

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Booming profits herald Phase 3

AS Heath prepares to bludgeon working people with 'Phase Three' of his incomes fraud, his friends on the Price Commission have agreed another round of increases which will affect the wage packet of every family in the country.

On Monday the Commission sanctioned 3 per cent rises for every product made by

by Socialist Worker Political Correspondent

Cadbury Schweppes, the massive food and confectionary group.

Cadbury Schweppes brought tears to the eyes of the Price Commission with the 'desperate circumstances' in which the company was placed by rising commodity prices. No doubt the Commission did not notice the half-year profit figures published by

Cadburys only three days before the price rises were agreed.

Profits were up nearly 30 per cent from £10.5 million to £13.6 million. The Daily Express commented: 'Life has never been sweeter for thousands of shareholders in Cadbury Schweppes.'

It has been a wonderful week for shareholders everywhere as results have poured in from the board-

rooms and more 'co-operation' is reported from meetings between Heath and the TUC leaders.

Shareholders in newspapers and associated industries have had a particularly good week. The Thomson Organisation (Times, Sunday Times and many local papers) increased profits by 66 per cent from £3.3 million to £5.5 million. The bulk of this increase came from increased advertising and from Thomson's speculation in North Sea Oil. United Newspapers, another massive local newspaper group, increased profits over the last six months from £1.9 million to £4.1 million—a 120 per cent increase.

Both newspaper groups, along with the Express (Beaverbrook) and Daily Mail (Associated Newspapers) have applied for price increases for their newspapers on the grounds that their suppliers are putting up their prices. Their suppliers are doing very nicely too. The Dickinson-Robinson group of paper suppliers announced profits increased from £6.4 million to £9.1 million and similar figures have come from Bowaters, the newsprint suppliers.

But the biggest successes of the week have come from the giant builders and their suppliers. George Wimpey, the biggest builders in the country, announced profits up from £5.5 million last year to an incredible £12.8 million this year.

John Laings, the third largest, pushed first half profits up from £3.2 million to £5.6 million. Redlands, the big building materials group chaired by the 'mad axeman' Lord Beeching, announced profits of £20.5 million (compared with £12.3 million last year and £7.2 million when the Tories came to power), and the profits of another big building supplier, Ready Mixed Concrete, are up 43 per cent on the half year—to more than £7 million.

A lot of this is going straight into the pockets of shareholders. A Financial Times survey last week announced that the highest increase in dividends was in the contracting industry—a fantastic 36 per cent in a year of what the employers describe as 'penal dividend restraint'.

BIG BACKING FOR 24

AS THE SHOW TRIAL of 24 North Wales building workers—ordered and arranged by the big building employers and the Tory government—kicked off on Wednesday, building workers responded with industrial protest action in the main centres up and down the country.

At the massive new courthouse in Shrewsbury on Wednesday six of the defendants, all of them secretaries or chairmen of Transport and Construction union branches, appeared to plead not guilty. The six are the ones facing conspiracy charges for organising effective picketing during last year's official building workers' strike.

Early in the morning small delegations of trade unionists were outside the courthouse to pledge their support. Coaches bringing trade unionists, socialists and communists from all over the country arrived for a demonstration through the town in the afternoon.

Solidarity marches were also staged in London and Edinburgh. In London some 20 major building sites staged half-day stoppages against the trial and in defence of the right to picket.

DEMONSTRATION

These included McInerney's Finsbury Park, Cubitt's Thamesmead and Mondial House, Laing's YMCA, Taylor Woodrow Keybridge House and scaffolders working on the Chelsea football stadium.

In Edinburgh 10 sites shut down including McAlpines, Taylor Woodrow, Dalkeith Road and Tensa. They were joined in a 400-strong demonstration through the city by the strikers from Laing's Heriot Watt University job. They had voted to strike in support of the North Wales 24 but went on strike last week against the victimisation of a steward.

In Liverpool the dockers gave a magnificent fillip to the campaign by shutting down the docks for the day. Virtually every major building site on Merseyside was closed through strike action. All 2000 corporation building workers came out.

In Birmingham 18 major sites shut down. The strikers toured round with their coaches, pulling out other sites and offering men a lift to the demonstration in Shrewsbury.

The strikes and demonstrations on Wednesday are an important step in the campaign to defend the North Wales 24. But the trial will be a long one.

Solidarity and organisation and action will have to be kept going and stepped up throughout.

The police know their friends...

Pictures: Dave Evans (Report)



ALL pals together . . . police officers seen happily conferring with Martin Webster, leading member of the fascist National Front, which staged a racist march through Nottingham on Saturday. Anti-fascists—including local International Socialists—got different treatment. As they attempted to stage a counter-march, the police waded into them and arrested several demonstrators.



Attacked

These huge building profits have not come from building more houses. Less houses have been built this year than last year, and less council houses have been built than in any other year since 1963. The profits have come from unprecedented increases in the prices of private houses.

At the same time, people in council houses are being attacked once again. From this week onwards, almost all of them will have to pay rent increases of 50p a week. At the same time the interest rates paid to rich men who lend money to local authorities has been rising even faster. A shrewd investor in, say, Bristol Corporation, can net 15 per cent return AFTER TAX. His money for nothing will come direct from the working tenant's rent increases.

Underneath all the 'swings to the left' at Blackpool is the reality of Labour council's 'implementing' rent increases in order to pay for the moneylenders. The token resistance of a few councils is already collapsing. This week Hackney Council in London, after declaring two months ago that it would resist the increases, voted to grab the extra 50p from its tenants.

Prices up—profits up—dividends up—rents up: these are the slogans with which Heath and his millionaires' government prepare for Phase Three.

No wonder, then in spite of all the efforts of trade union leaders to hold them back, more and more workers are preparing to fight wage restraint with all the industrial strength at their command.

● Labour conference: page 15

Socialist Worker Industrial Conference

Belle Vue, Manchester
Sunday 11 November

Admission 10p
Details from IS Industrial Department
8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN



'SPECULATORS' BID TO EVICT MINERS: PICTURE REPORT PAGE 8

Union boss lashes welders

by Dave Peers

WALLSEND:—1000 welders at the Swan Hunter shipyards are locked in battle with management and the leaders of their own union, the Boilermakers Society.

The welders have been denounced as 'anarchists' by union president Dan McGarvey and their shop stewards have had their credentials removed by the union's Tyne district committee. The strike is in its fourth week and already more than 1000 other workers have been laid off.

The dispute began when 10 welders in the Neptune yard were sacked for refusing to use iron-powder electrodes, but this battle has been building up for the past five years.

Until the consortium was established in 1968 the welders were the best-organised and best-paid in the yards.

While all the other sections of the Boilermakers were offered a wage rise, the welders received a lump sum of £30 for every £1 a week by which



McGarvey: 'anarchist' smear

their average earnings were reduced. The sums involved went as high as £500 for certain individuals.

The welders voted against it and they struck against it. But the deal was carried because McGarvey put it to a ballot vote of the entire membership in the yards.

Since then the welders have been isolated again and again, their earnings have stagnated and many are still earning less than five years ago.

Insist

Though other sections of the Boilermakers Society have seen their incomes rise, the Tyne has become the worst-paid shipbuilding river in the country. In nearby Sunderland, for example, earnings are £10 to £15 a week higher.

The welders decided this imposed self-sacrifice had gone on long enough. They insist on a separate negotiating procedure and bonus system, to bring them an increase of at least £10 a week when the present agreement runs out in February. To pursue this claim they decided to ban overtime and the use of iron-powder electrodes.

When the district committee removed the credentials of the welders' shop stewards, a stormy mass meeting of the strikers unanimously decided to recognise no leaders other than their stewards and to allow no one else to negotiate on their behalf. Payment of union subscriptions is being withheld until the stewards' credentials are restored.

Massive police raids on militants

POLICE throughout Britain have been using the recent bombings in London, Birmingham and elsewhere to witchhunt Irish militants, to terrorise squatters and other 'fringe' community groups, and to collect information about left-wing political groupings, including the International Socialists.

From all over Britain, reports have

Socialist Worker Reporter

flooded into Socialist Worker about the police raids last weekend. In Liverpool, the offices of the paper Big Flame were raided. The police confiscated leaflets addressed to Ford workers in the Liverpool area about

the recent strike at Dagenham.

In Birmingham, police concentrated on known Irish militants. Edward Caughey, branch secretary of the AUEW construction section, was raided at 6.45 in the morning by six police officers who searched his house and took away a mass of material in plastic sacks. In a full report to AUEW head office, Mr Caughey alleges that all the material concerned his work as union branch secretary.

Last Friday, Terence Lawlor, a Sinn Fein member in Ladywood, Birmingham, came home from work to find seven special branch officers searching his house. They hauled him off to the police station and tried familiar tactics to squeeze some information about the bombings.

According to Lawlor's statement to the National Council for Civil Liberties: 'One policeman said they would go round the Irish pubs and put out rumours that I was an informer. He said that I would have a bomb or a bullet inside two weeks... Another officer then became friendly and insisted on shaking my hand; as we shook hands I heard a faint click in the next room. There was a strange mirror on the wall—I am sure this was a two-way mirror and I had been photographed shaking the officer's hand.'

The Hertfordshire police reacted with astonishing hysteria following the finding of two smoke bombs at Welwyn Garden City last week. They went on the hunt for Adrian Rice, a member of IS in Coventry, at the Watford home of his parents. They searched the house ruthlessly.

Establish

When they caught up with Adrian in Coventry on Sunday morning they questioned him for three hours and showed him four items which they had taken away from his parents' home. These are believed to be the 'four items' which the police are not specifying, but which could 'establish a link with the bombings in the Midlands'—Guardian, 1 October.

These four items are: An empty cigarette packet, a roll of insulating tape, a length of electricity flex, and a lamp.

Adrian's brother Mick, an IS and AUEW member in Birmingham, was also raided on Saturday night and questioned about the items found at his parents' home. The police also quizzed him about his union activities. His union branch has protested to the police authorities.

In Hemel Hempstead five CID Crime Squad men raided the homes of all connected with the local branch of the Anti-Internment League, including members of the International Socialists and Sinn Fein. The raids started at 8am and the police were armed with search warrants for 'explosives and related substances'. They took papers and contact lists.

In London the police devoted most of their raids to groups with no connection either with Ireland or with bombing activity. Three houses occupied by organisers of the street theatre and local community group Interaction were raided.

The socialist organisation Workers' Fight also had to surrender its subscription list and files. Although almost all of these were later returned, the police have undoubtedly copied them.

The police also used the opportunity to terrorise 400 squatters at Charrington Road, Kentish town, with dawn raids, in which they were supported by a mobile canteen which served them breakfast.

'Come and see us' says new bookshop

THE NEW International Socialists bookshop has opened in Finsbury Park, North London. IS Books has been held back for a long time by working only as a mail order business.

The new shop is in an area easily reached from all over London. There will be greater opportunities for London branches and individual members to buy socialist literature from our expanded stock.

The larger premises and increased staff can dispatch mail orders to the provinces more efficiently. With a large number of pamphlets planned for the future, this is a particularly good moment for the shop to open.

The bookshop will also serve as a distribution centre for Socialist Worker and other IS literature. Most important it will act as a 'shop window' for the organisation. Although the stock covers general socialism, social sciences, history and novels, the emphasis is on IS literature and Trotskyism.

The shop can be a place where the local population, IS supporters and Socialist Worker readers can browse, drink coffee, discuss politics and find out about forthcoming meetings.

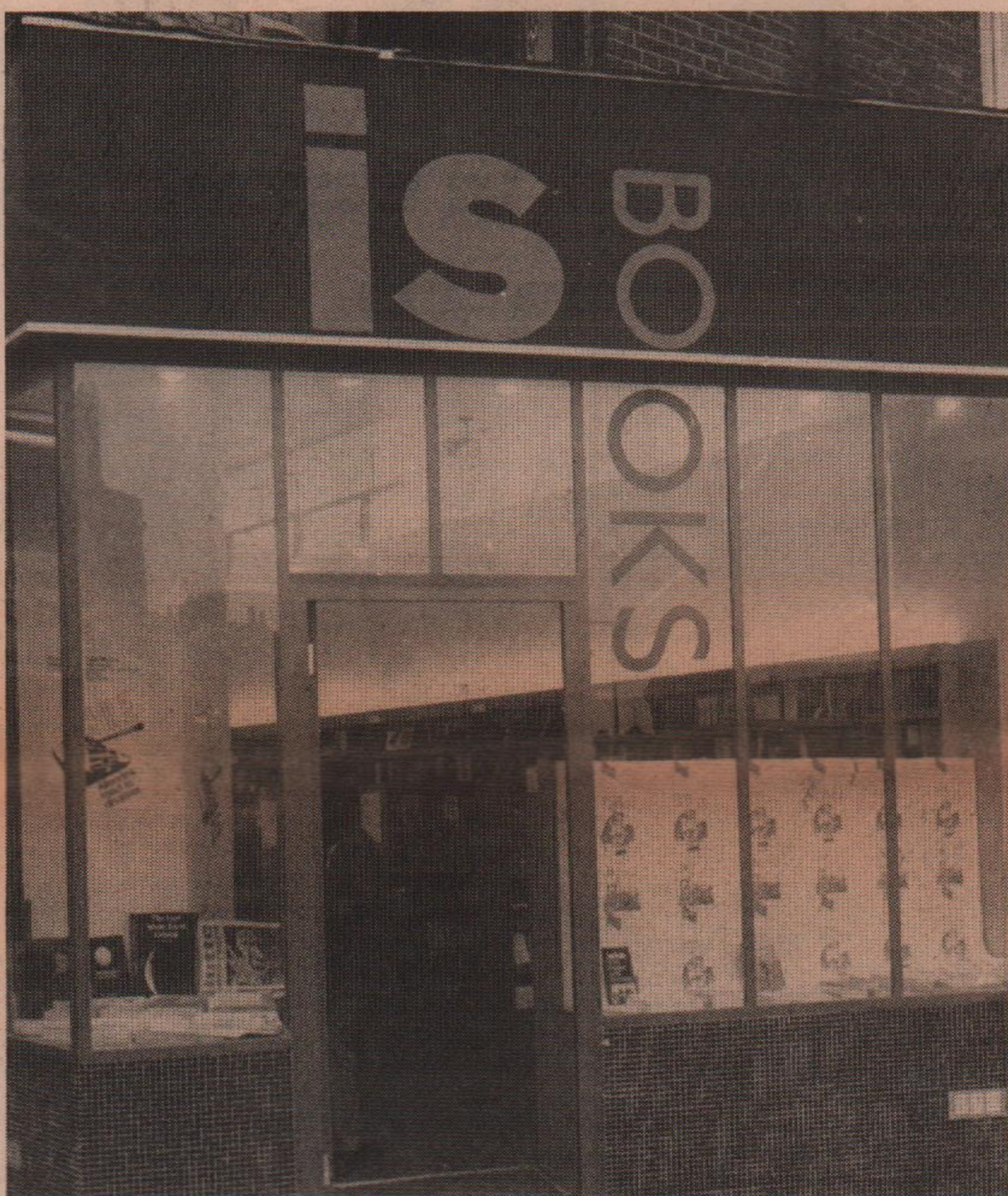
We hope that IS branches will make sure we get information about their activities and will publicise the shop in their localities so that it will be really successful and useful to the organisation.

Provisionally the opening times will be 10-6 Tuesday-Saturday with late opening on Thursday for collection of papers. Posters advertising the new shop are available free for outside publicity. 10p each for sticking on your own walls.

The shop, at 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 2DE (tel: 01-802 6145), can be reached in less than a minute from Finsbury Park Tube station—turn left at Seven Sisters Road. It is close to The Rainbow theatre and Arsenal football ground. It is also on 15 bus routes, two Green Line bus routes, and British Rail (Kings Cross line) at Finsbury Park.

We hope to see all the readers of Socialist Worker in the next few months—but not all at once please!

Fergus Nichol



Outside and inside the new IS bookshop



STRIKERS EVICTED FROM WORKS

FIFTY workers at Axel Johnson at Wokingham have been on strike for four weeks in an attempt to get improvements in the company's bonus scheme. At present shop-floor workers lose about £5 a week when the firm does not have enough work.

A strike committee has now been set up to conduct the day-to-day running of the strike. Last week management tried to stop the men

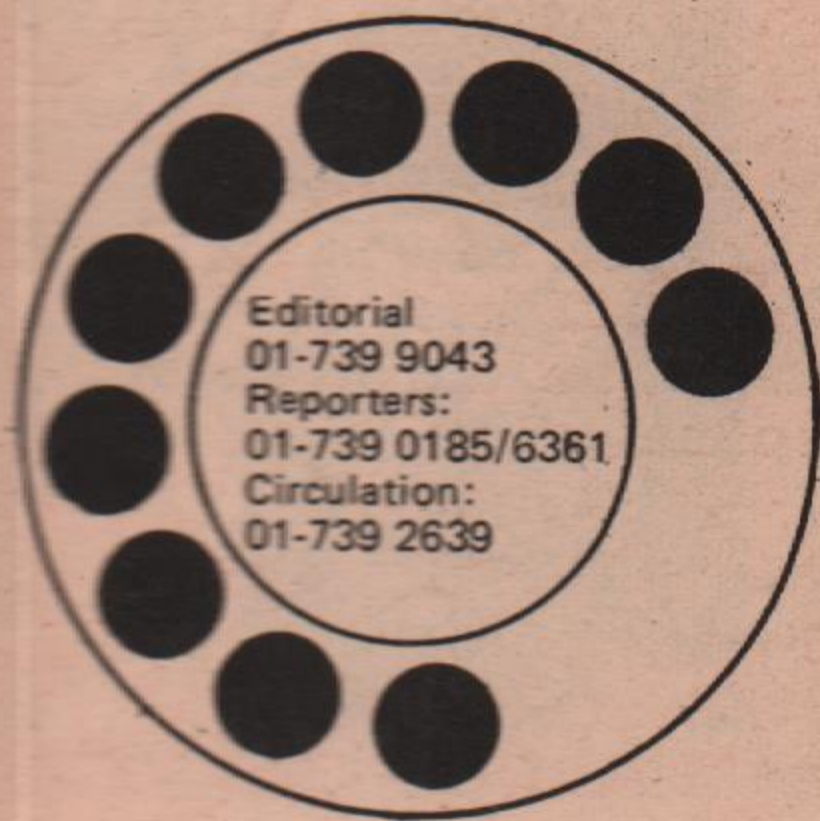
SW Reporter

using the firm's canteen. The workers stayed put until they were given an office with a telephone.

But last Thursday they found that staff had lit boilers for the central heating. The strikers stopped this by removing the fuses. In response the manager called the police to remove all strikers from the factory.

The workers are winning plenty of support from local trade unions. They are also attempting to get support from other workers in an attempt to fight back against the Axel Johnson Group, and their shipping line. In the meantime the men in Wokingham are prepared for a long fight.

Please send donations to: S Butcher, 45 Arundel Road, Woodley, Reading, Berks



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That 'liberal' schools report that boosts the Powellites

FASCISTS, Powellites and racials all over Britain got a boost last week from the House of Commons—with the publication of a Select Committee report on the education of black children.

Behind a wispy smokescreen of liberalism, the committee supported the most outrageous of Powell's 'predictions': that 'racial relations could reach a state of explosion'.

The word 'explosion' was used in the headlines of almost every national daily newspaper the morning after the committee's reports. The Daily Telegraph, which employs the chairman of the Select Committee, Mr William Deedes, Tory MP for Ashford, started its main story as follows: 'Mr Enoch Powell... is triumphantly vindicated by a parliamentary report published yesterday.'

The report argues that the 'crisis' is caused because the Department of Education does not publish the real numbers of blacks in Britain's schools. Instead the department lists as 'immigrants' only those who have lived

by Paul Foot

in Britain for less than 10 years.

Such attitudes, argues the committee, 'may prove disastrous, for they could have the effect of launching into our society children ill-equipped in language and general education to compete with their contemporaries in an advanced society.'

The committee does not seem to have noticed that the vast majority of all children in Britain's schools, black and white, leave school 'ill-equipped in language and general education'. This is not because no one knows the numbers or the extent of the problem, but because a society based on making profit for a few is not interested in a decent education for all.

Of course there are special language and educational problems for some of the black children in our schools. Of course this requires more money, more teachers, more classroom space, more

and better books.

The reasons why these are not provided are the same reasons why the entire education system is rotted and corrupted by class. It is the grossest hypocrisy for the committee to argue that these things are not done because the education authorities underestimate how many black kids there are in schools.

They know perfectly well that all their recommendations for more expenditure on education for blacks will never be implemented—not because of the numbers of blacks in the schools but because the people who control industry and finance are against all workers' education.

The committee preserves its liberal image by making recommendations for reform. But by talking about 'crisis' and 'explosion' from the large number of black children in schools, it panders to Enoch Powell.

They are not all Tories. The committee has Labour MPs, including two veteran 'liberals' on the race issue: Guy Barnett (Greenwich) and Bill Wilson (Coventry South). The report of the committee is, apparently, unanimous.

RENT REBEL IS CHOPPED BY LABOUR

by Paul Holborow

DUDLEY:—Beattie Jones, leader of 8000 tenants in this Midlands area, was expelled from the Labour Party last week. The technical reason for the expulsion was that she stood for the council in the local elections last May against the Labour Party.

The real reason is that she has nothing but scorn for the so-called socialists who were elected to Dudley Council to fight rent increases and then promptly forgot their election pledges and caved into the Tory rent robbery.

Beattie, chairman of Dudley Tenants and Ratepayers Association, told Socialist Worker: 'The 1972 Labour Party conference passed a resolution pledging opposition to the Housing Finance Act and promising support for all those who refused to implement it. As usual, they were concerned more with fine words than real action.'

WARMONGERS

'We should oppose laws which bring poverty to millions of council tenants. I am sick and tired of socialists talking about socialism. It is about time they started to put it into practice.'

'The Labour Party is perfectly content to include warmongers like Brown and Healey in it but apparently not people like me who are fighting alongside ordinary council tenants against a vicious Act, in accordance with official Labour Party policy.'

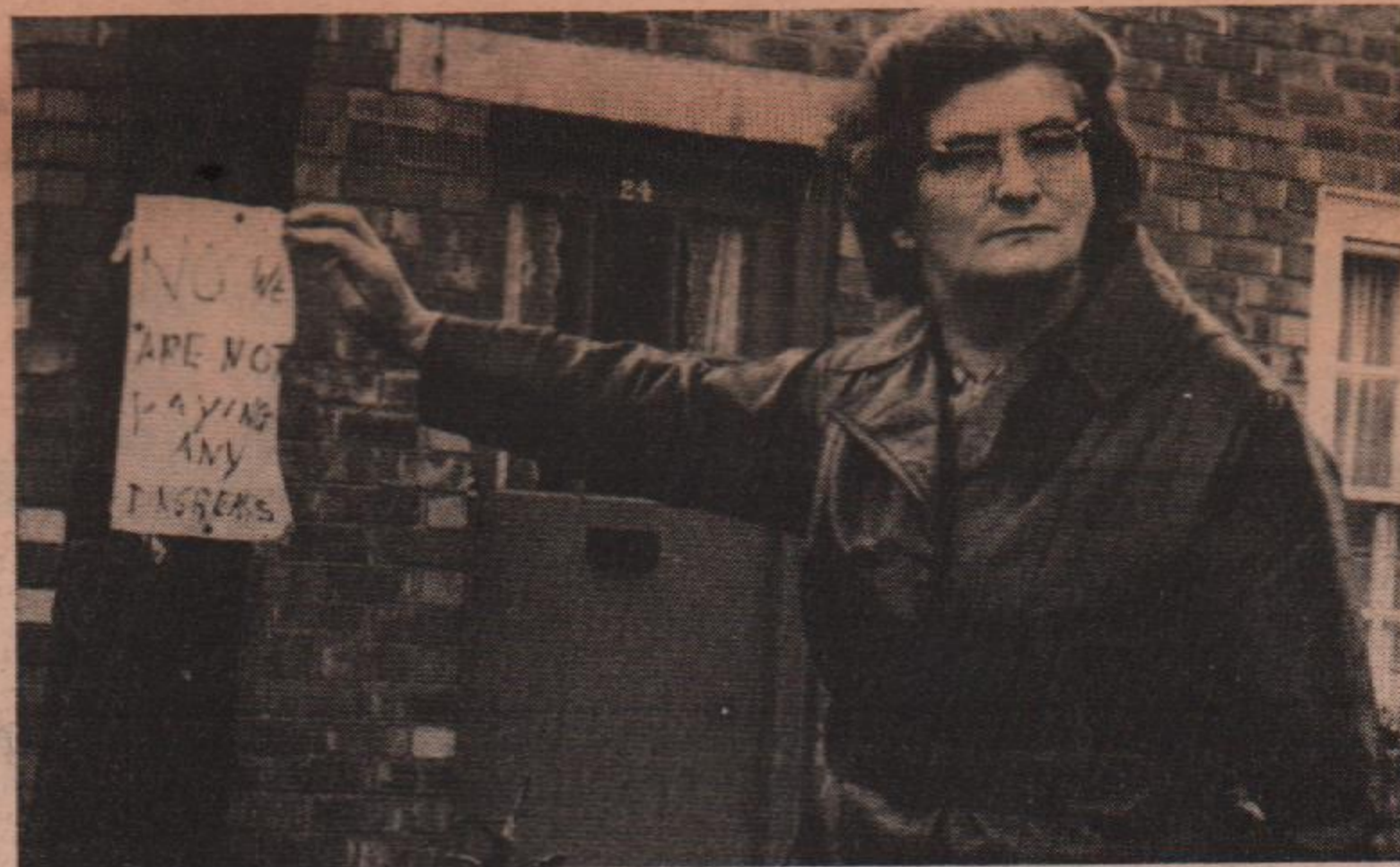
'I have been kicked out of the Labour Party because I would not do as I was told and toe the line—even though it was clearly hitting at working people's living standards.'

'Since our battle over the rents, tenants no longer look to the Labour Party. It is organisations like the International Socialists who although small have done more for us than the whole of the mighty Labour Party.'

'They have helped us print and publish 20,000 copies of a local paper for the tenants and in a whole number of ways have shown that their socialism is not just the talking variety. This is what working people who are wearied with the Labour Party's empty promises need now more than ever.'

Delegates returning from their annual beano at Blackpool this week would do well to consider the party's treatment of battling Beattie.

In next week's Socialist Worker, don't miss an important debate on the implications of the overthrow of the Allende government in Chile between Bob Rowthorn of the Communist Party and Duncan Hallas, national committee member of the International Socialists.



Beattie Jones: tired of empty pledges

Wives protest at home fire hazard

by Martin Shaw

HULL:—Housewives on the mammoth new Bransholme estate launched a protest this week after the latest in a series of fires which have swept through a number of houses.

As Mrs Pat Oakshott was taking her child to school she saw a house in Swinderby Garth go up in flames. Afterwards she and Mrs Maxine Norris decided that this time the matter should not be left.

There have been a number of fires recently in the Garths area of Bransholme, and last year a young baby was burnt to death near where Mrs Norris lives. Only last week there was a fatal fire in a similar house on Orchard Park Estate.

Each time, the house just goes up like matches, Mrs Oakshott said. Mrs Norris told me: 'It's the kiddies who get hit.'

Mrs Oakshott and Mrs Norris have now launched a petition and seem to have caused enough fuss to make the City Council begin to wake up to the problem. They are demanding that the new fire station planned for Bransholme should be given real priority.

In January it was reported it would be started in a year's time.

Now residents have heard it has been postponed for two years. At the moment fire engines have to cross the River Hull to get to Bransholme, and the nearest bridge is frequently up, which means a long detour and valuable minutes lost.

Bigger doubts arise about the houses themselves. There is only plasterboard between rooms and even between houses. Although the council says the structure is not inflammable, recent fires suggest this is just not true.

Mrs Oakshott says: 'It seems to us that these houses are death traps.' A representative from the builders, Wimpeys, as well as men from the corporation and the fire brigade, are to be asked to attend a meeting on Bransholme this week.

Mrs Phyllis Clarke, chairman of the council housing committee, has talked about 'human error' as the cause of the fires and the director of housing is sending a circular telling tenants to re-read the fire safety code.

But they have agreed to an investigation. It will be up to the tenants to make sure that it is thorough enough, and to make sure that the council and the builders answer all the questions.

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WHAT WE THINK

'LEGALISED ROBBERY' said Mr James Callaghan. He was not, as you might think, speaking of the Tory Rent Act. Rents go up again this week. Another 50p a week from the majority of council tenants as from last Monday, but that does not seem to worry Mr Callaghan too much.

No, the 'robbery' that concerns him is the proposal to re-nationalise, without further compensation, those public enterprises that were so profitable that the Tories disposed of them at bargain prices to their big business friends. Whatever happens to tenants, Callaghan is saying, big business must on no account be penalised.

It is useful to remember, when we hear how 'left wing' the Labour Party is nowadays, that men like Callaghan would dominate a new Labour government. It is useful too, to remember all the little Callaghans who control most of the important local authorities in the country. We have said it often enough before, but it bears repeating, these men and women could have killed the Tory Rent Act stone dead by a concerted refusal to operate it. Some of them said they would do just that. We all know what happened.

The current row about nationalisation has to be seen in this light. It is not only what is said that counts. It is above all who says it. 'Who can now take seriously, enquires an article in the New Statesman, 'a Labour promise to, say, abolish the House of Lords, get rid of public schools or end the iniquitous tied-cottage system? All three have appeared many times in manifestos and have never been carried out.' Exactly, and that is from a paper friendly to the Labour Party.

We are not saying that a Labour government would not nationalise anything. It might well take over, with generous compensation, certain industries that are becoming unprofitable or which require massive state funds to keep going. Shipbuilding and aircraft have been mentioned in this connection. What is certain is that such nationalisations, if they take place, will have nothing in common with socialism. The owners will be bought out and left free to invest the proceeds in more profitable fields and one or two new state-capitalist enterprises like the Bank of England or British Rail will be established.

And it can be predicted with complete confidence that a Labour government will not take over the really profitable sectors of industry, whatever may be decided at conference or promised in an election manifesto.

There are, of course, honest left-wingers in and around the Labour Party who still believe 'next time will be different'. After all, some of them say, now the big unions are on the left. Jack and Hughie will see to it that there is no repetition of the sell-outs of 1964-70. It is a tragic delusion. The real extent of the left-wing commitment of Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon can be gauged from their attitude towards a TUC deal with the Tory government. They both favoured continuing negotiations. They both think in terms of deals within the framework of capitalism.

It could not be otherwise. Without a fighting socialist party there is no prospect of a real attack on capitalism. The Labour Party is not and never has been such a party. In their hearts the Labour left-wingers know that is true. When will they draw the conclusion and join in the fight to build a revolutionary socialist party?

NAZI SUCCESSORS

'WHEN I hear the word culture,' said the German Nazi leader Goering, 'I reach for my revolver.' That is the authentic fascist spirit. It is alive today in Chile. The Nazi storm-troopers organised book-burning, a return to the barbarism of the middle ages. The armed thugs of the Chilean military junta do the same. 'While it could be fairly said that many of the books and magazines were left wing,' reported the BBC, 'your correspondent saw works by Agatha Christie and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle thrown into the flames.' There is logic in that. Workers who read may think. Better burn all their books.

It is not only books that are being destroyed. Wanted lists of working-class leaders are being posted with rewards for their capture, dead or alive. The fascist 'Fatherland and Liberty' organisation is setting up 'Death squads for the liquidation of suspected leftists.'

This is the regime that Heath and Home rushed to recognise, the regime that 'respectable' British newspapers like the Times and the Telegraph defend. 'Tell me who your friends are and I will tell you what you are.'

Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2



Mass march at LIP

DESPITE a day of torrential rain more than 80,000 people marched through the town on Saturday in solidarity with the struggle of the workers of the LIP watch factory against the proposed closures and sackings.

The LIP struggle has caught the imagination of French workers. From

from Richard Kirkwood,
Besancon, France,

June until 14 August, the LIP workers produced watches under their own control. They sold them in factories all over France and paid themselves. On 14 August, the CRS riot police

stormed the factory and expelled the workers. But the campaign continues. LIP is now on strike.

Today's demonstration was a massive gesture of solidarity. It was organised at the suggestion of the LIP workers and supported reluctantly by the main union federations. From all over France buses and special trains converged on the field outside Besancon where the march began.

There were protest strikes on Friday in many of the factories in the area. The colleges, high schools and even secondary schools in the area were closed as their students joined the protest.

The march was preceded by an evening of entertainment while LIP workers sold the remaining watches and roasted whole pigs on the spit—pigs which were gifts from sympathetic peasants. Stalls displaying aspects of the struggle and of other strikes were set up around the field.

The two union federations, the Communist-controlled CGT and the CFDT—the main union at LIP—had stalls, as did many socialist groups, including Rouge, paper of the banned Ligue Communiste and Lutte Ouvriere.

The CGT attempted to stop the revolutionaries putting up stalls. When they failed to persuade the LIP workers, they took down their own stall in the middle of the night and retired in a huff.

The marchers represented every part of France and every sort of worker: Renault car workers from Paris, railwaymen from Marseilles, miners from Lorraine, peasants from Brittany and the Larzac (where they are fighting an army take-over of their land), hospital workers, postmen, teachers, even a group of funeral parlour workers.

The dirt on Mr Agnew...

US Vice-President Spiro Agnew is frantically protesting his innocence of corruption charges. It would be charitable to assume that he is telling the truth—there is so much blood and dirt on his hands that there can be little room for more.

Agnew became Vice-President in 1968, at a time when black militancy was growing alongside massive opposition to the war in Vietnam. Whether Agnew did anything illegal as Governor of Maryland we do not presume to know.

But he was quite within his 'legal' rights when he maintained charges against black leader Rap Brown and kept him in prison, even though a Presidential Commission had admitted that Brown had played no part in provoking riots.

Friend

Agnew was as hostile to the peace movement as he was to black militancy. He denounced the students and intellectuals who opposed the murder in Vietnam as 'an effete corps of impudent snobs who characterise themselves as intellectuals'.

Agnew has in general been a good friend of reactionary pro-American regimes throughout the world. But one particularly close to his heart is the military junta in Greece. Agnew's father was a Greek immigrant, and he has kept a close connection with his native land.

His friend and financial backer, Tom Pappas, worked hand in hand with the CIA in helping to organise the coup in 1967 which led to the smashing of the labour movement and massive waves of arrests.

In 1971 the US Congress voted against further military aid for Greece. Agnew promptly toured Greece and made numerous speeches in which he paid tribute to Greece's invaluable role in NATO. In the event, despite the Congress ban, aid to Greece was actually increased.

Attacks

Agnew has done a useful job for Richard Nixon. Nixon himself, by withdrawing from Vietnam and visiting Russia and Chile, has undoubtedly upset some of his long-time supporters who remember him as a red-baiter. Therefore to have a loud-mouthed right-winger like Agnew as a running mate was a great asset.

And when it came to the crunch, Nixon always stood by Agnew. When Agnew faced criticism from assorted liberals for his intemperate attacks on the peace movement, Nixon hastened to state: 'I am very proud to have the Vice-President with his Greek background in our administration, and he has done a great job for this administration.'

But thieves fall out and when the Watergate affair broke Agnew let friendly journalists know that he was planning to dissociate himself. Now Nixon may be looking for a way to get the knife into Spiro. But the real crimes go far beyond the terms of reference of any court of law.



The new Chile junta in session: vicious crackdown on workers' organisations

Under the jackboot

by Ian Birchall

CHILE is firmly under the jackboot of reaction. Political and trade union militants are being rounded up and interned without trial. Many have already been deported to remote islands in the Pacific Ocean.

One concentration camp has been set up in Dawson Island, in the extreme south of Chile, where the climate is most rigorous. Many of those who have not yet been arrested are tramping the streets, not daring to go home and having no friends to take them in.

A lucky few have taken refuge in the cramped conditions of foreign embassies. There are 350 refugees, including 100 children, in the Argentinian Embassy alone. The army are going into slum areas known for their militancy, rounding up prisoners, and shooting some at random.

For the moment the most reactionary elements are being given their head. But behind the reign of terror the new regime is putting through changes that will be even more fundamental in their impact. Despite initial promises, it is clear that their basic aim is to wipe out all of the limited gains won by workers under the Allende government.

'Illegal'

Factories which had been occupied by workers are being handed back to their former owners. The same is happening with estates taken over in so-called 'illegal' occupations.

But the American copper companies, nationalised in 1971, are not to be handed back. Probably this is because the nationalisation was voted unanimously by Congress, including representatives of parties now sympathetic to the military regime. But negotiations are being opened immediately to discuss compensation.

Workers will certainly face a disastrous cut in their standards of

living. A cost of living increase scheduled for October will not now be given. Yet this would at best have helped to make up for the inflation of more than 200 per cent over the last year.

For the moment supplies have improved—clear evidence that previous shortages were the result of deliberate sabotage by the middle class. But the junta have no long-term answer to food shortages and rising prices.

And to make sure workers do not fight back, the junta have banned the Chilean trade unions—one of the strongest trade union movements in South America—as well as all the political parties that claimed to represent working-class interests.

At grass-roots level every attempt will be made to weed out militants. In an atmosphere of suspicion and informing, this will present little difficulty. As one big farmer told a French journalist: 'My workers are satisfied with their lot. There may be about 10 who have "bad attitudes" and don't work. Now it may be possible to get rid of them.'

But once the bloodbath stage is over, the junta face problems. Already there are signs of tension among them. The government has already put a stop to the practice of public book-burning.

Although this was no doubt popular among the regime's backwoods supporters, it was getting a bad image abroad. And book-

burning does not offer a serious prospect of modernising an economically backward country.

There is likely to be some kind of struggle for political power between the Christian Democrats (who have some commitment to modernisation and reform) and the open fascists of the Fatherland and Freedom group.

If such a conflict does emerge, it would be disastrous for the working-class movement to take sides, to align itself with the more 'progressive' sections of the ruling class. Yet, on the experience of Greece, Spain and many other countries, it is likely that the Communist Party leadership will argue for just such a course.

If a real resistance is to be built, it must be built on the basis of a working-class programme

Dead End

The potential for resistance does exist. Last week several hundred people turned the funeral of the Communist poet Neruda into a demonstration, and sang the Internationale in the streets of Santiago. The leadership of the MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left) are reported to be safe and in hiding.

One danger is that the MIR may turn back to the Guevara-style guerrilla struggle which they began some years ago. But this has been proved a dead end in many South American countries.

In Chile, where the majority of the people live in towns, it offers little hope. The real job is the rebuilding of the Chilean labour movement.

Confine

The local press and the local Gaullists had mounted a campaign to frighten the town. Posters warned against the 'red hordes' who would wreak havoc and destruction.

The local middle class deserted the town and many shops closed up for the weekend. Those who stayed lined the route of the march in their thousands to cheer. The march was peaceful and cheerful.

The union leaderships tried to confine the march to slogans demanding 'serious negotiations' or asking that the bosses learn to behave 'responsibly'. But thousands of workers had not come all that way for those mealy-mouthed demands. 'Workers' power—at LIP and everywhere' was the slogan in all sections of the march.

Usually the union leaderships ban the revolutionary groups from the demonstration, leaving them to tail the march separated from the main union contingents by a wall of stewards. This time, perhaps for the first time, they failed to persuade the local organisers and the revolutionaries made up an integral part of the demonstration.

Even in the union section the Communist Party's shouts in favour of a socialist-Communist coalition government were drowned by the chant of 'Only one solution—the revolution'.

This was a demonstration of solidarity which will show the French government and bosses that they will not beat LIP without a fight.

CLOCKED OUT

LIP is not the only struggle in Besancon. Two weeks ago, workers—most of them women—at the Kelton watch factory (part of the US-owned Kelton-Timex empire) struck over wages and conditions.

This is the first strike in the 15-year existence of the firm's Besancon plant. Many of the girls on the assembly line were just getting the legal minimum wage—and then only by including productivity bonus.

There is no set rate in Kelton. Girls doing the same job or on the same grade can get up to 8p an hour more or less than each other. No one knows how the so-called 'scientific' rates are fixed.

Conditions are equally bad, with the girls working almost on top of each other. The girls had had enough and, spurred on by the revolutionary socialists in the factory, they came out. Last week they went back with only limited gains in wages and conditions but one major gain—a readiness to prepare to go on fighting.



LABOUR'S INDEPENDENT WEEKLY

pre-LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE ISSUE

Tribune

EIGHTPENCE

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Smash the Labour Party!

LAST Thursday the chairman of the Liberal Party, Cyril Carr, told the Liberal Party Assembly that their chief target in the future would be the Labour Party. As was expected, he joined forces with the editor of "The Times" — leading the Fleet Street pack, Dick Taverne and his campaigners and a whole host of other reactionary forces in Britain. In the next year we are guaranteed a flood of propaganda designed to do the maximum amount of damage to the Labour Party.

Why is this so? For we have been told ad nauseam by the Liberals, by the press and by many others that the Labour Party is already on its last legs: that it can never again present a credible electoral image. The Tory Party, so the story goes, despite its crass ineptitude, will still manage to beat the Labour Party into the ground at the next general election whenever it comes.

The facts are, however, different. Far from the Labour Party being irreparably damaged by internal dissension, it is rebuilding a useful unity on many important policies. It is now becoming crystal clear that the Common Market will be the major issue at the next general election and those who divided the party in its opposition to the terms of entry when the Tory Government was pushing through the EEC legislation have lost almost all of their credibility.

This is now becoming apparent to those who hoped that the

by RICHARD CLEMENTS

At the moment the political situation in Britain is too volatile for their liking. The electorate has seen private enterprise policies fail and fall miserably. They have been followed — after many U-turns by the Tory Government — with corporate-state policies which have the blessing of those parts of the City of London which recognise that desperate measures are needed to prevent a complete collapse. In these circumstances the growth of a socialist alternative in Labour's policies presents a maximum challenge.

Of course there are still those in the Labour Party who cling to the notion that "consensus" policies are the remedy, that talk of socialism will frighten off the electorate. There is no reality in that supposition as the last 20 years of political history in Britain have proved.

The major problem which the Left faces in Britain is to shed itself of the legacy of retreat which remains from the last period of Labour Government. That can only be done by continuing to revive the vigour of the whole Labour movement and ensuring that the very democracy, which The Times suggests we should despise, is used to give the whole movement the driving force which is needed to capture the imagination and support of the electorate.

Labour wins elections only when the electorate sees through the smokescreen of distortion and downright lies which is put down by the forces of reaction. It is not the speeches of the leadership which play the major part in that operation, but

inaccuracies that it could only have been the work of frightened men, says of the Left of the Labour Party: "They do not believe in social democracy, indeed they do not believe in democracy at all, except in the Soviet sense." It is back to the Churchillian propaganda of a Labour "Gestapo" — the scare tactics of the late forties.

As we have pointed out before, the Liberal "revival" plays an important part in the calculations of the reactionaries. The fact that the Liberal Party's policies are a mixture of Moral Re-armament and neo-fascist populism do not put them off. So desperate is the situation now confronting the Tory Government that any manner in which it can be relieved must be tried.

It is this very crisis which makes the reactionary forces so

Covered all over with gin

ONE of the most damaging facts to emerge against Spiro T Agnew, the Mafia's man in Maryland, was published in the Wall Street Journal on 14 September.

The paper detailed a number of gifts which the Vice-President had received from various rich gentlemen. Among other things, 'the liquor Cabinet at the Agnew household is kept full through the courtesy of a

friendly banker and wine connoisseur named Walter Jones.'

This sort of thing doesn't happen in Britain, as we know, so I was surprised to get a letter last week from a young man now working in France who says that during the summer he worked for James Burrough Ltd, of Kennington, South London, who make Beefeater gin.

The letter draws my attention to the Beefeater bottles which refer to Burrough as an 'independent family firm', apparently due to the fact that the firm is controlled by Alan and Norman Burrough, descendants of the original James Burrough, both of whom are millionaires many times over because they are the sons of their father.

Another part of the label says that the 'family keeps up personal contact with all its workers'. My correspondent tells me that trade union membership at Burroughs is completely forbidden, and that again and again the company has sacked workers who have tried to form trade unions.

Every Friday all the workers have to assemble in a hall to collect their wages. They stand in complete silence and humility waiting for their names to be called. They then walk up to the table behind which the 'family' are sitting, and, after receiving their wage packets, were expected to shout out in a clear voice: 'Thank you Mr Alan (or Mr Norman).'

Inside the packets are £18 for women and £28 for men for a 42-hour week, which is 'supplemented' by a profit-sharing scheme. Last year in a period of booming profits this scheme netted each worker an average of £40—about 80p a week.

'Oh, I forget to mention,' writes my correspondent, 'that Selwyn Lloyd, who a couple of years ago did a lot of work for the company—all five minutes of ceremonially "opening" part of the factory—gets gin supplied by the company. Some of the workers are even made to take it to his flat.'

The Right Honourable Selwyn Lloyd is Speaker of the House of Commons. He gets a free home and £13,000 a year.

Commenting on the Agnew revelations, the Wall Street Journal said: 'There is no law saying a Vice-President can't take groceries from a friend.'

The same applies in this country to a Speaker of the House of Commons.

Engineering

I UNDERSTAND there are some murmurings in the research department of the AUEW offices over the decision of the office manager, Peter Winter, apparently on the instructions of the executive, not to apply for a further year's work permit for their research officer, Peter Brodie. The head of the research department, Tony Banks, wants Brodie to stay, but the union has applied for a work permit for only a month, after which, Brodie has been told, he will have to 'make other arrangements'.

These 'other arrangements' could be uncomfortable. For Brodie came to Britain from America to avoid having to fight in Vietnam.

If his permit is not renewed, he will have to go back to a long prison sentence in the States. And if the AUEW does not apply for renewal of his permit, the Home Office will be only too happy to get rid of him.

DEALERS KEEP ON WHEELING

FOOD was in good supply at the Savoy Hotel on 20 September when Harry Cressman, chairman of the Bristol Street Group, welcomed the press to a celebration of his company's takeover of Griffiths Bentley.

'Thank you for joining us today,' he said. 'And as one of your customers may I congratulate the press on their fine media. You and your colleagues regularly refer to us as 'Motor Dealers' which certainly proves our £500,000 per year spent with you is effective and convincing.'

After this interesting reflection on the influence of advertising, Mr Cressman went on to talk about Rumbolds, the African seating company, which Bristol Street bought in 1965.

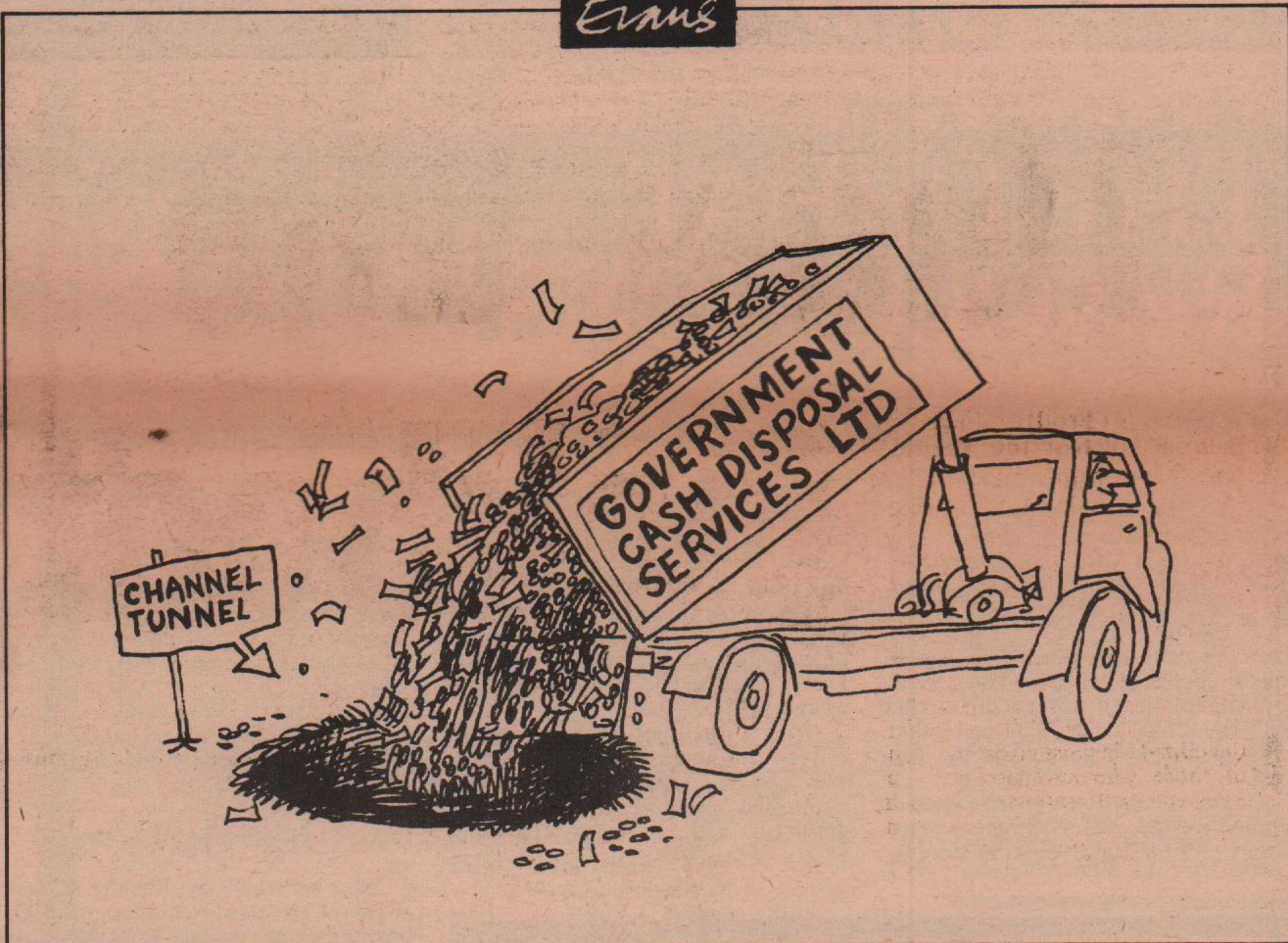
'It is selling profitably to airlines all over the world, including behind the Iron Curtain,' he said. 'As I speak today, Rumbolds' managing director is in Moscow and the sales director is in South Africa.'

THE South African Prime Minister, Vorster, is preparing his plans for total censorship of newspapers, plays and films, and is looking around for people to sit on the various censorship panels.

Anyone who has done some service to the cause of white racism in South Africa can apply, but preference will be given to the blind, the deaf and the dumb.

A parliamentary committee in South Africa heard evidence on 25 September that three of the country's five film censors are too old and infirm. One of the panel is stone deaf, and two others are so old that they have no idea what is going on.

One old lady spends most of her time in front of the screen shouting: 'Too much violence!' which surprises the other members since she is almost completely blind.



Scandal of factory deaths

BRIAN HARVEY, the Chief Inspector of Factories, opened his annual report for 1972, which was published two weeks ago, with a familiar sentence.

'It is again my pleasure to report a reduction in fatal accidents from 525 in 1971 to 468 in 1972. For the third year running I am able to say that this is the lowest figure recorded this century,' he wrote.

There is one slight problem however. The figures massively underestimate the true situation regarding

the hazards of work. Deaths and injuries recorded are based on reports made by management. And the reported figures are just not accurate.

To get near true figures you would have to add 40 per cent more incidents for manufacturing industry and at least 50 per cent for construction.

The Factory Inspectorate's report takes no account of the death and injury rate for building workers on the lump. Since the lump has gone on increasing over the past few years, so the unreported injuries and deaths have increased.

On a conservative estimate, 100 lump workers are killed and their deaths not reported every year. Realistic figures for the total number

of construction workers injured in the year would treble the true figure of total accidents.

In Pat Kinnersly's powerful new book, The Hazards of Work and How to Fight Them, which is due to be published soon, he gives the number of workers killed each year as 2000.

This staggering figure is obtained because Kinnersly, unlike the Chief Inspector of Factories, thinks it proper to include the number of workers who die from industrial diseases in addition to those killed in so-called accidents.

Kinnersly also describes the Factory Inspectorate's reporting methods as the 'laundering of statistics' and insists that they are deliberately designed to conceal the truth, not reveal it.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'A feature of the plant buildings at the new Grain power station on the Medway, Kent, is that they have no windows. It was considered that as the station is designed for round-the-clock operation, the disadvantages associated with catering for mixed daylight/artificial light conditions outweigh any advantages which daylight may have.'

CONSTRUCTION NEWS, 27 September.

Crossing the path of the CIA

ROGER CROSSLEY, who has in his time been secretary of the International Socialists branches at Loughborough, Kingston and Canterbury, tells me a curious story relayed on by his wife who is working in the British school in the Persian Gulf state of Bahrein.

The other day she was told by her headmaster to go down to the local police headquarters where they wanted to ask her some questions. A senior security officer asked her: 'Are you related to Roger Crossley?'

When she replied she was Roger's wife, the security officer exploded: 'He is a dangerous left-wing subversive!'

If he comes to Bahrein he will be thrown in jail!

The information about Roger, the security officer later disclosed, came not from the British government but 'from the Lebanon, where they know about these things.'

Perhaps the officer was referring to the American Central Intelligence Agency's substantial headquarters in Beirut, where they have a 'subversives' computer even better informed than the Agency's counter-insurgency headquarters in Frankfurt.

'Terrible

ones' take up arms



One evening in the summer of 1789 King Louis XVI of France returned to his palace at Versailles after a day's hunting. He wrote in his diary '14 July, nothing'. No other ruler ever made a bigger mistake.

That morning some 20 miles away in Paris a large crowd had broken into the barracks at the Hotel des Invalides and carried off the 30,000 muskets stored there. Then, reinforced by mutinous soldiers of the royal army, they stormed the great fortress of the Bastille. The head of the royal governor, the Marquis de Launey, was paraded round the streets on a pike.

'The capture of the Bastille seemed miraculous to an age accustomed to scoff at miracles. That a massive medieval castle strengthened with artillery and a garrison should have surrendered, after a few hours' fighting, to a civilian crowd stiffened by a few soldiers might well puzzle a professional mind,' wrote the historian J M Thompson.

'The day was, in fact, won by the moral force of the people. It was sympathy with the people which forced the garrison to surrender.'

The victory was not bloodless. At least 98 of the attackers were killed together with six of the defenders. But basically Thompson is right.

For King Louis was not short of troops. He had 270,000 regulars and had concentrated 20 regiments in and around Paris. A good proportion of these were foreign mercenaries, mostly German and Swiss, who the royal commanders regarded as especially reliable for use against the people.

This massive force proved useless. The French guards mutinied, so did sections of the artillery. All the soldiers were affected by the tremendous enthusiasm and hopes of the people of Paris for 'Liberty, Equality, Fraternity'.

The royal commander, Marshal de Broglie, evacuated Paris on the 15th. He could not, he told the King, rely on his men. 'Even the foreign regiments are of doubtful loyalty.' The old regime was finished. It was a turning point in world history.

THE GREAT REVOLUTIONS

by Duncan Hallas Part Four



Bread

The Paris revolution of 14 July 1789 did not, of course, come out of the blue, nor was it unorganised. It came after months of rioting in the cities. After the spring of 1789 there was hardly a town which had not seen one or more of these incidents or rebellions and they were doubly frequent in July.

The immediate cause was economic. The harvest of 1788 was bad and bread, the staple diet of the mass of the French people, was both scarce and dear. Speaking of the Paris workmen the French historian George LeFebvre wrote: 'For him to live, it was estimated that bread

should cost no more than two sous a pound. In the first half of July the price was twice this figure.'

But there had been scarcity, indeed famine, before. Bread riots were nothing new. What was new was the fact that this time the riots coincided with a profound political crisis. The royal government could not go on in the old way. The developing capitalist class would not go on in the old way.

Of the 23 million Frenchmen and women on the eve of the great revolution, about 400,000 were nobles.

There were also about 100,000 clergy, including monks and so on. These were the first two 'estates', the legally privileged. The other 22½ million made up the Third Estate.

The nobles were at the top of the social heap. They had a monopoly of commissions in the army and navy. Every government minister but one was a noble in 1789.

They monopolised the higher offices of the church. Every bishop was a noble and the church they controlled 'enjoyed immense wealth, privileges and authority; the value of its properties represented some-

thing between two-fifths and a half of the landed wealth in every province and it was exempt from all taxation.'

All nobles were exempt from the most important kind of tax and, in practice, virtually all direct taxation. Some nobles were immensely wealthy, some relatively poor. All got their income, apart from salaries from positions in church and state, from the feudal dues extorted from the peasants.

Destitution

The peasants, by far the largest group of the population, were at the bottom of the social heap. Most of them were legally free although one million were still serfs. Their economic position varied from ordinary poverty to absolute destitution.

Society rested on the backs of the peasants. They paid rent in money or goods to the feudal landowner. They paid him to inherit their holding, they paid him for the privilege of transferring it by exchange.

They were compelled to use the lord's mill, winepress and bakery at

his charges or to pay for exemption. In the event of a dispute the matter was settled in the lord's own private court.

The peasants were compelled to pay the tithe, the tax to the church, usually in produce. They were subject to forced labour without pay for road repairs and various other 'public works'.

On top of all this they were mercilessly squeezed by the state. Since the privileged orders paid no taxes or very light ones, the whole burden fell on the third estate, but above all on the peasants. The peasant was almost alone in paying the 'taille'—the main direct tax. From this came most of the proceeds of the poll tax.

The royal demands had risen steadily. The increase in direct taxes in the reign of Louis XVI alone had been estimated at 28 per cent.

The average French peasant was paying out in feudal dues, tithes and taxes the greater part of his meagre income. When the harvest failed in 1788 his position became desperate. The revolution gained an immense reserve force.

'Who would dare to deny that the Third Estate has within itself all that is necessary to constitute a nation? Take away the privileged orders, and the nation is not smaller, but greater. This privileged class is assuredly foreign to the nation by its doing nothing uselessness.'

Joseph Sieyes wrote this declaration of war upon nobility in his famous pamphlet What is the Third Estate? He made himself spokesman for the merchants and financiers, the lawyers and the small but growing

International Socialists pamphlet 10p

PAUL FOOT

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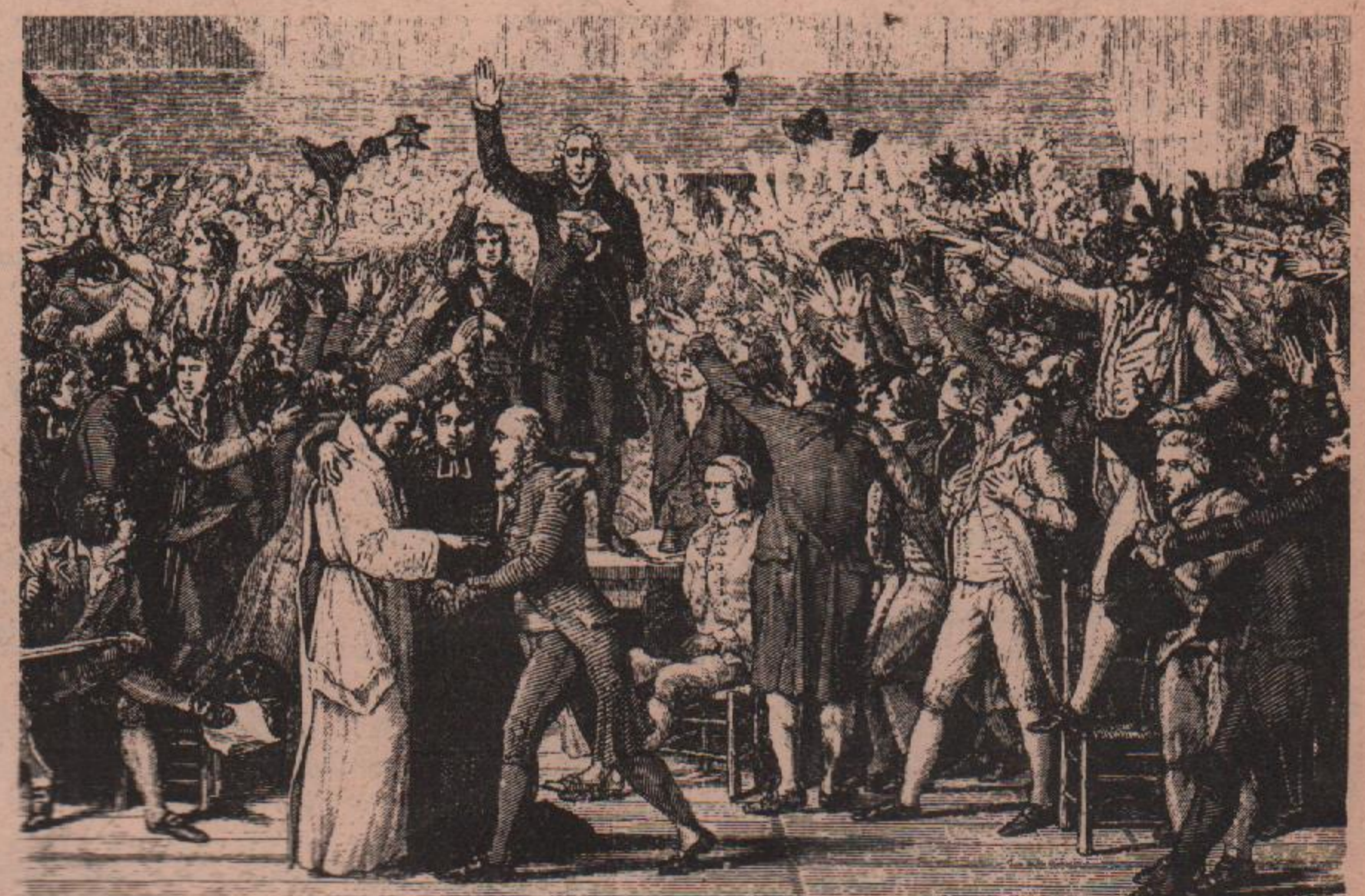
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The National Assembly meets on a tennis court to defy the King



ANGRY EXPLOSION



Left: the storming of the Bastille
Above: peasants attacking a rich landlord's estate

group of industrial capitalists—the bourgeoisie as they were called in French.

They were similar in many ways to the English Presbyterians of the previous century but, as times had changed, they no longer put their political ideas in religious terms. They spoke the language of the American revolutionaries and talked of the Rights of Man.

'For centuries the bourgeois, envious of the aristocracy, had aimed only at thrusting into its ranks.' There was in fact a considerable number of nobles of recent bourgeois origin but it was becoming harder to make the transition. With increasing wealth the numbers and the ambitions of the bourgeois continued to mount and the aristocracy, losing ground to the new rich, was closing its ranks against bourgeois interlopers.

More and more the French bourgeois class looked to the examples of England and America and accepted revolutionary ideas.

The crisis came in 1789 for the same reason as it came in England in 1640. The royal government was bankrupt. The privileged classes, and many of the richer merchants, were either exempt from taxation or evaded it and the peasants and the town poor could be squeezed no further.

It was to remedy the financial crisis that King Louis agreed to call representatives of the three estates, the States-General, to meet for the first time since 1614. They had no sooner met in May 1789 than they fell out.

'By heads'

The old rule was that the States-General voted 'by orders', that is each estate met and voted separately and a majority of estates was needed for any proposal. The 621 representatives of the Third Estate, practically all of them bourgeois, were thus put in a permanent minority by the 593 representatives of the first two orders. They wanted voting 'by heads' so that their greater numbers could give them a permanent majority.

This dispute could not be resolved and on 17 June the Third Estate proclaimed itself, quite illegally, as the National Assembly, the representatives of the whole French people, and invited members of other estates to join them as individuals.

On 20 June they were excluded from their meeting hall, and gathering in an indoor tennis court, resolved 'that all members of this Assembly shall at once take a solemn oath never to separate' until a constitution had been agreed to.

This act of defiance of the King led him to resort to force. He concentrated his troops and prepared to disperse the Assembly but first he had to make sure of Paris.

The rising of 14 July which was stirred up by radical bourgeois agitators put paid to that. The bourgeois class seemed to have gained an easy victory.

But the men who stormed the Bastille were not, in the great majority, bourgeois. They were workmen and small masters. Having come onto the political stage 'the terrible people of Paris' were not going to disappear so easily.

And the peasants were now on the move. Far from ending on 14 July, the revolution had only just begun.

IN 1938 the Irish Republican Army was in crisis. Young volunteers wanted action. They squeezed out the old guard who thought it madness and the bombing campaign was born.

It was not inevitable. Other republicans had sought alternative ways of uniting Ireland, of fighting the Free State government of De Valera, of combatting British imperialism.

They had, in the Republican Congress movement and later Saor Eire (Free Ireland) tried to launch socialist movements taking up the everyday problems of working people. They had foundered on the pure militarism of the IRA that was the justification for its existence.

The aim of the bombing campaign was to strike at public and strategic businesses and services, intimidate the British public and so force the British government to open negotiations with the IRA on withdrawing its troops from the Six Counties of Ulster.

Trained

An elaborate plan was drawn up. It was far beyond the IRA's capabilities. With finance from America, throughout 1938 men were trained, materials collected and hidden in England, and an underground structure pieced together.

In January 1939 the British government was given an ultimatum to withdraw from Ireland. The deadline came on Sunday 15 January and the IRA declared war.

The next day seven explosions heralded the start of the campaign. Following an interval of a month, they restarted and explosions in the major industrial centres continued during the spring and summer. The IRA, the butt of so many bad jokes and condescension, had brought the war into the heart of England.

The British and Irish governments had been caught off guard. In Britain searches began and the ports were watched. By July there had been 127 'incidents' and one death.

The Tory government introduced the Prevention of Violence Act which had Labour support. It authorised the control of immigration from Ireland, deportation, registration of Irish citizens and the detention of suspects.

In the Free State the Offences Against the State Act was passed and republicans were tried by military tribunal and interned. Intimidation of Irish workers in Britain grew and slowly the arrests and prison sentences began to mount.

It was in Coventry that the campaign reached its climax. The local IRA unit had been active—there had been 20 successful explosions and four unsuccessful. No one had been detected.

Bicycle

In August the unit decided to destroy the electricity generating station, and as the local explosives dump hidden on an allotment had blown up in an accident, Peter Barnes delivered the explosives from London. James McCormick and another volunteer made the bomb, and another set off across Coventry with it on a carrier bicycle.

The bomb was pre-set and with time ticking away, the volunteer got lost or delayed and was unable to defuse it. He panicked and dumped it in the town centre. There, at 2.30pm on 25 August, it blew up, killing five people and injuring 60.

An outburst of anti-Irish hysteria followed. In Coventry, workers at the Armstrong-Whitworth aircraft struck and marched into the town



The town centre in Coventry after the explosion

TRAGIC RESULTS OF 1939 IRA CAMPAIGN

by PAUL SMITH

centre where they held a protest meeting.

They demanded action against the IRA, expressed full confidence in the authorities and promised the assistance of the trade union movement in the interrogation of all Irishmen living in Coventry.

The mayor and police called for more special constables and for vigilante committees to be set up in every area. Many responded, not least members of the local Orange Lodge.

Funerals

Every Irish home in Coventry was raided by the police and it was seriously suggested that all Irishmen should take an oath of loyalty before the local Catholic priest.

The funerals were large. In Dartmouth Prison, British convicts attacked IRA prisoners.

Peter Barnes and James McCormick were arrested. They had not planted the bomb. They were horrified at the deaths.

The volunteer who had dumped the bomb had already escaped to Ireland. He is alive today.

In English common law Barnes and McCormick were guilty of murder and were condemned to death. A wave of protest swept Ireland but all appeals for clemency failed.

Barnes protested his innocence to the end. McCormick refused to name his comrades in the Coventry IRA unit who had participated in the planning for the explosion. His attitude was 'We know what's coming to us and we can take it.'

At his trial he said: 'As a soldier of the Irish Republican Army, I am not afraid to die, as I am doing it for a just cause. I say in conclusion, God bless Ireland and God bless the men who have fought and died for her.'

They were both hanged in Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, on 7 February 1940.

The campaign spluttered on to its end in 1940. The last bombs were only gestures. Police surveillance, arrests, suspicion and lack of support from the Irish in England, ground the volunteers down.

In Britain two men were hanged, 23 men and women received prison sentences of 20 years, 34 for periods

the rest of Britain, unemployment, poverty, emigration, stalked the Free State.

A bombing campaign in England even if 10 times bigger and causing no civilian casualties, provided no way forward. It only alienated British working people.

And if it was true then it is still true today. If the present bombing campaign is the work of the Provisional IRA or a republican splinter group, then it will in no way further the fight for Irish freedom. Civilian deaths, anti-Irish sentiment and long prison sentences will be the only result.

Today the fight for Ireland's freedom can be only a fight for a workers' republic. There is violence on this road too: repression of the ruling class, smashing of their state machine.

But what has a bomb in a car, in a station, or outside a bank to do with this?

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HIDDEN DANGERS IN PLAN ON WOMEN

THE GOVERNMENT claims that its proposals Equal Opportunities for Women, will 'eliminate unfair discrimination on grounds of sex wherever possible'.

What it really means is a toothless procedure to deal with a limited range of discrimination in employment in exchange for women giving up the major part of their protection under the Factories Act and similar legislation.

It is impossible to exaggerate the seriousness of this attack upon working women. If the government is allowed to get away with it, the long-term effect on women—in fact on the whole quality of working-class lives—will make recent government freezes seem like child's play.

PREGNANCY

The proposals will outlaw discrimination in recruitment, promotion, and dismissal. Job adverts and employment agencies will not be able to specify a sex.

And pregnancy leave will no longer wipe out women's entitlement to redundancy payments. Any woman who suffers discrimination can take her case first to the Conciliation Officers, then an Industrial Tribunal and finally to the National Industrial Relations Court.

The document talks at some length about discrimination in education, but does not make a single proposal on it, saying that

the Minister already has power to act.

And finally it proposes an Equal Opportunities Commission which will have no powers at all, but will generally oversee the situation, and from time to time will issue reports to the government.

There are many exceptions to the legal changes, which will give employers ample loopholes. And in a majority of cases it will be virtually impossible to prove discrimination.

To round it off, the government has included a penalty clause which should discourage all but the bravest spirits. If the tribunal decides that a complaint is frivolous, the woman involved will have to pay all the costs.

This penalty is not in the Race Relations Act nor the Equal Pay Act and it is shocking that it is in this one. The net effect is that for working people the government's proposals are scarcely worth the paper they are written on.

by Sandra Peers

Though the proposals have little to offer to women, they do offer a great deal to employers in return for the minor inconvenience of re-wording their job adverts.

All that will remain of the protective legislation on women is a ban on female miners and male midwives, and a few restrictions on chemicals dangerous to pregnant women.

It is essential that men and women understand what will be entailed in these changes. Women could be required, as men are now, to service and clean moving, unfenced machinery. This includes where there is—to quote section 20 of the Factories Act—the 'risk of injury from any moving part either of that machine or any adjacent machinery.'

DISASTROUS

All limitation on hours of work and on overtime will go, as will the entitlement to meal breaks. Most important, there will be no restrictions on shift working, nor any obligatory ballot if an employer wants to introduce shifts.

Because of weak union organisation for women, the passing of these proposals would be nothing short of disastrous for women's working conditions.

The government's 'equality' means that things will be equally bad. For socialists and trade unionists it must mean making women's lives equally good.

When women demand equal pay they don't expect men's pay to be lowered to that of women. Similarly, we must press for the extension of women's legal protection to men, and must totally oppose any worsening of women's working conditions.

All trade union branches should arrange a speaker on the proposals and pass motions instructing their unions and the TUC strongly to oppose them. The TUC in particular has a very weak position on this question, which split this year's Women's TUC Conference down the middle.

There is urgency about it because the government has set a closing date of 30 November to discussions, and preparations must be made now for a militant campaign against the proposals if the government retains them.

The pamphlet *Equal Opportunities for Men and Women* can be obtained from any employment exchange.

We wo

NEXT SATURDAY, 13 October, the National Coal Board plans to evict seven miners in the Northumberland village of New Hartley. The miners between them have worked for 200 years in British pits.

The eviction is part of a deal which threatens every inhabitant of all 181 privately rented houses in New Hartley.

Parties to the deal are an ambitious property company, the local Labour urban district council, the Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers.

In 1973, the 181 New Hartley houses were bought in a secret deal between London and Tyneside Properties and their former owners, the local squire, Lord Hastings. The vast Hastings estate sold the houses at the knock-down price of a maximum of £500 a house.

Sold

The houses had been leased for more than 20 years by the National Coal Board, but the Coal Board did not insist, as it was entitled to, that the houses were offered for sale to the miners who lived in them.

They and the National Union of Mineworkers sat back without a murmur of protest while the miners' houses were sold over their heads.

The property company, London and Tyneside Properties, promptly applied to the Labour-controlled Seaton Valley Urban Council (population 32,000) for 'improvement grants' to renovate their newly-bought houses.

The council officials, without even referring the question to the elected councillors, agreed to



Story:
Paul F
Pictur
Chris

(Repo

pay £1500 grant per house—more than three times what the houses had cost. The total payout from the Seaton Valley ratepayers to London and Tyneside for New Hartley houses was more than £150,000.

A few houses did not qualify for grants. Two of them were empty, and London and Tyneside have sold them already—for £4,700 each—a net profit to the company of about 1000 per cent.

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£150,000 deal

LONDON and Tyneside Properties was registered as Dyke Bros Ltd in October 1969. The Dyke Brothers, Peter and David, ran it as a small property concern until February 1972, when they were joined by a chartered surveyor called F E Smith.

In a telephone conversation with me, Mr Smith would not say exactly how much the New Hartley houses had cost. 'It was part of a huge deal,' he said. 'It's impossible to work it out.'

Mr Smith claims he is losing money on the 'revitalisation programme'. 'Any revitalisation will cost you £3000 per house,' he said. 'We've had to stop it now, because it's philanthropy to go on.'

Mr P W Ferry, clerk and chief executive to Seaton Valley Urban Council, has on more than one occasion publicly defended his decision to pay £150,000 of ratepayers' money to London and Tyneside Properties.

Mr Ferry has also defended to a

House of Commons Committee the taking of decisions by officers, not by elected councillors. He told the committee that he had referred only five out of 700 applications for grants to the councillors. All the others he granted himself.

In October 1971, Mr Ferry was given outline planning permission for building his own house in a nice little spot near St Mary's Church, Holywell. In June 1972, full planning permission was granted, and the foundations are already laid.

The builders are S McCulough Ltd of Chester-Le-Street. Mr Ferry becomes another in the long line of distinguished local government officers in the North East to have their houses built by McCulough. Others include Andy Cunningham, former alderman on Durham County Council, Fred Smith, chairman of the housing committee at Blyth, and A E Moss, borough engineer at Blyth.



Bristol Street, New Hartley, 'revitalised'.

International Socialists pamphlet 10p

ROGER ROSEWELL

THE STRUGGLE FOR WORKERS POWER

This important new pamphlet is an outline of the policies of the International Socialists, the development and nature of modern capitalism—and the urgent need for a workers' party to overthrow it. Its 40 pages are essential reading for Socialist Worker readers and all IS branches.

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Don't go!



Jack Rutherford and his wife in their garden. Their terraced house could fetch a handy £5000 profit for speculators, but the Rutherfords aren't moving

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MAGNIFICENT SEVEN STICK IT OUT

OFFICIALS in the local Coal Board have been heard to say: 'If only we could get rid of Elsie Marshall, then they'd all go.'

Elsie Marshall has lived in New Hartley for 27 years. Her four children were born in New Hartley. All her friends are in New Hartley.

'The man from the Coal Board housing department came to see me the other day,' she says. 'He said: "Mrs Marshall, tell me where you want to live—and I'll find you another house there."

'I looked at him and said: "Mr Lynch, I want to live here, right here."

'They've offered me a house in Seaton Delaval. Toilet in the yard. A hovel. I refused. Tomorrow I'm going to see another place in Nelson. But I don't know Nelson. I think I'll just stick it out and see what happens.'

Jack Rutherford and his wife live down the road in Hastings Terrace (named after the lord). Jack isn't going to move either, and he has a special reason. For the past 22 years he has been tending one of the finest gardens in Northumberland. It stretches for 75 yards behind his terraced house, a magnificent array of dahlias, chrysanthemums, roses, not to mention the largest leeks and onions I have ever seen.



Jack, who works as a deputy at Dudley Colliery and has worked at the coal face at Choppington, Longest and Dudley pits in 40 years of work as a miner, has a vast pile of prizes and awards from local and national flower and vegetable shows.

Jack doesn't see why he should leave his garden to improve the profits of a property company. 'We're going to stick here,' he says. 'We're quite happy to pay rent, but we're not going.'

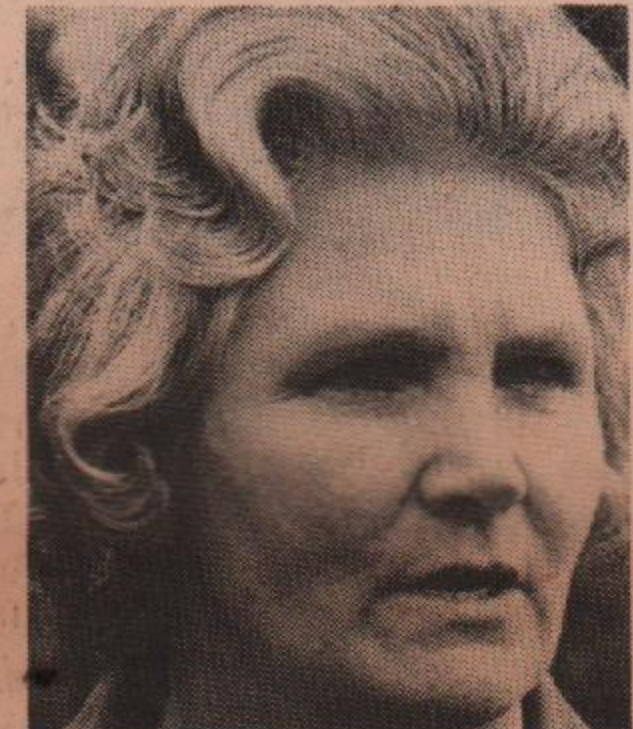
Jack has met a director of London and Tyneside Properties—only once. A few months ago, a well-dressed man strolled up the path on the other side of the garden wall, and hailed Jack. 'Would you like to come and work for me as a gardener?' said the gentleman. 'I don't know anything about it, but I admire your handywork.'

Jack declined, politely. It was only later that he found out the man was Peter Dyke, managing director of London and Tyneside Properties.

Sim and Winnie Trewick have been living at New Hartley for 22 years. Sim works at Bates Colliery and has been in the pits since he left school at 14, 42 years ago. Mrs Trewick told me she had had one offer of alternative accommodation—a house nine miles away at a village where she knew no one.

'It wasn't worth having,' she said. 'Everything we've done in this house, we've paid for. It's our home.'

Mrs Pauline Macneal has been living in Bristol Street, New Hartley,



ELSIE MARSHALL: 'We want to live here: nowhere else.'



WINNIE TREWICK: 'It's our home'



PAULINE MACNEAL: 'They'll have to lift me out.'



MR P W FERRY: £150,000 of ratepayers' money for firm

for 19 years. Her husband has left the pits recently, and is working as a builders' labourer.

Because he is no longer a miner, Mr Macneal has not even been offered alternative accommodation. Mrs Macneal is sure the Coal Board will take her to court to evict her and her family, even though there are 20 London and Tyneside houses empty nearby.

'I'm going to fight it,' she says. 'I'm Scotch and they won't frighten me. If they want their pound of flesh, I'll take a hundredweight.'

George Lumsden and his wife Joyce are also staying in their house despite the eviction notice. Mrs Lumsden's mother, who lives in New Hartley, is 80, nearly blind and desperately needs the daily assistance of her daughter.

Mrs Lumsden cannot understand why she should abandon her mother in the interests of London and Tyneside properties.



Tommy Brook, who works at Bates, was born in New Hartley and has lived here all his life. Raymond Burt, who works at Dudley pit, has also lived in the village for 25 years. He and his wife Joyce are not prepared to move. The 'alternative accommodation' offered is grossly inferior to the house which they have spent their lives decorating and re-decorating.

These seven are waiting, a little nervously, for the Coal Board to put them into the street to make way for the speculators.

But these are not the only ones who are suffering in New Hartley. All the other tenants of the former Coal Board houses are threatened with disruption at the hands of London and Tyneside Properties. The company is pushing through what it describes as a 'revitalisation programme'.

In almost every case this means ripping out the coalfires, smearing ugly pebble-dash over the brickwork

outside, dividing the main downstairs room into cubicles, and putting in an extra toilet. Said Mr Frank Dixon, a member of the Residents Committee: 'Almost all of us don't want the alterations.'

Mrs Eve Black, the Residents Association secretary, says: 'We feel there's something wrong about a big change-over to gas in a mining area. We feel in a small way we're helping to put miners out of a job.'

But the worst effect of the 'revitalisation' is the inevitable increase in rents. Mrs Jane Graham, a neigh-

bour of Elsie Marshall's, pays £3.41 a week rent and rates. After modernisation, she has been told, her rent will go up to more than £6. 'My husband will be retired then, and we simply won't be able to afford it,' she said.

London and Tyneside hope, without at any stage breaking the law, gradually to empty the houses of New Hartley of their working-class tenants and sell them expensively to better-off people from the new town of Cramlington and from Whitley Bay.

Already a woman calling herself

a 'social welfare officer' has visited four tenants, two of them widows, explaining that the rent will soar after revitalisation, and that they would be better off in smaller houses. Two of the families have been intimidated enough to move.

Jane Graham summed up the feeling of everyone I spoke to in New Hartley. 'This used to be a happy village,' she said. 'People knew each other and liked each other and helped with one another's problems. Now these people have come in here and crucified it.'

Another big breakthrough for IS—a re-styled monthly journal that is invaluable for all readers of Socialist Worker. In the new issue, articles include: Chile, the Communist Party, the TUC and a magnificent essay by Trotsky on terrorism.

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International Socialism
Monthly Journal of the International Socialist, Mid-September 1973, No 62, Price 15p

Trotsky on...



YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!

CHRIS HARMAN on the importance of socialist ideas

SINCE the events in Chile, at least one reader has written to us agreeing that the parliamentary road to socialism does not work, but asking what the alternative is. After all, if the army and the police are so powerful and so firmly under the control of the ruling class, it seems it is going to be equally difficult to end its power whether through parliament or otherwise.

The armed forces can certainly seem to be all-powerful, particularly in a situation like that of Chile today, of bloody counter-revolution and massive repression.

But if socialists adopt the correct tactics in a period when the militancy and fighting spirit of the working-class movement is on the upsurge, then the hold of the upper-class officers over the armed forces can be destroyed.

The rank and file of the armed forces are, after all, either workers or peasants. In Chile much of the army was conscripted. In Britain today most of the recruits are young workers driven to join up by unemployment, the tedium of dead-end jobs, the hope for a little excitement, or the chance to learn a trade.

That does not mean soldiers will automatically oppose their officers when told to take action against the organised workers. Far from it. Army training is designed to make workers in uniform forget their class roots and to obey orders blindly, whatever their own individual feelings.

SEVERE

That is what lies behind all the 'bull' in the army: make soldiers learn they have to do anything, however stupid, if ordered. That is also why armies are always kept in barracks, 24 hours a day, cut off from their families and their previous workmates except for the few days leave.

An individual soldier who disobeys an order faces the most severe punishment. In times of 'peace' he is likely to face months or even years in a military prison—where conditions are invariably much worse than in civilian prisons. Although the death penalty is supposed to have been abolished in this country, it still exists for mutiny in what the ruling class defines as a 'state of war'.

The key problem for any mass movement of workers really challenging the ruling class for control is how to break the hold of the officers in the army over the rank and file. This can only be done if the workers' movement shows soldiers they can disobey their officers' orders with impunity.

It has to prove in practice that it is growing in strength, that it really intends to take control of society and

THE ARMY STEPS IN...

to break the power of the ruling class, in the army as elsewhere, once and for all.

Every time it hesitates or tries to make a compromise with the ruling class, it strengthens the hold of the officers. Then the rank and file soldier no longer believes the officers are going to lose their power to punish him, so he keeps his head down.

In Chile, for instance, one of the worst mistakes—a criminal mistake—made by the 'marxist' parties was to compromise with the leaders of the armed forces to the extent of inviting them to become ministers in the Popular Unity government, even after these officers had thrown sailors who supported the socialist organisations into jail. In effect, the leaders of the Popular Unity were saying to the rank and file in the armed forces that the power of the officers to enforce 'discipline' was inviolable.

A genuinely revolutionary party would have behaved quite differently. It would have repeatedly argued within the workers' movement for the strengthening of the organisations which had begun to grow up uniting all the workers in each district, with delegates elected from each factory.

It would have been organising, at first secretly, among rank and file soldiers and urging them to send their own delegates to the meetings of workers' delegates. It would have suggested that they use their numerical power to put controls on the activities of the officers—after all, 10 soldiers with guns are more power-

ful than one officer with a gun.

And finally, the revolutionary party would have made it clear that regardless of what the official leaders of the government might say, there was only one way to safeguard the gains made by workers—by creating armed workers' militias based on the factories.

In Chile many of these developments did begin, partly spontaneously, partly under the prompting of the relatively small revolutionary left. The tragedy occurred because the main working-class parties argued that they were not necessary, that the workers could rely on the constitution to protect them.

Even so, the army officers did not feel powerful enough at all times to overthrow the government.

When Allende was elected in 1970, some officers were willing to conspire with the giant multi-national company ITT to try to overthrow the government. But most officers and most industrialists were not—they feared the unity and determination of the workers at that time. As late as the end of June this year, the majority of officers feared reaction of workers and of their own rank and file to a coup, with the result that an attempted coup failed.

MILITIA

The splits between different groups of officers would have widened and the rank and file would have begun to organise alongside their fellow workers, if the workers' leaders had pushed to extend the revolutionary struggle as widely as possible, with the occupation of all factories, the building of workers' militias, the organisation of councils of workers and soldiers' delegates, the guarantee of land to every agricultural labourer in the countryside.

It was because the established leaders of the working class did not follow such a policy, but instead invited generals into the government and gave army officers complete control over 'law and order', that the ruling class was able to regain its unity of purpose and organise the counter-revolution.

REVIEW

The people Ford wants to fleece

THE PUEBLO, by Ronald Fraser, Allen Lane, £3.25.

THE Sunday Times, commenting on Ford's plan to build a major car plant in Spain, noted: 'For the foreseeable future, Fords would have only minor labour difficulties in Spain. For the government-run trade unions are little more than lambs in comparison with their British opposites, and militant shop stewards have to be illegal and face instant dismissal to get the support of the workers. Ford might consider that in itself a major attraction.'

It is against this background that Ronald Fraser's book *The Pueblo* should be read.

The book is quite simply a series of statements by the people of a small village near the south coast of Spain. Members of different classes and generations recount their experiences—and a fascinating picture is built up of the way the life of the village has changed since the grinding poverty of 70 years ago.

Now tourism has brought change and prosperity, though on a limited scale. Wages are still low—about £16 a week for a bricklayer, £11 a week for a labourer and £6 for a maid—but in comparison with the sheer starvation the older generation knew, they make an almost unbridgeable gap between the generations.

There are two ways of responding to such changes. Fraser quotes an old farm labourer who served on a revolutionary committee during the Civil War. Now he says: 'Today I know more than I did then. Like everyone else I believed that capitalism should be overthrown, that we should have a proper agrarian reform. The one the Republic brought in was sabotaged by the capitalists, you see.'

'But now all these things don't matter to me any more. Life here has changed so much—nearly 100 per cent—because everyone can earn a good wage.'

But another old labourer says: 'When I tell them what hardships I went through at their age they stand and gawp at me. They don't believe it. Once one of them said: "You must have been stupid to put up with it." And I answered: "Stupid we were. Don't you ever be as stupid as that!"'

Some anecdotes show just how horrific the starvation and poverty were in the old days. 'All year we waited for Easter Sunday to eat the only egg in the

year my mother had saved for each of us. For nothing! Our stomachs were so weak that as soon as we'd eaten we had to go behind the house to vomit.'

Yet at the same time Fraser shows the enormous toughness of the working people, and the sense they always had that their condition was not unchangeable. For instance he tells the story of an early 'liberated woman', who in childbirth 'told her husband he ought to suffer like her. She attached a rope round his private parts and over a beam and each time she had a contraction she pulled.'

Though many of those who appear in the book lived through and were active in the Civil War, there is little evidence of political commitment. As Fraser notes, they were moderates, for the 'extremists' did not live to reminisce.

Yet there is nonetheless a strong, if blurred, political tradition. For instance in the 1940s the government took away from the unemployed one of their few sources of income—picking *esparto* grass. The concessions were given to rich businessmen.

A quarter century later, in 1971, the businessman who had controlled the *esparto* in Tajos, the village featured in the book, stood as a candidate in what is the nearest thing to elections that are held in Spain. In Tajos he got only 200 of the 3000 votes.

But the hope for the future lies not so much in the old traditions as in the new conditions. The isolation of the village is breaking down, people who cannot read learn of the world beyond from television.

Even miserable increases in the standard of living raise the expectations of a new generation. The Spanish workers will not be the docile lambs that Henry Ford hopes to fleece.

IAN BIRCHALL

Stick to gardens

A DICTIONARY OF MODERN REVOLUTION: Hyams, Edward (Allen Lane £3.25)

A ludicrous volume perpetrated by the New Statesman's sometime gardening correspondent with the aim of ensuring the continued ignorance of the middle classes. Should be an essential and inaccurate weapon for all ruling-class militants. Ideal for serialisation in *The Observer*. Unsold copies should make useful street barricades.

NIGEL FOUNTAIN

MONKEY AND TYPEWRITER

SUBVERSION: PROPAGANDA, AGITATION AND THE SPREAD OF PEOPLE'S WAR, by Ian Greig, Tom Stacey, £2.50.

MR GREIG's book comes from the same right-wing stable of counter-insurgency rubbish that publishes, and no doubt pays, Brigadier Kitson and other leading lights of the military-industrial complex.

New titles in the same series include *Spy in the Vatican*, *The Riot Makers*, and *Secret Agents, Spies and Saboteurs*. If you wait a while you will probably be able to buy the whole expensive bundle for knock-down prices on W H Smith's remaindered bookstall but unless you have a bed with a broken leg I don't advise it.

According to the dust-cover blurb, Ian Greig has spent the past five years on this, his favourite subject. Presumably this was a subtle test of the theory that if you sit a monkey in front of a typewriter long enough he will eventually write the works of Shakespeare. The rather simian portrait of Mr Greig that accompanies the book adds strength to this idea.

The technique used in the book, if not up to Shakespeare's literary standard, is certainly as old as the bard himself.

A whole series of revolutionary, terrorist and oppositional groups and parties appear briefly and in no sensible order throughout its pages. Tupamaros, Al Fatah, the Japanese Red Army, the IRA, Lenin, Russian 19th century Narodniks, the International Socialists and many more—a cast of thousands as they say.

The clear intention is to suggest an organic link between all these disparate groups and movements, a link that can then be proved by their presence between Mr Greig's hard covers if nowhere else.

Never mind that Lenin opposed vehemently the Russian 'terrorists'. Such piffing facts cannot deter a self-appointed expert on Communism. After all, they

were all Russians, all had a perverse dislike of Tsarist autocracy and in any case they are discussed in consecutive chapters of the book. Let the cynical sceptics shrug off that crushing indictment.

In a chapter titled 'The New Revolutionaries', sinister agents of the Fourth International such as Tariq Ali and Robin Blackburn pursue their evil course of subversion. Both apparently compounded their already black record by standing on the same public platform as Alain Krivine, who presumably did himself a drop of no good by appearing with Comrades Ali and Blackburn.

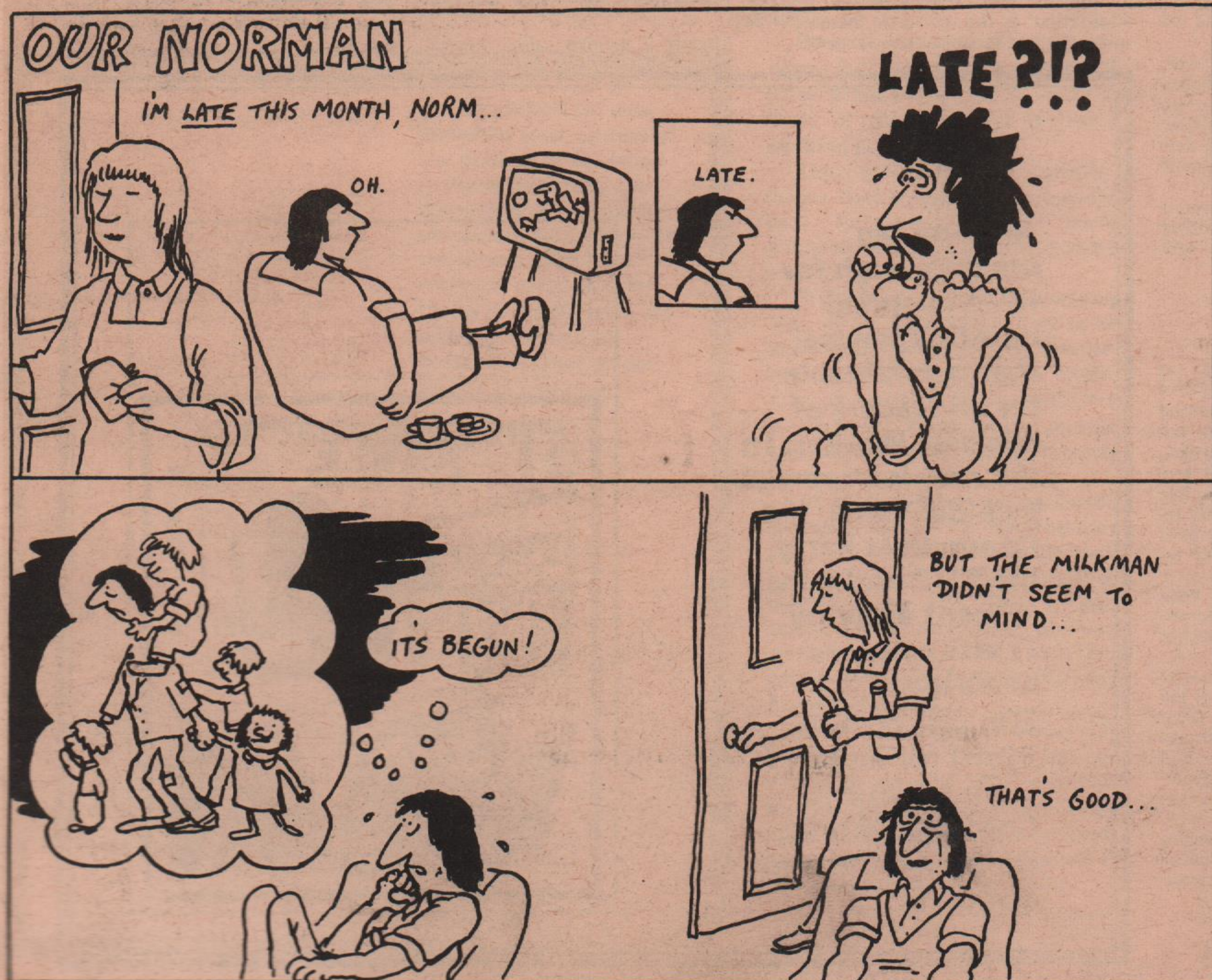
On the International Socialists Mr Greig divulges the until now closely-guarded secret that we are opposed to capitalism, see the need for rank and file organisation and have the seriousness to do something about it. With the detective powers of Tinker, if not Sexton Blake, he has ferreted out the news that IS has a printshop and has even gone so far as to print material for... wait for this final horror... the People's Democracy.

Thank God for fearless counter-insurgents who will unmask this bestiality.

Mr Greig's answer to this intractable problem of subversion is the development of counter-revolutionary army groups ready and willing to stamp out any sign of subversion. Perhaps Brigadier Kitson would be commanding officer and Ian Greig his commissar, with recruitment directed to the National Front.

The tenth-rate standard of this and other similar works, however, should not blind us to the fact that brains and searching accurate analysis have never been a feature of the far right. Their strength has been in being available, prejudices and rubber truncheons at the ready, when capitalism can no longer rely on parliament to save its bacon. General Pinochet, of the Chilean Junta, is no doubt a firm fan of Mr Greig's work.

JIM HIGGINS



REVIEW

SPORT/TELEVISION

by Nigel Fountain,
our left winger

FOUL calls itself an alternative football paper. For once in sports journalism—a true statement. Every month it attempts to be both funny and accurate about football and often succeeds.

It began in September 1972, produced from Cambridge. Originally about 1200 copies were duplicated. Now it is up to 14,500 and is printed.

'We'd put in it likely bookshops, give copies to friends to sell,' said Andrew Nickolds, one of the editorial staff. 'We sold it outside football grounds, Tottenham, Arsenal, then we tried in Liverpool. We approached supporters' kiosks, but didn't get very far. The managers aren't too keen.'

Football suffers from the disease that afflicts all Fleet Street journalism. If you're a lobby correspondent, you write copy pleasing to Harold Wilson and Edward Heath. If you're a motoring journalist, you're there to please Lord Stokes and British Leyland. If it's football then the game's the same, you just choose different people to crawl to.

'After Crystal Palace had been smashed a couple of weeks ago I went to the press conference after the game,' said Nickolds. 'It was like being in a church. Big Mal sat there with his cigar and everyone just looked at him or asked nice polite questions. Managers have it all their own way. The only interesting thing that Allison said—"I don't think that any player of any talent should play in the back four"—went unreported.'

Unsurprisingly Foul is not topping any popularity tables with managers. A South London paper reproduced the cover of Foul dealing with the exploits of a manager by the name of Mal Practice. It was not well received.

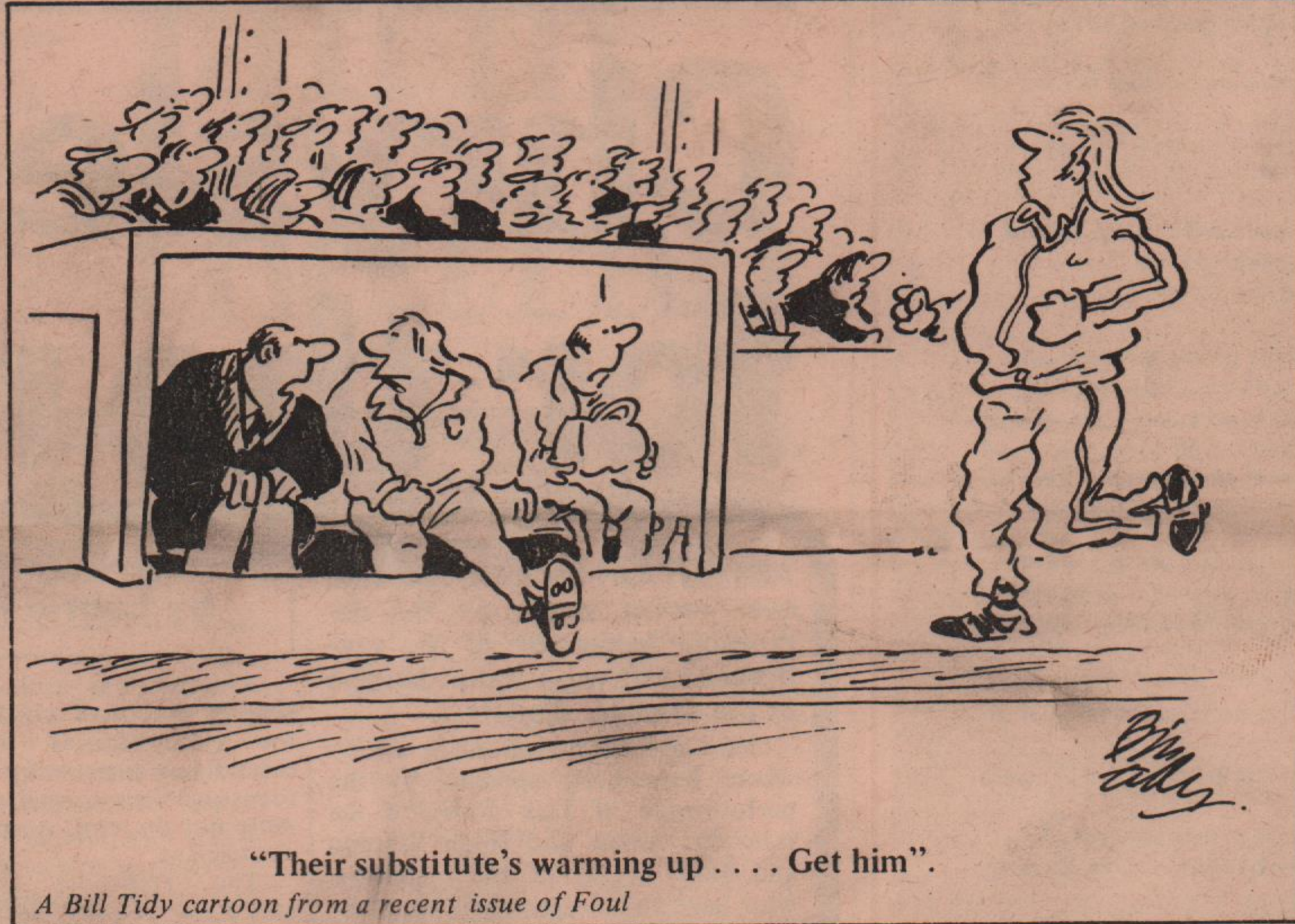
'I quit'

'Apparently Allison has threatened to break the neck of anyone from Foul he comes across,' said Nickolds. That might look good on Match of the Day.

The alternative to crawling in the football press is sensationalism. It takes two forms. On one hand is the pornography of goal scoring, where endless action replays bang the ball into a million nets. The other is the sensationalism of the 'I quit' stories which break out like cholera epidemics every fortnight across the back pages.

It was well summed up in Foul's 'Good Writers Guide', referring to the hapless Peter Batt of the Sun:

'BATT, PETER. Biggest Mouth in Soccer. The. Also the biggest telephone bill. His idea of a working weekend is to ring round the London players, find out who's pissed off with



A Bill Tidy cartoon from a recent issue of Foul

FOUL TONGUE LASHES BIG MAL-SHOCK!

the weather etc, and write it up into a PETERS: "I may quit" feature.'

'Take the concoction of the "Moore leaving West Ham" story,' said one of Foul's editors, Steve Tongue. 'Nobody knew anything about it. Maybe someone had a drink with Bobby Moore, and then what? They put the story together. The Sun splashed the story because they thought the Mirror was going to fill its front page with it. None of the people who were supposed to be involved said a word.'

Not all clubs give the press the facilities of Arsenal or Crystal Palace, who provide the appropriate push—though even that's not for everyone, for Danny Blanchflower has been

excluded from the Arsenal press box for the past two years.

Bill Nicholson says he can live without journalists and he's probably right,' said Tongue. 'If you're lucky you get a cup of tea. But then of course they let Hunter Davis do the Glory Game about Spurs, which is as close as anything to the truth about football. They must have assumed that he was going to do another Spurs Book of Football . . .'

But does football matter? 'There was a real sense of community at the Sunderland cup semi-final last season,' claimed Nickolds.

'It's the last authentic community entertainment,' added Tongue. 'What is disturbing is the way you get

people paying £100 for a box. It is turning into an extension of show business.'

'There's still hope. Look at Palace. They print all these crappy programmes with all the players' nicknames and what happens? They're three points adrift at the bottom of the Second division and the poor so-and-so's who have supported them through all this walk home in disgust before the match is even over.'

'When you look at football in society you see how undemocratic it is. The people who really support the game financially and emotionally have no say at all.'

'Ray Bloye is a businessman. He buys up 52 per cent of the shares and that's it, he's chairman of the board. At Tottenham the chairman's son is on the board. And at Everton you have a situation where John Moores, who's made all his money from Littlewoods Pools, is chairman and he owns more shares in Liverpool than in his own team!'

Foul is funny, and if your dislike of lies and fake patriotism extends past the news pages of Fleet Street then take a look at it. You can get it from 19 Chetwynd Road, London NW5. Six copies cost 60p.

They told Vestey where to go

THERE is an argument used with tiresome regularity by opponents of socialism which goes something like this: The idea is all right and does credit to your heart but workers are an ignorant, benighted lot who have to be told what to do for fear they will waste the national substance going on anti-social binges.

Give them baths and the air is made hideous with the noise of coals being deposited therein. Give them theatres and they will play non-stop bingo . . . and so on.

Leave aside the interesting fact that socialism has nothing to do with what benevolent philanthropists 'give' to workers (Labour and Communist Parties please note) but what they take for themselves. The evidence from the Chartist movement onward is that workers have an infinite capacity for self-organisation that confounds the elitists of all political stripes.

A small but splendid justification of this argument was to be found in last week's ATV documentary, Frank Hardy's *The Unlucky Australians*.

The programme dealt with the seven-year strike of the Gurindji stockmen at Wave Hill, part of Lord Vestey's Australian cattle empire.

Vestey rents from the Australian government some 40,000 square miles of Gurindji land—at prices ranging from 10 cents to 50 cents per square mile. At Wave Hill the Gurindji have worked their own land for 80 years, for no money and for the greater profit of Lord Vestey and his predecessors. Although there has been



since 1953 a legal requirement to pay the workers five dollars a week, Vestey and his like, by subtle control of the company store to get the workers tied with credit, have managed to ensure that no cash passed to the Gurindji workers.

In return for Vestey's 'social work' among the great unwashed the government also paid him a grant for each of the Gurindji on his land. Beside his profits cattle, he was also on to a good thing with what was called 'nigger farming'.

In 1966 the workers and their families had had enough of tin shacks, disease, rotten grub and no wages. They struck. For eight months they camped on the banks of the Victoria river.

Conditions were appalling, but, as they point out, no worse than with Vestey. They turned down Vestey's flatteries and promises of food if only they would return to work.

At the end of eight months they moved on from strike to expropriation. As one of the strikers said: 'We want that Vestey feller out of here. We want Gurindji land

back again. Tomorrow I'm going up to Wadi Creek, up to my dreaming country, and stay right there.'

Wadi Creek is right in the middle of Vestey's cattle station. Go they did and stay they did, from 1967 to today. Despite threats from the welfare agencies, intimidation, accusation of communist plots and a threat to bomb them out.

At one stage threats gave place to soft soap treatment. A government village was erected at a cost of three million dollars. The Gurindji took wages for helping to build it and when it was completed refused to move in and work for Vestey.

With their wages they built corrals and bought horses, ready for the day when they could work their own cattle on their own land, something they alone were always convinced would happen.

Their example set up a sympathetic movement among other tribes. The trade unions took up and supported their cause. Ten thousand people demonstrated outside Vestey's head office. Finally the Labour Party took up the case of Aboriginal lands as an issue in the 1972 election.

The Gurindji have now been granted a small portion of their own land and they are working it. They intend to take more, as they can use it.

The next time someone gives you a load of crap about the incapacity of workers, tell him or her about the Chartist, the General Strike, the Hungarian Revolution and add to the list the Wadi Creek Gurindji.

Jim Higgins

Women's Lib becomes saleable

IT WAS just a tennis match but it launched newspaper articles by the dozen and had thousands waiting anxiously on the edge of their seats. It was billed as 'The Battle of the Sexes' and was to be a punch-up between an entrenched male chauvinist pig, Bobby Riggs, and a 'gutsy women's liberationist', Billie Jean King.

The casual spectator may be forgiven for thinking that it actually had something to do with an argument about women's place. The insults that were slung around certainly gave that impression.

Bobby said he wanted to prove that 'Women are lousy. They stink. They don't belong to the same court as a man.'

This provocation was coupled with the equally charming assertion that 'When I get through with Billie she ought to go home and start raising a family. That's where she should be. That way women can't get out.'

Billie Jean replied that she was going to 'shut the trap of this male chauvinist who jabbers like a woman' (?) and declared that she would not be undermined by the psychological attack Riggs had launched against her.

On the night of the match he publicly presented Billie Jean with a 6ft high lollipop with the comment: 'The largest sucker for the largest sucker'. Undaunted, she hit back by giving him a live pig.

Advantage Billie Jean.

Then she smashed him in a straight three sets. The crushed Bobby had to crawl off and collect his mere £4000 consolation prize—a fraction of the total £80,000 made out of the match.

Tactics

Some hailed it as a victory for the women's lib faction in tennis. But it had less to do with women's lib than with the ability of top sportsmen to take thousands of pounds from a gullible sporting public.

If you know anything about tennis you'll know that there is one hell of a battle going on in the tennis world. Top tennis players are demanding more money and are apparently prepared to use any tactics to get it.

Traditional sponsors for the game such as Wills, the cigarette manufacturers, and Biostrath, the health tonic people, have withdrawn since the cost of this method of advertising is getting too high.

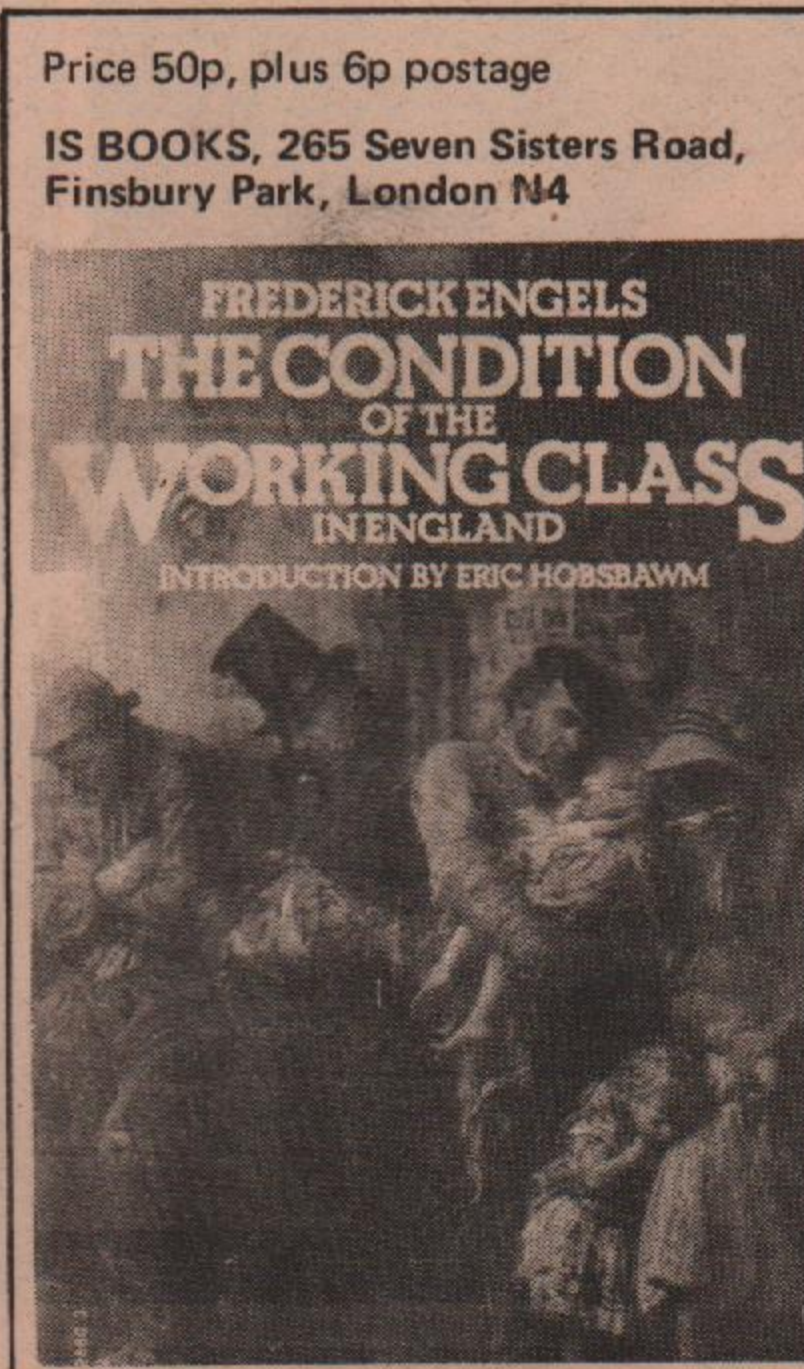
In America a new professional tennis players' league has been launched which will raise the stakes in the States and over here. Like other sports, tennis is rapidly becoming more like a slick big business enterprise. The keen publicity surrounding the Riggs v King match was all a part of this.

Billie Jean was fighting not for female equality so much as for the right to screw even more out of tennis fans. Tough for those who simply like tennis as a sport and for those of us who support women's lib.

Thanks to the publicity, the whole fiasco resulted in getting Women's Lib confused in our minds with senile tennis players and the seamy world of big business. Billie Jean merely borrowed the tag to make herself a few bob.

Now she's made it—perhaps she'd care to return the favour and donate a few quid to the women's lib movement, which is really trying to do something about the oppression.

Anna Paczuska



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WHAT WE STAND FOR

The International Socialists is a democratic organisation whose membership is open to all who accept its main principles and who are willing to pay contributions and to work in one of its organisations.

We believe in independent working-class action for the abolition of capitalism and its replacement by a classless society with production for use and not for profit.

We work in the mass organisations of the working class and are firmly committed to a policy of internationalism.

Capitalism is international. The giant firms have investments throughout the world and owe no allegiances except to themselves and the economic system they maintain.

In Europe, the Common Market has been formed for the sole purpose of increasing the trade and profits of these multi-national firms.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international action by the working class.

A single socialist state cannot indefinitely survive unless workers of other countries actively come to its aid by extending the socialist revolution.

In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of either Washington or Moscow. To this end we have close relationships with a number of other socialist organisations throughout the world.

We believe in the necessity to unite socialist theory with the day-to-day struggles of working people and therefore support all genuine demands that tend to improve the position and self-confidence of the working class.

We fight:

For rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular election of all full-time officials.

Against secret negotiations. We believe that all settlements should be agreed or rejected by mass meetings.

For 100 per cent trade unionism and the defence of shop stewards.

Against anti-trade union laws and any curbs on the right to strike, whether the strikes are 'official' or 'unofficial'.

For equal pay and a better deal for young workers.

Against productivity deals and job evaluation and for militant trade union unity and joint shop stewards committees both in the plant and on a combine basis.

For a minimum wage of at least £25 a week.

Against unemployment, redundancy and lay offs. We support the demand: Five days' work or five days' pay.

For all workers in struggle. We seek to build militant groups within industry.

Against racialism and police victimisation of black workers.

Against immigration restriction.

For the right of coloured people and all oppressed groups to organise in their own defence.

For real social, economic and political equality for women.

Against all nuclear weapons and military alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

Against secret diplomacy.

Against all forms of imperialism. We unconditionally give support to and solidarity with all genuine national liberation movements.

For the nationalisation of the land, banks and major industries without compensation and under workers' control.

We are opposed to all ruling class policies and organisations. We work to build a revolutionary workers' party in Britain and to this end support the unity of all revolutionary groups.

The struggle for socialism is the central struggle of our time. Workers' power and a world based on human solidarity, on the increasing of man's power over nature, with the abolition of the power of man over man, is certainly worth fighting for.

It is no use just talking about it. More than a century ago Karl Marx wrote: 'The philosophers have merely interpreted the world. The point is to change it.' If you want to help us change the world and build socialism, join us.

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THE UNIONS

Chrysler—just for the record

ATTENTION has been focussed over recent weeks on the deplorable behaviour of the supposedly left-wing union leaders in the Chrysler dispute.

Militant trade unionists everywhere have been appalled by the performance of Jack Jones of the transport union and Hugh Scanlon and Bob Wright of the engineers, who have encouraged their members to cross picket lines and work machines repaired by scab labour.

One of the most disturbing aspects of the dispute is the way that the Morning Star and leading elements in the Communist Party have kept quiet about this betrayal of elementary principles. Doubtless they do this because at all costs they intend to hold on to their belief that Jack Jones, Hugh Scanlon and Bob Wright play a vital part in leading the movement in a 'progressive' direction.

If the Chrysler dispute is anything to go by, nothing is further from the truth. In Coventry the executives of the Transport and Engineering Unions 'advised' their members to return to normal working. They successfully undermined the principled stand taken up by Chrysler Stoke shop stewards.

But at Linwood in Scotland, where 7000 manual workers put up a magnificent stand in defence of trade union principles, both unions issued instructions to return.

THE FACTS ACCORDING TO BOB WRIGHT

BOB WRIGHT, executive officer of the engineering union was asked by Socialist Worker to explain his union's position. Here are the most important parts of his reply.

The facts are these. The Electricians Union broke away from the joint negotiating organisation for the agreement which expired in 1972. They concluded an agreement on staff status late in November 1972. This was frozen.

'They are currently in discussions with the Pay Board over how they can be paid this £250. They suggested to the Pay Board that they could be paid this sum if it was spread over the firm's 7000 employees in Coventry. We say that they have no right to discuss our interests, that this is a sectarian and elitist approach.

'They are hoping to get this sum on the backs of other workers. By doing what they have done they have violated a basic principle. The ETU have taken their present action to enforce payment of £250 and they have defended their right to spread it over the 7000 workers.

'In the light of this we have told our members that there should be no action in support. Our members have a claim in now for a £250 increase. The negotiations are frozen due to this situation. And I am saying that if the company pays £250 to the electricians then they will be paying £250 to our members.

'It is in the circumstances that I have outlined that the executive, in consultation with the district committees and stewards concerned, took its decision. It was decided that we would not carry out elec-

by Laurie Flynn

A letter was sent from the engineers' executive which said: 'Under the circumstances the executive council are instructing the members to resume their normal work, but they must not do work normally done by electricians.'

The Transport Union general executive council decision was relayed by telephone. It then had to be dictated through the local union office because the stewards refused to entertain verbal instructions.

Common policy

The message read: 'The general executive council in session has given serious consideration to the Chrysler position and wish to direct our members to resume normal working but not to carry out any duties normally done by members of the ETU. The general executive council will

continue their efforts in trying to achieve common policy among all unions concerned.'

The shop stewards committee at Linwood decided by a large majority to defy the instructions and recommend continuation of the stoppage.

Stewards in the Vehicle Builders section of the Transport Union issued a clear statement of their position. It is also an excellent summary of what has been at stake in Chrysler.

'If we return to work without our electricians this would mean that in future when any section of the workforce withdraws their labour, the company would either man their jobs with managers or any other scab they could hire,' it said.

'The basic principle which we have fought for so vigorously in the past and over the past two weeks—the right of every man to withdraw his labour—would be lost.'

This firm stand in defence of principles is in marked contrast to the lame excuses made by the engineering union leadership.

We ask our members to return to work and work on their normal job. The question of repairing machinery by high level supervisors is not unknown in these circumstances. And at this time it would not be considered contrary to good trade union practice to work on these machines.

Jack Jones, Friday 6 September.

Betrayed? Yes, with a capital B.

Woofie Goldstein, senior electricians steward, Chrysler, Coventry, 25 September, when asked how he felt about the behaviour of the other unions.

tricians' work. If anyone else did electricians' work then it was a matter between them and the ETU.

'The Electricians assume that everyone else will settle at £1 plus 4 per cent. Well, our union does not recognise the Pay Board or its £1 plus 4 per cent. If the ETU is pursuing this approach then let's see if they get the £250 by their own strength. If the electricians were serious, then why did they drop the staff status claim.

A few points do need to be made apart from the one that Bob Wright's statement reeks of the sectarianism he claims to be attacking.

Not prepared

The Electricians have never approached the Pay Board and suggested that the £250 could be paid if the rise was calculated across the board. That was the company's idea. It was entertained by ETU national officers but decisively rejected by the electricians in Coventry. ETU officials state absolutely firmly that they have only been to the Pay Board over the staff status agreement which, they admit, they are not prepared to push in defiance of the Tories' Incomes Policy.

In addition, even if the engineering and transport unions had any intention of fighting Chrysler and the government for more than £1 plus four per cent, then the recent fiasco has ensured that the fighting strength of the Ryton and Stoke plants has been so worn down that a fight over wages is even less likely than it was before.

The engineering union leaders are effectively saying don't pay them £5 a week

because if you do you'll have to pay us.

The other give-away lies in the statement that the electricians had adopted a sectional approach by breaking away from the joint negotiations. This is true. But the electricians did not invent the idea.

Two years ago the toolmakers in Chrysler got staff status with the backing of the engineering union. It would seem that the engineers are prepared to tolerate, even foster, some elites, on one condition—that they are members of the engineering union.

The simple truth is that the Chrysler crisis boils down to two main issues. The first is the introduction of blackleg labour with the sanction of some unions. The second is that it could only be advantageous for the working class movement if the electricians got rises of £5-a-week, a sum they were promised by the company. It would stoke up the appetite of other workers for a fight against the Tories' £1 plus 4 per cent.

It seems this is exactly what the engineering and transport union leaders want to avoid. At any rate that and the wholesale weakening of trade union organisation at Chrysler is the upshot of their discreditable actions.

Of course Frank Chapple, the electricians' general secretary, has not changed his colours. He is still the right-wing union leader he has long been. He is also taking the main chance to discredit Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon. But then the leaders of the Transport and Engineering Unions have given him plenty of room to manoeuvre.

Chile: we don't all fall in the trap

I RECEIVE Socialist Worker every week and agree with most of what you have to say and stand for. Your article on Chile (What We Think 22 September) was good.

But do you really think that all comrades in the Communist Party believe in ballot box/parliamentary road to socialism?

From the start of Allende's 'popular unity' government I believed that it was inevitable it would fail because of Allende's thinking on the building of socialism.

Socialism was started in the Soviet Union because Leon Trotsky, in 1918 as Commissar for War had the far-sightedness to see the need to build a people's army. Led by the working class for the working class.

The workers were armed and you rightly said they should have been armed in Chile. The first step could have been taken against reactionaries and all those who opposed the socialists. Why did Allende forget this basic marxist teaching?

Because Allende had no faith in the masses. Mao said 'have faith in the masses and rely on them, without a people's army the people have nothing'. Allende had no faith in what he set out to do.

While saying he was a Marxist he probably read Marx but did not grasp his teachings. This I must stress and point out to all comrades. Read Marx, read Lenin, read Trotsky and read Mao. Attend your meetings to discuss them, don't be afraid to ask questions if you don't understand what you've read.

I have been reading Marx, Lenin Stalin, Trotsky and Mao for 14 years and still I ask, listen and learn. Never forget the masses who are always more revolutionary when the time is ripe. Always believe in criticism, constructive criticism and don't condemn any comrade always help him.

Speak up at socialist meetings, work meetings and trade union meetings and always have your say. You will get more satisfaction for yourself and others this way.

You are right to say that if comrades learn from Chile it will not have been wasted. As you and I would ask all comrades thinking of a parliamentary road to socialism, think again. Read and re-read Lenin on the state, don't be afraid to read Leon Trotsky and Mao Tse-tung, don't read second hand views, make up your own mind, you will be wiser for it I promise. Lots of luck to Socialist Worker.—G B SAWYER Willenhall

IAN BIRCHALL'S Special on Chile contains some incredible remarks. The editorial in the same issue (22 September) is a balanced assessment of the Allende government,

Strikes: it is the wives' fight too

ONE OF the lessons that was learnt by the miners in their strike in 1972 was the importance of involving their wives in the strike. This doesn't seem to have seeped through to other sections of the labour movement.

The majority of women are isolated and alone at home trying to make ends meet. A strike to most of them means only one thing, no wages coming in. The employers and the press aren't too slow to take advantage of this conservative attitude.

A favourite tactic of the Chrysler management is to send a letter to the home of a worker out on strike telling them that unless they are back to work sharp. Chrysler UK investment will be cut.

They know the wife will read the letter and put pressure on her husband to go back to work. They also get time on television to tell people the strike is all the fault of greedy workers, and they will be forced to close down their factory if the men don't return to work.

The employers take women seriously. It is time the labour movement did so as well. When a factory is out on strike the shop stewards know the importance of reporting back to workers. How many men report back to their wives?

Women must be allowed to know

LETTERS



Socialist Worker wants to hear from you. What you like about the paper—and what you don't like. Your thoughts and comments on problems facing working people. Your experiences at work.

But please be brief. We receive so many letters now that we cannot publish them all. We could publish many more if writers restricted themselves to 250 words at the most.

Letters must arrive first post Monday. Handwritten letters must be legible and with names in capitals please to avoid confusion.

Birchall's remarks are dangerously inaccurate.

According to Birchall: '... within three years Allende's support had been cut away so much that the armed forces were able to take over with only limited opposition.'

Yet the editorial quotes John Gollan approvingly: '... Support for Popular Unity was more than confirmed at the March 1973 congressional elections, when the progressive parties obtained 44 per cent of the votes.' What worries the right was precisely that popular support for the government had increased over the years.

Another remark: 'Small wonder that when Allende did appeal to the workers last Tuesday, it fell on deaf ears.'

what the strike is all about. They must be made to feel it is their fight as well as their husbands. Everytime a strike sheet is produced a leaflet must also be produced for the wives of strikers, explaining the details of the strike and why they should support their husbands.

Special strike meetings should be called to involve all the women in the strike. Women should also be encouraged to go on the picket line. Another important thing, probably one of the most important is to organise workers collectively to get what they can from the social security. Their wives should also be involved in this.

Even the most militant individuals can give up their fight with the SS if they are on their own. This is another way the employer can win a strike, by starving a worker and his family into submission. It's on this point a woman can bring greatest pressure to bear on her husband if she thinks her kids are going to starve.

If most workers see women as a traditionally conservative mass it is up to them to change the tradition. If they don't then the employers will continue to see women as the greatest thing since the jackboot, a means to crush the militancy of men.—NANCY BAIN, Glasgow.

What evidence has Birchall for this remark? The evidence of military leaders! It is important to note here that, the week before the coup, there was a huge (100,000-200,000) workers' demonstration in support of Allende.

Is Birchall so concerned to be 'right' that he has to misrepresent the situation? Does it do the socialist movement any good to crow so exultantly, and so ignorantly, at this terrible defeat?—JANE SCOTT PAUL, Aberdeen.

THOSE people who are still a little doubtful about the political nature of Stalinism and the 'parliamentary roadists' need now look no further. Here in living reality, in 1973, is an accurate demonstration of the practicalities of the two theories—Chile.

We have warned time and time again that the 'parliamentary roadism' of Popular Unity and in particular the Chilean Communist Party was a recipe for disaster.

Aptly enough Marxism Today the British Communist Party's theoretical journal this month contains an article by Luis Corvalan, President of the Chilean Communist Party entitled: 'We say no to Civil War, but move to crush sedition.'

The point is that it is not a matter of wish-fulfillment whether there is civil war or not but whether the objective character of events and the relationship of forces makes one on the agenda or not.

Then it is an absolute dereliction duty not to prepare for it. This is underlined by the futility of Allende's final broadcast calling on workers to arm themselves—after the right had mobilised;

It is not a question for an 'I told you so' attitude towards the Communist Party but a question of mounting an international campaign of support for the resisting Chilean workers and peasants. International Socialism should prepare to participate in that where it is possible.—DAVE JARDINE, Hatfield.

Kippers and guinea pigs

WHILE reading through your paper (22 September) I came across a statement by Mr Bobby Smith of the General and Municipal Workers Union. 'No one, but no one uses our members as guinea pigs.'

It might be a good idea for Mr Smith to pay a visit to the Glasgow Corporation incinerator at Haghill, just off Duke Street. There he would see a squad of three men (they are working one man short) flushing piles of waste into holes above the incinerators. The smoke swirls about in vast clouds leaving them coughing and spluttering, their eyes streaming with water.

Recently I off-loaded a lorry at the depot, and the smoke was so bad I had to go out about every two or three minutes into the fresh air. By the time I was finished putting my rubbish off I had a splitting head-ache.

Before leaving I asked the squad what union they were in. They told me the GMWU.

Mr Smith, you may not allow your members to be used as guinea pigs down in England, but up here they are being used as kippers—the smoked variety.—H CUNNINGHAM, Glasgow.

SIR MAX AND HIS GALLANT 1,500,000

LORD Rothschild let the plug out of the Think Tank last week. At the same time Ted Heath was hysterically alleging that every beggar in town had a washing machine, new car and dishwasher hidden away in his bundle of rags. Naturally there was a great soul-searching at Daily Express as to how they should play this clash between the genii and his master.

The only thing that owner of the Express, Sir Max Aitken, has in common with the rest of us is that he can't stand Ted Heath. This is partly because he is pro-common Market and therefore anti-Commonwealth and partly because Aitken knows that Heath will lose the next election for the Tories.

On the other hand, Aitken couldn't back Rothschild's conclusion about the management of our economic affairs because that might scare off investors and advertisers.

Self-interest won and this extraordinary burbling appeared on the front page last week.

'The Daily Express believes in the good life for its readers. This is why the paper applauds when Prime Minister Ted Heath spells out the rising sales of new cars, colour TV sets, dishwashers, washing machines and holidays abroad.

'Prosperity never hurt anyone and the Express has always said that ordinary people should be able to share its benefits.

Mighty

'Consider this: 1½ million Express readers took their holidays abroad last season, 559,000 have new washing machines; 85,000 own dishwashers; 1,183,000 watch their TV in colour; over ½ million have cars less than 12 months old.

'All this adds up to a discriminating readership with an ever-increasing purchasing power.' Really? I think all this adds up to a mere 1,500,000 people out of a population of 54,000,000 who can afford the lovely things Ted Heath was talking about.

The Express went on to explain that this 'wealth' of its readership was why the Ford Motor Company had decided to advertise their new car in the paper.

Sure enough, there was a mighty advertisement for the Ford car.

And sure enough, there was a mighty glowing report of the new car from David Benson, the Express's motoring correspondent.

About a year ago, the message was relayed by Sir Max Aitken to all journalistic staff that the old Express

Another important aspect of the forecast of Howater consolidated accounts. Thus last year the consolidated net profit for the merged company to buy were £78.27 million for the UK profit. Only £4.7 million is French and only £72.7 million for the British.

This arises because of a different treatment of certain items. French directors, for instance, are usually entitled to a proportion of the dividend.

So expect an important UK acquisition before the end of the year. No one is going to share any of the profits as to what factors will be used to determine the profit in the country will be used to determine the profit in the country.

Finally, the document gives a breakdown of the 1.5 million. It is not a million but 1.5 million. It is not a million but 1.5 million.

image was dead along with a large number of its readers and that the paper would move more to the left in order to attract new, younger readers.

The message seems never to have reached the Sunday Express, which is now becoming number one supporter of Enoch Powell.

Last Sunday, the Express gave no less than 3½ inches to Powell's latest racial scare statistics, and that is a lot of space to waste in a shortage of newspaper crisis.

The headline read: 'Powell says London will be one-third coloured,' and beneath that was a detailed report of the speech given to a private meeting to Tottenham Tories.

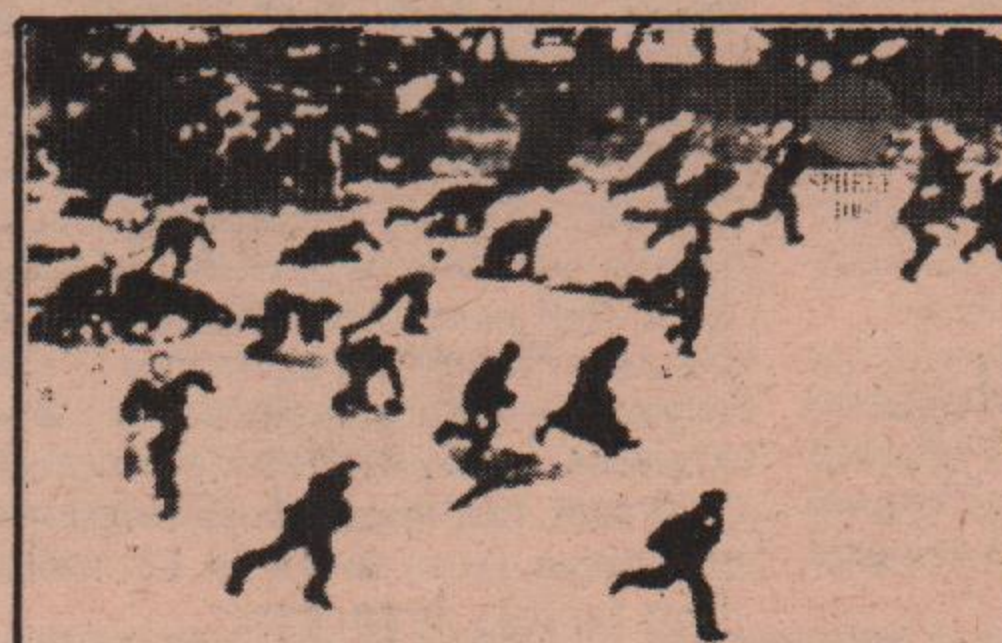
A private meeting means that the press is excluded. Did Powell therefore send a copy of his speech to the Express or had that paper been trailing him in hopes of a juicy story like this one?

Not content to run the story and leave the readers to make up their own minds about Powell's mania for immigration figures, the Express carried a centre page feature by that other right-winger, Angus Maude MP who had another 42 inches in which to explain that the blacks were taking us over and that Enoch Powell was a great Messiah.

Columnist John Gordon also had a go, alongside Maude.

Could it possibly be that the Express papers have found a successor to the dreaded Ted? And could that successor's first name possibly be Enoch? Wait for the next installment of how Sir Max Aitken made Enoch Powell Prime Minister.

Leonard Hill



'The language of the civilised nations has clearly marked off two epochs in the development of Russia. Where the aristocratic culture introduced into world parlance such barbarisms as czar, pogrom, knout, October has internationalised such words as Bolshevik, soviet... This alone justifies the proletarian revolution, if you imagine it needs justification'—Trotsky.

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IS Books, 265 Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park, London N4



Chingari does second issue

THE latest issue of Chingari, the International Socialist paper for Punjabi-speaking Indians and Pakistanis, is now out.

It contains articles on the scandal of low pay for Asian workers at London's Heathrow Airport, an analysis of the seven-week strike against racialism at the Standard Telephone's plant in North London, an editorial on the poor response so far to the campaign against the Law Lords' ruling on the Immigration Act, an interview with S Kadre of the Pakistan Action Committee on the racialist Pakistan Bill and a report on recent strikes in Europe by immigrant workers.

Price 2p per copy, Chingari is available from Chingari Business Manager, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

Chingari masthead in Gurmukhi script. Title: 'ਗੀਬਰੋ ਏਅਰ-ਪੋਰਟ ਦਾ ਸਕੈਂਡਲ' (Heathrow Airport Scandal). Subtitle: 'ਏਸ਼ੀਅਨ ਔਰਤਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਮੁਜਰਮਾਨਾ ਸਲੂਕ ਅਤੇ ਬੇਇਨਸਾਫੀ' (Unjust treatment of Asian women). Includes a small photo of a person and contact information for the business manager.

MEETINGS

IS WOMEN'S DAY SCHOOL. This Saturday at 11am, not 10am, North London Poly common room, Holloway Road, London N7. Women's oppression in Capitalist Society. The importance of Women in the Revolutionary Party. For creche and accommodation contact Liz Burke, 90 Mountview Road, London N4. Phone 01-348 3881. IS MEMBERS ONLY. Social to be arranged.

BARNET IS public meeting: The Struggle for Workers' Power. Speaker Harry Wicks (socialist militant for more than 50 years). Wednesday 10 October, 8pm, Bull and Butcher, High Road, Whetstone.

BIRMINGHAM IS Day School PHASE THREE: The economic situation. Speaker John Palmer. The Trade Unions. Speaker Roger Rosewell, Sunday 7 October, 2pm-6.30pm, Lecture Room 1, Digbeth Civic Hall, Open to all IS members and close contacts.

WEST MIDDLESEX IS public meeting TORY HANDS IN YOUR POCKETS. Speaker Paul Foot. Monday 8 October, 7.45pm. Alexandra Road Junior School, Hounslow (entrance in Holloway Road, off High Street).

CHELMSFORD IS public meeting WHY THE TRADE UNION LEADERS WILL NOT FIGHT? How the rank and file must act to smash Phase Three. Speaker Tony Cliff (IS executive committee member). Tuesday 16 October, 8pm, Chelmsford Civic Centre.

WORCESTER IS public meeting: Why the system stinks. Speaker Granville Williams, Tuesday 16 October, 8pm, Lamb and Flag, The Tything, Worcester.

DUNDEE IS public meeting: Why the system stinks and how to fight it. Speaker Paul Foot. Wednesday 10 October, 8pm, Trade Union Halls, 6 Allen Street.

READING IS public meeting: Tenants and trade unionists against the Tories. Speaker Roger Protz. Wednesday 10 October, 7.45 pm, Whitley Community Centre, Northumberland Avenue, Reading.

STOKE IS public meeting: Workers against racism. Speaker George Peake (IS organiser and victim of apartheid). Thursday 11 October, 8pm, Victoria Hotel (opposite Stoke City football ground).

WOLVERHAMPTON IS meeting for engineering workers: The fight for the pay claim. Speaker Vic Collard (AUEW shop steward, Lucas, Birmingham). Wednesday 10 October, 8pm, The Posada, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton.

FOURTH IS HISTORY GROUP School: Trade unionism and socialism in the 1880s. Speakers: Vic Bailey on an introduction to the struggles, Dave Wilson and Ken Montague on William Morris and the Socialist League, and Richard Hyman on Tom Mann. Saturday 27 October, 2pm-6.30pm, Room F107, Lanchester Polytechnic, Coventry (opposite Coventry Cathedral). Open to all IS members and sympathisers. Morning session, 11am-1pm, for IS historians to discuss History Group business. Further information from Alistair Hatched, secretary IS History Group, 69 Arden Street, Earlsdon, Coventry. Tel: Coventry 76458.

BRADFORD IS MEETING How to fight Phase Three. Speaker Roger Rosewell (IS Merseyside organiser). Thursday 11 October, 8pm, 55 Godwin Street (upstairs), Bradford 1. ALL WELCOME.

MEETINGS ON CHILE

SALFORD IS CHILE: WHAT WENT WRONG? Speaker Duncan Hallas. Friday 5 October, 8pm, Ye Olde Nelson, Chapel Street, Salford.

COVENTRY DISTRICT IS WHAT HAPPENED IN CHILE? Speaker Chris Harman. Friday 5 October, 7.30pm, Room L13, Lanchester Polytechnic (between Odeon Cinema and Lady Godiva pub).

BRADFORD IS CHILE: THE LESSONS WE CAN LEARN. Speaker Ian Birchall. Saturday 6 October, 2.30pm, Talbot Hotel (Upstairs), Kirkgate.

MIDDLETON IS CHILE: FAILURE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ROAD TO SOCIALISM. Speaker Duncan Hallas (IS political secretary). Thursday 4 October, 8pm, Ashteton Arms, Long Street, Middleton. All socialists welcome.

BIRMINGHAM IS district meeting THE LESSONS OF THE CHILEAN TRAGEDY. Speaker Duncan Hallas, (IS national committee member). Thursday 11 October, 7.30pm. Lecture Room 2, Digbeth Civic Hall. All welcome.

NEWHAM IS public meeting: Why the system stinks. Speaker Paul Foot. Thursday 18 October, 8pm, East Ham Town Hall.

DEWSBURY IS public meeting THE FIGHT AGAINST PHASE THREE. Speaker Ken Appleby (AUEW, IS national committee member). Thursday 4 October, 8pm, Textile Club.

EDINBURGH IS public meeting WORKERS AGAINST RACISM. Speaker George Peake (victim of apartheid). Wednesday 17 October, 7.30pm, Trade Union Centre, 12/14 Picardy Place, Edinburgh.

NOTICES

SW (LITHO) PRINTERS require studio assistants. Neat, clean working essential, and some experience of printing and/or graphics would be an advantage. Please apply, in writing, to J Nichol, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS.

F ROBERTS, Liverpool, 1. will not be available to speak outside Merseyside for the next few months, and 2. asks comrades to contact him by post rather than by phone.

COMRADE REQUIRES single room in Liverpool from 10 October. Mature student (33), journalist, recently back from Chile. Phone 01-982 9296, or write Flat 1, 17 Cambridge Park, Twickenham, Middx.

ISIS: Information about companies in the private sector can be obtained direct from ISIS, c/o Socialist Worker, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2 9DS. No other questions can be dealt with for the time being. The old ISIS address has ceased to function.

TYPIST needed by SW Litho Printers. Interesting work but must be reasonably accurate.

IS BOOKS has moved to 265 Seven Sisters Road, London N4. Please address all letters to this address. The new phone number is 01-802-6145.

NHS militant mood grows

FIFTY-FIVE members of IS who work in the hospital service from all over Britain met in Birmingham last Saturday. After a general introduction on IS trade union policy by Andreas Nagliati, the health workers discussed the mood in the hospitals since the strike.

Despite the hammering taken in the spring, hospital trade unions are stronger and more militant in attitude with a new breed of younger shop stewards elected after the defeat. The joint management-union push on bonus schemes after the strike had been rejected in three-quarters of hospitals and bans on private patients, pioneered in Portsmouth and the Brook Hospital, London are a promising industrial weapon.

Liverpool hospital ancillary workers explained how they had already organised a 24-hour strike against the withholding of 'anomaly' back pay.

In a detailed discussion of the latest NUPE pay claim, it was felt that Alan Fisher was desperate to extract some compromise which he could then sell to the members as a victory without tears. Against this IS members

affirmed that union members must be determined that the claim is for '£25, not a penny less and for women too'.

As the health workers' claim is only the first in a pile of public sector claims in December, the need for an alliance between rank and file trade union bodies was once again raised.

Wendy Plimley, outgoing fraction secretary, reported that IS had 118 hospital worker members with four workplace branches, and two more being set up. 'Only a year ago it was a doctor, a dentist, and a porter in a room in London,' she said.

Over that year the fraction had had to work flat out simply to keep up with events. But the success of Hospital Worker, the rank and file paper which IS members began, and the growth of health worker and soon hospital branches showed what could be achieved.

A new committee of four hospital ancillary workers and a nurse was elected. A member of Hospital Worker editorial board made a plea for local fund raising to pay for the paper's recent libel action and raised more than £12 on the spot.

Double for Manchester

MANCHESTER.-A packed meeting of IS members in the main hall of the AUEW offices on Sunday heard a report on the work of the district over the past three months by Glyn Carver, the Manchester district organiser. Membership in Greater Manchester has doubled to more than 200 and the number of branches has increased from seven to 15, including four factory branches.

Carver said this growth in size and influence underlines the need to strengthen district organisation. The meeting reacted by electing the strongest district committee ever. The eleven-man committee contains a wealth of trade union and political experience, including three convenors, several shop stewards and

members who are officers in trade union branches and delegates to trades councils.

The meeting then discussed how to build solidarity in Manchester with the 24 building workers on trial at Shrewsbury, and the importance of the coming Socialist Worker industrial conference. Andreas Nagliati, IS industrial organiser, stressed the responsibility of IS to mobilise trade unionists against Phase Three.

'As the largest revolutionary movement in Western Europe we have a duty to give a lead in the crucial plant battles of the next few months', he said.

IS members throughout Manchester are to organise factory meetings at which one of the North

Wales 24 Defence Committee would speak.

The meeting instructed the district committee to find premises in central Manchester to be used for offices, meeting room and a bookshop. The importance to the members of this decision was underlined by the magnificent pledges of long-term financial support for the project made at the end of the meeting.

ATTI teachers demand fight against freeze

MEMBERS of IS who are in ATTI, the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutes, have played a large part in the past 18 months in building the Rank and File teachers' group and in successful campaigns within the union.

A well-attended meeting of the IS ATTI fraction last weekend decided to continue demands for a union policy for a less divisive salary system, especially as the executive is submitting to the demands for preferential treatment by some of the best-paid college lecturers.

ATTI members will also continue to demand that the executive should cease just to mouth militancy and give an effective lead to beat Phase Three and win the full pay claim.

EQUALITY: 'NO DEAL'

THE IS women's sub-committee has drafted a 'model' resolution which can be used in trade union branches in discussion on the government's new proposals on equality (see report on page 8).

'This branch is strongly opposed to the government's recent proposals to repeal the sections of the Factory Acts giving protection to women (Consultation Document September 1973: Equal Opportunities for men and women). Under no circumstances should working night and shift systems be made a condition for equal pay and equal opportunity in industry.

'Furthermore we condemn the attempt to disguise as equal rights a blatant attack on working-class conditions and life at a time when the government is obstructing progress towards equal pay. We call for the immediate implementation of equal pay with no strings attached.'

COACHES TO CONFERENCE

COACHES will be going to the Socialist Worker Industrial Conference at Belle Vue, Manchester, on Sunday 11 November, from the following areas. Contact the addresses given for details. EDINBURGH: 2 Murao Place, (off Leith Walk), Edinburgh, Phone 554 6310. TEESIDE: 28 Glenfield Drive, Tollesby, Middlesbrough. WOLVERHAMPTON: 1 The Hayes, Willenhall, Staffordshire. SHEFFIELD: 98 Malton Street, Sheffield 10. Phone Sheffield 381417. BIRMINGHAM: 25 Selbourne Road, Birmingham 20. Phone 021-554 1193. NEWCASTLE-upon-TYNE: 7 Knivestone Court, Killingworth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE12 0ST. BRISTOL and the South West: 31 Eldon Terrace, Bedminster, Bristol 3. MERSEYSIDE: 64 Kenmare Road, Liverpool 15. PAISLEY, CLYDEBANK, CUMBERNAULD, EAST KILBRIDE and GLASGOW: IS Books, 64 Queens Street, Glasgow C1. COVENTRY: 42 Hamilton Road, Coventry. WARLEY: 99 Barclay Road, Warley. Phone 021-429 4166. SOUTH WALES: 5 St Albans Road, Brynmill, Swansea, SA2 0BP. NORFOLK: 104 Rosary Road, Norwich. NORTH LONDON: 46 Manor Road, N16. NORTH WEST LONDON: 15 Staverton Road, NW2. SOUTH WEST LONDON: 8 Beverstone Road, SW2. SOUTH EAST LONDON: 87 Speenwell House, Comet Street, Deptford, SE8. EAST LONDON: 16 Madras Road, Ilford. CENTRAL LONDON: 79 Bayham Street, NW1. WEST LONDON: 18 Sutherland Road, Southall, Middlesex. A special train will run from Central London to Belle Vue, Manchester, and return, leaving at 7.15am, price £2 return. For details contact London Region IS, 8 Cotton Gardens, London E2 8DN.

IS miners work out militant policies

MORE THAN 20 IS miners' delegates from every coalfield except Northumberland and Durham attended a policy-making meeting in Barnsley on Saturday.

During the first of two sessions IS policy to the current pay claim was worked out. It was felt that the left dominated NUM executive would try to sell productivity deals to achieve the claim and this should be fought against.

An IS pamphlet, the Miners' Pay Claim*, will be produced this week and members will use it to campaign for the claim and for opposition to any productivity deal. If the claim is rejected, IS policy is for an all-out stoppage from 1 January.

The second session was devoted to ways of building IS organisation at pit level.

*The Miners' Pay Claim, price 5p, is available from The Secretary, 22 Weetwood Court, Leeds 16.

THE executive committee of IS has produced speakers' notes on the Chile events. Copies are available from the secretary, 8 Cotton Gardens, London E2.

Advertisement for 'The Building Worker' magazine. Title: 'ALL OUT FOR SHREWSBURY PICKETS TRIAL'. Subtitle: 'A Programme for Action'. Includes a small photo of a picket line and the text 'ON THE SITES'. Description: 'THE latest issue of Building Worker, the Socialist Worker special issue for the construction industry, is now out. It includes a programme for action in defence of the 24 building workers on trial at Shrewsbury for picketing during the national strike last year, an analysis of the unions' refusal to fight against the Lump, an article on the jobs boom for electricians, and reports from all over the country. Copies are 3p each, plus 3p postage, from IS Industrial Dept, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN. Ten or more copies post free.'

force Ford to back down

DAGENHAM:-Ford management have been forced to beat a hasty retreat over their decision to victimise a black worker.

The company decided to sack Winston Williams in a bid to increase management authority on the shop floor. But last week when 2000 more Dagenham workers joined a strike for his reinstatement, Ford decided to backtrack.

Winston has now been reinstated pending and arbitration board inquiry into management's claims that Winston assaulted a foreman.

The supposed assault on a foreman took place after constant management harassment of Winston Williams and his mates to increase production yet again. The foreman he was accused of hitting has a long record of pushing workers beyond the limit. And in fact Winston Williams was the only victim of the incident. He collapsed as a result of the pressure.

Solid

The Transport and General Workers Union supported the strike to reinstate Winston. But instead of sticking out solid for reinstatement without strings the union agreed to the compromise.

Ford management's about-face on the victimisation issue is also connected with the fear that the struggle for full lay-off pay could really take off. Ford does not pay lay off money for 'internal' disputes. Dagenham workers are so fed up with being laid off without pay at night that the issue has become really explosive.



Demonstrators outside Leicester Prison last Saturday protesting at the treatment of Noel Jenkinson and of three building workers from Luton being held in the top security wing awaiting trial on charges of 'conspiracy'. The demonstrators included members of the International Socialists and Irish Republicans. Picture: John Sturrock (Report).

ASSET STRIPPER HELD AT BAY

COVENTRY:-Workers at the threatened BSA Triumph factory at Meriden occupied the plant on Tuesday night after management announced 1200 were to be sacked by Christmas and the other 550 in January.

All through the Coventry works holiday last week, 24-hour pickets were maintained at the Triumph

factory gates. The pickets were determined to ensure that the bosses did not use the holiday to move machines and jigs out.

Dennis Poore, asset-stripper boss of the newly-merged Norton Villiers Triumph motorcycle firm, is determined to shut the more modern Coventry plant to avoid any parity claims from the company's other workers.

His scheme is to sack all the 1750

workers at the plant, where wages are higher. Production will be concentrated in Birmingham.

Management are increasingly concerned at the growing opposition to their plan. They have been placing massive and costly adverts in the Coventry Evening Telegraph extolling the virtues of their scheme to make 1750 workers redundant. This little dodge has proved worthless and the campaign is growing.

Shop stewards have started a regular bulletin to inform all workers at Meriden of developments and of the full background to the closure bid. With the Chrysler crisis overshadowing even the threat of the Meriden closure, the Triumph workers are more determined than ever to save their jobs.

Victory at the Wimpy

SOUTH LONDON:-25 Turkish cooks and chefs at Wimpy Bars, Aberdeen Steak Houses and Texas Pancake Houses scored an immediate success last week when they went on strike in protest against the sacking of two cooks.

Within 24 hours of the strike being called, both sacked men were back at work. Their boss, Ali Salih, also agreed to recognise the Transport and General Workers' Union throughout his 25 restaurants, where 100 immigrant Turks work as many as 90 hours a week for as little as £25.

The decision to strike came at a mass meeting of workers last Thursday evening, which was addressed by Alva Miranda, chairman of the International Branch of the TGWU.

This success follows closely on the organisation by the International Branch of more than 500 Greek Cypriot workers at 25 Angus Steak Houses owned by the EMI-Golden Egg group. These workers have recently received a substantial pay rise back-dated by a month.

John Stevens, secretary of the International Branch, told Socialist Worker: 'These workers desperately need organisation. They are picked on and kicked about just as management pleases.'

CLASSIFIED

Copy for the Classified section must arrive by first post Monday morning. Adverts will not be accepted over the phone. Charges are 5p per line, semi-display 10p per line. CASH WITH COPY. No insertions without payment. Invoices cannot be sent.

RANK AND FILE EDUCATION CONFERENCE: Saturday 13 October, 10am: Women in education, 2pm: Exams and selection, Sunday 14 October, 10.30am: Racism in schools. Leicester University Students Union.

DEFENCE OF CIVIL LIBERTIES march: Saturday 6 October, 2pm, Charrington Street, London NW1, march to New Scotland Yard. Called by London Ad-hoc Committee for Defence of Civil Rights.

PUBLIC MEETING FIGHT THE BAN ON THE LIGUE COMMUNISTE
Speaker Pierre Rousset (former member of the political bureau of the Communist League). Pierre Rousset was recently released from prison after serving a two-month jail sentence arising out of the banning of the League and after the raid on its headquarters by the French police. Monday 8 October, 7.30pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London WC1.

Issue no 4 of **HOSPITAL WORKER** now out. Articles on the pay claim, bonus schemes, nurses and electricians. Copies 4p (plus 3p postage) from 86 Mountgrove Road, London N5. Ten or more post free.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY aims at building a world community without frontiers based on common ownership—with production solely for use—not profit. It opposes all other political parties, all leadership, all racialism, all war. Write for specimen socialist literature to 'One World' (SW), The Socialist Party of Great Britain, 52 Clapham High Street, London SW4.

NEW 'RANK AND FILE' TEACHERS PAMPHLET EDUCATION AND SOCIETY, by Chanie Rosenberg, 10p (plus 5p post and packing) from 86 Mountgrove Road, London N5.

BANNED IN IRELAND . . . available from Red Books: Freedom Struggle by the Provisional IRA. 100 pages. Retail 50p. Special offer, mail order: 50p post free. From Red Books, 24 Boundary Road, London NW8. Trade: write for terms or phone 01-624 4504.

BACK IN PRINT: Lenin's What is to be done? 20p (including p and p) from Red Books, 24 Boundary Road, London NW8.

LEFT BOOKSTORES: Freedom Struggle by the Provisional IRA—the book Cosgrave banned from Dublin—is being wholesaled through Red Books, 100 pages, 50p retail. Inquiries to Dept FS, 24 Boundary Road, London NW8. Phone 01-624 4504.

GAYPRINTS—Gay liberation pamphlets, FAGGOTS and the REVOLUTION, documents from FHAR price 16p; The Joke's Over, report on the Social Needs of Homosexuals 20p (all prices include p&p), from Box GP, 197 Kings Cross Road, London WC1.

LEAFLETS, PAMPHLETS, COVERS etc: Quality electrostencils, by return. Only 30p! (plus 5p postage and packing): 56 Park Road, Lenton, Nottingham.

NALGO ACTION GROUP Conference: Weekend 20/21 October, Fairholt House, 102-105 Whitechapel High Street, London E1 (City of London Students Union, top floor). Essential for all NALGO members. Discussion on the fight against Phase Three: the need for a rank and file organisation in NALGO. Reports on activity within the union. Admission by union card. Details from NAG convenor, 102 Richmond Road, London E2, or Conference organiser, Flat 2, 34 Dermody Road, London SE13.

JIM HIGGINS

BLACKPOOL
NOTEBOOK

at the
Labour Party
Conference

THE Labour Party Conference is running true to prediction. The Tories' take-over bid of the Wilson government's policies on wages, trade union legislation and aid to ailing capitalism have induced a significant swing to the left in the mood of the rank and file delegates to the conference.

But before conference started, Harold Wilson, with the aid of Jack Jones, managed to fix the voting arithmetic to avoid any commitment to nationalising even 25 companies.

The prevailing mood has allowed the platform speakers to reflect the radicalism of delegates' speeches by frequent references to the evils of capitalism and the crying need for socialism. The tragedy is that delegates show touching faith in the likelihood of this rhetoric being put into action.

Amid all the left talk however the right-wing has not been entirely unrepresented. Tom Jackson, still smarting from his 1971 defeat at the hands of the Tories, made a plea for a return to the idea of wages planning under an incomes policy 'to benefit the lower paid'.

This theme was eagerly taken up by Labour's spokesman on employment Reg Prentice. 'Years of collective bargaining did not do very much for the relative position of the lower paid,' he said. There is some truth in that—but none in the idea that incomes policy will improve their lot. The experience of Prentice's own Labour administration was that incomes policy made it relatively worse.

A more realistic call by NUPE, the public employees' union, for a minimum wage of 80 per cent of average industrial earnings was rejected on the grounds that it might add 70 per cent to wages costs.

This shows just how many low-paid workers there are. The Labour leaders' opposition to this call shows just how empty is their rhetoric about the plight of the low-paid.

Illusions

Hugh Scanlon, moving unsuccessfully that incomes policy should be opposed under any government and that the TUC talks with the government should be rejected, was particularly soft in his criticism and offered to remit the motion to the executive to avoid embarrassing them in their relations with the TUC.

The Post Office Engineering Union moved a resolution opposing wage restraint and urging nationalisation of major industries on the basis of industrial democracy. Splendidly vague and the stuff that illusions are made of.

Denis Healey replied for the executive to this resolution, Scanlon's and another on food policy. His speech was long, received with little enthusiasm, and said even less. Three-quarters was devoted to 'Heath-bashing' and the rest to a commitment to reform the tax system—which Healey described as 'an enterprise of mammoth proportions' requiring two Labour governments to carry through.

In a later debate on fuel policy we had Eric Hammond of the Electricians Union, that well-known bolshevik, quoting Lenin to the effect that 'Socialism equals electrification—plus Soviets.' He spoke at length on electrification but not a word on soviets.

Touching faith in empty rhetoric

The opposite of what Lenin said is of course true: Electrification minus soviets equals capitalism.

Judith Hart pledged executive support for coal against other fuels and spoke of the 'gradual' nationalisation of North Sea oil and gas. Presumably 10 years of Labour would give us public ownership of North Sea oil—which is due to run out about then. Mrs Hart had the grace not to offer to nationalise dodos as a radical socialist ecological gesture.

In the debate on public ownership Harold Wilson made his usual virtuoso performance with jokes, oratorical flourishes, and a pretty thin commitment to any action. The programme is an unrolling one, with the carpet finally laid about the time Wilson is due to retire.

Docks, ports, shipbuilding, building land, machine tools and road haulage too were all for public ownership with industrial democracy—all under the benevolent eye of a 'sovereign parliament'.

Desire

The standing ovation these modest proposals received shows the basic fault within this conference. It is mainly motivated by a desire to do good to and for the working class, but unfortunately the instrument chosen is a parliament dedicated to quite different aims.

The object of the speeches, and some were very good, is to commit the Labour executive, the parliamentary party and Harold Wilson (especially Wilson) to socialism.

But Wilson's main commitment is to taking another lease at 10 Downing Street. If that calls for some easy left phrases to weld the party and the trade unions into a useful election machine he is quite prepared to provide them.

Socialism still means the exercise of power by workers themselves. The energy spent in trying to convince Harold would be more profitably spent in fighting with the working class in their everyday struggles.



I would like to join the
International Socialists

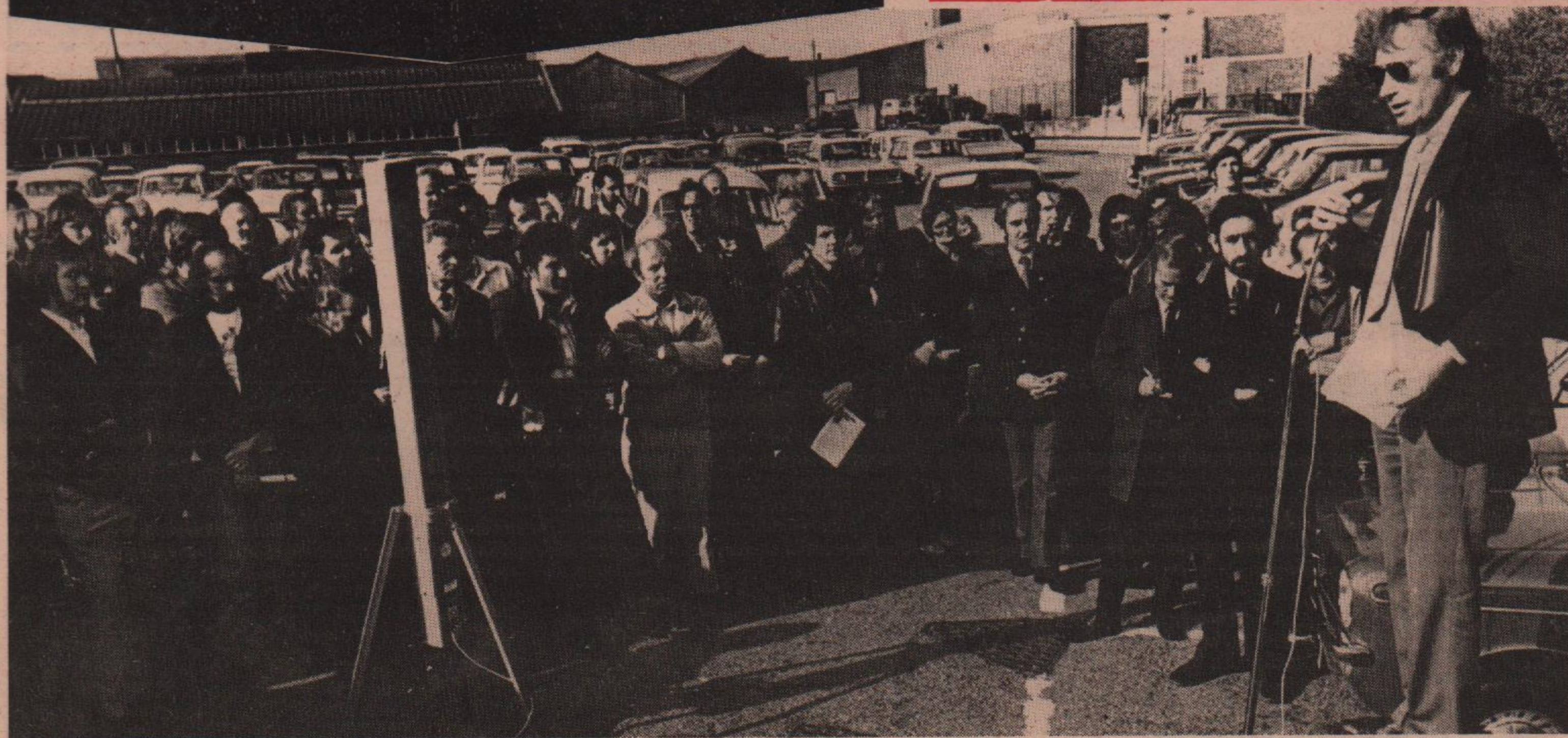
Name _____

Address _____

Trade Union _____

Send to: IS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

Kodak occupied after lock-out



HEMEL HEMPSTEAD: Workers occupied the colour processing section of the massive Kodak complex last week after the company locked out its 1000 workers. The men are getting full strike pay from their union, the film and television union, ACTT and the occupation is solid.

This is the latest move in a 10-year battle at Kodak for union recognition. Kodak, American-owned and notoriously anti-union, recognises

only its own company-backed Union of Kodak Workers and Kodak Senior Staff Association.

The spark that set off the disputes was productivity. Kodak wants to bring in a new machine which will increase productivity in colour processing by 16 times—yet refused to pay the men a penny more. The men blacked the machine. Kodak refused to talk to them for 11 weeks—unless they would join the UKW—then shut the plant down.

A mass meeting on Monday of 150 workers (pictured above) voted unanimously to continue the sit-in and refused to join talks with management and the UKW. The UKW had made a condition that the ACTT not be represented or discussed at the talks.

The ACTT men have been pledged support by workers at Kodak plants in Harrow, Stevenage and Kirkby Lancashire.

Picture: Christopher Davies (Report)

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

'Red-baiter' Boyd in key AUEW poll

THE key election for the post of executive member for Division 1 (mainly Scotland) of the engineering section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers is now under way. Ballot papers were posted to union members on Monday and have to be returned by 15 October.

The election is a particularly important one because if John Boyd, the sitting member, is defeated and his opponent Calum Mackay wins, then the Scanlon-type lefts on the executive will have a majority.

John Boyd is the most uncompromising right-winger in the AUEW engineering section. He is a member of the Salvation Army and supports the violently anti-socialist and anti-communist organisation Moral Re-armament.

He is a member of the Motherwell branch of the AUEW and draws his support from the traditionally conservative engineering workers of this strongly Protestant Lanarkshire town.

In 1967 Boyd was narrowly defeated by Hugh Scanlon for the post of AUEW president. He stood against Scanlon again in 1970, when his election address was a model of trade union 'red-baiting' designed to get the strongly anti-communist Protestant and Catholic votes.

In his current election address Boyd returns to the same theme. 'I disdain the Communists, Trotskyists and their stooges,' he writes. He implies that some sinister conspiracy got together to put up someone against him, not ordinary members of the union.

Boyd in fact hates and fears the idea that democratic meetings should decide candidates and that other meetings should be held to hear their views. He calls this 'blatant outside interference in our union's affairs.'

His opponent, Calum Mackay, is the Paisley district secretary of the union. He is not the strongest candidate who could have been fielded and was recently defeated by a right-winger in the elections for Scottish regional office. But Jimmy Reid and James Airlie, the two most prominent names to come out of the UCS struggle, declined to stand.

Lame

The doubts expressed about Mackay were recently borne out when Chrysler's Linwood engineering workers came out on strike against the use of blackleg labour in the factory. Mackay showed that while he is far to the left of Boyd and an opponent of those who bow down to the employers, he is also a union bureaucrat ready to defend the leadership before he will defend the members.

Instead of giving a clear welcome to the Linwood strikers' decision not to work with scab labour, Mackay lamely and incorrectly told the press that 'the men would have continued working if the electricians' maintenance jobs had been carried out by foremen who were members of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

While saying that a big vote to kick Boyd off the AUEW executive council is vital, no-one should be under any illusions that the struggle will be over in the unlikely event of Mackay winning. A real militant rank and file movement of engineering workers will have to be built if left officials are ever to be controlled and kept true to their election pledges.

Engineers defy NIRC

WOKING:—Engineering union members at Con Mech are continuing to picket the factory gates this week in defiance of a National Industrial Relations Court instruction.

Last week the NIRC ordered them to return to work by last Monday. The workers are on strike for union recognition, and the strike has been made official by the AUEW executive.

The NIRC order on the union instructed the AUEW to get its members back to work. The union is refusing to comply and it is likely that its principled stand will lead to more proceedings against the union by the Tory Industrial Relations Court.

CHRYSLER MEN FIGHT CAVE-IN

DESPITE one of the most intensive campaigns of propaganda and intimidation against any group of workers in struggle for some time, the Chrysler electricians are still holding out for payment of their agreed £250-a-year rise.

At the meeting of senior stewards from all unions concerned on Monday, the electricians were subjected to renewed pressure to settle their strike by accepting £190, the precise £1 plus 4 per cent sum they took action to improve. They declined, said they would fight on and asked the other unions to change their attitude to the struggle.

The meeting became increasingly bitter as representatives of the other unions attempted to make the electricians the scapegoats for the crisis at Chrysler.

Such moves are naturally being helped to the full by the press, diverting attention from Chrysler's gangster tactics and supporting its bid to wreck militant trade union organisation in its plants.

by Laurie Flynn Socialist Worker Industrial Reporter

Yet over the past week it has become increasingly clear that the purpose of Chrysler's closure and redundancy threats has been to ensure that workers at Linwood in Scotland do not impose new sanctions against the company's use of scab labour.

At the Linwood shop stewards meeting last week John Carty, the chairman, insisted that the company was deadly serious in its threats to cut back jobs. But other stewards ridiculed this position and pointed out that all Chrysler's threats were made, and varied, according to the situation at Linwood.

SCAB LABOUR

The Linwood electricians decided over the weekend to stay at work for another week to allow joint union meetings the chance to find a settlement.

But the Linwood electricians are still pledged to strike again from Monday if no settlement has been made. And there will unquestionably be moves to renew action against scab labour from other workers in the plant.

The most disreputable aspect of the

recent developments in the dispute is the way the leaders of the Transport and Engineering Unions have knelt down in front of Chrysler empire's threats to get out of Britain or sack one third of the workforce.

These are the same people who made fine speeches at TUC and international union conferences on the need to get to grips with the multinational companies. Now they have caved in without a murmur to the very threats they exposed at those meetings.

Just how concerted Chrysler's campaign has been is hinted at in The Observer newspaper last Sunday. The paper's report showed that 'poverty-stricken' Chrysler had gone to considerable lengths to avoid reporting its record profits in the first half of this year.

Clearly what Chrysler is up to is provoking strikes to ensure that next year's first half returns will be even higher. For if Chrysler's persistent attacks on trade union organisation prove successful then the company will be free to speed up production and roll in the profits.

Over the past week great effort has been made to obscure what brought the electricians out on strike. They are striking for a £5-a-week increase, which is more than the Tory £1 plus 4 per cent formula.

The basic reason why the leaders of the other unions have backtracked on any support and redefined blacklegging is that they do not want to see the electricians stoke up a broader fight with Phase Two

of the Tory Incomes Policy. For if they were truly concerned with unity then they would have organised support for the rank and file electricians and the strike would have been won.

Granville Hawley, head of the Transport Union's automotive section, spelt it out at a private meeting of the International Metalworkers Federation on Chrysler earlier this year. He said that the unions had to operate within the £1 plus 4 per cent framework.

Victory for 6-week sit-in

READING:—The 400 men and women who occupied the Adwest Engineering factory won an important victory last week after being in full control of the plant for six weeks in an attempt to stop its closure.

After long talks with the unions management agreed to all the guarantees on job security the workers had been demanding. They also agreed to a £2-a-week across the board increase for all staff and increases in bonus that will give total earning a boost of between £3 and £6 a week.

The workers were jubilant at their success but the shop stewards emphasised the need for a careful watch on management attempts to move machinery. It is clear this is only the first round in a long struggle.

LIGHTNING STRIKES MOVE

HULL:—Dockers will start their campaign of one-day lightning strikes in support of their wage claim this week. They are demanding an £8-a-week rise, which would increase their pay by 20 per cent and recoup the loss of pay caused by the inflation of the past two years.

The first of their weekly one-day stoppages was to be on Monday, but stewards decided over the weekend not to call the strike then. Instead they are opting for lightning stoppages with no notice being given to the employers.

The docks shop stewards committee

has also decided to black Chilean goods on the Hull docks. The decision was taken last week and is effective as of this week.

A spokesman for the stewards committee told Socialist Worker that this was a token of their opposition to the Chilean generals' coup and their reign of terror against Chilean workers and their organisations.

Although Hull only handles a small quantity of Chilean trade last year, the port shop stewards are hoping their example will inspire others. They intend

to move for a nation wide black against Chilean goods at the meeting of the National Port Shop Stewards Committee next weekend.

Hull dockers are still operating a massive blacking campaign against cowboy transport and wharf operators as part of their struggle to stop the organised destruction of the docks registration scheme. The Chilean generals have now been put on the same blacking lists and a leaflet is to be put out explaining the full background to the decision.

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