

SCOTTISH VANGUARD

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organ of the
Workers' Party of Scotland
< Marxist - Leninist >

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**DIRECT ACTION
REFLECTS TODAY,
THE MOOD
OF THE WORKERS
- THE WAGE
AND SALARY
EARNERS -
EVERYWHERE !!**

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disease"
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Successful
Scots miner pickets
and the Police.

ACTION by the **PEOPLE** - Direct and Resolute - would sweep aside
the mere chatter-boxes of parliament and local councils.

★ For a Workers Republic of Scotland ★

A CRISIS MET AND OVERCOME

The recent High Court case in Glasgow, in which two members of our Party, one ex-member, and a non-member figured, has evoked wide-spread shock and disgust at the severity of the sentences imposed - 26 years (the longest sentence in a Scottish court in living memory) 25 years, 24 years, and 6 years - after they were declared guilty by a jury on a number of charges of robbing several banks in Glasgow. The judge, Lord Dunpark, after a few minutes deliberation, saw fit to perform his stipendiary function in this vicious manner, reminiscent of the atrocities of the notorious Judge Jeffries. In many countries judges are assisted by a panel of Lay Assessors, but not here; we may find a judge, whose enormous salary enables him to be boozed up and overfed every night, appearing next day suffering painful consequences, and solely responsible for imposing sentences on fellow mortals. Recently, south of the border, a judge was alleged to have fallen asleep whilst trying a case. At the subsequent Appeal Court these scandalous sentences were confirmed by Lords Grant, Milligan, and Wheatley, except in one instance reduced by two years. In the course of his observations on the evidence Wheatley observed that the law "has to preserve the interests of the state and thus of the community." Our advice to him would be to study "Lenin on the State", thereby making himself informed on the nature of the capitalist state which exists exclusively to preserve the interests of the few and is thus hostile to the interests of the many - the community.

Much is made by all kinds of apologists of the alleged high quality of justice in our Law Courts. An analysis of our high-ups in the legal machine, however, reveals personalities who have often achieved 'eminence' by winning a ruthless rat-race, or by a form of nepotism, but more frequently by jumping ahead of the others on an appropriate political band-wagon. Such people lay very great stress on cash and social prestige values. They are very far removed from any experience of contemporary working-class lives and conditions. Capitalism pays its judges exorbitant salaries so that they will never fail to subscribe to the principles upon which the robbery system of capitalism functions.

THE JUDGES' FUNCTION ██████████ DEFENCE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY

It is not at all surprising, therefore, that any case before such sycophants, even slightly tinged with Anti-Establishment politics, immediately alerts the Judiciary to its ruling-class defence of private property. There is no such thing as "impartiality" on the part of our Judiciary and we declare that these sentences are a case in point. The same High Court of Scotland recently tried a man who killed another and imposed the modest sentence of

eight years imprisonment. There is also the case of an ex-Tory Member of Parliament who got a tiny prison sentence of one year, having been found guilty of embezzling £20,000. Such is the quality of 'justice' meted out by these be-wigged, be-gowned, and devout (!!!), "So help me god" gents.

All this should burn into the minds of our working-class the necessity of destroying the rotten class-ridden capitalist system of 'Law' and the creation by the workers of genuine 'People's Courts' in which the circumstances of each case will be judged on its merits strictly and exclusively in the interests and welfare of the workers. A panel of workers would cast aside the absurdities of so-called Case Law, so beloved of the legal fraternity.

Incidentally, the police, and especially the uniformed section, are the most visible or tangible barriers or front-liners, set up by the capitalist class to repel the first assaults on their privileges. It is their duty always to defend capitalist 'ethics of Law and Order', or quickly lose their jobs; but they are far from being the most important factor ultimately in the physical defence of the 'Establishment'. The Armed Forces with their powerful weapons are by far the most potent and dangerous instruments of suppression used by the enemy.

POLICE — ARMY — PRESS — RADIO

In both the police and the Armed Forces there are decent human beings, often suffering from an excessive sense of duty and dedicated loyalty which lands them in a dilemma of consciously acting against the best interests of their fellow wage-earning workers. Amongst them, on the other hand, are the superficially clever but ruthless types who care nothing about the people's interests or social justice but are at all times motivated by the main chance for themselves. It has to be recognised that both the police and the Armed Forces tend to attract to their ranks certain sadistically inclined youths, and it appears that the proportion of this type may be increasing in both Services. Nevertheless, whilst never underestimating the capacity of the forces used by capitalist 'Establishment' interests to hit hard and most effectively where the defence of the people is weakened by lack of unity under correct leadership, all enemies of the people can and will be defeated by tactics based upon the science of Marxism. Never by romantic adventurism.

The close alliance of the capitalist press, radio and television with the judiciary was certainly high-lighted by the reporting and commentaries arising from the trial referred to, making the case, again and again, for the ending of these organs of capitalist propaganda. All press, radio and TV apparatus and materials must be taken over by the workers for their exclusive use.

Reporters and editorial staffs at present employed by capitalism are reduced to the status of mere touts for prostitutes, required to paint the dirtiest and most lurid distorting pictures of their fellow-workers. All this allegedly for the so-called "sacred freedom of the press" but in fact always for the defence of capitalist apologetics and profits. All who allow themselves to be drawn into this cesspool by being egotistical or mercenary informers are traitors to the interests of the working-class and must therefore be severely condemned.

The foregoing views are of course revolutionary in their implications but our Party insists that without the transfer of power from the capitalist minority to the workers' majority, genuine justice for the workers must remain a mere mirage.

ESSENTIAL - A REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The Workers' Party of Scotland accepts the principles of Lenin's teaching on the necessity for a "Revolutionary Proletarian Party of a New Type", and the views of that remarkable revolutionary, John Maclean, who demonstrated clearly the application of such teaching to the particular circumstances of the workers of Scotland. His demand for a Workers' Republic of Scotland remains relevant today. THE W.P.S. (M-L) IS BASED, THEREFORE, UPON THE CONVICTION THAT SO-CALLED MARXIST OR SOCIALIST ASSOCIATIONS, CLUBS OR GROUPS CANNOT PROVIDE THE DISCIPLINED DEMOCRATIC-CENTRALISM INHERENT IN A MARXIST PARTY WHOSE FUNCTION IS TO CARRY ON AND DEVELOP THE STRUGGLE IN SCOTLAND, HOPEFULLY LOOKING TO SIMILAR DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES WITH CONSEQUENTIAL INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION.

Certain revelations at the High Court trial referred to came as a grave shock to our members generally and we must be perfectly frank and, where appropriate, candidly self-critical. Apart altogether from certain allegations against our members, Matt Lygate and Colin Lawson, which were accepted by the jury as proof of guilt, our Party was distressed to find that these two comrades had for many months successfully deceived their comrades in the Central Committee in relation to what amounted to factional activities. They seriously misused, without any authority from the Party, the Vanguard Books premises in Glasgow and they maintained a close association with non-Party persons for purposes contrary to the Party's interests.

There were claims that co-operation and contacts were established and maintained with certain guerilla movements in Scotland, all again without the knowledge or consent of the Party Central Committee or its Secretariat. All this apparently anarchistic activity was presumably maintained by our two members who well knew that, to avoid the danger of our Party being beheaded, our Central Committee had, some time ago, taken a firm decision against exposing its leading officials to unnecessary risks. During the

same period essential Party work was neglected, particularly the drafting and printing of leaflets and the publishing of the "Scottish Vanguard". With the benefit of hindsight it is now clear that the thoughts and actions of these comrades were pre-occupied with activities which they positively knew were never, nor would have been, authorised by the Party leadership. Neither Matt Lygate nor Colin Lawson are illiterate fools and we can only assume that, having failed to trust the collective leadership of their comrades, and departing from Marxist-Leninist realism, their judgement was so seriously distorted that they embarked upon a policy of romantic adventurism. Astonishingly, their conduct may have revealed a degree of political immaturity.

SELF-CRITICISM/REALISM

Members of the Central Committee and its Secretariat can and must be criticised for failure to deal positively with certain political weaknesses revealed from time to time in the conduct of these two comrades.

This crisis has laid a heavy and unnecessary extra burden on the members of the Party, but it is gratifying that the membership generally has remained united and determined to carry on and develop our efforts with the workers of Scotland. Many lessons on the importance of Party discipline and rectitude are learned and perhaps will have strengthened our capacity for the mounting and revolutionary struggles ahead of us.

We think it wise to restate here in summary from the policy of the W.P.S.. Our Party is guided by the teaching of the great Masters of Scientific Socialism, Marx, Engels, Lenin, John Maclean, Stalin, Enver Hoxha and Mao Tse Tung. Their teaching must be applied to the circumstances of the workers of Scotland today in a manner most appropriate, recognising that, as in the case of Ireland, Scotland continues to be an oppressed Nation under British Imperialist rule. The strong Scottish Nationalist sentiment must be assessed correctly by us in Scotland as an important factor in the political situation, coupled with the widespread and growing resentment against the Westminster dictatorship. It is most regrettable that many well-intentioned class-conscious workers in England are clearly lacking in knowledge and information on this aspect and consequently do not respond to comradely appeals for co-operation, some, in fact, suffering still from bourgeois Great-Nation chauvinist influences. The class structure in Scotland is predominantly proletarian - wage and salary earners - with a very small rural community and a negligible petit-bourgeois element but with a very powerfully entrenched capitalist minority.

Action Committees With Political Objectives

Our Party places the utmost importance upon the development of rank-and-file, or "grass-roots", ACTION COMMITTEES which must always couple economic demands and industrial action with clearly defined political aims for the transfer of all power, not merely "Workers' Control", from the present capitalist minority and its Westminster Dictatorship to the mass of the wage and salary earners. Reliance upon the established organs of state power, including the bureaucratic elements in the Trade Union leadership, Labour Parliamentarians, and the United Kingdom Parliament itself, is an utterly bankrupt policy. Our Party entirely rejects the theory that the workers must restrict their mode of action, the form of attack against their exploiters, to so-called "Legal" processes, and we held that they must exercise their class power and authority without reference to any other authority. So-called "Moral Seruples" cannot be allowed to stand in the way as obstacles to a realisation by the workers of the higher and honourable morality of justice for the masses. For example, and to be somewhat topical, if and when it is necessary and expedient funds can and should be transferred, by whatever process is necessary at a particular time, back to the workers who are the sole producers of all wealth, from the coffers of the capitalists, whether in banks or any other monetary institutions.

In all their efforts the workers of Scotland will constantly look hopefully to their class comrades in England, Wales and Ireland and in the wider international sphere for support. In the event of the workers of England moving rapidly ahead of ours in militant and revolutionary action, then of course our Party would gladly merge with such successful leadership. It cannot be said, however, that that time appears to be on the horizon yet.

Again let us emphasise that at all times our Party policy must be settled collectively. No action by any member is permitted outside Party policy. Any interpretation must be the final duty and responsibility of our Central Committee. Whilst it is always regrettable when a member fails to observe a disciplined role, our current experience is not unique. There is not a single political organisation which has not suffered from such aberrations.

The Failure Of Infiltration And Fronts

Ours is not a clandestine Party. This is not necessary meantime. Unlike the "Communist" Party of Great Britain and other self-styled "left-wing" movements, we do not seek to infiltrate other bodies to secure office and superficial power, nor do we create "Front" organisations controlled by our Party. We always co-operate openly with outside bodies with whom we may agree on

specific issues. "Infiltration" and "Frontism" have signally failed in attempts at idealistic short-cuts to what they imagine to be revolutionary socialism. We are amused, therefore, to find the Scottish Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain, (which, incidentally, we regard today as merely the left wing of social-democracy), disclaiming any connection with the W.P.S.. To quote them in part - "The clandestine and conspiratorial activities of this group's estimated membership of seventy" - "none of whom hold position in the Trade Union and Labour Movement". For years we have set our faces against seeking office in other bodies.

Our Party openly declares its revolutionary aims and practical policy. We are undismayed that our Party is smaller but proud that its membership is politically well educated by comparison with a high proportion of political illiterates comprising the mass membership of certain other organisations including the C.P.G.B. We shall, of course, always listen to constructive criticism from any quarter, hopefully looking for evidence that they have done better than us, but we shall not be diverted from our purpose even if and when driven underground. We shall certainly not desert the workers whose class integrity and strength must always be the sheet-anchor of any proletarian revolutionary movement.

THE THRESHOLD OF UNIVERSAL WORKERS' POWER.

This is the century of the greatest revolutionary changes in the history of mankind. It is the very eve of the final triumph of the liberation movements and the class struggles of the workers everywhere. We stand on the threshold of the final destruction of world imperialism which, though never surrendering voluntarily, is rapidly retreating in the face of the advancing forces of Socialism.

THE WORKERS' PARTY OF SCOTLAND (MARXIST-LENINIST), CONFIDENT IN THE CAPACITY OF THE WORKERS, THE WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, WITH GROWING POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND MARXIST-LENINIST LEADERSHIP, WILL CONTINUE TO PERFORM ITS FUNCTION IN ITS SMALL BUT IMPORTANT SECTOR OF THE WORLD REVOLUTIONARY FRONT. THIS WILL BE DONE NOT BY EASY SLOGANISING ABOUT "GENERAL STRIKES" OR BY DEMONSTRATIONS AND DELEGATIONS TO TORY OR LABOUR GOVERNMENTS, BUT BY GETTING TO UNDERSTAND THOROUGHLY THE MOOD AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE WORKERS IN ANY GIVEN PERIOD AND CIRCUMSTANCE. THUS WILL THE PARTY BE ENABLED TO PROVIDE A MARXIST-LENINIST "BLUE-PRINT" TO MAP THE ADVANCE OF THE WORKERS TO EVER HIGHER LEVELS OF REVOLUTIONARY POLITICS AND EMANCIPATION.

LONG LIVE THE WORKERS OF SCOTLAND IN ALLIANCE
WITH THEIR COMRADES EVERYWHERE.

(Statement of the Central Committee of the W.P.S. (M.L.)

1st June, 1972.

A NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OR CONTINUED WESTMINSTER DICTATORSHIP ?

By

BRIAN McHARDY.

THE DILEMMA TODAY OF THE S.N.P.

The present perilous state of the Scottish National Party is the inevitable result of the LACK OF A CLEAR-CUT POLICY towards the achievement of Independence for the people of Scotland.

Stuck firmly in the morass of Parliamentary involvement and amidst reams of paper reports and hypothetical schemes to the exclusion of all effective forms of action, the S.N.P. has reaped the rewards of participation in the SHAM BALLOT-BOX "DEMOCRACY" of the WESTMINSTER DICTATORSHIP. Surely most S.N.P. members must today be pondering the political truth that complete independence for the people of Scotland will never be "granted" by any Westminster Parliament but must be taken by the people of Scotland themselves, by whatever process or method may be found necessary. No holds barred. This has always been the experience of National Liberation Movements. We will be blind indeed if we imagine that our National circumstances are fundamentally different from theirs.

NATIONAL LIBERATION

If the S.N.P. refuses to offer action to secure a SOVEREIGN Government, firmly in the hands of the people, then the S.N.P. merely succeeds in presenting itself as attempting to close the door on the only real avenue for the achievement of genuine independence through DETERMINED ACTION BY THE PEOPLE TO LIBERATE THEMSELVES. National sentiment, which in recent years made the S.N.P. the largest political party in Scotland is moving increasingly into extra-parliamentary activities not, however, promoted by the S.N.P. as a corporate body. The recent Assembly promoted by the Scottish Trade Union Congress, and continued by a "Standing Commission", consisting almost to a man of people who have never been distinguished by support for an independent Scotland developed a spontaneous call for some form of a Parliament for Scotland. This provides eloquent testimony to the fact that the National aspirations of the people of Scotland are not dying however debilitated the S.N.P. may be today.

The About Turn Phenomenon

The S.T.U.C. Assembly was, however, essentially a reformist

body, mandated solely to seek for the unemployed, and within the Union, more crumbs from the rich man's table - more Westminster charity hand-outs; more English, United States, Dutch, French, and even Japanese capital investments. This despite the FACT that without even counting on possible oil revenue, Scotland's financial resources are ample to furnish all the capital required to solve our economic and social problems by refusing to hand profits to foreign money-lenders.

The time has long passed when our people should "ASK" for a hearing or to be "DEALT" with. They must now settle their own future. Ever since the Union the people of Scotland have had nothing but lies and exploitation from Westminster. Why should they expect anything different today?

By seizing upon and subordinating itself to the phenomenon of the sudden "about turn" of Trade Union bureaucrats and Tory Party leaders with their brave "verbal offensive" for a Parliament of Scotland, the S.N.P. throws away, and into the hands of fake home-rulers, a golden opportunity for National Leadership of our people.

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF SCOTLAND

The people of Scotland must strike now for freedom. The position of our people is critical. It is manifestly absurd to wait until there are enough members elected from Scotland to the Westminster Parliament to allow them to withdraw and form a Provisional Government. "This year, next year, sometime?". Already the machinery is available in the recently constituted National Convention of Scotland, and the remarkably high proportion of households in Dalkeith, where a pilot scheme is being canvassed, who have actually signed forms supporting the proposed National Convention is evidence that a great national drive could secure telling results.

The policy of the National Convention, of which the W.P.S. is an affiliate, is embodied in the statement entitled "The Unsolved Crisis", and reprinted here.

(The proceedings at the recent annual conference of the Scottish National Party in Rothesay, amply confirmed Brian McHardy's criticisms. Failure to devote itself exclusively to the strategy and tactics necessary to achieve sovereign power, without which endless chatter about reforms whilst the Westminster Dictatorship retains absolute power, got the Conference nowhere. This must explain in part the absence from this 1972 Conference of the sparkle and enthusiasm present at previous conferences when a large proportion of the delegates were youthful, by contrast with the composition this year....Editor.)

The Great
COMMUNIST PARTY
of
CHINA

Formed 1st July,
1921, with only a
few dozen members
was soon to be an
invincible force.

Though menaced
by White Terror,
Secret Agents,
Renegades,
Traitors, Trotsky
reactionaries and
internal and
foreign armies,
the Party grew
and triumphed on
the principle
that, to quote
Chairman Mao, "The
People, and the
People alone, are
the motive force
in the making of
world history."

All great and
successful revol-
utionary Movements
have had very
small beginnings.
With correct theory
and concrete
revolutionary
practice, they
triumphed.

Scotland's unsolved crisis can and must be solved but only by the people of Scotland

(National Convention Statement of Policy)

The unsolved crisis affecting the people of Scotland, economically and culturally, is reflected in the continuing decline of industry and the criminal waste of human talent and capacity. This involves widespread unemployment, poverty and extreme frustration in the midst of plenty. It makes quite impossible a realisation of vast potential improvements in the standard of living, leisure and cultural self expression of our people.

All these circumstances exist, despite the oceans of parliamentary speeches and legislation, multitudes of so-called plans for economic development, sometimes meritorious in themselves as interesting blue-prints, and numerous forecasts of expansion which generally have miserably failed to materialise. Certainly none of these things has made the slightest impact on the solution of our critical National situation, relative to the welfare of our people.

In the dire circumstances of our National crisis resolute and immediate action by the people of Scotland must be taken to reverse this continuing deterioration of the quality of life and prospects for our people. Views and acts of those outside our country wishing to retard or divert our intentions must not be allowed to interfere in the slightest with whatever action may be deemed necessary in the National interest of Scotland.

To this end a great NATIONAL CONVENTION OF SCOTLAND, created on the widest possible basis of democratic representation and embracing all the creative forces of Scotland's Life and Culture must be held IMMEDIATELY. At this Convention a minimal programme for the rapid expansion of our economy, including the proper development of our natural resources and the creation of a National Leadership—and machinery for its implementation would be adopted; the Convention shall be empowered to consider and act upon all questions affecting Scotland including that of Scottish sovereignty.

This development does not impinge upon the freedom of co-operating organisations and individuals but is a further opportunity for all who wish to work together for the well being of the people of Scotland.

Issued by the NATIONAL CONVENTION OF SCOTLAND Organising Committee, January, 1972.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Mary Cowan, Newton House, Dalkeith, Midlothian.
Telephone: 031-665 2817

IT IS INTOLERABLE THAT, APPROACHING THE END OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, OUR COUNTRY IS AFFLICTED WITH THE SAME PROBLEMS OF UNEMPLOYMENT, VERY BAD HOUSING, GROSS INEQUALITIES OF WEALTH, EMIGRATION AND POPULATION STAGNATION, AS PREVAILED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CENTURY; ALL THIS, DESPITE THE VAST DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY MADE POSSIBLE BY UNPRECEDENTED TECHNICAL IMPROVEMENTS. AT THIS VERY MOMENT OF SERIOUS AND GROWING UNEMPLOYMENT, CAPITALIST PROFITS AND DIVIDENDS ARE INCREASING TO ALL - TIME RECORDS.

National Convention (Contd.):

SCOTLAND IS WEALTHY. With an annual income of about Eight Hundred Pounds (£800), per head of her population of fully five millions, Scotland's wealth is great indeed. (Expressed in her gross domestic product this amounts to the colossal ANNUAL income of about Four Thousand Million Pounds (£4,000,000,000). This is ample to finance Scotland's economy in the interests of the people, without seeking any financial help from any outside source.

WHERE DOES ALL THIS VAST WEALTH GO? Not to the WAGE EARNER; Not to the tens of thousands of the UNEMPLOYED; Not to the PENSIONERS; Not to our CHILDREN; Not to the SICK AND INFIRM; and Not to solve our terrible HOUSING PROBLEM.

NO! BUT VAST SUMS GO TO THE WESTMINSTER DICTATORSHIP, to the large-scale home and foreign FINANCIERS; to EXCESSIVE PROFITS on ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES; to swell vast UNEARNED INCOMES and on enormous expenditure on ARMED FORCES and related WAR PRODUCTION
—all this, mark you—

WITHOUT THE PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND EVER BEING CONSULTED

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, would YOU hand over your wage packet TO AN OUTSIDER to use for you? Of course not!!! But this is actually WHAT THE PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND HAVE BEEN DOING AS A NATION SINCE 1707! Now we are informed by the pundits of Westminster that our children must lose their FREE MILK; that our LOCAL GOVERNMENT and its Finance are to be 'Reformed'; that Scotland's OFF-SHORE OIL is to be STOLEN and that our IN-SHORE FISHING GROUNDS are to be thrown open to CONTINENTAL EXPLOITERS—

AGAIN WITHOUT THE PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND BEING CONSULTED

THE TIME HAS ARRIVED FOR OUR PEOPLE TO SAY A RESOUNDING "NO" TO THE WESTMINSTER DICTATORSHIP, AND A FIRM "YES" TO OURSELVES

A GREAT NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND

—embracing every aspect of the economic, social and cultural interests to be held in 1972 in Glasgow, will give the whole of the people of Scotland the Greatest Opportunity in their History for Genuine Democratic Self-Expression and positive action. This will involve total rejection of the parody of Democracy in the Westminster Set-up and will be—

A MAJESTIC REASSERTION OF OUR NATIONAL STATUS

The National Convention is a Clarion Call to Active Participation by Every Citizen of Scotland who is determined to end, ONCE AND FOR ALL, the Scandal and Frustrations of our Unsolved Crisis.

"I hardly think our American Colonies have much stomach for revolution."
(GEORGE III 1773)

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"Our House will rule France for another 1,000 yrs."
(LOUIS XVI 1788)

+++++

"I have nothing to fear from my people, nor have my children or their children."
(CZAR 1911)

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"Our German Reich will last 1,000 years."
(HITLER 1939)

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"Talk of a revolution in Cuba - just so much a lot of balls."
(COCA COLA EXECUTIVE 1957)

+++++

"Algeria belongs to France. No force can change that."
(FRENCH GENERAL 1960)

+++++

"The white man will always be supreme in South Africa."
(J.B. VORSTER 1968)

+++++

"We are great, we are strong. America will not be pushed around."
(PRESIDENT JOHNSON before the Vietnamese knocked him out)

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UNEMPLOYMENT IS NOT A DISEASE

It is the painful symptom of the curable disease of CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION - so-called "PRIVATE ENTERPRISE". UNEMPLOYMENT CAN AND MUST BE ENDED FOR EVER.

The 150-200 thousand unemployed in Scotland today are entitled to JUSTICE, not CHARITY. In other words SECURE EMPLOYMENT OR FULL COMPENSATION EQUIVALENT TO WAGES.

We were told by the comfortable wealthy and their toadies at one time that there was "OVER-FULL EMPLOYMENT" and now they declare that "UNEMPLOYMENT IS UNACCEPTABLY HIGH". Well may we ask what is "ACCEPTABLY HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT"? Acceptable to whom? These people tell us that Scotland cannot afford such expenditure as suggested above - RUBBISH! 160,000 unemployed each receiving £25 per week would cost yearly £208 Million out of Scotland's annual domestic product of £4,000 Millions which equals £800 per head of the population of fully five million people.

The WEALTHY and the big MONEY-LENDING FINANCIERS get most of this vast wealth. Such PARASITES enjoy personal and, mark you, UNEARNED incomes, not of £25 per week, but £200 or much more per week. There must be a "WORK-TEST FOR THE WEALTHY" with the same social services as they have forced upon the workers. When the unemployed, with self-reliance, set up their own ACTION COUNCILS and drive forward for justice against the parasites, they will at the same time stimulate their less unfortunate wage-earning comrades into full co-operative ACTION.

RENTS AND RATES GO UP AND UP

All over the country the people are growing more and more angry at the continuing rent and rates increases. They are roused to furious indignation at such injustices but frustrated in their efforts at opposition. e.g. Voting at Parliamentary and Local elections and sending numerous deputations and protest marches, from their tenants and ratepayers associations - but OF NO AVAIL.

This has been the pattern of the peoples' protest over many years, but today, increasing numbers are certain that there is no possibility of changing the situation favourably unless the METHODS OF PROTEST ARE CHANGED.

Tenants' and Community Associations are often excellent means of self-expression on Rents, Rates and other grievances. However, few of these bodies attempt to get over the hurdle of capitalist "Legality" and consequently fail to secure the justice they are seeking. Many, recognising the futility of 'Legal' methods, lapse,

leaving a tiny handful, and the strength of the organisation is lost.

Why Continue to Pay, Pay, Pay?

Why pay any rates and rents at all for the 300,000 old sub-standard houses in Scotland which 700,000 adult workers and their children, BUT NEVER THE WEALTHY, are compelled to live in year after year, when in fact they should be compensated for living in such rotten slums. Why should the workers continue paying every year to the MONEY-LENDERS, the One Hundred and Ten Million Pounds (£110,000,000.) at least, of INTEREST on THE COLOSSAL BORROWINGS by the TOWN AND COUNTY COUNCILS, making a total debt of at least Fifteen Hundred Million Pounds (£1,500,000,000), or over £300 FOR EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD IN SCOTLAND. Any local council attempting to prevent rent and rates increases, imposed by the policy of the WESTMINSTER DICTATORSHIP, are quickly brought to heel.

DIRECT ACTION ! POSITIVE AND DETERMINED

Recalling the clarion call of the Great Scottish Revolutionary, JOHN MACLEAN, in his demand for a Workers' Socialist Republic of Scotland, is the only policy which Westminster Dictatorship and their Local Council stooges will be ALARMED about. These bureaucrats always welcome, with profuse expressions of goodwill and most 'gentlemanly' demeanour any number of gullable deputations, harmlessly 'letting off steam'. But, if tenants, ratepayers and small business people FORM THEIR OWN DIRECT ACTION COMMITTEES, UNITED AND REFUSING TO PAY THESE EXORBITANT CHARGES, then the bureaucrats WILL BE COMPELLED TO TAKE THE PEOPLE SERIOUSLY,

recognising that NO SO-CALLED "LEGAL" AUTHORITY CAN ATTEMPT TO EVICT WITH IMPUNITY, RESOLUTE AND UNITED MILLIONS.

THE WORKERS' PARTY OF SCOTLAND (MARXIST - LENINIST) is fully aware that the many problems and injustices which the workers and their families suffer under capitalism - exploitation of man by man can be fully and finally solved only under SOCIALISM, and with the co-operation of the workers of ENGLAND, WALES and IRELAND, and ultimately with the destruction of imperialism by the WORKERS UNITED INTERNATIONALLY. Nevertheless, the W.P.S. welcomes and supports all "ACTION COMMITTEES" which tackle with relentless determination their pressing every-day economic and social problems and prepared to cut clean through the frustrating and delaying tactics of the WESTMINSTER DICTATORSHIP and SUBSERVIENT LOCAL TOWN AND COUNTY COUNCILS.

VIETNAM THE FOCAL POINT

BY TOM MURRAY

VIETNAM continues to be the focal point of a mighty struggle between the new creative forces of the world against the degenerate and declining power of imperialism led by the United States reactionaries.

On the eve of the final triumph of the glorious struggle of the Vietnamese and Indo-China peoples the Nixon Government, again plunges into the fray in a frantic and adventurous effort to prevent the complete annihilation of its puppets. Thus is again demonstrated how utterly valueless are any verbal assurances of peaceful intent by imperialist spokesmen.

The Vietnamese have never been deceived by verbal promises from imperialist forces, whether Japanese, French or American, but have by their determined physical confrontation with the enemy, based upon the intense patriotism of a united nation, achieved victory after victory over several long decades of struggle.

British imperialism, represented by successive Governments, has played no small part by its disgraceful rearguard support for U.S. aggression in Vietnam and elsewhere, and we, the people of Scotland, must accept responsibility for failure to take necessary massive action against these Governments, not only to support the just struggle of the far-away Indo-Chinese, but also against the very real danger of another international war which would again engulf us here. During the Spanish War we were assured by so-called "authorities" that "it can't happen here", but it did.

The Heath/Douglas Home Government strengthens its base of operations in its pro-USA policy by its successful attacks on a disunited working-class whose sectional struggles are used to pick off, one-by-one, the various militant trade union actions for economic improvements. Appeals to such a Government to reverse its foreign and home policies are a futile waste of time. Our appeal must therefore be directed to the masses of our people and in particular to the industrial workers whose united power could sweep aside all obstacles to justice at home and the provision of great and most practical support for the Vietnamese and all other oppressed peoples.

Let us take immediate and practical steps with the aim of mobilising the great mass of the workers to destroy the policy of the British Government's support of U.S. imperialist aggression in Vietnam and elsewhere, thereby delivering a mighty blow to prevent a third world war.

LENIN ON TROTSKY

"The old participants in the Marxist movement in Russia know Trotsky very well, and there is no need to discuss him for their benefit. But the younger generation of workers do not know him, and we have to discuss him, for he is typical of all the five groupings abroad, which, in fact, are also vacillating between the Liquidators and the Party.

"In the period of the old *Iskra* (1901-03) these people, who wavered and flitted from the "economists" to the *Iskra*-ists and back again, were dubbed "Tushino turncoats" (the name given in the Turbulent Times in Russia to soldiers who deserted from one camp to another).

"When we discuss liquidationism we have in mind a definite ideological trend which has grown up over a period of years, has been inherently connected with "Menshevism" and "Economism" in the twenty years' history of Marxism, and with the policy and ideology of a definite class, the liberal bourgeoisie.

"The only ground the 'Tushino turncoats' have for claiming that they stand above factions is that they 'borrow' their ideas from one faction one day and from another the next day. Trotsky was an ardent supporter of *Iskra* in 1901-03, and Ryazanov described his role at the 1903 Congress as that of 'Lenin's cudgel'. At the end of 1903, Trotsky was an ardent Menshevik, i.e., he deserted from the *Iskra*-ists to the 'Economists'. He proclaimed that 'there is a gulf between the old and the new *Iskra*'. In 1904-05, he deserted the Mensheviks and began to vacillate, co-operating with Martynov (the 'Economist') at one moment and proclaiming the absurdly left theory of 'permanent revolution' the next. In 1906-07, he drew close to the Bolsheviks, and in the spring of 1907 he declared his solidarity with Rosa Luxemburg.

"In the period of disorganisation, after long 'non-factional' vacillation, he again went to the right, and in August 1912, he formed a bloc with the Liquidators. Now he is deserting them again, although, in substance, he reiterates their paltry ideas.

"Such types are characteristic as the wreckage of past historical formations, of the time when the mass working-class movement in Russia was still dormant, and when every grouping had 'sufficient-room' in which to pose as a trend, group or faction, in short, as a 'power', negotiating amalgamation with others.

"The younger generation of workers must be quite clear whom they are dealing with when people come before them making incredibly pretentious claims, people who absolutely refuse to reckon with either the Party decisions which since 1908 have defined and established our attitude towards Liquidationism, or with the experience of the present-day working-class movement in Russia, which has actually brought about unity among the majority on the basis of full recognition of the decisions mentioned."

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