WE'VE BEEN KICKED AROUND TOO LONG--WE'VE HAD ENOUGH'

BY JOHN CHARLTON

YORKSHIRE MINERS have given a magnificent lead to their brothers throughout the country. All the pits in the area have now been on strike for a week in pursuit of their claim: £20 for surface workers, £22 for underground men and £30 for face workers.

They have issued a call to the rest of the miners to join them and by Wednesday a total of 40 Yorkshire and 26 South Wales pits were on strike. Scotland and Kent are expected to follow this week and pickets will be visiting every area in a determined effort to bring out every miner.

In spite of the efforts of the Coal Board and the majority of executive members of the miners’ union to destroy the militancy of the past few months, the rank and file has shown that it wants to fight and is ready to fight.

A Brodsworth miner summed up the mood: 'We've been kicked around long enough. We've had enough. If the executive won't give a lead--then we'll have to do it ourselves.'

PAY CLAIM JUSTIFIED

The strikers are making it clear to everyone why they are striking and why every miner should follow.

The original pay claim was absolutely justified. And last week's 'Barbarous' anti-working class budget makes it very obvious indeed.

Like every other working class housewife, the miners' wives find making ends meet becoming increasingly difficult. The extra money, which would still leave miners some 25 per cent below their 1921 wage levels, is urgently needed.

The latest offer of 10s extra next summer if productivity rises by then to pay for it, is totally unacceptable. It can only lead to further closures in an industry where demand is declining due to government policy of favouring the oil and natural gas barons.

The only answer to redundancy is for the union to mount a vigorous campaign.

DETERMINED TO BEAT MINORITY

The secret ballot last month gave a clear majority for strike action. The lads are determined not to be ruled by an undemocratic minority of defectors and lackeys of the NCB.

It can only mean greater humiliation at the hands of NCB and government.

The new ballot is a deliberate attempt by the miners' right wing to defeat strike action. In the face of the total wave of rank and file initiatives, the union executive has a clear duty to support the strike.

If they fail to do this, then the miners should organise to see that a clear majority is won on the second ballot.

THE TORIES are on the anti-worker warpath with a vengeance. Hand on the levers of their sweeping cuts in the social services come proposals to increase rents and put more money in the pockets of the landlords and the moneylenders.

In the plans outlined on Tuesday by Enviroment Minister Peter Walker, rent control will end for 1.3 million tenants in controlled dwellings. The Government will bring in a new law which will make it easier for landlords to claim ‘fair rents’ - in other words, they will be at the mercy of the landlords.

And council tenants will also be switched on to the fair rents system.

The Tories are determined to end the situation whereby tenants under one council pay lower rents than tenants in a neighbouring area.

The government looks upon the Greater London Council, run by a clique of Tory landlords and housing executives, as the pace-setters in this direction. Some GLC rents in London are as high as £10 a week and make up a third of a family's income. The Tories want to round up all council rents towards the GLC figures.

Means test

For both private and council tenants on very low incomes, the Tories have the inevitable means test scheme in hand. Rent rebate schemes will be forced onto all councils and private tenants will experience the terrors of their incomes in order to receive a small allowance. Landlords will receive an indirect government subsidy.

Landlords and moneylenders are licking their chops at the prospect. Only united action by trade unionists and tenants' organisations can wipe the grime from their faces. And don’t be taken in by the ‘after tax’ figures. They are an illusion, in the words of the BMA, an illusion.

THE CHANCELLOR'S sixpence off income-tax is a jittery, jolly relief rather than a bonanza for most of us. But it gives an £8,000-a-year pay rise to six of Britain's top-paid managers.

This is the amount which their incomes, inflated at the gross level to allow for surtax, will now rise as a result of a small cut in the standard rate.

The sixpenny rise pushes up their after-tax incomes by between 11 and 15% (figures below for their new take-home pay are calculated on the assumption that they are married with no dependent children, so they will not be strictly accurate in individual circumstances; but the change is much the same at these levels whatever the size of the family.)

The income-tax reduction should work wonders for incentives in the £8,000-a-year-plus bracket. The amount they can keep of each extra £1 they earn rises sharply from £1.50 to £5.75. But perhaps the most dramatic way of all to look at the figures is to examine how much those top men's gross income would have to be boosted at the old rate to achieve the same result as Barber's mini-budget. In each case the payrise would have to have been around 28%.
THE REAL VIOLENCE
IN BRITAIN’S POLICE STATE

MAJOR-GENERAL Anthony Farrer-Hockley, commander of the British Land Forces, is one of a long line of British military leaders who has long been a proponent of the idea that military intervention is the best way to deal with social problems. In his recent article, he argues that the police are the true custodians of society and that any attempt to challenge their authority is a threat to national security.

In this context, it is important to note that the police have a history of targeting black and minority ethnic communities, and that this has led to a number of cases of police violence and abuse.

The police have a long history of using excessive force and engaging in human rights violations. This has led to a number of cases where the police have been accused of brutality and abuse.

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Union militancy and scandals rock Irish ‘green’ Tones

UNDER THE IMPACT of revelations by former ministers during the arms trial and a military response by trade unionists to the proposed wage freeze, Jack Lynch’s Fianna Fail government has been brought to the verge of collapse.

But when a vote of confidence is taken in the Dail in Dublin this week, Lynch is likely to be saved by the votes of the ‘rebel’ ex-ministers.

Whether Fianna Fail survives or not, the present situation in the 26 counties has all the makings of a major social crisis. The government and its likely replacements both suffer from an increasing lack of credibility.

Already some prominent Labour politicians are warning that unless ‘reformists’ act the country could drift closer to revolutionary conditions.

The present economic situation is as serious as anything experienced south of the border since Fianna Fail abandoned its protectionist policies in the early 1950s.

Following the Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement, the Great Depression has placed the Irish economy into the hands of international, mainly British, capital.

In a bid to meet a small economic boom, they sold Irish workers as the cheapest labour available for international companies in western Europe.

‘Western’ role

This development was accompanied by a shift in the political attitude of the Irish ruling class parties. Now even formal adherence to ‘republicanism’ was out.

In came enthusiasm for ‘Ireland’s western role’, for the Common Market and - in the words of Lynch in New York last month - enthusiasm for ‘Britain as a freedom loving nation’.

The economic climate in Ireland has blown cooler in recent years. New investment was more difficult to attract and the employers came under pressure from an Irish working class more strongly organised in the trade union movement and less inhibited by emigration or unemployment than for many years.

Although the 26 counties remain a haven for skinny wages (girls on the Shannon estate get paid £6 a week) organised sections of workers were able to advance their living standards.

The Irish ruling class has now decided to make a stand. But the 6 per cent wages ceiling announced last month had already been amended when the unions began talking about a general strike.

Colley (Lynch’s pro-British finance minister) has imposed new definitive taxes and clearly intends to stratagems wages as far as possible while prices continue to rocket. Major industrial clashes seem inevitable.

The paralysis of the government during the northern crisis has been heightened as a result of revelations made during the trial of former Finance Minister Haughey and others for illegally attempting to import arms to the north last year. It is clear that the rebel Fianna Failers were prepared to talk big about helping ‘the people’ in the north but do nothing in practice.

Concentration camp

But the trial has served to put a ‘republican’ gloss on men like Haughey in spite of their anti-republican record. It was Haughey that supervised the opening of the Curragh concentration camp for republican prisoners in the 1950s.

Haughey and his cohorts like Blaney (passivity or social issues the right wing minority of Fianna Fail) are now mounting a campaign to unseat Lynch but they are not prepared to risk the fall of the Fianna Fail government.

They offer no fundamental alternative to Lynch. Haughey, like Lynch, is in favour of closer links with Britain.

He and Blaney are anxious to divert the dangerously radical direction of the northern anti-Unionist movement into safe, non-socialist channels. To this end they are prepared to talk ‘more green than thou’.

If Haughey and the rebel Fianna Failers offer no hope for the oppressed people in Ireland - north or south - the official ‘opposition’ in Dublin is equally barren of hope.

The Irish Labour Party has moved so far to the right since the last 26 counties general election that they are now prepared to enter a coalition with the extreme right wing Fine Gael party (largely farmers with big commercial interests).

Labour leaders like Conor Cruise O’Brien speak ‘left’ but are agnost at the prospect of mounting industrial and social strikes and preparing to divert this into safe constitutional channels.

Great unity

Outside the constitutional parties, the republicans in the south are best placed to give a socialist lead. Following the split with the right wing Sinn Fein dissidents, the republicans have hovers between reformism and a move to openly market capitalism.

In the north there are signs that greater unity of action is now possible between the revolutionary socialists of People’s Democracy and left republicans.

In this move lies the best hope for the future. The emergence of a non-sectarian revolutionary socialist party could attract thousands of militants from the south.

At this time Lynch, Haughey, Chichester-Clark and the rest will be more than a little worried.

A vital weapon in your struggles

THE MEMOIRS of Eamon de Valera, President of Eire, published this week, contain the startling revelation that President Churchill offered to forcibly unite the whole of Ireland during the Second World War if Eire dropped her neutral stance. Churchill was angry at de Valera’s refusal to open his ports to British warships and was worried that the Germans might use them.

Churchill’s offer shows the cynical hypocrisy of the British ruling class towards the Irish question. In an attempt to divide Ireland and weaken the nationalist struggle, British imperialism deliberately fostered religious differences that led to the creation of Ulster. A divided Ireland helped maintain the grip of British capital over the whole 32 counties.

But when the British capital’s interests were threatened by Germany, Churchill was prepared to immediately abandon ‘brave little Ulster’ by amalgamating her with Eire. When de Valera rejected the proposed Churchill had to be restrained from using armed force to make the Irish leader change his mind. Like Carson, Churchill had scuttled regard for ‘law and order’ when ruling class interests were at stake.

by PAUL GILLESPIE in Dublin

SEAN TREACY: Welcome back. Some people here—and some newspapers—have been expressing the hope that you would join one of the more responsible, moderate groups like the Social Democratic and Labour Party on your return from jail.

No chance. Gerry Fitt’s SDLP represents a coalition of the middle class Catholics. They are ineffectual by any standard and certainly are not socialist.

In addition they are in the business of selling a possible constitutional rearrangement called ‘federalism’ to the Catholic workers. This would strengthen the control of British imperialism in Ireland.

What about unity among the socialists then? It must come. In mid-Ulster we are writing up a centre which can try and co-ordinate the work being done by People’s Democracy and other revolutionary socialists.

I hope this centre can also aid workers in struggle and that out of unity in action we can build a socialist organisation for the whole of Ireland. Looking at the role of the southern Labour politicians this is certainly their future.

What do you think about the chances of a right wing take over by Craig? This is possible but less likely than Brian Faulkner taking over with a policy half way between the official unionists and the extreme right. This would also mean a big increase in repression although the Special Powers Act against socialists and republicans.

What do you think about the events in Dublin, the trial of Haughey and so on?

Haughey wants to do a Faulkner inside Fianna Fail. In fact he and the other Fianna Failers represent basically the same policies.

Haughey was in charge of the repression of republicans and he is also in favour of federation, but with himself in charge of the south. He, Blaney and company are rashly interested in the north to combat the influence of the left and to divert the struggle into sectarian lines—not along class lines against capitalism.

What about the Solidarity Campaign here. What should it say and do?

I am sure all readers of Socialist Worker realise that it is ridiculous to talk about support for Ireland unless you present it as support for the struggle of Irish workers and for the Workers’ Republic.

Some British left wingers, though, do not seem to understand this. And I talk vaguely about ‘Ireland for the Irish’. The solidarity campaign can win big support by talking to workers here about the struggle of workers in Ireland. I am prepared to help them do this.
Murder in the cities as profits kill the buses

What we stand for

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS (or IS) is a democratic organisation whose membership is open to all who accept its main principles and who are willing to pay contributions and assist in the work of one of its organisations.

We believe in independent working-class action and that this must come after our ideas and not before. We believe in peace, in non-violence, and in the peaceful solution of international differences.

The international socialist movement comprises the greater part of the working class of the world. It is a democratic organisation. The giant firms have lines through the world and their allegiances are to themselves and the economic backbone of imperialism.

In Europe the Comintern has been formed for the sole purpose of extending the trade and profits of these multinational firms.

The international power of capitalism depends on the inferiority of the working class. A single socialist state cannot bring victory on its own without the support of the whole world. The working class must unite with the working class of other countries and go beyond the socialists and into the working class.

In addition building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of building a revolutionary socialist international independent of any political states.

To this end we have close relationships with a number of other socialist organisations throughout the world.

We believe in rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular selection of their officials.

We are firmly opposed to all negotiation by the trade unions and the defence of the right to strike. We are for 100 per cent trade unionism and the defence of the job. We fight against all trade unionism and the defence of the right to strike.

We are for the abolition of all political parties.

We are against the trade unionism and the defence of the right to strike. We are against the defence of workers' rights in Britain and to fight to stop the British state and the economy of all revolutionary socialism.

The struggle for socialism is the central struggle of our time.

Workers' power and control must be in the hands of the working people on the job and in the workplace.

With the Tories in power the country has become divided. As with other social services, cuts come first and service last, at all. In this situation, the IS announced the withdrawal of grants worth £33 million to public transport.

In every survey of bus and train services the most important demand made by passengers is for a reliable service. Yet reliability has been the first casualty of the current slump.

There is no argument about the need for buses. Yet today, despite its tremendous resources, skills and inventions, our society is incapable of satisfying this need.

At a cost approaching £1000 million, Concords will soon fly between New York and London in three hours while workers spend as long each day in snuggling a few miles across our cities to work and home again. It is not technology but the continuous drive for profits that lies at the root of our transport system.

The politicians and planners talk as if public transport was a relic of the past. The papers speak of the 'car culture' as a real change for the better. But only 15 per cent of families own a car.

With the reduced frequency of buses, the impact on our society will be hardly felt. In two to three years, it will become very clear that public transport has become a necessity.

On a two-minute service you will be well feeling pretty soon.

One of the most important steps to take is to stop the cuts in public transport. The refusal to pay for public transport is a weapon that will be used against the socialists and in the struggle for socialism.

The figure for London is a 17 per cent cut in service. This is over £34 million per year for drivers. For many, the London Transport Minister is an example to the rest of the country.

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When employed public transport companies have looked at the workers' needs for 1969.

Declared loss in the first year of the fuel tax, £3 million, was soon anticipated in the second year, £6 million, in the third year, £10 million, and in the fourth year, £15 million. By 1970 the government had put the public in the red to £25 million.

The truth was in the cards when the government decided to cut the fuel tax.

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FORD WORKERS are likely to be in the news again soon. At the end of 1969 and the beginning of 1970, the demand for 'parity'—the demand that shop stewards from all Fords plants will be gathering in support of the scheme to mop up the trade unionists' funds—will be the memory of last February when a majority of Ford workers refused to come out for more than £4 extra the company had offered.

But on the positive side, because they were granted without any action, the expectations of Ford workers will have time. The attitude of many is likely to be: 'If we don't get action, what can we get with action?'

New confidence
Ford militants have faced the difficult task of rebuilding the union's case since the catastrophic defeat of 1967 when 25% of the leading militants were sacked. To win back the vital confidence drive by the company.

A new plan, launched in May, restored the morale of the union's strike of 1965 created renewed confidence in the campaign for greater struggle. It was the fight of an especially oppressed section of working class people which had bolstered their militancy.

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Open allies
The workers were led to rely on the union leaders. The right-wing leaders of the trade union have not been in support but have been on the side of the right.

The 'leftwing' leaders, on the other hand, may have good intentions but their actions are not always in the interest of the workers. A call for the workers to be organized and have control of their own affairs.

The field of open allies is wide and not just limited to the union leaders. There are also the employers and the government.

In the weeks and months ahead the energy of Ford workers must be sustained. There are many challenges and the demands strenuously fought for:

1. 'Parity' of earnings with Midland's workers—both Ford workers and 'parity' between production and skilled workers.

2. The right to work for women.

3. Full time participation by all members of the white collar sections.

4. Five days' work for five days' pay.

5. Higher shift premiums—time and a half for all shifts (two and three shifts).

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Free and easy
The motor manufacturers' lobby demands the building of vast urban rings and motorways for colossal sums of money.

The motorways rip through the cities, tearing down houses, uprooting thousands of families. But the traffic jams grow worse and the cities threaten to come to a complete standstill.

The only sane policy, one that puts the interests of the majority before the interests of the profit-seekers, is a free public transport system. Public transport is the most efficient method of moving large numbers of people around.

We can afford it. The bill should be footed by industry, which would benefit from the easing of congestion and which pays nothing for the wear and tear of the roads caused by its heavy lorries.

Cars will still be needed for places where buses and trams can not go. Again, sweeping changes would be needed to make cheap motorizing available for all working people.

At present it costs as much to tax a Mini as to tax a Rolls. The Labour government bailed at a charitable charge to abolish all motoring taxes except petrol tax and make the owners of the big cars pay more than ordinary motorists. But the only long-term solution is the nationalisation of the car industry, along with the oil and petrol combine and the insurance companies. Motorizing is expensive because it runs for profit, while cars fall to bits after five years and the petrol firms constantly force up their prices.

Buses and cars
A car industry run under workers' control would break the grip of the profiteers and produce cars for need, not profit. Possibly the most efficient way to run motorizing would be on a cooperative basis so that people would obtain a carefully maintained vehicle when they needed it and also stop thousands of cars cluttering the roads and road space for much of the day.

With a scheme of free public transport and co-operative hire feasible would almost certainly demand restrictions on vehicles in city centres at certain times of day. This would be achieved as a restriction on 'individual free' hire but as costs mount and the parking meters proliferate, the only freedom today is that of the bank account.

Only socialists put forward any constructive and alternative schemes to the present chaos. But there are alternatives which can operate when millions of working people take collective action to change our present society.

Changes can be made. The people of Acklam Road in West London won a small victory when they forced the GLC to rebuild them away from the rood and the street of the Westway.

Trade unions must be aware of the fact that struggles for higher wages are weakened when rising prices dim any immediate achievements. And cuts in the working week are wiped away when extra hours increase in basic pay.

The campaign for public transport geared to social needs is a vital part of the general move for a decent, humane society, run and controlled by working people. It is a campaign we must not ignore in the important struggles that lie ahead.

Research: Phil Hall and Sally Parkin
Drawing: John Kennedy Pictures: Jeff Pick
Tories fan the flames of race hate to divide and weaken the labour movement

THE TURN of the 20th century saw a rising tide of nationalism and fascism among European Jews fleeing from persecution. They came to Britain, a country of open hearts haven of all men persecuted in their own countries.

The strength of many notable figures in the Tory Party did not extend very far, and for the first time, national and racial politics began to have an impact on British politics.

Speeches were made referring to Jews as dirty, lazy, criminal, vermin - the usual list of accusations made against all people from all backgrounds. Just as now, it was argued that the big Anglo-Saxon race was in danger of being swamped by the alien. Noel Billing MP, summed up much of the philosophy of the Tory Party when he said: "All that is clean in the British character has been debased by the type of alien that has invaded us. They have completely defiled the nursery of the nation and make boys and girls turn in disgrace by their fellow countrymen."

This worthy gentleman was also responsible for giving the world a catch-phrase of the Nazis by suggesting that all Jews should be forced to leave Britain, which even formed off from the purely Jew-baiting English.

Great unrest

This period was one of great social and political unrest. The hard-pressed ruling class was only too willing to encourage the division and conflict between the workers and the ruling class.

For the first time, the workers were being organised, but they were divided. The trade unions were divided between the Chambers of Trade and the Trades Unions. The Trades Unions were the only ones to organise a strike, but they did not have much success.

The Railroad Strike of 1875 showed the workers' determination and their ability to organise. The strike was called a "Railway Strike" and it lasted for 10 days.

The strike was called in protest at the lowering of wages and the introduction of the 10-hour day. The strikers were supported by the other workers and the strike was a great success.

The workers' strike was a great success and it showed the workers' determination to fight for their rights. The strike was a great morale booster and it gave the workers hope that they could win their fight.

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**Profliteers behind drugs scandal**

**THE SUNDAY TIMES** exposed the Great Drug Fraud last week. Here's how it began...

Suppose you go to your doctor about your insomnia. He might prescribe the drug sodium pentobarbitone.

And if in fact he actually wrote that chemical name on the prescription form, then the chemist could give you any of the different makes of cal-infomino for $25 million, or profit $20 million, plus a $10 million profit for each prescription that he gives you the brand and no other. But it appears that drug companies have been substituting a cheaper form of the drug. The chemist is not commissioning the Health Service, however, if they had to do the cheaper drug.

In this way the Health Service has been robbed of about a million pounds a year.

**Could be deadly**

The Sunday Times quite correctly condemned these activities on two counts. Firstly, the Health Service is being robbed.

Secondly, some of the 'substitute' drugs have not been approved by the Committee on Safety of Drugs, and there is no assurance that they are up to standard in some cases. Some of them could be dangerous.

As the article put it: 'If we are to have cheaper drugs then this must be done under government control with full safeguards for the public. The racketers that currently exist benefit nobody except the manufacturer or the chemist.

But this is only the half story.

The whole tenor of the article accepts, in effect, that since the big companies virtually own the drugs then any doctors must be produced by unscrupulous chemists out to poison the public and help chemists fleece the Health Service.

By maintaining a monopoly on the prescription of a drug, by means of patents, the big drug companies can keep their prices artificially high, to the extent that they need plenty of money to keep their extensive research going. Of course, they need money for research but do they need the large profits they make?

**Expensive hold**

Take ICI. In 1968/69 out of a total sales of pharmaceuticals of £25 million, £10 million was profit, which gives what is called a percentage margin of 40 per cent.

This is higher than in any other division of ICI, where companies on 14 per cent for the company as a whole. But the greater the percentage of profits, they need to spend large amounts on advertising as well as research. They have a vested interest in making people more familiar with the doctor so that, rather than prescribe the general name for a drug, the doctor will prescribe only the more expensive branded drug.

We must certainly condemn the activities of the big drug companies in their attempts to maintain an expensive hold on the Health Service.

Ken Green

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**Softly, softly**

**>'+**

A delay in signing the latest act to the Rehabilitation Act. The programme was praised by all sides for the way it achieved its goals. It has been reported that as many as 200 people whose actions and reactions reflect the environment that helped to mould them will take part in the programme from the run of the mill police series.

The series' role is to bring the 'hard and difficult' job of the police and to let the public and police department for the modern urban areas be introduced to tackle crime. Socialists have no illusions about such programmes - it's when they are entertaining.

**Caricatures**

But the present series has been below standard. Characterisation has been one of the strongest and working class people in particular are treated like cardboard caricatures.

Plater's story had something interesting to say about an important aspect of working-class life - the disturbing personal conceptions that face many people and the exploitation of a criminal situation by landlords.

**Sergeant Evans, his Welsh character and heavy crimes against the landlord, and, in police parlance, 'the softening up' of those who are thought to be the police and both are effective, the police and the landlord, in their wealth and privileges, talk the police and live off other people's misfortunes.

**Absurd**

But then reality hit me. I thought it was absurd and I realised how absurd the whole thing was.

Every tank went on the landlord's ox cart, without seeking permission from the landlord. And even when they found out, he was lightly dealt with. And then the official go-ahead to fix the young engineer.

Real life events prove the utter implausibility of the story. In every episode we can see the action by the police have been to be the right or wrong of the authorities, either turning a blind eye or threatening private property by evicting rebellious tenants.

However much one individual policeman might be shocked by some aspects of society he would never be allowed to 'go it alone', particularly in the highly-disciplined environment.

Plater, a committed socialist, was rightly using the medium to attack one of the cores that disfigure the police force while continuing to cast a policeman in the role of avenging angel he unfortunately gave the idea of the police in general and suggests that they act as a secret police force instead of as the upholders and defenders of the rights of the minority.

**David East**

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**NOTICES**

**NORTH LONDON IS Women's Group presents...**

**FREEDOM TO SPEAK OUT**

The programme is to be held at 125 York Rd, Mon 11th 20.30. It will be held in the main hall at 125 York Rd.

**LONDON IS NIGHT STUDENT meeting to the NLOA**

The meeting will be held on Fri 10th 20.30. It will be held in the main hall at 125 York Rd.

**CAMERON 10-COP drive against anti-police riots at Youlstone Park, Southend on Sea on Sat 12th 11.30am.**

TEESIDE public meeting sponsored by

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**How to contact TONY MANSON, National Union of Public and General Employees**

**93 Fulham Rd, London SW3 6EF. (01-589 9339)**

**How to contact DAMIEN MILLER, National Union of Public and General Employees**

**12-14 Borough High St, London SE1 9LY. (01-491 6711)**

**How to contact SCOTTISH AREA 15 One day school, 5-7 May 1979, 5-7 May 1979.**

**How to contact JOHN HAWKINS, National Union of Public and General Employees**

**12-14 Borough High St, London SE1 9LY. (01-491 6711)**

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**The Reader's Edition of the Sunday Times**

**Don't buy Brown or any other...**

We have been brought through one book that should be high on an anger's grace list. The chapter is about a bloke called Solomon who dwells in some detail on the bodily delights of his lover. Their's a chap called Let's relationship with his daughter simply cannot be described in a decent family newspaper.

As for one character given 'casting his seed upon the ground' makes you portly seem like a Roy Scout in boxing gloves. Ban it, bishops, ban it. It's called the Bible.

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**Money for dirt**

**MEMO to striking council workers.**

The Sunday Times had an advertisement for the post of Assistant to the Secretary of the Local Authority Employment Association. The salary is to be £6,000 a year. The job is to be 30 hours a week with a £2,000 a year more than the same employers are offering their manual workers.

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**Check on the queuine**

**HIGH profits imply an efficient business, so the story goes.**

Barclays Bank made £72 million in 1969 as against £66 million in 1968, an 18 per cent rise.

They have a slogan for it: Bank duty-free. But the story coming out of head office runs counter to the advertisements for public digestion.

IBM computers have been brought in and can process 70 per cent of other 30 per cent has to be painfully done by a vast army of clerks, inspectors and managers who tend the weeds of the computers.

On one job where six girls were once employed, there are now 230 and they are six months behind. As a result of this chaos, literally millions of pounds are sinking without trace.

In the exchange of cheques between the newly formed Barclays and Martins concern and the new National Westminster concern, a completely unexplained £30 million difference has arisen in the first six months of this year.

Meanwhile, get ready to be天真 for that £3 maximum poverty handout...

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**Don't shoot**

**SAMPLE joke for after-dinner speakers**

'Have the counter-revolution and a shop steward and a union official are lined up before the firing squad. "Any last requests?" asks the captain of the guard.

"Yes, I'd like to be blinded for life," says the steward. The official blithely at him: "Stop causing trouble."
Scots strike over jobless

GLASGOW: 100,000 officials strike by 100,000 Scottish workers will go on 11 November in spite of a witch-hunt by the press and leading industrialists.

The strike has been called by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions in protest against unemployment. The October figures underline the gravity of the situation; Scottish unemployment is at its highest since the war.

The strike is the worst at the government's anticipation proposals.

There is also growing support for the one-day strikes called by the two bars called for 8 December. Striking delegations from Scotland will attend the London conference on 14 November called by the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions to discuss the one-day strike.

Support for the strikers is enormous.

Women entire families have demanded that the council 'pay up and open up'. 15 members of the National Union of GOSC workers' families had hardly a single refusal.

"NO STRINGS' DEMAND GROWS IN SIZE"

by Dick Williams

MILITARY SUPPORT is mounting throughout the whole of the ICI combine in support of the demand for an across-the-board increase of 71/2% on all wages, and the leaders of the National Union of GOSC workers, who have been asked to call off nationwide action, are determined to maintain the fight.

The demand for an across-the-board increase has been met by management with a large-scale strike, which has been extended to include all employees in the industry. The ICI combine, which represents the largest employers in the country, has already agreed to a 50% increase in wages, but there is a strong feeling among the strikers that this is not enough.

The strikers have been joined by a number of other trade unions, including the Transport and General Workers' Union, the National Union of Machinists, and the National Union of Gas, Light and Coke Workers. The strike has been supported by a wide range of organizations, including the Trades Union Congress and the National Union of GOSC workers.

The ICI combine has been forced to make concessions to the strikers, but the strike continues to grow in strength.

The National Union of GOSC workers has called a national strike for 11 November, and the ICI combine has agreed to meet the demands of the strikers.

The strike is supported by all the major unions in the country, and the ICI combine has been forced to make concessions to the strikers. The strike continues to grow in strength, and the ICI combine has been forced to make further concessions to the strikers.

STRIKES AND CONFLICTS

by Martin Barker

Bristol is in the grip of a mini-genera strike of council workers. All the schools are closed, the Polytech-

There is urgent need to build up the ranks of the Federation, and ICI workers are determined to make ICI path-

PARITY

It is time that ICI workers broke that effective control. There is talk of an 'on the job' strike at the company's par-

CLEANERS SACKED

WOMEN cleaners at the Board of Trade offices in London came out on strike earlier this month after a series of sackings at the office.

"I was a cleaner at the office for 18 months. They had been charging me for use of the toilet, but I never used it. I was told that I was being sacked because I was not using the toilet properly. I was then given a new job in another office, but I was soon sacked again. I was never given any reason for being sacked."

A public meeting, the Battle of Brook Green and Antiterrorist Special Constabulary, was called for Tuesday, 15 November, to discuss the sackings and the general situation.

BUILDERS STRIKE

FIVE HUNDRED construction workers on the new East London stadium project went on strike on Thursday, 15 November, after a series of sackings and disputes over pay increases.

"The workers are being paid less than the national average. We were promised a pay rise, but we have been getting less. We are not being treated fairly," said one of the strikers.

"The employers are trying to force the workers to accept lower wages. They are using this as a way of reducing their costs," said another worker.

The workers are determined to fight for their rights, and they have been supported by a number of trade unions.

The strike continues to grow in strength, and the employers are forced to make concessions to the strikers.