

INCORPORATING

IRISH
LIBERATION
PRESS



Voice of the People



Vol. 2 No. 4
TWO NINE TIMES A YEAR

The British ruling class will appear strong for as long as we the people stay on our knees
Fight growing fascism now! Organise to win state political power!

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THE
ROYAL



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HARD!



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issue

POLICE TO GET
DUM DUM TERROR
GUN

WORKERS'
NOTEBOOK

BRITISH WORKERS -
THE NEW MIGRANTS

WORLD
STRUGGLES

OPINION

GET OFF THE FENCE!

"WE NEED A REALLY good revolutionary newspaper coming out as often and as regularly as possible"; "What we need most is a genuine working-class revolutionary Party"; "A class analysis must be made so that the facts of the class struggle are known in order to develop socialist fighting programmes which will actually mobilize the people and bring them into action"; "We must become technically independent and have our own printing and setting machinery so that we are self-sufficient"; "What's required is the building of organizations that can strike back instantly and powerfully against picket-busters, brutal police, fascist and racist thugs-organisations that are disciplined, on call all the time, militant and united". Such comments as these are heard almost every day within revolutionary circles.

The question is of course how do such desires become living reality? How can the working class struggle be developed, particularly in a period such as this when the ruling-class is making moves to develop a corporate state, fascist-type system to contain workers' struggles?

These are matters always on the minds of genuine and serious revolutionary communists and other progressives. In supplying answers to the varied problems raised by such questions, one issue that is clear is that many people raising these questions are doing very little to answer them.

How often have you heard these questions being voiced by people, who although quite genuine, do nothing but "wait and see" what others are doing or going to do. These are the people who seem content to do a lot of talking about everything under the sun but little or nothing to actually contribute to the solutions.

PLENTY OF TALK, LITTLE ACTION

In a sense such people, the fence-sitters who pontificate about this and that from their lofty perches, who refuse to mix in and work for solutions, are parasites who feed off the movement, picking its bones without ever dreaming that solutions don't just drop out of the sky but have to be worked hard for.

Such fence-sitters talk about "building a Party" but don't lend a hand. Such people want to see their dream of a fighting paper of the people become a living reality, but consider there is no need for them to lend a hand. They want the working class to become organised, but don't want to do any organising themselves.

What do the fence-sitters really represent?

They are people who think they are going to turn a corner one fine day and bump into a ready-made Party of the working

class. People who think that they should do nothing until "a real" Party comes into existence. People who think that a revolutionary monthly, weekly or daily paper of the people is something that others should struggle for, but not them. Then, on the glorious day when the Party, the Paper, the Class Analysis, the various organisations of the working class all actually exist...well, on that day will the fence-sitters descend from their privileged roost and mix with the rest of us?

DON'T "WAIT AND SEE"

What fools the fence-sitters are not to be already in the thick of the fight for working-class goals, what fools to be waiting for everything to fall into place before their eyes and in the absence of their contribution. There is no Party as yet, the paper has to be built, strengthened, not just dreamt of. All have something to offer in this great and challenging class battle. There is a poverty of revolutionary experience, a poverty of practical and theoretical knowledge, there are so many difficult questions to be answered as quickly as conditions will allow. And who has the working class of our country to rely on in all of this? It has only itself, only those who genuinely desire the overthrow of capitalism and the building of a socialist workers' state and the democratic dictatorship of the working class, to rely on.

Don't "wait and see", don't wait for others to deliver the goods. YOU have something to offer, whoever you are. Get off the fence, join the growing army of socialist fighters for change. Help provide the answers to all these questions and hasten the day when as sure as sure can be, the exploitation of man by man will be ended and in its place will sit the mighty democratic power of the working class. Now is the time to get involved, NOT TOMORROW.

NO COMPROMISE

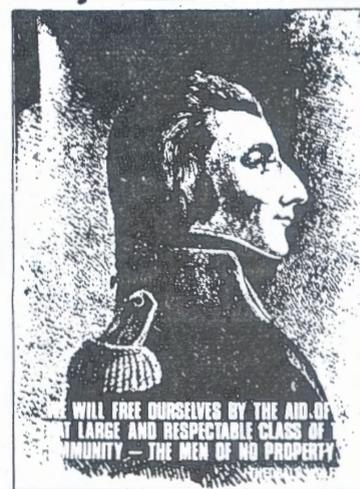
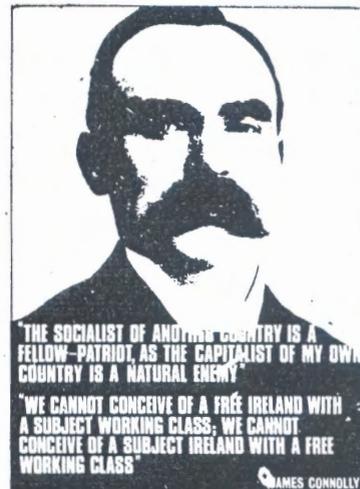
The talks between the Heath regime and the TUC drag nauseatingly on. The phase I and II anti-working class plots are to be followed by a phase III deal which will bring more poverty to the people. Whatever other conclusions may be drawn, one thing sticks out a mile. The working class has nothing to gain from fire-side chats with Heath and the leaders of the class he represents, the capitalists. The fundamentally opposing positions of workers and bosses cannot be resolved in any way other than ultimately through the revolutionary overthrow of the latter by the former.

In this connection Vic Feather and other trade union misleaders must be told bluntly time and time again that the working class will under no circumstances be bound by any agreement reached. Feather and his ilk are doing everything they can to force workers to compromise their class interest. If allowed to get away with it he and the other sell-outs would sell workers down the river all the way into a fascist corporate state. Such has always been the role of social-democracy, particularly when the capitalist class faces a situation of deep crisis.

No, Mr. Feather, the working class has no desire to labour forever under the heel of capitalist exploitation. More and more are coming to demand an end to capitalism and the rise to power of their class, the class of workers, the class that produces everything only to be robbed of the fruits of their labour power right, left and centre. And this grand change will not be brought about through compromise but by workers organising as a class to meet and to overthrow their enemy and any who side with that enemy.

● working-class historical posters

Three beautiful working-class posters, each measuring 24ins. x 18 ins. 15p each or the set of three for 37p. The photographic reproduction of these posters do not do justice to the actual posters themselves. They can be ordered from the editorial address at the foot of the back page. Please add 5p for package and postage and for one poster and 7p for the set.



The third poster in the series is of the IRISH CITIZENS' ARMY

'VOP' NOTICE

AS WAS reported in the last issue of "VOP" so many type-setting companies have refused to set the copy for this publication, either because they are politically opposed to the content of the articles or are afraid of reprisals from the police or the boss-controlled courts, that a different method of setting copy has had to be resorted to. From this issue on, copy will be set on electric typewriters. Although every effort is and will be made to maintain high graphic standards we ask our readers to understand that the end result cannot match completely the standards obtained from copy set on much more expensive composing equipment, which is for the time-being out of our financial reach.

However, we feel sure that while the appearance of the paper is important, it is nevertheless secondary to ensuring that the paper comes out regularly on time, other problems also being solved, and that the publication does not have to depend on institutions that have positively proven that they not only can't be relied upon, but in some cases are definitely against the fight for working-class power. When all is said and done the real importance of this publication is the political messages it delivers to its thousands of readers and not the typo-graphical form in which that message is put across.

COSGRAVE'S TRUE COLOURS



Liam Cosgrave

The true political colours of Mr. Liam Cosgrave were pinned to the mast of 10 Downing Street during his recent visit to London. Lackey Liam and his imperialist master, Heath, are reported to have got on like a house on fire. In his major public speech during his stay in the capital, Cosgrave stressed his firm support for the British troops now committing armed aggression against the people in the occupied north-east of Ireland. In the build-up to the elections in the south earlier this year an Irish worker is reported to have commented, "Whichever party wins the elections, the Irish working class will lose." Liam Cosgrave's treacherous support for the actions of British troops prove that worker to be right.

The Fine-Gael-southern Irish Labour Party coalition is showing itself to be just as anti-people as the Fianna Fail predecessor under

Union-Jack Lynch. While men of the calibre of James Connolly will live on in the minds of the Irish people forever, anti-patriotic lackeys like Cosgrave and Lynch will be remembered for their degenerate subservience to the wishes of the British ruling class which, through its ownership and control of the major sectors of the Irish economy north and south, is continuing to this day its eight century long exploitation and repression of the people of Ireland.

Cosgrave came to London to seek concessions, to plead for a few more crumbs from the blood-stained hands of Heath. This paper, however, wholly subscribes to the old statement relating to such begging: "Damn your concessions, British imperialism, we want our country."

(See the back page for an event Cosgrave chooses to ignore).

...and Connolly's reply

"If you remove the English army tomorrow and hoist the green flag over Dublin Castle, unless you set about the organisation of the Socialist Republic your efforts would be in vain.

England would still rule you. She would rule through her capitalists, through her landlords, through her financiers, through



"WE CANNOT CONCEIVE OF A FREE IRELAND WITH A SUBJECT WORKING CLASS; WE CANNOT CONCEIVE OF A SUBJECT IRELAND WITH A FREE WORKING CLASS"

JAMES CONNOLLY

the whole array of commercial and individualist institutions she has planted in this country and watered with the tears of our mothers and the blood of our martyrs.

England would still rule you to your ruin, even while your lips offered hypocritical homage at the shrine of that Freedom whose cause you betrayed." (These words were written by JAMES CONNOLLY in his work 'Socialism and Nationalism').

How well his comments sum up the sham "freedom" of the twenty-six counties which failed to establish "the organisation of the Socialist Republic"; how well he forecast the "hypocritical homage" and betrayal of the Irish working people's interest by sell-outs and lackeys of British imperialism such as LIAM COSGRAVE.

It is no wonder that the British ruling class murdered JAMES CONNOLLY and on the other hand saved Devalera and made him - and like him Lynch and Cosgrave - their neo-colonial puppet.

Out with the royal parasites!



The privileged brat Princess Anne is to get a rise of 30,000 pounds a year (600 pounds a week). At the same time millions of working-class people are struggling to find money for the bare essentials of food, rent and rates, mortgages, clothing

and footwear. Royalty and the capitalist system of which it is a part are laughing at the people. It is time the people got rid of them both. The following article, reprinted from "Labour Research", gives some basic facts □

The recent wave of press interest in royalty, arising from Princess Anne's forthcoming marriage may have deflected attention away from some other, more distasteful, aspects of the capitalist scene, but it has also provoked interest again on the part of the labour movement in the whole institution of the monarchy, and its cost.

For the most part, the royal family, and their activities, are maintained from public funds. The money comes from several sources. The Civil List Act lays down the basic wages of the Queen and her closest relatives. They last received increases, averaging 104 per cent, on January 1—right in the middle of the pay freeze. The present scale is meant

to last for a number of years, but a review scheme is incorporated so that the wage rates can be raised periodically. Table A shows the current and previous levels of payments to the royal family. In addition a further £60,000 is made available to provide for the expenses of members of the royal family not receiving an annual wage. Thus, for instance, Princess Alexandra and the Duke of Kent have received £10,000 a year each since the Duchess of Kent died in 1969. In total the government is currently paying out £1.27m a year under the Civil List.

The Royal FIS

The family income is supplemented considerably by money accruing, tax-free, from two very large estates. All revenue from the Duchy of Lancaster (£300,000 in 1970) goes direct to the monarch. The estate consists of 52,000 acres in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire and London, including shops and offices in Leeds, Leicester and Crewe, half the River Mersey bed, and all the foreshore of Lancashire. The other estate is the Duchy of Cornwall. This consists of 128,930 acres in Somerset, Devon, Gloucestershire, and elsewhere, including the flower farms of the Scillies and land in London. All revenue from this (£210,000 in 1970) goes to the Duke of Cornwall (Prince Charles), who is not provided for under the civil list. At present the prince hands over half of the revenue to the government; he presumably feels able, as a single man, to get by on £105,000 a year tax free—plus, of course, his £3,785 a year pay as a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, and the investment income from his personal private fortune.

All the Queen's income, both from the Civil List and her private investment income, is completely free of income tax and surtax, and the sovereign's wealth is not liable to death duties either. This is, in fact, the main way in which the Queen's vast private fortune has been built up. The Queen has always refused to disclose the size of her personal fortune, though the 1972 Select Committee said that estimates that it was £150m were 'wildly exaggerated'. Nonetheless it must amount to many millions, as must the value of her private collections of paintings, postage stamps etc. All members of the royal family have large personal fortunes, and all also receive tax relief on all or part of their income. The degree of exemption varies from case to case.

On top of the direct payments, the royal family benefits from a number of other perks. Pensions of the royal household staff—£97,551 in 1971—are paid by the government. And many government departments pay other royal bills. The Queen owns and

maintains only Sandringham and Balmoral; the Department of the Environment pays for the upkeep of the royal palaces—Buckingham Palace, Windsor, St James's, Kensington, Hampton Court and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. This cost the taxpayer £974,000 in 1971/72. The royal yacht (£839,000 to run and maintain in 1971/72, plus a £2m refit in 1972), and the Queen's Flight (£700,000 in 1971/72), are also extras paid for by the navy and the RAF. The royal train is a charge on the public purse. All of the Queen's postal and telephone costs are borne by the Post Office. In total, the annual expenses of the royal family borne by government departments amounted, in 1971/72, to £2.9m.

The Taxpayers Royal Burden

What then, in cash terms, does the monarchy cost? It is difficult to arrive at anything other than a very rough figure because some details are not revealed, while for others it is difficult to get up-to-date figures. But adding up the costs and payments listed in this article gives an annual figure of £4.7m. This, however, does not include the loss to the inland revenue arising from the tax exemptions enjoyed by the royal family, nor the cost of royal visits, borne by local authorities, nor official trips abroad, nor does it include an allowance for occasional charges (such as the royal yacht's £2m refit). And any attempt to compile a figure of royal income would have to include an estimate of the private investment incomes of the various members of the royal family.

Even so, £4.7m is more than the cost of Family Income Supplement in 1971/72 (£4.1m). It is about what it would cost to provide free school milk for junior school children. And it is almost six times more than the government has budgeted for its new occupational health scheme, designed to cover 25 million workers.

Details of all pay in the royal vicinity are difficult to obtain, as the *ITN* discovered when we telephoned Buckingham Palace to ask for details of the wage rates of the Queen's servants. The palace press office reacted very touchily, and refused to give any figures. However the papers, on May 25, reported that some government industrial workers, including Buckingham Palace maintenance workers, had won a pay rise of £2.08 a week. Under the Phase Two limits of £1 and 4 per cent, this would indicate average earnings of around £27 a week. Five days later, on May 30, these Buckingham Palace workers were no doubt overjoyed to read in the same newspapers of Princess Anne's engagement and the fact that she would get on marriage a rise of £20,000 a year £385 a week.

Table Annual Payments to the Royal Family provided under the Civil List Act 1972

	Payments	
	Previous	Present
	£	£
The Queen	475,000	980,000
Duke of Edinburgh	40,000	65,000
Queen's younger sons		
at 18 before marriage	10,000	20,000
after marriage	25,000	50,000
Queen's daughter		
at 18 before marriage	6,000	15,000
after marriage	15,000	35,000
Queen Mother	70,000	95,000
Princess Margaret	15,000	35,000
Duke of Gloucester	10,000	20,000
Widow of Prince Charles	30,000	60,000
Widow of Duke of Gloucester	10,000	20,000
Widow of Queen's younger sons		20,000

European shuttlecock migrants — you next ?

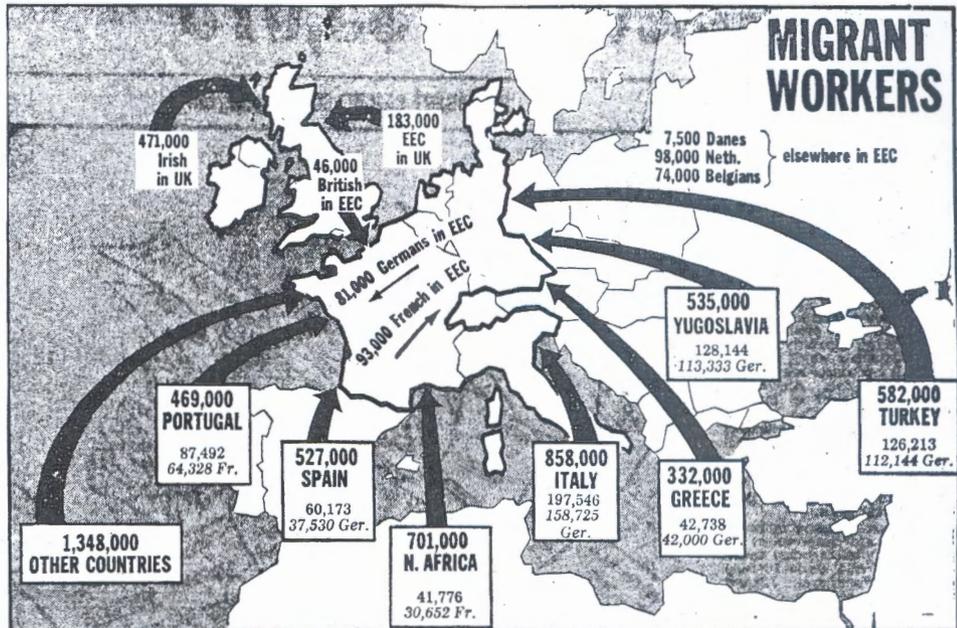
It's common enough — though by no means as widespread as the racists and fascists would like — on the shop floor or in pubs to hear immigrants, especially black ones, being referred to in cynical terms as "them". "Us", or those British workers who have temporarily fallen for the hysteria of the racists, seem to believe that they could never become immigrants themselves, forced to tramp from country to country leaving behind family and friends just to try to get work. But can they be so sure?

At the moment there are over eleven million migrant workers scratching out an existence in the EEC countries. This includes about two million EEC country workers who tramp from one EEC country to another. Most of the eleven million are forced by unemployment to leave their homes in Spain, Portugal, North Africa, Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia and elsewhere. Very few leave because they want to. Almost all make the journey because of unemployment in their own countries, the prospect of somewhat higher wages abroad, because, in a word, they are forced to migrate or starve.

Ask the Irish or West Indians in Britain, or the Algerians in France or the Turkish and Palestinian workers in Germany whether they enjoy being treated like slave labour, being forced to exist in a "company hostel" such as the one operated by Fords at Cologne, being subjected to racist taunts and other bully-boy fascist tactics. Their answer will be short and to the point in most cases: "We are here because we have no other choice", most will retort. But what's all this got to do with workers born and bred in Britain, and with a white skin into the bargain? Quite a lot and probably all the more so in the future. Despite the rantings of the reactionaries about immigrants "flooding us out" and the scare-mongering of the over-population" merchants, the fact remains that more people leave Britain each year than enter. Britain is already a net exporter of labour. To date forty-six thousand British workers have migrated to EEC countries. Most would still be here if there were jobs for them. Many are skilled or semi-skilled. But as the crisis of British capitalism intensifies, and with a major US economic recession on the cards, these trail-blazers will no doubt have in their wake many times their present numbers commanding a much lower level of skill and hence lacking a high-wage potential.

MOBILE LABOUR FORCE

The Runnymede Trust, which is conducting investigations of labour migration, has forecast that the present figure of forty-six thousand British migrant workers will turn into three-quarters of a million in the foreseeable future. As a result of the unplanned anarchic system of capitalist production dominant in all EEC countries, "booms" and "slumps" will stay a feature of life within the Common Market. "Boom" time in Germany will be accompanied by "slump" time in Italy or somewhere else. So it is vital from the capitalists' standpoint to be able to shunt a permanently mobile labour force from one country to another in order to ease



HEAVY TYPE—Numbers of established foreign workers (end Jan 1973) Source: EEC Coordination Office estimate.
LIGHT TYPE—Main migrant flows to EEC 1971 figures (majority destination in italics)

"VOP" note: many of the above figures seem too low. Ireland's migration to Britain, eg.

anti-unemployment class tension in the "slump" country and at the same time supply workers to man factories, transport and other services in the country where it happens to be "boom" (i.e. super-profits) time.

The British worker, so used to seeing immigrant labour filling mainly the lowest-paid, dirtiest and most menial jobs, may not be too far away, according to present studies and the existing upward trend in British labour migration, from the day when he is forced by circumstances into finding out first hand what Irish and black immigrants have been going through for many decades in this country.

How will he or she — possibly you the reader — take being subjected to racist and reactionary nationalist comments, having to do the worst jobs for the lowest wages, being "foreign", being part of a national minority in a land where English is not widely spoken and customs are different? How will workers from this

country take it when some French, German or Italian equivalent of Enoch Powell or the Monday Club or the National Front whips up divide-and-rule hatred against them, tells them to "get back to your own country", blames them for causing slums and unemployment in a foreign land they've been forced to flee to by the anti-social, anti-people policies of their "own" equally reactionary capitalist politicians representing the profit system? The poverty was there before they arrived, but will the expatriate migrant worker from Britain be able to get his message across to the people of his new land?

Will he learn what it is like to be hunted down as an "illegal immigrant" with nowhere to run if other countries adopt policies such as the current Immigration Act here, which has been back-dated to make "criminals" of many who have already been working here and paying their tax and insur-

ance for some years?

Does the British migrant worker have a future of being blackmailed by racists and fascists to look forward to, never being able to settle in a place for too long, fearing that his letters written to the family back in Birmingham may be opened to provide the bosses' state with information as to his precise location?

OVER-CROWDING

And when he and his fellow migrants from Britain start to organise to protect themselves from racialism and exploitation, how will they reply to the charge that they are after "English power"? How will he feel to be the victim of a race riot organised by the fascists in, say, some Italian town that his road has taken him to? Will he just accept being "housed", possibly six to a room as eight-hundred Spanish workers are by Philips at Eindhoven, or in one of Volkswagen's crowded "villages" for migrant workers in Italy?

The threat of deportation or "repatriation" for "trouble-making" hanging over his head; a boss demanding non-union labour, paying subsistence wages, forcibly laying off thousands when the highest point of the "boom" profits' cycle has been past... now the order of the day for eleven million workers of many nationalities who share a common denominator of being the victims of their respective ruling classes in their homelands — is this what the future has in store for the working class in Britain?

This problem exists for working people because they do not control their own social destinies, because they do not have political power in their own lands. They are the ruled, not the ruling class. Unless and until they have power, in Turkey, Spain, Portugal, Yugoslavia (where working-class power has been usurped and stolen by the revisionists of the Tito gang), they together with their British class comrades will not be

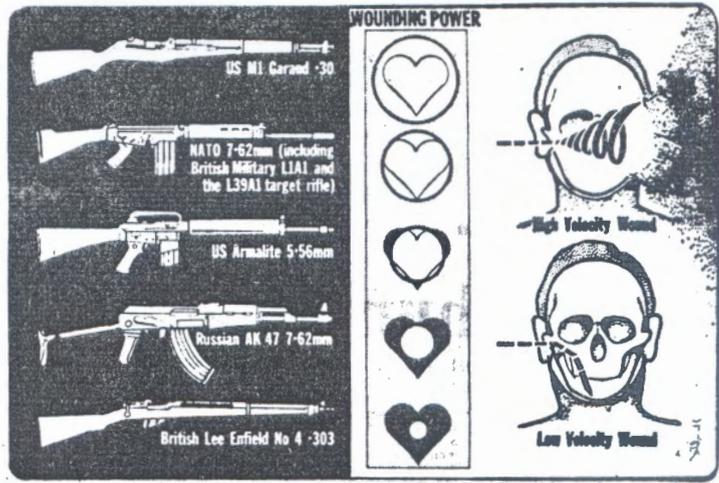
Police to get dum-dum terror gun

THE HOME OFFICE has decided that police in Britain are to be issued with the L39A1 high-velocity rifle which is currently being strongly condemned by the International Red Cross as an inhumane weapon which inflicts "extraordinary" suffering. The Red Cross report to be published later this year also argues that the lethal impact of the L39A1's 7.62mm bullet is akin to that of the internationally banned dum-dum.

The Swedish Defence Department in its report describes the weapon as "grossly inhumane" in nature.

A New York Police small-arms expert, Lieutenant Frank McGee, says the L39A1 is top dangerous to be issued to the NY force. "Its bullet is capable of going through walls. You are quite likely to hit a guy sitting in his apartment two or three away from the one you are aiming at."

A high-speed US film shows that, because the recoil is so fierce, three-quarters of the soldiers firing the L39A1 close their eyes when pulling the trigger. The weapon the British bobby



The stark meaning of "high velocity"—the new British police rifle ranks second

will soon be able to get his hands on does four times the damage on impact of the old .303. The chart illustrates the varying degrees of wounding power ranging from the .303 to the M1.

A POLITICAL DECISION

The decision to re-equip the British civilian police with this brutal weapon at this time is obviously a political one. The nature of the weapon, the massive expense involved - paid for out of workers' taxes- the special training involved, all point to the Home Office's decision, taking into account the probability in the near future of widespread intense

class struggle in Britain.

As terrible as this type of gun is, one thing is absolutely certain - it won't save the ruling capitalist class from being overthrown and the working class making the socialist revolution. They had weapons like the L39A1 in Vietnam, and giant B52 bombers, and hundreds of thousands of aggressor soldiers, the biggest war budget in the history of class struggle, and still the reactionaries lost as they were bound to.

The British ruling class - with or without the L39A1 dum dum rifle - can't prevent history rolling forward.

GURU - ALL-ROUND CON-MAN



YOU MAY HAVE noticed, especially if you live in London, the blue posters plastered in every available spot, adorned with a picture of an over-fed Indian youth called Guru Mohoraj Ji. You may even have been stopped in the street on the odd occasion by one of his followers who will tell you how he has changed their lives and how he has given them true peace, etc.

The guru's followers may genuinely feel he is unique, but really he is not very different from the "gods" and "prophets" of other religions we have seen, e.g. the Maharishi, who was introduced to these shores in the sixties by George Harrison, one of the Beatles, the Jesus Freaks (associated with the Festival of Light and supported by the Dowager Lady Birdwood, a fascist and supporter of the National Front), and the lesser-known Children of God, who managed from somewhere to get money to buy large houses throughout the country from which to spread their gospel.

The guru, supposedly eight years old when his father died in India, pronounced that he was the new "perfect master". (The Indian ruling classes have a long history of promoting mysticism, to divert the poverty-stricken people from their plight). In 1971 at the age of 13 he came to England to open up business here. His latest public-relations exercise was a big gathering at Alexandra Palace, London.

What is the guru offering people? What sort of philosophy is he pushing? Quite simply what he claims to be selling is peace - "Come to me I will relieve you of your suffering. I am a source of peace in the world." It's all wrapped up in a lot of religious mumbo-jumbo, but it boils down to telling his young followers that they can have instant "happiness" or "light" if they "believe." It's basically the same pap that religion has been offering the people for thousands of years. If you are poor, in a dead-end job, or see no future in life, the guru tells you that all your problems are in your head. The problem isn't that you live in a society where you are exploited, but it's your fault. You should open your head to the "light" and every-

thing will be fine.

The reality is quite different - his Divine Light Mission is a successful business. Part of the guru's money empire consists of a £25,000 house in a posh suburb of London, a newly purchased £20,000 Mercedes Benz Pullman 600 with a refrigerated cocktail cabinet, and stereo tape-recorder ("we don't like our guru to ride around in anything tatty"), private planes to fly him to meetings with his followers, a sale of products marketed by Divine Sales International, and contributions from his followers (in some cases all their wages). While the guru sleeps in a luxurious suite his followers sleep on the floor outside. You may also remember last year reading in the newspapers that the guru was stopped entering India as he hadn't declared a suitcase which was stuffed with £27,000 worth of watches, jewellery and cash.

But the guru is not just a con-man in the realm of money, he is a con-man in the realm of ideas. Traditional religion, although it held sway in our country for centuries, is largely rejected by the mass of the people as completely bankrupt. The Guru and all those like him, back to Billy Graham and beyond, are trying to give the kiss of life to the old corpse of mysticism and priestcraft. When people are understanding more clearly that the cause of their problems lies in the real world, in a society dominated by self-seeking millionaires, and are learning that the only solution is to fight to change it, the guru says we can have instant happiness now, without changing a thing. It's no wonder that the rich pour money into his coffers and are grateful to the service he is rendering their cause.

One "guru" will follow another as the class war between workers and exploiters heats up, but none of them will succeed for long in preventing the working class from organising for a socialist revolution, which alone can solve all the problems facing them. Incidentally, did you know that Divine Times, the guru's paper is printed by the Trotskyist IS organisation? ★

'WITHDRAW THE TROOPS NO

"VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" REPRINTS HERE SOME COMMENTS MADE BY A BRITISH TRADE UNIONIST AND SHOP STEWARD, STEVE NORMAN, A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF THE ROLE OF BRITISH TROOPS IN NORTH-EAST IRELAND,

"The simple fact is that they have no real right to be in Ireland. They are conducting aggressive actions in some one else's country. They're not there

to protect the people, whether catholic or protestant. They're there to protect the investments and property of the British ruling class which has used troops against the Irish people for centuries.

"As for the argument that there would be "murder" if they were taken out, well all I can say is that far more people have lost their lives, been tortured, interned and what have you since they were sent in in August 1969 than ever before.

"As a British worker and a revolutionary socialist I also most strongly oppose members of my own class being sent by the bosses to Ireland to give their lives, to fight against their fellow workers, and all for what... all so that British imperialism can hold on to its oldest colony, Ireland.

"The people of Ireland have a right to the self-determination of their own affairs and nobody can take that right away from them. I believe in international working-class solidarity and I support the Irish workers' struggle against unemployment, enforced migration, slums, extremely low wages, and most of all against the root cause of these things, namely the British ruling class that exploits workers here and in Ireland through its ownership of the factories, the banks, most of the land and so on.

AN EYE ON THE RULING CLASS

MOTIVE BEHIND THE RACE RIOT THAT WASN'T

SIXTY working-class children relieved their frustrations by fighting one afternoon in the streets of a south London borough. That evening and the next morning, the children and passers-by who had witnessed the skirmish read accounts of it in the newspapers that wildly contradicted the truth.

The children, from three comprehensives in Brixton, were all black, but could easily have been white, working-class youngsters. The papers were the "popular" Fleet Street dailies, and their motive was to create racial tension.

The "Evening News" ('the greater London paper') was especially imaginative in its reporting. Beside itself with glee, it screamed that "a mob of black youth" had "attacked mainly white pupils" and that "passers-by cowered in shop doorways as the white and black gangs clashed." Believing this was not sensational enough, it went on to say: "One gang of more than 100 coloured teenagers were armed with weapons, including a shotgun, stiletto, iron bar and milk bottles." It quoted Mr Stanley Rees, headmaster of Kingsdale school, as saying "I've never seen anything like it".

All this came as news to Mr Rees, who promptly issued a statement emphasising that no white pupils had been involved and that the quote attributed to him was pure invention.

TRUTH

The truth was there had been no "race war", no punch-ups between black children and white.

What happened was that children from Tulse Hill and Norwood comprehensives had gone to Kingsdale comprehensive, Dulwich, where there had been an argument the previous day involving a girl who claimed that some Tulse Hill pupils had insulted her. In the fighting that followed, no property was damaged and no one reported any injuries to the school or police.

"The day after the "Evening News" came out with its first fistful of lies, the early editions of the same paper came out with some more. It said: "More than 20 windows are smashed (at Kingsdale), locker doors can be seen to have been broken and blinds wrenched off." "Hundreds of parents", it alleged, had decided "not to send their children to Kingsdale school today". However, the paper was printed before school assembly and thus had no way of knowing which kids would show up at school and which would stay away. Refuting the lies about vandalism, headmaster Mr Rees pointed out that there had been no fighting on school premises and that there was "no damage at all" to school property.

LIE

The "Daily Mail" was another newspaper to lie through its teeth. Its headline on the race-war that never was cried out: "THE OUTSIDERS - BUSSED IN TO KEEP RACIAL BALANCE" (note the emotive phrase "bussed in"). But the paper's statement about "The Outsiders" (another emotive phrase) crumbled in face of the truth which, according to Tulse Hill's headmaster, is that no children are "bussed in" to Brixton at all. Only thirty per cent of Tulse Hill's pupils are coloured. At Kingsdale fourteen per cent are West Indian and five per cent Asian.

Once again facts shoot down the fairy tales of the Fleet Street lie merchants. The next time these parrots screech "race war", "race war", remember the Brixton incident and remember, also, that the ruling class has a vested (and invested) interest in turning workers of different nationalities against one another so that they make each other "the enemy" instead of the real enemy, the capitalists.



British troops evicting poor farm labourers during 1848

* BECOME PART OF THE ORGANISED FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM. GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ADDRESS AT THE FOOT OF THE BACK PAGE. THERE'S PLENTY YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE? If so you could be a great help to us as well as yourself by selling a few copies. Teams of workers sell every weekend. Workers like the paper so there's nearly always a good reception. Perhaps you'd like to go with them one evening just to try it out. Maybe you could take half-a-dozen to sell at work or in your neighbourhood. Possibly there are one or two people in different parts who can't get hold of the paper regularly who you could send a copy to. What really helps us is an annual subscription. That way you get the paper posted to you as soon as it comes out. What about trying to get it sold in your newsagents? Ask him to get in touch with us for rates. Maybe you've got some ideas you'd like to put forward. Why not send them in?



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★WRITE. This paper is made by socialist workers for working class people. It's a safe bet that you've got something to write about.

★CRITICISE the Voice of the People. If there's something wrong in the paper, or you feel there are things being left out, or if things could be done better, send in your criticisms and help us to help the working class.

Quiz corner

1. Which scab trade-union mis-leader bans communists from posts in his union and runs it like a little Hitler?
2. What is the name of the revolutionary socialist doctor who left his Canadian homeland to apply his medical knowledge for the good of the Chinese people?
3. Which racist and fascist British politician said "Whenever I see a rich man I thank God for capitalism"?
4. Which great revolutionary described Trotsky as "Judas"?

ANSWER: 1. Frank Chapple of the EPTU. 2. Doctor Norman Bethune. 3. Enoch Powell. 4. Lenin (see last issue of "VOP").

'W!' says a British worker

"What James Connolly said will do for me: The socialist of another country is a fellow patriot, as the capitalist of my own country is a natural enemy."

"IN THE REAL INTEREST OF BOTH THE IRISH AND BRITISH WORKING CLASSES THE TROOPS SHOULD BE PULLED OUT STRAIGHT AWAY" □

PLEASE NOTE THAT ACTIVE TRADE UNIONISTS WILL BE WRITING REGULARLY IN FUTURE ISSUES OF THIS PAPER, IF YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE AN ARTICLE ON THE CLASS STRUGGLE THEN PLEASE SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE FOOT OF THE BACK PAGE, REMEMBER THIS IS YOUR FIGHTING PAPER FOR SOCIALISM.



British troops being used to conduct aggression against the people of north-east occupied Ireland in 1973

Your questions answered

Why are British and Irish workers class brothers?

IRISH AND BRITISH WORKERS HAVE SAME ENEMY

Growing fascism in Britain is accompanied by fascist aggression abroad. In Britain's oldest colony, Ireland, the British ruling class has instituted a reign of police-state terror, through its direct control of the northeast and its neo-colonial regime in Dublin. The struggle of the British working class is closely linked to the struggle of the Irish people against British imperialism. The British and Irish working people have the same main enemy, the British ruling class, which is employing murder, CS gas, looting, internment without trial, military courts, water-cannon, rubber bullets, truncheons, tanks, curfews, many forms of brutality—including torture—the courts and prisons, the fascist Special Powers Act in the north and the Amendment of the Offences Against the State Act in the south, together with massive unemployment, slums, poverty, and so on, to deny the people of all Ireland, of all religions and none, their right to the national liberation, self-determination, reunification, national sovereignty and integrity of their motherland, as the first step to the building of a socialist people's republic of Ireland. As racialism is used to divide and rule the working class here in Britain, religious bigotry is employed for the same end in north-east occupied Ireland.

The British bosses' class is not only the main exploiter of the people of Ireland and the root cause of growing fascism, north and south; it is also the very same class that exploits for profit every worker in this country. Today it uses its aggressor troops and its terror machine to brutally suppress Irish workers; tomorrow it will have no qualms when it hurls them against the British working class. Hence it is common class sense for workers in this country to give maximum solidarity to their Irish comrades, for the destruction of British imperialist rule in Ireland would fundamentally cripple the bosses' class here. Thus it is directly in the interest of every worker in Britain to wholeheartedly support the Irish workers' fight against fascism and for national liberation and socialism. The bosses' state is desperately trying to take the heat off itself by seeking to whip up hatred against the struggling Irish people.

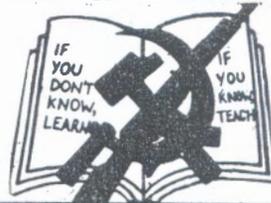
The ruling class in its war of aggression in Ireland is also committing a criminal act against British workers who it has sent in its army to Ireland to protect its colonial investments. Many of these soldiers, particularly those in the lower ranks, joined up because of unemployment here in this country and find themselves fighting against Irish workers who are protesting, among other things, against unemployment in theirs. Worker fights worker and the profiteers laugh all the way to the bank.

Education classes

The classes, organised by the Communist Workers League of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) study a number of important questions and are currently studying the main short-term threat to the British working class—growing fascism. These classes are open to all serious people and impose no obligation on anybody attending.

Come along and join in. Meet other workers who want to end capitalism and build a socialist Britain. As Lenin said "WITHOUT A REVOLUTIONARY THEORY THERE CAN BE NO REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT".

Fortnightly classes from Wed. 22nd August. The Laurel Tree Pub, 8pm, Bayham St., 1 minute from Camden tube station.



"WORKERS' AID"

"WORKERS' AID" is a periodic feature in this paper aimed at giving concrete advice on a whole range of matters important to workers. Here "VOP" deals with your rights in court.

DEFEND YOURSELF!

If you are appearing in court, you can claim the right to have a friend to help you, to take notes, give moral support and advise you in presenting your own case.

To do this, as soon as possible after the beginning of the case (probably just after you have been asked to plead guilty or not guilty), you should make a request something like this: 'I'd like to request to have a friend sitting beside me to assist me in representing myself. I make this application under the Court of Appeal ruling in McKenzie against McKenzie.'

If the magistrates object or hesitate, you should carry on making a formal application, referring in detail to the recent Court of Appeal decision (McKenzie v. McKenzie, 1970 Volume 3 Weekly Law Reports, page 472).

At the hearing of a defended divorce suit involving difficult and complex questions of fact necessitating a lengthy trial, the husband, a Jamaican, appeared with a young Australian barrister sent by the husband's former solicitors. The judge told

the lawyer that as solicitors were no longer on the record he could not assist (which the lawyer took to mean he couldn't prompt) and the lawyer then left the court.

McKenzie appealed against the decision dismissing his petition. The Court of Appeal held unanimously:

- (1) that EVERY party has the right to have a friend present in court beside him to assist by prompting, taking notes and quietly giving advice, and
- (2) that by reason of the judge's intervention the husband had been deprived of that right. Where such an irregularity of procedure occurred a presumption arises that the person deprived of the right has been prejudiced. In this case this presumption was not rebutted, so a new trial would need to take place.

(This advice was prepared from a leaflet printed and published at Rank & File Workshop, Coventry, by the University of Warwick Neighbourhood Law Centre.)

'VOP' notices

SALES OF the last issue of "Voice of the People" went faster than anticipated, the copies being sold one week ahead of the schedule. This is a great encouragement to the workers and other progressively-minded people who write, part-produce and sell the paper. Let's all go flat out to get more copies into more workers' hands in more parts of the country. What about forming a "VOP" group in your area?

THE WORKING people who produce "VOP" are pleased to announce that from now on the paper will come out more frequently. Up to now it has been produced about once every two months, or about six times a year. Now it will be brought out every six weeks, or about nine times a year. Plans are being made for "VOP" to become monthly as soon as possible. If you would like to help just get in touch with the address printed in this issue.

"VOP" WILL implement the following policy in the future as far as re-printing articles from other publications is concerned: any articles, drawings etc. appearing in other publications which do not reach the thousands of workers who regularly buy "VOP" and which are considered relevant to the fight for socialist revolution will, space allowing, be reprinted with acknowledgement to the original source.

IN THE NEXT issue of this paper there will appear an important analysis of the INDUSTRIAL and ECONOMIC PROGRAMMES of the Labour Party, Conservatives, Liberals and the TUC. Much is being talked about "workers' participation", "workers on the board of directors" and so on. The analysis leads to some interesting conclusions as to the motives behind all this talk of "co-ownership" and Britain being "One Nation". Make sure you get your copy of the next issue of "Voice of the People".

Fascist war criminals get their medicine



Working-class history

Man who shot ex-Duce tells story of the final scenes

MILAN, Monday. In a last melodramatic gesture before he died Mussolini offered to buy his life with "an empire," according to a Milan Communist newspaper in an interview with Mussolini's executioner, a member of the Communist Garibaldi.

Claretta Petacci, Mussolini's mistress, threw her arms round the ex-Duce's neck at the last moment and screamed "He must not die."

This was the account given in the newspaper "l'Unita":

"The command of the 32nd brigade, aware of the importance of the captured prisoners, divided them into three groups. Mussolini was taken with Petacci to Giulino di Mezzegra, in Como Province, and placed in a small windowless room in a peasant's cottage, guarded by two partisans.

His lost look

"I entered" (the executioner wrote) "with my sub-machine gun at the ready. Mussolini was standing near the bed. He was wearing a brown overcoat and the cap of the Republican National Guard without insignia. His boots were down at heel.

"He had a lost look in his eyes, which were protruding, and his lower lip was trembling—he was a terrified man.

"His first words were 'What's the matter?'

"I had planned to carry out the execution not far from the house. To get him there I had to resort to a stratagem. I said, 'I have come to liberate you. Hurry, we have little time to lose.'

Mussolini pointed to Claretta Petacci. "She must go first," he said. She seemed unable to understand what was going on, and rushed about gathering up her personal belongings. Mussolini kept urging her to hurry.

Thought he was free

"Losing patience, he eventually left the hut before her.

"Once in the open Mussolini turned towards me and said: 'I offer you an empire.' Instead of answering I told Petacci to come on. She drew level with Mussolini and, followed by me, they walked down a mule track towards the road where a car was parked.

"When we reached it Mussolini seemed convinced that he was a free man. He motioned to Petacci to precede him, but I told him: 'You go first. You are better concealed. But with that Fascist cap it is a little risky.'

A voice in the wilderness

The Portuguese news-paper, "Voz," comments on the shooting of Mussolini: "We bow with respect before his memory. They have killed a great European and a great Latin."

"He took it off, and patting his bald head, said: 'And this?'

"I told him, 'Pull the peak low over your eyes.'

"Then we set off for the place I had chosen—a sort of small square formed by fences on both sides of the road.

"I stopped the car, motioning to Mussolini not to talk. In a low voice I told him, 'I heard a noise. I am going to investigate.'

"I jumped off the running board and walked to the end of the stone wall. Get over in that corner, I said.

"Even though Mussolini obeyed promptly he no longer appeared to be convinced, but obediently stood with his back to the wall at the place I indicated. Petacci was on his right. There was silence.

"Suddenly I pronounced sentence against the war criminal. By order of the general command of the Liberty Volunteer Corps I am entrusted with the task of rendering justice for the Italian people.

Terror-stricken

"Mussolini was terror-stricken. Claretta Petacci threw her arms round his shoulders and screamed: 'He must not die.'

"I said: 'Get back in your place if you don't want to die too.'

"The woman jumped back. From a distance of three paces I shot five bursts into Mussolini, who slumped to his knees.

"Then it was Petacci's turn. 'Justice had been done.'—A.P.

In three days from Saturday April 29 to May 1 1945 the two arch-fascist enemies of the whole of working mankind, Mussolini and Hitler, lost their lives. Mussolini, as the news cuttings taken from the May Day issue of the old "News Chronicle", explain, was executed by an Italian people's anti-fascist liberation unit. Hitler is reported to have beaten the firing squad by committing suicide. The whores of both of these animals who caused the death of millions of people - Claretta Petacci and Eva Braun - died in harness with their fascist lords.

In the face of the organised international anti-fascist united front these fascists and racist war criminals were isolated, exposed and politically and militarily smashed. Despite backing of the German and Italian capitalist classes, despite their demagogic, racial diversions and anti-working class hysteria, in the end they were reduced to reality as cowardly and defeated paper tigers.

HISTORICAL LESSON

There is a real lesson in this piece of history for workers struggling now in 1973. It is surely that fascism can only be smashed by an organised, militant revolt-



MAY DAY, 1945

utionary-led working class supported by other anti-racist and anti-fascist sections of Society. As with Mussolini and Hitler so it will be with the Powells and the Heaths, the racists in the hierarchy of the capitalist Labour Party, the thugs of the "National Front" and the "gentlemen" of the "Monday Club", for if they are allowed to have their way they will surely follow the path of their in-glorious predecessors and will equally surely meet a similar end at the hands of the British people.

Note: The drawing and the reports on the capture of the Reichstag and on Joseph Stalin's May Day victory speech are also taken from copies of the old "News Chronicle" of May 1 and 2, 1945.

Red flag on Reichstag

THE Reichstag in the centre of Berlin was captured by the Red Army yesterday and the Soviet flag now flies over it. Moscow announced that in its night communique. Other gains were the Central Post Office, Ministry of the Interior and 800 other blocks. Over 9,000 more prisoners were taken.

Nazis still trying to sow discord

—Stalin
MARSHAL STALIN, as Supreme Commander of the Soviet Armies, last night issued an Order of the Day on the occasion of May Day.

Addressed to Red Army men, sailors and all workers of the Soviet Union, it said: "Today our international holiday of the workers."

"This year the peoples of our country are celebrating it in an atmosphere of the victorious conclusion of the great patriotic war.

"By simultaneous blows from East and West the Allies and the German forces were able to cut the parts and to effect junction of united front."

Days numbered

"There can be no doubt that this circumstance means the end of Hitlerite Germany. Its days are numbered.

"Seeking a way out of their hopeless plight the Hitlerite adventurers resort to all kinds of tricks, down to firing with the Allies in an effort to cause dissension in the Allied camp.

"These fresh tricks are doomed to utter failure. They can only accelerate the disintegration of the German Army.

"Mendacious Fascist propaganda intimidates the German population by absurd tales alleging that the armies of the United Nations wish to exterminate the German people.

"The United Nations do not set themselves the task of destroying the German people. The United Nations will destroy Fascism and punish war criminals and will compel the Germans to compensate for the damage they caused to other countries.

"But the United Nations do not molest and will not molest Germany's peaceful population if it honestly fulfils the demands of the Allied military authorities."

On the picket lines, in the universities — Hit the fascists hard!

TWO important developments - Chrysler's hire of right-wing thugs to smash through picket lines and a fascist front organisation's threat to organise a private army to protect reactionary speakers in Universities - indicate the direction in which the ruling class and its lackeys are moving in conditions of heightened class struggle.

On the one hand the bosses' class wish to stifle opposition to its repressive industrial policies, and on the other to prevent progressive pro-working class students from silencing fascists such as the racist Professor Eysenck when they try to spread racist divide-and-rule propaganda in the universities.

Encouraged by the fascist Industrial Relations Act and its get-tough policy towards militant workers, Chrysler bosses this

June hired the services of a gang of thugs to try to break a strike at one of their Coventry plants. These hoodlums, employed by an ex-paratroop fascist mercenary named Tony Bilton who runs a self-styled SAS (Special Aid Services), drove at pickets at high speed, attacked them with iron bars and threw missiles at them. One worker at the Stoke Plant in Coventry was badly knocked about.

POLICE PROTECT BOSSES

The police, who are in possession of information and witnesses' statement, have to date refused to take serious action against these strike-breaking scabs. Why? The answer is - as more and more people are coming to see - that the police as part of the state machinery of the ruling class are not a neutral body in the class struggle. They,

like the gang of heavies Chrysler hired, are there to protect the bosses' interest and property.

Those who participated in the futile strike-breaking attempt, though they may have working-class backgrounds have nothing else in common with the working people of Britain and their fight for decent wages and conditions and social change. The only loyalty the Biltons of this world understand is loyalty to their own selfish little interest.

They have shown that for their ill-gotten thirty pieces of silver from the Chrysler bosses they are prepared to use physical violence against workers struggling for just demands.

In the universities Bilton's gang has found an accomplice in the shape of a plot by
Continued on page 11

A Worker's Notebook

'them and us'

THE MEN who decide when your bosses should give you a pay rise and how much are bosses themselves. Below is a list of the "respected public figures" who decide how high a pay rise you deserve or even whether you deserve one at all.

The Pay and Price boards are part of the ruling class's move towards a corporate state. Under such a system the economic position of all classes is supposed to be regulated in the interests of everyone. But really it is a capitalist device to protect the bosses' profits and prevent, by law, the working class from significantly improving its position.

The Pay Board was formally established on March 30 and the Price Commission on April 2. Needless to say industry and finance are well represented on both. A clear majority of Pay Board members are company executives, including the personnel bosses of both ICI and OEC; Unilever is represented on the Price Commission.

The members of the Pay Board are as follows:

- Sir Frank Figgures, chairman. Former Secretary General of the European Free Trade Area Association (EFTA) and Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury. Appointed Director General of the National Economic Development Office in 1971.
- Ken Johnson, deputy chairman. Former colonial servant. Joined the cat's Economic Department in 1961 and became its Director of Industrial Relations in 1967. Now a senior executive with Courtaulds.
- Derek Robinson, deputy chairman. Senior research officer at the Oxford University Institute of Economics and Statistics since 1961. Economic adviser at the Prices and Incomes Board from 1965 to 1967 and from 1968 to 1970 senior economic adviser in the Research and Planning Division of the Department of Employment.
- Geoffrey Gilbertson, Executive with ICI for many years. Appointed General Manager (Personnel) in 1972.
- Michael Bett, Personnel Director of OEC since 1972. Director (Industrial Relations) of the Engineering Employers' Federation from 1970 to 1972.
- James Blair-Cunynghame, Former member of the National Coal Board. Chairman of the National and Commercial Banking Group since 1968 and of the Royal Bank of Scotland since 1971.

The following are the members of the Price Commission:

- Sir Arthur Cockfield, chairman. Former Director of Statistics and Intelligence to the Inland Revenue. Left the Civil Service and joined Boots in 1953. Chairman and managing director of the company's executive management committee from 1961 to 1967. Became unofficial taxation adviser to the Tory Party Central Office (Times 2.3.73) and since 1970 adviser to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.
- Kenneth Noble, deputy chairman. Vice-chairman of the Cooperative Wholesale Society since 1966. Member of the Monopolies Commission and the Retail Consortium.
- Frederick Kitchen, Chairman of the Unilever margarine associate, Van den Berghs and Jurgens. Member of the Potato Marketing Board and on the executive of the Advertising Association.
- Douglas Hague, Professor of Managerial Economics at the Manchester Business School. Former consultant to the National Economic Development Council and member of the North Western Gas Board.
- Sheila Black, Former Women's Editor of the Financial Times.
- Mildred Head, Chairman of the board of management of the National Chamber of Trade and member of the Retail Consortium.
- Anthony Howitt, Senior executive partner of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co, and president of the Institute of Cost and Management Consultants. Member of the inquiry into industrial representation sponsored by the CBI.

The two chairmen will be paid a salary of £16,000 each. This means a pay rise of £5,500 a year for Sir Arthur Cockfield and £250 for Sir Frank Figgures.

GEORGE WIMPEY & CO.

Year to and December	1970	1971	1972
	£m	£m	£m
Sales	228.0	250.0	242.0
Trading profit	11.8	12.6	17.4
*Dividend	1.44	1.8	1.17

* Because of tax changes the dividends shown are not comparable. Comparable dividends are 9 per cent in 1970, 10 per cent in 1971 and 10 1/2 per cent in 1972.

Wimpey are pleased to report "another year of solid achievement" says its chairman, Sir Godfrey Mitchell, despite being badly affected by the builder's strike last year. Although sales were down slightly, profits still went up, as did dividends. Apart from this the company put £24m into its reserves from selling off its holding in The Oldham Estate Company, the company perhaps best known for its empty Centre Point office block in central London. How much the 25,000 employees were able to put away out of average wages of £36 per week is questionable—certainly very few would be able to afford one of the 21,000 nice new Wimpey homes they built last year for the firm.

HAROLD WILSON's opposition to murderer Caetano's visit to Britain was as phoney as Wilson is himself. Britain remained Portugal's "oldest ally" all through Wilson's last Labour government and Wilson did nothing to stop the sale of NATO arms to Portugal. Most workers - especially Irish ones - will not forget in a hurry that Wilson was the man who sent the troops in large numbers to northern Ireland in '69, to bully and kill to keep the six counties a colony. What, I wonder, will be the next example of Wilson's hypocrisy?



SO THE LIBERALS have won the two recent by-elections. The "Evening Standard" called it the "Liberals' Amazing Double Victory"; other papers sang the same tune. The Liberals' gains show that the people are looking for a way to register their opposition. This is healthy as far as it goes, but workers and all progressive people must realise that the capitalist Tory, Labour and Liberal parties can never lead them to a better life. Only a socialist revolution can do that.

A STOCK-EXCHANGE tycoon who grabbed £5-million in profits from a shady deal has been forced to hand back the loot. Sir Denys Lawson acquired a controlling interest in the National unit-trust company last year when the shares were valued at 62-63p each. He sold them to Triumph Investment Trust in January at £8.67 a share - making a thumping great profit of £5 million without lifting a finger. Department of Trade and Industry have been forced to mount an official investigation. But Sir Denys has no need to worry over being forced to hand the £5 million back. His other financial interests take in 50 companies worth over £135 million.



Martin Webster - a fascist thug.

NATIONAL FRONT fascists may be deprived of a special treat many had been looking forward to for months. A planned trip to the Munich beer festival, designed as a cover for meetings with German neo-nazis, is being reconsidered following a scandal involving the attendance of Activities Director Martin Webster and other NF bigshots at a Hitler birthday celebration on April 20. It seems that certain people in the Front feel that Webster and his cronies are too open about their Nazi sympathies and should be expelled so that other, more subtle, leaders can take their place.

On Derby Day the Owners' and Trainers' bar at Epsom did a roaring trade in smoked salmon sandwiches at 50p a round and Krug champagne at £7.90 a bottle (Daily Mail 7.6.73).

Ray Turner, chairman of the Ray Turner Group has had his life insured for £24m by his company (Financial Times 13.12.72).

The Central Electricity Board was fined a total of £900 for safety offences which caused the death of four workers at the Thorpe Marsh power station (Daily Mail 31.3.73).

David Wickens, 34-year-old bachelor and retired millionaire has withdrawn from the world to live alone in his £3m, 300-room Gloucestershire mansion. The estate is protected by 8-foot-high fences and roaming guard dogs. Each evening Wickens dresses for dinner and dines alone at a table large enough to seat 40. He says that he has chosen to live "in the style and grandeur of the 18th century" (Daily Express 2.5.73).

Lily Turner, a 54-year-old widow took in lodgers to supplement her £6.75 a week widows pension. After a visit by an inspector who found men's clothing in her bedroom, she was sent a bill for £277 by the DHSS because, it was claimed, she was co-habiting with the lodger. Mrs Turner vehemently denied the allegation, and said that the clothes were her son-in-law's. She now lives alone, having been forced to ask the lodger to leave when her pension book was taken from her by the DHSS (Daily Mail 4.6.73).

Please forward payment to the above immediately, using the addressed envelope (encl.), and thus avoid unpleasantness.

Therefore TAKE NOTICE that failure by you to make a payment direct to FAULTER both locally and nationally. This registration will stop you obtaining credit in future.

As you have failed to pay the above sum, the CREDIT has no alternative but to take LEGAL PROCEEDING against you for recovery of same.

2

3

ARE YOU or your family, having the above type of threat sent to you from a debt-collecting agency? If so you should know that these have no weight in law and are a bluff combination of the stick and carrot policy to try to intimidate you into coughing up cash. As Mr. Stephen Durrant of Professional Trading Services Ltd. (a smart way of saying debt-collecting agency) put it: "Debt recovery is pure psychology. People get scared at the intervention of a third party and some of our letters have a terrible ring about them. Invariably going to the courts achieves nothing so we rely on cajoling and psychological pressures..."

More and more workers are forced to borrow money or get into debt in some way or another as the exploitation of the British people is intensified through rising rents, rates and mortgages, food prices and so on. Many families just don't receive enough income to get by on and this is no fault of their own. With everything going up and wages frozen, what chance does the working man stand under the capitalist system? A growing number will tell you no chance at all.

This paper says to hell with the threats of the debt agencies! If you or your family or friends are being threatened, particularly if these agencies are sending their stooges round to your home, then get in touch with "Voice of the People" and we will, with your permission, take the necessary steps to expose those concerned.

More Special Branch dirty work?



WAS government minister Geoffrey Johnson Smith the "Mr. Big" behind a 67,000 pound bank robbery in Dublin? Evidence heard in a Dublin court recently suggests he was.

Two British brothers, Kenneth and Keith Littlejohn, were appearing before the court accused of the robbery. They claimed they were agents of British intelligence and that the raid had been organised to discredit the IRA, whom London and Dublin blamed for the crime.

Kenneth Littlejohn told the court he had met Johnson Smith, then parliamentary under-secretary, Ministry of Defence, in spring 1971, and says he offered his services for reasons of patriotism. The meeting, he added, was arranged by Lady Onslow, a prison visitor who had seen his brother Keith in jail.

Defence Minister Lord Carrington, Johnson Smith's superior, sat on the executive of the Onslow Family Trust at the time.

INFORMATION PASSED ON

The Littlejohns apparently wormed their way into the confidence of men of the County Down and Armagh battalions of the Official IRA. Information from these contacts and from conversations overheard in pubs and other places in areas where the IRA operated was passed to London.

The Littlejohns said they had been given the names of IRA men to be assassinated. They had also helped to locate arms dumps in the south. This information was passed to Lynch's government with the result that several suspected patriots were arrested and imprisoned.

Asked to comment, the British Defence Ministry stated: "We are not answering any questions about this whatever." Geoffrey Johnson Smith, when he was approached, said: "They are very unusual allegations, but once one begins to comment on allegations of this kind one can get into all kinds of legal positions. They do make a number of allegations that concern me as a minister and I really don't want to say anything. I am afraid that must be the case".

continued from page four

able to solve the problem of being part of a mass of floating, oppressed labour with no roots, no security and no future other than the grave to rely on.

The struggle against all forms of racialism and reactionary nationalism is a vitally necessary part of the battle for working-class political power. Those workers who now in this country practise racism and contempt for immigrants forced to come here are directly playing into the hands of the British ruling class that exploits all workers of all colours and nationalities. Such workers have been duped by the bosses and have sucked in their divide-and-rule racist slanders. An attack against an immigrant worker is an attack against the whole British working class, for divided that class - our class - will never have the power to smash the domination of the ruling bosses' dic-

S.L.L.'s Torture casebook

PHONEY SOLUTION FOR IRELAND

THE POLITICAL gymnastics of the phoney socialism of the "Socialist Labour League" have surely reached another peak in the SLL document "Torture casebook- the Ulster dossier". After twenty-three pages devoted to exposing the torture policy of the British ruling class and its forces in occupied north-east Ireland, the SLL frauds make a grand call for "The removal of the Tory Government..." and "Its replacement by a Labour Government pledged to socialist policies".

Just who do the misleaders of this phoney organisation think they are kidding with their diversionary nonsense! The Labour government the SLL wants back in power is the one that sent the troops to Ireland in August 1969, that has supported internment and every other reactionary policy pursued by the British ruling class in Ireland,

north and south. It is the Party that has never condemned the torture of Irish working-class patriots that the SLL clique want workers to put back in office at the next general election. This is the counter-revolutionary essence of this organisation that waves the red flag to oppose the red flag.

REVOLUTION- NOT A NEW SET OF FACES
What the working class here and in Ireland needs is not merely a new set of Labour faces to represent British capitalism and imperialism, but their overthrow. The SLL is aiding the ruling class by coming to the aid of social-democracy in its hour of crisis, as more and more workers grasp that socialist revolution alone- not voting once every few years for the Labour party Tweedledum as opposed to the Tory party Tweedledee- can free them from exploitation. As the class struggle intensifies, the workers of Britain and Ireland will not forget that the SLL has done everything in its power to divert them from kicking their class enemy into the bin of history.

BALLAD OF HO CHI MINH

Words and music by Ewan MacColl

break

Far away, across the ocean, Far beyond the sea's eastern

rim, Lives the man who is father of the Indo-Chinese people and his name it is Ho Chi Minh. Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh.

From Viet Bac to the Saigon Delta,
From pathless mountains and the plains below,
Young and old, workers, peasants and the toiling tenant farmers
Fight for freedom with Uncle Ho.
Ho Chi Minh was a deep sea sailor,
Served his time out on the seven seas;
Work and hardship were part of his early education,
Exploitation, his A. B. C.
Ho Chi Minh came home from sailing,
And he looked on his native land,
Saw the want and the hunger of the Indo-Chinese people,
Foreign soldiers on every hand.
Ho Chi Minh went to the mountains,
And he trained a determined band -
Heroes, all sworn to liberate the Indo-Chinese people
Drive invaders from the land.
Forty men became a hundred;
A hundred-thousand and Ho Chi Minh -
Forged and tempered the army of the Indo-Chinese people,
Freedom's army of Viet Minh.
Every soldier is a farmer;
Comes the evening and he grabs his hoe,
Comes the morning, he slings his rifle on his shoulder,
This is the army of Uncle Ho.
From Viet Bac to the Saigon Delta,
March the armies of Viet Minh;
And the wind stirs the banners of the Indo-Chinese people
Peace and Freedom and Ho Chi Minh!

First published in SING, September 1954

A SONG OF STRUGGLE



tatorship.

RACISM IS A BOSSES' TRICK

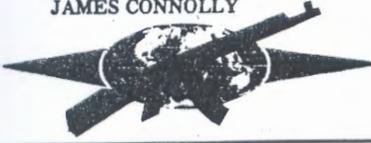
Workers throughout the EEC countries are mounting campaigns to expose racism for what it is, namely a trick used by the rich to split and keep in check working people. There can be no ending of capitalist exploitation here in Britain or anywhere else unless the whole working class gets it firmly into their heads that racism is completely against their class interest. If British bosses, together with their EEC counterparts, can continue to spread unopposed their divide-and-rule message then the day of the victory of socialist revolution here and elsewhere will be pushed farther down history's calendar, and the time when close on a million British labour-seekers are tramping the roads of Europe trying to catch work will advance that much more ra-

pidly. It can be avoided if the working class organises now for political power.

- **REMEMBER:** Oppose and explain the class nature of racism wherever you come across it;
- A racist attack on an immigrant worker is an attack on the whole working class;
- Demand the abolition of the racist and anti-working class Immigration Act and all other racist acts and policies;
- Become an active fighter NOW for the revolutionary unity of the British working class;
- Carry out in practice the fundamental working-class slogan of
- **WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF ALL COUNTRIES, UNITE!**

World Struggles

"The socialist of another country is a fellow-patriot, as the capitalist of my own country is a natural enemy."
JAMES CONNOLLY



NIXON— WAR CRIMINAL



Mad dog Nixon - war criminal

AT THE TIME of writing President Nixon has been issued with a subpoena to produce tape recordings of conversations relating to the Watergate break-in.

People in the US and throughout the world are convinced that Nixon was in on the Watergate thing from the word go and in this sense the various committees set up to investigate the issue are irrelevant. One thing for sure is that the Watergate affair has opened the eyes of many people as to the arrogant disregard that gangsters like Nixon really have even for capitalist law.

GENOCIDE

After all is said and done, however, the fact remains that whatever his involvement in the Watergate has been, the technical illegality pails into virtual insignificance compared with the massive war-crimes Nixon, Johnson, Kennedy and others have committed against peoples struggling for national liberation across the globe. Especially does Nixon stand guilty in the eyes of progressive people everywhere for his heinous atrocities against the courageous people of Vietnam. Contrasted to his genocidal policies of aggression in Vietnam the Watergate break-in falls back a thousand places. Indeed it is a measure of the hypocrisy of those who now talk of justice in connection with the burglary that their tongues remained silent on the Vietnam issue.

What America surely needs is not simply the prosecution or impeachment of war-criminal Nixon, or a switch from the Republican managers of US imperialism to a bunch of Democratic caretakers of the same interest, but a fully-fledged socialist revolution to sweep away completely the stench and political power of the whole US ruling bosses' class. Not a change of faces in the White House, but the overthrow of the parasitic power of US capital and its replacement with the revolutionary power of the American working class

Continued from page 8

"Freedom Under the Law", an organisation composed of fascists, racists and other right-wing dregs. This anti-working class organisation has recently threatened to train a private army of reactionary youths who will, they hope, beat up students who correctly struggle to prevent fascists preaching the same ideas as Hitler and Mussolini from spreading their disease in the field of higher education.

To be trained in "unarmed combat" these fascist youth are "to protect controversial guest-speakers at universities from intimidation by students". This "Freedom Under the Law" statement is almost word for word the sort of anti-working class distortions put about by the Mosleyites

The My Lai massacre- one of the real crimes war-criminal Nixon is guilty of.



at fascist rallies where anyone who opposed their views or "intimidated" them was set upon by blackshirt hoodlums and viciously beaten up.

What "VOP" Says

What policy should pickets and students in the above situations take? This paper agrees with a growing number of workers and students that there is no room in cases like this for any liberal nonsense or indecisiveness. The fascists, who if they are allowed to have their way would smash all working-class organisations, make strikes illegal, imprison all who oppose their dictatorship

PORTUGUESE RULE IS BEING SMASHED



Photographic evidence of a Portuguese atrocity in occupied-Mozambique

THE massacre of 400 men, women and children made the Mozambicans more determined than ever to free their country.

The Portuguese broke into Mozambique 400 year ago and have been robbing, oppressing and murdering the people there ever since. But the Mozambicans have never accepted the enemy's occupation. Nine years ago their struggle took on an organised form when the Mozambique Liberation Front sent the first 250 freedom fighters into battle.

Today a quarter of Mozambique has been liberated and the patriots are winning many victories, proving that, as Mao said, "where there is oppression there is resistance".

In Tete province, scene of the Wiriyamu massacre, the patriots wiped out 150 enemy in an attack on a fortress in June. In the Portuguese city of Aveiro, 2,000 people in April demonstrated against the government's colonial wars. They shouted "Down with colonial wars" and sang the "Internationale".



Mozambique guerrillas in training

within the walls of a boss-dominated corporate state...these anti-working class gangsters have no right whatsoever to freedom of speech or freedom to in any way spread their poison.

Workers here must remember that had Mussolini and Hitler been smothered at the birth of their movements millions of workers from all over the world would not have had to sacrifice their lives.

The next time anywhere in Britain that right-wing thugs attack the interest of the working class, whether on the picket line or in the universities, they must be taught a militant lesson. They must have their reactionary noses bloodied so that they are left in no doubt as to where their services to capitalism will land them.

A "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" POSTER

Could YOU, or your husband, brother or son, slaughter these people?

4 things to think about 1. YOU WILL BE USED TO MURDER IRISH WORKERS, AND BRITISH WORKERS IN THE FUTURE 2. WORKER MUST NOT FIGHT WORKER 3. WHY SHOULD YOU DIE FOR THE BOSSES' CLASS INTEREST? 4. FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM INSTEAD



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