Plessey and BAC workers show the way to defeat Tories

FIGHT-BACK GROWS
AGAINST SACKINGS

ALEXANDRIA, Dunbartonshire: Last Friday the flag over the Plessey factory was flown down and dumped on the manager's desk. With it came the words: 'We have taken over.'

The company had intended to close the factory. Instead, the workers occupied it.

The day began with Plessey's paying off the last 200 employees. Then the workers held a mass meeting, marched through the factory gates, turned off the lights and made their shock announcement.

Since then they have been using Plessey's own machine to machine Plessey's own work. They have been unblocking the factory and maintaining a 24-hour guard on the gates. Managers have been admitted only after agreeing to have their cars searched and giving satisfactory assurances to the workers.

Any hints that this had been locked out. Posters and placards have been put up and a squad of workers has escorted armed wire barricades as a defence against any sudden police swoop on the plant. Food and blankets have been supplied by wives and a few local tradesmen.

Both management and police have warned the workers that they are 'acting illegally' and an attempt at a forced eviction is expected shortly. Other workers from nearby factories have been picketing the factory in solidarity and as a protest against any attacks.

The factory used to be the Royal Naval Torpedo Establishment until it was bought by Plessey. They took control in January and immediately promised that more than 1000 workers would be employed by the end of the year. Now, with unemployment well over 10 per cent in Alexandria, they have more than doubled that figure.

The reason is brutally simple. Plessey bought the factory for a mere £40,000. Inside is a million pounds' worth of machinery and metal. Plessey are now transferring this to their Ifford, Essex, factory.

Blacking

The Alexandria workers are victims of this get-rich-quick operation. They have announced that they intend to occupy the factory until it is re-opened. They are refusing to allow any machines to be moved or blacking any plant that is transferred to the Ifford factory.

Eddie McLaughlin, the shop stewards'umpharious bill. The Alexandria workers are not prepared to allow Plessey's Plessey's.

The Tories and the employers are terrified that the idea of factory occupation will spread. This accounts for the almost total freeze block of the Alexandria struggle.

The workers need support desperately. It is the responsibility of the entire labour movement to give that support and to ensure that this vital struggle is won.

Messages and donations to: Eddie McLaughlin, Plessey Works, Alexandria, Dunbartonshire, Scotland.

GLASGOW: The UCS work incontinences... and so do the redundancies.

More than 700 men have now been sacked.

Last weekend Danny McGarvey, the Buchanan's leader, announced that while his union would demand the nationalisation of the shipbuilding industry at this week's TUC, the trade unions were prepared to be 'flexible' about the future of UCS.

He said the unions had no objections to any restructurings. This means the government will be able to form in its proposed Gowan-Limousin direction and then will agree to the sale of the other two yards to the two big American groups.

The idea breaks the link of UCS, the acceptance of sackings and a step in the 'plotting' of the TUC's separate interests. McGarvey has also said that the yard workers have been a union of the UCU's 120 yards and then will agree to the sale of the other two yards to the two big American groups.

Sacked

Inside the yards now real evidence of a workers' take over exists. Workers are being disciplined by foremen and managers and one foreman sacked a worker for alleged misconduct. He has since been reinstated but the shop stewards have failed to explain how in a yard they plan to run the factory as a new business.

But the yards clearly don't belong to the UCS workers. If they did, no sackings would be at all possible.

New threat to UCS jobs

But these are not the only threats. The TUC should call for a joint stoppage to defend against sackings and in solidarity with the UCS and Plessey workers. The TUC should demand that both plants are nationalised under workers' control with a guarantee of no sackings.

DANGER OF HEATH-LYNCH
DEAL ON IRELAND

by EAMONN McCANN

AS THE Belfast Press reported: "The Heath-Lynch deal on Northern Ireland represents a significant victory for the Northern Ireland Executive. But the fact that the deal has been done means that the British government can now move forward with its plans to reintegrate the Ulster lads into the British state."

But the sheer weight of the argument in favour of the new deal makes it impossible for any left-wing Northern Irish politician to oppose it. The deal will mean that the Ulster lads will be freed from the political and economic shackles of the past.

The anti-Heath-Lynch forces are likely to be isolated and their argument will be drowned out by the weight of evidence presented in favour of the new deal. The deal will also mean that the British government can now move forward with its plans to reintegrate the Ulster lads into the British state.

PUBLIC MEETING
Labour Committee Against Intemment

Speakers will include:
BERNADETTE DEVLIN, MP Labour MPs, leading trade unionists and Irish Socialists
FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 8pm
Camden Town Hall, Islington North Ward, Kings Cross, St Pancras and Euston station
Puddle and Prescott: victims

FOR SOME YEARS now 'liberal' and 'left' intellectuals and academics have been puzzeled spectors of Britain's drift toward right-wing conservatism. The workers have left the struggle to others; to their students, to foreigners, to workers, to women, to blacks, to kids prepared to demonstrate. This struggle has a cost: in stickings, in fines, in rasisction, in censorship, in harassment, in imprisonment, in deportation. This cost is mounting.

Already the political situation in this new summer is becoming more bitter with the new government in the vanguard, are pursuing an open campaign of intimidation of those who resist and oppose. In an act of life: Industrial Relations Act, Immigration Act, Port of Paul Ruddock and Robert Fisk, and the decision, Stepney Order, The Little Red School Book, the government is increasing its power. It is in the process of increasing its power.

The next to be offered at the state's multi-course dinner party are Jake Prescott and Paul Ruddock with the Angry Brigade bomber of Robert Fisk. They are the first to be arrested. The government is not only arresting those who resist but are also attacking our right to resist. The government is not only arresting those who resist but are also attacking our right to resist.

The defence campaign needs public sympathy and support. If you are a member of a class-based movement you could help. If you really want to make a difference then you could help. If you really want to make a difference then you could help.

Our solidarity is more necessary than ever: if we are to win against the government. If we are to win against the government. If we are to win against the government.

Emotion

I MUST strongly urge you about producing covers such as last month's 'The Economist'. The totally gratuitous exposé of the going that closed on 100 in the serious section for one of our sellers. I have heard to what the state is doing in London but you really must realize this in areas that are not affected by the government. I have heard creams. The state is so affected by the government. I have heard creams. The state is so affected by the government.

Keep down

But the job they do determine not by them but by the Tory government that gives the orders. And that job is to keep down the workers of Ireland.

The republican section of the population has no choice but to resist the army. In the process individual soldiers are killed. But the burden of guilt lies not with the IRA, but with the government that sends its troops to Ireland to do its dirty work for it.

Strategy to fight the Act

The FIGHT against the Industrial Relations Act must go on, but on false grounds. You are on your feet against the government. You cannot be the government. The government is not the government. The government is not the government. The government is not the government.

The employers do not want a showdown fight with the entire working class. They are preparing for a showdown fight with the entire working class. They are preparing for a showdown fight with the entire working class. They are preparing for a showdown fight with the entire working class.

Of course they hope to pick off the weaker sections of the workers without the workers, the workers. The government does not have the workers. The government does not have the workers. The government does not have the workers.

The stronger sections are the real target of the Act. The government is not the government. The government is not the government. The government is not the government. The government is not the government.
The lengthening shadow of the dole queue hangs over the organised labour movement. 940,000 people without jobs condemn a government that boasts empty slogans about "equality of opportunity" yet within a year of office has brought back a grim reminder of the poverty and misery of the 1930s. Unemployment speaks the deafening language of desperation for those without jobs. It is a serious threat to those with jobs, as well. It says, in effect, if you don't like your wages or conditions, there are plenty outside the gates ready to take your place.

A militant and determined fight, linking jobless and employed, is needed to best back the Tories and the employers. The 'work-in' at Upper Clyde and now the occupation at Pissay's torpedo factory at Alexandria, show a growing determination by workers to save their jobs. A discussion on the tactics to be used by trade unions is needed - to explore some of their actions, social conditions and redundancies, the Industrial Relations Act and productivity deals, as well as unemployment - is needed urgently. In this article TONY WILD recalls the bitter struggle of the Welsh miners in the 1930s to defeat company unions aimed at breaking their strength and reducing the number of jobs. It was a struggle that involved sit-in strikes. A further article will deal with the historic struggle in America in the 1930s to establish the right to belong to a union, a struggle which again included sit-in strikes and occupations.

The defeat of the General Strike in 1926 brought all sorts of trouble for the British working class. Disillusion and apathy set in. The miners who were able to organise themselves were still able to organise thousands of militants. The TUC lost several million members.

A particularly troublesome feature of the times was the growth of the scab phenomenon. The TUC called for action. To active trade unionists they were 'yellow organisations of real life' correctly informed about the government-run unions of the time.

They would certainly have become one of the mainstays of British fascism for Oswald Mosley and his allies had not been driven off the stage.

In South Wales one of these so-called 'united front' tactics was the nationalisation of coal mining. The National Coal Board was formed. As a result of the miners' own strength they were able to organise again, and form a national union, the NUM, with 430,000 members.

The South Wales Miners' Federation was fused with the miners' union connected with the South Wales Miners' Union. The Miners' Federation's strength was two to one, their spirits were high, their organisation was well established. They were faced with organised violence, but nevertheless maintained their spirit.

BOYCOTT

The height of the campaign was a walk-out by miners singing the Red Flag. The pit was shut for six weeks, and the employers ended their agreement with the government to organise the whole mine, at the same time that the miners had not been broken.

The main feature of the campaign at Taff Merthyr was the beginning of the entire mining community against the nationalisation of coal mining. This was the start of the battle against the owners.

The 1919 miners' strike was the first of the hundreds of strikes that followed. It was the start of the battle against the owners. It was the start of the battle against the government.

New Mine Point pit-head: waiting for news of the sit-in.

IMPOERTANT

The regular miners turned out to join the march on the miners. They were the blacklegs' ranks grew day by day. It dawned on the strikers that their position inside the mine, with more of their jobs disappearing each day was an important one. The Industrial Union had promised that all blacklegs would return their jobs. The miners returned to work on the Thursday, but by Saturday 86 'indis- pendent spirit' workers were back with only 12 local men down the East Pit. The West Pit retained all local men.

In the 1919 miners strike the West Pit who went up next morning were workers on the mine. They were working on the pit, on hanger strike, until the miners returned.

Sunday passed off peacefully in the town, but when the boys turned out to join the blacklegs' bosses on Monday they were confronted with the reappearance of the Ghost Train and the large bodyguard of police.

The most honoured servants of local capitalism were escorted below first. The men of Rock Vail pit followed after, met at the bottom and decided unanimously to stay down. The afternoon shift was not allowed below.

The spark of resistance at the West Pit spread further. 30 men began a sit-down strike at 6th and 50 in Mine Point, both in the same valley as New Mine Point.

The next day brought the return of the Ghost Train. No violence occurred. A reporter wrote 'All along the valley in the Ghost Train approached, they could be a crowd of 2000'. You could hear the cat-calls when the train went by.

The flame of solidarity was fanned high. On that day, 60 men pit staged a sit-down strike: another 1,690 men were involved. Nearly 10,000 came out on sympathy strikes. The majority of Murray retained the mining of the hated Ghost Train.

On Wednesday, a brief stop-down of a day and a half was begun at Taff Merthyr. But there the officials put up a violent opposition, forcing one small group into their cages after a two-hour battle and turning the cold compressed air on to those who remained.

It was on Wednesday that the owners announced the indefinite closure of New Mine Point. The Western Mail reported that 'The local workers will never forget the lesson that the abuse of opportunities for wage-cutting results in the cancellation of those opportunities, and it is to be hoped that the lesson will be thoroughly learned in all other parts of the coalfield as well.'

The tune never changes!

Wednesday thus brought the real crisis of the strike. A special delega- tion of the Miners Federation adopted an executive recommendation to return to work pending negotiations for the reopening of New Mine Point.

After a closure lasting until 4 a.m. on Thursday by those at the surface, the working people are capable of organising themselves, and are capable of exercising democratic control over their own lives.

Vital reading for all socialists and trade unionists

TRIUMPH

They marched first to Risca, then to Cross Keys, picking up people along the route. They reached Newport, thousands strong, for the Cabanymen to bring them out on strike.

A lodge officer was called at a hotel to order them to send away. They simply waited for the appearance of the night shift, getting their supplies. They came and were dismissed from the hotel.

On Thursday evening it was faced with a dilemma - a demonstration begun by the people of Cwmcarn.

The next day, Friday, 34,000 men were on strike. And it was their solidarity that drove the closures. That final thrust of militant unity was as much as the bosses could take.

On Saturday afternoon an official called the pickets below ground at Cross Keys and told them to cease the struggle. The leaders of the pickets were sent from the West Pit after 7/8 days below ground.

The Industrial Union was halted from New Mine Point and all the local men substituted by the discussions that followed.

The lessons of Nine Mine Point are important for us. The first is that militancy, unity, discipline and organisation are necessary to the success of any important struggle. The second is that complete democracy and rank and file control are essential in guarding against a sell-out.

The other lesson is that ordinary working people are capable of organising themselves, and are capable of exercising democratic control over their own lives.

International Socialists' Autumn Weekend Rally

Derbyshire Miners' Holiday Centre, Skegness 15, 16, 17 October

Sessions include: Perspectives for Western Capitalism: John Palmer Towards a Revolutionary Socialist Party: Duncan Hallen The International Movement: Tony Cott Entertainment by Alex Glasgow and others Adults £4.50. Reduced rates for children

Write to: Jenny Dawson, 8 Cotman Gardens, London E2 8DN
SCAB FORCE OUT TO WRECK SITE UNIONS

WHAT WE STAND FOR

THE International Socialists is a democratic organisation whose membership is open to all who accept its main principles and who are willing to pay subscriptions and work in one of its organisations.

We believe in independent working-class action for the abolition of capitalism and its replace- ment by a classless society with production for use and not for profit.

We work in the mass organisa-
tions of the working class and are firmly committed to a policy of internationalism.

Capitalism is international. The giant firms have investments throughout the world and owe no allegiances except to themselves and the economic systems they maintain.

In Europe, the Common Market has been formed for the sake of increasing the size and profitability of its multinational firms.

The international power of capitalism can only be overthrown by international action by the working class.

A single socialist state cannot independently survive unless workers of other countries actively come to its aid and help build socialist revolution.

In addition to building a revolu-
tionary socialist organisation in this country, we believe in the necessity of forming a world revolu-
tionary socialist network, an international independent of either Washington or Moscow that will forge close relationships with a number of other socialist organisations through-out the world.

We believe in the necessity to unite socialist theory with the day-to-day struggles of working people and therefore support all genuine demands that tend to improve the position and self-confidence of the working class.

We fight for rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular election of all full-time officials.

Against trade union loan funds and the illegal collection of funds.

Against anti-trade union laws and any curbs on the right to strike, whether the strikes are ‘official’ or ‘unofficial’.

Against productivity deals and job evaluation for communist trade union unity and joint shop stewards’ committees both in the plant and in a combine area.

For equal pay and a better deal for young workers.

For a minimum wage of at least £2 a week.

Against unemployment, redundancy and lay-offs. We support the demand: Five days’ work or five days’ pay.

For all workers in struggle. We seek to build militant groups within industry.

Against racism and police-violence against black workers.

Against immigration restrictions. For the right of coloured peoples and all oppressed groups to organise in their own defence.

For real social, economic and political equality for women.

Against all nuclear weapons and military alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

Against secret diplomacy.

Against all forms of imperialism.

We unconditionally give support to and solidarity with all those who fight for the national liberation movements.

For the nationalisation of the land, banks and major industries without compensation and under workers’ control.

We are opposed to all ruling class policies and organisations. We work to build a revolutionary workers’ party in Britain and to that end support the unity of all revolutionary groups.

We support the struggle for socialism as 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 the power of men over men, is certainly worth fighting for. It is not just talking about it. More than a century ago Karl Marx wrote: “The solutions have merely interpreted the world. The point is to change it.” If you want to help us change the world and build socialism, join us.

by Peter Hitchens

THE LUMP is the curse of building workers throughout Britain. It wrecks trade union organisation before it has a chance to start and forces thousands of men to work in wretched conditions with no chance of a fight back.

When the building trades employers agreed with the unions to abolish the lump by 1 July 1971, it looked as though the battle was over. But not for long.

The lump is still very much alive and kicking in the building industry.

It comes under a new name, Labour Force. Birmingham building work-
ers uncovered Labour Force last month and it’s not a pretty sight.

The Birmingham men got hold of prime jobs at the hands of Labour Force. On the cover there’s a picture of a gang in unskilled working clothes (kinky boots and a black cap) shovelling cement. Underneath the folder announces a ‘Unique System’. It certainly is.

The principle of the Lump is that men aren’t employed on time steady wages. Instead they are paid a lump sum for a sub-contract.

RECIPE

This means that they are still squeezed by employers whether they have to complete the job or not. If work stops they are isolated from other workers.

In short it’s a recipe for cheap, unorganised labour. As well as this, a lump sum payment means a man is effectively self-employed and the employer is exempt from National Insurance and PAYE.

So the worker is unprotected against injury or sickness, and, if often at all, from the trade union solidarity.

Inside the brochure, Labour Force offers employers men for hire on conditions like these.

1. No strikes
2. No overtime rate
3. No holiday pay
4. No staff wages
5. No go-slow pay
6. No notices
7. No severance pay
8. No extras
9. One flat rate
10. All the hours you like...

I would like more information about the International Socialists

Name

Address

Send to: 15, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 BDN
Russia and East Germany aid Mrs Bandaranaike

Police state fears in Ceylon after end of revolt

By Ranjith Mendis

There have been several hunger strikes and troops have made bayonet charges to 'restore order' on a number of occasions.

Home Minister Peter Banda-
ranake, the prime minister, announced recently that a number of other measures will be taken in order to strengthen the police force and to prevent any further disturbances. The JVP is the only party which is standing behind the armed forces.

Mrs Bandaranaike: Aid from East and West

Chou En-lai: Congratulations and a loan

new slogan: 'The police are dogs and thieves. We must go to the streets and try to make an attempt to drive a wedge between them and the two groups of repres-
sion. The police will not be able to control us.

Mrs Bandaranaike is using the emergency powers to introduce a series of new measures to suppress militancy. She is also attacking the living standards of the masses by cutting welfare expenditure in order to pay for the arms the army has bought.

Bus and train fares are being jacked up, militant trade unions are being sacked and overcome in the Port of Colombo has been ban-

nished. The Cabinet, which includes pro-Muslim Communist Party and so-called Trotskyists, has decided to get rid of Ceylon's socialists.

Chou En-lai has congratulated Mrs Bandaranaike and extended a loan to the government. The loan is to be used to pay off the principal and interest. The JVP has termed this as 'pitiful'.

Suffered

The paradox is that Peking itself has cynically given support to Mrs Bandaranaike and the situation in Ceylon is likely to be even more tense and violent.

Flag of the JVP is seen flying over a field in Ceylon.


Wave of arrests rocks Italy

By Mike Balfour

Productivity has been stepped up in a number of ways, including an increase in the use of new technology and methods of production. The JVP has also been active in the political and economic sphere, and has been successful in its efforts to promote the interests of the workers.

Attacks

To smash the resistance of workers, the employers have resorted to violence and repression. This has led to an increase in the number of arrests and detentions. Many Communist trade unions have been targeted, and their leaders and members have been attacked and persecuted. The JVP has been active in organizing blockading to break up the attacks.

The present government is a 'Com- munist' government. It has been supported by the Soviet Union, and has been active in organizing blockading to break up the attacks.

Italy's new Labour Force (new Labour Force)

And it is where my employers work.

I have no idea what it means, but I have to deal with it. My employers are being forced to sign documents to show that they are not being paid less than the legal minimum. Each document is signed by at least two witnesses. This means that I am no longer able to work for my usual wage. I have been paid no more than the legal minimum for the past two years, each document is signed by at least two witnesses.

Right wing police are on the look out for any activity that could be seen as 'leftist' or 'Marxist'. They are investigating the activities of everyone they think may be involved in such activities. If you are suspected of being a member of the JVP, you could be arrested at any time.

Beyond pockets

Exhibiting property prices are attractive to capitalists. They are interested in the potential for profit and growth. However, the prices are high because the demand is high. The supply of houses is limited and the demand is increasing. As a result, the prices are rising.

However, once the prices reach a certain level, the market begins to slow down. When this happens, the prices start to decrease. This is because the supply of houses is limited and the demand has already been met. As a result, the prices start to fall.

The government is aware of this and is taking steps to control the prices. The government is also trying to increase the supply of houses. This is being done by building new houses and refurbishing old ones. As a result, the prices are expected to fall in the future.

They say, 'The price of a house is not only a matter of money. It is also about security, environment, friends, family, culture, etc.'
**Catholic and Protestant unity that England had to smash**

**Why the white racists**

**greet Banda by Wenda**

Ireland's History of Repression by James Walker, Part Two

The Volunteer military an Irish Fenian of 1872

With the Volunteers disbursed the burning of the United Irishmen was only a matter of time. They were driven underground in 1795 but their influence continued.

In the same year the Orange Order was established. This was a deliberate act of policy. Religious antagonisms had been prevailing in Ireland, as elsewhere, in the previous decades.

Protestants had played a large part not only in the parliamentary opposition which was geared to the 1832 Reform Act, but also in the revolutionary order, Wolfe Tone, corresponding to the United Irishmen. Government officials were all Protestant. The United Irishmen were at least as strong in Ulster as in any other part of Ireland.

The Orange Order became an organised conspiracy of all the most degenerate social outcasts wherever the ramparts were used as tools to break up the solidarity engendered by the United Irishmen, and to replace the struggle for freedom with a servile acquiescence in an emnibitted war of sect against sect. But even the United Irishmen had to be crushed. They were now planning a new rebellion.

Warned by preliminary clashes and the numorous informers, as well as by an unsuccessful attempt at a French landing in 1796, the government launched a new tour of terror, starting in Ulster and then spreading through the Connaught counties. This now had plenty of troops and, armed with martial law, they set about to crush the Catholics by the same basis as before, though not the right to sit in parliament.

Driven underground

The disarming of the Volunteers was the key. It was achieved by the help of trade. After it had left the Orange and its Stuart British force was sent to the French revolutionary, the Orange leaders, as Grattan's still remained as the object of great resistance against Catholic and Dissenters, disestablishment of the Church of Ireland, abolition of tithes and rather vague proposals to protect tenants.

Ireland was for the time being the foremost part of the British Isles. The United Irishmen were able to operate openly for five years during which they became a widespread organisation. The Tories could not behave in Ireland as they could at home, and the Irish Volunteers had been disarmed, the proper class rallied behind the government and the parliament was pressed against such orders by carefully forestalled revolutions.

England's weaknesses

by W. Enda

Dr. Hasting Banda, the life president of Malawi, has in a few short years turned a lot of white hands used to strain any isolated Zambia and Tanzania.

Africa as well as their current calls with Smith in Rhodesia, plus South Africa's success with its dialogue with reactionary black African politicians are creating Zambia to harass. South Africa's government is beginning to clamp down on the freedom fighters based in the country.

Complete capitulation by black African heads of state would disillusion black minorities in the USA who are pressuring the companies in which they are workers to withdraw from South Africa. Partial changes have been made in Polaroid and General Motors companies.

Secondly, the dialogue policy is a pace towards economic expansionism. South Africa wants to open up markets in black Africa for its manufactured goods, textiles, food and steel.

This becomes more urgent as Britain, who continued to give South African Commonwealth preferences, prepares to enter the Common Market. In addition, South Africa's white man after what one African country after the other was gaining independence and the national leaders were forced by the people to mouth anti-racists and anti-apartheid sentiments, an embargo on South African goods was practically automatic. Malawi was always an exception.

Mr. Tombo, the Malawi Minister of Trade is always at pains to point out that South African subsidiary companies operating there are able to export to the rest of Africa, something which the parent firms al ready unable to do. Malawi acts as a stepping stone for South African economic imperialism in Africa.

Too close for comfort? M.C. Both, Vorster's Minister for Bantu Affairs, listening as Banda makes a speech during his tour of the country before His Majesty's visit to South Africa.

Banda's crisis

The reasons for Banda's complete surrender to white supremacy in Southern Africa are not hard to find. He is worried about his own security as dictator of Malawi.

Opposition parties have been suppressed and opposition forces do exist. These have forced Banda into a serious crisis situation on at least four occasions.

Zambia is providing a base for them. Combined with this threat is the constant fear of an African take-over. Banda needs money to keep his officers happy.

South Africa is well-equipped in keeping soldiers occupied and sees the small Malawi army as a friendly force. Portuguese ministers are regularly invited to presidential banquets.

The opposition in Malawi has the combined might of the armies of the white minorities against it. South African aid as an insurance against left-wing rebellion at home is vital in the minds of collaborating African heads of state.

Straight financial tributes are also attractive to Banda and his kind. Banda having a status symbol in the form of a new capital city built for him, it costing Vorster £20m. It will include a military airfield for the South African airforce.

South African engineers have just completed a railroad which cost them £40m and South Africa's 'advisors' are in cahoots with Banda's 'civil' service.

Only revolution in the black African countries where the heads of state are preparing to collaborate can prevent the grotesque march of South African resuscitation. The cynicism of these black traitors in extirpating those who enslave 13 million people in South Africa, outwardly because of the colour of their skin, but in reality for the super profits their cheap labour produces, cannot be tolerated.
Raw look at gangland—but no solutions

'KRAZI WITNESS' shot in an attempted murder bid,' reads the evening paper headline. This is the supposedly fictionalised world of 'Villain'. London's East End in the squalor, lawless, tough-punk 1970s gangster film. There is violence—plenty, homosexuality, Cockney slang and plentiful smuttings of four-letter words. As such, the film is both exciting and exciting, and Villain will doubtless be a very successful movie. The trouble is that as hard as they can, films like Villain cannot avoid some confrontation with the moral problems raised by violence and gangsterism. Villain's way out is to hide behind a mask of toughness and cynicism. Society is in some vague, unstated way a nasty sort of place and so we get gangsters. The gang leader is shown to be, and also a man for the very same 'respect' that Members of Parliament and the leaders of society are accorded. More than this, the Members of Parliament are shown to be just as nasty, dirty and degraded as the worst of the gangsters. The moral? Easy. The world is a terrible, dirty and destitute place and only the toughest characters ever get anywhere.

Gentle hints
All this is fine and good, but goes nowhere near far enough. As always in such films, Villain gently hints that MP's and their ilk are involved in gangsterism but there is nothing more than the hint. We are never given any analysis of such involvement and so inevitably the film collapses into more or less romantised close-ups of gangsters, the 'villains' or if you like, the mugs, the front-men. This enables the director to give us lots of violence, lots of scenes shot in East End back-streets and the notorious 'visitor shot of a naked woman. We show the power, the romanticism, the sickening speed of the deposition of the mugs, the Kray Brothers. We also have policemen who swear and threaten violence against their clients, such the unfettered realism of this courageous film. But what we don't get is as much a hint that while all this takes place, capitalist society keeps merely rolling along, fattening upon its ill-gotten gains and robberies, maintained by law and order.

Twenty years ago, this situation prepared films like The Blue Lamp, symphonies of the heroic policeman. Today the situation has changed to the anti-hero, the gangster. But the end result is exactly the same—namely a refusal to handle the real complexity that is our actual society.

Two attitudes are equally irrelevant—the 'Life and Times of the Mad Max' is just as bad an approach as 'Britain's National Hero—PC42'.

In short, Villain is an exciting but trivial film. Its excitement is largely from the violence, from the depiction of an artificial dramatisation of the life of an East End gang leader. Unfortunately, the triviality is all too real—Villain now lives. Villain is directly demonstrated by the existence of men like the Kray Brothers and will doubtless be watched with greater zeal by, say, the Krays of the next generation.

Martin Tomkinson

THE ZIONIST LOBBY has chalked up another victory for freedom of discussion. A chief sub-editor in BBC radio news has been demoted following a hoot of protest from the Zionists following an article he wrote in the Spectator.

The luckless sub, Mr. Ferguson Mackenzie, wrote a satirical letter in 18th century style to Mrs. Golda Meir, the Israeli prime minister. It included the 'remark you have proved yourself indefatigable in driving miserable wretched off our lands or reducing them to their proper status as beachers of wood and waters of David.'

Mackenzie was accused of 'anti-semitism' and a Mr. David Specter (of the Sutton Israel Friendship League) has demanded from the BBC a written reassurance that it will adequately supervise its staff to maintain its 'reputation for integrity.'

The BBC has already bowed to the Zionist lobby by dismissing Mackenzie and docking his salary by £300 a year.

Apart from hiring Mr. Specter to oversee any references to Israel, it is difficult to see what further steps the Corporation could take to toe the Israeli line. In most countries of the world, the BBC has its own hand-picked correspondents, their pukka English voices homing in on the wave-lengths. But the BBC has departed from this time-honoured policy where Israel is concerned.

It has no resident correspondent there. Instead, two local Israeli journalists, Michael Ellis and Ascher Wallach, send dispatches whose parts for the Zionist lobby state is understandable if distinctly unpalatable.

A BREAKTHROUGH against apartheid? An all-white school in Pretoria has agreed to enrol a black pupil. Before you reach for the champagne, however: the pupil in question, Chip Kachingwe, is the daughter of the newly-appointed Malawi Ambassador to South Africa.

Take a tip
RESIDENTS of Craigieburn, South Wales, have raised a petition with several hundred signatures, complaining about a local council refuse tip which they consider unhygienic. They say in their complaint: 'It is disgusting that council tippling should be allowed in a place where flies, rats, smoke and dirt plague ordinary householders. We consider that the tip should be removed and placed where it can cause no harm or inconvenience.'

Councillor J. D. Maundor told a meeting of the local council that the residents should think themselves lucky. But for the tip, which had filled in a former swamp, they would be plagued by mosquitoes not flies and rats.

"If the council could be patient for three or four years this place will become a virtual paradise," he said.

The council accepted his advice.

PHIL HALL

TWO American comedy programmes of some quality are being shown over the ITV stations: All in The Family (Thur/Fri, BBC1), The Odd Couple (Sunday/Fri, ITV) and The Odd Couple (Sunday/Fri, ITV).

In the Family is an adaptation of Feyn Spiegel's Till Death Us Do Pari and Al Garett is turned in Archie Bunker. The Odd Couple is based on the film of the same name, but it's no resemblance to a British TV programme—Steeple and Son.

Both these series are stunts ahead of other recent US humour which has been on ITV. American TV is in every respect an inferior TV because it is directly under the control of the network owners who own and have a decisive say in the content of the programmes. Steeple and Son, for instance, last Thursday a black youthHarmonica Excalibur, who is in charge of the 'boutique' on his TV show, is in charge of the 'boutique' on his TV show, and very successful. He is in charge of the 'boutique' on his TV show, and very successful. He is in charge of the 'boutique' on his TV show, and very successful. He is in charge of the 'boutique' on his TV show, and very successful.
TUC: sham battle on the Act

Unions are invited to register.
Yet the same leaders, with only three days notice, have called the SOGAT that would automatically have come from the TUC any union that broke the line.

Many union secretaries and national secretaries for preparations for registration are now taking place. The General Council has officially given advice against voting for registration by vote. Lord Gifford, who represents the Co-op, has openly told his union to ignore/.

SOCIALIST WORKER 11 September 1971

By DAVE PEERS

TIHERE is a notice on the main gate of the Alcan Aluminium smelter site at Lynemouth, Northumberland, that gives the dates and times of a meeting that unionists have arranged to discuss the terms of the new contract. The union has invited the Alcan and the TUC to set up a joint committee to discuss the terms of the new contract.

By SW Reporter

A SHAM BATTLE, was how Vincent Flynn, General Secretary of SOGAT, described the TUC meeting in Blackpool on Monday. True, the Congress ordered members' unions not to register under the Tory Industrial Relations law. But it did so in a confused and half-hearted manner.

Union leaders have gone to the meeting to examine the injunctions of the law and to argue for full-union support. Most of them supported a composite motion that instructed

BAC: LIGHTNING STRIKES OVER 1600 SACKINGS

Workers on Monday.

BRISTOL: Lightning strike tactics have been chosen by British Aircraft Corporation workers in their struggle against the 1600 sackings announced only last week.

This was decided after a mass walkout—the third in five days—by more than 3000 manual and staff

By SW Reporter

PROTFS

On the Alcan site the usual trades earn 90 to 100 per cent more than the highest paid electricians, and it was told that labourers employed by other contractors were earning more than 80 per cent compared to the electrician’s rate of £3.

For the employers, on the other hand, the Jill has done the job as designed for. N.G. Bailey recorded a bumper 38.6 per cent on the contracts, most of which is available.

On the Alcan site, the demand for strike-rates is now with those of other workers on strike. The right to strike has been set in the Jill, and both will be deleted if the strike is to take place. The Jill on the Alcan site is finished, while the demand for the Jill in the J&B will be finished, with the demand for strike-rates in the EDF/GEC leadership whose brainchild it was.

Blacked

The employers and union officials know well what is at stake. Last week Bailey sacked the strikers, and with union approval, announced a nationwide recruiting campaign to replace them.

Other workers on the site are keeping an eye on the blackouts, and the site is blacked and officially made off-limits where possible.

By BY JOHN WILKIN

One-day toolrooms strike hits 140 firms

COVENTRY: The first of a series of one-day toolrooms by workers brought factories to a halt on Monday. They are demanding the continuation of the 30-year-old Tool Room Agreement, which affects 10,000 engineering workers.

An estimated 140 firms in the city were hit by the strike. Chayke and Lace Ltd had a total 1000 workers.

The eight-hour-old overtime ban and work-to-rule has also seriously affected production at Cowley car factories. In several, dozens of machines have been blacked.

AUEW leaders have described the strike as the greatest organised labour by employers in Coventry since the war.

The agreement gives an hourly rate on the average poopework earnings of £1.50.

No Strings

It includes overtime payment for increase without strings—which has a crucial role to play in resolving the TUC’s dispute with Alcan.

Though Chayke have operated a deal successfully, they must act quickly to keep the agreement in force. The TUC’s dispute with Alcan may have lasting implications for the agreement.

The strike is a protest at the present standards of the working class.

SUPPORT FOR THE UNIONS

By Jimmy Greally

THERE is a new tide of militancy in this week in support of the Labour Committee Against Imperialism. The committee called for:

1. Immediate publication of the names of the Tory delegates on the Blackpool TUC. North East Labour.
2. A meeting of all the leaders to make clear the fight against fascism, black and white.
3. A meeting of all unions that are going to have to struggle hard if they are to prevent one leader after another capitulating to the Tory bosses.

One last word from a member of the Blackpool TUC.

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