**Case this UJC**

Political trials are threat to our liberties

Socialist Worker Political Correspondent

**AS THE COMMISSION** on Industrial Relations was busy finishing its count of the government-ordered ballot on further industrial action on the railways, the first of Britain's show trials kicked off at the Old Bailey this week.

Eight young people—the Stoke Newington 8—began their encounter with the full majesty of the law which is expected to last for three months. They are charged with conspiring to cause explosions at the homes of members of the Tory government, explosions 'likely to endanger life or damage property.'

The charges and the sentences they face are enormously serious. Jack Pretorius got 15 years in jail last year for allegedly addressing a handful of envelopes containing the press statements of the Angry Brigade.

Next week 13 more—miners and their supporters—will go on trial for 'mobbing and rioting' at the Longton power station in Scotland while picketing in the course of the miners' battle with the Tory government.

The struggle in Ireland too will be before the British courts in the coming weeks. These people face committing to the High Court for 'conspiring to organise a riot' which was attempted last week after the forces of law and order staged their Bloody Sunday massacre in Derry.

Other men will stand trial for the Aldermaston explosions and for poisoning explosives destined for the Irish Republican Army.

**BAVING**

The Tory government is well aware of what these trials are for. They are designed to get the shopkeepers and small business sections of society haying for law and order. A law and order designed not just to stand on the political underground but through and through on the rights and fighting ability of the organised working class.

The treatment that they have already been subjected to by the railways is in many ways similar to what has happened to the so-called revolution of the Angry Brigade.

The Stoke Newington 8 defendants have been deprived of their legal rights. No Queen's Counsel could be found to defend most of them.

The rates of emotion and the right of access to lawyers when first taken by the police were abandoned early on. And whatever judge and jury decide, their fate will have been prepared by a marathon press campaign designed to convince the world of the threat they present to society.

The railwaymen's fight for better pay has also been presented as a threat to the survival of British society. Their long struggle will be an example of the kind of opposition that is possible if the working people stand together against the power of the capitalists. It is not just a struggle for wages; it is a struggle for democracy, for the right to organise and to defend themselves against the power of the state. The railwaymen are not just fighting for themselves; they are fighting for all of us. Their fight is not just about the wages they deserve; it is about the freedom of all workers to determine their own destiny and to defend their rights against the power of the state. The railwaymen are not just fighting for a better life; they are fighting for a society in which all workers control the means of production and are free to determine their own destiny. The railwaymen are not just fighting for wages; they are fighting for democracy, for freedom, for a society in which all workers control the means of production and are free to determine their own destiny. Their fight is an example of the kind of opposition that is possible if the working people stand together against the power of the capitalists. It is not just a struggle for wages; it is a struggle for democracy, for the right to organise and to defend themselves against the power of the state. The railwaymen are not just fighting for themselves; they are fighting for all of us. Their fight is not just about the wages they deserve; it is about the freedom of all workers to determine their own destiny and to defend their rights against the power of the state. The railwaymen are not just fighting for a better life; they are fighting for a society in which all workers control the means of production and are free to determine their own destiny. Their fight is an example of the kind of opposition that is possible if the working people stand together against the power of the capitalists. It is not just a struggle for wages; it is a struggle for democracy, for freedom, for a society in which all workers control the means of production and are free to determine their own destiny. The railwaymen are not just fighting for themselves; they are fighting for all of us. Their fight is not just about the wages they deserve; it is about the freedom of all workers to determine their own destiny and to defend their rights against the power of the state.
**Vietnam: riches versus poverty**

by Ian Birnall

VIETNAM today sums up in a nutshell the contradictions facing human civilization.

On the one side, the array of American tanks, American bombers and American weapons shows a potential which, if put to the right use, can transform the human condition. On the other, the poverty, starvation and terror which the US puts on display to the world's population in the underdeveloped areas.

In a very real sense the struggle being fought in Vietnam is one that involves all of us.

The latest addition to the US arsenal is the use of bombs guided by laser beams. The existence of these has been reported by Business Week and not desired by the Pentagon. They are said to be capable of delivering a degree of accuracy hitherto unknown with a range of error of only a few yards.

**Bombed**

Yet with this degree of accuracy in its sights, the US continues to bomb hospitals, schools and hyper-colonial. It is no longer anything other than the claim that such incidents are mistakes. They are not, of course, but are part of the campaign to demonize the people of North Vietnam.

Over the past couple of weeks the bombing has also been stepped up to include industrial targets. A major electric power station in the north of Vietnam has been hit and cement factories have been bombed in an effort to travel the North Vietnamese economy.

The long-term effects of the US aggression are also still with the North Vietnamese. Research by a North Vietnamese medical team has shown that the bombing of agricultural areas has had a marked effect on the crops and even the crops of the next harvest. The effects of the bombing will be felt for years and may well be long-lasting.

Yet all the evidence is that the US bombing is failing to get the results it is seeking. The Hanoi correspondent of the Paris paper Le Monde reports that the North Vietnamese have planned for all events that may happen.

When bombs are not dropped they are replaced by floating bridges between hills, roads of trolley cars and hidden railways so that they can be repaired almost immediately.

**Scorn**

For four hours there is the role of the Red Cross, who in vain try to persuade Nix to be shown the incident at the accident last week. A Russian woman, a guest in a Western Communist, would take nothing, described: "Predators" to Vietnam at Nix. She was immediately removed from her way by police.

The North Vietnamese paper Nhan Dan has made clear its scorn for Russian tactics, writing: "Any signs of weakness or softness would encourage the aggression of the pirates. Our people have only one path: to persist in its way of resistance to global totalitarianism and freedom."

The Vietnamese will bear the cost of the dome of relying on the so-called socialist countries, if the working people of the world who must ensure that Vietnam does not see war.

**Big Fete Draws 15,000**

Between 15 and 30,000 people attended this year's Latvian culture festival just outside Parnawa.

For three days they could choose between listening to a wide variety of artists, pop, folk, political revolution, revolutionary, to see the Spanish, and the course struggle of Britain, as the many artists ranging from the security personnel who replaced traditional calendar to the rowing or the cinema run by the women's stuff for the best male housewife. All the washed down with a wide variety of food and drink. 15 was represented by about 20 people and a tall showing aspects of its work and of the British and Irish struggles as well as selling literature. With one or two exceptions almost all the groups on the French revolutionary left had stalls so the fuse was crowded with groups discussing every subject under the sun.

**Grainsc**

Newscasts from Vietnam has largely overshadowed the events in Cambodia. One of the factors in the failure of a meeting on the political situation in Cambodia was the failure to make public the message of the leaders of the South Vietnamese government.

But to bolster his crumbling prestige, Nha Dinh has decided to grant a general amnesty, April, in which he gained a large majority. The amnesty was the first move in the territory held by the government and it was also shamefully negated.

From 1966 and the enmity of the National Liberation Front has won sufficient support to the South. In the villages they are setting up elected councils, women's and political education. But there is still little sign of positive support in the big towns.

Thirdly there are developments inside the US itself. For the moment it seems as if the non-intervention of US law has bought off some of the opposition to the war. But a vigorous anti-war movement in the US has attacked in other countries in the Western bloc—still has a role to play.

**Briefer**

NEWS FROM VIETNAM has largely overshadowed the events in Cambodia. One of the factors in the failure of a meeting on the political situation in Cambodia was the failure to make public the message of the leaders of the South Vietnam government.

The British press continued to sing praises to "nationalism" in Portugal. In the meantime, "liberal" President Cardoso has peaked the Portuguese press even further to similar criticism of the war in Africa.

Liberation has been a take up to the nationalistic middle classes. Socialists continue to be persecuted in Portugal's communist war in Africa.

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The puke on Windsor

THE lies and hypocrisy of press and Establishment were in full view this week with the death of the Duke of Windsor, who retired on a fat pension at the comparatively early age of 42. As Edward the Eighth, he was kicked off the throne in 1936 and cold-shouldered by the ruling class for the rest of his life.

Now that he is dead, the official glad-hand can be extended to his corpse. It will lie in state in England and will be buried at Windsor. The Duchess, the infamous 'divorced woman' who was at the centre of the abdication crisis, will be allowed to stay at the royal cloister house.

The press, with the Mirror and the Evening Standard leading the way, had dredged the Fleet River to produce backdoor of shoddy about the 'greatest love story of the century' and the mental torture of the brave young prince who gave up the throne for his woman he loved.

It is all a monstrous cover-up, an attempt to conceal the real politics behind the constitutional crisis of 1936. But then the press is used to covering-up for the Duke. Early in his reign, he summoned the great press barons of the day, fearlessly deponents of the 'free press' like Beaverbrook and Rothermere, and asked them to black out any publicity over the divorce proceedings of his lower, Mrs Wallis Simpson. They readily obliged.

There is no doubt that the King's determination to marry the woman of his choice, instead of some chintz-frocked princess given to him by the court circle, deeply offended and horrified the government and ruling class, hidebound by their reactionary conception of the monarchy.

But the marriage was only the tip of the iceberg. The real reason for their distrust of the King was his alleged 'radical' approach to his duties. He saw 'through his much-publicised tour of the depressed areas, that if the monarchy was to survive as an essential prop of the capitalist system and help stave off any mass unrest from the working class, then he had to descend from his ivory tower and attempt some closer contact with the people, to convince them that he cared for their plight and would attempt, if only verbally, to do something about it.

The King's real crime was to be independent, a break from the tradition of half-wits produced by generations of royal in-breeding. He read, travelled and understood something of the realities of the 1930s and the cause of the mass upheavals throughout Europe. But his ambition to turn away from the remote-stuffed-dummy tradition of English royalty was too much for the arch-reactionaries of church and government and the wish to marry a twice-divorced American was the final straw.

But just how radical was Windsor? The true nature of his politics is still not discussed by the weeping press, but it was quite clear to both his supporters and enemies in 1936. He was an admirer of Hitler and Mussolini and it is alleged that he spoke to English-language versions of Nazi publications.

According to Colin Cross, in his book The Fascists in Britain, 'Fascist writers hailed Edward's accession with enthusiasm. When the news broke of the King's wish to marry Mrs Simpson, he [Edward] promptly went and stood the 'Stand by the King' and seemed seriously to consider the possibility of being called to form a pro-King government. More enthusiastically hailed him as 'the perfect fascist King'.

In 1936, Edward King was welcomed by Hitler on a secret visit to Germany. Windsor maintained a close friendship with Mosley, a neighbour in France in the post-war years. But it would be uncharitable to think of a church to ignore the real contribution which Windsor made to the world. While most of his predecessors have left only a legacy of stupidity, cruelty, drunkenness and an ability to run through vast amounts of taxpayer's money, Windsor did produce something of lasting value for the human race.

During the last war he invented a new language, which he called 'nonsense', which was so popular in the 1940s and 1950s. The invention was the result of the brilliant scientific device of using two loops instead of one when fasting the time.

It can be said with some justification, therefore, that his Grass will be mourned especially by two important sections of the population — ageing fascists and rich hardbodies.

OUR picture helps underline Jim Kincade's centre page article on 'The housing racket'. Taken from an estate agent's publicity handset, the property is described as 'a unique country cottage in St Albans'.

Unique is the word, all right. It is situated bang in the centre of the town and its connection with the country is as close as Switzerland's to the sea. It is not a cottage at all but one of the most deplorable, two-dolls' dolls houses thought to be good enough for workers' families at the turn of the century. Downstairs consists of an 'exquisite new wooden floor at £3,400; an 8 by 11 by 9 kitchen. A bathroom has been fitted behind it reduc- ing the bedrooms to 175 by feet by 10 and 11 by 10. Small, thin families interested in buying the property are advised that the price is 'in the region of £10,500. Don't get hurt in the rush.'

Common enemy, common action

ONE SWALLOW doesn't make a summer and one act of international working-class action on a bread and butter issue is not going to cause a crisis in Wall Street or the City.

All the same, the joint agreement of Dunlop-Pirelli shop stewards in Liverpool and Milan to call a one-day strike on 9 June is important. Fifteen British and fourteen Italian plants belonging to the international giant will be called out in protest against the sackings, closures and short-time that the workers have suffered since the merger in 1970.

8500 jobs have been lost and further closures are in prospect. A token strike will not stop it but it could mark an important stage in the redevelopment of real international links among groups of workers.

Another move in the same direction is the proposal for joint bipartite negotiations between the Ford Motor Company by unions in Britain, Germany, France, Holland and Belgium. What will come of this remains to be seen but one thing is sure. Big business is international. The multi-national firms shift production and resources from country to country in search of the highest profits—and that means the lowest wage rates. Effective defence of working-class interests requires international action. The more links that can be developed the better.
Civil war danger

EVENTS of the past few days have highlighted to the people how near we are to a major religious confrontation. Incidents of sectarian nature have increased considerably. We are now drifting into a civil war situation.

The question of who would benefit most by such a conflict must cause serious anxiety to many thousands of Irish workers. The British government would emerge as an "imperial administration" who control an "imperial" army. The fascist-controlled Vanguard movement would emerge as the defenders of Ulster's glorious links with Britain.

The Provisional Alliance would defend their anti-war and working-class actions which helped bring about a religious war. It is a very dangerous game in which the working-class would lose and it could result in a final breakdown of the system.

The non-sectarian policies of the Official Republican movement are an important step in the process of collecting the present struggle is a class struggle and not a religious one. We have emphasized that only the conquest of the working-class can benefit from bloody religious strife.

Whitlow, since his arrival, has changed the intention to murders. Murder and torture are still the order of the day. In short, nothing has changed. Action taken now by Whitlow clearly illustrates the world that Faulkner's order of oppression, murder, torture and interference had the full consent and co-operation of Westminster.

Surely it is perfectly obvious that the anti-Unionist population will not go back once the battles are won. The one thing that clearly emerges as a constructive initiative is the expenditure of £27 million in the past few weeks to nationalise the yard! Or at least not invest £100 million on a war effort? We should not have a fair opportunity for employment?

When the people of the Orange brigade witness murder and destruction in anti-Unionist areas, Whitlow not seriously asking himself why these 'no go' areas are in existence and what his position is in the battle viewed with suspicion! Whitlow has in his power the tools for peace, the immediate release of all interned and detained, abolition of the Special Powers Act, a general amnesty for all political prisoners and the withdrawal of all troops to barracks. We demand that Whitlow use these tools before sectarian violence escalates.

We condemn without reservation all sectarian acts. We call for an end to sectarianism and that a body be set up to serve as a weapon to be used ready by the enemies of the Irish working class as a pack of sectarian and barbarous criminals.

The matchgirls struck a light

THOUGH welcoming any articles that face up to the modern need of unskilled labour to organise itself. I feel that the published version of the talk that so many well-intentioned socialists do in Ireland. The Struggle For Britain's Unions (13 May) are the most significant of these, and his description of the matchgirls' strike are important. They consider their fight and every other for a non-sectarian social, political and economic background. The secret of their million victory is that they have gone from researches the origins of this group, their particular role in the union movement, and their family groupings and the role of the employer, in the development of these.

I am not saying that even Engels was wrong. The present-day strike is an ending, and had to change his preface to the Communist Manifesto to say that "in England in the latter editions." J McLaughlin, Rankin Hall, Oxford.

IN THE report on the Italian election (13 May) it is stated that the "Communist Party has lost ground. This gives the impression that the Italian workers are turning away from the PCI."

The expression is used in the Senate because the Socialist Party of Ponzio, the former leader of the PCI, has added in the last few months.

In the Chamber of Deputies, where the situation is clearer, the PCI gained more than they lost. Their position of 271 seats in the lower house from 179 to 182. Their percentage of the vote, however, fell from 25.9 per cent to 25.4, and the view is that the PCI has not been hit too hard.

As for the neo-Trotskyists of IE it would have been better for them to stick to the PCI.

Floating the Toris

AFTER reading your article about the Clodagh in the area of the Clyde (13 May) I have come to this conclusion: Presuming that the works did not fight the government and they received £15 per week on average over the past few months, the government saved is around £39,000 per week—say, £394,000,000 in 30%—£118,000 in tax repayments.

Surely the HSC, like every other employer, might think of floating the Toris, with the money they would save. After all, the Great War was won by not sitting round about on board the QE instead of an 8-coupled engine.

I wonder if the government has realized that it has not yet been asked to work on the Clyde—G SPINK, Haleswood, Leeds.

Politics and race

YOUR article on the 1Qs of black people (13 May) is strongly supported by the cadre of local workers in the area. We have several at work in the rural South have much lower IQ scores than their counterparts in the urban North. This is not surprising, as black people have been significantly after a few years' residence in the relatively improved environment of the North. The same applies in the in the post-war period paralleling the improvement in our educational system.

They have not stated that Professor Eysenck and Jenkins have tested their tests not on environmental and education but rather on genetic endorsement. It is hardly remarkable that both have persisted in their opinions, in spite of the political pressure, with a degree of coincidence with their political opinions—TERENCE WARD, Sandyno-on-Thames, Middlesex.
WHY THEY WALKS THE GERMANY ROPE

THE WEST GERMAN government, in signing the Eastern Treaties with Russia and East Germany, has brought itself to the edge of the political precipice. Its majority, in the West German parliament, the Bundestag, has sunk to nothing and it has barely survived a 'no confidence' vote which could have brought the opposition to power.

Yet on the rest of the whole European policy of the Russian and Western governments—let is a lesser extent that of the other NATO powers.

The peace treaties with Poland were signed in 1970. Since then the puppet Allied Powers of World War Two have signed the Four- Forsell Berlin Agreement, which formally regulates the position of West Berlin. The deal was made in the heat of the West Berlin crisis, when the people of West Berlin had rebelled against the German government and got through the Soviet-occupied sectors making the West Berlin government more liberal.

But the Russian and Eastern governments refused to take any of the treaties until the West German government had met one of its main preconditions, which was to get the West Berlin government through the Bundestag. The Russian and East German governments refused to ratify any of these treaties until the West German government had finally ratified the two main peace treaties, which were drawn up in exchange for the three in the Eastern sector.

So why all the trouble? The end of World War Two and the long-term aim of West German capitalists to push the country to the West has led to a stimulation of the German economy. The West German government is to be a product of the Eastern European economic bloc.

The Christian Democrat opposition is the ruling party in the West German government. It is led by the West German capitalists, who are in agreement with the Christian Democrats, to push the country to the West. The Christian Democrats are the ruling political party in the West German government. They are in agreement with the Christian Democrats, to push the country to the West.

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Opposition leader Bartsch.

Since the beginning of the year the opposition has been campaigning to bring the two main peace treaties down on the issue of the treaty. Several members of the ruling coalition (the SPD with the small FDP Liberal Party) have deserted to the opposition, helped by various financial incentives.

brandt, a great partner of the opposition tried to vote itself into power last month. The constitution makes it impossible for the government to call a general election without being defeated in parliament, but if the opposition were to win a 'constructive vote of no confidence' in parliament it can vote itself into power without elections.

But the plan went wrong. The day before the vote there were many strikers in many cities. They were not as spontaneous as they seemed: local politics, above all in the trade union, played a crucial role in organizing them, but they also undoubtedly had the support of the majority of the working class.

For the workers it was not a question of defending a popular government, but rather of defending the trade union. Also, the way the opposition was behaving might have been in accordance with the formal constitution, but broke many people's bones: one favourable option claimed that the opposition leaders were 'practising for another coup'.

Willy Brandt, 'peace' policies, a cover for missing reforms.

The trade union officials were a question of defending their government. What they didn't realize was that the SPD gained in the eyes of the state, because of its own foolishness. The party was not willing to argue, despite its threatened position in parliament, the government appealed for law and order, and surprise, surprise, no more strikes.

LUDICROUS

But the strikes did make a difference, they showed the opposition that to defeat the government would mean a mobilization of the working class which the SPD might not be able to control.

Hence the ludicrous situation that the opposition lost its vote of confidence because although some of the government members voted against the government, the Bundestag and the government.

Since both parties seem to have agreed that the important aim is to lower the political temperature.

The treaties accordingly became law after the opposition shelved on the crucial vote. If it had not done so we would have been able to defeat the government, which has now won majority, but this would have had the embarrassing result of working the treaties and causing a general election on the basis.

Not only would the SPD probably have won such an election, but it would have led to a political realignment of the working class that neither side is prepared to risk.

The crisis is not over. The government has been unable to get the budget through or to get the opposition to agree to a date and method for new elections, which will probably be held in the autumn, since the alternative—a change of government without elections—would be even more risky.

The crucial fact of last month's events is that the German working class has once again actively entered the political arena.

When you’re in the know, £57,000 profit is a cinch

READERS may remember a story of mine about the housebuilding company Galliford Estates which made a 50 per cent profit on its developments and was supported by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, through their finance subsidiary F C Finance. The following story shows that the Galliford Estates directors are as good at making money for themselves as for their shareholders.

On 22 October 1971 the quotation of Galliford Estates’ shares was suspended while they published details of a substantial acquisition. At the time the shares price was 168p. When the shares were reported in February 1972 they quickly went up to 450p.

Now does each of this not happen overnight. They are generally the result of weeks, or even months, of negotiations. It is therefore possible, though not definite that Mr M A Mason, one of Galliford’s directors, knew of these proposed acquisitions between 28 April and 8 August 1971. Even if he didn’t know of these particular acquisitions, the odds are that he knew of Galliford’s policy of making acquisitions.

Anyway, between those dates he bought £15,000 nominal of the company’s Convertible Loan Stock. This is a security that gives holders the right to convert it into ordinary shares at a specified date in the future, at a price on the Stock Exchange is related to the price of the ordinary shares.

Mr Mason paid between 150p and 245p for his stock.

He sold this stock between 25 February and 8 March 1972 at prices between 830p and 862p. According to my calculations that means he made a profit of at least 257,000. Well done T H Rogmorton.

with T H Rogmorton

Orange 11771 Daily Telegraph
talks a builder is building up a shareholding in Dennis Motors.

On 26 October 1971 Daily Telegraph forecasts a strong type of demand for Dennis.

14 January 1972 Daily Telegraph forecasts a strong type of demand for Dennis.

On 26 October 1971 Daily Telegraph forecasts a strong type of demand for Dennis.

26 December 1971 Daily Telegraph forecasts a strong type of demand for Dennis.

27 March 1971, Morning: Daily Telegraph again talks of the company's property development potential and turnover potential.

Afternoon: Bid announced. The shareholding of the chairman of Dennis Motors increased in value between the bid and last Telegraph story by £160,000. It seems almost certain that he will be talking to Messor in January.
COMPANY REPORTS are normally skilful exercises in propaganda, designed to convince shareholders and the public at large that firms operate not just to make profits but to safeguard and increase the prosperity of their employees and the countries in which they operate.

The following text evidently accepted nonsense is expelled in the first publication of a group called Counter Information Services. It has produced an 'anti-report' on Rio Tinto-Zinco, the British-based, world-wide mining company.

The report says that the basis of RTZ's actions is 'profit maximisation or, in ordinary terms, greed'. It charges the company with exploiting the world's resources, without regard for future generations, for the short-term benefit of a tiny minority of the population in the developed countries.

One of the key roles of giants like RTZ is to prop up the reactionary and racist regimes of Southern Africa, whose prosperity depends on private investment from Britain and America and the crust and unrelenting exploitation of cheap African labour.

Boosted

In South Africa, mineral mines are a cornerstone of the apartheid regime. The Times newspaper has pointed out: "Without mining, South Africa could not exist as a rich, powerful industrial state... only the wealth from its mines makes it self-sufficient."

The country's copper industry underwent an astonishing boom in the late 1960s, increasing from 4 million tons in 1965 to 140 million by 1968. The country is essentially an open-pit mining operation, with barely 10 per cent of the output coming from underground mines.

The mining is run by RTZ and other mining companies. In 1972, RTZ had 10 per cent of the equity in Palabora and its official name is the Southern African Institute of Race Relations, which aims to increase the number of its black workers to 10 per cent by 1972.

The report notes that the average African wage is 56 beya (South African) a month, which is 16 beya a month below the cost of living.

The report also criticizes RTZ for its treatment of apprentices, who are often forced to work long hours in dangerous conditions for low pay. The apprentices are often not paid at all, and their wages are often not enough to support their families.

The report concludes that RTZ's actions are a threat to the lives and livelihoods of the people of Southern Africa.
by JIM KINCAID

Council rents rose by 70 per cent while Wilson was Prime Minister. Each year a higher and higher proportion of the rent has been used not to finance new building but is paid over to the moneylenders.

JULIAN AMERY: 
Tony Minister of Housing who believes that housing is a 'business' not a basic necessity. His policies are a boon for the racketeers.

Nearly as much as two-thirds of all rent taken from council tenants goes to pay interest charges on the money local authorities have been forced to borrow.

The slow-up in council house building plus rent increases that far outstrip the general rise in the cost of living forces growing numbers of people into buying their own house.

Over the past few months the pressure to try to buy a house has been dramatically sharpened by the new Tory Housing Bill—the 'Fair Rents' Act. The government hopes to push through the doubling of council rents over the next three years.

While they preach against the illegality subsidises paid for council housing, the Tories have taken care to preserve the much larger subsidies given to owner occupiers in the form of tax relief

The new housing legislation sets up a vicious circle for council tenants and house owners alike: Council rents are to be set at commercial rates to allow for a profit and will correspond to the price at which similar private houses are changing hands on the market.

Increasing council rents will compel more people to buy, this will raise house prices higher still and in turn council rents will be put up correspondingly.

Wilson and his colleagues proclaim their opposition to Tory rent policies but Labour can offer no alternative solution to the housing problem unless and until they are prepared to challenge the powerful commercial interests who are growing rich out of the housing shortage.

The grip of moneylenders will never be broken until public promises are replaced by action to take land under public control and to nationalise the banks, insurance companies and other leeches that cripple local authorities with exorbitant interest charges.

Will Labour tackle the problem? Their past record says no—but the task of socialists is not to speculate but to build a movement to make sure that if Labour falls down on the job there will be others willing and able to take it on.

NEXT WEEK: HOW HOUSING GRANTS AID THE SLUMMORS
In the late 1880s a series of dramatic struggles—most notably the London Dock Strike of 1889—brought into trade unionism several hundred thousand lower-skilled and unskilled workers who had before been unorganised. The new unions were for the most part led by committed socialists, followed by a militant policy, and their activities were controlled with the interests of the whole working class.

The new unions were for the most part led by committed socialists, followed by a militant policy, and their activities were controlled with the interests of the whole working class. Understandably, many Marxists saw this movement as the first stage in the emergence of a revolutionary working-class consciousness. Understandably, many Marxists saw this movement as the first stage in the emergence of a revolutionary working-class consciousness. There hopes were soon disappointed. The upsurge of organisation had been made easier by an expansion in trade and industry after the long years of the 'Great Depression.' But after 1890 conditions worsened, and unemployment increased sharply.

**SURVIVAL**

At the same time many employers, taken by surprise at the sudden upsurge of organisation among their workers, took the opportunity to counter-attack. The new unions were badly placed to resist: in two years they lost half their members, and the trade decline continued more slowly thereafter.

At the same time there were significant shifts in policy. In the adverse economic climate, union surplus seemed to depend on reaching some accommodation with employers—so the original militancy gave way increasingly to a restrained and even passive stance. These groups of workers who managed to keep their organisations together often became 'forward-looking, concerned more with their own sectional interests than with broader class questions.'

Most new unions began to adopt, to attract members, the friendly benefits they had once scorned. So in many ways the new unions began to parallel the old unions they had once bitterly opposed.

**UNREST**

In 1910 came a revival. The years before the outbreak of war were a period of 'labour peace,' with a low number of strikes rising to record levels. The doctrine of revolutionary syndicalism was widely propagated, and the possibility of a general strike was seriously discussed.

Not surprisingly, these years caused something of a stir in the hearts of many members of the propertyed classes. The unrest involved many traditionally passive sections of the working class, and the pioneering efforts of new unions were renewed. Membership in the general unions, as they were now known, had fallen to fewer than 100,000 in 1910, but the rise to nearly half a million by 1914, and by the end of the decade numbers were approaching a million and a half. With the mass unemployment of the 1920s some of these gains were lost, though the decline was less severe than after 1890, and organisation was consolidated by a series of amalgamations which created the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) and General and Municipal Workers' Union (GMWU). Today these are the first and third largest British unions, with two and a half million members between them.

Though both general unions have developed from the same historical origin, there are of course important differences. The TGWU is notorious for its undemocratic structures. The national officials and the full-time regional secretaries form an all-powerful ruling group. A third quarter of executive members were in the Communist Party. The GMWU is much less centralised, and its national officials are more democratically elected. Although the executive is normally strongly influenced by the views of the general secretary, there is some scope for militancy to intervene. The TGWU has a much more powerful union movement, with a larger and a quarter of executive members were in the Communist Party. The GMWU is much less centralised, and its national officials are more democratically elected. Although the executive is normally strongly influenced by the views of the general secretary, there is some scope for militancy to intervene. The TGWU has a much more powerful union movement, with a larger and}

**POWER**

Since 1964 many GMWU branches have had their elected secretaries replaced by full-time branch administrative officers, appointed from above, and it seems likely that this bureaucratic system will continue. The TGWU is notable for its system of 11 trade groups, each with its own autonomy over industrial policy, and some scope for rank-and-file involvement. The local group structure, the regional secretaries in the TGWU are less powerful than in the GMWU. The TGWU has a more centralised trade group officials wield considerable power.

All members of the TGWU executive come, nominally at least, from the rank and file, with representatives from each region and each group. Though the executive itself is normally strongly influenced by the views of the general secretary, there is some scope for militancy to intervene in the 1940s between a third and a quarter of executive members were in the Communist Party. With a less uniform bureaucracy than the GMWU and a structure allowing more scope for rank-and-file involvement, the TGWU has had in its last two general secretaries—Frank Cousins and Jack Jones—both of whom have tried to cultivate a militancy image, and have adopted a 'left' stance on several political issues.

**Next week: The Bevin years**
TRIBUTE TO A STRIKE

By Laurie Flynn

CONRAD ATKINSON is a young painter who comes from Clatter Moor in West Cumberland. It is a little town wedged into the routine of soddenness and desolation of a region for whose problems a thousand plans have been produced and nothing done.

Underneath the stillborn rhetoric of development councils, Creator Moor has been the scene of one genuine piece of progress. That is the one-year-old strike by the women and men of Branam’s thermometer factory on the town’s industrial estate.

For a year now the town has seen the struggle between ordinary working-class people and a tyrannical if respectable exploiter who believes that firm management and the Industrial Relations Act will give the worker back some of the freedom of the free he or she has recently lost thanks to agitators and class-consciousness.

The Branam notion of freedom does of course include some fringe benefits—like putting seven times the permissible amount of nitrous oxide into the air so that the employees are free to contract mercury poisoning, which in turn offers the choice of swollen gums, loss of teeth, tremor or abnormal gait.

The strike is a tremendous tribute to the people who have waged it, to their drive not merely to hold principles but to make their lives abide by them. So it is not surprising that a socialist painter who comes from the town where it is taking place should become deeply involved.

He has chosen to involve his art as well.

But it is not just the artist’s job to chronicle things—but to get at their real human meaning. The Branam’s show fails to do this. It fails to show the nature of the strike which point up the real human struggle that is being made. The show shows one strike, rather than teasing out what this one strike has to say about all strikes.

Control of his wife and his wife has the will and the skills to do more than hold up. That little initial working-class movement requires from people like them something that we do not offer them. We know very little about these areas we know well but with suggestions for new policies and a little more insight into our own we might be able to understand them better.


THE COBRA THAT RULED EGYPT

EVERY DAY at the British Museum huge queues form to view the Tutankhamun Exhibition. The magnificence of treasures is one thing, but what was the society that produced them? Mike McGrath takes a closer look at a civilization that had crumbled before the birth of Art.

‘THE terror inherent in Pharonic de瞢opism is symbolized by the poisonous Usara (cobra) snake, which lies coiled on the ruler’s forehead and threatens his enemies with destruction.’ Karl Wittfogel’s description of royal imagery is not one we usually see when reading about Ancient Egypt.

Tutankhamun’s death mask is described as ‘serene’, ‘impassive’, ‘fright’, ‘alive’, but the description that fits most closely is Hier Wittfogel’s. For what most people don’t realise is that Tutankhamun ruled a society which was not surpassed in its totalitarianism until Stalin’s Russia.

For socialists there is more to Ancient Egypt than beautiful objects and description of how the rich lived and died. What made it tick? What was the relationship between ruler and ruled? Who owned what and in whose interest did they act? How did it last so long—more than 3000 years of almost continuous rule?

Herodotus called Egypt the gift of the Nile and he was right. But the gift was a two-edged sword. While it promised security and prosperity in the shape of two or three crops a year, it was only for the price of hard, unremitting work, and moreover, work that had to be highly organised.

CONTROL

The Egyptians’ greatest achievements were not their temples, not even the pyramids, but the thousands of miles of dikes, locks and irrigation channels they constructed and maintained for millennia. Such works were essential for the production of food in this totally rainless valley.

Because only the state could undertake such vast construction projects the state compiled a vast army of workers within the irrigation areas, the state had an unprecedented control over its people.

The ruling class of this system consisted of several interlocking and overlapping groups.

Firstly the scribes, whose power was based on their ability—jealously guarded—to keep taxation records. More importantly, they were able to exercise astronomic objects and do and predict the time of the day with a high Nile and a low Nile.

They also probably controlled the overall organisation of the irrigation system in conjunction with the priests, who officiated at all religious ceremonies and who also administered the temple lands. They acted as mystifiers, casting a veil across the workings of the productive process that they controlled.

The power of the system was total and based on a method well established 3500 years ago—terror. King Horemheb (1330 BC) reigned after Tutankhamun and introduced an edict designed to curtail the most common forms of corruption and rapacity. He prevented the army from looting cattle hides from villages and the punishment for breaking it was ‘100 blows causing five open wounds’.

But this was enacted not out of a sense of benevolence towards the peasantry, but because taxes were levied on cattle and the looting disrupted this.

PRIESTS

Another part of the decree punishes ‘interference with the delivery of dues for the Horem’ by cutting off the offender’s nose and ears and sending him to Sile—the present ‘silo’ in the desert near to Sibtila.

The priests sat in the courts to implement these decrees.

The priests were divided on the triple plent of the sacred bureaucrates, the armed forces and all the lesser things.

Another decree, this time of Seti I (1310 BC) highlights the immense power of this centralised bureaucracy. The decree concerns one temple, protecting it from the depredations of the king’s men.

It decrees that anyone taking a temple worker for forced labour would get 200 Slaves and five open wounds.

Anyone moving the boundaries of the temple would have their ears cut off. A temple herdsman selling his cattle received the ultimate penalty—death by impaling.

Because this decree covers only one temple and no others have ever been found, the direct implication is that these temples as a matter of course have their workers carried off for forced labour, cattle taken, boundaries redrawn, their boats held up and robbed.

The power wielded by the ruling class can be seen clearly in many of their art: the massive pyramids, the dwarving mortuary temples, the wealth expressed in just 50 objects in the Tutankhamun exhibition—the actual number found in his tomb.

The symbols of the Egypt ruled by Tutankhamun—serenous coils and the predatory vulture—rear their heads on his mumified body was more than 1000.

He was a relatively minor king, what must the tombs of Ramesses be like?

Unfortunately we will never know all the tombs, as they were looted in ancient times.

In fact the survival of Tutankhamun’s tomb is a move the removal from circulation of at least 300th of gold and precious precious stones must have dealt a severe blow to later periods.

What conclusion can we draw from this brief sketch? The property relations of Ancient Egyptian society were extremely complex and the things of gold and precious stones were somewhat ambiguous, but it can reasonably be said that dominant property owner was the state. Private property was not but always and everywhere it was subordinate, existing only in the form of a few merchants and some private land plots.

REVIEW

‘ANARCHY!’

In short we have a class which rule a society, which is a class, owned the means of production—skulls of Russia.

In case it be thought that the Egyptians lived under an uninterupted oppressive regime for thousands of years, all we need do is know how to encourage reading. He is reminding the king of the thing: ‘The wardenman refused to carry his—’

‘Bulbermen are in distress, while the poor man if full of joy, as the town says: ‘Let us suppress the powerful among us.’

The pages of the council chamber are thrown out, indeed men walk on them in the public places and poor men break them up in the streets.

The sufferings of the great are on earth and magnates are in the labour establishment, while he who could not even sleep on walls is now the possessor of a bed.

‘The king’s warehouse is the common property of everyone.’

Even the peasants of Ancient Egypt rose up against their masters and were paid out of their own lives, however temporarily.
WHAT WE STAND FOR

The International Socialists is a democratic organization whose membership is open to all who accept its main principles and who subscribe to its policies. We believe in an independent working-class action for the abolition of capitalism and the establishment of a socialist society, with production for use and not for sale.

We work in the mass organizations of the working class and are committed to a policy of internationalism. Capitalism is an international giant. The giant firm's investments throughout the world and its attitude towards workers in foreign countries are determined by a common policy. We believe in the socialist transformation of capitalism.

In Europe, the Common Market has been formed for the sole purpose of increasing the trade and profits of these multinational firms. The Common Market is a capitalist policy which can only be perceived by international action by the working class.

A single socialist state cannot indefinitely survive unless workers of other countries actively come to its aid by extending the socialist revolution. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organization in this country, we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of existing nations - a world socialist party.

Washington or Moscow. To this end we must develop international relations with other socialist organizations throughout the world.

We believe in the necessity to unite socialist theory with the day-to-day struggle of workers, by and for the workers. It is only through this support that we can guarantee full employment and self-confidence of the working class.

We stand for:
- Rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular election of all full-time officials.
- Against secret negotiations. We believe that all trade union agreements are agreed or rejected by mass meetings.
- For 100 per cent trade unionism and the defense of all shop stewards.
- Against anti-trade union laws and any curbs on the right to strike, whether the strike is 'official' or unofficial.
- Against productivity deals and job evaluation and for militant trade union unity and joint solidarity towards committees in both the plant and on a combative basis.
- For equal pay and a better deal for working women.
- For a minimum wage of at least £25 a week.
- Against unemployment redundancy and layoffs.
- 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 the police harassment of black workers.
- Against immigration restriction.
- For the right of all political and oppressed groups to organise in their own defence.
- For real social, economic and political equality for women.
- Against all national religions and militarist alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact.
- Against secret diplomacy.

We oppose all forms of imperialism. We unconditionally give support to all solidarity with all genuine national liberation movements.

For the nationalisation of the land, rail and bus 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 this end support the unity of all revolutionary workers.

The struggle for socialism is the central struggle of all workers' power and a world based on human solidarity, on the recognition of power over nature, with the abolition of the power of money. To this end, man is certainly worth fighting for.

No one is too young or old, white or black, rich or poor. This philosophy has never been more in line with politics. And WAP! will try to fight for this change of world in the name of socialism.

THE much delayed presidential elections in the United States and Plumbers' Union is being held during May and June.

The cause was struck by the death of Les Cannon in December left a power vacuum in the union. Cannon had rules a rod of iron, and it was doing no harm to the union with a tremendous amount of power. Alto, by unification, in general union, he had to be responsive to the executive for all negotiations. Mouw, in the union, and attend hereafter by which he may think he is empowered to make a strike. Any contract conference held with the employers and the union, he has no need for the union. He had to submit a report on all negotiations to the executive council. (Rev. 12 clauses c and d, 1965 rules).

Jack Chappell, then general secretary and the obvious heir to Cannon's mantle, saw the possibility of an elected general union and pension managers. The union, he had no intention of a strike. For the whole time the union would have to decide whether a full-time official could apply for the presidential post. Chappell persuaded the executive to post-pon the election.

Smashed

He then told the new chief as a chief negotiator for the union, the position outside his vice as general secretary, which is normally an organisation post in the union. This was a position that could not be filled if the union, the executive. And in fact, Mark Young, a national negotiating committee member in the Reform Group that smashed the old executive, was appointed to the position of general secretary.

But the High Court decided in May that the union's claim that Chappell had failed to inform the executive, the union, and Young had to find a new chief negotiator.

Before the revisions conference they also agreed that members about who rule changes Chappell would have to be informed. There was a suggestion that he would prepare in advance the position under him, while doing away with the position of general secretary. But when the new rules were presented the members agreed to continue only classed 1A of rule 12 had been enacted, leaving the general president with the responsibility for top level negotiations on the union's behalf.

But all the bitter infighting in the union council. And in the days before he died, Chappell carried out an electoral campaign that was not justified to the union. This meant that the line-up for the long delayed election war. Chappell, Young, Eric Hammond, an executive member, and Fred Gorn, Steward elected at London Airport and the only rank-and-file candidate.

Fred Gorn: rank and file candidate to become only classed 1A(2) of rule 12 had been enacted, leaving the general president with the responsibility for top level negotiations on the union's behalf.

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Immigrant workers fight exploitation

THE PORTUGUESE Workers' Branch of the Transport Workers Union was founded last week. The branch has 30 members, most of them employed in factories and catering, and some in hospitals.

It is hoped that more than 30,000 Portuguese workers in Britain will be members by the end of the year. The branch will be open to Spanish workers as well, according to the wishes of a separate Spanish branch.

Examples of this super-exploitation were brought up by workers at the branch meeting, where a young man had been employed for £14 on a 44-hour week.

In another kitchen, staff had no right to rest during the week and overtime was compulsory. There was no extra pay for dangerous shifts, and refreshments were at a premium.

If we win the improvements we need, we can get rid of the idea that we are not as good as British workers. We will take our jobs, and we will get our wages.

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THE RENTS — That is the name of the game

Labour calls for a retreat

WHILE opposition to the Tory Rent Bill continues to grow throughout the country, Labour Party leaders have been doing their utmost to persuade local councils to abandon outright opposition to it.

A meeting of the leaders of the 26 largest Labour councils was held at Transport House last week when they were urged to collaborate with the Bill.

The Labour leaders' arguments were put forward in a memorandum from Mr. Francis, who argued that there is a loophole in the Bill which means that councils which have raised rates immediately by as much as was previously thought.

He admits that rents will still have to be increased, but says that Labour councils cannot implement it in such a way that 40 percent of the increase is being enforced to underwrite the indemnity of means tests, "only a quarter of what they have to do.

Clearly Freestone's warnings are not to be ignored. The action of the tenants and others would cause the councils to put up their fees and would force Labour councils to suspend collection or to take legal action to collect some of the increases already voted.

If councils propose low rent increases, they have no choice but to put rent assessment committees in force to ensure that the increases are collected. If the tenants then take action, the councils cannot afford to face legal action. The result is that tenants will find that their rents will not be increased as much as they thought.

The measure is designed to attempt to control rent increases by the local authorities and will also lead to a considerable cut in the cost of the Bill.

Local Labour councils should join forces to ensure that the increases are collected and to ensure that the tenants are kept informed of their rights.

CAMDEN: A meeting called by Camden Labour councillors set up an action committee to deal with the implementation of the Bill, 40 delegates from London and other smaller councils took part.

LAMBETH: Delegates from trade unions, tenants associations and political organisations met to discuss the opposition to the new Bill. They called on Lambeth Labour Council to refuse to implement the Bill.

REDHILL: The council has refused to implement the new Bill in the light of the tenants' movement. Tenants' meetings have been organised to discuss the situation and action has been taken to prevent the Bill from being implemented.

GREENWICH: The tenants' movement is organising a mass march for 3 June to demonstrate against the Bill and to make sure that Greenwich council follows the example of Lambeth.

LONDON: A rally against the Bill is being organised for 8 July in Trafalgar Square by the Association of London Housing Estates.

MANCHESTER: More than 1,000 Labour Party Young Socialists members marched in opposition to the Bill and rent rises last September.

SCOTLAND: A joint action committee to fight the rent rises in the West of Scotland was formed last month, it was called by Rolls-Royce shop stewards, and members of the tenants' organisations, shop stewards' committees, trade unions, and the Co-operative Union.

The committee will begin a campaign on the results of the action committee and on the rent increases to stress the common interests of tenants and workers for a rent freeze.

CREDITON: Devon: Council tenants have formed a committee to campaign against the local Labour Party. The committee is made up of tenants and shop stewards in the Crediton area, and is a group of active tenants.

Lung disease: NCB ready to fight miners

The National Coal Board is preparing to use every trick in the book to defeat miners' legal actions for compensation; the lung disease caused by excess dust hazards asphyxiates the miners and claims more victims every year. The Board is prepared to fight the miners in court at all costs.

Lawyers for miners and ex-miners whose actions are being fought at court today by the National Coal Board say that the Board has no responsibility for the lung disease. The lawyers argue that the miners have no legal responsibility for the illness and that the NCB has no responsibility for the illness. The lawyers further argue that the Board has no responsibility for the illness.

But the miners are fighting back. The miners' lawyers have filed a counter-claim in court, stating that the Board cannot pay compensation to the miners for the illness. The miners are determined to prove that the Board is responsible for the illness and that the miners are entitled to compensation.

Separate

In the statement of claim before the court on Tuesday, the Board's lawyers admitted that the Board was responsible for the illness and that the miners had

STRIKE PICKETS FACE A STRUGGLE

Socialist Worker Reporter

DUNFREMLINE: 12 men arrested during the miners' strike will stand trial in the local sheriff's court on Tuesday charged with mobbing and rioting, in connection with rioting and assault on six police officers.

On Monday 14 February, at the height of the strike, the 13 men were seen clubbing together thousands of pickets at Longniddon power station near Dunfermline.

The charges originally concerned four policemen — two fresh names have been added since February.

The issue at stake is clear, despite the red herring of the official charges. It is a question of whether or not trade unionists have a right to a decent standard of living and whether the Board is prepared to pay them.

The arrests came at a crucial point in the strike. Power supplies from Longniddon to Fife are critical during the emergency situation.

Longniddon power station has a vital battlefield for the Tories. It is one of the biggest power stations in Scotland and is also the biggest occupier of the British coal in Britain.

REFUSAL

The Tories also knew that they were ready to use the miners' strike to gain control. As the miners knew, too, they had to face the fact that their previous support for the miners' rights was in vain. The situation might seem hopeless to the miners.

The miners put their trust in the Tories and the Tories refused. The miners' strike was brought on by the Tories, and the Tories refused to give in. The miners must therefore be prepared to face the fact that the strike is at an end.

OFF TO THE NICK: a picket is led by the police during the miners' strike. The miners' decision to shut down the power station forced the Tories to use the full power of the police in a desperate effort to break the strike ranks.

As a campaign organised in Scotland by the Socialists in the call for a massive demonstration for 6 June in Dunfermline, plans have been made. The strike will be mounted outside the court for the duration of the trial. On the last day of the trial, another demonstration will be held and the then government will have to consider the possibility of another riot at any of the pickets is taken.

As a result, a couple of miners' families have been arrested in the dock and the police have been called in to keep order.

If the miners feel strong enough, however, they may try to take the pickets and drive them off the picket lines. The police will be called in to keep order.

TACTICS

The men were not moved on and the police knew it. They started making a show of force.

The 13 spent three nights in jail, after which they were let out to be a political mistake, as was the 'set-up' for the miners' action 'as a trap'. The miners immediately declared that the Scots miners would not stay in jail and the strike went on.

The Tories were so well captured in the situation that the miners did not yield to the authorities. They had to get off the hook. The miners, for Scotland, flew to Edinburgh from London and London and began to claim the strikers. The miners knew what was said to the miner's representatives in the dock and to the strike. They had to get off the hook.

No such result was for Scotland; few could have been as the result of the negotiations. There were negotiations of the miners with the Board. The miners were not allowed to be involved in the negotiations.

If the miners feel strong enough, however, they may try to take the pickets and drive them off the picket lines. The police will be called in to keep order.

In Dunfermline, there are two main pickets in the dock and the miners are determined to be heard. The miners have the right to be heard.
THE DECISION by the official IRA to end offensive actions against the Protestant community in Northern Ireland follows a week in which the middle-class Catholic establishment has launched increasingly bitter attacks on the republican movement. Politicians and leaders of the Catholic Church have turned their case from Southern Tory Prime Minister Jack Lynch when he claimed that 'disruptive forces, fronting for an alien ideology' were trying to 'arouse sectarian passions and provoke civil war'.

The refrain was taken up by a leading priest, Father O'Neill, in Derry, who spoke of the IRA as part of a 'world communist conspiracy'. This was the language being put across at church services throughout the Six Counties on Sunday.

The aim of the campaign is to divide and confuse the mass of working-class Catholics who have so far supported the IRA as the only force that protects them from attacks by the British Army or British paramilitaries.

Catholic politicians, like the leaders of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, are only too aware of the potential of political power for themselves. They are prepared to go back on all their previous promises and work with the administration of the British Tory Prime Minister in charge of the Six Counties, William Whitelaw, even implementing some of his demands.

Meanwhile in the South, Lynch is preparing to give the signal to arm a band by setting up special courts without juries to try 'repugnant princes'.

But the support that the demand for peace enjoys among a substantial section of the Catholic population is not only to be explained by the Clyde Labour Pioneers and priests and politicians. Those involved in the peace meetings and delegations from the Bishops' Conference have included working-class Catholics who were the first to demonstrate against the war and who today are among the most vociferous opponents of the British Army companies. They are particularly resentful of the bombing of Catholic areas.

BUTTER

Their desire for peace does not spring, like that of the priests and politicians, from a desire for power, but from a genuine feeling that the IRA's campaign is not doing enough and that its continuation is not going to lead to any real change for the better. Another factor pushing politics for peace is the growing threat of a bitter sectarian conflict, which is evident in Belfast, which involves thousands of dead. The most public expression of the threat has been the massive demonstrations by Protestant filled up in military occupation. Last published have been the bills to daily violence by which among groups of Protestants and Catholics in Belfast, which Catholics respond with the same action that brought to an end to all (see their paper in the Irish News). The threat of this cycle of terror is a common divisor which is evident in the fact that the same people are fighting to save the lives of both sides. It is a sign that the conflict is not going to come to an end in the near future and that the solution to the conflict requires a peaceful settlement. The threat of a civil war is a reality that cannot be ignored.

The fear that this cycle of terror and counter-terror will escalate into a full-scale civil war, with war on both sides, is growing stronger among people for an end to any kind of struggle. Rather than face a war, they prefer to opt for an end to the violence, as an end to the bombing and a return to 'normal life'. Yet 'normal life' for the population of Northern Ireland will mean that most of the problems that have driven them to violence for the past four years will be unchanged. Employment will remain as bad as the British level. Wages will be minimal. Wages will remain the same in a British. Hundreds of men will continue to riot in jail, even if many of the charges are reduced. And nothing that Whitelaw does will alter the restriction that continues to apply in such conditions.

BOMBING

The difficulty they face in standing up to the barrage of denunciation is that they have been forced to intellectualize the struggle to victory. This is most clearly the case with those who idealize the ability of British imperialism to be defeated and its replacement by a socialist and democratic real estate. But such policies are not going to abandon all they hold just because small parts of the peace process are going well. Even the most extreme supporters of the IRA seem to have understood that they will have to organize a more sustained struggle.