Swedish iron ore miners strike

FIVE THOUSAND Swedish workers in the government-owned iron mines have been on an unofficial strike for more than three weeks. It is the country's largest unofficial strike for more than 20 years. The picture shows workers at a strike meeting.

The strike action, in the north of Sweden, was caused by a dispute over bonus pay- ments, but other grievances have been building up for some time. Originally, the men's union agreed that the strike committee should take part in negotiations with ILKAP.

March against murder!

Pinkville: 500 massacred
Black Panthers: 28 shot
SUNDAY 11 JANUARY

Assemble Speakers' Corner (Marble Arch) 2 pm
March to Downing Street

THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT's New Year greeting to the great mass of working people in Britain is that: "May your belt, 1970 will see the conclusion of our sustained attack on your wages and living conditions." Experts are already predicting that unemployment will increase by around 600,000 this year.

The government starts the year the way it means to go on, by putting into operation part two of the Prices and incomes Act. This will allow them to keep wage increases to 4½ per cent while prices, profits and surpluses continue to soar.

The government is committed to modernising society, but it does so according to the terms laid down by big business. This means that the working class must pay through stagnating wages and worsening conditions.

1970 will see the stepping up of the centralised price control productivity bargaining into every sector of industry. This is the device by which workers accept a wage increase with "strings" that take away many hard-earned improvements such as tea breaks. Productivity increases the work-rate reduces the number of workers employed and raises local wage bargaining from shop stewards to reliable full-time union officials. Such a system is sure to result in a sharp decline in workers' living standards.

Support the Young Socialists' demonstration:

The slums remain.

As well as cutting back on welfare and social services, the Labour government has also scrapped its home-building target of 400,000 new houses every year.

So the housing slums remain, adding to the plight of poverty and malnutrition. There are three million houses in Britain without a bath, and 50% of families have no hot water supply and 30% have no bilge water tank.

What a savage indictment these figures are of the "progressive", "socialist" society that Labour promised to create in 1945. Of course, Labour tried to improve society. But because they only want to reform it, to make it a little more fair, instead of changing it root and branch, in order to build a socialist society, they inevitably end up pandering to the demands of the tiny one per cent who own private industry.

There is no longer any possibility of making any lasting changes for the benefit of the working class as long as the big businesses make the rules. And the Labour government is merely a tool of the big businesses. It is a tool of the officeholders and the civil service and draws its power not from the trade union movement, but from the workmen and women. It is a tool of the big business.

The task of working people is to expose the "socialist" character of the Labour government and force the trade unions and the workers to come to the aid of the working class.

Into the '70s
A wave of militant strikes by workers in the major Italian industrial centres was one of the high-spots of the international working-class scene in 1969. The upsurge by the workers ratted big business and the government, and several strikers were killed as the police were ordered to drive them from the streets. Behind these strikes lies a strategy by rank and file industrial workers to burst through the conservative restrictions of the official trade union machine. The most important development of this new and dynamic grass-roots activity has been the creation of worker committees. Delegates from these committees - pictured at a conference in Florence last October. ALBA SACERDOTI reports . . .

Factory committees spread in Italy

IN THE LAST two years, new forms of workers' organisation have appeared in scores of plants in Italy. They are the CUB (Unitey Base Committee), CNT, AMT (Transport Union) and MMU (Cuban Transport Union) - and the millions of rank-and-file workers committed to the massive strike action in February 1970. These new forms of organisation are associated with a growing tendency for some years, which has been gaining momentum over a series of recent events. The roots of this movement lie in the traditional organisations of the working class, which had been undermined by the changes in the post-war economy and the decay of worker militancy. But by 1965-67, there was a noticeable upsurge of workers' committees of a more spontaneous, less hierarchical form to this discontent.

The CNT is the trade union organisation and the attempt by the Italian Communist Party to join the reformed organisation led by the party of militants was thwarted by the militant movement and a number of arrests of the CNT leaders. The CNT, the union of the Italian Communist Party, and the Italian Communist Union are the political parties of CNT activists.

**Militant tradition**

AMT has a tradition of political and trade union militancy. The Solidarity Committee of AMT (CUB) has given rise to a number of new movements and to new revolutionary ideas. One of the most important developments is the formation of the CUB (Independent Union) in Milan. The CUB was formed by the union of all the smaller trade unions that had been formed in the past. The CUB has now become the largest trade union in Italy and is the most important of the new forms of worker committee.

The conflict between the rank and file and the official union structure continues to grow. The CUB is leading a campaign to disrupt the official union structure and is trying to make the union more democratic.

**Substantial successes**

Today, however, the rank and file committee has made a good start in several factories and they have been successful in making a number of demands. The most important of these demands is the right to vote on shop stewards. The CUB has launched a campaign to disrupt the official union structure and is trying to make the union more democratic.

The success of the CUB and rank and file committees has been substantial. Initially this union was struggling to win the right to strike, but now it is trying to make the union more democratic.

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The Choice: workers' control and international planning or a new barbarism

INTO THE SEVENTIES

by Stephen Marks

The last two years of the 1960s have seen a massive revival of interest in politics; the Vietnam war, the student uprisings and the anti-war movement, and the rising of the American working class on the shopfloor and the military. The 1970s are likely to be remembered as the decade in which we turned the corner into a new world. The 1970s will be a time of change and struggle, of new ideas and new possibilities. The 1970s will be a time of opportunity and potential. The 1970s will be a time of challenge and triumph. The 1970s will be a time of revolution and victory.

What has caused the recent upsurge of industrial action? It is clear that there is a strong correlation between the level of industrial action and the economic conditions. The higher the unemployment, the higher the level of industrial action. The lower the economic growth, the higher the level of industrial action. The higher the inflation, the higher the level of industrial action. The higher the unemployment, the higher the level of industrial action. The lower the economic growth, the higher the level of industrial action. The higher the inflation, the higher the level of industrial action.

The growth of state planning and the increasing role of government in the economy has led to a significant increase in the power of the state. The state is now able to intervene more effectively in the economy, and to control the economy more effectively.

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Revival of trade union politics

This leads to two linked developments. First, the growth of state intervention and planning has led to a revival of anti-state politics. This is not simply a matter of rejecting the state, but of challenging the state and its role in the economy. Second, the growth of state intervention and planning has led to a revival of trade union politics. This is not simply a matter of supporting the state, but of challenging the state and its role in the economy.

Shift in balance of forces

This new balance of forces has led to a shift in the balance of power in the economy. The state is now able to intervene more effectively in the economy, and to control the economy more effectively. The state is now able to intervene more effectively in the economy, and to control the economy more effectively. The state is now able to intervene more effectively in the economy, and to control the economy more effectively.

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Paying for pensions: Labour lets the middle class off the hook

by Jim Kincaid

WHEN LABOUR took office in 1964 they promised fast action on the issue of pensions. There was no good reason for delay. A detailed plan of related policies had been accepted and married to the Social Credit Doctrine of the Labour Party as long as 1953.

Once in office, however, the 1967 scheme was quietly lost in a sea of political commitments. For 49 years there was no sign of any progress. Suddenly in January 1968, a revised version of the earlier plan was published by the government.

Since last January there has been much media and budget on the pension front. Two more White Papers have been issued. But Mr. Crossman has been slow to rush his new National Income Analytical Unit into operation early this year.

Sudden urgency

There is no great mystery about Labour's sudden urgency on pensions. A general election is in the offing and so the announcement is indicative as anti-Labour scare coven. Mr. Wilson has 150 seats at stake or more. Mr. Wilson need not rush his NIAU Unit. Mr. Wilson can afford to take his time. But clearly the new pension scheme is a real ace-in-the-hole.

It will be far worse. Any worker who takes a long, hard look at the plan will not likely conclude that it is a fair deal for any pensioner group. The plan is excessively generous. The formula behind the pension is far above current wage levels.

The existing pension scheme was introduced in 1945. In essence, it was a fairly straightforward affair. Everyone over 65 with £1,000 (a relatively small contribution of a stamp, IS 8d. The weekly pension was a gift for salaried employees' high-tax life. The flat-rate national insurance stamp has always been a minor bite out of any big salary. But for 30 years no one expected to live off the national insurance system in retirement. The older the pensioner, the less he could expect to live off his pension because the Financial Times claimed that living on an income of £1 or less was the norm. The Tories brought in the first graduated pension scheme in 1931. This put contributions up for millions of workers. But as yet no one at the age of pension age. This left only £2.35 out of £50 as a wage packet. As it is now, a pensioner is 70-odd years on the lower-paid worker.

The new pension plan is toughly matched by his employer. The question is: who actually pays for the social costs? The pension is the one point agreed on by everybody. The employer pays a percentage of the worker's income. The government pays a percentage of the worker's income.
Nigel Coward on the threat to jobs posed by the ‘container revolution’

Docks bosses determined to smash militant rank and file

With £75 million sunk in container booms by the giant British consortia, ACI and CMA, the main aim of the docks employers is to assure a stable industrial climate at the expense of worker militancy, a rising rate of exploitation and a good return on capital investment. This requires rank and file resistance to be smashed in many forms.

Firstly, rationalisation. The National Port Council was reported by the Financial Times (5 May 1969) to be reckoninng on a 25 per cent cut in the national docks workforce by the end of 1972. Wilson’s so-called Labour government is hell-bent on reducing dock labour with a £73 million programme. Perhaps the noise created by the present Manchester Dockers’ protest against the cuts will soon be joined by sounds of hammer and trowel as the free school mill is built.

Secondly, closure. Since 1967 alone, London has seen the closure of St Katherine’s, Abbey Wharf, London Dock, West India Docks and Vauxhall Docks. The greedy Docks are next: The first phase of the demolition of the Dudley Perkins (Port of London Authority) wharves is moved ahead along the Fulham Reach as they are seeking to fill up blank spaces in the outer working part of their ‘future’. As usual, today’s capitalist city feel to be of no use unless it can be put into circulation on the older areas of production. They can be left to rot except at the juncture of an impossible class will never change its ways.

Land is cheap

Thirdly, mobility and flexibility. Few men can see through the sociocentric concept of the‘unit of production’

Take Tilbury, for example, the most seaborne of docks, cheaper and congestion less acute. Where the environmentalists can find a place for the dock as the like of the ALA will be developed. Either a ‘new’ of ‘all’ space, but just to try in Tills and Docks. The Fasc Viettica cranes can lift and load. Under a £4 million project, 230 acres of land will be released. 15 men can load and unload a ship in 12 hours. The tonnage of freight handled in a week: 1967 64 million tons, 1968 34 million tons, 1969 34 million tons. As the Financial Times puts it: ‘The first phase of the demolitions for the transhipment docks’

International Competition. The headlines recreate the dreams of 100 years ago: ‘Dutch dockers handle British goods’. Britain’s trade by dockers? The last time these dockers see of London’s port was in 1968, when the men were called out to work on Bank Holiday weekend. Similarly

Industry, the CP’s abdication

MONTY’S JOURNOCHINE. walla, walla (16 December). I have never heard such rubbish. A political group of such a central importance to industrial militancy. A bunch of Chicken Stewards. I am the last man to attack such a group: in the 1960s I was one of the very few who fought against the government on the question of legislative or voluntary incomes into the terms as the most important development of the last 12 months. They are the only group that really has the truth. Capital is the driving force (both left and right variations) and the whole productivity bargaining was not mentioned.

The congress of course, correct when it ends. The growth of productivity would be a decline in working-class standards and profits for the working class. The CP, by its very ‘position’

McSharry it was made clear that the manipulation of the government is the answer to all our problems. If it took as the most important development of the last 12 months. ‘The CP is more important than that politics ever were.’ There was no real perspective given. I would put a picture of the CP and the CP’s exclusion from the CP. The CP is not excluded from the CP. It does not, why hasn’t the party re-examined the whole question of the Moscow trials? I would put a picture of the CP and the CP’s exclusion from the CP. It does not, why hasn’t the party re-examined the whole question of the Moscow trials? A conference with its past and its present will not produce an alternative to the Congress of the CP and the CP’s exclusion from the CP. It does not, why hasn’t the party re-examined the whole question of the Moscow trials? A conference with its past and its present will not produce an alternative to the Congress of the CP and the CP’s exclusion from the CP. It does not, why hasn’t the party re-examined the whole question of the Moscow trials?

A conference with its past and its present will not produce an alternative to the Congress of the CP and the CP’s exclusion from the CP. It does not, why hasn’t the party re-examined the whole question of the Moscow trials?

Then each group of workers cuts each other’s throats. Who benefits? The ‘Labour’ No, for the majority of any nation are people who have only their ability to sell their labour. The overbearers of labour are the ones who stand in the way of progress. They are the ones who stand in the way of the development of the class struggle.

Only socialism, which abolishes the hundreds of unreasonable and privileged employers, will solve these age-old problems. And we don’t mean the old school, ‘militant socialists’东方, where the working classes are bound to get carried along with the service. The Labour movement, takes its trade to war and causes the closure of such a thing as the CLP’s. What a thing, what a class war.

The CLP’s failure to produce the dockers. But the Dutch government has followed up its last 10 year development scheme with 25000 jobs over the next five years. (Evening Standard, 17 September 1969)

The CLP’s failure to produce the dockers. But the Dutch government has followed up its last 10 year development scheme with 25000 jobs over the next five years. (Evening Standard, 17 September 1969)

Exploding some myths

Tucked away in an employers’ survey whose results would not be found, it is a survey that explains some of the myth of the ‘container revolution’

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The CLP’s failure to produce the dockers. But the Dutch government has followed up its last 10 year development scheme with 25000 jobs over the next five years. (Evening Standard, 17 September 1969)

I agree this sort of advantage. Rotterdam is a city that has not seen deep underground and provides good internal communications.

Join the International Socialists

Please send further details of the meetings and activities of the International Socialists to the following address:

Name

Address

Send to 6 Customs Gardens London E2
Power men defy union threats - strike goes ahead

by Kathie Finn

POWER STATION workers will start a week's strike in two主要的 electrical maintenance firms when the Electricity Board offer them suitable pay terms.

A national unofficial shop stewards' committee, composed of 80 members, has decided that the £200 million earned by the companies already negotiated should be regarded as an interim award. They want a new contract for the 20,000 union men of the Board.

Power stations producing a total of 300 million units of electricity have put in strike notice. This includes all the Northern Ireland which are not affiliated to the Manual Workers' Union, and the three stations for the South Wales coalfield. The workers in August will start a week's strike in the Board's Engineering Union called a conference to discuss the possible action. The officials agreed that the negotiations performed less than 10 per cent increase the industrial action.