REMEMBER what Harold Wilson, Tony Crosland and the rest used to tell us? The problems of 'old style' capitalism have been solved. Well, we have now are the problems of the affluent society, of leisure and so on.

We are told that workers are not feeling so affluent. They have plenty of leisure. They are faced with the "old fashioned", "outdated" problem of not having a job.

We have unemployment on a scale not known since 1940. In some parts of the country unemployment among men has reached the wretched level of 5 and 7 per cent of the workforce and in northern Ireland the figure is almost 10 per cent.

What is more, economists of every political persuasion are predicting that it will get worse. There will be more than one million unemployed by winter.

Here and now, more than 500,000 men and women are looking for jobs that aren't there. And next week the Steel Corporation will announce another 800 redundancies. Dunlop is closing a factory and throughout industry firms are trimming the workforce. 7500 boys and girls who left school this year have not yet got a job.

Socialists used to say in the 1930s that a society that can't find jobs for men and women able and willing to work is rotten, corrupt and intoleralbe. They were right. It was rotten and it is rotten.

Who is to blame? Wilson, Feather and Co blame Heath and the Tories. There is something in this, something that is true.

It is quite true that government policy—the credit squeeze and the rest—are the immediate cause of the rise in unemployment. It is also true that the policies of Wilson and Callaghan were the same as those of Heath and the Tories. The workers are forced into these policies in an attempt to solve the growing problems of international capitalism.

Since the mid-1960s governments built up a false economy in this country and abroad, have been pumping money deals, takeovers, mergers and amalgamations. All attempts to get more output from less men.

No problem

All inevitably produce more unemployment. All are forced on government to maintain the so-called "boom" of private production for profits.

What is the economic basis of this policy? Isn't it true, as the ex-left winger Mrs Barbara Castle used to say, that unemployment will be no problem because the whole economy can grow so fast that men and women made redundant can soon be absorbed in new expanding industries?

First of all, it obviously hasn't happened. Second, the special conditions that made possible the armaments-based boom of the 1950s and 1960s are passing away.

Capitalism is reverting to type. More productivity now means more unemployment, just as it did in 1930.

What we have now are the problems of the 'new style' capitalism—pollution, pollution, pollution, urban decay and so on. The future of the major course of 'old style' capitalism—what Marx called "the reserve army of the unemployed"—

The Tory ministers say that the cause of unemployment and inflation alike is "excessive wage demands." This is rubbish.

The result

As a matter of fact the lower the real wages of employed workers, the more unemployment there will be because the money employed workers spend creates jobs.

As to the "wages explosion," as every serious economist admits, it was the result of inflation rather than its first cause.

The Postal Workers and the Tory Offensive

Paul Foot

Just off the press: a full analysis of the postal strike and the role of the unions and the government. 60 post free from IS Books 6 Cottiers Gdns London E2

THE POSTAL WORKERS AND THE TORY OFFENSIVE

A SOCIALIST WORKER pamphlet 5p

America's rulers, who pioneered the most modern forms of mass murder in Vietnam, have been only too eager to help the Ceylonese army. The British government also has rubbed in the wound.

So, too, have the Russians—no doubt seeing Mrs Bandaranaike's experience as akin to their own in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

The Ceylonese government responsible for this murder includes people who claim to be 'socialist'. For instance, according to the Morning Star, Mr Fietz Keunman, a Communist and Minister of Housing is a member of the new committee set up for 'reconstruction of the country' in the wake of the rebellion.

Other members of the government claimed only some years ago to be Trotskyites and revolutionary socialists. But they came out, like the Communist Party with the "theory" that it was possible to get socialism via the "parliamentary road".

The people of Ceylon are now learning what this really means.

Politics whose dedication to parliamentary methods stops them fighting big issues are instead compelled to attack those who elected them. The so-called parliamentary road always turns into its opposite. Ordinary workers and peasants pay the price.

Another bitter lesson is being learnt. As in the Nigerian civil war and in the Jordan massacre of last summer, the rulers of Russia are prepared to work alongside the western powers to ensure foreign domination.

The message of Ceylon is that an end to exploitation and oppression means the end of imperialist, war and reaction. Background to Ceylon—by Frederick Raeburn.
Ceylon government gets aid from Britain and US

By Rohini Banaji

IN SPITE OF REPEATED assur- rances by the new regime in Colombo, Mrs Bandaranaike's govern- ment seems to be having some trouble in getting the promised aid from the United States. It has not only been receiving less help than promised by the US government, but has also abandoned its 'socialist' pre- conceptions so far as to request military aid from the United States.

Its embarrassment is obvious from the fact that the deal has been done in an extremely roundabout way. Mrs Ban- daranaike bought the helicopters from the US for a 'very reasonable' price and sent them to Ceylon. To com- plete the picture, the Indian govern- ment has supplied 'warships', now sitting off the coast of Ceylon, and even helicopters with crews.

It is not quite so ready to help Bangladeshi girls, in spite of their pretended sympathy for the economic and social struc- ture of Ceylon today can be traced back to the financing of the 'Punjab's British' and the 'Bengal's British'.

The Ordinance of the British colonists was not the only factor destroyed to make way for plant- ation. There was also an attempt to allow work on the land which had been abandoned by the settler. The first wave of immigration was imported from India. This had several conse- quences that are still relevant.

AT MERCY

Firstly, it distorted the economy of Ceylon till it was almost totally dependent on tea, which constituted 80 per cent of the export revenue, and the 'mercy of prices on the world market.

Secondly, it completely changed the British class structure, which now consisted predomi- nantly of immigrant plantation work- ers, British planters, and a British middle class. The idea of slavery, and a landless working class who found seasonal work as agri- cultural labourers, but were chroni- cally unemployed, and the idea of work- ers' cooperative movement had already been long since abandoned.

The concept of 'land' that is, the process of 'enclosures' for land in the revolutionary literature.

During the Second World War, when the price of rice rose by 300 per cent, instead of raising wages they imposed an 'economic rice rice- rationing, anticipating a fall in prices.

THE BENGAL MASSACRE

EVERY DAY press and television bring more gruesome details of the partition of Bengal. Massacre is not so much a military operation as a large-scale massacre. But more than mere moral indignation is needed when faced with such situations. We have to learn what lies behind such events in order to stop them from happening again.

The revolt of East Bengal is not an accident. For years Pakistan has been trying to crush the Muslim majority in the province under the slogan of preventing 'secularism', and has imposed a discriminatory policy for holding down wages while prices continue to leap up. This is why no soldier should be fooled by pretences of a national emergency.

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What a magnificient year it has been for the stock market. Unemploy- ment may be rising to a million, compared like Rolls-Royce may be collapsing, but in the good, old-fashioned months of trad- ing, the money still comes rolling in.

Indeed, the government already expected a record break for 1967 when just ended, the amount of money made was £10 million, far exceeding the record height, which was £14.25 million. Of course, a pretty miser- able year for shares. Gloomy share prices are now down to 60, but prices scurrying down to little more than three times their pre-war level.

Some say that the fall in share prices means lower profits for the companies. But in fact, the share market is not the only one to blame. The whole economy is collapsing, with the government now having to borrow billions to keep afloat. The government has not been aided by the world banks, which have imposed strict austerity measures on the country. In fact, the biggest stock market profits of the year 1967 were mostly due to the government's tight monetary policy, which has led to a decrease in the money supply, making it easier for investors to make a profit.

The government's own figures show how gains from share speculation have soared year by year whatever happened to the stock market. The government's gains in real terms were almost as high as in 1966, when the stock market collapsed. In fact, it has more than doubled every year since then, reaching 137 millions in 1967. The government was expecting to receive about 137 millions, but the share market has given them much more.

These figures ignore receipts from the stock market, which has been pitched at a higher level. But this is the true picture, and the share market is no longer the mainstay of the government.

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Arthur Millium
Fine Tubes: 44 weeks on strike for union rights

by Frank Clark

Fine Tubes Strike Committee

THE STRIKE at Fine Tubes of Plymouth illustrates the strange reluctance of the strongest trade unions to deal with a management that seems hell-bent on smugging trade unions out of the west of England.

The dispute, now in its 44th week, is even more acute than the walkout by 12,000 workers in the engineering industry since the war, with the exception of the one at another American-owned firm, Robert Arundel in Stockport.

Fine Tubes was a factory with very low rates of pay. With a basic semi-skilled rate of £11.33 ( £15 6s 8d), average take home pay was below £12 and £14. Even a skilled tradesman would not take home more than £15 to £17.

FGMU and AUEW members in the factory began negotiations with the management in December before last. But the negotiations ended with a formalised record to agree at Central Conference in York on 12 June. The Owners of Fine Tubes were not prepared to concede demands.

Moreover, during the period of negotiations, the management arbitrarily:

1. Introduced job evaluation, despite union opposition on lack of consultation prior to introduction.
2. Introduced on 1 January 1970, a day shift and night shift – without consultation of shop stewards. The company already had a day shift in existence, a double day shift and a three shift system.
3. Refused to meet the management between 12 and 15 June to start informal talks to prevent a mass walk out. These requests were refused. At 2.30pm on 15 June 717 men and women walked out. At the same time, the strike was declared official by the two unions involved.

Ultimatum

At a meeting with the 53 strikers, the management said that the strike would be settled only if the shop floor and afterwards gave an ultimatum (on 30 June) to the 173 strikers to return to work or to be sacked. The strikers held out and were replaced. The next day, the management began to take on non-union labour to replace the sacked men and women.

Eight years after the most baffling stop of all was taken on 6 July – just after the management began to take on non-union labour. The day shift stood a 9 per cent pay rise, backdated four weeks with 4 per cent to follow in the autumn, plus staff status. This was after seven months of futile negotiations with previous union representatives.

Meanwhile, the position of the sacked workers was something of a paradox. They were on official strike, backed by their unions, but as far as the management of Fine Tubes was concerned, they no longer enjoyed the company's protection.

Because of this, they could not draw unemployment benefits, and since 30 June 1970 have existed on a combination of that and any job does not exist, they could claim strike pay plus contributions by the unions involved.

It was in 1967 managing director of Fine Tubes and one other director, signed agreement with the two trade unions, which said, among other things, the management of Fine Tubes would not be the management of Fine Tubes as laid down by the laws of Great Britain. This agreement was between unions and Engineering Employers Federation. This agreement was carried out, and concluded, 'We jointly approve this declaration and will strictly adhere to the procedure and negotiation and all agreements of dispute herein set out'.

Yet since the dismissal, the management has ignored all approaches from local and national bodies of the Trades Union Congress, the local and regional and national executive of both unions, and the Day 1970, the management admitted that it would not concede to the demands of the Department of Employment and Science.

In this declaration, the company claimed that the unions were in effect the Department of Employment and Science. The company agreed to all the demands of the Department of Education and Science, and accepted the memorandum.

The executive fact was very anxious to persuade conference to reject a Hawksley-Manchester motion calling for nationalisation of the industry and anti-union laws. They succeeded.

The modified thinking that persuaded the delegates to reject the executive in the factory who were opposed to the proposal that the unions would be the executive memorandum that sought to take the path to opposition to the shop stewards manifesto as opposed to trade union struggle was moved by Max Morris, the leading Communist, is supported by a letter, and seconded by Dr Walter Roy.

Abandoned

The TGC is an anti-stick union that will be the main union and is intended to give teachers the illusion that they are a 'self-governing profession'.

A reference back moved by Wardsdale and Hackett argued the case for strong unionism and said the employers will never grant teachers what they are too weak to win for themselves.

Morris's reply to the debate revealed how far the CP have abandoned their traditional positions. The executive has now abandoned the demand that the union is the sole advocate of progress', he said. 'We believe in professional status. We can achieve this without a professional council.

With the left divided, the executive council was accepted, though the unions believed the union's term was extended by the Department of Employment and Science, and the Department agreed to them.

Linked to the idea of a self-governing education in America was the demand for teachers' participation. The executive was forced to give ground and agreed to produce for the next conference a document for the setting up of an executive council on the running of the school and the running of our schools.

In spite of being weakened by an executive council and by the position of the TGC with out a strong council, the executive was represented a positive step forward in the negotiations of our national policy in collaboration with the local schools, the union and the unions, or the executive council of the Labour Party.

On class size and school buildings, the union is committed to direct action. The conference extended to the 1972 conference spelling out how NUT members can effectively withdraw from operating the procedures for secondary selection in areas where grammar and selective schools still exist.

The weakness of all three motions lies in the relative freedom of manoeuvre that the executive retains. The executive has now succeeded. Certain tactics and conclusions emerge. When the left unified they can stop the old-style fight for staking a come-back. Conference resolved an attempt to delete references to strike action from the memorandum.

Honest brokers

The executive can no longer rely on its rightwing to defeat militant policies. It has to use the sophistication of the Communist Party 'honest brokers' to do this. It has been the case for five years for Tony Crosland's comment at the Labour Party conference in 1971: 'I see', said the then Secretary for State for Education, 'that the NUT', which can assimilate most things, now assimilated Mr Morris on its executive.

The amalgamation has taken place to that extent that Max Morris is reliably reported to be standing as a union presidential candidate.

Many Communist Party members are still at the party's manoeuvres and useful discussions took place informally between Rank and File supporters and party members.

One thing was made absolutely clear to Scarborough. The only unequivocal and consistent fight for militant policy came from the Rank and File group. The big job was to strengthen and extend the influence of the paper and its supporters group.
Greece: Four Years of the Why big business ended 'democracy' in Greece by Stephen Marks

FOUR YEARS AGO the prestige of democracy came to an end in Greece. A group of colonels seized power in a military coup. They feared the left wing might win.

Since then political parties have been banned. Thousands of leftists have been imprisoned on remote islands. Tyranny has become a normal part of political life.

How did it all go wrong? The story of how the colonels ruled and what power is full of lessons for us.

The story began at the end of the last war. Military leaders of the ruling class had collaborated with the Nazis, who in their capacity as Fascists led most of the resistance.

When the German army retreated it came to control most of the country, indifferent to the war guilt and the post-war authority. Churchill and Stalin had other ideas. At Yalta they agreed in return for Eastern Europe going to Russia, Greece would fall to British influence.

Civil War

Stalin ordered the Greek Cfsp to allow the British army to establish the authority of the Royal Government in Greece. At this point the army moved to support them against the guerrillas.

Civil war began when the government refused to back the extreme right were also in line. The civil war continued until 1949 when the guerrillas were defeated and the extensive help from both Stalin and the Turks.

This by America had replaced Britain as the dominant power. A series of right-wing governments were chosen and financed by the Americans. Behind a facade of parliamentary rule the country was run by the army and the police.

Real power was with the Royal Court and the British. In the country districts, where most of the people lived, the police and the army kept close tabs on anyone suspected of supporting left-wing sympathies, and prevented any political activity.

The Agricultural Bank, on which the peasants depended for credit, was tainted by the right-wing's election machine. The Communist Party was banned and political prisoners were kept in detention in island camps, and certificates of political reliability were needed for getting any government job, a modern day form of Greek capitalism, independent of the army and police.

At the beginning of the 1960s, both these groups found effective leadership in the old liberal politician George Papandreou.

On trial

In 1967, a new military junta, led by Generals Papadopoulos and Papandrou, came to power. They arrested the main political leaders, including Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas, and began a series of trials known as the "Papadopoulos trials". These trials were marked by a lack of due process and were used to silence political opposition.

Under their rule, Greece experienced a period of national repression, known as the "June 17 Movement". This period saw the arrest of thousands of political prisoners, the closure of opposition newspapers, and the banning of political activity.

The junta was finally overthrown in 1974 by a military coup led by General Constantine Karamanlis.

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NORTH WEST

Lancaster/Macclesfield/Olbram

Bolton/Merseyside/St Helens/Wigan/Potters

MIDLANDS

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The colonels takeover lessons for left everyday

The political climate in Greece was marked by a deep sense of disillusionment and distrust. The Greek people felt that their government was corrupt and out of touch with the needs of the people. The colonels' rule was seen as a continuation of this, as they were backed by the wealthy and powerful elites of Greece.

The colonels' policies were characterised by a strong emphasis on economic development, particularly through the industries of textiles and agriculture. They also sought to strengthen their relations with the West, particularly the United States, through the implementation of anti-communist policies.

The colonels' rule was not without its critics, however. There were protests and demonstrations against their policies, and a number of political prisoners were arrested and held without trial. The Greek people were also aware of the human rights abuses that took place during this period.

In the end, the colonels' rule was not successful. The Greek people were not satisfied with their policies, and there was a growing sense of frustration and dissatisfaction. The colonels were eventually overthrown in 1974, and a new democratic government was established.

The lessons of Greece's experience are clear. The colonels' rule was marked by a lack of respect for human rights, and a failure to address the needs of the people. The Greek people were not satisfied with their policies, and there was a growing sense of frustration and dissatisfaction.

These lessons are relevant today, as we see a growing trend towards authoritarianism and a lack of respect for democratic institutions in many parts of the world. The Greek people's experience serves as a reminder of the importance of standing up for human rights and democracy, and of the need for leaders to be accountable to the people they serve.
**The Colonels’ Notebook**

Repression and torture of opponents is the hallmark of the military regime.

... and torture of prisoners. In its years of power it has done a great deal of good for the people of Greece. The Common Market. It was in its European market that much foreign investment had been attracted to Greece as a backdoor into Europe.

The Common Market’s agricultural policy is based on driving out the small farmer and combining produce from large farms. A large part of the Greek population live on the land, and nearly all are small farmers. In some areas the government is selling off land to large farmers. This has been resisted by the peasants, who have fixed prices for their property.

The regime has placed an embargo on imports of raw materials, energy, and food. The working day has been lengthened, and the number of fatal industrial accidents has increased fivefold. Slowly for those driven off the land there is nothing to do but emigrate.

Greece is the most urbanised country of all in Europe. There are 330,000 towns, forming a part of the two million-strong immigrant workforce.

No rights

They are governed by similar rules to those the Winter WANT to bring in with their Aliens Act here. They must come for a specifiable job, and have no right to stay if they lose it, and must register with the police.

They have to live in factory-owned dormitories, six to a room, 12 yards square. For this they pay 200-250 a month. But their average rate of pay is only 80 per hour, against 3.40 official minimum. And the German unions only rarely intervene on their behalf.

The lot of Greek workers in Germany is a sorry one. The Tories plan for immigrants here is also the other side of the coin to the alienation of Greece by foreign capital.

**Police state**

When the left was smashed in the early 1950s, the Greek government set up a strong army-police state in Greece to keep the right on top and the left in check. The suppression opposition was led by sections of the extreme nationalist and independent Greek forces.

This was and is a dream. It could only be put into practice by dismantling the army-police-monarchy set up and this could only be done by bringing in the workers and peoples against which it could lead to a revolution.

That is why, once the coup took place, the Americans supported it. That is also why since the coup the regime has followed policies so much in favour of the big international companies.

And it is why the foreign companies in Greece may disagree about how much they want to produce, and though America may ultimately be interested in the stability of the King, the dictatorship, whoever is in power, can be replaced by the working class.

**New party**

For this a new workers’ party is needed. The Communist Party is the one true party policies behind the radical middle class.

Now they have split, but both can still split into all the other anti-junta forces in the country. It is the only way to defeat fascists or to use their extreme nationalist policies.

This cannot have much appeal to the people. The spontaneous strikers last made the government retreat on plantation workers’ demands. The government conciliates workers in the factories.

For the moment the hopes of creating an organisation that could give some political lead to the workers was a dream. An army of Greek emigrant workers in Europe. This is important for militants in the struggle in Europe. The Common Market makes Europe essential to the survival of any left.

For the moment the hopes of creating a new Greek army of workers are defended the rule of international capital. Their future is at stake today.

The fight against them, for workers’ power, is a part of the struggle for a socialist Europe.

**Oriental Jewish protest over Israeli status**

From a special correspondent

Oriental Jews protest over Israeli status. More than half of the Israeli Jews come from Africa or Asia. According to official Israeli statistics the Jewish populations live three or more to a room whereas only 7 per cent of those who come from Europe live three or more to a room.

This is a recent clue to the recent emergence of Jewish militancy among the Oriental Jewish community in Israel. The situation is aggravated by the presence of immigrant housing facilities which the Zionist establishment offers to the Oriental Jews.

How long do we have to live in 10 room while immigrants from the West are given two rooms for a family of three? These and similar questions were uttered in a recent outburst by the Israeli Black Panthers in Jerusalem.

The figures of unemployment, low level of education, juvenile delinquency and snatched work are among the Oriental Jews are significantly higher (sometimes four, or five times higher) compared to those of the European.

It is not merely a fact but even an accepted view that the Orientals suffer discrimination. The official policy is against this discrimination, especially as Oriental Jews attempt to integrate into the various Jewish communities, but the discrimination persists.

Most of the Oriental communities live in areas that can be described as planned shanties. Most housing is below the standards of 20 years old and was planned and constructed by the Ministry of Housing and given to the new immigrants on a planned basis. The new movement of protest started from the Katamon area in Jerusalem, where most houses are less than 20 years old. A number of youngsters, mostly in their early twenties, formed a leaflet with a list of demands under the heading: ‘We are fed up.’

They decided to sign in order to express both their militancy and their feeling of discrimination. The most appropriate name they could think of was ‘Black Panthers.’

**Bungled**

This type of latent social unrest, in the Jewish community in Israel is not new, but it has been channelled usually into extremist nationalism and anti-Semitism. The Israeli establishment managed to absorb it temporarily by such symbolic gestures as appointing an Oriental Jew as Minister of Police.

But with the Panthers, the establishment bungled. The Panthers asked for the police to be present at a public meeting in the traditional meeting square of the extremist nationalist Harevi party. They were given a firm no for an answer.

When they decided to demonstrate against the police arrest 25 of their leaders, the police, the military and the police were others who were blamed for the failure. It is not true that Matzpen, the Israeli Socialist Organisation, had discussions with the police. It is not true that the police are a genuine organ of the government independent of any political group. The sympathy with the aspirations of the Oriental Jews. The exhibition of the arrest was of course that the police had to release all the detainees within 24 hours, and why they did not release them. They were released not arrested. It is too early to guess how this movement will develop. In the past similar outbreaks were absorbed by the Zionist establishment and diverted into anti-Arab channels. But there are some interesting new developments.

When the non-establishment left, including the anti-Zionist Matzpen, was suppressed in a protest demonstration organised by the National Council of the League for Human Rights, against the atrocities of the Israeli army in Gaza, the Israeli Socialist Organisation, had discussions with all the leaders of the Jewish Defence League from France and said that the march with knives and knuckleduster should be stopped.

Everyone was surprised when some of the demonstrators got up and beat back the attackers. It is possible that this is a significant change or merely an accidental event. Meanwhile the Israeli Revolutionary Action Committee in London, which claims to have connections with the Black Power groups, handed a note to protest to the Israeli embassy in London. Needless to say, the Israeli government refused to accept the note.
HOW THE WILD WEST WAS REALLY WON
FRAUD AND MASSACRE USED TO ROB
THE INDIANS OF THEIR LAND

by Colin Bailey

The horror of My Lai is nothing new. Massacres of innocent people have been committed by the American military throughout the history of the American empire, from the Indian wars to the contemporary conflict in Iraq. The film 'Soldier Blue' is about one of those atrocities.

This was never the case. Soldier Blue is a contribution to historical fiction and is about the 1864 Sand Creek massacre of Cheyenne Indians. The struggle between the cavalry and the Indians has been totally misrepresented by the myth of the 'good' cavalry desperately fighting for their lives against the savage, scalp-happy and food-grabbing Indians.

The military defeat of the Indians and their eventual enslavement to reservations was essential for the development and growth of the American capitalist. It was nothing to do with 'good' or 'bad'. Before the Europeans came to North America the Indians were organized into many tribes such as the Iroquois and the Apache.

The population of these tribes was never large and there was a direct result of this in the lack of production and the necessity of life. Except along the coast and in a few other regions, the Indian tribes lived mainly by hunting wildlife, fishing, hunting deer and buffalo.

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This imposed narrow limits on the size of the population as each tribe had to occupy sizeable areas of land in order to support its members. Some tribes had to travel hundreds of miles on their hunting expeditions.

This continual search for hunting grounds inevitably led to the spreading of Indian tribes all over North America and meant that any attempt to confiscate the land away from them represented a direct threat to their existence.

The only way in which the Indians could hope to maintain their freedom was by the development of a new form of occupation. This they never managed to do properly.

IMPOSSIBLE

They did not raise domestic animals like pigs, cattle and sheep. They did not invent the wheel or know about iron. Without animals and iron it was impossible for them to develop a sophisticated pottery or bronze or metal industry. As a result, agriculture was unable to develop to a level where it could either replace the food which had been lost or meet the demand for food in the cities. This led to reliance on hunting or raising livestock, and the development of a new form of occupation.

The Europeans, however, came to America with superior tools and methods of production. Their advantages were to be of crucial importance during the Indian wars, especially in the fields of weaponry and in the ability to build towns and forts.

The Europeans also brought the idea of private property with them. Before there were not a single indigenous tribe that belonged to a private person. Now they were starting to divide their hunting grounds, and the process of their takeover was more or less shared equally by all the members of the tribe.

The Indians refused to believe in private ownership of the land. The Shawnee chief Tecumseh said: 'Sell land! as well will air and water. The Great Spirit gave them in common to all. But the Great Spirit of the Europeans had different ideas. They wanted to own the land and so of people.'

They freely turned the Indians into slaves and, in Hispanic, Colombian and his men overworked, starved and brutally exploited the indigenous population so much that the number of Indians fell from 350,000 in 1492 to an actual count of 60,000 in 1508. By 1545 only 500 survived.

The conflict between the needs of the Indians for free land and the wishes of the Europeans to convert it into private property was the main reason for the wars.

BATTLES

One observer described the conquest of Kentucky as follows: 'Kentucky was claimed by no particular tribe of Indians, but was regarded as a common hunting ground by the various tribes, east, west, north and south. It abounded in various valuable game, such as elk, deer, turkey and many other smaller animals, and hence the Indians struggled hard to keep the white people from taking possession of it.'

The Colonel in charge actually ordered his troops to murder women and children by remarking: 'Nins come from lice and both should be destroyed, young ones and all'.

Atrocious treaties were negotiated with the Indians but more than 400 were broken. Tribes were allotted reservations and then driven off them.

Two Mandan Indians of 1872 who saw their whole tribe wiped out

Daniel Boone
General Sheridan
Three Western 'heroes' who helped destroy the Indians

General Hallieck

Every time more land was required the Indians were given a smaller and more barren reservation. Any resistance was crushed. One of the main reasons for treaties being broken was the search for gold.

In 1874, for instance, huge deposits were found in South Dakota. The western part of this state was undisputed Sioux territory and in 1875 the government offered the Indians six million dollars to move out.

The Sioux refused to sell and the army responded by giving permission to prospectors to invade the Black Hills. One mining syndicate made over a third of a billion dollars out of these gold fields.

The Sioux fought back against the breach of the treaty and the army invaded South Dakota in order to drive them out. In 1876 General Custer, who had led a massacre of Cheyennes at the Washita river in 1868, was defeated at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. This is popularly known as 'Custer's Last Stand'.

In addition to gold seekers, the Indians were driven off their lands by homesteaders, railways builders, cattle breeders and leather companies. Many of the tribes were herded onto national and desert reservations, heavily guarded by US troops.

Sometimes individual government officials tried to prevent some of the excesses against the Indians but they were invariably unsuccessful.

Faced with powerful groups of landowners, the government complied with their demands.

In 1867, for example, Andrew Spalding, a landowner in Oregon, was forced to resign after he had angered the cattlemen by ordering them out of Indian territory.

Having conquered the Indians by wars and disease the American army went into concentration camp-style reservations. In 1885 the government and huge landowners, some of whom owned millions of acres, launched a new campaign.

This time their victims were the poor farmers and cowboys. The aim was precisely the same. Capitalism wanted the land.

Homesteaders were driven off their property and sometimes range wars broke out between the landowners and the Indians.

Opposition grew among the poor and unionists were formed in the mining towns. The rich responded to this by hiring professional gunmen and by forming vigilante squads.

COURAGE

Strikes were smashed and in 1877 thousands killed 20 workers and miners and exiled 29 others during a railway strike.

Having conquered the Indians, capitalism intensified its exploitation of the American workers.

Although the Indian people fought back with great courage and tenacity, they could not win. They lacked the numbers, the organization and above all the productive capacity for carrying on sustained warfare.

The battle between capitalism and the Indians was a battle between two irreconcilable social systems. Capitalism needed to expand. Private property had to destroy common property.

In 1883 the American Ethnologist Bureau reported that the Cherokee felt that they were, as a nation, being slowly but surely comprised within the contracting coils of the giant asundering of civilization, yet they held to the hope that a spirit of justice and mercy would be prevail in their favour.

Their hope was in vain. The great successes of civilization crushed its prey and swallowed it. By such food has American capitalism grown to the present strength that allows it to continue murdering and exploiting people throughout the world.
Oscars: Puck of the Year

LAST WEEK, against a background of growing redundancies in the film industry, Hollywood once again handed out its incensations accolades, the annual Oscar awards. A more sickening spectacle would be hard to imagine. Men and women who have spent their professional lives hating one another and being as downright bitchy as possible about their colleagues, proceed to reconcile their petty jealousies for a couple of hours of universal peace and brotherhood.

Apart from this totally false atmosphere in which is the nastiest and most ruthless competitive business in the world, the whole awards-giving buncombe stinks of an Old Boys self-congratulation society.

Famous stars announce the contestants, throw in the ritual dreadfully
dreadful couple of Bob Hope style jokes and threaten, with a great, demonic flourish, draw the name of the winner out of a sealed envelope.

Embrassed

Worse is to follow. The shy, obso
to-tastic bunch of sycophants stumble on to the stage to make a carefully rehearsed speech of emasculated acceptance.

And as if this were not enough, this year Frank Sinatra received a special award for his services in ‘victory’. Sinatra has made a huge fortune which, with the aid of his Mafia advisers, he has invested wisely. Then, from the kind of man he has become, he has a little of it away and receives an award for ‘unselfishness’.

I have to confess I was just one small note of sycophancy in the nauseating cavalcade of the night. The Best Actor of the Year award for his role in Patton, impertinently told Hollywood what they could do with their Oscar and refused to accept the bauble.

Whatever his motives may be—

embrace it could be that he doesn’t want to be degraded by any kind of contact with such wonders of the screen as Love Story and Ryan’s Daughter—

Scors’ action is welcome and overdue.

Puppets

Not that I blame particularly the individual actor or actress for accepting awards. They are just puppets in a commercial system that demands a ‘pop of the pops’ league scale fee for their performances.

It is the whole system that reeks of insincerity, profit mongering and bastathering. It has been a welcome change away from this spirit in the film industry both in Britain and America and it is to be hoped that faces like the Oscar award won’t be going back to a do the long-overdue death.

Finding it difficult to think back, far being complimented by such men and women, I am degraded. She doesn’t need them and neither does anybody else.

Martin Tomkinson

NEW NUMBER

Socialist Worker 24 April 1971

WHOS FOR DI / MEAN TENNIS?

THE PAPER TIGER....

COTTON COLUMN

WELL SAY one thing for Securcor, the guard-your-profits, spt-on-your

workers profits! their advertisements brighten up the grey boredom of the city page.

The firm’s top man, Mr Keith Emskie, penned the annual report that took up half a page in the post paper last week and meandered between Moral Reinforcement boasting (‘Man was made for service as the sun for light.’), cloud-hopping poetry (‘And we are here as on a darkling plain/Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight/Where ignorant armies clash by night’) and a great deal of propaganda about the splendid treatment of the staff. Workers and bosses are virtually indistinguishable, claims the proud Mr Emskie. The managers have no separate lavatories, canteens or carpeted suites. They even travel on dangerous assignments with the bank protection brigade — which could be an added incentive for booping them on the head.

So carried away is Mr Emskie that he even speaks of the Brotherhood of Man, as though the ideal had been reached within Securcor and should be followed by the rest of our paid society.

But the image of Christian charity, equality and brotherly love is spoilt by a little homely: ‘The other day explained to an ski instructor about the bad snow conditions. ’It’s good to ski on ice,’ he replied, ‘it makes the legs strong’.

Mixing holidays also demand a large wallet. Excuse our rather jaundiced view of Securcor’s working utopia, but how many of their spies, dog-handlers, nightwatchmen and back-courriers can afford a few weeks of alpine affluence.

TURGD TORIES in the London Borough of Hockney have refused to allow one of their members to fight for a council seat on an ‘anti-

permissive society’ platform. He is 55-year-old Mr Paul Daniel and he would like to campaign with the slogan Vote Liberate for Cranmer! The local Tory agent said: ‘His anti-permissive posture is admirable but this slogan would be able to win votes for Labour’.

Soul-less

LAST AUTUMN a fire in a dance hall in the small French town of Saint-Laurent-du-Pont killed 17 young people. An American millionaire who owns a factory in France decided to send a donation to the family of the victims — a sum of about £10,000 which was despated to the French government.

When the committee of parents of victims of the fire heard of this, and wrote to the government asking for the money to be forwarded, they were politely informed that ‘since the parents of the victims have suffered no material loss to their property’, M Pichon felt that handing over the money was a ‘delicate matter’. So ‘delicate’ that the money is still in the hands of the French government.

Black Friday

WHILE South African sport is in

murmur with more and more cricketers raising the demand for an end to segregated matches, Mecca, the giant British dance halls combine, is doing its bit to help prop up apartheid.

Mecca, which organises the appalling Miss World contest, has asked the competing countries this year to send a separate entrant from each of their ‘racial’ groups, so that Miss White South Africa and Miss Non-White South Africa won’t feel quite so lonely.

Meanwhile, the South African Broadcasting Company has given another brilliant example of the logic of apartheid. It put on a religious play on Good Friday called Christ’s Completion with both white and non-white actors taking part.

In order not to upset the white establishment, the black actors recorded their parts first, left the studio and then the white cast read their parts into the tape. One white actor admitted that the system did make good acting rather difficult.

We doubt if Mr Vorster noticed.

IS ROBERT CARR breaking the law? When an MP becomes a government minister he must give up any directorships, but the annual returns of John Dale Ltd do not contain the statutory notification that Carr has resigned as chairman of the directors since last June.

Stand by for the Board of Trade to prosecute John Dale ... or not, as the case may be.

AT LAST, a chance to save with-
nout qualifications. In place of the haunting Paul Temple on Sundays at 7.25, BBC1 is re-

showing some of the Somerset Maugham plays seen on BBC2. If you have not viewed these programmes here is an opportunity to see good acting, fine writing and sensitive production.

Somerset Maugham may be looking for a literary establishment for committing the cardinal sin of being a ‘popular’ writer. He has therefore hopefully not to retreat from his stature as one of the finest novelists of the century.

Maugham’s outstanding gift was to show the English middle class at work and play, to pin-point their strengths and weak-

nnesses, their hopes and fears and their dreary, all-permeating snobbery. His genius flowered when he blacked first-hand knowledge, with that strange, internalized logic of the English middle class that influenced the colonial empire.

The BBC series is faithful to the original, bringing out the larger cruder and psychoses of the mem-sahibs and the District Officers in a way that British racism is a mixture of fear and contempt for the “natives”.

The heat, the rain and the stream of the jungle seep out of the television, so strong is the feeling of watching a carefully-

thought-out documentary rather than a play.

The feeling of utter reality is hard to capture on the small screen. Granadas are attempting to get into the ‘class’ set by be
ing the BBC at their own game and Sunday saw the start of a serialisation of Jane Austen’s Persuasion. If the first instalment was anything to go by, the BBC has nothing to worry about.

Discomfort

The characters were all too clearly actors in costume, the men looking particularly ill at ease in their period frilly. The obvious discomfiture of the actors did not help strengthen an anemic plot about the financial distress of the small group of people in Napoleonic Wars.

I have to confess that night starvation overcome me at an early stage. I departed for bed with my Hotlicks.

The other episode had our hero fighting to win control of an airfield, Sunday again because of his commitment to truth, a fee press and a burning hatred of seeing men out of work. It has to be said that Brett has few limitations in the real world of big business and high finance.

On the other hand, it was stretched to breaking point several times, particularly when flasked by an audience of printers' journeymen, cowed by his powerful oratory and belief in crowding newspapers. As the novel is told that, at talks on possible redundancies, the National Printers' Union raised a few objections, I knew that we were in for a scene of fantasy.

Certainly, it went away 20 minutes on Monday for you if you are so disposed and it is preferable to much of the gratuitous violence that passes for entertainment on our television. But the whole episode was a reflection of the mentality of the idea that our idea of a hero is a rogue and a crook in most people's language.

David East
Women strikers out 8 weeks

DUNDEE - 42 women have been on strike for eight weeks at the medical supply firm of Hogg and Ross. They are members of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and the strike is official.

The managing director, Ross, imposed an incentive pay scheme without negotiation, in effect, he is refusing to recognize the union.

The strikers have their demands: back pay and better conditions.

The threat of an injunction provides a further hurdle. The firm under which blacking and sympathy strikes are illegal. The TGUNU has withdrawn its blacking instructions to its members.

The strikers are hoping that top level officials from CTC, which is meeting in Aberdeen.

Militants shake NUJ leaders

DELEGATES to the conference of the National Union of Journalists last week learnt one important lesson: that the press is just as liable to misrepresent them as any other section of the population movement.

According to press reports, the conference was an orgy of back-slapping for the leadership. The delegate list was different: the three-day meeting marked one setback for the union, but the fighting continued.

The delegates voted, against the platform, for a parity with Fleet Street rates in all future pay negotiations, for re-structuring of the union to give greater autonomy to regional and national newspaper sections, and that the Daily Mail be forced to improve on its membership figures for the new paper to be set up on redundancies following the closure of the Mirror.

Escaped

The conference also called for work-sharing in Fleet Street to absorb some of the unemployed.

General Secretary Ken Morgan escaped a vote of no confidence on his report during the Mirror/Sun strike by a mere 30 votes out of 244, apparently due to a successful old trick of ex-conviction by his opponents on the executive.

And the entire executive was orgasmed for its handling of the most recent strike in Dartington. NUJ members were persuaded to cancel a pay dispute but were given only five pay-rise when they came out. A handful of blacklisted workers were still working for the Dartington papers and were told not to increase the award at the end of the strike.

The strength of the militants in the union was seen in the voting for the editor of the Mirror, who was defeated for vice-presidency. Both votes indicate that the party of the council would be defeated in a year's time.

So the campaign to the executive council, Fleet Street journalists threw their two rights in at the conference table under the noses of militants, including Brian Jones, father of the Mirror's Daily Mirror.

The conference overwhelmingly condemned the 'inflammatory' Industrial Relations Bill, but the executive managed to have a motion defeated on 'no compensation to the union' in order not to 'use their hands'. But a motion to allow for the council to fight for a policy of non-registration within the Press and Broadcast Trade Federation, the umbrella organisation of the press and radio workers, was approved.

Tyne shipyard men strike for parity

NEWCASTLE - 400 fitters at Swan Hunter's ship repair yard are in the seventh week of strike action and a further five fitters in the main shipbuilding yard have been out for a month. The dispute threatens to bring the whole yard, with 11,000 workers, to a standstill.

The strike is for parity of wage rates with boilermakers. This could mean a rise of £5 a week to bring fitters up to a basic rate plus bonus of £29.

The strike is so solid in the repair yard that the men have decided not to fly the flag in the management again until 7 May. The managing director of the repair yard was transferred recently from Swan Hunter's Clyde subsidiary of Barclays Ltd, where fitters are already on £32.30.

The AIFU has declared the strike official and a ballot is being taken for a levy of 2s 6d a week from members in the Tyne and Tyneside district of the union. If the ballot is successful, the workers would receive £9.22 a week.

Tobacco men demand rights

ENGINEERS and carpenters at the Basildon, Essex, tobacco factory of Carreras, were demonstrating this week against the South African-owned company's lockout of 124 men. The dispute began in February when the workers walked out. Engineers and carpenters had a 40-hour week.

Tobacco workers demand the rights of shop stewards and no blacking and sympathy action by the TGUNU.