

Bloody revenge by military TERROR ON

THE MILITARY DICTATORS in Chile are celebrating the successful overthrow of the government of Salvador Allende with an orgy of terror.

Some of the facts about the terror are emerging through the filter of the junta's ruthless censorship. Government figures of 11 deaths in the heavy fighting on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week have already been multiplied several hundred times by eye-witness reports.

Writing in the Financial Times on Tuesday, Hugh Shaughnessy, one of the few British correspondents writing from Santiago, reported 20 dead in one street alone shortly before the curfew was lifted.

Manuel Mejidl, a Mexican correspondent in Santiago, managed to get this report printed in the Mexican newspaper Excelsior on Monday:

'The armed forces are continuing with searches, shootings, burnings of books and periodicals of the former regime in nearly every house. Anyone who is on the streets after curfew is shot to kill if they do not have a safe conduct pass.'

While the forces of 'law and order' roam the streets killing at will, the government has launched a massive witchhunt against the 30,000 political refugees who sought political asylum in Chile.

Oscar Bonilla, the Minister of the Interior in the new junta, is a leading member of BOFE, a fascist terror organisation which helped to organise the bombing campaign leading up to the coup.

On Sunday, Bonilla called on his countrymen 'to hunt down every foreign extremist in the interior'. Primitive racist abuse is promoted in the two government newspapers, which are the only permitted publications in the country.

PRIMITIVE

Political and trade union leaders in all major cities have been arrested and some of them tortured. Luis Corvalan, general secretary of the Communist Party, and Carlos Altamirano, secretary of the Socialist Party, have been murdered. There have been no reports from provincial cities, such as Valparaiso and Concepcion, where workers' resistance was expected to have been fiercer than in Santiago.

But already the junta is trying to justify in advance the mass murders which it has promoted in these cities' factories. On Tuesday, a government official, conveniently accompanying a football team to Argentina, blamed factory workers in Chile for shooting down soldiers after raising the white flag. 'After that, the soldiers just went rat-ta-tat,' said the official, smiling.

The speed with which the world's newspapers have responded to this nonsense is a measure of their willingness to whitewash the Chilean coup.

But as the terror mounts in Chile, workers all over the world are learning a vital lesson. The ruling classes of the world and their newspapers will defend the constitution only when that constitution defends their wealth.

If the constitution threatens, however weakly, to share out that wealth with the people who produce it, the constitution becomes an obstacle to be overcome by force.

What the industrialists, the financiers, the Christian Democrat leaders, the CIA and the army have done in Chile they will do again, even more savagely, whenever they are threatened by elected governments.

If workers are to protect themselves from the consequences of the Chilean terror, they will need to arm themselves with more substantial weapons than constitutions.

CHILE'S STREETS



Picture: Christopher Davies (Report)

Smiles in the city at workers' defeat

ALL OVER the City of London there were smiling faces at the news of the Chile coup.

There is substantial British investment in Chile, much of it a hangover from 19th century British imperialism. The main railway lines are owned by the Antofagasta Railway Company, which is quoted on the London Stock Exchange.

Profits of the company have taken a sharp dive since the Allende government refused to pay the 12 million dollars demanded by the company for its nationalisation. This has upset its directors, who include Sir Denys Colquhoun Flowerder Lawson, who

made such a name for himself in the City earlier this year over a neat little £6 million unit trust swindle.

The chairman of Antofagasta, Mr W T Caulfield, attended a lunch given by the Chilean embassy last year when Allende's foreign minister, Amlyda, visited London.

In a conversation with Caulfield after the lunch, Sir Alec Douglas Home, British Foreign Secretary, said: 'I suppose you've got to talk to these Chilean chaps, however bad their government is.'

Caulfield replied: 'I don't agree at all. I think they have to be isolated completely.' He is no doubt delighted with the return to law, order and profiteering in Chile.

CHILE: EDITORIAL PAGE 3, ANALYSIS PAGE 4

New legal threat to 24

IN A NEW manoeuvre this week the government prosecutor has decided to alter one of the key charges against the North Wales 24.

The 24 are building workers facing a battery of charges for picketing during the national building workers' strike last year. The trial will begin in two weeks' time.

Defence lawyers for the 24 have been informed that the defendants will now be charged with unlawful assembly instead of affray.

This decision has been taken by the government Director of Public Prosecutions because the prosecution failed to make the affray charges stick at the Mold Crown Court trial of building workers pickets. The jury found the defendants not guilty on this count and threw out the charge.

Cornerstone

The change in the charges is yet another indication of the seriousness with which the Tory government takes the Shrewsbury prosecution. The trial is the cornerstone of the Tory government's new attempts to shackle workers and prevent them backing strike action with effective picketing.

And no expense is being spared. The proceedings will get underway on 2 October and are expected to last at least until Christmas. 210 witnesses are expected to be called and the operation will cost an estimated £250,000.

The prosecution still has not finalised the indictments which are to be brought against the 24. This could well indicate that the Director of Public Prosecutions is still looking for other charges to bring.

The key conference called by the Liverpool Trades Council to discuss the implications of the Shrewsbury trial for all organised workers takes place this Saturday. It will be held at the Central Hall, Renshaw Street, Liverpool.

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A section of the 500-strong International Socialists' contingent on Sunday's London demonstration called in protest at the Chile coup. Another picture back page.

Socialist Worker Industrial Conference

Belle Vue, Manchester
Sunday 11 November

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



CHILE: EDITORIAL PAGE 3, ANALYSIS PAGE 4

Women workers notch up big victory over GEC

SW Reporter

COVENTRY:—200 women workers have inflicted a defeat on one of the most ruthless and profitable firms in the country.

The GEC management is famous for the way it can hold out against industrial action, and known too for the way it victimises militants. But a strong picket and six weeks' firm strike action have won the day at the combine's Spon Street works, where printed circuits are made for radios and televisions.

The strike began when the whole of the 'first floor' at Spon Street—all women—walked out in support of six girls who demanded that a piece-work job should be re-timed. The girls were taking home as little as £13 for 40 hours.

When they asked to be re-timed, they found that the job had never been timed at all. The rate was a made-up one.

If the company gave way on this job, then every similarly rated job in the factory would be challenged. Most of the workers were quick to realise the dispute was an important one since all their rates might be held down in future if it was lost. There was a strong demand from the women at shop floor meetings that they should come out in solidarity with



Convenor Beardmore crossing Spon Street picket line

the first floor.

But these normally non-militant workers found themselves confronting their own union machine as fast as they tried to take on the management.

They were held back in particular by Albert Beardmore, the engineering union convenor, who was busy pursuing his own ambition to get rid of Elsie Moles, one of the few stewards in the factory who represents the interests of the women on production.

The AUEW organisation inside Spon

Street is as follows: Out of 14 stewards, representing 700 members, six are men. They represent fewer than 100 between them.

There are 400 women production workers in the AUEW and they have three stewards. The remaining five stewards are inspection workers and they represent a total of 80. Some workers in the factory have no stewards at all, and some stewards have not stood for re-election for 15 years.

The deal the strike forced from GEC

means that the six girls will be moved to printed circuit work in four weeks. The disputed jobs will then be done by trainees, who are covered by their own national agreement.

The strike showed the women at Spon Street two things. First that militancy pays off. In spite of all Albert Beardmore could say or do, they made the pickets bite, they won support from other factories in Coventry and in the GEC combine, and the Raglan Street workers walked out in solidarity, refusing to do black work.

And secondly the battle is on to get proper representation in the factory. When 600 women walked out and occupied the AUEW district offices last month in protest at the shop stewards' committee ousting Elsie Moles as deputy convenor, they were expressing a disgust they had felt for a long time.

That day showed that unions can be made to give way to rank and file pressure too. The most important thing now is to turn this pressure into a strong, organised form, with new production stewards, annual elections, and more reporting back.

Perhaps GEC has managed to save a little face this time. And Albert Beardmore is still convenor.

But the bosses need to watch over their shoulders. A rougher time may be coming their way.

Bosses' fiddle sparks battle

SW Reporter

HOWDEN upon Tyne:—Workers at W Press, a steel contracting firm making oil drilling platforms, have been on strike throughout the summer over a management pay dodge.

The plant was originally termed an engineering factory, which meant that the management could not lay the men off during bad weather. But in July the company said it was renaming the plant 'a yard'. This meant that workers would be laid off during bad weather and a low basic wage would be paid to the men during such layoffs.

The 240 workers demanded a return to normal working conditions. The company refused and also ignored their own legal advisor's opinion regarding the action they had taken.

The workers then went on strike.

Ship out

The company does not confine its provocation to the plant workers. While agreeing to meet union representatives, the company arranged for 50 twenty-ton lorries to enter the works and ship out 1000 tons of steel waiting to be used on a contract for the BP oil company. This operation was carried out at midnight and was in breach of the Tories' Industrial Relations Act.

The company's latest move has been to call a meeting of the unions to discuss the position and then refuse to meet them because there were shop stewards present. But this was not a last minute action. The chairman of the company never even left London to attend the talks as he had promised to do.

Pickets bring firm to knees

SW Reporter

CORYTON:—The biggest strike at Mobil Oil's Essex refinery for 20 years has resulted in a victory for the workers.

The strike lasted a week and, with a constant 24-hour picket, the £150,000,000 plant was virtually idle for that time.

It began when Mobil accepted a new contractor for its canteen. Thwaites-Matthews took over from Gardener Merchants with a promise that they could cut the cost of running the canteen by £20,000 from £58,000.

The refinery's unions were totally ignored while this change took place. The Thwaites-Matthews agreed to meet union representatives. But they said they would not discuss new canteen conditions with Pat Hardway, the woman shop steward elected by the canteen workers.

Thwaites-Matthews could cut the cost of running the canteen all right—by throwing out 22 workers from the staff of 42. The Transport Workers' Union responded by beginning the strike on 3 September. They were soon joined by the craft unions and the white collar unions. Even some supervisory grades joined in, although Mobil used about 100 scabs from the supervisory staff to do the TGWU workers' jobs.

Changed mind

Altogether some 1000 workers struck and with successful picketing, brought Mobil to its knees. Mobil had consistently maintained that the dispute was nothing to do with them, but was between the workers and Thwaites-Matthews. But in effect, if Thwaites-Matthews had got their way, the extremely strong union organisation at the plant would have been weakened by bringing in non-union canteen workers.

Mobil changed their minds when the strike began to hurt. They and Thwaites-Matthews offered a status quo, no victimisation deal to end the strike. All 42 canteen workers were offered their old jobs, if they wanted them.

George Smith, convenor of the Joint Shop Stewards' Committee, described the offer as 'a total and absolute climb-down by the management.' The offer, after being debated by the various unions, was accepted at a mass meeting and the 100 workers decided to return the next day.

Strikers return to fight on

SW Reporter

STRIKERS at the North London factory of Standard Telephones have returned to work after eight weeks on strike against management-inspired racialism.

They have gone back to work without a clear-cut victory, but they are determined to organise the whole factory for principled trade unionism and against racialism.

The strikers took the difficult decision to return to work because STC management were still getting work out despite the pickets and because some strikers were beginning to drift back to work.

The pickets were becoming increasingly isolated. The remaining strikers resolved by a five-to-one majority to undercut management's strategy to leave them outside the gate and subjected to growing demoralisation.

The management has been forced to withdraw its threats to sack Roderick Adams, the trainee setter. Electrical union members refused to continue training him because he is black.

DETERMINED

But STC management has not agreed to ensure his training is completed on nights. Roderick Adams is now at home on full pay supposedly pending further negotiations over his position.

The management reacted immediately to the strikers' determined return to work.

They called the police when they saw leaflets being given out that called for meetings of day and night shift workers. Police stood around the entrance in the hope of frightening night workers going in.

And management have said that they will not allow any meetings to take place. Any workers who give out leaflets or sell newspapers inside have been threatened with the sack.

But the night workers were determined to have their meeting. They went outside the gate at 1.30am on Tuesday morning that week. Again police were called after management had reported 'strange looking people' outside the factory gate.

Precautions have also been taken against bomb threats at STC. No cars were allowed to park on the property and when two stewards who had left the factory tried to return for union business they were refused entry. The police were called again.

MORE INDUSTRIAL NEWS — SEE PAGES 15 AND 16



STC strikers: back at work but still determined

Picture: Peter Harrap (Report)

TEACHER MILITANTS FACE NEW ATTACK FROM UNION CHIEFS

SW Reporter

LEADERS of the National Union of Teachers—a coalition ranging from the Communist left to the Tory right—have stepped up their attack on the Wandsworth Three: Eric Porter, Fred Scott and David Whiteley.

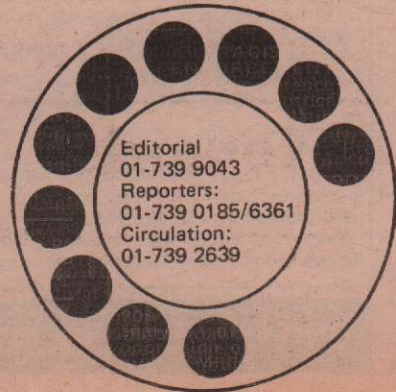
The three had originally been summoned before the union's Professional Conduct Committee to answer charges of 'disruption' at a London NUT rally last February. At the rally some 2000 members refused to allow the executive platform to continue the meeting unless a properly submitted resolution from the Wandsworth Association was considered.

The three, for reasons probably not unconnected with their leading role in the militant teachers' group Rank and File, were held responsible for the justified anger of the 2000 members.

At the meeting with the Professional Conduct Committee, the three refused to submit to a demand that the proceedings be kept secret. The result: a further charge of 'conduct detrimental to the union.'

Several hundred pounds has been collected, mainly among young class teachers, to support the Wandsworth

Three. Support is increasing in NUT associations up and down the country.



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SHOCKING PLAN BY BOSSES TO JOLT WORKERS

by Laurie Flynn
WORKERS at British Leyland's Tractors and Transmissions plant in Birmingham are next on the list for industrial psychology research involving electrical shocks.

Tony Boyle, the researcher whose experiments on women workers at Unilever's Batchelor Foods at Ashford in Kent have recently come to light, has already got British Leyland management's permission to move in and repeat the operation.

Mr Boyle is testing the speed of workers' responses, he says. One of Boyle's tests involves running 14-volt electrical currents through machine control buttons. If a worker does not hit the button fast enough, then he gets a 14-volt electrical shock to remind him of his sins.

The other test involves running a ring along a wire charged with electricity. If you 'fail' the test and the ring touches the wire, then again you get an electrical shock.

The alleged purpose of these appalling experiments is to try and establish whether there is a type of person who has more accidents than others. The idea was attractive to the Unilever profiteers since it suggests that personal qualities are the cause of accidents rather than working conditions and management priorities.

Unilever sanctioned the 'research' and the barbaric electro-shock treatment at top level and swung the management of their Batchelor Foods subsidiary into line.

The Ashford plant is not a militant one. Wage rates are low. There is a high turnover of labour and no such thing as an independent workers' safety committee. It was not difficult for Batchelor management to get the tests endorsed by their works council and by senior shop stewards who are 'co-operative' and largely male.

ADEQUATE

But only women workers were asked to submit to the tests. All those selected were long-standing employees at the plant. Of those selected only nine refused.

The number who agreed to take part was not unconnected with the fact that they were falsely told that the experiments could lead to a 'major reduction' in the toll of industrial accidents. Some also got the distinct impression that these were 'government tests'.

The tests have now been going on at the Ashford factory for three months with the management providing Mr Boyle with a room and an adequate electricity supply. At no time however did Batchelor management approach the workers' union, the General and Municipal Workers, at national level. They are not slow to do this on other matters.

Had the union been approached, there is no doubt that permission would have been refused. The union is now conducting its own inquiry into the affair.

GMWU national food officer Bobby Smith told Socialist Worker this week that the union would be taking the matter up with Unilever in 'the strongest possible terms'.

'No one, but no one,' added Mr Smith, 'uses our members as guinea pigs.'

Batchelor Foods are not even ruffled by the disclosures about their electro-shock treatment. The company's chief public relations officer, W R R Price, told Socialist Worker that the research could be 'valuable', and that the experiments involved taking people who have had accidents and trying to find out why they had them.

'A mountain is being made out of a molehill,' added Mr Price, 'I don't think anyone can possibly say that this is unethical. The whole matter was put to all levels of management from the top down.'



PROTEST PICKET OVER MURDER IN TRINIDAD

BEVERLEY JONES, aged 19, a member of the National Union of Freedom Fighters in Trinidad, was murdered by the Trinidad police last Thursday. The police claimed that she died in a gunfight in a 'guerrilla camp' at Cuara, but after her body was retrieved over the week-end it showed brutal beating to the face and bullet wounds from shots fired at close range.

Jennifer Jones, Beverley's younger sister, aged 17, is being held incommunicado by the police. Her friends fear that she too will be murdered in the custody of the new gangs of thugs recently hired as policemen by the desperate Williams' regime in Trinidad.

The Black Workers Movement in Britain has organised a series of pickets outside the Trinidadian consulate in Belgrave Square. They have also distributed a leaflet in Britain's black communities blaming Beverley Jones' murder on the determination of the minority Williams' government to continue 'looting' the island's asphalt and oil.

Picture of London picket by Mike Cohen.

Draughtsmen out for 12 weeks

SW Reporter

HULL:—18 draughtsmen and clerical workers at Manufacturing Equipment Co have been locked out for 12 weeks after a claim for merit increases.

The men, members of TASS, the technical section of the engineering union, have made a big effort to win support from the shop floor at the main factory of Fenners, which owns MEC. Fenners' workers have put in for a substantial pay rise and have been told by management that they will only offer '£1 plus 4 per cent'. The MEC pickets are hopeful that this second dispute, similar to their own, will help boost support for them at Fenners.

Inside MEC, where the shop floor is mainly non-union, an AUEW member was

sacked last week on a flimsy pretext after attempting to recruit new members to the union. The TASS members have no doubt that this is victimisation and are at a loss to understand the position apparently adopted by Walter Joester, the AUEW district secretary.

Mr Joester was quoted in the Hull Daily Mail as saying that the sacking was 'justified' and 'there was no question of victimisation'.

This incident has only increased the determination of the locked-out TASS members and their supporters. Blacking of all firms which deliver to MEC is being maintained by Hull docks shop stewards. The dockers' continued support, combined with the constant picketing by the draughtsmen themselves is causing serious production problems inside MEC.

Money is needed to maintain the picket line: send to Bill Vause (TASS), 264 Priory Road, Hull.

'We'll fight' say tenants

WARLEY:—Tenants' representatives have voted to fight the latest round of increases imposed under the 'Fair Rents' scheme. The Labour-controlled Warley council agreed to implement the increases with only four Labour councillors voting against. Forty tenants attended the meeting representing six estates in the area. The

majority were housewives and working mothers who expressed their disgust at the latest round of rent increases.

The meeting decided to set up an action committee made up of representatives of all council estates in Warley to co-ordinate the fight against the rent increases.

Socialist Worker WHAT WE THINK

THE EVENTS IN CHILE must surely make every real socialist think again about the way to socialism. We all need to check our theories in the light of this latest experience. We need to draw the right lessons for the movement in Britain and internationally.

Two things must be said at once. The defeat of the Chilean working class—and we should have no illusions that it is anything but a disastrous defeat—is a defeat for all of us. Those, like the International Socialists, who have always criticised the policies and strategy of Dr Allende and his Popular Unity government can take no pleasure at all in the outcome.

The military gangsters who now rule Chile are the enemies of the whole socialist and trade union movement. When their spokesman says: 'Marxism will be totally eradicated' he means not only that socialists and militants will be jailed or shot, but that each and every basic trade union and political right that Chilean workers have enjoyed for generations will be destroyed.

The second thing is this. Chile is no banana republic. It is a country, like Britain, in which the vast majority of the people live in the towns, a country with an old and well-established labour movement and a long tradition of parliamentary government. What happened in Chile is directly relevant to the movement in Britain.

Members and sympathisers of the Communist Party, which is committed to a 'parliamentary road to socialism' in Britain, must ask themselves what went wrong. So too must those genuine socialists who remain in the Labour Party. For as John Gollan, the Communist Party general secretary, correctly pointed out in the Morning Star, last Saturday, the Popular Unity government was 'the legally constituted government . . . 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.'

Real gains

Popular Unity was not, of course, an ordinary social-democratic government. If it had been, there would have been no military coup in Chile. It did really attempt to transform the country by legal means and it did achieve real and substantial economic and social gains for Chilean workers. It did organise 'extra-parliamentary' mass rallies and demonstrations of its supporters. And it was destroyed. It was destroyed by 'the special bodies of armed men', as Engels called them, who make up the core of every capitalist state machine. For they were left untouched by Allende's reforms. Worse, the generals and admirals were brought into the government to help to 'control the situation' when mass middle-class opposition and sabotage developed.

Over a century ago Marx wrote: 'One thing especially was proved by the [Paris] Commune, namely that the working class cannot simply lay hold of the ready made state machinery and wield it for its own purposes.' And again, 'the next attempt of the French revolution will be no longer, as before, to transfer the bureaucratic-military machine from one hand to another but to smash it (Marx's emphasis); and this is essential for every real people's revolution . . .'

We do not say that this is true simply because Marx said it. We do say that all subsequent experience has confirmed it, and that this latest, tragic confirmation by the defeat in Chile should make Communist Party members and other supporters of 'The British Road to Socialism' reconsider their rejection of the well-known views of Marx and Lenin on the need to destroy the capitalist state machine.

Would a British Allende fare any better? Listen to the voice of the 'top people's' newspaper, The Times: 'There is a limit to the ruin a country can be expected to tolerate . . . the circumstances were such that a reasonable military man could, in good faith, have thought it his constitutional duty to intervene.' In the light of that plain warning we call upon Communist Party militants to look again at this, the central question of socialist strategy, to discuss it and to ensure that it is raised at the forthcoming party congress.

The International Socialists stand four-square behind the views of Marx, of Lenin, of the original communist movement on the issue but we do not say simply 'drop your views and adopt ours'. We do say that every serious militant cannot but reconsider the matter and ask him or herself 'wasn't Marx right after all?'

Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2

Right wing on the rampage

LAST WEEK'S military take-over in Chile was a massive defeat for the Chilean working class, and indeed for the working class of the whole world. There is still little information as to the precise extent of the repression taking place, though some reports have spoken of up to 20,000 dead. But it requires little imagination to recognise that the army and their right-wing friends are setting out to destroy completely the organised working class movement in Chile.

A month before the coup, the armed forces were already raiding factories and homes of left-wingers in search of arms, while disregarding open preparations for violence by the right. Now that they have a completely free hand they will have few scruples about killing and torturing.

For the Chilean working class this is nothing new. Over the last few years there has been a carefully fostered myth that Chile is a country of peaceful and democratic traditions. As far as Chilean workers are concerned nothing could be further from the truth. The Chilean labour movement, one of the strongest in South America, was forged in struggle and bloodshed. The Valparaiso dock strike in 1903 left 30 dead, and the 1905 Santiago meat strike left 200 killed. In 1907 2000 were massacred at Iquique and in 1925 3000 at Coruna.

In January this year, just before the elections, a left-wing socialist 'newspaper' issued an open letter to the election candidates. This said: 'We saw what these politicians did in October, and we know where the path we want to follow will lead. But, they ask, aren't you afraid of the violence of another Coruna? Of more bullets? Of an underground existence? Of confrontations? For years we have had Coronas, bullets, clandestinity, and confrontations. Nothing new that Chile's rich can

come up with will terrorise us.'

The Chilean working class will not be crushed forever but it has learnt a hard lesson in the hardest possible way. That lesson is that no enlightened leaders, no alliance with progressive forces, no parliamentary compromise can substitute for the basic need for the working class to create its own organisations and fight for its own programme.

The organisation that came nearest to offering a revolutionary alternative to Allende was the MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left). As early as November 1971 the general secretary of the MIR had proclaimed: 'The parliament must be replaced by a People's Assembly representing the workers, peasants, ill-housed, students, and soldiers.'

'Only in this way can we accumulate enough strength to confront the great task of the period—the conquest of power by the workers. The only alternative in Chile today is socialism or facism. The fate of us all depends on the outcome of this process.'

The MIR had many weaknesses. It continued too long to give at least partial support to Allende. It was oriented on Cuba and it tended to give the peasantry more importance than the industrial working class. But it will be militants of the MIR and other groupings who now inherit the task of rebuilding the movement for socialism in Chile.

How long the task will take is still impossible to predict. But in the prison camps and exile colonies, in the factories and slums of Chile's cities, the lessons will be learnt and the new organisations built. The Chilean working class will rise again. And their struggle is ours too.



WORLD NEWS

Special on Chile by Ian Birchall



WHAT WAS SAID

'The lesson is that each country has its own particular circumstances and it is in the light of these circumstances that one must act. There is no set formula. Our case, for example, opens up possibilities, it shows a way. We have arrived through the polling booths. Apparently it can be said of us that we are mere reformers, but we have taken measures which imply that we want to bring about the revolution, that is transform society, and that in turn means build the socialist society.'—Salvador Allende, in an interview with Regis Debray, January 1971.

'The victory is important for us, too, and important for the revolutionary movement the world over. For it is a lesson in UNITY,—not the first of its kind, but an extremely significant one in this period of fierce debate on "roads to socialism" . . .

'Left unity has opened the way to the defeat of that group of privileged Chileans who grab more than half of Chile's national income though they number no more than 10 per cent of her people. It has opened the way to put an end to the imperialist robbery which "has torn from Chile enormous resources, equal to double the capital accumulated in our country during its entire history" . . .'—Nan Green in Comment, Communist Party weekly, 26 September 1970.

'Chile's ballot-box revolution therefore looks like going the same way as Frei's: retreat and compromise before the twin supports of Latin American underdevelopment—US capital and the privilege and army power in the hands of an aristocratic minority.'

'Allende can only overcome these obstacles by a revolutionary mobilisation of the workers and peasants. His parliamentary reformist politics make it unlikely that he would attempt this.'

'And even if he did, the dangers would still be great. The same army that has been used to shoot down strikers would not sit by and let the ruling class be voted out of existence.'—Steve Jefferys, Socialist Worker, 26 September 1970.

ALLENDE'S ROAD TO DISASTER

SALVADOR ALLENDE was elected President of Chile in September 1970.

His election in itself hardly represented a massive swing to the left. Indeed, he got only just over a third of the vote, and was elected because his opponents had been unable to settle on a single candidate to oppose him.

In fact Allende's vote was scarcely higher than the vote for the left in 1964, when the right-wing Christian Democrats had a landslide victory.

Nonetheless, Allende did introduce some real reforms. Free milk for children cut infant mortality by more than 10 per cent in 1971. All wage and salary earners got an increase of about 20 per cent, and unemployment was cut from more than 8 per cent to less than four. Free hospital care was introduced, the mobile police—traditionally used against workers—was dissolved, and some industries were nationalised.

FAILED

But the real privileges of the rich were never attacked. Taking into account the rapid price rises, the effective rate of tax paid by the upper and middle classes actually fell. Nonetheless, the popularity which Allende's government had achieved was shown by the fact that by April 1971 candidates supporting him got just under half the votes in the municipal elections.

Yet 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. Why?

Because however sincerely one may be committed to reform, one can go only so far inside the framework of 'democratic institutions' and 'law and order'. Allende failed on three crucial points—workers' control, the army and the state, and internationalism. By so doing he effectively dug his own grave.

Socialism cannot be handed to the workers as a gift from above. They have to make it for themselves. But Allende's government tried to hold the workers back when they took factories into their own hands, they were greeted with calls to respect 'legality' and to contribute to the 'battle for production'.



Allende with military leaders: the impossible alliance

Allende made his position on workers' control quite clear in an interview shortly after his election: 'We have insisted on the participation of manual and white collar workers and technical personnel in the management of our enterprises, but this does not mean that these enterprises are going to enjoy independence as regards their production.'

'We are and always shall be in favour of a centralised economy, and companies will have to conform to the government's production planning. To achieve this, we shall maintain a continuous dialogue with the workers.'

'But we are not going to hand over a company to the workers just so they can produce what they want or to let them turn the fact that they control a factory to their own personal

advantage in order to demand higher earnings than other people.'

Allende's reluctance to mobilise workers was directly related to his concern to keep within the framework of the constitution. In January 1972 he said: 'Our laws are within the framework of the constitutions, written by a congress more than 150 years old. For that reason, this is a country that can dictate its own laws with dignity.'

So Allende never made any serious preparations for a confrontation with the army.

Until recently there was a widespread myth that the Chilean army was loyal and law-abiding. In fact it has a long record of shedding workers' blood, going back to massacres of hundreds in the early years of the century. The Frei government which

immediately preceded Allende's used to shoot striking workers. As for loyalty, there was an attempted army revolt as recently as 1969.

Yet Allende avoided like the plague any suggestion that he should arm the workers to defend the gains they had made. Indeed in October last year, when lorry-owners were striking and there were rumours of civil war, Allende publicly boasted that he would not try to mobilise the working class.

'If we wanted, we could bring 100,000 or 150,000 people here. The slightest signal would be enough to bring in 15 or 20 thousand workers from the industrial suburbs of Santiago to open up Santiago's stores. We told them not to do so. The strength of this government lies in respect for the constitution and the law.'

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

UNCLEAR

A real revolutionary policy would have meant trying to spread revolution beyond Chilean boundaries, but Allende's internationalism was confined to gestures such as the diplomatic recognition of Cuba, while he took great care to stay on good terms with his reactionary neighbours in South America.

While it is still unclear whether the US was directly involved in last week's coup, it is no secret that the US has long been looking for ways of getting rid of Allende.

Last year a letter came to light which had been written in September 1970 by two officials of ITT, the international telephone giant, which read: 'Last Tuesday night Ambassador Edward Korry finally received a message from the State Department giving him the green light to move in the name of President Nixon. The message gave him the maximum authority to do all possible—short of a Dominican Republic-type action—to keep Allende from taking power.'

Yet in January 1971 Allende told an interviewer: 'From our side, there will not even be verbal aggression. Mr Nixon is President of the United States and I am President of Chile. I shall have nothing derogatory to say about Mr Nixon as long as Mr Nixon respects the President of Chile.'

The 'Chilean road to socialism' has proved to be the road to disaster. If workers throughout the world learn from it the simple lesson 'never again', then the defeat will at least have served some purpose.

THE THREE-YEAR SLIDE TO DEFEAT

1970
4 September: Allende elected president with 36.3 per cent of votes.
24 October: Congress ratifies election after Christian Democrats are given 'democratic guarantee'.
1971
4 April: Popular Unity gets 49.75 per cent in municipal elections.
November: Castro tours Chile,

urges workers to work harder.
December: First anti-Allende demonstrations by upper-class women.
1972
August: Beginning of strikes by traders; street demonstrations, state of emergency in Santiago.
October: Lorry-drivers' strike leads to violent clashes, state of emergency.
2 November: Three military

leaders brought into government.
1973
28 March: Military leaders leave government.
April-July: Strike by El Teniente copper-miners; denounced as reactionary.
29 June: Failure of armed revolt against Allende.
25 July: Beginning of lorry-drivers'

strike.
9 August: Military leaders brought into government again.
23 August: Military leaders leave government.
4 September: Several hundred thousand people demonstrate to celebrate third anniversary of Allende's election.
11 September: Military coup; Allende dies.

Eleven pay the price of gold

by Alan Baldwin

THE murder of 11 black miners by the police during a strike at the Anglo-American Corporation's Western Deep Levels mine in Carletonville, South Africa, has once again brought into sharp focus both the vicious repression of the South African police state and the role of international, principally British, capital in cosy co-operation with the regime.

The murder of black people is not exceptional in South Africa, either in the mines or elsewhere. The gold mines have killed 19,000 miners in 30 years, an average of three deaths per shift.

In a 'good' year, 1968, 508 were killed and 27,000 off work injured for two weeks or more. During 1971 the police killed 53 and seriously injured 223 'in the execution of their duties'.

It is also not exceptional that black workers are fighting back. On 4 September there was a strike of 300 machine operators at Western Deep Levels. The strike which led to the shootings followed a week later because there was no action on their grievances. On the same day, strikers at the West Rand gold mine near Krugersdorp were attacked by police and 25 injured.

There have been waves of strikes in South Africa and Namibia during the past year, but generally miners have been less militant than workers in secondary industry since the defeat of their 1946 national strike.

In the past year the wages of Anglo-American's 120,000 gold miners have gone up by 42 per cent to an average £19 per month and a starting wage of £12, while the price of gold has more than doubled.

The white gold miners have received a £48 rise to £268 a month. Anglo-American profits in 1972 increased by 10.7 per cent to £27 million. The state got £75 million from gold last year.

Cripple

Anglo-American and Harry Oppenheimer represent the voice of international capital in South Africa. Oppenheimer, with a large stake in mining and manufacturing and with heavy investment in black African countries such as Zambia, speaks with several voices. His speeches about a living wage for blacks are the voice for abroad and for his manufacturing interests, which need bigger markets. But he knows that paying a living wage to black miners would cripple his super-profitable exploitation.

The backward mining sector cannot agree to demands for a decent wage and the right to organise. At the same time the mines continue to set the labour

The Carletonville killings also illustrate British collaboration in brutality. Some £2000 million of British capital is invested in South Africa, much of it in Anglo-American itself.

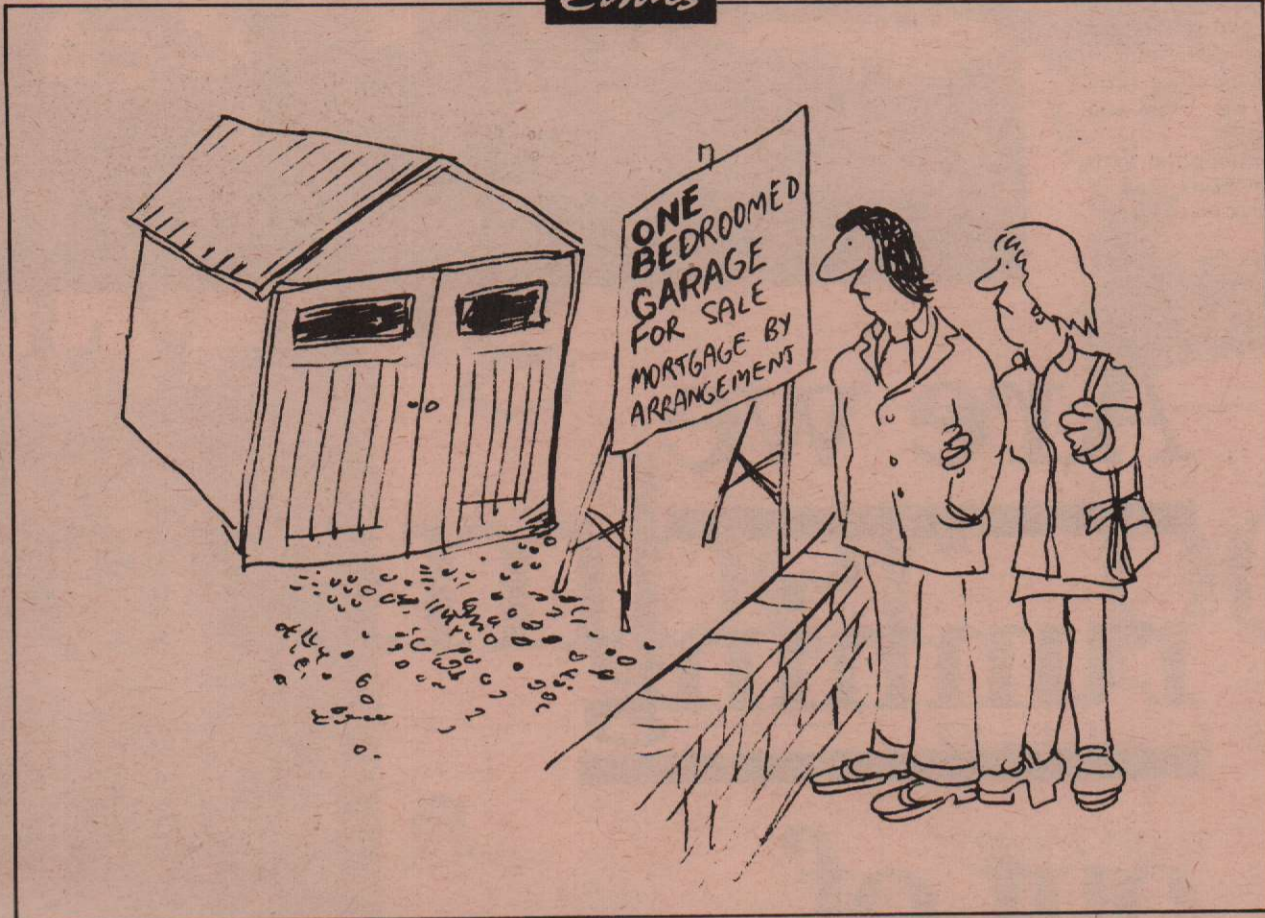
South Africa is a crucial outpost for British capital, so the ties of solidarity between British and South African workers must also be close since we have a common enemy. There have been several cases of British companies transferring investment to highly profitable cheap-labour operations in South Africa, putting men out of work in Britain.

Racism and the ideology of white supremacy, on which apartheid is built, is also being used in Britain to divide workers and establish a powerless labour reserve.

The developing struggle in South Africa—there will be many more strikes in the mines, factories and docks, and more Carletonvilles—is a struggle by the black working class against the same enemies as the British working class. This is the main lesson the Carletonville killings must bring home.



Evans



Divine eviction

THE 15-year-old god, Guru Maharaj Ji, continues to move people wherever he takes his message. In East Dulwich, South London, his followers have taken over the local Odeon cinema and are turning it into a Palace of Peace.

It has become the 'centre of a new and beautiful revolution in city life,' claim his followers. 'The secret to the success of the Guru is that he recognises the real cause of discontent, an unstable mind, and has the perfect cure—knowledge of God.'

For Mr and Mrs Everett of Dulwich, knowledge of God has been less fulfilling, and their revolution in city life less satisfactory.

For the past 10 years they have lived in a small flat above the Odeon. Now they have been given notice to quit by the 'Palace of Peace'.

'We need the space for offices,' said god's spokesman. 'It is an act of peace and love.'

The Everett family have to be out by the end of the month. They have not, as yet, joined the Guru's followers.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK on the Carletonville massacre in South Africa.

'The incident is another blot on South Africa's reputation. The experience of the British army in Ulster and elsewhere shows that crowds and riots could be controlled without this sort of incident.'—Ivor Richard, Labour front bench spokesman on foreign affairs.

'Sometimes property means more than lives.'—Colonel L M Loots, divisional inspector of police for the Western Transvaal.

Horrorglas

THE Chief Fire Officer of Essex has been circulating some letters in the light of 'recent events'—which must be a reference to the fire at Trust Houses Forte's Summerland fun palace in the Isle of Man which killed more than 50 people last month.

The letters were written by the then Chief Fire Officer, Mr C F O Ellis, in reply to county officials who had sent him samples of Oroglas Acrylic sheeting, the material of

which Summerland was largely built and which burned so fiercely. The manufacturers had played up the 'indestructibility' of the material, had played down its susceptibility to fire and had recommended its use in county schools.

'The material has been examined and was found to burn readily,' wrote Mr Ellis on 4 August 1967. 'In principle it is therefore considered unsuitable for general use in schools particularly on escape routes, in areas where any degree of fire resistance is required or for any large areas of glazing on external walls especially

where there is any possibility of an exposed fire risk between buildings or their hazards.'

On 29 September 1967, Mr Ellis wrote again—this time to the County Architect: 'The technical brochure [for Oroglas] shows this material to be self-extinguishing and non-flammable, and it is noted that this data is based on information that the manufacturing company believe to be reliable, but not related to any British Standard test results.

'I do not feel that this factor alters the reservations expressed on the specific uses mentioned in my letter of 4 August.'

Fortunately for the children of Essex, Mr Ellis' warnings were heeded, and glass was used in new school windows. But the incident says something about the sales methods of Oroglas manufacturers.

* * *

Oroglas used to be used, incidentally, for the manufacture of eye-size contact lenses. A friend who works in a Northern optical factory tells me that he and other optical workers found a use for the used Oroglas sheets when the contact lenses had been cut out of them.

'My parents had one of those old Yorkshire range fires, which was very difficult to light. I used to give them the sheets, which made excellent firelighters. All you needed was a bit of paper and they caught fire almost at once. What's more, they caused a good blaze for a nice long time. Best firelighters I ever knew.'

Sid Greene unpronounceable

THE 'highlight' of the TUC for the press this year was undoubtedly the speech of that magnificent orator, Sir Sidney Greene, who led off the economic debate for the General Council with a stirring call to Downing Street. Vincent Hanna, reporting the TUC for the BBC, exclaimed as soon as Sir Sid had finished: 'A bravura performance from Sir Sidney!' and the press followed the next day with suitable blandishments.

Gourmet Gormley

THE Daily Mirror reported last week that the National Union of Mine-workers is buying itself a car and a chauffeur at a cost of £4000 to save on the scores of hired chauffeur-driven journeys to pits by their president, Joe Gormley.

Perhaps this vital saving will enable Mr Gormley to spend even more time at the Caprice, which is one of London's most expensive eating places, and where Mr Gormley has been seen by my correspondents several times during the past few months. Lunch for two at the Caprice costs a modest £15.

Two-hat Alex

PROMINENT at the recent TUC Congress at Blackpool was the burly frame of Alex Mattingley, personnel director at IPC, the world's biggest publishing company, who spent a week on his firm's expenses informing himself and his fellow directors about the activities of our trade union leaders.

I understand that the same Alex Mattingley will be returning to Blackpool next month. This time his visit will be paid for by the print union, NATSOPA. Brother Mattingley will be representing the union at the Labour Party Conference.

CBI says Stage 2 is undermining profitability

J. L. Kier boosts earnings

Tilling on way to new peak profit

Tube Investments

profits double

Croda earnings up 50 pc

Guardian Royal big profit boost

Just a few headlines from the Business Guardian on Thursday 13 September. No comment needed.

Petrol panic helps boost moguls' profits

PANIC TALK of the world running out of petrol and natural gas has made the headlines for months.

Are we on the eve of an 'energy crisis' or are the oil companies using the present shortage of refineries to create an energy scare to boost their profits and the price of fuel in general?

A Blueprint for Survival produced by a group of scientists in 1972 estimated that at the present rates of consumption known reserves of natural gas will be used up by 2007 and petroleum by 2042. But if the rate of consumption increases the way it has done since 1960 then natural gas will be exhausted by 1986 and petroleum by 1992.

Coal will last at present rates of consumption until 2272 but since it is the base for by-products such as plastics and fertilisers its consumption may increase and it will not last as long.

A gloomy prediction for the future. For the first time since the war there are petrol shortages in America.

In the wheat-belt of the mid-west, the grain driers have been forced to shut down because of a lack of fuel. In Texas, supplies of natural gas are getting tight and in California, power plants, factories, and blocks of flats have all experienced 'chillouts' as the fuel ran out or was turned off.

The Nixon administration responded by introducing a system of voluntary fuel allocations and appointed an 'energy overlord'. It also allowed the Office of Oil and Gas to make special allocations of fuel for priority customers and to impose compulsory allocations if necessary.

Cynical

The oil companies are all in agreement on the cause of the shortages. They claim that US federal regulation of natural gas prices has increased demand and forced the price of other fuels down. This has meant lower margins on natural gas, so they have cut down on production and exploration.

Some cynical observers have gone so far as to suggest that they have deliberately held back supplies in order to force the federal government to either raise the price of natural gas or end controls altogether.

And oil executives are saying that US domestic production has peaked out. There will be no significant rise in production until the federal authorities stamp on the 'environmentalists' who want to save the countryside and get on with the job of extending offshore leasing, particularly on the Atlantic coast.

The 'energy crisis' in America marks a profound change for a country that has always enjoyed an abundance of energy. It also means that from now on prices of all fuels will be much higher and that imports from the Middle East will increase in



Are we running out of steam?

the next few years at least.

The oil companies are determined not to lose by it. Gulf and Shell have already announced a joint venture into nuclear power development and most of the big companies are starting to buy up vast acreages of coal-bearing land. They are out to protect their profits and are using any and every means to do that.

This has been vividly illustrated

by their withholding supplies of petrol to the independent petrol station chains. It is estimated that more than 1000 have closed because of the actions of the big oil companies. And the really big companies like Gulf, Texaco and Exxon are using the crisis to rationalise their own operations, selling off petrol stations in areas of the USA which are not making enough profit.

The hypocrisy of the oil bosses is best shown by the question of the motor car and exhaust emissions. The limits for exhaust emissions are stringent in the USA, particularly in California.

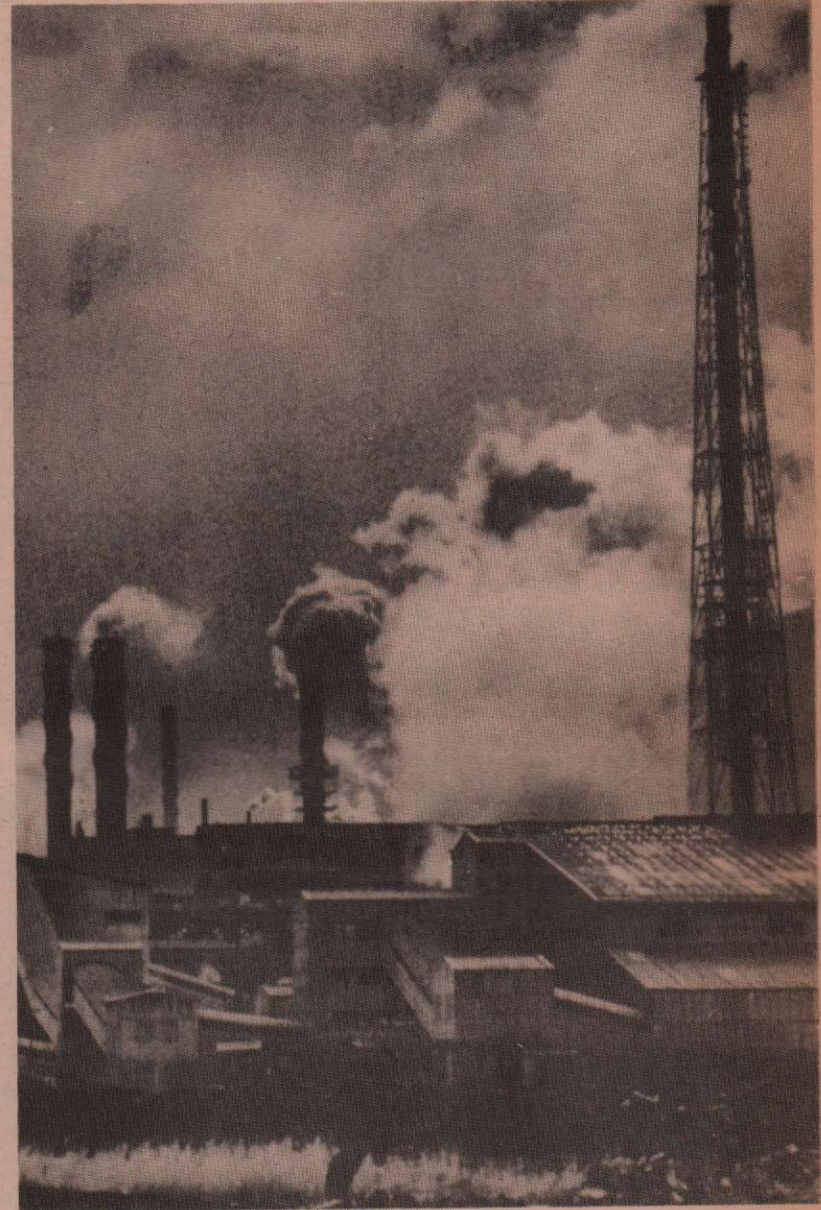
The oil companies have been forced to produce petrol with less pollutants and lead and this has cost them a good deal of money. Since about 40 per cent of the oil refined in America goes for petrol, any extension of the regulations on emissions will cut deeper into the oil company profits.

Problem

So with the threat of the 'energy crisis', the oil companies are demanding wholesale reductions in emission standards, especially those laid down in the 1970 Clean Air Act amendments.

The US will probably have to import more crude oil from the Middle East in the next few years and this has presented a further problem. The politicians and oil bosses are clearly worried that the producing countries will cut off supplies of crude oil.

In 1972 the USA imported 1500 million barrels of oil from the Middle



Top: cars queuing for petrol in America at one of the stations deliberately starved of supplies by the giant firms. Above: factories like cars continue to pollute the air but the energy firms are out to smash the Clean Air Act to boost profits.

East and the National Petroleum Council has projected that by 1985 the figure could be as high as 7000 million barrels—more than 60 per cent of America's oil consumption—or as low as 1300 million barrels.

The problem is a real one, for America is the strongest supporter of Zionism in the Middle East and at the moment Libya is nationalising American-producing interests there. And in April Saudi Arabia announced that increased supplies of oil to America would depend on America's attitude to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Oil was cut off to America, Britain, and West Germany between June and August 1967, and if another war took place in the Middle East, the Western oil importers would not get off as lightly as they did in 1967.

The 'energy crisis' has not affected this country yet on the American scale. But fuel prices are rising and, if recent reports of petrol rationing are true, then it is not far off.

The crisis demonstrates yet again the total chaos of capitalism. There is enough oil, coal, natural gas and other energy sources to supply the world's needs for the foreseeable future and with the prospect of nuclear fission

and deuterium-deuterium fusion for future needs, the possibility of unlimited energy is available to us.

Yet because of the free-for-all scramble for profits which is rooted in the capitalist system, resources are recklessly squandered and developed in a haphazard and unplanned way.

Misuse

In this situation shortages are inevitable, whether or oil or wheat, as long as the system continues to exist. There will always be the waste and misuse of resources such as the indiscriminate burning of natural gas in many oil fields simply because there is no profit to be made in transporting it and using it as an energy source.

It is clearer than ever before that the capitalist system is holding back the development of mankind. And unless the workers' movement destroys it, it has the capacity to destroy the world several times over.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Social Security for Strikers



Special analysis by BRIAN REES

Upstairs, downstairs, emptying the chamber pots...



'WELL, even her blood's not the same as ours, is it?' was one of the milder remarks I heard when I started working as a char-cum-housemaid in one currently 'occupied' stately home.

The maid who uttered those startling words about this particular ladyship—Lady Hesketh of Towcester, near Northampton—wasn't joking. Such ideas are carefully nurtured by our lords and ladies and other members of the ruling class.

After all, it wouldn't do if we 'got above' ourselves and discovered the truth, would it?

It must be embarrassing to have to make do with only two chauffeurs instead of four and buy all your clothes in Knightsbridge instead of Paris.

These are the sort of economies you have to endure if you're a lady, especially if the death duties after the lord's passing are so phenomenal that you can only just maintain that Queen Anne mansion and the thousands of acres of land around it. And by doing without the Rolls occasionally you can even help your mother a bit with her castle in Scotland.

Massive

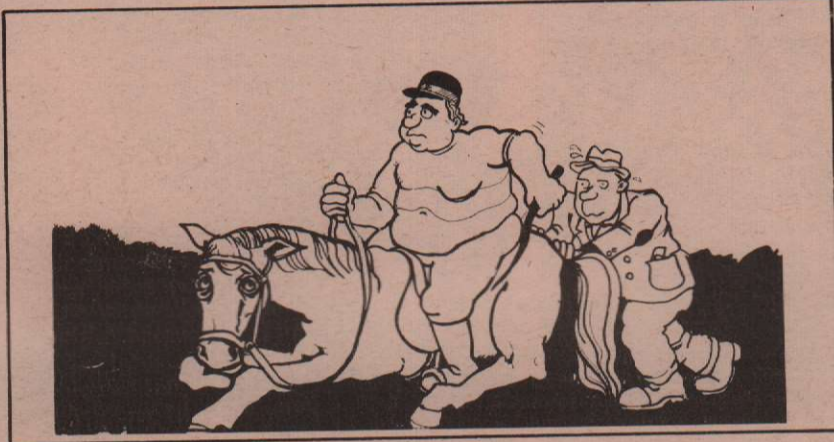
When you're a housemaid who is earning £4 per week for approximately 26 hours of scrubbing, sweeping, making beds, clearing up other people's messes, it's not just sour grapes to insist that these riches are mis-spent and grossly misused.

After all, being a lord or a lady must take some doing. You sit on your massive inheritance that arrived via other people's corruption and brutality in years long since gone.

When you're a lady, you've no time for such trivial chores as making your bed, hanging up your clothes and managing the house. You acquire butlers, footmen and maids to do it all for you and feed their illusions with grandeur.

You demand that they call you 'Your Ladyship' which makes them feel nicely subservient. You don't allow them to make their presence felt by appearing on main staircases or rooms when you have 'house guests'. They must use the backstairs—umpteen narrow staircases built into the stone walls to carry them, like mice, out of sight, to their broomcupboards and work.

They have a room buried in the



basement where they can sup tea and it's a room that's invitingly cold and damp with windows at ceiling level, which meet the ground level outside.

The butler, footmen and resident maids will occupy a room each in the most remote part of the house and be required to work at any given hour for £4 (for the housemaids) and their 'board'.

When you're a lady, it's not uncommon to sleep in a silk-draped four poster bed with an antique table at your side, where this particular lady kept her four sets of rosary beads (a lot to confess?) and framed family portraits.

It must make you feel smug, watching visitors' mouths fall open at the sight of your numerous bedrooms, ante-rooms, dressing rooms, sitting rooms, the minstrels' gallery and the staircase designed by Christopher Wren, with statues in niches in the wall and a wrought iron and gold leaf balustrade.

Manage

Then there are the children who spend their babyhoods in the nursery wing with a nanny and a nurse, spend their sleeping hours in a huge pram with the family crest painted on its side, growing up with the idea that money buys everything, including people.

When they're 17, 19 and 21 respectively, you give the youngest his first car—a brand new racing Mini which he wrecks with monotonous regularity and the middle child a racecourse to manage, which makes him a millionaire immediately.

At the age of 21 the eldest inherited the title of 'lord' and all the wealth with it and he's not quite sure what it all means.

Motoring, racing, hunting and

shooting are among his interests, although actually *going* hunting is out of the question as he weighs 17 stone and, as he says, 'I'm not designed for horses. They and I do not get on.'

He's also a director of the racecourse, five local companies and drives a Rolls Royce. 'I don't want another car—I'm very happy with the Rolls,' he comments.

He has no plans of marriage but is hopefully described as 'one of the most eligible bachelors in Europe.'

Being a lord also means that if a maid is coming up the stairs while he's lumbering down, she must get off the stairs to allow him to pass,

First-hand report on a skivvy's life by Jeanne Woodcock

because he's a lord. And she must pick up the clothes that litter his dressing room floor, empty his bath from the night before and flush the toilet after he's used it.

Desperate

If you're the butler you must accept that he is entitled to fling his suits in your face, demanding that you press them, and if you don't do as you're asked, then he's at liberty to sack you on the spot.

This sort of treatment creates a particularly corrupting atmosphere where staff are encouraged to pounce on each other for not adhering to

the rules and encouraged to spy on each other. They vie with each other for the tips left in ashtrays after house-guests have left—it makes you desperate when you're so grossly underpaid and the contents of your entire life are to be found in your solitary room.

And when the tips are £5 or £10 notes, it can make quite a difference to your astronomical income of £4 per week plus 50p extra for sewing.

This atmosphere primes you well for a life of total subservience, when you sit in the laundry room and pick the fluff and dandruff from her ladyship's clothes before you press them and return them to their racks, along with the 30-odd pairs of shoes and 15 pairs of boots to be cleaned.

When people like Margaret Powell, author of books like *Belowstairs*, tell you that all this system and gross subservience and degradation is part of a 'vanishing era', don't you believe it.

While you and I continue a struggle for survival in the midst of rocketing food prices and wage freezes, there are those who continue to live with unimaginable wealth and luxury at the expense of our labour.

Sour grapes? Just begin to imagine how many homeless could be housed, hungry mouths fed and the number who could be raised out of the mire of poverty by the equal distribution of all that much mis-spent wealth.

What's happening to your wages?

A Socialist Worker pamphlet 3p



Here's a vital pamphlet for ALL readers of *Socialist Worker*—a pamphlet to read, re-read and keep handy every time there is a new 'money crisis'. It is required reading for every worker and housewife who wonders why their money is being eaten away.

The pamphlet contains two recent and highly-praised articles in *Socialist Worker* by Chris Harman and John Palmer. Why not order a dozen copies for YOUR workplace now?

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I enclose £ (Single copies 6p inc post, 12 copies or more post free.)

Name

Address

Organisation

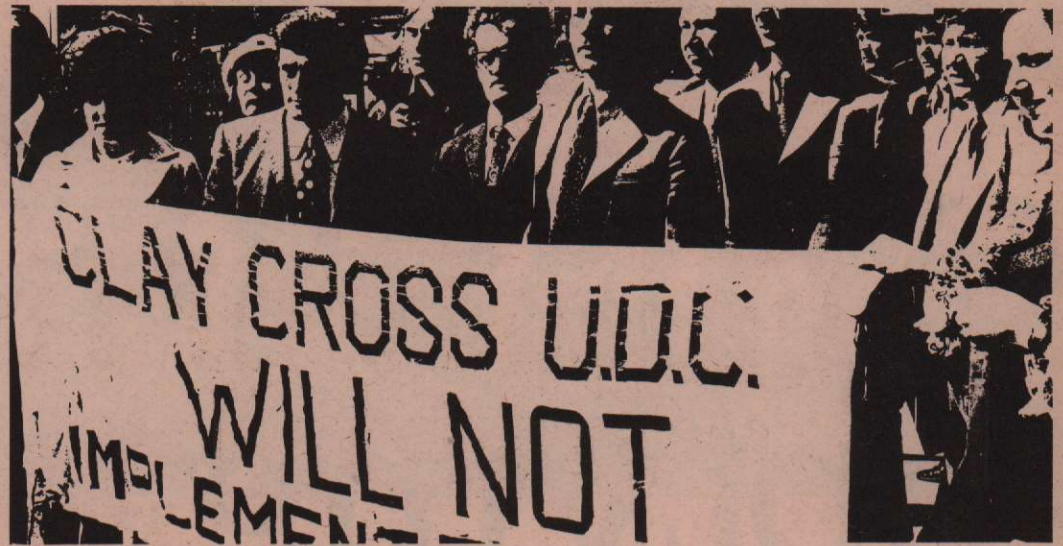
Send to: IS Books, 8 Cottons Gardens,
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The series 'Great Revolutions'
by Duncan Hallas
will be continued next week

THE HOUSING FILE

BY HUGH KERR

The 50p shocker for tenants...



Clay Cross: the one Labour council to put up a real fight

ON 1 October more than five million council tenants will find their rents put up yet again. This is the second instalment of what will become an annual increase for many tenants, for the early decisions of the Rent Scrutiny Boards is that 'fair rents' are being set at around twice the present level.

Under the Housing Finance Act rents will rise by 50p a week until they reach this 'fair rent' level—unless rent rises are resisted and the Act defeated.

One lesson of the past year's struggle must be obvious to all tenants' associations by now: place no reliance on Labour councils.

Last October 50 Labour councils refused to implement the Housing Finance Act. All except Clay Cross and Bedwas and Machen, where a commissioner was put in, collapsed after a few threats from the Tories.

This year about a dozen Labour councils in England have not yet decided to put up the rents. They are not actually refusing to put them up—they have merely deferred the rent rises until the prime minister agrees to meet

The national tenants' conference in Manchester today (Saturday) is sponsored by tenants' associations in many parts of the country, including Liverpool, Manchester, Dudley, Sheffield, Kirkby, Birmingham, Oldham, Darlington, Harlow and Rotherham.

them for discussions.

Already some of these councils are crumbling because the Tories haven't replied to their letters and they need to give their tenants a month's notice of the October rent rises.

How seriously the opposition of these Labour councils is can be judged by the fact that when rents were increased last October and some of their tenants went on rent strike, the councils threatened them with action. In Salford, tenants were threatened with eviction after four weeks of withholding the increase.

Demand

In Scotland a similar farce is being acted out, with 14 Labour councils 'delaying' putting up the rents, a policy decided at a meeting called by Clydebank council.

Clydebank was the Labour council which said it would never put up its rents. 'Over my dead body,' said Jimmy Reid, one of the three Communist Party councillors. But when the courts

fined Clydebank £5000, the bold Jimmy promptly paid it out of the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders' fighting fund and then voted to put up the rents.

So while tenants should demand their councils refuse to increase the rents and follow the lead of Clay Cross, they should place no reliance on these councils.

Although 1972 saw the tenants' movement at its most active ever, we must face the fact that we have so far failed to defeat the Housing Finance Act or the rent rises. There are several reasons for this failure. One is that many tenants were fooled by their Labour councils' double-dealing and so didn't prepare for independent action.

Another is that although the rent strikes that did take place were the largest and most widespread in the history of council housing, most were partial strikes and proved difficult to keep up for long periods. There is no doubt that a total rent strike is far more effective.

A third reason is that the tenants' movement is loose,

fragmented and often isolated. The National Association of Tenants and Residents—the Communist Party's tenants' organisation—has completely failed to lead, co-ordinate or develop the struggle. Indeed its policy this autumn is exactly the same as it was last year—to get tenants to persuade their Labour councils not to put up the rents! Many militant Communist Party tenants themselves find this approach totally inadequate.

Lastly, although many trade unions passed resolutions supporting the tenants, this was not enough. What is needed is specific guarantees from trade unionists that there will be local action if tenants on rent strike are threatened with eviction or with court orders to get the money.

The lessons of the past year's struggles will be discussed at the National Tenants Action Conference this weekend in Manchester. Delegates from the most militant tenants' associations in the country will meet to decide how best to develop the fight against the rent rises.

Organise

The conference will discuss a militant declaration which could, if fought for on each housing estate, give a big boost to the tenants' movement.

It calls on all Labour councils to follow the lead of Clay Cross and refuse to put the rents up—but at the same time warning tenants not to place their hopes on the councils, but instead to organise themselves to resist.

It calls on all tenants' organisations to meet the rent rises in October or later by rent strikes, where possible total rent strikes.

It calls on all trade unions both locally and nationally to give full backing to the tenants, demanding that every trade unionist boycotts the Rent Scrutiny Boards, and calling on all trade unionists to ensure that no employer acts for the courts in deducting money from striking tenants' wage packets.

Finally it pledges to continue the fight under this or a future Labour government until the Housing Finance Act is repealed, rents are reduced to the 1972 level and tenants are given control over their own houses.

If these resolutions are passed and acted on, the tenants' movement can renew the struggle against the Housing Finance Act and the rent rises. More important, tenants can join rank-and-file trade unionists in the all-out fight against the Tories and their plans for Phase Three of the freeze this autumn.

A grim year for housing

1972 WAS A RECORD year for housing, but not perhaps in the way you expect.

1972 saw the biggest ever rise in house prices—up 47 per cent nationally to an average of more than £8000, up 72 per cent in the South East to an average of more than £13,000. It also saw the biggest ever jump in land prices—up in the South East to an average of £100,000 plus per acre of building land.

The rents of 5½ million council tenants rose by the largest increase ever under the impact of the Housing Finance Act. Interest rates for councils and mortgage holders reached their highest ever—and have since risen even higher.

Council house building slumped to its lowest since 1961. The number of homeless people increased to a record 25,000.

Most important of all, property speculators, banks and money-lenders made their biggest ever



Ford: somewhere to put his head

profits. No fewer than 13 new property millionaires were created.

But if 1972 was a 'boom' year for housing, 1973 looks like setting a new series of lows.

The fewest council houses were built since 1952. Under the impact of high interest rates, spiralling land costs, building costs which have risen by an average 50 per cent over the past 18 months, and a tough cost yardstick operated by the government, many councils are giving up building houses.

For example Sheffield City Council, which last year built 900 new houses, has just decided to put no more housing schemes out for tender. The city's housing committee was told two weeks ago that the estimates for building these schemes were about twice the amount that the government's cost yardsticks allowed them to spend.

A similar story is to be told of private housing. The combined effect is that the total number of new houses built is likely to fall below 300,000 for the first time since 1953. This compares with the peak of 412,000 achieved in 1968. Prospects for the homeless, the newly-weds or anyone seeking housing are going to get worse.

Meanwhile it is reported that Henry Ford has bought a Georgian house in Grafton Street, Mayfair, for £3,350,000. A spokesman for Ford said: 'Mr Ford usually makes about half a dozen visits a year. I suppose he spends a total of four or five weeks in Britain every year.'

NAT and J... their five ch... brutally evi...

More tha... two court b... man from t... Detective A... Liverpool o... broke into a... Cubert Roa... Liverpool.

They sm... door, shove... the street a... belongings... garden.

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The pict... were bullied... into going b... ous flat sho... face of cap...

But even... faced by po... violence, N... the kind of... can and wil... system.

To loud... declared to... crowd: 'I w... the corpora... me a house...

Story... Rose... Pictu... Frank



Above: police and Right: garden for

International Socialists pamphlet 10p

PAUL FOOT

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EVICTED!

Family of five is brutally thrown out

Back to the dangerous council flat...Nat Abbot and one of his children on the pavement after the eviction from the empty house

ne Abbot and children have been evicted. In 20 policemen, bailiffs, a strong-arm local Burgess agency and a corporation bailiff house at 35 d, Croxteth in

ashed in the front d the family into and dumped their into the front

ots had been the house after children had fallen op-floor flat in a council housing

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Defenders of property go into action: police smash down the door to start the eviction of the Abbot family



the Abbot's children are shoved out of the house by bailiffs. the Abbot's belongings are piled up in the front the trek back to the council flat.



International Socialists pamphlet 10p

ROGER ROSEWELL

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YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!

CHRIS HARMAN on the importance of socialist ideas

ONE WAY the ruling classes always try to discredit socialism is by claiming it would destroy individuality and reduce everything to a dull conformity. By contrast they give the impression that capitalism provides people with varied, exciting lives.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Capitalism proclaims individuality as the highest virtue. But the individuality it speaks of is reserved for the very few—the minority who own the massive firms which dominate our economy.

The rest are expected to work for these firms, doing humdrum jobs on assembly lines or in offices, from which as much individuality as possible has been removed.

Indeed, capitalism could only develop in the first place by deliberately setting out to destroy the individuality of its workers.

When the first factories developed in Britain, the capitalist class deliberately set about trying to make its workers as much like one another as possible. The factory hands were forced, whether they liked it or not, to keep set hours, to regard work as their only aim in life, to sacrifice their small personal pleasures to endless toil.

Under modern capitalism this process has been carried through with ever higher intensity.

In schools, for instance, what matters most is not how the child learns to express his own ideas or develop his own individual abilities. Instead, children are measured against one another, in examinations and intelligence tests, along a single scale, as if human beings were no different to potatoes, differing in weight only. Interestingly, the most outspoken opponents of socialist 'conformity' are usually the same people who insist that children dress the same in school uniforms and have the same 'disciplined' behaviour.

In factories people are specially employed to try to reduce every human activity to markings on a stop watch. Massive resources have been poured into developing the fake sciences of work measurement and industrial relations in an effort to destroy the workers' individuality ever more perfectly.

Nor are things all that different for the vast majority of the middle classes.

The typical commuter may rage about the need to protect the individual, but his own life style is likely to be identical to that of hundreds of thousands of other office workers, living in similar suburban houses, travelling to town in identical conditions, reading the same papers, expressing the same ideas, working in offices which are as near the same as makes no difference.

If this monotony and conformity is what characterises capitalism, how did people get hold of the idea that it is a feature of socialism?

One important reason is that the



The system spends the next 10 years knocking this out of them

Which is the system?

most drab and uniform things to be seen in our society are often those built up within capitalism by reforming governments to satisfy some of the needs of the majority of the people. So, typically, council housing is even less distinctive and attractive than suburban private housing.

Drabness

This drabness is not the result of socialist measures—rather it is the result of the meanness of capitalism itself when catering for people's needs. But the equation between socialism and drabness is easily made by those who equate Labour governments or councils operating within the capitalist system with a change of that system.

Again, there is no doubt that many of the countries which claim to be socialist are marked by a stultifying cramping of individual development. Again, this is not because they are really socialist. It is because the

bureaucratic ruling groups that run these societies are actually trying to do what capitalists do in the west—develop their economies at maximum speed by holding down workers' living standards, so they can compete with the west and with one another.

The results are societies marked by many of the most characteristic features of capitalism, often in an even more intense form than in the west.

Real individuality, the full and complete development of the distinct capacities of each individual, will only be possible when a completely different sort of society has been built.

It would be a society in which the individual and society would no longer be opposed to one another, in which people would no longer continually compete with each other, and would no longer be under relentless pressure to work even harder. Massive wealth is created in the modern world. But it is wasted by the blind competition between rival firms and rival states. In their attempts to outcompete one another, these demand ever tighter control over and ever greater efforts from their workers.

Real human individuality will only be possible when workers internationally have combined together, using their collective power to destroy the existing ruling classes and re-organise society, so that it is based upon satisfying human need and not the demands of competition.

BOOKS

REVIEW

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

HONOUR THY FATHER, by Gay Talese, Sphere, 60p, THE VALACHI PAPERS, by Peter Maas, Panther, 40p.

ACCORDING to the US Justice Department organised crime is the most lucrative business in America, with annual profits estimated at up to 40 billion dollars from gambling, moneylending, prostitution and narcotics. Much of this is controlled by the mafia.

In 1965 Robert Morgenthau, the US Attorney-General, told the press that the mafia owned considerable property in New York, including the buildings from which The Wall Street Journal, the big business newspaper, and Vogue, the posh women's magazine, were published, the Chrysler building and the building housing the FBI.

In the Vito Genovese family alone there were 27 millionaires. A relatively small-time member of the family, Joe Valachi, at the time of his arrest in 1959 owned a dress-making factory, a juke-box firm and three restaurants.

For successive generations of immigrants to America, condemned to live in the poverty and squalor of the slums, crime had been the only way out, the only way to achieve the wealth that was the American dream.

After bloody gang wars, first Al Capone in Chicago and later Lucky Luciano in New York established an uneasy reign.

In 1934 Luciano's right hand man, Vito Genovese, fled to Italy to escape a murder charge and soon bought the protection of the fascist government. He gave 250,000 dollars to the cost of building a fascist HQ in Naples and received the highest civilian honours from Mussolini himself.

When the allies occupied Italy he quickly changed loyalties and was appointed as an interpreter to the US Army. But eventually he was deported back to America to stand trial for the 1934 murder. The prosecution's case collapsed when the key witness was poisoned while under police protection.

Genovese now dominated the mafia until he was jailed for 15 years on narcotics charges in 1959.

Soon afterwards Joseph Bonanno tried to take over. Honor Thy Father is about the decline and fall of his 'family', seen from the point of view of his son Bill Bonanno.

This is a sympathetic journalistic account of the disintegration of the Bonanno family under the retaliatory attacks of the other mafia leaders and of the FBI who launched a campaign against organised crime in the 1960s. The author brings out the indignation of the mafia leaders at FBI harassment of their operations, which they regarded as no less legitimate than those of any other businessman.

And it shows their narrow right-wing views. After Bill Bonanno's release from prison in 1966 he told his relatives that

while inside he reread Barry Goldwater's Conscience of a Conservative. 'I agree with a lot of points he makes—especially his point that the federal government today has entirely too much power and the individual citizen's rights are being ignored,' he said.

The Valachi Papers is a much better book that brings out more fully the brutality of the mafia.

Valachi himself was involved in at least 33 killings. While in prison in 1962, after Vito Genovese had pronounced a death sentence on him, he attacked without provocation another prisoner—whom he had mistaken for a mafia assassin—and beat him to death. After this murder Valachi turned informer to avoid the electric chair and for the first time exposed the workings of the mafia to the light of day.

The FBI had virtually ignored organised crime for years and as late as 1959 had only four agents working on it in New York, while some 400 were engaged in persecuting the American Communist Party. Valachi's testimony was one reason for the FBI campaign in the 1960s.

Both books are mainly concerned with the power struggles within the underworld and only incidentally throw light on the mafia's exploitation of the people of the slums, of their involvement in politics and in the unions.

This last aspect is particularly interesting. Valachi describes how he solved labour relations at his dress-making factory: 'The next thing I got to worry about is the union, so I go downtown to see Jimmy Doyle or one of the Dio brothers . . . they are supposed to straighten any trouble with the union, I think it was Local 25 . . .

'If any union organiser came around, all I had to do was call up John Dio or Tommy Dio and all my troubles were over . . .'

Organised crime is an inevitable product of a system driven by the remorseless pursuit of profits, which is after all itself only organised robbery and extortion. Criminals of the stamp of Vito Genovese or Joe Valachi are of minor significance compared to Richard Nixon or Marcel Caetano, whose armies have slaughtered hundreds of thousands.

JOHN NEWSINGER



Capone, the mafia's first king

POUNDS ON A PINHEAD

ECONOMICS OF THE REAL WORLD, by Peter Donaldson, Pelican Original, 45p.

PEOPLE laugh, understandably, at the strange activities of the theologians (ancient and modern) spending their time counting the number of angels on the head of a pin. Or at the modern-day philosophers who have abandoned any attempt to understand, let alone change, the world and instead devote their energies to splitting hairs about the meanings of words.

Economists, in general, fare no better. When capitalism was historically a young and progressive kind of society—compared with what went before—its economists at least tried to come to grips with the real world, with its ugly, messy and brutal realities as well as its myths.

In this century most establishment economists have retreated from the real world into abstruse research about statistical theory or, even more remote, to write books about the theory of an ideal market society in which the meeting of supply and demand amazingly coincides with the social good and personal freedom. In this respect the various schools of capitalist economics—based on 19th century monetary theory or on the state interventionist theories of the late Lord Keynes—are as bad as each other.

Peter Donaldson is a Keynesian—but with a difference. He realises economists are no longer taken seriously and will not be until they concern themselves again with the real world. So he has

attempted a book which describes how our economic system works in practice.

But, alas, Mr Donaldson is a solid Labour Party reformer so he shuns any attempt to analyse our economic system as a system. That is something left to 'marxists' and the 'far left'.

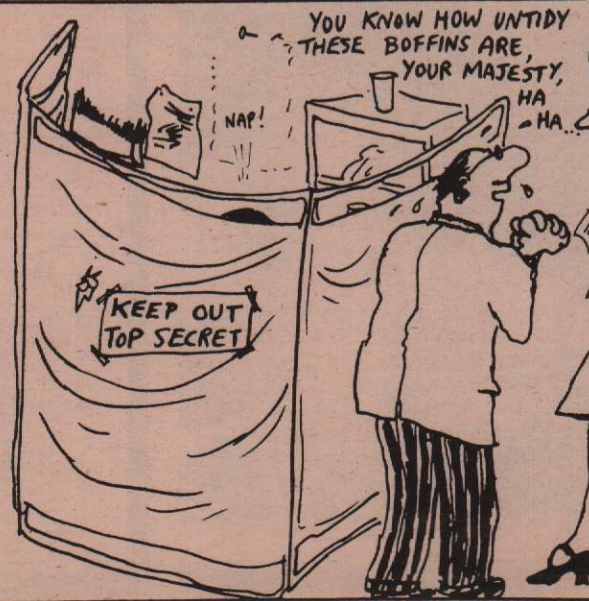
His descriptions do lead to some unsettling conclusions however. The idea that a market economy is democratic he shows to be a myth. The millionaire will always have many more economic 'votes' than the worker. The market economy, or rather the privileged class it gives birth to, also builds up myths such as the national interest or the role of profit, to justify their privileges and the entire social order.

He documents quite well the gross inequalities of wealth, income and opportunity and how these give rise to economic problems special to a capitalist society. He also hints at the inevitable failure of all 'incomes policies' in such an unfair society.

But Mr Donaldson avoids like the plague suggestions that the system is actually in crisis. The reader is offered a disconcerting picture of a rotten and inefficient society—but no way of effectively reforming, let alone getting rid of it.

It may be that Mr Donaldson's publishers would not relish him drawing even some of the appropriate conclusions. But until he and his colleagues start to draw from, as well as describe, the real world, they will command little more attention than the angel counters or the hair splitters.

JOHN PALMER



REVIEW

East End films as East End does

SO SOMEONE suggests putting on a socialist film show and then follows a bit of a debate about the merits or de-merits of some worthy but obscure film. Then the idea is dropped.

Well now there's a short feature film that is worth showing—especially to young workers. Tunde's Film is acted, written and directed by a gang of East Londoners. It shows them as they see themselves.

Continuously harassed by Old Bill—the police, they walk the streets in fear of the prowling prowler. Overcome by boredom from unemployment they seek ways of escape. They stay cool with their mums and in with the well-intentioned community social worker. Yet all the while their eyes stretch beyond their prison.

What's so good about the film is the confident way everything is done. The acting is good and the dialogue is real, especially a scene in a cafe where blacks and whites take the piss out of each other. Joanna Armatrading's sound track music is great and I never felt I was doing the film a favour by watching it.

The fear I have is that it's a one-off affair, a glimpse

of what is possible. The film was financed by trust money and the expertise came from fed-up professionals, editors who cut commercials all day, sound and cameramen looking for something interesting to do, and a producer who thrives on the impossible. They took on the moguls of Wardour Street and persuaded them to part with their machines when they weren't in use.

Could something like this be done in Manchester? Maybe, I hope so. But it takes brave people to sever the inevitable strings that creep out from the system and attempt to dilute and pigeonhole any alternative expression.

Identify

The film itself isn't directly political, in fact it clearly illustrates the need for a revolutionary socialist direction by being ignorant of it.

The frustrated characters do turn to the romantic vision of robbing a bank and escaping out of their holes, as I did at their age. Lucky for me I didn't get as far as they did—I got caught in the stolen car.

I believe many readers of this paper will identify, as I did, with the frustration shown in the film. It was on this same point that I started to question the nature of the society in which I found myself. Unlike them I lived in an area where one could get a job and I had the added advantage of having a white face.

If you want to use film to get a discussion going but at the same time provide entertainment, this is a good start. You can get it from:

Alternative Arts, 15 Little Newport Street, London WC2.

Roland Muldoon



Real people, real street—and a camera. Tunde's Film on location

CASH TILL ON SEA



Ted Heath doing an impression of Mike Yarwood.

Laurie Flynn takes a stroll down Blackpool's Golden Mile

IT IS an amazing town, Blackpool—full of people making money and still fuller with those who are spending it. There is a good reason for the start of it all, a long and beautiful beach. It must have been this that started working-class people on the trail there late last century.

A great deal of effort has gone in since to keep them coming. Great skill has been set to perfect the mechanisms of exploiting peoples' leisure on their weeks off from having their labour exploited. In recent years there has been a flurry of activity in this field.

Gone is the Central Methodist Church. It has moved round the corner to make way for C and A. Mecca, Trust Houses Forte and the like have moved in big, controlling such delights as the Dixieland Bar and others besides. The Original Gypsy Rose Lee is still about though. A hundred yards further along the Golden Mile there's the Original Gypsy Rosalee too.

There is even the faintest talk about tearing down the Blackpool

Tower. The number of maintenance workers has been whittled away from 18 to four in recent years with productivity deals. And once the tower is in an appropriate state of disrepair, then it could be hacked down and replaced with a multi storey fun palace with a better rate of return.

GROTESQUE

The essential base for Blackpool's highly organised pickpocketing operation (so legal you don't even notice, so sweet you think you're enjoying it) is accommodation. There are the big hotels, the Norbreck Castle, the Imperial and the like, all unorganised by the trade union movement, all the scenes of grotesque exploitation behind the glitter.

But the real base is the boarding house, bed and breakfast circuit. And every house in Blackpool is in the business. Which might explain why Blackpool, shorn of working-class people on holiday, is the Tory town par excellence. It has the biggest branch of the right-wing Tory Monday Club outside London. Calls for the restoration of flogging, hanging and industrial discipline are not, therefore, confined to the Tory Party conferences which are often held in the town.

But the solid burghers of Blackpool will put up with anything that makes money—the TUC and the genteel, radical humour of Mike Yarwood included.

Yarwood was on at the ABC while his rivals from the TUC general council were appearing at the Opera House. Unquestionably Yarwood has talent. He can imitate almost anyone—in particular a grotesque Prime Minister and his close rival for that position, the leader of the opposition.

Somehow Yarwood can even make himself look like his victims. Though by the end of the show, it is clear that they are useful vehicles rather

than victims. Yarwood keeps his talent firmly bridled. He might be risqué but he doesn't take any risks.

Nonetheless he is a funny man, sometimes very funny on stage. And you get the distinct feeling that Yarwood would like to let rip and let the Heaths and Wilsons have it. Still the man's got to work next week as well as this.

In any case there's a much more humorous man in Blackpool. You'll never see him on the television, or on the stage. He lives there. He used to work in an aircraft factory and now he works for the civil service in nearby Lytham St Anne's.

GESTURES

He was moved by the huge pensioners' demonstration the day before the TUC started. And upset too, wondering how many more times the old would have to come to TUCs pleading for something more than gestures.

He doesn't like to see people being used and coined a joke to express his feelings. 'Why doesn't Jack Jones get the General Council to do something really concrete? They could organise cheap holidays in Euthanasia.' Savage? Yes, savage. As savage as the tawdry crookery that is Blackpool. And a good deal more cutting than Mike Yarwood.

Stones in the smoke

THE Rolling Stones on stage at Wembley Pool, North London, the beginning of their first British tour for two years. Outside are the touts, flogging tickets at £20 a time.

'Don't sell yet,' said one, with a good capitalist grasp of the market. 'Wait until they get desperate.'

40,000 people saw them during their Wembley shows. They have been called, and probably are, the best rock band in the world. When 'Brown Sugar' filled the hall the gap between listening round a record player and being part of 10,000 people was filled.

Round the stage prowled the security guards. Their presence is always one sign that when you go to a rock concert you are *not* escaping

from worldly troubles. They pounced on one hapless dancer from the audience.

The Stones stopped playing. 'It's our show, and yours,' said Jagger, 'not the security guards.'

The music seemed effortless, weaving across the past five years, balancing on Mick Taylor's fine lead guitar work, mixed with colour, lights and mirrors to give a total experience.

Their work ended, the Stones disappeared in a puff of smoke that billowed across the stage. The next day I went back to work—that hasn't changed.

Barry Ellis

CHINA DOGS WANTED

A COUPLE of months ago Review ran John Hellebrand's article on an exhibition, London in the Thirties, at the London Museum. He commented on the lack of working-class material among the exhibits. The organiser, Alice Prochaska has written pointing out the scarcity of such material.

'When in 1975, we re-open as the Museum of London in a new building in the Barbican, we shall aim to show how ordinary Londoners lived their lives throughout history. Without the help of working-class Londoners, their

history will be overshadowed by the wealthy and middle class relics that have dominated museum displays for too long.

'So may I plead, through your columns, for offers of anything, often the more mundane or ephemeral the more valuable to us, which will help to redress the balance? We have a unique opportunity to bring to life the struggles, the victories and the pleasures of London's past.'

The address is the London Museum, Kensington Palace, London W8.

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.

THERE ARE IS BRANCHES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS

SCOTLAND

Aberdeen
Cumbernauld
Dundee
Edinburgh
Fife
Glasgow N
Glasgow S
Greenock
Paisley
Stirling

NORTH EAST

Bishop Auckland
Durham
Hartlepool
Newcastle upon Tyne
South Shields
Sunderland
Teesside

NORTH

Barnsley
Bradford
Dewsbury
Doncaster
Grimsby
Halifax
Huddersfield
Hull
Leeds
Pontefract/
Knottingley
Scarborough
Sheffield
York

EAST

Basildon
Cambridge
Chelmsford
Colchester
Fakenham
Harlow
Ipswich
Leiston
Lowestoft
Norwich
Peterborough

SOUTH

Brighton
Canterbury
Crawley
Deal
Guildford
Maidstone
Portsmouth
Southampton

NORTH WEST

Barrow
Blackburn
Bolton
Burnley
Crewe
Kirkby
Lancaster
Manchester
Merseyside
Middletown
Oldham
Preston
Rochdale
Salford
St Helens
Stoke-on-Trent
Stockport
Stretford
Wigan
Wrexham

WALES and SOUTH WEST

Aberystwyth
Bath
Bristol
Cambourne
Cardiff
Exeter
Gloucester
Llanelli
Mid-Devon
Neath
Plymouth
Swansea
Swansea Valley

GREATER LONDON and HOME COUNTIES

Barnet
Bexley
Camden
Chertsey
Colindale
Croydon
Ealing
Enfield
Fleet Street
Fulham and
Hammersmith
Hackney
Harlesden
Hemel Hempstead
High Wycombe
Hillingdon
Holborn
Hounslow
Ilford
Islington
Kilburn
Kingston
Lambeth
Lewisham
Mid-Herts
North Herts
Newham
Paddington
Reading
Slough
Tottenham
Tower Hamlets
Walthamstow
Wandsworth
Watford
Wood Green
Woolwich

MIDLANDS

Birmingham NE
Birmingham S
Coventry
Derby
Dudley
Leamington and
Warwick
Leicester
Loughborough
Luton
Mid-Derbyshire
Milton Keynes
Northampton
Nottingham
Oxford
Rugby
Warley
Wolverhampton
Worcester

THE UNIONS

The reports on this page about Chrysler were to have appeared on the back page of last week's Socialist Worker but had to be held over to make way for stop press reports on the overthrow of President Allende in Chile and the murder of 12 striking black miners in South Africa.

Union boss under fire at Chrysler

BIRMINGHAM:—Trade unionists going into a 'broad left' Engineering Voice national meeting a week last Sunday were handed an open letter to Hugh Scanlon, president of the AUEW.

The letter, signed by Chrysler AUEW members in Coventry, was calm and moderate in tone considering the disastrous divisions and retreat on basic trade union principles at the Coventry plants when both the TGWU and AUEW executives instructed their members to ignore the official electricians' dispute.

Yet Hugh Scanlon treated the letter in a hysterical manner, attempting to split the meeting by attacking the 'ultras'.

An AUEW member from Leicester raised the issue of the

letter in the morning session. He pointed out that trade union principles were under attack and it seemed as though the executive of the AUEW was holding the Chrysler electricians responsible for Frank Chapple's sordid attempts to resolve the matter by doing a deal with the Pay Board.

He asked how any engineering worker would feel if his picket line was crossed and black machines were worked by scab labour on orders from a 'left' trade union leader, who justified such an act of betrayal of principles on the ground that the AUEW had a right-wing leader attempting to do a deal with the government of the day.

Hugh Scanlon replied to the Leicester speaker by saying the EPTU was trying to get the AUEW and other unions involved in something that has nothing to do with them. He

warned against rank and file AUEW members who were splitting the movement by internal arguments. 'They don't attack the right-wing officials or employers but concentrate their criticisms on left-wing officials,' he declared.

Later in the meeting Scanlon referred to the new International Socialists pamphlet on the 1973 engineering pay claim. 'Now some of you would have thought the real enemies in the fight were the engineering employers. We've got it all wrong according to this,' he said, holding up the pamphlet. 'People like myself, Bob Wright and Jack Jones are the enemy.'

Such attacks are highly inaccurate. The open letter referred to the magnificent stand taken at Chrysler Linwood and talked of those who speak militant words about future battles, but retreat on current struggles. The IS pamphlet denounces the engineering employers and says they spent more than £1m on the Manchester lockout last year. It criticises the union leaders for not mobilising all their members to defeat the bosses.

Attack

A speaker from Chrysler Ryton took up a point made by Ken Brett who referred to £60,000 in fines paid by the AUEW as a result of the Goad and Langston cases.

'Langston was chased out of the factory because he didn't have a union card, yet we are now working alongside non-union labour,' the Chrysler AUEW member said. 'We are now told to ignore this fact and this is a direct attack on grass-roots trade unionism. This is the type of thing Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon are aiding and abetting.'

Unfortunately Hugh Scanlon was not in the meeting to hear this, for the Chrysler speaker was called in the afternoon when Scanlon had left.

Cheap attacks by Scanlon on those who have been involved and still are in a bitter struggle do not help anyone except the employers and right-wing unionists. International Socialists are active in the 'broad left' of the AUEW and far from being 'splitters', have demonstrated their seriousness by building a strong left-wing presence in the AUEW.

The actions of the AUEW and TGWU executives stand in marked contrast to the trade unionists—IS members and others—in Chrysler who are fighting for basic trade union principles. No excuses or attacks from Scanlon can alter this fact.

Dear Brother....

THIS is the open letter written by Chrysler AUEW members to the president, Hugh Scanlon:

Dear Brother,

We are trade unionists and members of the AUEW working at Chrysler's Coventry plants. The last few weeks have seen our trade union organisation take a fantastic battering. In particular:

1. Members of the TGWU and AUEW are working machines repaired by non-union labour whilst electricians are on official strike.

2. Official picket lines are being crossed by members of the TGWU, AUEW and other unions with the support of the national officials.

3. Following on this retreat, management and the right wing elements within the plant are attempting a general attack on our organisation and conditions.

Unfortunately our executive has played a direct part in allowing this disastrous situation to arise.

Previous to Friday 24 August, the Stoke Joint Shop Stewards Committee was united in refusing to operate black machines, let alone work with non-union labour in the plant. Following communication from yourself and Brother Jack Jones, the JSSC voted 49-1 to allow a vote to be taken on reversing trade union principles.

1. Brother Ray Wild, AUEW convenor, informed the mass meeting on 24 August that his executive had told the electricians union: 'Our members will take no action harmful to your interests or in support of your claim.' You then claimed that the issue of machines being repaired by supervision was an issue between ASTMS and the EETPU.

But ASTMS has banned its members

from repairing the machines and threatened disciplinary action against any members breaking this instruction. In our plants we are now in the terrible position where the foremen are taking a more principled line than the AUEW.

2. Brother Bob Morris, TGWU convenor, informed the mass meeting that his executive had written a similar letter saying they would endorse their members going back to work providing that they themselves did not actually do electricians work. He correctly attacked this as 'abdication of our responsibilities as trade unionists'.

The effect of the letters is to redefine blacklegging so that it means not refusing to work black machines but refusing to repair them!

Disastrous

Despite the management offensive in the factories and the pressure from national and local officials, 30 stewards at the Stoke JSSC last Monday voted in favour of condemning the attitude of the respective national officials. Coventry No 74 AUEW branch, for example, has registered its opposition to your line—a branch containing many Chrysler workers.

We are asking AUEW members throughout the country to press our executive to change this disastrous line and follow the line of our brothers at Chrysler, Linwood. We are asking you today to commit yourself to supporting a reversal of the present policy. Otherwise large numbers of trade unionists may become cynical about militant words about future battles but retreats on current struggles.

SHIPYARD COLLAPSE—£50

CLYDESIDE shipyard workers still have old and familiar problems to deal with in the wake of the great struggles at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders.

At Glasgow Sheriff Court last Wednesday the nationalised Govan Shipbuilders faced a charge of contravening the shipbuilding safety regulations following an incident on 16 February when part of a staging on a ship collapsed.

This caused serious injuries to Alexander Coghill, who fell into the ship's hold, suffering fractures of the ribs and pelvis injuries. Another man escaped serious injury by jumping clear. Two others only just managed to catch a hand hold and had

to hang suspended in the air for 20 minutes until they were rescued.

Weakened

Factory Inspector Allan Sefton told the court that the staging collapsed because a centre support bracket had failed. Further details on Govan Shipbuilders' malpractices were given by the firm's own solicitor, Miss Sheena Nisbet, who explained to the court that the staging had been erected six months before the 'accident' and was due to be dismantled.

Heavy beams had been left lying on the staging, she said, 'during negotiations

with the shipowners'. The weight of the beams had probably weakened the bracket which failed and caused the incident, she explained.

The firm pleaded guilty to the charge.

The court, as ever looked leniently on the employers' offence. Govan Shipbuilders were fined just £50.

The most interesting aspect of the prosecution in fact is that it was ever brought. The Factory Inspectorate is reluctant to prosecute employers. Prosecutions are usually only brought because a company is 'unresponsive' to repeated pleas to comply with safety regulations.

We're guilty - of

being militant

LETTERS

FOR supporting the electricians out on strike the International Socialist Chrysler comrades have been labelled a 'small extremist left-wing group' by our local paper. They mean of course that we are standing up for trade union principles, such as 'blacking' machinery and equipment which has been repaired by 'scab labour'. We plead guilty.

We are also guilty of printing the real truth and giving the electricians' side of the dispute, against management lies.

We further stand 'guilty' of condemning the use of contract, non-union scab management labour, carrying out the electricians' work while our brothers are out on strike, and therefore unable to defend themselves.

We, the ones working in the plant, have to stand up for trade union principles and refuse to allow management's dirty tactics to undermine the electricians' dispute.

We also condemn the AUEW and TGWU executives which redefined what 'blacking' means. This redefinition means anyone at all, including non-union labour and members of senior management will do the job of any worker out on strike or taking industrial action.

This means that Joseph Langston, 'sacked' by Ryton workers for not belonging to a trade union, can now apply for an electricians' job at the plant.

If it's extreme to want to protect and advance trade union principles and socialist ideas and practices, then we stand guilty. Thank goodness.—JOHN WORTH, Coventry.

The lessons of Chile

THE situation in Chile should serve as a warning to socialists about the dangers of the 'peaceful road to socialism'. Particularly dangerous is the idea that the army and the state bureaucracy are neutral. They are on the side of the capitalist order—this is the lesson that recent events in Chile should teach all socialists.

By Thursday 5000 workers and socialists had been killed by the Chilean army, with arms supplied by the Allende government, in the hope of buying the officer class's neutrality.

It looks likely that a bloody civil war is about to break out in Chile and here again is a lesson for socialists.

The lack of arms in the hands of the left is a direct consequence of the belief in the 'peaceful' road. But it will also show how dangerous it is to believe that 'progressive' movements or parties can be used to further the aims of socialism. Argentina is closer to the main centre of left-wing resistance in Southern Chile than any major Chilean town. Yet the 'progressive' regime of Peron has given them no real help.—VIC RICHARDS, Tottenham.

Who we knock and who we print

EVERY week in your paper we read of betrayals by shop stewards, district and national trade union organisers, politicians of all movements including Communist and Labour party members, and Tribune supporters.

It seems that only the International Socialists are 100 per cent genuine.

I accept that many of their views and actions are not in line with what you print, but why not try printing some of the letters which would open the way for free discussion?

On page three (Socialist Worker 8 September) you state: 'Tribune's men are passionate believers in democracy', and this 'explains why no questions are allowed at their meetings'.

How can you point the finger at anyone when you allow no other views but your own to be printed? After many years of effort in the trade union movement I would say that the members have less control of their policy and activity than we ever had. In the desperate situation trade unionism is in now how can we

*** 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.

Victorian horror

ALASTAIR HATCHETT's recent series on the horrors inflicted upon the working classes by the Industrial Revolution was very good indeed, showing the greed and hypocrisy that reigned in this country at that time.

Perhaps though, Alistair didn't show just how horrifying it really was. In Leeds, for example, it was still legal in 1832 to have a child of nine years old working 39 hours at a stretch without a minute's sleep, to have terrified little girls of six crawl on their hands and knees like dogs, dragging trucks of coal through mine galleries.

First children from the work-houses, then children of poor families were drafted into the mills and made to work up to 16 hours a day in 'normal' times and 24 hours a day in the rush season.

But surely the most pitiable little

drudges of this or any era were chimney sweep apprentices, 'climbing boys'. Many only four years old, these mites suffered unbelievably. To prepare the little sweep his body was soaked in brine to harden the skin for work, rubbing it in mainly on the elbows and knees in front of a hot fire.

When they came back from their work streaming with blood they were rubbed with brine again, and perhaps off to another chimney. If the boy, naked and terrified, gasping with soot, did not climb far enough up the narrow flue, a straw fire would be lit under him. Often enough this resulted in death by roasting or suffocation.

One seven-year-old, Thomas Pruce, who lost consciousness when forced into the hot flue of a Manchester chemical works for the second time, was dragged out and beaten cruelly in the hope of reviving him. He died in convulsions.

Many other examples can be quoted. George Smith of Coalville worked in a brickyard at the age of nine years for 13 hours a day, after which he had to carry 1200 nine inch bricks to a place to harden them. In the process he walked 14 miles, carried five and a half tons a night, and was paid sixpence a day.

Thankfully these things no longer happen here, mainly due to the efforts of trade unions. Those days may have gone but let us not forget how hard the employers fought against changes, just as they fight now to keep wages down and profits up. We must also fight, not just for more money, but for survival and equality.—IAN CAMELL, Coventry.

More oppose Race Act

THE undersigned trade unionists in the Norwich area wish to congratulate Socialist Worker on its initiative in fighting against racism, and pledge our support to the 'Union call on race Act' letter (Socialist Worker 14 July 1973).—Peter White (TGWU steward, Norwich Corporation), Graham Moore (TGWU, chairman, 965 Norwich Branch), Barry Hill (AUEW, president, Walsham Number 2 Branch), Joe Green (AUEW, steward Norwich LSE Branch), Albert Holly (NUFLAT, Somerville Shoes Branch), Peter Tobin (UCATT, president Norwich Number 1 Branch), Keith Cudgell (ATTI, East Anglican Division, Yarmouth delegate), Tony Trew (branch secretary for ASTMS 797 Branch), Gerald Crompton (Norwich delegate to Eastern Counties Federation of Trades Councils), Ian Gibson (ASTMS national executive member).

THE following members of the Swansea AUEW District Committee wish, personally to endorse the 'Union Call on Race Act'.—N Davies (district president), H James (branch secretary, district committee delegate), H Jenvey, A Morgan, L Thomas, W Morgans, D Bowen, W Barrow, (district committee delegates), E G Moses (district secretary), P Thomas (shop steward representative, district committee delegate).

Read the letters page, you'll see that plenty of letters from critics get printed in Socialist Worker. When we run articles on the failures of a particular struggle we don't do so just to attack other organisations. No we don't want new trade unions. We want the present ones to work, which is why we fight to make them do so.

MAIL STARTS OUT ON A WITCH-HUNT

IT IS not often that a right-wing newspaper has the chance to flourish all its prejudices in one single story. But the Daily Mail had such an experience last week and is still recovering from the orgasm.

The story started on Thursday with one of those clever, mind-bending front pages that editor David English is so practised at. 'The bombers hit Chelsea', was the splash headline, the first thing that hits the eye in the newsagent's. And above: 'Terrorists blast Commando Association HQ'.

At the foot of the page was another large headline: 'Angry Brigade girl is out of prison.'

Just in case the reader has failed to connect terrorists and bombers in the main story with Angry Brigade in the secondary story, the Mail carefully introduced the word 'terror' into the first paragraph.

So much for the scene setting. Now for the story.

It started: 'Hilary Creek, jailed for 10 years last December for her part in the Angry Brigade's terror campaign, is out of prison and in a London hospital—unguarded and free to receive visitors.'

The next two paragraphs embroidered on Hilary's so-called freedom, and it wasn't until the fourth paragraph that reporter Gill Martin revealed why Hilary was confined to hospital. Even then the reasons were played down.

'She is in hospital recovering from anorexia nervosa, a wasting disease which cut her weight to six stone in London's Holloway Prison—a loss of 30lb.'

Suggested

Later, Hilary was quoted as saying: 'I am feeling so much better. I am back to my normal weight. You can see I'm neither scrawny nor bulging. They've stuffed me like a turkey.'

The inclusion of this 'quote' clearly suggested that even if there had been any need for Hilary to be in hospital in the first place, it was obviously time she was thrown back into her cell. The Daily Mail did not feel it necessary to explain that the doctors had feared for Hilary's life unless she was allowed specialised medical treatment.

According to the reporter, Hilary looked 'sun-tanned and relaxed' in her 'yellow painted room' and was actually chatting to other patients. All of which suggested that instead of being at death's door, Hilary had been enjoying an all expenses paid holiday.

But worse followed. The following day, the Mail screamed in heavy black type across its front page: 'Fury at bomb girl's freedom.'

Alongside was an old picture of Hilary looking, of course, pretty and fit, with the caption: 'Free to come and go'.

Free to come and go? I thought the poor girl was in hospital. And if you read on, free becomes 'virtually free', which is not quite the same thing.

The Daily Mail, being stuck for a

on Another important aspect of the way it highlights the need for the merged company to buy up UK profits. Only £47 million is expected to be available out of its pre-tax profit of £132 million and while this includes an equally known amount for minority interests, the ruling UK tax rate is 40 per cent.

So expect an important UK acquisition before the end of the year. No one's giving away aid clues as to what sectors and whether it will be in the oil or indeed whether it will be in the UK. But hold on to your hats!

Finally, the document gives details of the £1.5 billion in of health care will Maltese and the £700 million in spread across several of the one of the financial operations which are accounted for in the Guinness. But's noted US

had to present two sets of un-audited accounts. This last year the consolidated per group were £3827 million for the French and only £277 million for the British.

These figures because of a different treatment of certain items, are usually regarded as a proportion of the total. It is attributed to share in the profit is paid to directors' remuneration is included in the profit. In fact, public these approaches. And the 1.5 billion is a way in which is spread across several items which are accounted for in the Guinness. But's noted US

follow-up, to the first story had rung around a few carefully selected people to churn up a bit of fury. The first was that eminent Tory MP, Harold Soref, the Mail's pet hangman, who ably did his duty.

'I am almost speechless, utterly bewildered,' he spluttered, then managed to say: 'Here we have a girl tried and convicted of diabolical offences against society only last December.'

'Now, in the present high temperatures of urban guerrilla warfare in London, we find her more or less free to come and go as she pleases in an NHS hospital.'

'I find myself asking: Has everyone gone quite, quite mad?'

Not everyone, Mr Soref. Only you and David English.

The story continued: 'Like any other National Health Service patient'—that means you and I are paying for her treatment—'Miss Creek, a former Essex University student'—a reminder that all students are trash—is able to make phone calls. Yesterday she phoned . . . '—wait for it—'her mother'.

The terrible thing about this whole episode is that no-one can stop the Mail printing it. It would be pointless reporting the paper to the Press Council, because there is nothing factually wrong in the stories.

It is the use of words and the juxtaposition of headlines, pictures and phrases that is so iniquitous.

But there is one question someone ought to ask reporter Gill Martin. In Saturday's paper he wrote: 'I walked unhindered into the hospital during evening visiting hours. I was never asked for my identity or the reason for my visit.'

Yet later he added: 'When I walked into the ward, I was asked if I was a medical student.'

That sounds to me like someone asked his identity, and assuming that Mr Martin said he wasn't a medical student, who, exactly, did he say he was?

Leonard Hill

This book documents in detail the torture of political prisoners in Turkey, and the staggering brutality of the methods used. It documents the political trials with which the regime hoped to destroy the left.

Faced with a virtual blockade on real news from Turkey, Jane Cousins went there to interview politicians, trade unionists, academics, lawyers and many ex-prisoners. She was given access to papers and documents which are here published for the first time.

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST NEWS

WHAT'S ON

WHY JOCK WILL BE GOING TO THE CONFERENCE

JOCK WIGHT is a shop steward in the press-shops of British Leyland's Cowley complex. The press-shops are the main section in Cowley to have kept the piece-work system, and wages here are about £15 higher than in the day-work sections.

Jock has been a member of the International Socialists for 2½ years, and is a founder-member of the Pressed Steel branch at Cowley.

The members of this branch, and of the other branches in the Oxford area, will be making a massive effort in the next few weeks to ensure a massive turnout of militants for the Socialist Worker Industrial Conference. Jock explains why:

'Unlike most conferences this year, what people say will be meant. There will be none of the showmanship or mealy-mouthed platitudes so common of the bureaucrats and paid officials.

'We mean what we say, because unlike them we are the people who



JOCK WIGHT

actually will carry it out.

'For half a century the left have flourished around, trying to pressurise alleged left officials, but petrified at the thought of exposing or criticising them. Now, with the flood of militants into IS since the decision to form factory branches, an opportunity exists for the rank-and-file trade unionists really to play their part in the labour movement. So let's

grab it with both hands, and use the platform of this conference to send our message loud and clear.

'To the government we should say: "The organised power of our class—as was shown in the miners' strike, and with the Pentonville Five—can defeat you. We are going to do just that despite the desperate manoeuvring of the TUC and others to prop you up."

'The massive and blatant assault on our wages and conditions, on our families and our old folk, have stirred the sleeping giant. He is stirring now, we must raise him up and really use his strength.

'A serious strategy for Phase Three is required, and from this conference will come one. But not only that, this will be the first real step to building a rank-and-file movement that will fight. Let us see no more defeats like those of the postal and hospital workers. Only you, the real power in the movement, can prevent this.

'See you in Manchester, brothers!'

Biggest ever IS meeting on Teesside

THE James Finegan Hall, Middlesbrough (designer, John Poulson, foundation stone layer, T Dan Smith) was the scene of one of the biggest public meetings ever organised by the Teesside International Socialists.

More than 120 people heard Paul Foot speak about the collapse of the TUC leadership in the face of the Tory offensive, and the need to build an independent rank and file socialist party.

Among the contributors to discussion was Arthur Affleck, chairman of the Lackenby Joint Shop Stewards' Committee and a well-known militant in the Teesside area.

Arthur urged all steelworkers present who wanted to fight the Tories on the Steel Corporation to join the expanding IS steel branch on Teesside. Ken Strangeways, a militant in the huge ICI complex at Wilton, also announced the formation of an IS branch in the chemical works.

Immediately after the meeting, two steelworkers joined the steel branch, nine people joined the IS Teesside branch and four people the Darlington branch—boosting IS membership in the area by 15.



IS members from the Socialist Worker editorial office and the IS administrative office picketing outside the Anglo-American Corporation in London last week after 11 black miners were shot dead by police at one of the company's South African gold mines.

Turning point for Carworker paper

WHEN carworker members of IS from nearly every major plant in the motor industry met in Birmingham on Sunday, September 16 for discussion was the role of IS members in the motor industry in helping build the independent strength of the independent socialist paper, the Carworker.

Over the afternoon, speakers from the Chrysler, Ford, and Vauxhall plants discussed the need for a paper that would be able to intervene in disputes and affect their outcome.

But for the full potential of Carworker to be used, a committee was needed in each area to be responsible for the paper, getting in money and articles, arranging meetings and so on. IS members would fight for this at the next Carworker Conference. It was now possible to build the beginnings of such an organisation.

During an afternoon discussion on

lay-off pay, a steward from Chrysler Luton pointed out that militants had originally fought for lay-off agreements against 'irresponsible management'—aiming to make it too expensive for management to lay men off. But now it was clearly being used in some cases as a weapon by management, as the Chrysler Luton steward pointed out.

Lay-off agreements were made, but the carworker paper was not to be written. It was decided to get management to pay for time lost by disputes in other sections, each time. If after every dispute that involved lay-offs, management had to face a battle with the workers laid off about payment for the time lost, higher payments than usually achieved through lay-off agreements could be won.

The final session was about the Chrysler electricians' dispute. A steward from Chrysler Coventry said there was now dangerous confusion on the shop floor.

Members from Coventry, Glasgow, Birmingham and London agreed that the crucial question was not the electricians' claim but the principle of 'striking'. The new revolutionary workers' group of workers at Luton. The reason for the strike was the need to build a paper that would be able to intervene in disputes and affect their outcome.

A meeting from Luton stated that lay-off pay was not worth the time it was written on. A fight was needed to get management to pay for time lost by disputes in other sections, each time. If after every dispute that involved lay-offs, management had to face a battle with the workers laid off about payment for the time lost, higher payments than usually achieved through lay-off agreements could be won.

Scottish Carworker meeting: What's happening at Chrysler? Speakers from Ryton, Stoke and Linwood, Saturday 22 September, 10.30am, Trade Union Centre, Carlton Place, Glasgow.

TEESSIDE IS public meeting LIVES AGAINST PROFITS. Speaker Greg Douglas (ex-chairman, joint shop stewards committee, Anchor site), on lessons learned from years in the construction industry, showing the bosses' blatant disregard for workers' lives in the search for ever-increasing profits. Thursday 4 October, 8pm, AUEW Hall, Borough Road, Middlesbrough.

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.

Very useful . . . KM
Sensational . . . SIL
Ideal for socials . . . LT
'Come in Hilda Muggins'. CAST autumn dramatic offering. 01-402-6087. 11c. Cabbell Street, London NW1.

ILFORD AND DAGENHAM IS picket of Enoch Powell meeting' Tuesday 25 September, 12 noon, Ilford Town Hall.

MINERS FRACTION MEETING: Saturday 29 September, 2.30pm, in Barnsley. Main business: Strategy for the current pay battle. All IS NUM members and sympathisers are urged to make every effort to attend. Full details from IS Industrial Department, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Phone 01-739 6273.

CAPPER PASS IS, Hull public meeting WHY THE SYSTEM STINKS. Speaker Paul Foot. Monday 24 September, 8pm, Hull Stevedores and Dockers Club, Posterngate, Hull. All welcome.

LEWISHAM IS public meeting THE NEED FOR RANK AND FILE ORGANISATION. Speaker Paul Foot. Thursday 27 September, 7.30pm, Deptford Town Hall.

WOLVERHAMPTON IS public meeting WAGES AND PRICES—THE GREAT CON-TRICK. Speakers: Paul Foot and local trade unionists. Thursday 20 September, 8pm, AUEW offices, Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton.

IS HOSPITAL WORKERS SCHOOL Saturday 29 September, 11am-5pm, Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham. Session 1: Hospital branches and fraction organisation. Speaker Andreas Nagliati. Session 2: The ancillary workers' pay claim. All IS health workers to attend. Further details from 01-274 2405.

CAMERA FOUND ON Chilean demo last Sunday. Phone 01-739 1870 and give details.

URGENTLY NEEDED: male comrade for large mixed flat in Southall—own room, £5 a week, Phone 01-995 3703.

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

IS COMRADE starting work in North London seeks accommodation in or around Camden area, or further afield. Sharing cheap flat with other comrades would be ideal. Phone Tim Cousins at 01-722 0141.

BACK COPIES of Labour Research monthly and pamphlets needed for IS industrial department library. Please send to Industrial Dept, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN.

IS MEMBER wants to share flat with other members in North London. Anyone with spare room please write to Box MQ, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London E2, or phone 739 2639.

PARTY STARTS SMEAR CAMPAIGN AGAINST IS

THE Communist Party in Leeds has viciously attacked the International Socialists in a leaflet on the engineers' pay claim. Commenting on the dispute at Chrysler and the role of the AUEW and TGWU leaders, the leaflet crudely lumps together the millionaire press, the trade union right wing and IS as 'splitters and disrupters'.

The leaflet goes on: 'The International Socialists pick this moment to launch an all-out attack, not on the right wing but against the left wing, Scanlon and Jones! We may not always agree with everything Jones and Scanlon do—but they stand head and shoulders above the rotten type of leadership we had in the past.'

The leaflet then ties itself in several different knots in a limited effort to obscure the real role of the 'left wing' leaders. It accuses the Communist Party of being 'splitters and disrupters' and of being 'the only party that has not been able to get on with the job of building a paper that would be able to intervene in disputes and affect their outcome.'

But the leaflet business is all. 'We don't agree with the position taken by the executive committees of the AUEW and TGWU.' What a growing number of

LEICESTER IS Industrial Group meeting: Building the Rank and File Organisation. Speaker John Broadbent (editorial board, GEC Rank and File paper and former convenor, Hotpoint, Peterborough). Saturday 22 September, 12 noon, Freeman's Arms, Aylestone Road, Leicester.

COLCHESTER IS public meeting: TUC backs down—the Need for Rank and File Alliance on Phase Three. Speaker Roger Cox (AUEW and member of IS national committee). Thursday 27 September, 7.30 pm, Oddfellows Hall, Williams Walk, Colchester.

IS NALGO national fraction meeting: Saturday 22 September, 10.30am, at 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2. Agenda includes the fight against incomes policy, NALGO Action Group national conference (20/21 October, London), Socialist Worker Conference in November, National Rank and File Conference in February, problems of the regions, election of officials.

NORTH HERTS IS and Stevenage Communist Party public debate: Is Revolution on the Agenda? Speakers: Jim Higgins (IS) and Maurice Crighton (Communist Party). Tuesday 25 September, 8pm, Bedwell Community Centre, Stevenage.

TYNESIDE DISTRICT IS Aggregate: Inaugural meeting to discuss district structure, experience elsewhere, role of factory branches in district and trade union work. Election of district committee. Speakers: Jim Higgins and Andreas Nagliati (IS industrial organiser). **IS MEMBERS ONLY**—all Tyneside IS members to attend. Saturday 22 September, 10am-4.30pm, New YMCA, Ellison Place, Newcastle (opposite polytechnic college).

LEIGH IS public meeting: Chile—what it means for socialists. Speaker Glyn Carver (IS Manchester district organiser). Wednesday 3 October, 8pm, The Globe, Bradshaw Gate, Leigh. ALL WELCOME.

IS ATTI national fraction meeting: Saturday 29 September, 11am-5pm. Meeting place to be announced. All IS ATTI members must attend.

WOLVERHAMPTON IS social: Friday 5 October, Gifford Arms, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton. Entertainment by Alex Glasgow and the Grey Cock Folk Group. Admission 40p single, 70p double.

TYNESIDE DISTRICT IS Social: Saturday 22 September, 7.30pm onwards. Bridge Hotel, Newcastle. Songs by Alex Glasgow—music—bar. Admission 30p. Everyone welcome.

HACKNEY IS public meeting THE FIGHT AGAINST RACIALISM Speakers: Nigel Harris and Chester Waldron (STC shop steward). Monday 24 September, 8pm, Rose and Crown (corner of Albion Road and Stoke Newington Church Street, opposite town hall) London N16. No 73 bus.

LONDON IS IRISH FORUM Marxism, Terrorism and the Bombings. Speaker Chris Harman. Friday 28 September, 7.30pm, The Metropolitan, Farringdon Road, London EC1 (Farringdon Road tube).

IS WOMEN'S DAY SCHOOL Saturday 6 October, 10am-onwards, 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.

militants would like to know is: when will the Communist Party and the Morning Star officially and openly criticise Jones and Scanlon?
Or are they too busy drumming up a smear campaign against IS members who believe that effective unity comes through real debate, argument and criticism?

More pamphlets on the way

THE re-organised IS education and publications sub-committee is planning to produce soon pamphlets on The Parliamentary Road, Ireland, Imperialism, Lenin. Why the Trade Unions Won't Fight, Public Speaking, and a new edition of The Struggle for Socialism. Already over the last three months new pamphlets have appeared on The Struggle for Women's Power, Racism, Factory Branch Organisation and a set of basic education notes.

The committee also have plans to produce a manual on organisation which will include such items as How to run your district, your branch, your work-group, your trade union fraction, How to sell and write for Socialist Worker.

It is hoped that this will be ready for the annual conference in March.

Triumph men vote: We fight closure

COVENTRY:—The gloves are off at Triumph. Those are the words of factory convenor Dennis Johnston this week, after the new Norton Villiers Triumph management announced the Meriden plant would be shut down with the loss of 1750 jobs.

At a mass meeting last Friday immediately after the closure announcement workers decided to police the factory so that machines cannot be moved out and to set up a fighting fund.

BSA Triumph was taken over less than two months ago by Manganese Bronze, which wanted to get its hands on the rest of the valuable if near bankrupt BSA combine. They were also given £5 million of government money on condition that Manganese's Norton Villiers motorcycle interests were merged with BSA Triumph.

Manganese Bronze—a company closely tied to the massively profitable Tube Investments empire—now intends to concentrate production at Wolverhampton.

Workers at the Meriden plant are convinced that they have been selected for the axe because they are the highest-paid in the new combine.

Defeated

Dennis Poore, boss of Manganese, has broached the subject of Meriden wage rates many times recently with technical and sporting motorcycle journalists. He indicated that management were 'very concerned' that the Wolverhampton plant might put in a claim for the same wages as Meriden.

'We fear another Perkins,' he was heard to say at a recent race meeting.

Poore masterminded the closure of the new Norton plant at Andover in Hampshire earlier this year. There the workers' protest sit-in was defeated largely because they had no effective links with Wolverhampton.

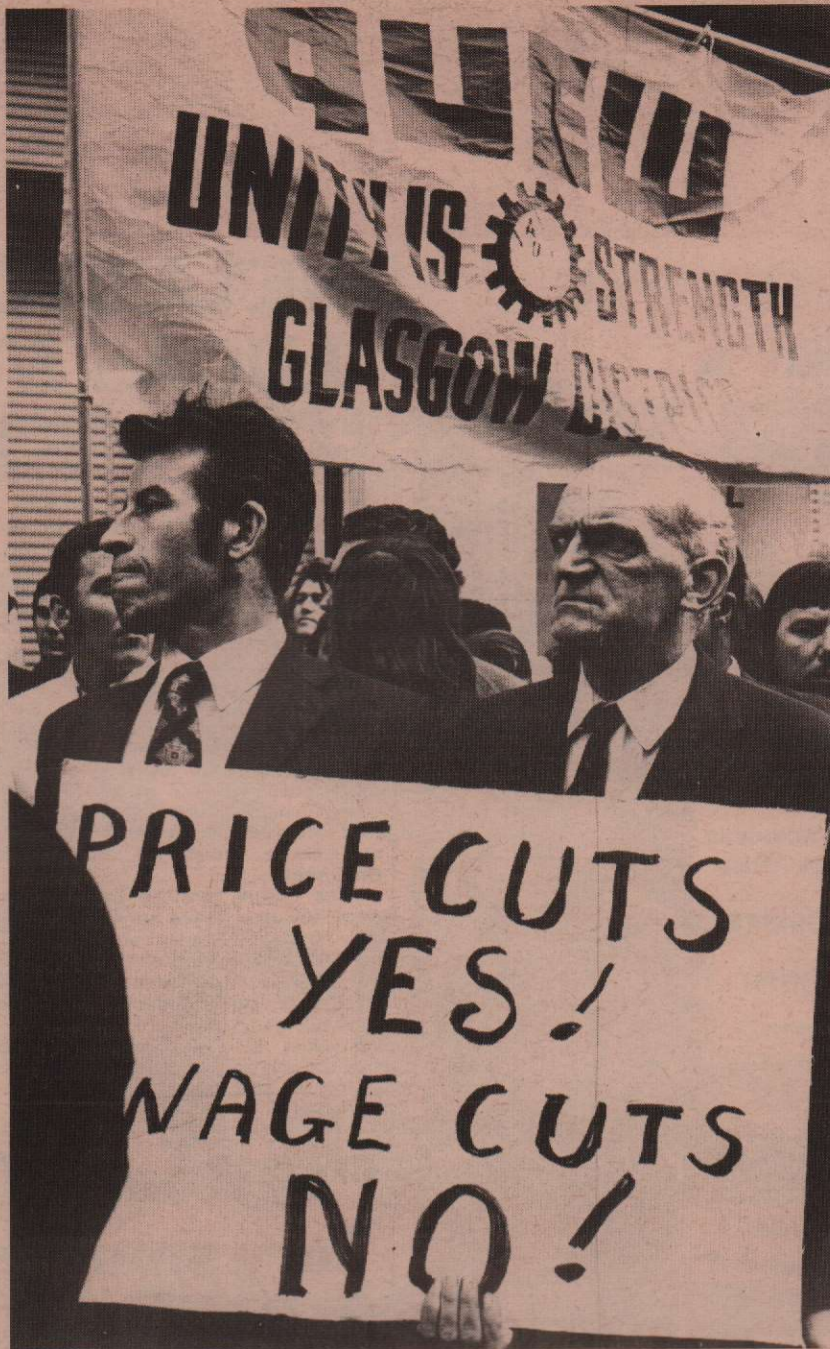
Poore's company got fat government grants to move to Andover from their plant at Plumstead, South East London, which they then sold at a fat profit. Poore and his associates seem set to repeat the operation in Coventry.

The developments in the Norton Villiers Triumph empire are part of a long running crisis in the British motorcycle industry. Fabulous profits were extracted until the 1950s, when British companies still had a near world-wide monopoly. But little or no new capital investment was put in and the Italians and Japanese were then able to take over the world market.

Plant after plant has been closed down without resistance. BSA dismembered its Birmingham motorcycle operations less than two years ago. But if the Meriden workers put up a tough fight there is little doubt that they can save all the jobs.

Strikers defy freeze

WOKINGHAM:—The 55 employees at Johnson's food processing machinery factory are striking in defiance of the freeze, demanding a higher minimum wage and an increase in the basic rate. The workers are bitter at the engineering union's failure to make the dispute official, but refuse to settle for the company's £1 plus 4 per cent offer.



Picture: Peter Harrap (Report)

LONDON:—600 engineering workers lobbied the Engineering Employers Federation headquarters on Friday as trade union leaders submitted the 1973 engineering wage claim.

Workers from Rolls-Royce East Kilbride and London, from British Leyland, Jaguar and Rover in the Midlands, from the smaller engineering works of Lancashire and Yorkshire were among those represented.

Mick Clarke, a steward from Rover Solihull, said: 'The employers can well afford to pay, but we will have to go for

a battle. The last claim fizzled out because it was left up to localities. If we are more determined and we have the right kind of leadership this time, then we can win. The 35-hour week demand could unite all workers'.

James Wharton, electricians union steward at Elliott Automation in South London, said: 'The employers are hiding behind the Tory government. They can well afford to pay and we really need the money. We expect to have to fight and we will fight all the way.'

Safety dispute halts engine plant

DARLINGTON:—More than 1550 engineering workers rebelled this week against an American-style management that for years has been treating them like children.

The strike by AUEW members at the Cummins Engine plant has halted production at the plant for the first time since the giant factory opened eight years ago. The dispute is officially over the disciplining of two men who refused to work the Camshaft line but it has much wider implications. They refused because an oil spray used on the line was a safety hazard.

The management now agree that this spray was unsafe but have refused to

withdraw the disciplinary procedure.

The company exports engines all over the world and, as one worker put it this week: 'They would shut this plant tomorrow and go to South America if they weren't afraid of revolutions over there.'

From time to time there have been small strikes in one or two departments. But gradually resentment has built up.

Nothing was worse than the disciplinary procedures. The company had lists of offences all recorded.

A first offence was a verbal warning. A DP2 was a recorded written warning and a DP3 was the next thing to the sack.

'They were just treating us like children' was the attitude of the men. It

14 DUNLOP FACTORIES IN FREEZE STRIKE

by Roger Rosewell

MORE THAN 2000 engineers are in their third week on strike at 14 Dunlop factories in England, Scotland and Wales against the company's refusal to honour a national agreement.

The battle began months ago when Dunlop negotiated a new national agreement. It should have run from 1 January but because of the freeze this was changed to 1 April.

The agreement provided for raising the minimum skilled rate of £28 a week, improved overtime and shift rates, gave three extra days holiday and an across-the-board wage rise of £1.95 a week.

It was accepted reluctantly and in July the Pay Board ordered that the wage rises could only be paid on the 12th month anniversary of the previous increases at each factory. This meant that every factory would be paid the rise at a different time. It was unacceptable.

Strange things then began to happen. An urgent national negotiating committee meeting was held to discuss the claim with the company but when the convenors arrived they found that every one of the seven full-time national trade union officials who should have attended was missing. Not one attended the meeting.

Despite this strange situation the convenors met and argued with the company. They demanded Dunlop pay up and stop hiding behind the Pay Board. The company refused. They demanded that Dunlop put the rise on one side and pay it as agreed when they were able, but still the management refused to budge.

So the strike started. Since then Dunlop, who recently increased profits by 19 per cent to £64.5 million, has sent several letters to all the engineering workers.

The latest is the most important, for it may throw some light on why the trade union officials missed the July meeting. The letter, from Dunlop's senior industrial relations officer, said: 'We understand that your national officers have now issued a statement recommending a return to work... and we would like to endorse this recommendation.'

This so-called recommendation from 'national officers' has not yet been issued by all of the unions and was apparently cooked up at a secret meeting during the Trades Union Congress at Blackpool. No convenors were invited to this private chat which was attended by Dunlop management, Arthur Hearsey of the Engineering Workers Union, Jack Biggin of the General and Municipal Workers, and a Mr Shearsby of the Electricians, a last-minute replacement for Mark Young, the official just sacked by Electricians' president Frank Chapple.

HAZARDS

Many workers believe that both management and certain trade union officials are using the strike to try to smash the powerful Dunlop engineers national combine. This led the way to the first international strike in June 1972 when thousands of workers struck in Britain and Italy against redundancies threatened by the Dunlop-Pirelli merger.

But despite these hazards and the fact that the Tories are supporting the company in its refusal to honour the national agreement, the strike is going well. Only a few factories have failed to join it—more due to sabotage efforts by right-wing shop stewards than lack of support among workers.

Convenors are touring the country speaking at mass meetings.

Last week Andy Leach, from Inchinnan near Glasgow, visited Dunlop Liverpool with a message of solidarity and support. After the meeting, Joe McGough, the engineers' combine chairman, told Socialist Worker: 'Over the past five years our combine has become very strong and no one is going to break it. We are determined to win this vital strike and I am convinced that we shall.'

POLICE BREAK PICKET

PORTSMOUTH:—Police moved in when trouble broke out last week on a picket line at the Tampax factory in Leigh Park where 40 maintenance men are on strike.

The pickets, all Engineering Union shop stewards from other factories in the area, tried to stop a lorry loaded with supplies from entering the factory gates. After attempts to persuade the driver to turn back, the 40 pickets sat down in front of

the lorry and then police, who had been facing them all morning, moved in.

The pickets were carried clear amid shouts and scuffles but there were no arrests, and the lorry drove into the factory.

The maintenance men, all AUEW members, want the management to recognise the right of the union to negotiate on their behalf and the strike has so far lasted almost a month.

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.

DEFEND THE RIGHT TO PICKET: Speakers Dave Adhead (official delegate of the Birmingham Five Defence Committee and a UCATT shop steward), Steve Lynch (GMWU official) and Harry Cregan (SOGAT shop steward). ALL WELCOME. Thursday 20 September, 7.30pm. The Liberal Hall, Colchester. Organised by Colchester Shrewsbury 24 Defence Committee.

JAMES CONNOLLY—unpublished letter. 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. The October Socialist Standard features James Connolly. Free copy from Dept SW, The Socialist Party of Great Britain, 52 Clapham High Street, London SW4.

FRELIMO DAY 1973. Meeting, Friday 28 September. Speaker from FRELIMO: Joaquim Chissano. Film on liberation struggle in Mozambique. 7.30pm. Unity House, Euston Road, London N1. Sponsors: African Liberation Committee and Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guine. Info: 01-734 9541.

HISTORY WORKSHOP IN LONDON Saturday 20 October-Sunday 21 October at the Old Theatre, London School of Economics.

FAMILY, WORK AND HOME Catherine Hall 'History of the housewife'; Anna Davin 'Shop girls and clerks in 19th century London'; Aubrey Crowe 'Black Country Chainmakers'; Gillian Sutherland 'Rise of the Schoolmistress'; Delia Davin 'Women and Home in the Chinese Revolution'; Tim Mason 'The Cult of Motherhood in Nazi Germany'; Videotapes of 'Fall in and Follow me' and discussion on the Children's Strikes of 1911. Open session on 'Marxism, Feminism and Social History'. Tickets £1 from Sarah and Sid Willis, 49 Elder Avenue, Crouch End, London N8 (old age pensioners and unsupported mothers 25p). Socialist Worker readers welcome.

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.

SALFORD PRECINCT DEMONSTRATION: Against rising prices, rising rents, frozen wages. Salford Precinct, Saturday 22 September, 2.30pm, starting in car park near the Co-Op.

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.

DEMONSTRATION on behalf of the Belfast Ten: Sunday 23 September assembling 2.30pm, Charing Cross, march to Hyde Park.

CIVIL RIGHTS COURSES sponsored by the Cobden Trust, educational arm of the National Council for Civil Liberties. start Monday 24 September at colleges throughout London. Write for details to Cobden Trust, 186 Kings Cross Road, London WCX 9DE. Phone 01-278 4575.

RACISM AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES Two-day conference sponsored by Towards Racial Justice and the London Co-Op. At the National Institute for Social Work Training, 5 Tavistock Place, London WC1. Free admission, all welcome. Read RACE TODAY for full coverage of all aspects of racism. Free sample copy from 184 Kings Cross Road, London WC1.

THE POLITICS OF HOMOSEXUALITY 20p from Pluto Press. A marxist analysis of how and why sexual oppression operates under capitalism—by Don Milligan



I would like to join the International Socialists

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Miners threaten to ban overtime

THE Yorkshire council of the National Union of Mineworkers decided on Monday to press for a national overtime ban from 1 November if the National Coal Board has not made a satisfactory wage offer by then.

The NUM submitted the union's new claim last week. It is a three-tier claim for new basics of £35, £40 and £45, well over the Tory wage norms.

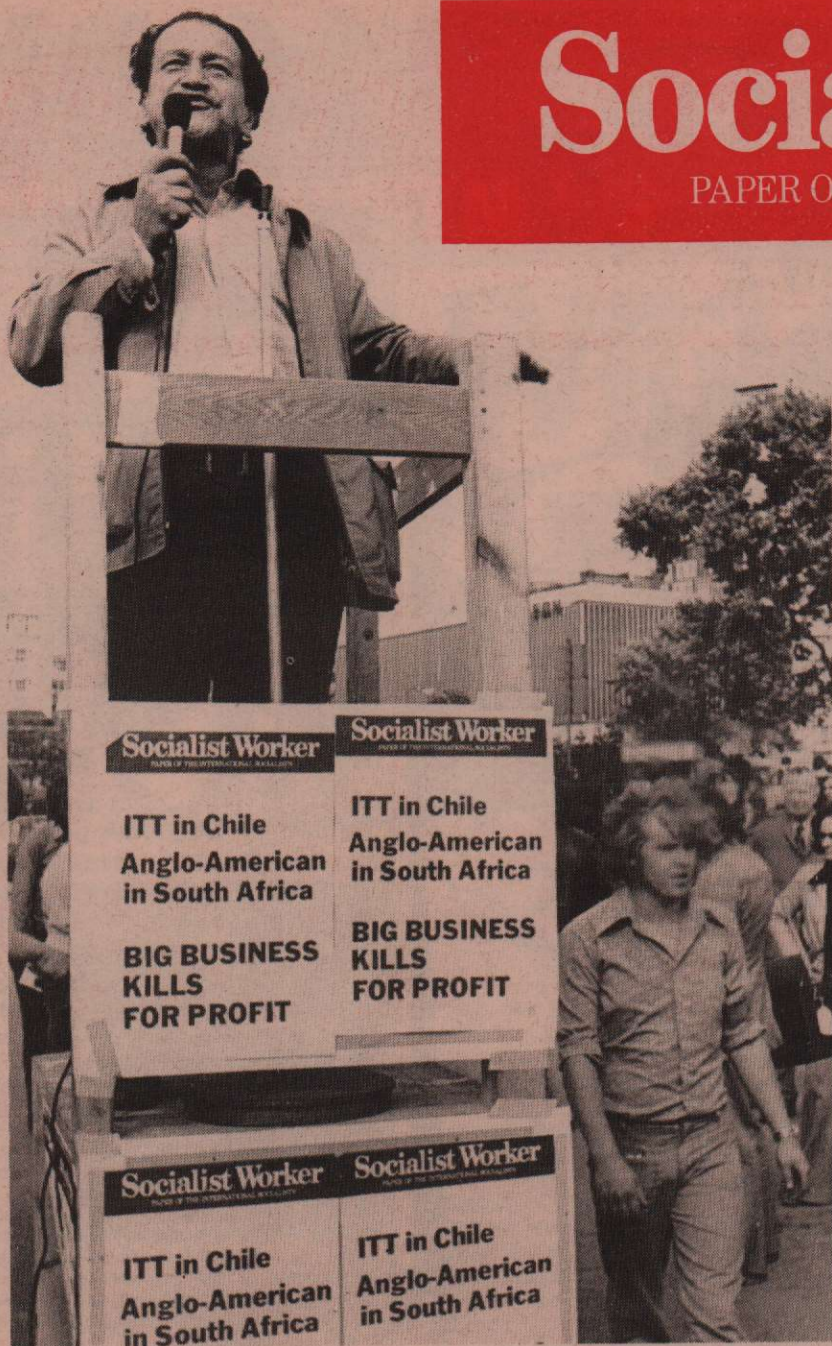
Although Joe Gromley, NUM president, has been outspoken about 'no compromise' this time, militant miners have not forgotten that over the last claim he contended that only a general strike could breach the Tory freeze while he got busy engineering a settlement within the £1 plus 4 per cent norm.

Miners are expecting a similar performance this time round. The militants insist that the rank and file must counter manoeuvres with early industrial action just as they did in 1972.

The Yorkshire miners' threats to ban overtime follows the lead of the Nottinghamshire miners, who are to ban all night shift working from 1 November.

In South Wales and Scotland too there has been considerable pressure for early action. The Scots miners meeting last Friday decided to wait until mid-October for a positive reply from the Coal Board. If this is not forthcoming, then the Scots miners will start industrial action.

The new issue of *The Collier*, the rank and file mineworkers' paper published this week, includes an analysis of the claim, articles on the dangers of productivity bargaining, the threat of pit closures, and a report on the Seafield mine disaster inquiry. A year's subscription costs 25p from *The Collier*, 29 Station Road, Barnsley, Yorkshire.



George Peake, a victim of South African apartheid and now a member of the International Socialists, speaking at Hyde Park Corner before last Sunday's demonstration over the killings in South Africa and the coup in Chile. Picture: Peter Harrap (Report)

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

WE'LL STOP CLOSURE -LUCAS STEWARDS

BIRMINGHAM:—Stewards at Lucas' Chester Street factory, shocked by the bald announcement last week that the factory is to close with the loss of 600 jobs, are determined to prevent the closure. Already they have put a black on sub-contract work.

The stewards intend to try 'the normal channels'—which is why there is a meeting with management this week—but, said TGWU convenor Johnny Byrne: 'If all else fails we shall stop machinery being moved to other factories.'

Lucas management have always made great play of the loyalty and dedication of their workers, yet the bald statement simply said workers would be found employment in other Lucas factories if they were 'suitable'. A lot of the workers at Chester Street are long service employees.

The reasons given by Lucas management for the closure are contradictory. The factory devotes nearly half its production to the motorcycle industry and the rest to car components. Management says future demand for motorcycle equipment can be met by other Lucas factories—yet earlier this year shop stewards were told the company intended to build a new factory on land next to the Chester Street works.

At the Lucas battery factory at Formans Road, after months of negotiations, the pay norm of £1 plus 4 per cent is being used to avoid payments of 'hazard money'. The factory has been at the centre of controversy when children at a nearby school were shown to have high lead levels in their blood.

EFFECTIVE

TGWU members in the factory claimed an extra £2.33 a week for being exposed to lead contamination, but the Pay Board, generous as ever in allowing Lucas to put its prices up, has ruled that the hazard money can be paid only by cutting back increases to other Lucas workers so that the overall amount doesn't exceed the £1 plus 4 per cent.

Freeze or no freeze, money cannot buy back health and it's up to trade unionists to force the company to instal the best and most effective ventilation and checks to ensure the workers' safety, as well as fighting for hazard allowances.

The situations at Chester Street and Formans Road reveal one thing clearly: Lucas management may talk about concern for their workers, but their actions show they are in business to make big profits and if it means sacking loyal workers or skimping on safety they do just that.

Pay Board thickens the Tory smokescreen

THE Pay Board report on those who 'unjustly' got frost-bitten by the wage freeze, the 'anomalies' as the Whitehall bureaucrats are calling them, gives only the appearance of fairness. There is little comfort for anyone.

Civil servants, whose pay is linked to wage rates in industry—a device that keeps them two steps behind wage increases anyway, were due for a pay review in January for which they had waited two years. The freeze threw this right out of the window.

This at once gave an unaccustomed spurt of militancy to the excessively moderate leaderships of the civil service unions, as shown by their speeches at the recent Trade Union Congress.

The last thing the government needs is for a clearly wronged section of workers, directly employed by itself, to take industrial action. The Pay Board was called in to help.

The report is a masterpiece of complicated prose designed to give the appearance of fairness with none of the content. It defines what is an 'anomalous' pay-linked scheme so closely as to exclude all but the most formal arrangement. Whatever the injustice involved there will be no back pay.

Unfairness

Here is the full flavour of the Pay Board's 'justice': 'About 400,000 civil servants would be involved. To remedy the anomaly would engender feelings of unfairness among others—in other words if the civil servants are given what they deserve it may encourage others to ask for their just rewards too.'

Again: 'Stage 1 was bound to have some element of rough justice and it is not compatible with its objectives to remove all feelings of unfairness.' Now that is a masterly piece of understatement.

'Any remedy in Stage 3 for anomalies created by the standstill will come from the total amount of money available during Stage 3 for all increases in pay. It will therefore be at the cost of the working community as a whole.' So the government-caused injustice of Phase 1 must be paid for by workers and not by the employers who have been enjoying a profit bonanza under the freeze and its aftermath.

The Pay Board's report is a crushing rejoinder to those at the TUC who refused to boycott its proceedings, and proves once again that it is an important part of the Tory offensive against the trade unions and workers' conditions.

TENANTS' ACTION CONFERENCE

Sunday 23 September, 2pm-6pm
The Renold Theatre, Whitworth Street, Manchester

Sponsored by tenants' associations in Liverpool, Manchester, Dudley, London, Sheffield, Kirkby, Birmingham, Oldham, Darlington, Harlow, Rotherham and trade union branches, trades councils and shop stewards committees.

Credentials for tenants' associations and trade union organisations from Conference Organising Committee, 61 Tynley Croft, Harlow, Essex.

UNIONS MOVE ON CHRYSLER 7000

by Steve Jefferys and Roger Kline

JACK JONES and Hugh Scanlon, leaders of the Transport and Engineering unions, have now intervened as expected against the strike at Chrysler Linwood, where all 7000 workers are on strike in defence of trade union principles.

The Linwood workers came out two weeks ago demanding that Chrysler withdraw non-union labour doing the jobs of striking electricians at the company's Coventry plants.

This week Jones and Scanlon circulated to the Linwood AUEW and TGWU convenors copies of the statement they made

to their Coventry convenors and district committees three weeks ago.

They had told Chrysler Coventry, members of the two unions that they could return to work despite the electricians' picket lines and through managers and non-union labour had been drafted in to do the electricians' work.

At the end of the letter signed by Jack Jones there is a remarkable sentence stating that TGWU members 'should not blackleg'. But the letter fails to explain how it is possible not to blackleg when returning to work means operating machines repaired by managers and non-union labour. The Linwood stewards were told

the same at a meeting on Tuesday.

The stewards were also given a report of a special meeting in Coventry on Monday for all Chrysler senior shop stewards—with the exception of the Coventry electricians. Those from Linwood had been flown to Coventry in a private plane. After the meeting Chrysler had kindly laid on a banquet.

PRINCIPLED

At this meeting Chrysler said it would lay off its entire British labour force on Thursday and that the dispute would affect all Chrysler's future plans in Britain. The effect of this threat and of the official advice from the two unions produced a heated discussion at the Linwood shop stewards meeting on Tuesday.

Some stewards, including the AUEW deputy convenor, used the 'seriousness' of Chrysler's threats to argue for a re-consideration of the principled stand taken at Linwood. Pressure should be put on the Linwood electricians to change their stand, he argued.

Others agreed that it was vital to stick

Courageous 22 go back

SOUTHALL:—The six-week strike by 22 men at AEC, British Leyland's bus and truck plant, ended last Friday when the men decided by a slim majority to return to work.

Despite their courageous stand, they have gone back virtually empty-handed. Although management will not be allowed to move the five men from the section until there are negotiations, it seems likely the section will be forced to accept the

temporary transfer of eight men and the permanent transfer of four.

Throughout, the factory carried on working as though nothing was happening. Apart from collections, the shop stewards committee failed to drum up the solidarity that was needed. Only pressure from the district AUEW made them agree to hold a full mass meeting in support of the men. But it was six weeks too late.

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