CHARTIST

ELECTION SPECIAL October 1974





IT IS NOW a little over six months since this Labour government was elected on the crest of the wave of the miner's strike. Most Labour and Tory leaders are agreed that we are on the verge of the most devastating economic crisis since before the

officers LHALLS OUR SULLAND

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ther to the right, Geoffrey Rippon calls for a citizens' army to help maintain "law and order" in an emergency. This is a clarion cry for an official force of scab volunteers to reinforce the police, the army and the Territorials in efforts to break the backbone of the Labour movement.

Price 3p

war. The onrushing world slump threatens the jobs and living standards of millions of workers and their families. Soaring price rises continually erode the volume of our wages and the spectre of the 1930's looms large.

The Labour government started off with fine 'socialist' promises to introduce strict price control, a major redistribution of wealth and nationalisation of many parts of the economy—including profitable sectors. Up to now Labour has still to deliver the goods. True, we have had a rent freeze, in-

creased pensions, stabilised mortgage rates, the end of three-day working and the repeal of the Housing Finance and Industrial Relations Acts . But the Tories and their capitalist backers have been persistently attacking the Labour government, so we have had little more than rule by consent with the Tories and Liberals.



Above: Hunger march in 1930s. This is what the Tories want. Throw them and their system out for good. VOTE LABOUR!

en away under the I.R.Act.

And in the backwoods, reactionary militarists like General Walker and Colonel Stirling are organising private armies and making sinister plans to break the trade unions and topple a Labour government which attempts to wrest control of the economy from the stranglehold of capital. Behind these people stands the armed forces top-brass, led by Brigadier Kitson who are preparing civil war against the working class. empty. Men like Sir Denys Lowson, who netted £5million on property deals almost overnight. Companies like Lonhro's, which made millions out of tax-evasion (remember the "ugly and unacceptable face of capitalism"?). Now this whole system is in deep

The time has also come for an end to Labours' pussy-footing. Yes, we want a majority Labour government, but the key to socialist change does not lie merely with candidates in Parliament. It lies with the strength of the organized Labour movement. Without the mobilisation of this power. production cannot be taken out of the hands of the profiteers. There will be no shortage of support, of militancy, of willingness to struggle on the part of miners, building workers, engineers, dockers, indeed every section of the working class. What is needed now is a Labour government prepared to go the whole way against the crisis-torn capitalist system.



refusing to invest

The City and the big monopolies are refusing to invest their profits. But at the same time they expect to receive massive state handouts, like the £3,000 millions the Tories gave to private companies during 1970-73. Big business, led by Aims of Industry and Tate and Lyle—who intend to double the price of our sugar—is pouring millions into anti-nationalisation campaigns, to discredit Labours¹ plans.

In Parliament, the Tories, and their 'worthy' echoes in the House of Lords wrecked the new Trade Union and Labour Relations Bill by inserting anti-closed shop, anti-strike clauses. In the same way the Tories blocked a move to repay £10million back to the trade unions which had been takThe time has now come to put an end to the Tories and their system for good.

And there can be no better time than the present. The bankruptcy of the capitalist system is broadcast across the headlines daily....huge trade debt...zero economic growth...spiralling ininflation...slump...homelessness.

..housing crisis...education crisis...health service cracking-up. The Tories are defenders of this system. It is a system which serves only the profits of a tiny minority of men. Men like Harry Hyams, who made a cool £20 million by keeping Centre Point

crisis. And once again the Tories are attempting to save it at the expense of the working class.

Tories divided

But the Tory Party is bitterly divided on how best to cut workers' wages, remove democratic rights and drive living standards back to the levels of the 1930's. Tory leader Heath, and top men like Carr and Whitelaw, want 'conventioneal' compulsoryincomes policy and a wage-freeze, coupled with new laws against the trade unions. Sir Keith Joseph joins the Powellite chorus in calling for savage cuts in public spending, social services and the like, and tight control over the supply of money. In other words, he wants a couple of million of us on the dole queues and workers so impoverished that they will beg for work. Even furexpense

There is no need for a Labour government to be dictated to by the monopolies, the City of London, the property speculators and the international bankers. Similarly there is a way out of the impending slump and galloping inflation. But the socialist road requires bold, determined and revolutionary actions by the next Labour government.

The Labour government must break from the capitalist class, dismantle the institutions of capitalist state rule, disarm the employers, take the whole industrial and financial power of Britain into its hands and really govern. The lories have asked "Who governs Britain?" We demand that the next Labour government, as a government of the working class and our whole movement, reply loud and clear: "We do!"



BANKRUPTCIES, factory closures and the onrushing slump now spell enormous dangers for the working class. Recession combined with 20% price inflation, a huge balance of payments deficit of approaching £4,000,000,000 for the year, the collapse of share prices—at their lowest level for 16 years, with more value knocked off in the last two years than during the 1929–31 Great Crash and zero economic growth, equals "stagflation". This capitalist monster is threatening the living standards and jobs of millions of working people. Even judging by official government figures, the real value of wages has been cut over the last year by almost 4 per cent.

and toil of workers' labour has been used long enough in search of profits-NO MORE HAND-OUTS TO THE RICH!

As the Election approaches, Labour must return to the decisions of the 1972 Labour Party conference which recognized that only by nationalising the "commanding heights of the economy", the banks, insurance, finance and land, could the foundations be laid for a socialist plan of production under workers! control.

-LABOUR-OFFIC "WE WILL fight any move towards nationalisation tooth and nail. We will fight to protect our assets..." So said Mr. John Lyle, Chairman of Tate and Lyle, on the nationalisation plans of the Labour Party Industry Secretary Anthony Wedgwood Benn earlier this year.

Under a barrage of screams from big business and the newspapers, the leaders of the Labour Party have begun wavering and eating their words about nationalising profitable companies. To 2. SAY to the multi-millionaire Wedgwood Benn and his colleagues in the Labour leadership, this paper says:

1. SAY to the multi-national oil companies making millions out of North Sea Oil: THAI'S OURS! It belongs to society as a whole, and no-one is going to take it from us. On present trends, production by 1980 will have reached 150 million tons a year. That's enough to cover all our expected needs. If we don't take over the oil fields, the owners—at current oil prices—will by then be making £4,000 million profit a year pretax.

owners of land, housing and office property in our big towns and cities: THA7 'S OUR S! It belongs to all of us, not to private individuals profiteering out of our basic needs.

Enormous Slump

The monopolists club, the CBI, recently reported that with decgrowth were nil and the prospect f enormous slump was on the rizon. Form horizon. Few of even the most rosy-spectacled Tory spokesmen would dispute this forecast. Only TUC leaders, like Len Murray, continue to see a stable and profitable future for British capitalism. Faced with this unprecedented attack on wages and jobs workers are resisting with a new combatitiveness, which bears no parallels with the Depression years of the 1930's. It is this unbroken strength of the Labour movement shown in the fight against redundancies and wage-cuts which sends the speculators on the Stock Exchange into panic-buying.

A million jobless and 20% inflation Economy 'mishandled' as trade gap soars New figures endorse grim econc mic outlook

enormous support could be gained from millions of workers and sections of the middle class, whose liging standards and savings are imperilled by the financial collapse of banks, holiday and travel companies and many of the major monopolies. The bankruptcy of the German Herstatt Bank, UDT Insurance and Court Lines these are only the first raindrops Labour in the coming monsoon. must ensure there is NO RETURN TO THE THIRTIES!

- o Stop the retreat!
- o Stand firm on your original commitments!
- o Prepare the whole labour movement to implement your programme against all resistance from big business!

the dole

Instead of attacking workingclass living standards by means of the 'social contract', instead of allowing over half a million workers to languish on the dole queues, and instead of back-pedalling on its nationalisation proposals, the Labour Government should:

now defunct Phase 3, have given meagre compensation. But even thresholds are to be scrapped when they officially end in October, according to P.M.Harold Wilson. Every worker must say NO! Quite the opposite must be done. The threshold must be extended to a nil-norm—not 7%—and а genuine 'rising scale of wages' clause written into every wage agreement with employers. This clause must guarantee a monthly, or weekly, adjustment upwards in wages corresponding to each percentage point rise in a working class cost-of-living index. Labour and the TUCmust reject the phoney Tory index. Instead, price committees must be formed in every area, composed of housewives, trade unionists, tenants, etc. with access to all the books of both manufacturers and distributors. Through the calculations of these bodies the Labour government should formulate a workers' price-rise index which takes account of the actual family budget and the effect of taxation on any wage increases. Labour must also ensure that the 'rising scale' applies to salaries, pensions, social security payments and allowances, which should all be linked to the same price rise index. Legislation must be introduced to prevent any employer from refusing to accept a rising scale of wages clause. This is the road open to the next Labour government. It is a road on which Labour would win the overwhelming support of the working class. A road upon which workers would accept none of the burdens of capitalist inflation and slump and open the way to the conquest of power and a socialist reorganization of society under the rule of the working class.

3. SAY to the monopolists who are getting $\pounds 2$ million per day in Government subsidies and are STILL not investing their profits to modernise equipment and plant: THAI'S OURS! To start with, we should GUARANTEE every workers the right to work. If the private owners protest "We can't afford it!" and start laying men off, we should reply that if they can't afford our right to work, then we can't afford their right to own the industries on which we all depend. We NEED everyone to be engaged in productive labour, not idling on the dole-queues or living off stocks and shares. We NEED massive state investment to modernise our industry, and we

Fear of workers

The millionaire financiers, industrialists and Stock Exchange gamblers fear that the Labour government will be unable because of the power of the working class behind it—to satisfy their demands for higher profitability, at the expense of workers' living standards. But instead of using the capitalist crisis as testimony to the bankruptcy of this profit system, getting on with the tasks of mobilising the working class to take the power and implement socialist policies, Wilson attempts to allay the fears of big business. At the "Socialist International" conference on June 30th he said workers "faced a period of two or three years when they would be doing well if their domestic living standards were maintained". Rather than use taxes from working class families to bail out lame ducks like Court Lines and the ship-building industry — with lavish compensation, Wedgwood Benn and Co. should be confiscating these entire industries without compensation. The sweat

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No redundancies

To those workers whose factories, docks, building sites, offices or workplaces are threatened with shutdown, 'man-power' reductions and redundancies—this means immediately, steel-workers (Shotton), airport workers, ship builders, and many British Leyland workers, a new majority Labour government must guarantee work or full pay, a sliding scale of hours with no loss of pay, and a £40 minimum wage.

NEED the whole economy to be organised on the basis of a PLAN controlled by and in the interests of the whole working class.

What will happen if we leave the speculators, private monopolists and landlords in charge? You have probably read of the recent sudden increase in unemployment, the slowing down of house building, the slump on the Stock Exchange, and the fears of a terrible depres-



A massive programme of public works must be launched to absorb any workers unemployed. Hospitals, schools and houses are desperately needed. There is absolutely no need for any socially necessary workers to be jobless. NOT A WORKER TO BE A UNEMPLOYED, NOT MACHINE IDLE!

Rising scale of wages

Coupled with the threat of mass unemployment is the menace of galloping inflation. With prices rising at a rate of over 20%, fixed wage agreements have become obsolete. Even major wage gains like miners have won, are soon eroded in value by increased taxation and soaring prices. The threshold clauses contained in the



Shares are crashing and sion. inflation is soaring throughout Europe, Japan, America and all the 'non-communist' world. Our 'moderate' leaders in the TUC and Labour Party have been insisting that the slump is 'unnecessary', that it's all due to the idiocies of the Stock Exchange and that there needn't be mass unemployment at all. In a certain sense, they are right. There is certainly no <u>need</u> for mass unemployment and a repetition of the horrors of the thirties.

monopoly, the Queen would be 'advised' that the action was 'unconstitutional'. Royal Assent to the Government's bill would be withheld. The Armed Forces swear allegiance not to Parliament, only to the Crown. So along with the 'private armies', the Army itself would be mobilised to bring the Labour Government down. If you want to know why no Labour Government in the past has ever nationalised a profitable industry, that's why. It would mean launching a struggle for real POWER. And this is really the choice facing our Labour leaders. Either another government which merely takes office and "manages" the crisis-torn capitalist economy or a workers¹ government which will break the power of the capitalist monopolies. Either a government which is dictated to by the international banks and multinationals who are demanding workers pay for their profitability crisis, or a government which has all financial, industrial and state power in its hands. To successfully break the rule of capital and its armed defenders, a Labour government must prepare to mobilise the mighty strength of the working class against the forces of the state.

FOR INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' UNITY

unemployment, INFLATION, zero economic growth: these problems. are not just British In fact most economists now catastrophic predict the most slump since the war will occur on A WORLD SCALE this winter. British capitalism's bankrupt industry was able to scrape by in the 'Boom' of the '50s and '60s—in the new climate of recession and cut-throat trade war, it will be the first to go to the wall. Those Labour politicians who think this can be avoided by 'national' solutretreating into ions are living in a dreamland. British capitalists are investing all their capital abroad, where they can still make marginal profits. Likewise, the big multi-national firms like Ford and Chrysler will threaten to close shop altogether if workers here refuse to take savage pay-cuts. BUT WE ARE NOT ALONE! All over Europe and the rest of the world are mass Socialist and Communist Parties and trade unions which have not suffered critical defeats for a whole generation. The new Labour Government, together with the TUC, should at once set about organizing international labour movement action to combat the threat of the multi-nationals and the emerging trade-war between the various imperialist powers. The workers' upsurges in Argentina, Germany, Greece, Portugal, Japan and



steps in

But that is assuming a Labour Government, backed by the trade unions and working class, steps in where the whole capitalist 'system has failed. If we don't step in and seize the mainsprings of the economy and do it very soon, then disaster is absolutely certain. The Labour leaders should say this, instead of pretending that capitalism can work.

But why don't our Labour leaders ever challenge the system? Many of them would agree to seize the mainsprings of the economyprovided big business was willing to surrender without a fight. At the first sign of ruling class resistance, however, they shrink back from the task. That is what we are seeing happen now.

private armies

The ruling class have begun

defence units

This would involve forming workers' defence units, to protect occupied factories and picket linessomething like flying picketsgranting full trade union rights to servicemen and making a socialist appeal to the lower ranks—the 'workers in uniform'. With such a bold revolutionary course, nationalisation of the major monopolies could be carried through and production reorganised under the control and management of the working class. An iron-hard determined revolutionary leadership is needed to unswervingly pursue struggle. We in this the small tendency in the Labour Party as yet—say a majority Labour government will have absolutely no excuse for not breaking with the employing class and taking full power.

Workers celebrate the overthrow of fascism in Portugal

FOR THE MURDERING CHIL-EAN JUNTA. This would all be in stark contrast to the pro-imperialist policies of Labour leaders up to now. Whose side are they on?

Labour CHARTISTS say should rely on the industrial might of the labour movement at home and internationally, not the authority of Parliament and the capitalist state. In Europe, too, it must place no reliance on the crumbling edifice of the Common Market, which is incapable of doing anything now — let alone uniting Europe. Labour must WITHDRAW FROM THE EEC AT ONCE — irrespective of terms! This is not to retreat into an "island fortress" where "parliamentary sovereignty" rules, but is a precondition for linking up with the tens of millions of organised workers on the continent who alone can create the SOCIALIST UNITED STATES OF EUR-OPE! The alternatives are clear once again. Either submit to a new era of capitalist warfare, starvation and barbarism, or else spearhead the drive of the working class for power on a world scale.A WORLD SOCIALIST FEDER-ATION, planning the use of resources and industry for human need instead of profit, will end fear, poverty and oppression for all humanity—for good.

aetting up 'private armies' for a good reason. They are afraid that the next Labour Government will be unable to prevent trade-unionists from occupying their factories to defend the right to work, or from forcing the state to takeover some profitable firms. And just suppose the next Labour Government DID start seizing industrial power from our rulers. Would the Generals, the Judges, the police chiefs, newspaperproprietors, bankers and industrialists stand idly by? Of course not! The 'private armies' are only the start of their plans for resistance. In the event of Labour trying to seize even one profitable

India show the potential support a workers' government in Britain could count on!

The so-called 'Communist' countries' planned economies, and social welfare etc. represent tremendous gains for the international working class. NATO and the other Western Alliances exist to destroy these gains and bring back capitalist exploitation and barbarism (not to defend "Freedom and Democracy", with so many military dictatorships as members!) We say Labour must QUIT NATO NOW!

Similarly, Labour should give all possible aid to the freedom fighters in Southern Africa, Palestine, Vietnam and elsewhere whose struggle against imperialism is directly in British workers' interests. It should WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM IRELAND, CYPRUS, THE ARABIAN GULF!—and all other oppressed

END HOUSING PROFITEERING

THE DISASTROUS housing crisis will be sharply aggravated by the impending economic slump. Aiready 60,000 more building workers are unemployed compared to this time last year. The Tories housing programme:

councillors who refused to put up rents are still facing a $\pounds7,000$ surcharge), rents are frozen until: the end of the year, and the new Rent Act is supposed to provide greater security to private tenants. Mortgage rates were also pegged through a huge subsidy to Building Societies. Mrs. Thatcher, Tory shadow housing minister, in a squalid electioneering ploy promises to lower mortgages and phase out the rating system. But the last Tory government had $3\frac{1}{2}$ years to do something about the appalling housing situation in which loan sharks, property speculators and land dealers were raking in millions of pounds from human misery of the struggle for decent homes. Instead they put interest rates on mortgages UP from 8% to 11%. This meant that monthly repayments of an owner occupier who started buying on a twenty

• Allowed council house building completions in 1973 to slump to the lowest in 26 years.

Almost DOUBLED the rents of 5¹/₂ million council tenants under the vicious Housing Finance Act.
Permitted the average price of a new house to rise from £5,082 in the second quarter of 1970 to £10,023 in the second quarter of 1973.

This has yet to be reversed by a Labour government.

The Housing Finance Act has gone, (although the Clay Cross

Centre Point, Harry Hyams made by keeping it empty. Now Camden I Council are compulsorily taking for over ...this must be just the start. countries. It should assist the workers' resistance in Chile, but NOT A PENNY, NOT A GUN

five year basis went up by 25%. The Tories record on housing speaks louder than Thatcher's empty promises. Don't let's be fooled!

But drastic action is needed. Housing must be taken completely out of the sphere of private profit. Whilst guaranteeing full protection to owner-occupiers, Labour's last manifesto pledged the nationalization of all development land and and municipalisation of private rented property. This must be done. The Tories and their capitalist system stand for homelessness, slum housing, ever-rising house prices and profits for the speculators. It's time all this was put an end to. The building workers are there, the materials are there. A Labour government must launch a crash house building programme of 1 million new homes a year and stop the building of unnecessary hotels and offices. If the banks will not provide the money they must be taken over. All land must be nationalized and private construction monopolies rooted out. In short, housing must be taken out of the capitalist market where private profit comes before human need, so that a state building plan can be organized to provide the schools, hospitals and public amenities that are so urgently required.

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Who the tories speak for

EVER SINCE LABOUR won the February election, the air has been thick with the sound of Tory sabre-rattling against the nationalisation proposals in Labour's programme. The noises made by the Tories and organisations like 'Aims of Industry' are for one purpose only: to prepare sabotage against any socialist actions carried out by a Labour government. The grave crisis of British capitalism puts the employing class in an extremely delicate position. The émployers want to defeat the from the state. Tate and Lyle, trades resistance of the working class has stopped them. This only makes the rich more desperate and any attempt to interfere with their ownership of big companies and monopolies is regarded as a challenge to their power, a threat to their domination over society. In the face of this nightmare, the employers are pouring hundreds of thousands into a hysterical anti-Labour anti-nation alisation offensive. Hence the adverts in the daily Tory press, and vicious attacks on Tony Benn and the frantic fund raising.

coffers. But which firms back the Tories? To name but a few, therė are GKN (£33,000), the Rank Organisation (£35,000), Reckitt and Coleman, Tate and Lyle (£11,500), Marks and Spencer, Taylor Woodrow Plesseys, General Accident Portland 👘 Assurance, Rugby Cement, the Beecham Group (£20,000), and Marley Tiles. Almost every major donor to the Tory party is a household name. Many are firms who plead poverty to get financial assistance Joseph: union movement but the for instance, got a government



Housewives don't find rising prices so funny.

NAME/MINISTRY Robert Carr. JS. Hoffnung & Co. Securicor Home Office &

microscope

When Tory funds are put under the microscope, it becomes clear who the Tories quite speak for. Not the workers, not trades unionists, not immigrants, but the 'captains of industry' and whole strata of social parathe

pour liquid cash into the Tory

grant of over £5 million in the period from 1970 to 1973. GKN, another major contributor to Tory funds, got £84 million in grants during the same period.

free enterprise

During the financial year 1973/ 74, no less than 393 companies, including all the leading ones, gave a total of £922,329 to organizations defending 'free enter- Carr: prise'. As Labour Research journal has noted, "The Tories and their allies—the British United Industrialists and the regional Industrialists Councils are undoubtedly the greatest beneficiaries of employers generosity, receiving, between them, over 80% of total donations. The important sectors donating directly to the Tories are engineering, banking, finance, drugs, chemicals and oil, property and insurance companies."



Geoffrey Howe: A.G.B. Research Patrick Jenkins, Tilbury Contracting Group Anthony Barber Standard & Chartered Banking Group Peter Rawlinson Mercantile & General Reinsur-Attorney General ance Co. Anthony Gibbs Hldgs. (Merchant Bankers)

KEEP THEM OUT FOR GOOD

STOPTHE NATIONAL

were on the boards of 780 companies and were chairmen of another 343 firms. For such services and 'hard work', leading Tories live from hand to mouth. Consider poor Lord Errol, for example. He has to make do with a meagre £36,000 a year. Then there's that well known pauper Lord Watkinson who only gets £32,000 a year. A close look at Tory ex-ministers is also quite illuminating. The above list gives a clear indication of the extent to which they are part of the capitalist class whose urgent task is to cut wages and attack worker's rights. Of course, all the leading Tories are directors and chairmen of companies. This is only the tip of the iceberg, There is also

Heath, the merchant banker, Walker, the unit trust whizz-kid, Carrington, the land speculator, Rippon, the company director who believes "a tax on wealth is both morally and socially wrong." No wonder he does!

More than a wealth tax is nec-. essary to deal with the Tories and the employers, bankers and property sharks they represent. The "ugly and unacceptable face of capitalism" is their only face. For the labour movement, no face of capitalism is acceptable. That is why our leaders must stop doing cosmetic jobs and get down to the task of eliminating it once and for all by mobilising the working class to shatter the power of the capitalist class.

However, not only do the Tories sites who wax rich from the speak for the rich-they ARE labour of others. They are the Conservatives who have a lot to the rich! This can be shown by looking privilege, conserve: wealth, at the extra-parliamentary affairs profits and power. That is why of some leading Tories. A recent the employers are so keen to study showed that Tory M.P.'s

IRELAND - TROOPS OUT!

AT LEAST one section of the electorate who will be voting in this General Election will be doing so without any real hope of change. One adult in ten without a job, living in slum housing that is scarcely equalled throughout Europe, tanks and machine-gun posts on the street corners, armed patrols down the streets of the working class ghettoes, the threat of arrest and indefinite detention without trial, this is the everyday

Volunteer Force, the British troops, the Special Air Services. (SAS) murder squads, and internment without trial, are a terrifying machine of repression against the catholic communities. Yet a Labour government continues the policies of their Tory predecessors — policies which have placed the Catholic population in permanent danger of a massive loss of live, indiscriminate raids, arrests and imprisonment, torture, and destruction of their homes and belongings.

FASCISM IS once again rearing its ugly head in Britain. During the Depression Years of the 1930s it was Oswald Mosley and his blackshirts. Now fascism parades under the guise of the National Front. In this election they intend to stand over 80 candidates.

From start to finish the National Front is an anti-Labour movement organization. It is the "strongarm" movement of capitalism in crisis. Its leaders, men like Martin Webster and John Tyndall, received their political education in the National Socialist Movement of Colin Jordan. "Nazi" is German for National Socialist. Websters! stated ambition has always been "to build a well-oiled Nazi machine in this country". The Front claims to speak for the "ordinary man and woman in the street". But 'Spearhead', the NF magazine, reveals its true face: "Except in marginal or extreme cases, the duty of government is not to assure citizens of food, shelter, clothing and education or security against unemployment and old age." And, despite honeyed calls for "strong" unions, I yndall has made it clear that the

FRONT NF will be "ready to embark on a campaign of repression of the left in the unions, which could in the process involve the repression of much that is legitimate union activity." In other words, the NF is out to smash the trade unions as organs of working class struggle.

Ireland.

life of $1\frac{1}{2}$ million people in Northern

The British state has never offered anything to the vast majority of people in Ireland. Throughout the twentieth century it has fostered religious bigotry and sectarian hatred between the two communities in the North. It has constructed its own state in the Six Counties based on the twin threats of Orangeism—union with Britain—and the continued dominance of the protestants over the catholics, the so-called 'protestant ascendancy'.

But since 1968, the republican people have offered a determined resistance to the sectarian discrimination of the Orange Order dominated authorities.

Benind the ranks of the British army the protestant loyalists have found time to organize their forces. The terror squads of the Ulster Defence Association and the Ulster

Unlike Labour's "Ulster supr-

remo" Merlyn Rees, we do not think the IRA is the root cause of the 'troubles' in Northern Ireland. 'Trouble' in Ireland has quite clearly been caused by the occupation of that nation by the armed forces of Britain, defending the interests of the British capitalist class.

The only way these 'troubles' can be ended is when a British government recognizes the right of the Irish people to control their own affairs—throughout Ire land. A socialist programme of solidarity with the Irish struggle which the next Labour government must implement should be based on these three demands:

• End Internment!

Troops out of Ireland now!

 Solidarity with the Republican movement!

In the 1930s it was the Jews. Today it is the blacks that the fascists use as scapegoats for the problems of bad housing, unemployment and rising prices which capitalism creates but cannot solve. They aim to split and weaken the working class setting worker against worker.

A complete ban on 'black immigration! and a forcible repatriation of all coloured immigrants-these policies of the NF are a threat to every trade unionist and immigrant. A re-elected Labour government must stop making any concessions to these racists by:

Immediately repealing the racist Immigration Acts.

Banning the NF, their marches and meetings on any platform.

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Fublished by CHARTIST PUBLICATIONS, 82 Loughborough Rd., London SW9 Printed by ANYWAY LITHO Ltd., 252 Brixton Rd., London SW9 (tu all depts.)