Tories get their priorities right

TENS of thousands have died in the droughts and floods in East Pakistan.

All lives are of equal value, yet the rich and powerful continue to thrive while the poor suffer. The Tory government's policies have caused immense suffering and death. It is time for us to stand together and demand justice. Join the fight against the Tory government's anti-union policies and stand up for the rights of the working class.

---

A QUICK READING of the editorial and financial columns of the press papers would convince most workers of the need for united action to defeat the government's anti-strike laws.

For all the big business pundits are obsessed with one thing: How to stop workers winning improved pay and conditions (or how to 'prevent wage inflation' as they put it).

The favourable trend in the balance of payments has not brought the bosses much joy. They fear this might rapidly be reversed as prices continue to soar.

So they discuss how to keep down wages and make workers accept speed-up and worsening conditions.

Top ruling circles are arguing over three different ways to tackle their problems. All are against the interests and welfare of working people.

The first approach is the one the Tories are attempting to use now. The aim is to take on and defeat one section of workers to prove to the rest of the labour movement that 'militancy does not pay'.

This method received a heavy setback, with the victory of the council workers.

**Too strong**

The Tories are backing their strategy with union legislation. They want to cow workers into submission by making it impossible for the rank and file to organize.

But some leading Tories fear that trade unions are strong enough to resist such attacks. They are thinking about a second weapon: a 'restriction in the machinery for industrial action'.

They mean a deliberate increase in the already high level of unemployment. The dole queue is an old Tory method used to browbeat those with jobs into accepting low wages and bad conditions.

A third approach being canvassed by some businessmen and economists is to repeat the experience of the last six years with a wage freeze or incomes policy.

They hope that workers who are fed up with struggling to keep up with prices can be conned into accepting a limitation on wage increases in the hope that prices will then be kept down.

Some Labour politicians and Vic. Feather of the TUC have fallen for this line.

But workers should not be fooled. We had an 'incomes policy' under the Labour government.

At the end of it, lower paid workers found themselves worse off than before.

It is impossible to freeze 'all incomes' and prices under the present system. You cannot freeze prices when they are rising all over the world.

If you freeze dividends, shareholders get the money back as a 'capital gain' and the value of their property goes on rising. But a wage increase that is passed up in 'the national interest' is lost for ever.

The bosses hope that by black-turn to back page

**CONFERENCE ON ANTI-UNION LAWS**

The International Socialists are holding a conference on 5 December in Birmingham to hammer out a strategy for fighting the anti-union laws and demanding the union is open to all industrial workers and close industrial sympathisers.

Please send the credentials:

NAME

ADDRESS

UNION

Send to IS Secretary 8 Customs Office London E20.
For some unexplained reason, the Daily Mirror ran a headline that read “With a million dollar price tag, the men for the job...”
Men cough their guts out because year after year they have lived in the mining villages in terrible conditions.

Miners say union must be changed

JOHNIE LEVER is 22. He is a miner in Doncaster. His father went down the pit, and his grandfather before him. Johnny went to the pit at the age of 15 years, his grandfather at the age of 13 years. Johnny now works at the pit as a fitter.

The Lever family live in one of the oldest kind of pit houses in Stainforth, just outside Doncaster. Built in 1921, they are just a little more progressively designed than the old 19th century back-to-backs.

The living room is virtually the only place you can live. All the other rooms are freezing cold and damp. Cramped and shabby, the room has its central point: a fitted oven and open cookers.

The open coke fire blazes away all day, and Grandad Lever boils the kettle on it and cooks toast in the morning over it. In the morning he gets up early to rake out the ash and make the fire again so the house can be warm.

In Stainforth, row upon row of identical houses stand, ugly against the November gray skies. On a drizzling, cold day, the sight is not designed to raise the spirits, rather to depress them.

It's strange that a strike took place last year at nearly the same time. When winter sets in, the unions are more strongly emphasised.

Few cars were parked outside the houses. The shops in the high road were drab, the goods, dull and un-inspired.

Lifeless

The faces of the people were worn and gaunt. Eyes were useless, if years of such existence had worn down the face and now there was nothing to do but resign themselves to the night.

It has been a well-known saying for years in the pit villages that men don't need alarm clocks to wake them in the morning. The coughing at 4 and Sam saw to it.

Men coughing their guts out, sometimes spitting blood, because year after year they have lived in these mining villages, in terrible conditions, breathing in the black, poisonous dust.

Doncaster is a relatively new pit town and the houses for the most part are reasonable. They are not good by any standards, but they are better than the old pit houses. The rents are higher too.

Johnnie Lever's grandfather pays £6 a week for his pit house out of the £6 6s 6d pension money he receives. He is 72 years old.

He gets money from the Coal Board that just about pays for the coal when it is delivered at 10s a time. It does not come free any more.

He spent 53 years at the pit. He was there when pit ponies were used and when men had to crawl something like three miles to the coal face before starting work.

This year, miners in Doncaster came out on strike in solidarity with others all over the country. Men who were receiving higher pay came out in support of the lower paid.

Amid the press hootings and Lord Robens 'Red Scare' to side-track from the plight of these men, Doncaster miners struggled on in one of their most militant battles yet.

Wavered

Pickets have been accused of extreme violence, smear campaigns have issued forth from the NCB and the officials of the miners' union have wavered yet again, finally selling the men out.

As far as 'red control' of the district was concerned, the miners I spoke to found it laughable. One said: 'If it was the 'reds' let's join them'.

The press and television have had a fine time searching for 'reds'. Robens, in an interview with the notorious Sheffield Telegraph hinted at 'Moscow Gold' when he said about Doncaster's striking plotters: 'They seem to have a lot of money to do it with courage. There were police at hand on every picket, which is reminiscent of the Filiborgton strike.

The struggle is not over. There is every possibility that the Doncaster lads will decide to go on fighting.

The spirit of the miners has never been so high. They feel there is a definite need to change the union, to break the old constitution which is used by the right wing to obstruct militants.

Anyone who believes that a majority has to be two-thirds and not 51 per cent must be standing on his head.

It is rank and file miners who have built the union. It is rank and file miners who have led and organised the strike.

They must campaign now for an effectivegrass-roots movement that will halt aside the present undemocratic union structure and weld it into an effective fighting force, responsive to the members at every level.

The fact that miners can fight, can rise above the slavishness and apathy of their conditions and jobs is a sheer inspiration to us all.

Ballot result next week

MINERS throughout Britain have been voting this week, on the latest pay offer from the National Coal Board. The result is expected to be announced by the end of next week.

Productivity Dealing and the Miners' Next Step

John Carlton

Worried

If they had really felt the strike was so vital, they had a duty to fight for a stoppage after a majority vote in its favour. Instead, they hid behind the constitution of the union. They are bureaucrats entrenched in constitutionalism, worried about the safety of their jobs, which they hold for life, wanting to please the right wing because they do not wish to take a position where they reign over principles.

Several of the miners I spoke to said that the dustmen's strike has been an incentive to go ahead with their struggle. When a couple of dustcarts passed a picket in the Barnby way there were roaring cheers.

The pickets have shown great
The union that
wants a
life

JOE KENYON
-talks to Socialist Worker

DID YOU EVER READ about the poorhouses of the early 19th century? The standard of living in those hell-holes was so bad that no one outside wanted to go back and it was just high enough to keep the people inside alive.

The present-day Social Security system has been compared with the old poor law. The attitude of many people to those living on Social Security has been expressed by a Yorkshire Labour MP: 'Let them get to work or starve.'

But it's not just the individual at the SS office who are to blame. It is definite government policy to give the people as little as possible, to never tell them their true rights for fear that claims will be made, to denigrate and crush them, so that for so many it is unfairly hard to live.

Joe Kenyon, secretary of the Claimants' and Unemployed Workers' Union calls the social security offices 'a load of thieves.' They must be pretty nasty people, or they wouldn't survive in a job like that, where they see numerous poor, neglected and starving people every day.

They defend the system and make it more difficult for people to get their rightful money. 'But it's not just the individuals at the SS office are to blame. It is definite government policy to give the people as little as possible, to never tell them their true rights for fear that claims will be made, to denigrate and crush them, so that for so many it is unfairly hard to live.

Emily Hardingham is a 64-year-old widow who lives in Bristol. She has been threatened with prison if she does not pay an old income tax bill for £16.19. She cannot pay.

Starve and freeze to death

Her income is £6.15 a week, which includes widow's pension and social security benefit. Her rent is £6.35 a week. In desperation she turned to Joe Kenyon, a sub-bitter letter:

'If I can bring a family up in poverty, you want to know how bad it is. I am a 64-year-old widow and I can hardly do up myself. I am afraid to sell the house and the furniture because it might put me to death this winter, we shall starve."

If the winter is very bad, Joe, I am afraid it will mean illness for many people like us. What can we do widows?"

Snowed under with requests

Ever since he started the union last April, Joe has been doing all around the country to fight on behalf of those who had been badly treated, and, in many cases, by the Social Security offices. He is snowed under with applications for assistance from all over Scotland, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cornwall, Kent and the union is growing from day to day.

The response from people has been overwhelming," he said. "It is a way for people to stand behind them. So many people have been fighting back. We have not been able to do it all alone. They don't know their full rights to claiming. They are mistreated by the Social Security offices. We have printed forms that should be available for everybody. We are offering to send out details of their rights for claiming and giving them advice on how to claim. We have seven post offices in Yorkshire asking for these lists, but not replied yet.

'Many people don't know they can claim for bedding, clothing, decorations, and other essentials of furniture and house purchase. They need to be told these rights.

When demands are made for clothing, the SS will always try and cheat you. A decent pair of shoes costs £5 nowadays. Try asking for the SS for £5 and you will probably fail with them.

Many people who claim for shoes get £2. There are people who are living on the union who are in full time employment, but still need to apply to Social Security for benefit.

One man in Wakefield had three children of school age. He pays £3.42 a week and his gross pay per week is £13.

He has a daughter aged 15 who is pregnant and can't work. Because she is 15 he gets no allowance for her. Because he is in full time employment he gets no help from the SS.

An appeal was lodged. Instead of dealing with the problem they themselves the SS officers slipped out of responsibility of the union. They contacted the Women's Voluntary Service, and they sent one of the round to give the girl some cast-off clothes.

'I told them, 'en,' said Joe. 'The girl wants new clothes, and I said to someone else's cast-off clothes.

Another man married with four children and living in South Yorkshire, is an ex miner who was. He hasn't been able to work for 10 years. He has IB and a slipped disc.

He earnt a lot of £6.35 this since. This was when they only give them money for their rent.

Gave a notion

Joe said: 'With them nothing, it's the child and the general accommodation very graciously with all the money. The child and the general accommodation very graciously.

The child was not allowed to go to the village.'

The child was not allowed to go to the village. They have not been able to allow the child to visit the village.

The officials apply the way they have been asked. They can't do anything.

Where to contact

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION of Claimants

Unions was set up in London on 30th March 1970. It aims to communicate and co-ordinate activities between Claimants Unions on the base of a mutual policy charter.

THE CLAIMANTS' CHARTER

1. The right to adequate income without means test for all people

2. The right to social security for all free of tax for all people

3. The right to a minimum flat state for all with its services controlled by the people who use it.

4. No distinction between so-called 'deserving' and 'undeserving' claimants.

UNIONS AFFILIIATED To This Charter:

Birmingham: 74a Stratford Road, Sparkbrook.

Send to: 18, 6 Corin Avenue, London E2 8BD.

Name

Address

Join the International Socialists

Scott And
Aberdare, Somerset, Swansea, Sheffield

Northeast
Durham/Newcastle upon Tyne/Teeside (Middlesbrough and Reacon)

North
Barley/Bradford/Derby/Doncaster/ Huddersfield/Hebburn/Helensburgh/Netley/ Sheffield

North West
Lancaster/Manchester/Odham

Bolton/Morecambe/St Helens/Wigan/Potteries

Brighouse/Bradford/Derby/Doncaster/ Huddersfield/Hebburn/Leeds/Netherton/ Preston/East

Midlands
Birmingham/Covington/Northampton/Leicester/Oxford/Northampton

WALES AND SOUTH WEST
Bath/Bradford/Cornwall/Devon/Swindon/ Plymouth/Truro

SOUTH
Aldford/Birmingham/Crawley/Folkestone/Falmouth/Southampton

EAST
Cambridge/Harlow/Swineford/Letchworth/Norwich/Chesterfield

Greater London And Home Counties
Acton/Anlaby/Barnet/Cardiff/Cardiff/Everton/Swansea/Tynemouth

South
Aldford/Essex/Fronton/Fordingbridge/Sheffield

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Join the International Socialists

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS is a democratic organisation whose membership is open to all people who accept its main principles and who are willing to play contributing and to work in one of its organisations. We believe in independent working class action, that we must overthrow capitalism and not tinker with reforms to patch it up. We work in the main organisations of the working class and are firmly committed to a policy of internationalism. Capitalism is international. The giant firms have investments throughout the world and owe no allegiances except to themselves and the economic system they maintain. In Europe the Common Market has been formed for the sole purpose of increasing the trade and profits of these multi-national firms. The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international action by the working class. A single socialist state cannot, therefore, indulge in reform unless workers of other countries actively come to its aid by extending the socialist revolution.

In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any other socialist. 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 election of all full-time officials. We are firmly opposed to secret negotiations and believe that all settlements should be signed or rejected by mass meetings. We are for 100% centralised unionism and the defence of shop stewards. We are against anti-trade union laws and curbs on the right to strike, whether the strikes are 'official' or 'unofficial'. We are against productivity deals and job evaluation and are for militant trade union unity and joint stewards committees in the plant and on a regional basis. We support all demands for equal pay and for a better deal for young workers. We support both the right to unemployment and redundancy and lay off and support the demand of five day's work or five days' pay. We support all workers in struggle and seek to build militant groups within industry. We are opposed to militarisation and police victimisation of black workers.

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1906: when trade union MPs fought for the right to strike

AS THE TORY GOVERNMENT prepare to publish their Industrial Relations Bill, a deep split is developing in the working-class movement about the method of opposing it. Faint hearts from the TUC General Council downwards are inclined to accept that the Bill will become law and to limit their opposition to a lukewarm ‘propaganda campaign’. The leaders of the trade union movement, and more acutely aware of the real significance of the Bill, are determined to fight it as a matter of principle.

The Act was the first major legislation introduced by the newly elected Liberal Government in January 1906. The old Trades Union Acts, under which the unions had been fighting for many years, were still in force.

In the 1906 election, 29 Labour MPs were elected, all of them trade unionists. They assumed that the Liberal government would support their resolutions and support a Bill to amend the Act of 1875, the Trade Disputes Act of 1906, which was introduced by trade union pressure.

The unions had strongly campaigned against the Act, and the Bill was fought line by line. By 9 November the Conservatives had surrendered to the inevitable, and the Bill passed through the Lords.

The trade union and Labour leaders in 1906 were mainly distinguished by the way in which they refused to accept the proposition that the unions should stop short of striking. They had never accepted the proposition that the unions should stop short of striking.

THE REALITY

1. Any jurisdiction over agreements, and to enfranchise trade unions. The trade unions are intractable. They are determined to resist the Act.

2. Opening the trade union movement to the public. The unions are determined to resist the Act.

3. The vote on the franchise. The unions are determined to resist the Act.

The trade union leaders in the early 1900s knew only too well that the Act was an essential part of the Act. They had also understood that the Act was an essential part of the Act.

Revolt

By a freak of parliamentary fortune, the government’s difficult task was made easier later. In the balance for private property, the new member for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, eight times President of the Board of Trade, railway servants and other trade unionists, had introduced the Act, and the TUC, the Act. The government did nothing which it was not forced to do.

A back-bench revolt in the House of Commons led to the government’s first report in the House of Commons. The government was faced with a situation where the railway workers had no control over the Bill. The government had no choice but to accept the Bill.

The unions were determined to resist the Act, but the government had no choice but to accept the Bill.

The TUC General Council had decided that the unions must fight the Act. The government had no choice but to accept the Bill.
Port employers not happy with early results of Devlin deal

LONDON DOCKS have been operating the productivity deal, Devlin Stage Two, for six weeks. The shiftwork and increased flexibility have already undermined working conditions.

Dockers now work a two-shift system, with an early shift starting at 7 am and a late one stretching well into the evening.

In spite of the general disruption of dockers’ lives, this system has been considered successful. It is becoming clear that Devlin Stage Two is far from living up to its potential.

Many of the usual ‘productivity’ tricks can only be applied with great difficulty in the docks. Each ship presents a new problem with different shaped holds and different types of cargo. Dockwork has many unique features. Time-and-motion study and similar techniques can only be applied with great difficulty.

The reluctance of the employers to press for new standards is due to strong rank and file and shop stewards organisation. London dockers will resist further worsening of conditions that a greater workload would bring about.

The employers will try to gain the lost penny of Devlin. A large part of the agreement stems from the need for ‘optimum efficiency in manpower’. This means more work per man in order to increase dockers’ net profit.

Another section enables disciplinary proceedings to be taken against dockers who achieve a satisfactory level of throughputs. The level is defined by the employers.

Unrest is probably kept of gang productivity. The difference between gang could be used at a later date to force all gangs to work faster than is normal or healthy.

While dockers are fighting to defend their conditions, the employers are merely chancing up increased profit.

Last year Scunthorpe, a London coking company, made £6 mion in profits, and Smith’s Coppers made £3,000,000.

The next few months will decide whether the dockers’ need to maintain their organisation and strength if they are to force the continued employers’ offensive against working conditions.

DAVE FISH

The docklands contract

by Roger Protz

A LIVELY fortnightly newspaper called The Port has appeared for the last three and a half years in London’s dockland. Aimed at the hearts and minds of the dockworkers, it has a substantial readership and influence.

It is the port, paper, example. It has been one of the chief weapons used by the employers and the Port of London Authority to sell the Devlin package of speed-up, shiftwork and productivity to the workers.

The Port has set out to build an ‘independent’ image. It encourages readers’ views and welcomes workers’ criticism of the employers, of course. ‘Impartiality is very useful. The hard-fighting editorial line — attacking strikes, unsuccessful action, pushing new ideas — is meant to remind redundancy and speed-up — appears to come from face-printed, liberal expert who are above the crude struggle but are in it.

In fact, The Port is about as ‘independent’ of the bosses as the Daily Express and Daily Telegraph are of the Tory Party.

Enlighten, educate

The paper was the dream child of Mr. John Redmond, chairman of the Port of London Authority. His aims, according to a public relations bulletin released by the organisation, were:

- To bring members’ questions to the attention of the management
- To encourage discussion and the general efficiency of the docks of the fleet.

To enlighten, educate and encourage the reader and promote common sense in the organisation of the dockers’ enthusiasm.

A delightfully Dickensonian turn of phrase is in evidence in the words of the PLA president, Mr. B. M. Burton, quoted in the Daily Mirror and Sunday Times.

Men such as Geoffrey Goodman, industrial editor of the Daily Mirror and now chairman and editor of the Port of London Authority, have already set the pace for change.

He has with him the director-general of the PLA and its chief dockers’ trainer, the chairman of the London Port employers, Mr. Goodman and Mr. Brown, and his brothers-in-law, dockers’ officers and dock workers.

The whole exercise is an expensive confidence trick designed by rich and powerful men.

Baffled, bamboozled

They have had some success. The Port of London Authority have abolished some of its readers into accepting the dangerous provisions of Devlin Stage Two. And its propagandist claim to be independent has chanced the ears of too many to think it possible to harmonise the relations between bosses and dockers.

Men such as Geoffrey Goodman, industrial editor of the Daily Mirror and now chairman and editor of the Port of London Authority, have already set the pace for change.

Listen to Mr Frank Cousins in 1960, then general secretary of the main dockers’ union, the IWU.

Said he: "I must say that it was a surprise to us. We started to enquire and discovered it was true."

But it was financed by PLA money.

There was no secret about the story of the boss or the story of the workers. There was no suggestion that this is a system that could be expanded. I think it ought to be looked at quite closely.

Ah well, there’s one born every minute.

The system’s driving force

This has a number of consequences, one of which is exclusively controlling the machinery in this industry. No other power is so ordinary, commercial. The PLA can turn to producing labour power in case it goes up, and in fact there is no other power in the world that can produce it. There is a slump in demand and a fall in the rate of profit.

A system never did or could exist. Yet it illustrates one consequence of the modern capitalist system — there is no overall plan of production and yet, somehow, there is a market ‘hand’ which directs production and consumption in such a way as to preserve an exact balance.

Central

With the same reproduction scheme this is not too difficult. But this scheme ignores the central driving force of the capitalist system — the accumulation of capital.

"Accumulate, accumulate", wrote Marx, "or we shall前提是潮逆转". The capitalist, individual or corporate, has no choice in the matter. For accumulation competes only to expand by reproducing surplus value available to it.

Surplus value is accumulated into capital. Some of it is used to pay additional wages (variable capital), but such payments make for additional machinery and buildings that pay higher wages. Also it will be necessary to buy extra inputs from the market and pay for extra depreciation. Marx lumped together profits and wages except wages under the heading of constant capital. Accumulation has therefore a rapid growth of the constant capital employed in production.

Striking

Having stated the general principle in this way we are at one step in the process. Labour power is no ordinary commodity. The PLA can turn to producing labour power in case it goes up, and in fact there is no other power in the world that can produce it. There is a slump in demand and a fall in the rate of profit.

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This increase is what Marx called the 'organic composition of capital'. Forced on the capitalists by the necessity of the production process, it is not a demand for labour power in the course of production but an internal and not another import.

The PLA’s rate of surplus value to total capital (constant capital and surplus value) tends to decline as more and more constant capital is employed unless there is always a proportionate rise in the productivity of labour.

MODERN CAPITALIST SOCIETY with its relations of production, of exchange, of property which so much depends upon the gigantic means of production and exchange, is like the sorcerer who is no longer able to control the powers of the nether world which he has called up by his call. It is in considerable commercial crises that these periodic crises put the existence of the entire capitalism in danger and make it seem extremely threatening.'
Riding with the Red Cossacks

COMPAORED with other great political controversies, which have agitated the Spanish Civil War or World War I, Russian revolution of October 1917 has few literary witnesses. It is pleasing, therefore, to be able to review a new paperback edition of a sympathetic account of the revolution.

Isaac Babel spent seven years after the revolution in active military service and he had little time to write. After his return to Russia in 1926, he published his famous collection of short stories Red Cavalry (Penguin 5s) based on his experiences with Budenny's Cossacks in the Civil War, and his description of the ill-fated war against Poland of 1920-21.

These stories show brusquely and brutally what some scientists of present-day society, the Cossacks — in many ways the most backwardly political of Russia — have witnessed as a result of the revolution.

Harrovian

What in any sense a model Soviet writer. His stories are the exact opposite of the boy-meets-traveller-in-fall-of-love type.

His experiences had been far too harrowing and far too frighteningly real for him to write that kind of rubbish. The men he writes about kill, plunder, rape and show no respect for man, woman or child.

For Babel, the revolution means essentially the long-overdue revolt of the bitterly oppressed Russian peasant. Babel does not shrink from showing the violence of the men he is fighting alongside.

It may be that he is not to pretend or to justify but to show the Cossacks in their true light as violent, fanatical, towards a new way of life, a society free from the enemies they have known and put up with all their lives.

In fact, Babel gains the confidence of his fellow-fighters by reading them a speech of Lenin's, to which these fearless men listen with almost childlike wonder.

Protection

Inevitably, Babel's picture of life with the Cossacks, as with the time-serving Marshal Budenny and Babel only managed to survive the protection of the grand old man of Soviet literature, Maxim Gorky.

But as the pressures towards conversion increased, the Cossacks began to dry up and he looked very little – some more short stories about old Odessa and several plays before he was arrested and left to perish in the most distant concentration camps.

A more complex event like the Russian Revolution inevitably has many sides to it. Babel's distinctive lies in his ability to show what the revolution had on the peasant Cossack horizon. He is not blind to their weaknesses, but it is drawn almost magnetically to their stubborn fight against oppression and their capacity for self-sacrifice. As such, his stories are absolutely essential reading for a deeper understanding of the forces underlying the Russian revolution.

Better red...

THE DEATH of Besie Bradlock is a reminder of what happens to genuine socialists when they abandon principles in favour of a parliamentary career.

Mrs Bradlock was an early member of the Communist Party and saw a Labour government in 1929. For a time in the early 1930s she supported the extreme left paper Socialist Outlook. But she moved rapidly to the extreme right of the labour movement and became a crude anti-communist, anti-Trotskyist witch-hunter. She authorised the setting of her memoirs years ago she included, as a special appendix, a full list of socialist and revolutionary organisation banned in 1940.

She became a legend in her lifetime in Liverpool when she represented the Exchange division in parliament from 1945 until her death. Some admired her for her campaigns against slum housing and poverty in the Mersey city, others were angered by her Tammany Hall style politics, her bullying manner and ignorant political standing of left-wing opponents.

Today, Besie Bradlock, a small, rotund figure behind the wheel of her big, black motor car with its special loudspeaker, arrives at strike meetings to disrupt proceedings and denounce as reds and agitators those who favoured strike action.

Born into a socialist household, she retained a lifelong hatred for many of the injustices that capitalism brought upon working people. But she rejected the fight for a new society and chose the Labour 'reforms'! Road with all its grasping, anti-working class, anti-trade union results.

The slums and poverty remain in Liverpool. They are a sad epitaph for Besie Bradlock.

Our FAVOURITE lane duck, Lord Stokes, £42,000 a year boss of British Leyland, last week told his workers that they should not support the 8 December strike against the Tories union laws because they would hit the firm — and BLMC has no political affiliations, he claimed.

Pull the other one, Donald. In 1946/47 BLMC donated £23,56 to Aims of Industry and £1,275 to the Economic League. Both are extreme right-wing groups.

NOTICES

Lewisham 15 public meeting: The Employers' Campaign Against Fascism and Anti-Semites, Speakers: John Peck and Sir John Hope, Thursday 21st June, 8-10 p.m. St Peter's Church, Cable Street. (In conjunction with the Local Action against Fascism movement.)

AN O.P.R. — Achievement and Anti-Semitism, speakers: Martin Dunkerley, Charles Webb, and Peter K. Wrigley, Tuesday 26th June, 8 p.m. Sunset Country Club, St Peter's Road, East Dulwich.

HACCIARITI, for 25 years a member of the South London Anti-Fascist League, is speaking at the meeting of the South London Anti Fascist League, 21st June, 8 p.m. at the Royal Court Theatre, New Cross.

NATIONAL Action for wage and job security. Call 400,000 for a general meeting to discuss the M.T.U. strike. (In conjunction with the above.) 21st June, 8 p.m.
POWER STATION WORKERS JOINT PAY FIGHT

by COLIN BARKER

POWER STATION WORKERS from all parts of Britain have united their negotiators in a noisy reception last week to bring government talks to a halt. The joint committee of government officials, the electricity supply industry agreed to meet the union representatives of the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) for a conference to discuss pay talks with the employers.

Under pressure from rank and file members of their constituent unions in the industry, officials of the four main unions in the electricity supply industry agreed to meet the union representatives of the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) for a conference to discuss pay talks with the employers.

But the 'delegates' were selected by local union officials, not elected by rank and file members of the union.

The intention was to have a hand-picked group that would take a moderate line and support the officials. But it didn't quite work out that way.

The mood of the meeting was very cordial. Richard Faulds, the newly elected General Secretary of the Engineering, Physical and Chemical Unions, was on hand to welcome the delegates.

The meeting was adjourned for 15 minutes, and the union officials accepted the union's decision to go on strike.

As for money, the CEGB has ruled out any large-scale strike action for the time being. The union's representatives have gone to the meeting with no money on the table.

The figures they want to discuss include the £10-a-week increase demanded by the unions last month.

The union has promised to introduce some of the power station workers to the unions' main negotiators.

The union is proposing to raise the issue of the strike of the CEGB for a further substantial increase in their pay. The talk was held in the light of the fact that the CEGB has a strike of 25,000 workers.

Many of the union's members are working in the coal mining industry.

REDUCE

In an attempt to reduce the amount of work that is being done, the union is promising to reduce the number of people working.

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