Scots' jobs fight spreads

by STEVE EMMS

Workers at the Plessey factory in Alexandria, Scotland, seen publicly burning redundancy notices last week. Full report: back page

DON'T SELL OUT TO SCRAP MAN

GLASGOW: The 'work-in' at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders has been overshadowed this week by the negotiations with millionai re ship dealer Archy Kelly, who has offered to buy the yards.

Jimmy Reid, chairman of the UCS shop steward's co-ordinating committee, said last week that the stewards would discuss with anybody 'on the basis of our industry not being butchered and the four yards remaining and no contrac tions.'

But at a stewards' meeting on Tuesday, there was considerable opposition to the plan to allow Kelly to acquire the yards.

Kelly is regarded by most work ers with deep suspicion. They think that if he gets his hands on the yards, he will butcher them for his own gain. He is famous for the abominable conditions in his Liffey yard in Dublin where the only running water comes through the roof when it rains.

When Kelly first showed an interest in buying the Clydebank yard, convenor Jimmy Aithe said there was no question of any deal.

PROBLEMS

'We are not interested in talking to him or anyone else about dismantling this industry,' Jimmy Aithe said on 20 August.

Yet talks have now been going on with Kelly for days, even though he has said there would have to be redundancies if he bought the yards.

167 men have been declared redundant so far. The policy of the stewards' committee is that the sacked men should continue to turn up for work.

But some men have failed to do so and have taken their redundancy pay. Those who remain at work face the possibility of industrial accidents without insurance cover.

The 'work-in' policy produces problems for the workers but solves many for the government's liquidator. There is little feeling that 8500 workers are struggling for their jobs against the villainous Tory government.

The discipline of work under capitalism reigns supreme, but criticism from the workers is starting to be voiced.

Occallaghs and scrap-man Kelly must stop now and a real occupation started as the only way to force the Tories to drop their plans to close the yards.

The demands should be:

1. No work for the liquidator—the occupation must start now.

2. Daily mass meetings to decide all policy.

3. Nationalise UCS under full workers' control.

22 Labour MPs support inquiry into internment

by PAUL FOOT

TWENTY-TWO LABOUR MPs and several prominent trade unionists have responded to the campaign launched by the Labour Party Against Internment. The MPs include three members of Labour's National Executive and Willie Hamilton, vice-chairman of the parliamentary Labour Party.

I am certainly in favour of the statement and the demands made,' writes veteran Welsh MP S O Davies. And Tom Driberg says: 'Please add my name to those of the supporters of the Labour Party Against Internment.'

A big effort is needed now to win the signatures of many more active trade unionists, MPs and others in the Labour movement. We urge Labour Party members to table emergency motions for the party conference in October, in support of the Committee's demands.

A provisional steering committee is being set up to direct the campaign. Copies of the committee's statement are available from LCAI, c/o 6 Clements Gardens, London E2 8JL.

The five demands of the LCAI are:

1. Immediate publication of the names of those being held without trial in Northern Ireland.

2. A statement of the reasons for the arrest in every case.

3. An independent inquiry by MPs and trade unionists into allegations of brutality against prisoners.

4. Inspection of places of confinement with special emphasis on all detainees held by British MN.

5. Release of detainees or right of trial for all not released.

Our traders in Ireland are in urgent need of this support. Please do your best to help them.

The signatories to date are:

Frank Allison, MP, Labour Party NEC
Son Bidwell, MP
Lord Brookway
Richard Clements, Editor Tribune
Larry Connolly, Deputy Convener (AUEW) Joseph Locke, Birmingham
Don Cook, Convener (AUEW) British Transport's Action Works
S O Davies, MP
J Dempsey, PN
Barnardos' Drivcin, MP
Edie Duggan, St Benedicts and Dockers Union Executive
Tom Driberg, MP, Labour Party NEC
Bob Edwards, MP, General Secretary
Chemical Workers' Union
Brown Egan
Tom Egan
Ted Findlay, MP
Vincent Flynn, General Secretary
SOCAT Div A (in personal capacity)
Paul Foot
Voll Griffiths, MP
Duncan Maclean, National Secretary
International Socialists
P H Hamilton, MP, Vice-Chairman
Labour Party
William Hamilton, MP
Jim Heffer, MP
Edit Harman, Editor International Socialism
Jimmy Higgins, MP
Jim Higgins, Post Office Engineering Union Executive
Beryl Hulftney, Secretary Leeds Trades Council

GEORGE JACKSON

WITH the shooting down of George Jackson in San Quentin prison last weekend, American capitalism has murdered yet one more of its opponents.

According to the official story Jackson died while trying to shoot his way out of a prison with a gun that had been smuggled into him. But San Quentin is not the sort of place anybody can carry a gun into. All visitors are closely searched.

Even if there is any truth in the official story that Jackson had a gun, the fact remains that his murder has been carried out in order to stop one more opponent of American capitalism.

If there is any sympathy with the story, I should say that Jackson had a gun in his right hand and his left arm was solidly behind his back so that he would have had an easier time of it in murdering one of the most bitter and relentless opponents of American capitalism.

San Quentin is notorious for the systematic brutality exercised by the warders against the inmates. Jackson had been imprisoned for 19 years, although his initial conviction was for stealing less than £20 from a petrol station.

In those years he became aware that his fate could not be separated from the wider suffering of black people in America, nor from the nature of American capitalism itself.

His revolutionary attitude became a focus for resistance within the prison and he was accordingly hated by those who ran California's mass system of repression. With his death they have added to their bloody revenge.

Socialists and trade unionists should make known their abhorrence of the murder and their solidarity with those of Jackson's comrades—such as Angela Davis—who still face imprisonment and trial. Messages should be sent to Soledad Brothers Defense Committee, PO Box 90, Berkeley, California 94701.

Friends of Soledad Committee has organised a protest rally for the Monday, 30 August, in Trafalgar Square at 3pm.
THERE'S NO WINTER ON NIXON'S CRISIS

NIXON'S DESPERATE for an American boom. Last week he unveiled the biggest tax cut since World War II—$35 billion dollars in tax relief. The 30,000-a-day (plus price) freeze meant to frighten workers into not spending their extra resource by 10 per cent of the company's effective rate. The other—import patriotism—was to keep foreign capital from trying to do the same thing. The purpose of the hikes is that the stakes are not strong and the loopholes might still be there.

The LOLLIPOPS is made of income tax relief, an investment subsidy and the abatement of the corporate tax. The theory most of it will be paid for by a reduction in government spending: ($45 billion), which means that in theory government spending will be cut by $45 billion to pay for more private jobs. What- ever the government actually does to do much for the unemployed.

The government has admitted to silence the new muttering of Nixon's Communists. The stairs to Nixon the extra billions will come out of a larger government deficit, which will keep inflation rolling along even faster than it is now. The silent majority is not going to like that, nor will anyone else.

THE LOLLIPOPS INGREDIENTS are not likely to satisfy business profits. Hustle hunger. Cheaper cars, more money in people's pockets and, if true, less government spending won't help America's Lockheed—the armament industry. The contractors who only market is the govern- ment. They will continue to cut and depress the whole American economy until at least the military budget grows—but that was not part of the plan this time.

THEIR WEAPONS can agree for once with Milton Friedman, the apostle of com- petition, capitalism. In his words, "the wage-price freeze...is a purely con- sumption decision...the administration on the prices actually charged and the wages really paid...[is] to measure the ingenuity of millions of American workers in finding ways to avoid actual prices and actual wages without altering stated prices and stated wages."

RANK AND FILE WORKERS PUSH LEADERS TO FIGHT PRESIDENT'S PLAN

The wage-price freeze, along with the "voluntary pledge," to end strikes, is one of President Nixon's "economic revolution" has produced a sensational and host of new leaders in America's organised labour movement.

Among the proposals is a 90 day wage-price freeze for all employers. But that's just the beginning. Other wage-price freeze for all employers. But that's just the beginning. Other wage-price freeze agreements for the same workers at two-monthly periods. Workers are afraid to break the law.

The danger is that the anger will be channelled into a passive vote for the Labour and Liberal parties. Trade unionists are afraid to be avoided if a campaign is launched to commit a future Labour government to the following:

1. Unconditional repeal of the Industrial Relations Act and all anti-union laws.
2. A minimum wage policy under capitalists.
3. Leaving of welfare cuts. No welfare charges, no means tests.
4. An end to unemployment. Work or full maintenance at trade union rates.

The Labour Party must ignore the advice of the Tory government. If the danger is that the anger will be channelled into a passive vote for the Labour and Liberal parties. Trade unionists are afraid to be avoided if a campaign is launched to commit a future Labour government to the following:

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4. An end to unemployment. Work or full maintenance at trade union rates.

THERE'S NO WINTER ON NIXON'S CRISIS

The smoking gun is not the freeze but the discussions that took place in Nixon's office, which might well become the most significant development of the entire freeze in a battle of nerves between the trade unions and the government.

The negotiations between the government and the unions are taking place behind closed doors and the terms of the deal are not known to the public. However, it is believed that the government is offering significant concessions to the unions in order to secure their support for the freeze.

Among the concessions being discussed are the following:

1. A reduction in the number of hours worked per week
2. An increase in the minimum wage
3. The introduction of a new social security package
4. The provision of more job training and retraining programs

The negotiations have been going on for several weeks and it is expected that a final agreement will be reached soon. However, the outcome is uncertain and both sides are likely to face significant opposition from their constituents.

Growing militancy

The mood of discontent and militancy among American workers has grown with increasing speed over the last few years. In 1790 workers engaged in more strike action than any other time. In the last three decades, there has been a significant increase in the number and duration of strikes, as workers have sought to assert their rights and demands.

The growth of militancy is due to a number of factors, including the decline of union membership, the increasing use of automation and outsourcing, and the rise of corporate globalization. Workers are demanding better wages and working conditions, as well as greater democracy within their workplaces. The government is responding with increasing repression, as it seeks to maintain control over the workforce.

The situation is likely to worsen in the future, as the government continues to pursue policies that are designed to weaken the unions and the working class. The workers are likely to face increased resistance as they continue to fight for their rights and demands. The struggle for justice and equality is far from over, and workers must remain united in their efforts to build a better future.
Tory 'gunboat diplomacy' - by a Labour government... by Ian BIRCHALL

Twenty years ago this summer the post-war Labour government was coming to the end of the road. The majority had been reduced to six, the USSR was following blindly in the footsteps of American foreign policy and by introducing Heath Service charges it had already chopped to pieces its own modest social reforms. But when it was faced with a clear choice between a big capitalist company on the one side, the oppressed people of the Middle East on the other—it was still capable of taking a firm stand.

This was the Iran crisis in Iran (formerly known as Persia). British interests in Iran had a long history. Before the Second World War Iran was the major oil-producer in the Middle East, and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (later to become British Petroleum) was extracting huge quantities of oil for Britain. In August 1941 British and Russian troops invaded neutral Iran to ensure military supply routes. At the end of the war it was agreed that all occupying troops would move out at the same time. When the Russians tried to win oil rights in Northern Iran they were driven out by Western pressure and Iranian troops. From this time on American influence increased almost unbelievably in Iran.

Though Iran had so-called political independence, it was bled white by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. For example, in 1947 the company had total profits of more than £40 million. Of this, nearly £1.5 million was paid in taxes to the British government. From 1947 to 1955 some £7 million went to the Persian government.

And, of course, before this reached the Iranian people, because of massive corruption and inequality, 90 per cent of the population was illiterate, and the infant mortality rate was 500 deaths for every 1,000 live births. Two per cent of the population owned 70 per cent of the land.

Set back

In the two-week period of strikes developed on a wide scale. In 1943 and 1946 strikes of oil workers demanding better conditions involved up to 50,000 workers. But the oil company was able to keep it all under control. From 1947 onwards trade union legislation in Iran was strengthened. The only coherent political force in the country at the time was the Iranian Communist Party, Tudeh, more or less an orthodox Communist.

In the 1948-49 period growing capitalist exploitation and poverty gave rise to a nationalist movement, with the participation of national groups including some extremely militant members, under the leadership of Iranian anti-colonialist Doctor Mossadegh. In March 1951 the Prime Minister General Razmara, who had failed to

Mossadegh: the Iranian Labour government... by Ian BIRCHALL

Demand for nationalisation of the oil company had been growing throughout this period and on 15 March the National Assembly passed a law to nationalise the oil industry. Labour's Foreign Secretary, Herbert Morrison, had replaced Ernest Bevin only a week earlier. His reaction, as recorded in his autobiography, was very much that of an oil tycoon protecting his kingdom, though balanced by a realisation that Britain was no longer in a position to play gutboat politics.

It was said that there was much to be said for firm and forceful action. The Cabinet, however, had a second, and in fact more important point, that resounding an effective attack might well take a lot of time and might well not be a failure. In the end, those who wanted to abolish any military intervention in Iran, said it would have to be a case if British nationals had been attacked.

Intimate

In fact, while recognising that an all-out nationalisation was not yet, the Labour government attempted to intimidate the Iranian government. On 14 May a Parachute Brigade was dropped into Manisa, and left for Iran. On 25th May the government refused to negotiate "would have the most serious effects on the whole of British interests in Iran, following the failure of negotiations, another British

crews was sent to the Persian Gulf. The attempts of the Labour government to play at old-style Tory imperialism were all the more pathetic since they failed. In September Britain started to use the most serious instrument of economic pressure by withdrawing trade and financial facilities. When Iran expelled the remaining British employees of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company a full-scale blockade was imposed.

The replacement of Labour by the Tories at the end of October made little difference. A few fly-by-night tactics shipped Iranian oil to Italy and Japan but the only word of any size to break the ban was stirred by the British at Aden and its cargo confiscated.

Iran was faced with an oilless economy. Those groups in society who had depended on oil revenues—the court, absentee landlords, the civil service and the military staff—began to turn against Mossadegh.

Mossadegh was, in fact, almost powerless in face of the coup of the world of the United States from Russia and the US. The Soviet Union gave Mossadegh little or no assistance, and even refused to return eleven tons of gold seized during the war. The role of the United States was more complex. The US was anxious to support Mossadegh as an alternative to a Nationalist Communist takeover, but at the same time wanted to avoid Britain out of Iran. So during the first stage of the coup the US tried to play a moderating role.

But in 1953, when Mossadegh's support was crumbling, he was overthrown by a CIA-planned coup. The US role in this was admitted to Congress in 1954 by the Director of the US Office of Military Assistance of the Department of Defence.

Denounced

"It provided the army immediately on an emergency basis... The ports that they had in their hands, the docks that they rode through the streets, and the radio communications that permitted this control, were all furnished through the military defence programme," the CIA chief who managed the coup became a vice-president of Gulf Oil in 1960.

The happy ending came in 1954 when a new oil agreement was negotiated, giving BP (formerly Anglo-Iranian) a 40 per cent stake in a new group of companies and 40 per cent to a number of US companies. In 1955, when Egypt nationalised the Suez Canal, the Tory government replied with military intervention. Labour, safely in opposition, denounced this vigorously.

Yet the Tories were doing no more than following the same path that Labour had walked some five years earlier.

Scientists condemn use of CS gas and rubber bullets in N Ireland

THE CAMPAIGN of terror being waged by the British army in Northern Ireland is backed by the use of modern and, in some cases, horrific weapons. The methods are harsh but they are not unique cases. The army is using chemical weapons. The army used tear gas and rubber bullets in the streets of West Berlin in the 1960s. It is not a new weapon.

When the RUC went into the Derry Brigg Street during the recent rioting, the effects of CS gas. As a result, the government set out to find a new weapon, the CS gas. By 1972 it had managed to produce a report. The use of CS gas by Britain is in breach of the Geneva agreement that made it illegal.

In July, the army introduced a new CS gas canister that shoots letters over a wide area and spreads the gas even wider. This development pursued the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science to demand an end to it. It calls this "technical revolution".

Hit the sick

Writing in the magazine New Scientist, two scientists, Jonathan Rose and Steve Smith, outlined the reasons for the society's dispute.

Both chemicals are CS gas, they say, are indiscriminate, injuring not only participants but bystanders. It may not cause any

lethal distress to able-bodied men but can cause seriously the elderly, the sick and the children to suffer distress.

They add: "The timing of the introduction of new weapons suggests that their use is dictated by the immediate requirements of riot control than by the wish to discourage people from exercising their democratic rights of peaceful demonstration."

As scientists we deplore the continuing use of technology for such negative ends. There are many areas of human life where the scientific tools are not yet

exposed by the troops was that indiscriminate weapons are unacceptable because there are few if any, truly innocent bystanders.

The army's activities in recent weeks underline this attitude. Anyone who moves—including priests and deaf mutes—are targets for the marksmen.

Serious injury

The scientists stress that the sick and the weak are particularly susceptible to the effects of crowd control agents. A higher-speed rubber bullet has just been brought into use by the army. The rubber is thrown, sometimes when deliberately redirected off the road, the high-velocity rubber bullets could inflict serious injuries to some one of small build or a old or a pregnant woman. The artists also argue that the govern-

Rubber bullets can inflict serious injuries to the heads of the population. The scientists are critical of the use of rubber bullets and the use of CS gas. They argue that the use of these weapons is inappropriate."
Latin America: continent that faces collapse

by Juan Melcer

More and more, the industrial workers will become the leading force in Latin American politics. It is no longer the case to see Latin America as a group of peasant societies destined for ever to be ruled by dictators riding on the backs of ignorant masses.

Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia and Chile are neighbours in South America. But their wealth, their progress and the whole of their national life sit so off the backs of these three different worlds.

In the current events in Latin America will analysis the upheavals in the various countries. The wide differences between each state in the continent strengthen the need to build a work and international that will, in Latin America, link up the various struggles that are taking root at present levels of social, political and economic development.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

THE International Socialists is a democratic socialist organisation whose membership is open to all who espouse its main principles and who are willing to pay contributions to support one of its main activities, independent of their country of origin. The organisation is committed to the defeat of capitalism and the creation of a society based on the participatory control and management of the means of production and distribution.

The aim of the organisation is to unite socialist theory with the demands of the working class and therefore support all genuine struggles against imperialism that could advance the cause of liberation.

We believe in the right to work and free control of the trade unions and the regular election of their leaders.

Against secret negotiations. We believe that all settlements should be subject to the support of all its members.

The struggle for socialism is the central struggle of our time. Workers' power and a world based on human solidarity, on the increasing of men's power over nature, with the abolition of power of man over man, is certainly worth fighting for.

More than a century ago Karl Marx wrote: "The philosophers have merely interpreted the world. The point is to change it. If you want to help change the world and build socialism, join us.

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I would like more information about the International Socialists

Address

Send to: IS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 6DN

THERE IS ferocious political repression in Guatemala, the small Central American republic. The present dictatorship of President Carlos Arana, elected in 1970 (against all left opposition) has started a bloodbath that has wiped out thousands of trade union leaders, university teachers, students, peasants and anybody who even mildly opposed his govening to the US and the right-wing oligarchy.

Guatemala is a country with a few million people and its neighbours are Mexico, British Honduras, Honduras and El Salvador. Its main products are bananas, cotton, coffee, maize and other agricultural goods.

Large American corporations such as United Fruit and the Electric Bond and Share own the best land and the major communications networks. Guatemala faces similar problems as its small Central American neighbours which have suffered for generations the direct interference of American companies, the US Marines and an apparatus of backwardness and poverty upon which a degenerate and bloodythiug ruling class thrives.

VITAL CRY

Since the late 40's and early 50's, the nationalist regimes of Arana and others put an end to this state of affairs. The majority of the population were driven off the land, and the cry for land reform is extremely valid in any mobilisation of the peasants.

But, in Guatemala all efforts at land reforms have been done from above, since the presidency of Arana (1945) to the Arana regime, which was overthrown in 1954 by the American Central Intelligence Agency and Aranais ever ready to deny the peasants their demands. In 1945, the Arana regime repressed against the 22 landless families that contested 50 per cent of the arable land. He also tried to create enmity among the peasants by means of state intervention against an independent peasant organ.

The government began a campaign of terror in the countryside, Arana, the present dictator, joined the militarists of the Butcher of Zapata and his military allies in that rural region in 1948. The CIA and the US government helped the Guatemalan army to exterminate thousands of peasants by napalming and destroying their crops in order to get control over the land.

The guerrillas are incapable of developing a base in the countryside due to the impossibility of reaching the vast regions of the surrounding countries (Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala) where thousands of peasants live in the banana plantations. But the preparations Arana and the US military have themselves and their own lead

NEXT: THE STRUGGLES IN THE ARGENTINIAN
As unemployment climbs towards the million mark, BRIAN EBBATSON shows how action by the trade union movement can win for the jobless their rightful Social Security benefits

ATTEMPTS to deprive unemployed workers in South Shields of dole money and other benefits have been thwarted by the local Trades Council and Claimants’ Union.

Together they have succeeded in forcing Social Security officers to reverse their ill-founded decisions to make jobless people pay their contributions and have won support for a re-introduction of parts of the Social Security Act that are particularly vital to young people out of work.

Trades Council secretary Jack Granby said: ‘That what we have established is that unemployed people can continue to draw unemployment and supplementary benefits while attending at least one course, provided they are registered and signed by the dole office. The South Shields case has established that a whole series of college courses fall into those categories. These cover part-time courses (up to 20 days a week), full-time courses of six months or a block release in hours up to 13 weeks), and full-time courses at a year) not available in schools. Other courses may be added as the cases are taken up. A person claiming benefit while taking a course is ‘available for employment’ as the 'employee's position is one of 'being available' for employment. In effect this means that he must be registered as unemployed and signing on the dole."

ASSURANCE

This was a Trades Council statement, that the person would take a ‘suitable job’ if one was offered. It may be that a person will be asked to give an assurance that he would give up the college course if suitable employment is offered. In cases of long unemployment this is not a likely contingency and does not present a serious obstacle to undertaking a course.

If he refuses a dead-end job,’ said Jack Granby, ‘he can refuse. He must insist on a suitable job. The experience, which includes all the gain on the course, and qualifications.

If benefits are refused, because the claimant is on a course, he must appeal. Our experience is that the inspector in appeal is often enough to reverse the local office’s decision. And the help of the local Claimants’ Union should be sought to present the case.

The situation has improved since the Trades Council and Claimants’ Union which was set up to help unemployed people and those on social security. The TUC, despite requests from South Shields, has taken no action.

The North-east division of the ATTI (the technical college teachers’ union) is pleased by a leaflet outlining the position to its members so they can advise any unemployed person enrolling on college courses of their rights.

It is important that other trade union and political bodies insist on operating this information. It is a small but important part of the fight against unemployment that all do it victims can be able to take full advantage of the available welfare state provisions.

The South Shields actions have also seen important developments in the struggle against unemployment. The Claimants’ Union and ATTI are represented on the Trades Council.

Jack Granby concluded: ‘Claimants’ Unions should be as an important part of the struggles against unemployment. Trade unions have always sought some way of allowing representation on the unemployed on an organized basis. The Claimants’ Unions have provided this.‘ The TUC should invite the National Federation of Claimants’ and Unemployed Workers Unions to affiliate. Meanwhile local trades councils can help by setting up Claimants’ Unions and encouraging them to be represented at meetings.

Particularly for the young unemployed, the school-leaves-the activity in the Claimants’ Union can be a political education showing them how the system operates and how to fight for their rights.

We are seeing a generation of future revolutionaries, who will make an important impact on the trade union movement.’

Copies of the South Shields Trades Council statement are available from either the council at Edith House, Wheatley Rd, South Shields or from Ynysedd Claimants’ Union, South Shields Branch, 20 Blakelands Rd, South Shields, Co Durham.

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by Duncan Hallas

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The labour movement must act now - our situation is desperate

IN AN IMPASSIONED appeal to the British labour movement, Orla Farrell told a packed meeting in central London on Saturday: "You must act - or you can never hold your heads up again."

The wife of Michael Farrell, the interned People's Democracy leader, said that the policy of the Faulkner government in Northern Ireland was to pick off all the leaders of the opposition to the Orange Regime - immediate action by the working class in Britain was even more vital now than before the arrests.

"Ours is an authoritarian, police state. Our situation is desperate," she told the meeting organised by the Labour Front transitional interministerial and the International Socialists. "Adding that there was anger, fear and bitterness in her heart, Orla Farrell said that her husband, a socialist of the United Kingdom, had lost his democratic rights in just two minutes when the troops arrested him on 9 September. She had been allowed to see him for 15 minutes last week and told the audience how he had described treatment.

"They would hang the barbed wire and broke glass between rows of soldiers with batons. An abysmal deal has taken on him.'"

Gleeful RUC

Prisoners had been forced by the troops to sit in the same position for nearly 48 hours with their arms behind their heads or raised in the air. If the soldiers' demands brought forth beating and glancing at them, members of the Royal (Ulster Constabulary).

Orla said that internees had told of being kicked by the soldiers, of having lights flashed in their eyes when they tried to sleep, of being forced to endure nakedness and of being unhandled by soldiers and one man was suspended by a rope around his neck. He had been kept in their hands in conditions for several days.

"The only way of bringing peace to Northern Ireland?" she asked. "The Tories and Farleys who sit and talk are in these conditions, but we cannot. There must be a demand for a six days.

Six demands

She listed six demands and urged the audience to fight for them in Britain:

1. Immediate release of all internees.
2. Immediate withdrawal of troops to be pending their withdrawal from the country.
3. Abolition of Stormont and its replacement by an elected RUC. The people of a group of an alternative assembly elected by all communities in the Special Areas.
4. Total de-segregation of the Ministers.
5. Full implementation of the Civil Rights programme and repeal of the Special Powers Act.
6. Total amnesty of all political prisoners.

Orla Farrell went on: "When the first period of internment ends on 8 September, Faulkner is probably going to release a few prisoners. Even if he is one of those released, the internment will not accept that. None of us will accept that."

ECCELS: AN APOLOGY

In an interview on 24 July we reproduced a cartoon by Ecce (Frank Brown) of the Morning Star. Unfortunately the original caption to the cartoon was not available and our comment appeared as though it were in the caption. We now understand that the alteration completely misrepresented the cartoon's meaning and regret the circumstances we apologised to Mr. Brown.

THE STRUGGLE OF the UCS workers has made workers' control of production a live issue again for many millions. It is an idea with a very long history in the labour movement. The UCS workers set up self-governing workshops (producer co-ops) in the late 18th century and in the early 19th century onwards. They were, now and then, successful for a time and there a few in existence today. But they were never more than tiny islands in the sea of capitalist production.

The difficulty is that they are in a single factory. The factory has to compete in the market with the capitalist variety. It has to struggle to keep its capital intact, to keep up with advances in techniques of production. In other words, the capitalist surroundings force the co-operative to behave like a capitalist or go under.

Add to this the immensely greater resources of the capitalists and it is surprising that producer co-operators have ever been able to exist at all. They have, but only in the nooks and crannies of the system.

The statement drafted by Marx for the International Working Men's Association in 1846 put the position in a nutshell: "We acknowledge the co-operative movement as one of the transforming forces of the present society based on class antagonism. It is meant to be a practical demonstration that the present existing and despotic system of the subordination of labour to capital can be superseded by the republic of producers, system of the association of free and equal producers."

"Restricted, however, to the dwarfish forms into which the movement has been driven by their private efforts, the cooperative system will never transform capitalist society. To convert social production into one large and harmonious system of free and co-operative labour general social change is required, changes of the economic conditions of society, never to be realised save by the transfer of the organised forces of society, namely the state power, from the capitalists and landlords to the producers themselves."

"Marx was thinking mainly of producer co-operators, but co-op producers could and did develop far beyond 'dwarfish forms'. The movement today has something like 12 million members. But its workers are not 'free and equal producers'. They are wage workers, although they sometimes collectivize, rather than as a co-operative, to the degree that trade union organisation gives them, like other organised workers, some element of control."

The socialists and syndicalists who took up the slogan of workers' control in the years from 1906 onwards understood this very clearly. They also understood that the state is not a neutral machine that can be made to serve labour as easily as it serves capital and that the 'transfer of state power' from the capitalists to the workers means much more than the election of a majority of Labour MPs.

"Their aim was a militant industrial unionism that would go far beyond the limited aims of reformist trade unionism. The task was to 'build the new society within the shell of the old' by ceaseless agitation, by 'no peace with the employers', by the use of strikes and boycotts to develop 'unity of action and sameness of inspiration which will make them (the organised workers) fresh and act as class, for the direct and forcible expropriation of the capitalists'.

"The fight for workers' control of production and the fight for state power were seen as essentially the same thing. In the light of this, the proposal of industrial unionism', wrote James Connolly, 'every fish shop or factory organised under the union banner is a fort wrenched from the control of the capitalist class and manned with the soldiers of the revolution to be held by them for the workers. On the day that the political and economic forces of labour finally break with capitalist society and proclaim the Workers' Republic, the state apparatus thus snatched by industrial unionists will be taken charge of by the workers they employed, and force and effectiveness be then given to that proclamation. Then and thus, the new society will spring into existence, ready equipped to perform all the useful functions of its predecessor."

ORLA FARRELL: "Is this bringing peace to Northern Ireland?"

Workers' control cannot be divorced from politics

DUNCAN DALLAS

28 AUGUST 1971

Workers' control cannot be divorced from politics
OXUED TERRS FINDS
Refuge but no Hiding
FOR MAESSES
IN BOLIVIA

From a special
THE FORMER PRESDNENT
of Bolivia, General Juan Torres and his government took refuge in
foreign embassies when they were ousted from power on
Sunday by a right-wing military
coup.

But a whole class cannot take
refuge, even in 50 embassies. That's
the tragedy of Bolivía's working
population—they cannot leave the
country now that a reign of terror is
drowning the best militants in a sea
of blood.

The right-wing were successful in
isolating Torres and toppling his re-
gime in a matter of days. Chris
Benta Cruz and Cochabamba were
taken by the rebels without a
shot.

Yet for months the plotting of
the right-wing had been open
knowledge as they attempted to
oust Torres.

Torres thought he could stand
above the 'different classes and arbi-
trate between them. He came to
power last October after smashing
another right-wing military coup.

In doing so he won the uncondi-
tional support of the student
workers and peasants. He promised to
maintain the trade union centricity of
the COB, the peasant militia and the
correspondent

only, to replace them later.

He even banned the opening of
the Popular Assembly in July on the
text of a 'national emergency'. At
no point during all this did the miners
and peasants of the right-wing need
they joined in a wave of collective
national hysteria.

The result was 11 months of 'wait
and see'. In the right-wing was able
to recover, get CIA help, regain
confidence and was able to
the major army units and the air
forces which now saw the balance
fully in its favour.

The workers and peasants are
gnace [you can say that again]. It
is supplied by the RUC. The Stor-
mong government wants PB out of
the way as it regards Free Citizen
the PB paper as a subversive. Free
Citizen's main crime, in the General's
opinion, was that it campaigned
against army atrocities.

So there we have it straight from
the top that the RUC decides who
should be interrogated and that 'terrorists
cover a multitude of sins, including
publishing a socialist paper.

A FATHER whose son was convicted of
shooting people with an air rifle

VARIOUS WIREs are getting crossed in North Atlantic waters. The U.S. in
charge of army policy—Westminster or
Stormont—has been making the round
of embassies. Maulden and Heath claim
that the RUC's strategy is to
start internment, but army brass
are preaching a different tale.

A report from a British national
paper, puzzling as to why members of the
RUC came at first, was apparently arrested when they argue for a
ballet not a military solution to
the Irish problem, approached army
second in command-General Tickle.
The thing to remember is this,
said the General. "You may say that
again. It is supplied by the RUC. The Storm-
 more government wants PB out of
the way as it regards Free Citizen
the PB paper as a subversive. Free
Citizen's main crime, in the General's
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Hundreds are dying in the mining
regions where the army has decided
to stage a showdown.

Fascists are murdering Com-
munists, Trotskyists and anybody
else who supported the old govern-
ment.

The police force Torres used is
now employed in crushing his
supporters. The trade union will
be 'cleansed', the political organisa-
tions of the Left decimated, and it will take Bolivian working
revolutionary years to recover its lost leadership.

One man's meat...

A PROGRAMME on productivity
bargaining on BBC Radio 4 last
Friday included an interview with our
own Tony Cliff, who outlined the
idea of a deal which would
 Torch on the pill in the
form of a wage increase is quickly
melted by inflation.

Finger-pointing at this, the
programme's producer said it didn't
seem to hold true in one factory
in South Africa. The factory is being
moved to the country and most of
the workers made redundant.

We understand that Cliff is not
planning to rewrite his book as a
result of this starting 'refutation'.

JUDE in our last issue, the most
amazing headline of the year in the
Mirror last week: ROBENS: I'M NOT
SOCIALIST.

Counterpoint

A POSTCARD to our business
manager from a subscriber this week
asked that his copies should be
sent to his address as the Post Office
was not forwarding them from his
former address. He added: 'One can't
expect the Post Office worker to re-
direct mail if they aren't paid a decent
wage.'

A different hand had noted in the
corner: 'He's right, mate.'

You CAN roughly distinguish
two types among TV thrillers: the
glory types depending in varying
degrees upon violence, sex,
extravagant penhouses and fast cars.
The Avengers and The Persuaders.
Thief fall into this category.

Blonde British beauty, dignity
defender of the law type—Dixon
of Dock Green and A Man Called
Ironside. The Name of the Game
combines both of these types with
some superficial liberalism.

Public Eye (ITV, Wednesday, 9pm, 20,000 viewers)
with its great popularity, unarrested by a
false promise of glamour.

Public Eye exploits the way
in which an investigator is allowed to
plot to look into the lives of the people convicted in a
crime.

The audience, can get to the
heart of the matter much quicker
than in an ordinary play.

For the 'good guy' programmes
this has little advantage, because
people are too crudely shown as good
and evil. The glossy does not
go much beyond telling you about
the hero's toughness and chasm.

Dingy off

But Frank Marker of Public
Eye is a different matter.

From his dingy office he charges
moderate fees for offering the
wealthy and fairly wealthy social
sort out the not so respectable
denizens of society and makes ironic little remarks that
are meant to make his affluent or pompous people he has
enjoyed. He always makes it clear that they are not what they
appear to be on the surface.

One day he is different to more
sympathetic people. He is understanding and decent without
being holy.

So many TV programmes
practically hit you over the head
with it when the hero makes a
moral point. This is because
they underline our intolerance and
respect the morality itself.

Marker's behaviour and values,
on the one hand, are very much like the personal ideals of the
ordinary working class. On the
present time, even if Marker is self-ironic and has a chance to
practise these ideals, Marker is not in constant rebellion
against his richer clients but keeps his integrity and
indeed, in that sense Marker is
truer to life than the seemingly
more realistic Coronation Street.

Main reason

I am not saying that Marker
was necessarily created with these ideas in mind, but this is the
main reason why Public Eye appeals
so much.

Marker also engages our
sympathy as an unscrupulous
and a likeness of Callan of
Callan's Sagi. Callan likewise does
the dirty work for his higher-ups.
But tough-sounding Callan follows
orders, even if he under protests.
Marker, however, is very much his
own master about what work he
accepts.

We also go along with Marker
because of the impressive acting
of him and his associates, which
naturally brings Marker to life, even when
he is doing something very
unconvincing and ridiculous. This
gives us a laugh at times.

Marker too often ends up
representing a type of speech
character of which he is not
representing Marker in action for
another week.

The emphasis should be put
on exploring the kinds of people
behind the characters in the
world. This is possible because
by portraying real, constructed
and interesting characters the
viewer will be more likely to
see other characters through his eyes.
Engineers face tough battle

A CLAM presented to the Engineering Employers Federation this week by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Employees (CSEEW) warned that a series of redundancies, closures and rising unemployment in the shipbuilding and engineering industries would lead to job losses in the future.

The union, which represents 50,000 workers in the industry, said that the employer’s employers would only be able to meet the challenge if they were prepared to make substantial changes to their working practices.

The union also called for a moratorium on redundancies until the end of the year and for the government to provide financial support to help the industry.

The union’s general secretary, John O’Brien, said: “We are facing a crisis in the industry that is making it impossible to maintain the level of employment that we have enjoyed in the past.

“Without action, we will see a decline in the number of jobs and a fall in productivity, which will have serious consequences for the economy.”

A handful of workers have already been made redundant, and others are expected to follow in the coming weeks.

O’Brien added: “The government must take action to support the industry and prevent further job losses.

“We are calling on the government to provide a package of measures to help the industry, including financial support, training and retraining, and investment in new technology.”

However, the union’s calls were met with a lukewarm response from the government.

A spokesperson said: “While we understand the concerns of the workers, the government is currently focused on supporting other industries that are facing similar challenges.”

The union has also called on employers to be more flexible in their approach to redundancies, and to consider alternative options such as part-time work and retraining.

The union’s general secretary added: “We are aware that the current situation is very difficult for employers, but we believe that by working together we can find solutions that will benefit both workers and the industry.”

The union has already begun to negotiate with employers, and is calling on workers to support its campaign.

A spokesperson said: “We need the support of workers to ensure that we can make real progress in this critical period.”

The union is also calling on the government to provide financial support to help the industry.

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