

## The by-elections

# A CASE OF BLATANT POLITICAL FRAUD

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By John Spencer  
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### Important element

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Between them, the two companies dominate the whole of the home market for record players.

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Both companies export over 80 per cent of their output. The Board of Trade had not announced at the time of writing whether it would refer the proposed merger to the Monopolies Commission, but clearly the Stock Market does not rate this threat very highly.

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By G. Healy  
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On the same platform, his fellow 'left' MP, Ian Mikardo, repeated the government lie when he said:

'It is now undoubtedly clear that the government has gone a long way towards securing our economic position in the world.'

The Labour leaders fought the 1964 and 1966 general elections on the claim that they were the party of full employment.

Now this promise has been cast aside, to the applause of the bankers of Wall Street and the City of London.

So it all boils down to this. In 1964 to 1966, Labour, the Party standing for full employment, has become in 1969 the party standing for unemployment, because it is in the interest of the Nation.

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He was immediately joined by Callaghan who went out of his way to single out the Midlands car workers who, through militant shop organizations, have driven up wage rates and fought back against short-time working and the threat of unemployment.

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## Grangemouth B-P site

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Mr Danny McGarvey,

## D.E.P. inquiry threatens Standard workers

THE Department of Employment and Productivity is to inquire into the ten-week-old strike at Standard-Triumph, Liverpool, Mrs Barbara Castle announced on Wednesday.

1,150 workers at the plant are on strike for a £4 10s. wage increase and a guaranteed wage during lay-offs.

They have the backing of the British-Leyland Combine Shop Stewards' Committee, which voted last week to pull out the whole combine on November 12 if the strike is not settled by then.

Attempts to 'bring the two sides together' in the time honoured class-compromise manner so far have failed dismally.

Talks broke down completely on Tuesday night at the Department of Employment and Productivity. Union representatives discussed the strike while DEP officials held talks with the management.

But even the DEP could find no basis for bringing the two sides together.

**On guard**  
This deadlock should put Standard-Triumph workers on their guard.

Behind the cover of an official inquiry, the right wing may attempt to slip in a settlement which will tie down the Standard workers.

The full claim must be fought for to a finish, because the Standard strike is only part of the wave of struggles now building up in the British-Leyland combine.

Workers' Press reporter

Amalgamated Society of Boilermakers president, has requested that the welding work is not carried out by members of the other unions—the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers, the Constructional Engineering Union and the Electrical Trades Union.

This has been rejected by officials of these unions.

About 200 of the 500 vacancies for welding workers have now been filled.

The productivity deal signed last year is at the base of the whole dispute.

**Sacked**  
The 500 men were sacked after refusing to implement the agreement which provides for extensive inroads into trade union practices.

The deal contains productivity clauses and requires interchangeability between trades.

The boilermakers rank and file were caught in a cleft stick.

Their leaders were fully in favour of productivity deals and would lead no fight against them.

The other unions on the site have accepted the deal and are telling their members that they are entitled to do welding work.

**Leadership**  
The lesson of the Grangemouth boilermakers' struggle is the necessity to build a leadership which will carry out a principled fight against productivity deals.

**Oxford rent revolt**  
A CROWDED meeting of more than 450 Oxford council tenants at Blackbird Leys estate on Tuesday night passed a resolution calling for an immediate refusal to pay rent increases of 3s. to 10s. imposed by the Tory council.

The meeting also called on other tenants' associations in the district to unite against the increases.

**Improved relations**  
The item for discussion at a 'reinforced' NATO council meeting on November 5 will be the improvement of 'east-west relations' and the consideration of the 'European security' proposals made in Budapest on March 17 this year.

Despite all the crocodile tears wept by NATO over the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia, and despite the use of a NATO plan by the Greek colonels in their coup of 1967, the two sides are still able to make these approaches.

We can be sure that the Stalinists will make the most of the concessions—at the expense of the working class.

## Incomes Act stays Mrs Castle tells M.P.s

HAROLD WILSON and Barbara Castle made it clear in their beginning of term speeches to Labour MPs this week that they will press ahead with their policies of wage restraint, productivity and rising cost of living.

As Wilson put it:

'Political success for Labour depends on economic success by Labour.'

By a political correspondent

In other words, we'll follow out the dictates of the international bankers whether or not it lets the Tories in.

The prime task is economic—i.e., 'saving' the British economy.

After this warning, Mrs Barbara Castle popped up to tell her audience that the government could not abandon 'the policy of relating incomes and prices to productivity and resources'.

**TWISTED**  
This phrase is, of course, a rather twisted formula for the prices and incomes policy.

If the Labour government were to abandon Part Two of the Prices and Incomes Act, Mrs Castle assured the meeting, they would have lost all possibility of influencing thinking and opinion on this 'vital aspect of economic and social policy'.

Vital or not, Wilson and Castle made it quite clear that Part Two, with its clause providing £500 fines for striking in breach of an order under the Act, will remain.

But the final cynical shot came from Mrs. Castle.

What would happen to food prices in the period before the election, she asked, if there were no means of dealing with them?

**FOOD UP**  
Presumably, the same would happen as has happened all over the world.

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## London firemen all out on November 19

AFTER OVER a year of frustrating negotiations over manning and pay, delegates representing London's 4,800 firemen voted overwhelmingly on Wednesday to take all-out strike action by 97 votes to 14.

The strike will be preceded by a token stoppage on Guy Fawkes night between 8 and 10 a.m. and 6 and 7 p.m.

Meanwhile, 'emergency calls only' will still operate.

This was fixed at a later meeting of the London Brigades Committee, which is also calling for the total stoppage for November 19.

The dispute with the Greater London Council, as explained in last Wednesday's Workers' Press, is not just for an 'accommodation allowance'.

The Webber Report, issued last June, offered firemen a

miserable £1 in return for productivity strings. Firemen now receive about £23 for a 56-hour week.

It is in these strings that the real dangers lie.

**Understaffed**  
London's 122 stations are now understaffed by 600 men.

Webber's call, in section 101 of the Report, for more efficiency, is an obvious

**ONE DEAD IN U.S. STRIKE BATTLE**

ONE man was shot dead and eight others were wounded in a gun-battle between pickets and blacklegs at the gates of Youngstown, Ohio, steel plant on Wednesday.

attempt to 'solve' the undermanning by increased productivity.

As one South London fireman told our reporter:

'The Webber Report must be rejected outright!'

'Firemen must guard against any attempt to include these strings in any settlement.'

The union can also be expected to use the so-called national wage increases on January 1 as a means of diverting the strike call.

By Rex Henry

Greater London Council chairman Mr Robert Mitchell declined to comment this week when asked if his 'two-part plan' to beat the strike included the use of troops.

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MORE THAN 400 building workers from Manchester and Merseyside marched through Manchester on Tuesday

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It will also deal with the role of the Stalinist trade union leaders in helping to create these conditions.

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**British Stalinism exposed**

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### FOOD UP

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## Angry scenes as dustmen confront police

THERE WERE angry scenes outside Manchester Town Hall as union officials tried to persuade 250 striking dustmen to obey a police ultimatum to disperse on Wednesday.

The strikers had climbed onto the Albert Memorial opposite the town hall chanting '£20 now! No strings attached'.

Inside the Town Hall, union representatives were preparing for negotiations with the council. Earlier the men had met

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## Warsaw Pact moves for 'collective security' conference

THE RECENT spate of diplomatic exchanges between capitalist and Soviet-bloc countries appears to be bearing fruit.

The foreign ministers of the Warsaw Pact countries (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Hungary, Rumania and the Soviet Union) met in Prague on Wednesday to discuss 'proposals for a general European conference'.

What the leaders of the East European and Soviet bureaucracies have in mind is

dissolving the two military alliances, the Warsaw Pact and NATO, into a single European 'collective security' treaty.

With the new turn in Brandt's foreign policy, the Soviet leaders clearly think the time has come for such an offer to be made.

There are already signs of a response from the imperialist powers.

Improved relations

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be the improvement of 'east-west relations' and the consideration of the 'European security' proposals made in Budapest on March 17 this year.

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# Whatever happened to Fairfields?

TO THE Labour government and to a band of closely associated millionaires and Tory business tycoons, the chance to 'save' the bankrupt Fairfields shipyard in 1965 came as a golden opportunity to set up an experiment involving all the latest developments in the intensification of labour.

In many ways, the situation at Fairfields was ideal for the purpose. On the one hand the yard had closed down with £32 million worth of orders on the books and in the middle of a £5 million modernization scheme.

It was, therefore, not the most antiquated of yards.

On the other hand, the threat of complete closure put the workers in the yard 'over a barrel' and the new management meant to keep them that way.

That this basis of using Fairfields as the proving-ground for work-study techniques was the key to the plan to save Fairfields comes over clearly as a fundamental theme of this book.

For public speeches from ministers, commentators and union leaders, it was all a question of saving the jobs of the Clyde workers.

Wasn't this the reason why the unions chipped in with £180,000?

In fact, this contribution was to act as an essential part of the proof that the scheme was union-backed and supported.

The money could have been raised elsewhere without too much trouble.

## GOVERNMENT STOP-GAP

The government unhesitatingly paid £1 million as a stop-gap to stave off immediate closure (Wilson promised this after a brief discussion when he heard what it was for).

The book traces in detail the behind-the-scenes link-up to raise the cash for the second million pounds required to run the experiment.

The key man in the scheme to run Fairfields, who had seen the opportunity to try out the new measures, was Sir Iain Stewart, chairman of a nearby firm, Hall-Thermotank, and a member of the boards of Babcock & Wilcox, The Dorchester Hotel Ltd., the Thomson Organization, Eagle Star Insurance, the National Commercial Bank of Scotland and Scottish Television.

While the government agreed to raise half of the second million pounds, millionaires Thomson (newspapers) and Wolfson (Great Universal Stores) invested large sums on the understanding that this was to go to an experiment into new forms of labour relations in British industry.

At the same time it was considered essential not to taint the enterprise with any suggestion of nationalization.

## LEADING ADVOCATE

The government was not to exceed its 50 per cent stake.

The leading advocate of the scheme was George Brown, who fought to get it accepted in government circles. Stewart himself convinced the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Callaghan, of the:

... opportunity to expose the problems of the industry and grasp the nettle of over-manning, demarcation and management problems.

The final monetary line-up was: the unions £130,000, the tycoons, including Wolfson and Thomson, £400,000 and the Board of Trade £530,000, a total of £1,060,000.

The Electrical Trades Union also lent £50,000.

Once the money was raised, the next step was to scour industry and the universities for the best possible work-study experts.

First on the list was Oliver Blandford. He was to head the new productivity department. Until then he had been general manager of Stephen's Engineering Works where he had been introducing work-study, Measured-Day Work and a number of other advanced management techniques.

Blandford, in turn, took on Jim Houston, director of engineering at Singers (Clydebank), 'a fearless convert to productivity'.

Over the following months, Houston developed a department of over 130 work-study personnel, to examine the work of the 3,000 workers involved.

Literally, scores of men were seen issuing from Houston's department armed with stopwatches, tape-measures and notebooks. Safety helmets were issued, colour-coded to indicate the nature of a person's employment.

"God", the yard workers exclaimed, "a bunch of bloody chocolate smarties".

Work-study men began by attempting to develop some sort of rational system out of methods of working that had been built up on a 100 years of trial and error.

And their method of doing this?

"Trial and error."

## WIDEST PUBLICITY

If this experiment was to act as an incentive to the rest of industry, it was essential to develop the widest possible publicity.

Sean Connery of James Bond fame, who had held eight different union cards in his early days as a milkman, labourer and factory worker, visited the yard and gave up six weeks of his time to make a television film about what was going on.

The role of the universities in the experiment is also informative.

On the Fairfields Board was K. Alexander, professor of economics at Strathclyde University.

However, it was not his knowledge of economics that was required. He had promised Iain Stewart that he would raise finance from the univer-



George Brown who was the man to push the Fairfields idea in government circles.

sity towards research into the effects of the new techniques on the shipyard labour.

Alexander was the link between the shipyard and the academic world. It was felt that also on the Board.

"Someone was required to represent the interests of Lord Thomson and Sir Isaac Wolfson, who between them had put up a quarter of a million pounds. The man who joined the board on their behalf was



Alcan (South Wales) factory—the next 'Fairfields experiment'—which is featured in BBC-1's 'Representing the Union' programme.



## 'WHATEVER HAPPENED AT FAIRFIELDS?' By Sydney Paulden and Bill Hawkins Gower Press 35s.

Bill Carron, ... President of the AEU.

Sir Jack Scamp was also appointed "to spread to other industries throughout the country accurate reports of what was being achieved at Fairfields."

The work-study department set to work; every job in the yard had to be timed.

## TECHNIQUES INTRODUCED

"Oliver Blandford and Jim Houston had to introduce techniques of work-measurement, quality-control, value-engineering, operational-research, network-analysis, budgetary-control, job-evaluation, investment-appraisal, management-accounting and organizational methods."

But where was the incentive for the acceptance of all these new measures?

"One of the main stanchions in this new edifice was discipline. "The men were over a barrel," Stewart is not afraid to confess, "and I intend to keep them there until they understand our new techniques and trusted them, and until the yard was running as I wanted it to run."

The authors explain that Stewart had no marketing or sales organization in the whole company.

"He expressly made no attempt to obtain orders until the yard had been totally and tightly re-organized, for he wanted to use the precipice of unemployment to keep the men on the narrow path he needed them to follow."

At the same time, for the new owners, the results had begun to arrive.

"Systematically the labour force was cut down in the first six months by about 750 men."

Also essential to the scheme was 'good communications'. The yard set up its own newspaper, 'The Fairfields News', edited by Bill Hawkins, a man co-opted from Thomson newspapers and one of the co-authors of this book.

## CLOSE RELATIONS

Its aim was to foster close management-worker relations. Special efforts were being made to avoid any semblance of the paper being a management propaganda sheet.

A charge of 3d. a copy was made and:

"To underline the principle of free and unprejudiced communication, the second issue of 'Fairfields News' in March 1966 carried statements specially contributed by local parliamentary candidates from Govan and Craigton giving their views on the Fairfield proving ground. There were two Conservative candidates, two Labour, one Communist and one Scottish Nationalist."

Another key operation was the recruiting of workers to hold the stopwatches. It was found:

"The almost automatic resistance to outsiders carrying stopwatches which causes so much labour trouble in many industries was avoided because many men carrying stopwatches at Fairfields were men who themselves, two or three

months before, had been doing the work they were measuring.

"They were trusted and accepted by their mates in the yard and they themselves were endowed with a conscientiousness that only a new chance in life can inspire."

A section on how these men were trained is also particularly instructive:

"Plane-loads of Fairfields men were flown down to London Airport, driven into the Surrey countryside and, in the setting of one of Britain's most stately homes, Esher Place, they studied new productivity techniques at residential courses."

"Esher Place is the ETU Training College run by Jock Haston, the union's education officer. He was asked if he would allow Fairfields to use the magnificent facilities there

IT WOULD be difficult to suggest that one can learn much from this book other than the complete bankruptcy of the author's liberalism and of its Stalinist apologists.

The book outlines the author's views on how the immigrant working class can be reconciled to the rule of the British capitalist class.

DeWitt sees no relationship between capitalism and racialism.

For him the whole problem is that there is a white community of workers solidizing with employers) and an Indian one and the two do not quite mix because of ignorance on both sides.

Not only is there no discussion on the origins of racialism, but there is also no discussion on the problems facing immigrant workers.

Only a passing mention is made of the role of British employers in recruiting abroad for cheap labour.

## TOUTING

The dependence of immigrants on those who can speak English and 'deal' with foremen, government officials etc., is mentioned, as is the rise of wide-scale bribery based on this dependence.

Touting for jobs, overtime etc., and the use of traditional Punjabi kinship and village ties in weakening the immigrants before the employers are all mentioned.

But 'it should be clear that the black marketeers and touts, or "businessmen", as they prefer to be called—are not unsavoury characters who lurk on the fringes of immigrant society. Without their services, the immigrants would

BY BERNARD FRANKS

to train shop stewards and deputies, because Jim Houston wanted the men to feel they were still "on union territory". There was a danger that the stewards might resist "brain-washing by management" as some of the unions from other yards like to call the re-training.

## WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES

The courses were called work-study appreciation courses.

A system of 'workers' representatives' was also set up. Two men were nominated by the workers from each department. These were the people who were supposed to represent the workers in any dispute over work-study. The authors comment:

"Fairfields probably paid over £250,000 in wages alone in 12 months for the productivity staff."

While the new methods continued to be introduced, re-training into new trades, ending of demarcation, flexibility and interchangeability developed under the same rules of discipline.

"Well", relates Houston, "when this chap says to me 'I want to be a sheet-iron worker all my life' I said, 'O.K. then, go and be an unemployed sheet-iron worker.'"

How did the new set-up contribute to the smooth running of the new yard?

"Four days after the 'Magna Carta' at Fairfields the procedure agreement was signed, amidst national praise, when strikes and stoppages were banned for ever, the boiler-makers' apprentices walked out. They walked out and in again five times between June and November, chalking up 21,722 lost attendance hours."

The apprentices had been promised a pro rata payment based on the adult rate—promised, but not paid.

## CRANE-MEN STRIKE

This dispute was finally settled, but next came the strike of the crane men over the flexibility proposals.

Altogether, in the first 11



Representing two big business interests on the Fairfields board was none other than Carron, then president of the engineers' union.

months there were 24,746 working hours lost in strikes. Certainly less than the 96,837 hours lost in 1965, but hardly good publicity for the new methods, and the main scheme was still yet come.

It took from January 1966 to June 1967 to prepare the way for the introduction of the Measured-Day Work scheme.

This scheme set down standards per hour of every job. Men were paid a basic rate for reaching a percentage of maximum efficiency.

Following close on this development came the proposed introduction of double day-shift working, but this was October 1967, more than 18 months after the publishing of the Geddes Report with its recommendation for mergers between yards.



Sean Connery, of Bond fame, made a promotion film for Fairfields.

The Fairfields experiment came to a sudden halt with its formation together with four other yards into Upper Clyde Shipbuilders Ltd. (UCS) and the new board of directors was dominated by the 'old gang' of shipyard owners who were not favourable to new methods.

## BEHIND THE SCENES

This book, written by two industrial journalists, is useful for its descriptions of the behind-the-scenes develop-

ments—the meetings on aeroplanes, at golf clubs and cocktail parties between businessmen and members of the government which led to the setting up of the Fairfields experiment.

This is backed by a cynical frankness about the use of the 'precipice of unemployment'.

(The point is made again near the end of the book that: "Throughout all the preliminaries of the Fairfields experiment Stewart had avoided filling the order-books too full so that the threat of unemployment loomed during the 'educational' period as a possibility.")

Are we to understand that what was done by apparently good labour relations and 'communications' was really carried through with blackmail and intimidation?

The authors of the book regret the ending of the experiment and represent its termination as being due to a series of unfortunate circumstances—new unsympathetic directors, loss of interest by the government, and the implementation of Geddes.

However, it is more likely that the Fairfields scheme was quite deliberately and quite consciously brought to an end.

Such 'open' experiments, if they are to act as incentives to workers to accept similar productivity deals and methods of working, must be seen to be successful.

Up to 1967, it might have been just possible to get by on this basis.

Even the high strike figures (of hours lost) could be put down mainly to apprentices wanting to 'get in on productivity' rather than them being against it.

But as the long-term aim of Fairfields could only be the making of profit by the winning of orders, then the workers would have ceased to be 'over a barrel'.

They would have regained the Clyde man's traditional fighting capabilities. Faced with this possibility, it was better for the employers, etc. to 'call it a day', at least as far as the publicity stunt side of it was concerned.

Fairfields may be regarded as the second productivity deal 'set piece'—Fawley was the first—the third appears to be a certain Alcan Works, which is currently featured in the television series 'Representing the Union' on BBC-1.

## WHERE THEY WENT

Finally, it is interesting to note what has become of some of the characters in the book.

Iain Stewart got a knighthood from the Labour government as 'ex-chairman of Fairfields (Glasgow) Ltd.'

Jim Houston ... left UCS and set up his own Consultancy, Higher Productivity (Organization and Bargaining) Ltd., in partnership with four of the productivity managers from his Fairfields team.

They invited Iain Stewart to be chairman, he accepted and invested money in it personally.

Houston, for his work at Fairfields, received the Gilbreth medal for outstanding services to productivity and work-study—the highest accolade of the Institute of Work-Study Practitioners.

At present, he is the chairman of the Joint Industries Board of the Electrical Contracting Industry.

As for the first full-time convenor of shop stewards at Fairfields (Glasgow) Ltd., he is now 'transfers manager at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders Ltd.'

As the real aims of productivity deals—speed-up, sackings and closures—come more into play, there can be little hope left for the government to convince workers of the 'advantages' they are offering by national showpiece experiments of the Fairfields type.

Similarly, for the union leaders who have played a major role in the introduction of the employers' most vicious methods of exploitation, many chickens are rapidly coming home to roost as shown in recent actions by miners and car workers against union officials.

# Author tries to tie Indian workers to capitalist class

## 'INDIAN WORKERS' ASSOCIATIONS IN BRITAIN'

By John DeWitt Jr.

Published for the Institute of Race Relations by OUP. 1969. Price 25s.

Reviewed by G. Myers



Indian workers on an Association demonstration in London.

be lost in Britain.' (p. 114.)

So three cheers for the capitalist market, it assures to every man his right price—even if bribery is involved. Our liberal stands four square with the system.

## LEADERSHIP

Indian Workers' Associations have sprung up wherever there are large concentrations of Indian—mainly Punjabi—immigrants.

solidarize in this book is the protest of the educated Indians who come to Britain expecting a decent status in British society only to find themselves forced to work in factories.

He even argues that discrimination is not a problem for the poorest immigrant workers but only for those who 'by rights' ought to be able to move up in society (into good jobs, buying decent houses etc.) but find the way blocked!

The cynical use of the traditional kinship and village loyalties of the Indian immigrants by the IWA leaders in their bid for positions is outlined in some detail.

DeWitt finds it rather unfortunate because the traditional feuds tend to upset relations with British liberals, but otherwise the practice is acceptable.

## ADVANCE

In fact position-seeking will have to be legitimized by the liberals if they are to overcome this problem: the leaders must be made able to 'commit themselves to working with British and inter-racial organizations with some hope of personal advancement and without losing all of their prestige within the Punjabi community'. (p. 176.)

The Communist Party gives much the same leadership in the IWAs.

The Communists generally co-operated with non-Communist leaders and even with "reactionaries", as long as a few Party members were named to prestigious posts in the Executive Committee' (of the IWA). (p. 67.) ... the programme which the Communists advanced for the IWAs included little to which a non-Communist could object.'

In fact it seems that the Indian branches of the Communist Party were open to all who wished to seek positions in the IWA.

Many members who previously held membership in the Communist Party of India were disgusted.

The Indian branches led an existence in almost total isolation from the rest of the CPGB—that is until the Sino-Soviet dispute broke out and left-wing critics of the leadership raised their voices!

## EXPULSIONS

Then separate Indian branches were abolished and expulsions were numerous.

Over one half of the Indian membership of the CPGB resigned and since then the IWAs have never been the same.

No longer can the rank and file be so cynically manipulated.

Indian workers are refusing to co-operate with the 'integration' committees set up by the Labour government on which so many Indian 'leaders' are pleased to serve.

Immigrant as well as white workers, in fighting back against the employers, are breaking from bureaucracy.

DeWitt hopes that the new militancy will be restricted to simply fighting cases of racial discrimination.

Some hope!

Workers coming into struggle today will soon learn the class role of racialism. Around the Workers Press and the Socialist Labour League the serious question of alternative leadership facing workers of all races will be thrashed out and answered whilst the DeWitts will be consigned to the dustbin of history reserved for those who attempt to stand in the middle of the class struggle.

# BOOK REVIEWS

## 'AMERICAN RADICALS'

Edited by Harvey Goldberg

Modern Reader Paperback, 308 pages.

Reviewed by Dave Spooner

# American radicalism trying to improve capitalism

FOR A NUMBER of historical reasons, radicalism remains an extremely powerful influence in the United States.

Its power, as Tim Wohlforth points out in his pamphlet, 'The Struggle for Marxism in the United States', has developed, to some extent, from the fact that the American bourgeoisie never had to organize itself to overthrow feudalism and therefore never had to formulate its own body of empirical thought.

Further, Puritanism was the predominant religious inspiration of the early settlers in America and this has carried over into the theory and practice of the radicals dealt with in this book.

The socialist conscience—or even worse, the so-called 'Marxist' conscience—looms large in this book.

Eugene V. Debs, self-appointed leader of the Socialist Party in the early years of the century, was proud of his empiricism.

## NEVER ORGANIZED

Although he was spokesman for the Socialist Party for some 20 years, he never participated in a party convention, never ran or held a party position and never took part in any organizing of the left wing of the Party in its struggle against the right-wing Hillquit and Berger. He wrote:

'I never had much faith in leaders. I am willing to be charged with anything, rather than to be charged with being a leader. I am suspicious of leaders, and especially of the intellectual variety. Give me the rank and file every day in the week.'

The emphasis on rank-and-file and the opposition to any real organization was the other side of the sectarian 'Marxism' of Daniel de Leon.

## PROPAGANDA SECT

For 24 years, from 1890 to 1914, de Leon strove to mould his party, the Socialist Labour Party, into a 'spokesman for the American working class', but he ended up with a purely propagandist sect, completely isolated from the working class.

De Leon argued that the proletarian revolution would be peaceful in America because there had never been feudalism in the States.

'Look across at Europe. The feudal spirit still prevails there in an important respect, as a consequence of the continued prevalence there of large chunks of feudal institutions. In Europe, even the capitalist class is feudalized . . . Daily experience . . . tells us that [the American capitalist class] reached their present status of rulers . . . by swindle.'

Basically what these authors call his 'Marxism' is a variant of Populism, implying that if there could be a return to the pre-capitalist days, then the 'swindle' would be put right. De Leon is reputed to have

moved towards left-wing politics after reading Edward Bellamy's Utopian novel 'Looking Backwards' and he never really broke with that early stage of his development.

## NEVER GRASPED

De Leon never grasped capitalism as a relationship of production that could only be overturned by the proletariat taking state power and establishing its dictatorship.

Instead, according to de Leon, when the revolutionary party won a peaceful electoral majority, it should immediately vest authority in the unions and then dissolve itself and all other existing political institutions.

The other side of de Leon's sectarian and abstract theorizing was syndicalism which in the early part of the century gave rise to the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), founded in 1905 and adamantly opposed to politics and Marxist theory.

'Big Bill' Haywood was a major organizer of the Wobblies—as members of the IWW came to be called—and he led some great strikes, in particular the victorious 1912 Lawrence strike of textile workers.

He followed, though, the reactionary ideas of Sorel who made a cult of the 'great leader' and idealized the class struggle in and for itself.

## GENTEEL FABIANISM

The IWW, despite its violently militant activity against the employers, remained tied to conceptions that also characterized the feeble, genteel Fabianism of such as Ramsay MacDonald.

## B.B.C.-1

9.38-11.55 a.m. Schools. 12.55 p.m. Disc A Dawn. 1.30 Watch With Mother. 1.45-1.53 News. Weather. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 4.20 Play School. 4.40 Junior. 4.55 Crackerjack. 5.40 Janitor Points Of View. 5.50 National News and Weather.

6.00 Entertaining With Kerr. 6.25 Television Brain Of Britain. 6.45 The Virginian. 7.55 Not In Front Of The Children. 8.25 Golden Silents: 'Bring On The Girls'. 8.50 The Main News and Weather. 9.10 The Survivors. 10.00 Come Dancing. 10.30 24 Hours. 11.55 Star Close-Up: Lon Chaney Jr. 11.40 Weatherman.

Regional programmes as BBC-1 except at the following times:

Midlands and East Angles: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Midlands Today. Look East. Weather. 11.42 News Summary. Weather. Weekend Prospects For Angles. Road Works Report.

North of England: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Look North. Weather. 11.42 Northern News Headlines.

Scotland: 10.25-10.45 a.m. Around Scotland. 11.35-11.55 Modern Studies. 6.00-6.25 p.m. Reporting Scotland. 9.10-9.35 Current Account. 9.35-10.00 The £1,000 Book. 11.42 Epilogue.

Northern Ireland: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Scene Around Six. Weather. 11.42 Northern Ireland News Headlines. Weather.



A mural painted by Diego Rivera, the revolutionary artist, depicting personalities and events in the early US labour movement.

This is from the IWW's 1908 manifesto:

'It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. By organizing industrially, we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.'

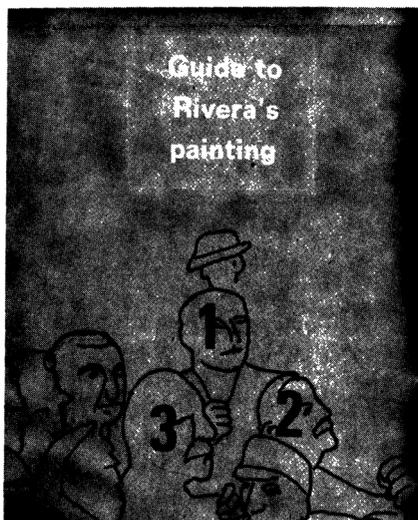
No preparation of the revolutionary party in the working class for the taking of power; only a species of gradualism.

This book is a prolonged and boring, panegyric to the radicals. It takes up this or that element, but is unable to make any assessment of the radicals.

However, the introduction unwittingly sums up the necessity of the radicals to the continuation of bourgeois rule:

'American radicals have honoured democracy [i.e. capitalism] by trying to make it better . . . Out of conviction and necessity they have sought to give it what it needs—vitality, variety, choice.'

Be that as it may, the treatment of the supporters of Eugene McCarthy at the Democratic Convention in late 1968, demonstrated that capitalism in crisis makes short shrift of those who supposedly foster 'vitality, variety and choice'.



1. EUGENE DEBS. 2. 'BIG BILL' HEYWOOD 3. DANIEL DE LEON.

# Glorifying the GUERRILLAS

## 'GUERRILLA WARFARE'

By Che Guevara

Penguin

## 'REMINISCENCES OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR'

By Che Guevara

Penguin

## 'GUERRILLA WARFARE'

By William J. Pomeroy

Lawrence & Wishart

Reviewed by Tony Short

GUEVARA'S theory of the guerrilla focus as the prime creator of revolutionary conditions has been severely mauled internationally by the tragic and suicidal failure of his Bolivian campaign.

His total dependence on the moral example of the guerrilla, his contempt for the international working class and his idealization of the peasant are clearly revealed in both books.

His lack of concern for a scientific analysis of the correlation of class forces, for the training of the revolutionary cadre—in a word his petty-bourgeois contempt for Marxist theory—made him incapable of realizing his subjective desire for a continental war against American imperialism.

Guevara's 'Guerrilla Warfare', apart from the odd homily on treating the peasant humanely and on the implementing of limited agrarian reform in guerrilla controlled areas, is largely about survival in the Sierras, though it does have some purely military tips on ambush techniques.

He rejects the town as a theatre of guerrilla activities or armed insurrection because there the guerrilla cannot melt into the bush.

He does not consider that a working-class guerrilla can melt into his own population in conditions of mass insurrection.

The 'Reminiscences' are a collection of anecdotes which contain no real insight into the Cuban Revolution, except the odd give-away such as when he unwittingly reveals that the peasants were already in revolt in the Sierra Maestra before Castro's guerrillas arrived—a fact I have confirmed myself in conversation with Cuban peasants—thus destroying the basis of the 'theory', in Cuba's case at least, that the guerrilla creates the conditions for revolt.

It is Pomeroy's book which is the most dangerous of the three.

It is a collection of passages about revolutionary violence.

The first part has brief excerpts, often too short to be of any value, from Marx, Engels and Lenin, to establish its pedigree, and the second is a mass of material largely from different Stalinist Party documents interspersed with middle-class ideologists' assertions that the peasants, owners of private property, can abolish capitalist property relations (Cabral, Castro, Guevara, Debray).

The book is most significant for its omissions.

Trotsky, the organizer of the October Revolution and the creator of the Red Army,

is never mentioned and his writings on revolutionary violence such as 'Terrorism and Communism' have no place.

Nothing is said of the formation of workers' militias in the Spanish Revolution (Pomeroy in his long introduction characterizes it as 'a people's armed struggle to defend the bourgeois democratic Republic') and their bloody destruction by Stalin's agents in Spain in 1936 so as to facilitate his alliance with the French and British governments.

Stalin's responsibility for the 1954 carve-up of Vietnam and the post-Second World

is never mentioned and his writings on revolutionary violence such as 'Terrorism and Communism' have no place.

Such bourgeois 'allies' are only waiting to become executioners.

Pomeroy supports the official Soviet line that there is an objective world trend towards socialism which is little different from Lin Piao's crude optimism about the people's revolution: 'no force can alter its general trend towards inevitable triumph'.

These mechanistic theories of history are formulae for the abdication of responsibility



Fidel Castro.

War arrangement with imperialism to hand France and Greece over in exchange for Central Europe are whitewashed or skated over.

The complicity of the French Communist Party in their government's war against the Vietnamese people and against Algerian national liberation struggle go unmentioned.

Apart from the usual lies, omissions and distortions of history, common to Stalinists, Pomeroy's introduction and comments are most dangerous because they attempt to give a Marxist gloss to petty-bourgeois denials of the revolutionary role of the working class.

While he is critical of Guevara's lack of preparation and bad timing in Bolivia and of the Chinese 'theory' of peasant encirclement of the cities, he fails to disclose the heart of their political errors. He quibbles over tactics but does not uncover the basic anti-working class, and therefore objectively counter-revolutionary nature of their thought.

Guevarism is drawn to its logical conclusion in Debray's glorification of ignorance when he says that it was a stroke of good luck that Fidel had not read the military writings of Mao-Tse Tung' or any Marxist literature come to that.

Most revealing are the abject yet unrepentant documents of the Greek, Indonesian and Philippine Communist Parties.

They describe alliances with and liquidations into parties of the national and democratic bourgeoisie, based on illusions that demonstrations of good faith in abandoning struggle against them would allow the communists to influence and reform them.

Appalling and murderous penalties were paid for ig-

for the struggle for a world international.

The different national parties make their own adaptations to their national bourgeoisie and speculate on questions of guerrilla warfare, insurrection in the towns and parliamentary peaceful roads to socialism, while their members and the workers they influence are left confused about the main theoretical question.

This book, written in 1968, the year of May and June in France and recurrent international currency crisis contains no answer to the Cuban and Chinese leaders who deny the revolutionary role of the metropolitan working class.

It ignores the international crisis of capitalism and the world-wide offensive against the working class.

Ignored too, are the sharpening trade war and the collision between a confident working class emerging from a post-war boom and the bourgeoisie and its state.

Instead we have illusions that imperialism can be made to see reason and be 'forced to recognise the realities in the changed balance of power' (Pomeroy's introduction) at a time when the greatest attacks are being prepared.

As Lenin said in an address to the colonial countries of the East in 1919, quoted in the book:

'Their only hope of emancipation lies in the victory of the international revolution, and . . . the international proletariat is the only ally of all the hundreds and millions of working and exploited peoples of the East.'

The task of building the Fourth International, Party of the world revolution, and continuing the work of the Third International, destroyed by Stalin, is the central issue for all working and exploited people.

# TODAYS TV

Wales: 1.30-1.45 p.m. Ar Lin Mam. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.45-7.05 Heddiw. 7.05-7.30 Bob Yn Dri. 7.30-7.55 Week In Week. Out. 11.05-11.30 Hwy Neu Hwysach.

South and West: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Points West. South Today. Spotlight South. West. Weather. 11.42 South and West News Headlines. Weather. Weekend Road Works Report.

11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 7.00 p.m. What Are The Facts? 7.30 Newsroom. Weather. 8.00 Wheelbase. 8.25 The First Churchills. 9.10 The French Cinema: 'Le Deuxieme Souffle' ('The Second Breath'). 11.30 Westminster At Work. 11.50 News Summary. Weather. 11.55 Line-Up.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.40-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.10 How About You. 4.40 Hatty Town. 4.53 North East Newsroom. 4.55 Land Of The Giants. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today At Six. 6.30 Peyton Place. 7.00 Parkin's Patch. 7.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 8.00 The Untouchables. 9.00 Hadleigh. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Your World On Friday. 11.45 Late News Extra. 12 midnight The Name Of The Game.

About You? 4.40 Hatty Town. 4.55 Lost In Space. 5.50 News From ITN.

6.03 Today. 6.30 Peyton Place. 7.00 London Weekend Television starts. 7.00 p.m. Parkin's Patch. 7.30 Strang Report. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 Hawaii Five-O. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Hadleigh. 12.10 a.m. Giving and Getting.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.40-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 Hatty Town. 4.30 Tales From Dickens. 4.55 Tarzan. 5.50 News. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.30 Wheel Of Fortune. 7.00 Parkin's Patch. 7.30 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased). 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 Marcus

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.40-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.08 North East Newsroom. 4.10 How About You. 4.40 Hatty Town. 4.53 North East Newsroom. 4.55 Land Of The Giants. 5.50 News. 6.00 Today At Six. 6.30 Peyton Place. 7.00 Parkin's Patch. 7.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 8.00 The Untouchables. 9.00 Hadleigh. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Your World On Friday. 11.45 Late News Extra. 12 midnight The Name Of The Game.

Welby, MD. 10.00 News At Ten. Weather. 10.30 Yorksport. 11.00 Frost On Friday. 11.45 Late Weather.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.38-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 Hatty Town. 4.30 Castle Haven. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 News. 6.00 Grampian News. 6.10 Why On Earth? 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Nearest and Dearest. 7.30 The Avengers. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 It Takes A Thief. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Jokers' Wild, followed by Road Report.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.38-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.20 Scotland Early. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Arthur. 5.20 Skippy. 5.50 National News. 6.00 Scotland Now. 6.30 Wheel Of Fortune. 7.00 Parkin's Patch. 7.30 Mision: Impossible. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 Hadleigh. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Faith For Life. 11.21 Weather.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.38-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.25 Anglia Newsroom. 4.35 The Romper Room. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 It Takes A Thief. 8.00 Mr and Mrs. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 Hadleigh. 10.00 News At Ten. Weather. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 The Horror Film: 'Dracula's Daughter' starring Otto Kruger and Gloria Holden. 12.35 a.m. Reflection.

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## Westward

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.40-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.10 Westward News Headlines. 4.12 Peyton Place. 4.40 The Gas Honeybun Show. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 National News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.25 Sports Desk. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased). 8.00 The Untouchables. 9.00 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.30 Parkin's Patch. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Faith For Life. 11.21 Weather.

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## Grampian

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.38-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.15 News Headlines. 4.17 Hatty Town. 4.30 Castle Haven. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 News. 6.00 Grampian News. 6.10 Why On Earth? 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Nearest and Dearest. 7.30 The Avengers. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 It Takes A Thief. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Jokers' Wild, followed by Road Report.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.38-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.20 Scotland Early. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Arthur. 5.20 Skippy. 5.50 National News. 6.00 Scotland Now. 6.30 Wheel Of Fortune. 7.00 Parkin's Patch. 7.30 Mision: Impossible. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 Hadleigh. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Faith For Life. 11.21 Weather.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.38-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.25 Anglia Newsroom. 4.35 The Romper Room. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 It Takes A Thief. 8.00 Mr and Mrs. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 Hadleigh. 10.00 News At Ten. Weather. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 The Horror Film: 'Dracula's Daughter' starring Otto Kruger and Gloria Holden. 12.35 a.m. Reflection.

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.38-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.25 Anglia Newsroom. 4.35 The Romper Room. 4.55 Cowboy In Africa. 5.50 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 It Takes A Thief. 8.00 Mr and Mrs. 8.30 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.00 Hadleigh. 10.00 News At Ten. Weather. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 The Horror Film: 'Dracula's Daughter' starring Otto Kruger and Gloria Holden. 12.35 a.m. Reflection.

## Scottish

11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.40-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.10 Westward News Headlines. 4.12 Peyton Place. 4.40 The Gas Honeybun Show. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 5.50 National News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.25 Sports Desk. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased). 8.00 The Untouchables. 9.00 Ours Is A Nice House. 9.30 Parkin's Patch. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.30 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Faith For Life. 11.21 Weather.

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# P.I.B. fears airport militancy

**HARD ON the heels of Monday night's strike at Scotland's three airports has come the Prices and Incomes Board's latest report on airport workers' pay.**

## Lucas men return

**By our industrial reporter**  
THE STRIKE by 900 foremen and chargehands at nine Joseph Lucas factories in the Birmingham area ended yesterday with a return to work.  
A strike committee recommendation for a return had been accepted on Wednesday. The strike was ended after Mr Bob McCusker, assistant general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, promised immediate negotiations on the men's pay claim if there was a return to work.  
A works' conference is being called for today.

The report talks a great deal about establishing common machinery and grading systems for all Britain's 3,928 ground staff—within two or three years.  
But its main aim is clearly to clamp work-measurement, method-study and flexibility of labour onto them much more firmly than ever before.

Airport workers should not be fooled into thinking the report is going to solve the problem that forced Monday's strike at Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen—the wide disparity, recognized by the PIB, between pay and conditions at the country's 35 different airports.  
The Board was disturbed by the fact that pay-rates and job-definitions differed widely between the three main groups of airports.

### Pay

At those controlled by the British Airports Authority (Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Prestwick), workers earn an average of £25 3s. 8d. for a 46.7-hour week.  
For those at the 20 local authority airports pay is even lower—£24 9s. 4d. at airports controlled by the Board of Trade, average pay reaches only £20 4s. 4d. for a 42.9-hour week.  
Craftsmen averaged £33 1s. for 47.2 hours under the BAA and only £21 11s. 5d. for 42 hours under the BOT.

As the PIB points out, local authorities fear that the establishment of common pay machinery would lead to inflationary settlements and this might be passed on to other local authority employees.  
No doubt they are thinking of the enormous wave of sympathy action which was sparked by the struggle of the dustmen!

### Fear

The PIB's own fear was revealed in its statement that the earnings at municipal airports were already approaching those at the BAA through what it described as the inefficient use of overtime and through piecemeal pay settlements—often under the threat of industrial action.  
Its real concern is clearly the growing militancy of airport workers.  
'Leapfrogging settlements',

BY DAVID MAUDE

said the Board, should be cracked down on through the establishment of the unified procedure.  
The PIB was pleased with the improvements in manning standards, flexibility of labour and changed patterns of work which had resulted from recent pay and productivity settlements, but it insisted that better results could be obtained.  
An expert advisory unit should be set up, it recommends, to push through the new grade structures, the increased use of method-study and the elimination of unnecessary overtime working.

### Unacceptable

Mr John Cousins, the Transport and General Workers' Union national officer, has correctly described the proposed two-to-three-years time-lag before equality of earnings between the different groups is achieved as totally unacceptable.  
But this in no way means that the union is going to fight the PIB's dangerous proposals. This will only be done by the organization of airport workers, alongside other trade unionists, into the struggles of the All Trades Unions Alliance against productivity deals and against all forms of incomes legislation.

### Official action

The union has said it will consider official action if an agreement cannot be reached. The strike began a week ago when the men walked out in support of demands for a substantial pay rise and a completely new salary structure.  
3,000 other workers in the company had been laid off as a result.

### Police order

It was then that the police ordered them to disperse. There was a general distrust of the union officials and many strikers wanted to remain until the results of the talks were known.  
After 20 minutes of many angry interchanges, union officials finally persuaded the men to disperse. A further meeting is planned for Saturday.

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## Container challenge to A.C.S.

THREE Scandinavian shipping lines are to challenge the monopoly of the Australia-Europe container trade attempted by the new Australia Container Service consortium.  
The knives are now really out between the employers in the container shipping industry.  
The Scandinavian lines have formed another consortium, Scanaustral, to come into operation next July, a month before ACS.

Scanaustral has ordered five ships which will be able to carry all the container trade between the continent and Australia.  
This duplicates the ACS's services.  
ACS and Scanaustral will be locked in life-and-death competition, with huge investments at stake.

### Offensive

This is just one example of the forces driving the employers' offensive against the port workers all over the world.  
The Scanaustral fleet will be five 20,000 ton roll on/roll off semi-container ships.  
They are designed for flexible operation, carrying goods in containers, vehicles, pallets and nets.  
Built-in ramps will enable the ships to use existing wharf facilities as well as the specialized container-handling berths.  
These techniques reduce the time for a round voyage—Australia to Europe and return—to 65 days with only 10 days needed in port.  
Scanaustral believes that this type of ship will be even more efficient than ACS's pure container ships.

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# Mark revaluation worsens Market farm crisis

By Peter Jefferies

## FIAT HOTS UP EUROPE'S CAR WAR

By a foreign correspondent

FIAT'S take-over of its smaller Turin rival Lancia was finalized on Tuesday when shareholders elected five Fiat directors to its new eight-member board.

Fiat now dominate the Italian car market.

Apart from Lancia, it controls OM, Autobianchi and Ferrari, and has an annual output of well over 1,600,000 vehicles.

Its only rivals are the state-owned Alfa-Romeo (100,000) and Innocenti, which produces 50,000 a year under licence from British-Leyland.

This latest merger is designed to streamline Fiat for sharper competition with its German and French rivals in the Common Market.

### MAIN PROBLEM

But Fiat boss Giovanni Agnelli's main problem is not Volkswagen or Renault, but the Turin working class, who have spearheaded the Italian strike movement in the last two months.

Fiat's workers cannot be outmanoeuvred in board meetings or on the stock-exchange.  
They, along with the entire Italian working class, are fighting to win.

## GUARDS' STRIKE OFF

BRITISH Rail's Southern Region guards have called off today's threatened strike over mileage bonus pay.  
The National Union of Railwaymen is meeting BR early next month to discuss the dispute.

If the result was not satisfactory, said a union official, 'there is no saying what we will do'.



The tensions created in agriculture by the workings of the Common Market have been reflected in farmers' demonstrations in France.

## Go back C.G.T. tells Renault workers

THE STALINIST-LED union, the CGT, has called for a return to work by the 89 heat process workers in the Renault factory at Le Mans, where a lock-out has been in progress since last Saturday.

Eight hours of talks between unions and the Renault management resulted in a wage increase of about 8d. an hour, whereas the men had been demanding the full 1s. that would have brought them in line with foundry workers.

Though calling the strike off, the CGT officials stated that the agreement 'does not satisfy us'.  
An all-out strike was also opposed.

## Right-wing gains in Israel election

Workers' Press correspondent

PROVISIONAL results in the Israeli General Election showed a fall in support for the ruling 'Labour' coalition headed by Prime Minister Mrs Golda Meir.

In the previous Knesset (parliament), the three Labour groups held 63 of the 120 seats.

The biggest gains were by the right-wing Gahal, which increased its seats from 22 to at least 26.

This swing to the right is a response, mainly in the middle class, to the years of anti-Arab policies and actions by successive Israeli governments, all of them dominated by the so-called 'Labour' party of Meir and Dayan.

Thriving on this anti-Arab campaign, the ultra-right nationalist and religious groups come to the fore as the advocates of even more extreme policies of Zionist expansionism.

### Workers' enemies

In opening the door for these anti-socialist fanatics, the Israeli Labour leaders prove themselves to be the enemies of the Jewish workers as well as the Arabs.

## Incomes Act

FROM PAGE ONE

ready—food prices would rise. Coming on top of a Ministry of Agriculture statement that grocery bills rose by 1s. 4d. per head per week from April 1 to July 1969, Mrs Castle's picture of the Prices and Incomes Board bravely battling against price rises is faintly absurd.

Like the Monopolies Commission, with which it is to be merged, the Prices and Incomes Board is an instrument for creating the very evil it is supposed to be fighting.

## A.T.U.A. meetings

ELLESMERE PORT

'Next Steps at Vauxhall, The Fight for Parity, The Crisis in the Motor Industry'  
Sunday, November 2 10.30 a.m.  
Railway Hotel Little Sutton

## BIRMINGHAM

'The future for the motor industry'  
Tuesday, November 4 8 p.m.  
Three Horse Shoes Coventry Road, Sheldon

## SOUTH-WEST LONDON

Tuesday, November 4, 8 p.m.  
Horse and Groom Mitcham Road

have to find the money. Schiller had earlier threatened that if no agreement was reached his government would impose border taxes on all food imports and isolate the German market from the rest of the Community.

Such a move would involve a further disintegration of the EEC's farm price policy warned Mr Sicco Mansholt, the Common Market vice-president for agriculture.

### Severe jolt

After the August franc devaluation the policy received a severe jolt when France wanted Britain inside the Common Market.

Under these strong pressures the Germans withdrew the threat and eventually a patched-up compromise was reached whereby the EEC funds will be used to make up roughly half the German farmers' losses.

The rest will be made up by a 3 per cent increase in the German value added tax.

MAKING his basic government policy statement to the west German parliament on Tuesday, Chancellor Willy Brandt said that the new government will take a courageous step forward or drifts into a dangerous crisis.

'It can decide whether Europe, in the related themes of internal development, consolidation and extension of the Community, takes a courageous step forward or drifts into a dangerous crisis.'

Next month's summit conference of the Community would have special significance, he said.

Under pressure

With the Dutch, Belgian and Italian currencies all under speculative pressure following the mark revaluation, such a 'compromise' will have no stability.

A further shake-up of European currencies will once more plunge the Common Market's agricultural policies into another round of crisis.

The mark revaluation, far from stabilizing the economic situation in Europe, has only served to aggravate the crisis in new directions.

## Guerrilla leader doubts value of Lebanon parley

YASSER ARAFAT, one of the main leaders of the Palestinian Liberation movement, stated on Tuesday in Damascus that he doubts the value of peace talks between PLO leaders and the Lebanese government.

Previous agreements had not been honoured and he saw no reason why any future ones should be.

Arafat's remarks were thought to be directed at recent attempts by Arab leaders, notably Nasser, to act as intermediaries between the anti-commando government of Lebanon and the Palestinian guerrillas based in the south of the country.

## U.S.-Dutch electronics link-up

FAIRCHILD, the US microelectronics firm, has announced plans to link up with the mainly Dutch-owned Philips group.

Both Philips and Fairchild have large stakes in the manufacture of components used in electronic equipment ranging from computers to radios.

The new agreement will cover exchange of technology and prepare the ground for the eventual manufacture of each other's products.

This latest deal is another indication of the mounting US economic pressure on Europe.

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## Army leader takes over Sudan govt.

THE MILITARY faction in Sudan's new government tightened its grip on Tuesday, when it announced that the country's new prime minister is to be Major-General Jaafar al-Numeiry, leader of the army group that seized power six months ago.

Al-Numeiry replaces Abu Bakr Awadallah, who as the previous prime minister welded together an uneasy alliance of socialists, communists and more conservative military and religious leaders.

Recent right-wing attacks on continued communist participation in the coalition have foreshadowed this latest development.

### New posts

While al-Numeiry has not yet openly broken with his left-wing 'allies', he has brought into his new 25-man cabinet three military colleagues who can be relied upon to defend the army's interests against those of the workers and peasants.

The three are Brigadier Khaled Abbas, army chief of staff, who now becomes Defence Minister, Lieutenant-Colonel Hashem al-Ata, who takes over responsibilities for livestock, and Lieutenant-Colonel Abdul Ibrahim, who becomes Minister for Local Government.

The pro-socialist deposed prime minister has been given the largely nominal post of Deputy Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council.

This reshuffle marks a shift to the right.  
The military leaders are sharpening their knives for a blood-bath of workers and communists.

## Rootes testers back

WORK was resumed yesterday at the Rootes Ryton assembly plant following the ending of the engine testers' strike at the company's Stoke factory.

900 men had been laid off at Ryton since the beginning of the week.  
Talks with management are to take place on the testers' complaints.  
The testers walked out a week ago when other workers were moved in to clear a backlog of work caused by a test department overtime ban.

## Mass strikes in Rome and Milan

By a foreign correspondent

TUESDAY'S strike by Italian building workers ended with 50,000 strikers marching through Rome to the Piazza Sante Apostoli, where they were addressed by trade union leaders.

On the same day, a four-day strike of municipal workers began in Milan and rapidly affected all the city's basic services.

Staggered strikes continue to hit production at the Milan Pirelli works, where wage negotiations were due to resume after their collapse last week.

### Post-mortem

The post-mortem on the 22-year-old student who died during police attacks on an anti-fascist demonstration in Pisa, proved that he died from a blow in the region of the heart.

By-standers watching the demonstration have stated he was hit by a tear-gas bomb thrown by the police.

Just south of Rome, in Ladina, fresh fighting broke out as fascist gangs attacked students who were supporting a local general strike against high rents.

### On the street

As the Italian crisis develops and the parliamentary deadlock continues, the fight shifts to the streets, where the fascists (often protected by the police) are becoming more active.

The reformist policies of the Stalinists in this unprecedented period of working-class militancy only encourage the fascists in their attacks on striking workers and left-wing students.

This is the price counter-revolutionary Stalinism makes the working class pay for its own treachery.

## POLITICAL FRAUD

FROM PAGE ONE

'Those groups in the trade union movement, for example the Midlands car employees, who are practising aggressive unionism in forcing up wages to a point beyond which the market will stand.'

### 'Star' comment

Not to be diverted from its gentlemanly relationship with Wilson the 'Morning Star' of October 30 comments: 'Unfortunately the government has still not had a sufficiently sharp lesson.'

## 22 Freedom fighters in Pretoria trial

By a foreign correspondent

TWENTY-TWO Africans appeared in Pretoria magistrates court on Tuesday charged with offences under the 'Suppression of Communism Act'.

One of the accused is the wife of Nelson Mandela, already serving a life sentence on Robben Island near Cape Town for his work in organizing the illegal African National Congress.

The charge brought against the 22 is that they are or were office holders or organizers of the African National Congress (ANC) and engaged in various activities

designed to weaken and bring down the present South African apartheid regime.

They were also alleged to have discussed raising funds for the ANC with Philip Golding, the Briton who has been detained in South Africa since last May.

Like all previous 'trials' in the racist dictatorship of South Africa, it will be loaded against these heroic freedom fighters from the very start.

Already an appeal to postpone the trial beyond the date fixed, December 1, has been rejected.

Defence lawyer Mr J. Carlson said he had been unable to see many of the accused since the time they were imprisoned and he asked for a deferment in order to prepare their defence.

### Demand release

The British labour movement must demand that the Labour government takes immediate action to secure the release of these fighters against apartheid.

Their conviction would only serve to strengthen Vorster and his Tory backers in Britain.