heard in Albania has convinced us that the Albanian Party of Labour is leading the people of Albania through struggle and revolution to the future. They have given us a glimpse of a new society and are creating a new man. They are marching towards communism.

The revolutionary road cannot be taken without a revolutionary party. As British workers we appeal to all fellow workers to join with us in building such a party so that we may together create a Britain that is worthy of the working class.

Long Live the Revolutionary Unity between the World's Working Class!
Long Live Marxism-Leninism!
Workers together the world over defeat the common enemy: Capitalism, world imperialism and Soviet revisionism!

NEW ALBANIA SOCIETY

Chairman: Professor Cyril Dford, F.R.S. (London University)

Secretary: Joanna Seymour.

AIMS: "To encourage friendship between the Albanian and British people."

"To disseminate knowledge about the country, its history, people and socialist development."

"To encourage personal scientific and cultural contacts."

"To study the political, economic and cultural policy of Albania."

Anyone wishing to become a member of the New Albania Society (annual subscription 10/-) should write to the Secretary, Miss Joanna Seymour, 217 Westbourne Grove, London, W.11.

Report of the Ninth Congress of the Chinese Party including Lin Piao's speech - one shilling post free

All copies of THE HISTORY OF ALBANIA have been sold; new stock awaited. There are still a few copies of the novel, THE WEDDING (Albania old and new) - four shillings and sixpence post free. Classics by Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Tsetung available.

Open Saturdays - Post Orders

BELLMAN BOOKSHOP 155 FORTRESS ROAD
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BACK IN 1965 the then Labour controlled Camden Council through a way of dealing with "problem families" - put them in slum tenement in London's East End and make them the responsibility not of the Housing Committee but the Welfare Committee which would then try to 'reform' them.

What are "problem families"? Any family who cannot afford £9 a week for a council house, which is the lowest rent for new council houses in Camden, or any of the many families in North London who have been declared redundant or who cannot afford the latest rent increases.

This process of "reform" consisted in employing an official who has threatened tenants with violence if they dare to make trouble. He is reported to have told one tenant that his "place would be surrounded one night when there were no witnesses to see what happened" and on another occasion he threatened to smash the camera of someone who wanted to supply evidence of the conditions in which these tenants were living.

MYTHS OF BOURGEOIS SOCIETY

ONE of the subjects bourgeois sociologists are fond of writing about is what are workers to do with all the leisure time on their hands as a result of the shortening of the working day through rising productivity? We are presented with a picture of working class families trying to decide what to do with themselves to fill in all that spare time when a couple of days a week will be all that is necessary to produce the goods society requires.

A recent report by the Amalgamated Union of Engineers and Foundry Workers shows just how phoney this problem is. Instead of workers finding a "golden age of leisure" bursting upon them they are increasingly spending their evenings and week-ends at the factory bench.

The amount of overtime now being worked in an effort to keep up with rising prices while pay rates are frozen is reaching a level which is serious in its effects both on the private lives of workers and the country's economy.

We hear Wilson arguing that anti-trade union legislation is in the interest of Britain, and even of the working class itself! This is too patent a lie to require examination. It is like the lie that immigration restriction on solely racialist grounds is in the country's interest. It is only in the interest of those who want to use racialism to divide the working class and want to make black workers the scapegoats for Government failure to provide jobs and houses.

CPB(ML) holds Worker-Student Study Session

A VERY successful study session was held on Saturday, 31st May, at which militant student leaders from Sussex, Oxford, LSE and other universities and colleges met with industrial workers and trade union officials to discuss worker-student co-operation.

A draft Action Programme and Analysis of the Student Movement in Britain had been prepared as a basis for exchange on the correct line of political struggle for student leaders. It was agreed that while the student movement was progressive, it could only become revolutionary when united with the working masses.

The class character of the educational system was laid bare and the need for bringing home to students the main contradiction with the monopoly capitalist imperialist state was stressed. The question of the appalling conditions of students at technical colleges and colleges of technology was raised.

The point was made that Marxist-Leninists operating as individuals in the student movement would not be able to give a correct line. Only a Marxist-Leninist Party could do this. This point was demonstrated by the fact that only under the auspices of the CPB(ML) could such an exchange between students and workers on how to build a revolutionary movement have taken place.

(A full report on this meeting and the results of the discussion will be given in the July issue of THE WORKER.)

In spite of this kind of intimidation the tenants of these "welfare houses" in dockland, with the support of the St. Pancras United Tenants Association, have begun to protest about repairs never done, sewage overflowing into rooms and appalling conditions generally. They have begun a struggle for the demolition of these council buildings and the rehousing of all tenants in modern, decent houses.

On April 30th they attended the Camden Council meeting to complain. The only response from both Labour and Tory members was a call for the police who attacked the tenants, including women and children, and threw them out of the chamber.

The tenants are continuing the fight. They are learning that the slums like council buildings, Poplar, will continue to exist and that there can be no solution of the housing problem as long as councillors Labour, Tory, Liberal or revisionist 'Communist', serve the interests of money lenders, landlords and bosses and not the interests of tenants and workers.

In the last thirty years the amount of overtime worked by the average factory employee has risen twelve times, from thirty minutes a week to six hours. This has cancelled out all efforts to cut down the working week. So much for a hundred years of struggle around the issue of the eight-hour day!

If we take into account the increase in the working day caused through homes being located at further distances from places of employment and the extent of double-jobbing the available leisure time will have been found to have decreased considerably.

Because of overtime the British worker's working week is longer than that of workers in most industrial countries - longer than in the US and even in West Germany. The British worker puts in nine weeks of working days longer than the Swedish worker! (Which takes care of another myth, the tea-swilling work-shy British labourer.)

WORKERS NEED THEIR OWN POLITICAL PARTY

Extract from the General Rules of the International Working Men's Association written by Karl Marx and adopted in September 1871, at the London Conference of the INTERNATIONAL Working Men's Association. They were based on the Provisional Rules drawn up by Marx in 1864, when the First International was founded.

"Considering that the emancipation of the working classes must be conquered by the working classes themselves; that the struggle for the emancipation of the working classes means not a struggle for class privileges and monopolies, but for equal rights and duties, and the abolition of all class rule... For These Reasons - "The International Working Men's Association has been founded. It declares: "That all societies and individuals adhering to it will acknowledge truth, justice, and morality as the basis of their conduct towards each other and towards all men, without regard to colour, creed, or nationality; . . . Rule 7a. "In its struggle against the collective power of the possessing classes the proletariat can act as a class only by constituting itself a distinct political party, opposed to all the old parties formed by the possessing classes. "This constitution of the proletariat into a political party is indispensable to ensure the triumph of the social Revolution and of its ultimate goal; the abolition of classes.

"The coalition of the forces of the working class, already achieved by the economic struggle, must also serve, in the hands of this class, as a lever in its struggle against the political power of its exploiters.

"As the lords of the land and of capital always make use of their political privileges to defend and perpetuate their economic monopolies to enslave labour, the conquest of political power becomes the great duty of the proletariat."

We need your help to make THE WORKER a success. We need your criticism, comments and financial support. Contributions in the way of articles or money should be sent to:

The Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist),
156 Fortess Road, London, NW5.

If you would like to subscribe to THE WORKER for a year, please fill in the form below, accompanying it with a cheque or PO for 10/- covering the cost of 12 copies and postage.

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