DOCKERS LEAD FIGHT FOR JOBS

DOCKERS APPEAL

**FORGET the 'Red scare' — but there was certainly a plot**

*THOSE who see Reds under every bed have had a hey-day this week. The heights of absurdity were probably reached by the Daily Telegraph on Monday. The annual educational camp of the Socialist Labour League was presented as the centre of a conspiracy to bring about the downfall of Western civilization — as if 41,000 dockers were getting their orders from a few tens in a remote part of Essex.*

*Meanwhile, the real conspiracies of the past few weeks have been covered up. Companies have been assured that the town will remain prosperous — as if there was some danger of workers getting too radical in their demands. The Labour government does not exercise a moral control over the town. But it does wrap these plans up in a cloak of mystery when the Court of Appeal was considering the case. The Labour government was not legally responsible for the outcome of the trial. It was simply the Labour party in Liverpool who had been blinding everybody in the town with a cloak of mystery.*

*In the week that followed there was a great campaign to ensure that the Labour Lords reversed that decision. The manoeuvring became much more frantic with the magnificent response to the dockers' call for a new strike. The five imprisoned in Pentonville proved it impossible for the courts to defeat the workers by a frontal attack on the rank and file.*

*Inevitably, Lord Wilmot of Buxton said that the Lords would not reach a decision until October. But suddenly on Monday last week, as the solidarity movement grew, it was said that the delay was due within two days.*

*In the meantime, however, the dockers did not dare release the five until they were sure that the Lords would uphold their legal right.*

*The Labour leaders were the ones who had wrecked everything.*

**EVER SINCE big business newspapers got back into action last Friday, their pages have been littered with attacks on Britain's striking dockers.**

*These men, it is argued, are holding the nation to ransom. They are a small minority who intend to impose their will on the rest of us by brute force.*

*And, says the press, the real innocence of these selfish men is that they have turned down the wonderful Jones-Addington plan which would give dockers more job security and bigger golden handshakes than any other group of organized workers.*

*The propaganda operation is run by all sorts of remarks about the plight of the poor, the low-paid and the old age pensioners. The houses are falling more for their properties because, it is said, of the strike by these intransigent dockers.*

*As usual the reality is very different. Last week the dockers spearheaded working-class struggle against the state's threat to shake the trade unions. Their strike and the widespread solidarity action is an expression of the class struggle defined on the Twin Towers of the counter-offensive.*

*We are not in this for higher unemployment figures. From time to time they mention the appalling human consequences of unemployment. Even members of the employing class have expressed their concern. But neither the employers nor the Tories can do anything about the situation because they uphold the system that puts profit before human beings.*

*Dockers, however, can do something about unemployment — and that is precisely what the dockers have done.*

**BACKING for printers**

*LONDON dockers are not restricting their fight for jobs to their own industry. This week they joined pickets pictured below manned by workers from Orient Colour Printers, who are working in to prevent the closure of their factory.*

*Pickets on the gate of Horne's, the firm responsible for the threat to Briants, were attacked by the police Thursday night last week. The next day dockers at a mass meeting at Tower Hill voted to march down to the picket line.*

**LUKEWARM**

*In London the dockers have seen the big employers open cold stores outside the dock areas under assumed names while the old wharves were forced to immensely profitable property speculation.*

*Throughout the period of the official trade union movement has been pathetic and not just in the case of the dockers.*

*Even after the imprisonment of five dockers a fortnight ago, Jack Jones did not consider leading his members in a real fight against the Act or the dockers is a real fight for their jobs. He contented himself with making an agreement for bigger golden handshakes to get workers to quit their jobs. And this week, once again, as the dockers strike, the TUC is having its talks with Heath and Co with a view to more consultation and a voluntary incomes policy.*

*Compared with this worthless approach, the National Port Stewards' Committee has had it on the line that no more docked jobs will be held and that the new technology must be used to benefit dockers, giving them a shorter working week and earlier paid retirement, instead of giving big profits to the bosses and consolidating the dockers out of existence.*

*The dockers are now determined to achieve a clear victory on these issues. Six weeks ago at Chatham Farm container depot they planned so as to create the new jobs. Not only did they ensure that more dockers were taken on, they also achieved a substantial wage increase and cut in working hours for the container workers already there.*

*The dockers' struggle is a struggle for all workers, the first national co-ordinated fight to resist the misery and oppression of the dockers. It is essential that all sections of workers give support to it.*

*This solidarity must continue even if Jack Jones proceeds to browbeat his union's Delegates Conference into trying to end the struggle. For that conference vastly underrepresents the large port workers (of whom the main Südbrock, Port of London, with a core of 10,000 dockers, is the only one which has not been involved in the strike).*

*Even if the dockers are victorious, there is an enormous blow which will have been struck for all workers who wish to push back the rising tide of redundancy. It is up to all to help make certain of that victory.*

**DOCKERS LEAD FIGHT FOR JOBS**

*Printers and dockers picketing.*

*London Port Stewards' Committee thanks all who support the dockers' struggle, particularly those who came to Pentonville and gave financial contributions. With the strike now under way against redundancies, more funds are urgently needed. All donations and messages of support should be sent to the London Port Stewards' Committee c/o M. Feen, 24 Florence Road, Plaistow, London E13.*
A TRAGEDY of Biafra-type proportions, hardly noticed by the British press, is being enacted in the backwater and isolated country of Afghanistan. The New York Times reports that half a million people are suffering from acute hunger, many starved to death.

The symbols of the past few months here have been the skulls of some seven thousand starved women and children that were displayed in the streets for 30 days straight. The latest rice famine has been caused by a lack of cash to buy food. Many people are now living off the bones of their animals. In the capital city of Kabul, people have to stand in line for hours to buy food. In the mountains, people are dying of starvation.

The situation is desperate. The United Nations has called for an emergency food relief operation. The World Food Program has promised to deliver 50,000 tons of food to the country. However, the situation is still critical.

PRESTIGE

Both the US and the Russians view the situation as a test of their global power. The US has offered to provide food aid, while the Russians have offered to provide military aid. The situation is tense, and there is a risk of a military confrontation.

Exploitation

Much of the public sympathy for the Afghans comes from the US. The US has been providing military aid to the Afghan government, and there is a risk of military intervention if the situation escalates. The US is also providing economic aid to the Afghan government, which is using it to fuel its own agenda.

The situation is complex, and there is no easy solution. The US and the Russians are both interested in maintaining their influence in the region. The Afghan government is fragile, and there is a risk of a collapse if the situation worsens.

The situation in Afghanistan is a test of global power and interests. The US and the Russians are both interested in maintaining their influence in the region. The Afghan government is fragile, and there is a risk of a collapse if the situation worsens.

CHRIS HARMAN

LETTERS

Judgements on Republican
Movement arise out of ignorance

THE statement by the executive of the International Socialists was read and studied by a number of the members who are in Long Kee, I have been asked by several members to make the following comments.

We find ourselves in disagreement with the spirit of the statement but feel that certain judgments made concerning the Republican Movement arise from ignorance.

In the North we have made efforts to establish working relations with publicly aware sections of the population, for example, the Catholic Church, the trade unions, and the local community. The Republican Movement is a social and political movement that seeks to establish a new society based on equality and justice. It is not a movement that seeks to establish a new state.

The movement is democratic, and it seeks to involve all sections of the population in the decision-making process. It is not a movement that seeks to establish a new state.

The movement is democratic, and it seeks to involve all sections of the population in the decision-making process. It is not a movement that seeks to establish a new state.

The movement is democratic, and it seeks to involve all sections of the population in the decision-making process. It is not a movement that seeks to establish a new state.

Nothing but a yarn

IT WOULD be difficult to find more evasive and ambiguous words than those contained in Cotter’s Yard (2 June) which is a “Brief Report on the Republican Movement”.

1. The report is ambiguous, and it is not clear what it means.

2. It is not clear what it means.

3. It is not clear what it means.

4. It is not clear what it means.

5. It is not clear what it means.

I trust that in the interests of the Republican Movement in Britain and in order to avoid the kind of misunderstanding that has arisen, I would like you to publish this letter.

DON BAYMISH

Vice-President, Breedon Traders Council
The army come not as peace-makers

NO ONE on the left should be fooled by the statements put out by the British Army this week and reprinted with approval by the Press Council. It is claimed that there is nothing sinister in the bardic cadres and the occupation of the ‘No go’ areas in Northern Ireland is meant to restore ‘peace and order’.

In truth, the British Army has been systematically using bardic cadres with Centurion tanks on Monday were the same forces, commanded by the same generals, getting their orders from the same Westminister politicians, as carried out the cold-blooded murders in Derry on Saturday just a few days ago.

William Whitelaw, the Tory overlord in Northern Ireland, speaks of ‘getting the IRA off the backs of the people’. Yet for three weeks they have been using the same tools of terror as the IRA and even now are trying to club their way into the Bogside, the armed forces of the IRA have been protecting the local population against many more British soldiers than the Bloody Sunday type.

In the ghettos of Derry and Belfast this protection is still needed. In three weeks 300 Catholcs have been killed as a result of murders by Protestant extremists in Belfast. The British Army has a role not only in trying to prevent murders, but in actually initiating them. There are well-validated reports of British soldiers in plain clothes assassinating people they believe—often wrongly—to be Republicans.

Even if the Provisional IRA were a band of the most vicious and cold-blooded murderers in the world, the British Army would not be able to bring ‘peace’ to the area. But the Provisionals are not cold-blooded murderers. In the columns of Socialist Worker we have repeatedly criticised their bomb campaign: We do not believe that the Provisional IRA can bring peace to the British ruling class will ever force them to abandon their control over Ireland. The bombings inevitably, and inadvertently, cost the lives of many ordinary workers and increase the Protestants’ feeling of identification with British rule.

The bombings in Belfast a fortnight ago bore witness to the fact that the British Army has too much on their hands. The situation of horror created by the carnage succeeded, as the British government never could, in isolating, at least temporarily, the Provisionals from the Catholic people behind that had hitherto supported them.

Even so, the deaths caused on that day were in no way comparable to the murders carried out by the British Army and the Orange extremists. When the army shoots, it shoots to kill. When the Provisionals bomb, they almost always attempt to prevent civilian deaths.

As the Sunday Times reported on 27 July: ‘The Northern Ireland Protection Agency and the Samurians received a total of 21 warnings, some of them duplicated’ before the 22 bombings—some of the warnings more than an hour before. If civilians were maintained and killed, a large part of the blame lies with the British Army for ignoring the warnings, whether by accident or design.

As socialists we must criticise the bombings—not least because they are adding strength to the British press, which is so determined that should not blind us to the real source of all the present misery and horror of the Irish situation: the economic and military control of Britain over the Irish people.

We have to continue to give our support to both wings of the IRA in so far as they resist the efforts of the British Army to establish its domination. But we also have to recognise that the peace campaign of the Provos has proved that they lack the working-class socialist politics necessary if British big business and its army are ever to face a movement that has real mass support.

Only when such a movement is built will the aim of the IRA—a unified independent Ireland—be achieved.

Crossed line

WHEN the committee of the London Overseas Telephones No 2 branch of the UWW met to consider action in support of the jalled dockers last Wednesday at mid-day, they received a telephone from baby chimp Tom Jackson saying: ‘The executive is meeting Thursday to decide what action to take... In the meantime your branch is instructed not to take any action whatsoever.’

Nevertheless the committee decided to stop their members going in to work when the evening shift came on at 5.30pm and to hold a meeting with a recommendation for strike action. Among those who crossed the picket line was Mrs Beryl Treble, national president of the union. Of course, the stoppage did not last long. By 6pm the dockers were out and the telephonists went back to work.

DISTORTING

LAST Friday, 28 July, the Daily Mirror reported after the four-day shutdown with a front-page editorial claiming the strike was an ‘abuse of solidarity strike’.

It said: ‘Nothing is more dangerous in those troubled days than a blackout on newspapers and comment. No democracy is so secure that it can survive in a darkling atmosphere when nobody properly knows what to whom, when and where and why.’

But on page 5 of that same issue there was a picture of a sample of the kind of ‘democracy’ and ‘freedom of speech’ that it believes in. This was the story of the Mirror’s refusal to carry an urgent meeting the voice in the crowd outside Transport House yesterday. While the dockers were being invited, calling for a strike, the voice of protest was guaranteed by one housewife ready to argue her case to the men. She didn’t mind having the last word. As long as they could have the last laugh.

The real facts are that this supposedly ‘anti-docker’ housewife was part of a mass demonstration transport house with a large placard urging Scotland Yard to arrest Heath, Hailsham and Rippon for treason in connection with their efforts to get Britain to join the EEC.

But because the Mirror hates the working class, it gives this example of free market opens it reversion and declines to report that this ‘protesting’ housewife invited the dockers to help her arrest various government ministers. This is the truth of the Mirror’s ‘free speech’—freedom to lie and distort. That’s why the absence of Bloody Sunday last week was no loss.

THE ARMY COME NOT AS PEACE-MAKERS

NO ONE ON THE LEFT SHOULD BE FOOLLED...
IT TOOK one cooling-off period on the railways and the £55,000 fines on the Transport and General Workers’ Union for the Trade Union Congress to jettison its opposition to the Industrial Relations Act. On Friday 21 April Vic Feather announced that unions would go before the National Industrial Relations Court and pay the fines it levied.

That same day Jimmy Symes, chairman of the Liverpool docks shop stewards committee, said: ‘The fines will not influence the dockers to lift the blacking. We are not defying the union. We are the union.’ Britain’s dockers have kept their word.

Caught in the employers’ inevitable drive to turn technology against society, the dockers picked up what looked like the dying flame of organised labour’s opposition to open state control of the trade union movement. They stepped up their picketing and blacking.

In doing so they launched a struggle which profoundly rallied whole sections of the working class against this anti-socialism—employing class, its government and its law.

The outcome of the dockers’ struggle has not been to defeat the Tories or the priesthood of Industrial Relations Act. But it has led already to the freezing of live docked trade unions by the direct action of the working-class movement. The Tories turned, and heat back on the official institutions of the trade union movement to the first serious jobs fight by any national section of the British working class.

The dockers’ struggle for their livelihood was also a struggle for the unfettered freedom to pursue trade union action outside the law. The law attacked them first in Liverpool, then in London.

In London, the leadership of the Transport Union alone collapsed. In Hull and London the shop stewards and rank and file dockers, threatened with the law, did not hesitate to pursue their democratically decided course of action. They defied the court, and its rulings.

The trade union leaders, faced with the massive fines against the TGWU for the Heston’s blacking, paid up. Then one of the blacked container firms, Panadising of Hull, moved in on the NIRC action. In the second week of May it got a court order against the_of the dockers. Walter Cunningham, chairman of the Hull port shop stewards committee, stubbornly boycotted and defied the court. Sir John Donaldson, court president, declared that the dockers were content to continue putting the pressure of their union to force their ‘agents’, shop stewards, to comply with the law.

Boost

But the first week of June saw the Tories’ so far successful strategy of challenging the railwaymen through the threat of real black in the face. On Thursday 1 June, a mass meeting was called by the leadership of the NIRC. After a firm order to order the NIRC action was announced. Though they did not formally order the railways the distinct impression of being yet another special case, the Tories were turned against the threat of a full blacking. But the following Day the Court of Appeal, in line with the new law, was expected to meet the leadership of the TUC, quashed the £5,000 fine on the NIRC and General and General’s blacking and on Wednesday Donaldson appointed the dockers’ shop stewards who were picketing Heston Farm.

No court could ignore the three dockers’ actions, and Donaldson. This is a threat to the rule of law.

At 1 pm on Thursday 15 June London’s dockers met to hear the report of the previous day’s Dockers’ Delegate Conference which had voted to protest against the NIRC and General’s blacking and to strike for six weeks. But the key discussion was on the jail trial. A deal was decided to strike until all proceedings were dropped. Liverpool and Hull were of the same mind and the strike spread like wildfire through the British ports by the next morning.

Tipstaff

It was a historic Friday. Slowly the mass picket line steadily gathered in its heart. It marked the appearance of the peers of this man they had never seen with the Union’s blacking of TUC leaders.

The General and its leadership. The dockers never wanted to go on strike. Fewer brothers were not lifted. They did not break the movement that could only have been broken by the court.

Chobham Farm was a great victory despite being disguised in the sober clothes of the law. In the next week the dockers went to London to meet the TUC leaders, were met with a wall of silence.


BY LAURIE FLYNN

Tory Cabinet was now driving the ship. A cabinet of class collaboration, talks with the official leadership. Unionists were relying on the Jack Jones-Lord Aldington committee to turn the gun down in the docks. The committee met for the first time on Tuesday 6 June.

Meanwhile, London’s dockers were stepping up their seven-week old blacking and picketing campaign. Chobham Farm hit the news when the depot workers decided (doubts about the initiative of management) to take their fellow TGWU members to the National Industrial Relations Court.

Monday 12 June saw the court issue a temporary order restraining Vic Turner, Bernie Steer and Alastair Williams from picketing and blacking.

This following day the Court of Appeal, in line with the new law, was expected to meet the leadership of the TUC, quashed the £5,000 fine on the NIRC and General and General’s blacking and on Wednesday Donaldson appointed the dockers’ shop stewards who were picketing Chobham Farm.

No court could ignore the three dockers’ actions, and Donaldson. This is a threat to the rule of law.

At 1 pm on Thursday 15 June London’s dockers met to hear the report of the previous day’s Dockers’ Delegate Conference which had voted to protest against the NIRC and General’s blacking and to strike for six weeks. But the key discussion was on the jail trial. A deal was decided to strike until all proceedings were dropped. Liverpool and Hull were of the same mind and the strike spread like wildfire through the British ports by the next morning.

Tipstaff

It was a historic Friday. Slowly the mass picket line steadily gathered in its heart. It marked the appearance of the peers of this man they had never seen with the Union’s blacking of TUC leaders.

The General and its leadership. The dockers never wanted to go on strike. Fewer brothers were not lifted. They did not break the movement that could only have been broken by the court.

Chobham Farm was a great victory despite being disguised in the sober clothes of the law. In the next week the dockers went to London to meet the TUC leaders, were met with a wall of silence.

The Tories unostentatiously had shot the dockers’ street. Monday morning was the end of the movement of 150,000 men from the docks.

That day the CABINETS met and had a little chat about something—190 strike action on Wednesday. Aldington ploughed on. Fortunately to be able to boast.

Mass meeting at London’s Tower Hill on 25 July: dockers, printers, building workers and many other march on Pentonville. It is a bylaw of the law: all the newspapers have not been affected. Some dockers had seen the end of their dockers’ strike. That day’s mass picket on May June turned out to be the last of the movement.

Pickets

But the dockers’ calls for solidarity action were not to go unheeded. Friday night the Fleet Street electricians moved, though the newspapers appeared on Saturday morning. That day’s glorious sunshine saw a big London printing-workers’ demonstration against redundancies in the print industry turn for Pentonville. And that night the NTAOPA members in Fleet Street moved.

On Sunday dockers threw big picket lines across the print plants. SOGAT won the papers.”

White Feather for ‘do nothing’ TUC leaders

BY ROGER PROTZ

When the fire was arrested July, Vic Feather’s immediate response was anger and a demand for a trade union movement.”

Putting peace aside, the general secretary of the TUC, who already had his hands full with mutiny in the trade union movement, had already fixed the East India Company’s measures. What was not at stake was what the existing trade unions would do. The TUC leaders had no choice but to accept the industrial situation as it now stood. The worst was over. The future was not so bad. The trades council movement would have to be made up in the industrial sector.

Downing Street and the City were satisfied. Jack Jones and the TUC leaders went to Pentonville, and a gentle résumé of the events that had occurred was read.
The battle is won but war goes on.

This has been the greatest victory for the British working class for more than half a century. The battle has been won against capitalist ideology is still going on.

After such a great victory it is impossible not to look to the white field as a whole and, while we are looking to this and talking about how to struggle, keep a cool head and think clearly about how to win still greater organisational measures necessary to turn sectional into ideological conflict.

The muds behind the Tories' attack on the working class is not the nastiness of the British working class. But it is the deepening crisis of capitalist ideology. The weapons of class struggle are determined largely by the immense material interests that the working class have to struggle for.

The Tories believe that in the 1970s the London docks were collapsing, that the London docks were collapsing, and that the London docks were collapsing. By 1970 it had been the last in the series of the dockers strike.

What a victory. What a crushing blow for the men of war and their allies. But the Tories, and their Act, their whole range of anti-working class activities, are not going to be defeated by the extreme of the system which has them. They are again the only way in which all of humanity, they lied in their teeth and announced that they all indicated the Industrial Relations Act. But they were still in power.

But meanwhile something very big has been done in the last two weeks. The whole section of the milion has interested directly in the affairs of state and with marvellous success. Out of that battle and those which are already following on its heels, the battle and struggle have already rekindled the spirit of solidarity in the working class against the capitalist state and its anti-union laws.

In 1965, the Independent Labour Party (ILP) for the Independent Labour Party and the Independent Labour Party for the Independent Labour Party and the Independent Labour Party had campaigned for the first time for the nationalisation of the transport and technology set to human ends. And, most importantly, of all, the fascists and UAF's ideas began to connect with the mass struggle. It is a historic beginning.

London dockers and jailed on 21 October after being refused the right to work. The -valence was stepped up in the wake of the trade union movement. That day the London dockers and jailed on 21 October after being refused the right to work. The -valence was stepped up in the wake of the trade union movement. That day the London dockers and jailed on 21 October after being refused the right to work. The -valence was stepped up in the wake of the trade union movement.
The high price of Prentice

WHEN a government wants to put a smoke screen round a serious problem, the best way to do it is to set up a "committee of inquiry." In recent months the Maudling scandal and the British Army murders in Derry have both been damned down in this way.

It is two years since the last Labour government had the little known but acute industrial safety crisis into the hands of a committee led by that highly qualified gentleman Lord Robens, the ex-Coal Board boss. The report of this committee was published two weeks ago, made the newspapers for one day, and then within 24 hours sunk into the oblivion for which it was surely intended.

The only thing of note in the report is the allegedly new approach it calls for. This would involve much less reliance on law enforcement in industry and much more on prompting employers to carry out their "obligations" to safeguard their workers.

Whether any government will trouble itself to translate the detailed Robens recommendations into practice is highly questionable. For the situation as it is works very nicely for the employers.

Few firms are brought to trial or fined for negligence even though the rate of accidents is at an all-time high. If legal obligations can be ignored, why bother to get rid of them?

What is outrageous about the report is the whole theory of the "human face" of industry and the silver-tongued treatment of big business, factory inspectors and trade union performance in this field.

Identity

The Robens Report states that industrial safety is "a matter of concern to us all". The first thing about a factory is that it is not a collection of individuals. Work is highly organised and the attitude of all is the taking of the workers' productivity as a whole.

This situation of conflict and struggle is explicitly recognised by a recent report of the Factory Inspectorate published by the August and respectable Safety Commission.

"The factories legislation imposes a serious limitation on the freedom of manufacturers to conduct their businesses in the most economic lines," the report said.

The Robens Committee sets even such respectable evidence aside. Instead we are told there is a closer identity of interest between employers and workers on industrial health and safety than on any other question.

The exact opposite is the case - in no other field is the antagonism of interests so obvious. In this context, it is not surprising that the Robens Committee puts the vast majority of industrial accidents down to "apathy".

Robens' big cover-up for factory death toll

Probably no industry in Britain is as badly organised and dangerous as the textile industry. When "apathetic" construction workers take up the safety issue.

Do the employers jump for joy? Far from it, they run for cover behind a convenient procedure agreement.

"We are not to tolerate independent site safety committees and, on site after site, we have tried to smash them".

The way this and any other industry conducts itself flows from the contempt in which health and safety is held in construction.

The fruits of this approach became widely known in the recent Central Asbestos case where the inspectorate and the employers and their workers would have had a case sound for suing the contents and the inspectorate for negligence as well as the employer.

But the Robens Committee's assistants do not only wholeheartedly endorse the allocated safety. And even if the contract is won on some price-fixing basis (a not uncommon occurrence) then the drive is on to boost profit figures by cheap-cut working practices. The current economic situation accentuates this.

The processes should not be unknown to Lord Robens. Under his "modernisation" of the mines, the accident per-shift rate in the industry doubled.

The Robens Committee's quite scandalous betrayal of the facts is clearest in its discussion of the Factory Inspectorate system. The report recommends certain organisational changes for the various inspecting bodies, but does nothing to probe the crises the organisations are in.

Falsity

They are near total collapse as an industrial agency. The declared practice and philosophy is one of "co-operation" making it easy on the employer. The fruits of this approach became widely known in the recent Central Asbestos case. The treatment of jobs and the workers and their employers are the same.

What they forget to mention is that the 1937 report of a subsequent chief inspector declared the total failure of the voluntary approach and called for the setting-up of an independent safety committee.

A draft schedule was put out at the time, and was effectively abrogated by the employers. With the trade unions defeated in the 1926 General Strike, there was no need even to consult them. The employers continue to resist this elementary measure with the same stubborn to-

Arthur Malone

An injured worker is helped away from an Aberdeen building site in 1970 where a six-storey building collapsed, killing five men. The construction industry has an appalling safety record - but the Robens' proposals will weaken legal sanctions against the profits hungry bosses.

Maimed

We should not expect anything different from a government report. It is now nearly 10 years since the two eminent labour lawyers, Brian and Robin Thompson, wrote of the "appallingly" inadequate safety and the committees set up to deal with victims that it is doing something about the problem rather than being of much use.

The Robens Report is already in the vast government waste-paper basket reserved for such findings. Meanwhile 500 workers will be killed this year, thousands more hurt and maimed for life.

A grave responsibility falls on the trade unions to stir themselves to take tough action to force adequate safety measures on the bosses. Hurting their profits is the only way to stop them hurting our lives.

Arthur Malone

"It's very hot in here today"

GOOD MORNING

IN FROM COLT VENTILATION - WE SPECIALISE IN COOLING PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT PRODUCTION...
COGS OF THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT

from page 5

except to rule any government of the working class.

As this long period from the First World War to the mid-1930s, the last few years has seen greater volatility in the movement. In the fullness of time, a couple of examples. The defeat of the miners led to the rise of lower-wage settlements involving shorter hours, lower wages, and a year of declining wages all round, with the miners' strike of 1926, following the miners' victory and following the collapse of the miners' movement.

The volatility is even clearer in the case of the elections to the Industrial Relations Bill. On 8 December, 1970, half a million workers marched on strike against the Industrial Relations Bill. Three months later, there were 100,000 workers on strike against the Bill. There must be many hundreds of thousands of workers who found themselves with these demonstrations in Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow and so on.

Slogan

On 1 March 1970, 1.5 million workers came out in a strike against the Bill. On 18 March a similar number came out, this time against the Bill. It seems clear that they were ready to go for a long battle. The miners' strike of 1926 had been long and bitter. The miners' movement could go on for years, and (2) his isolation from militant trade unionists, most of whom were living in even more, in other industries.

As we can see, the working-class movement with 11 million members and 14 million workers was a powerful cog, with far the strongest organized power in the country, which might have been the mainstay of the world in the future. We can see that we had in this country a revolutionary socialist party, a combative organization in struggle and school in the art of struggle, the art of fighting against all forms of capitalism. Let's assume that we, the workers of today, were in the position of building such an organization, had 50,000 members.

Issues

There is no question that this would indeed be a powerful cog. However, the workers had not moved the cog of 11 million workers to 14 million workers. The workers had not moved the cog of its 500,000 members. A connecting cog is a question of organization, which is often the key to the power of a working-class movement.

This is the organization of militants in different sections of the working class working together round specific issues, issues which are transforming the lives of large numbers of workers. If that group of workers in one place is working on the same issue, a large organization of the working class can be the result.

In the five-five years that the workers participate in building such a cog wheel in the form of rank and file organizations, they have been like The Carworkers, the Coller and Rank and T&J Trailbe. The aim of this is to influence the policies of the trade unions.

The rising conflict will disclose to workers the fact that their policies will widen their horizons and will help to clarify their ideas. The workers will be trained to be cadres for the organisation of all sections of the working class to take the offensive as a socialist organization as well as to strengthen all their efforts to build up the trade union and trade union organizations.

Comrades, we are not in the main strengths of the dockers' five-day strike, this was the clear unity between the particular life and death interests of the working class, the interests of the working class to struggle to get the year of the Industrial Relations Act.

In the coming stage of the dockers' struggle, this unity has to be persevered. There is no doubt that the mediation of the strike, which serves big capital well. The dockers must show that they are not a group of workers who have been divided by the interests of the working class.

On the other hand, the dockers made absolutely clear that they were willing to work. More than ever it is essential for the workers to fight the thousands of workers throughout the country to defend this movement. It is even more important now that the joint action of the Dockers' Committee is central in actively running the strike.
NOW BUILDERS CALL
FOR TOTAL STRIKE

by Gerry Kelly (UCATT)

Jobs stolen from dockers from Diana Parkin and David Gibbens, in Whistable

NOWHERE is the callers of thieves "known as dockers" more clearly exposed than in the Whistable area. Last week, Westland Imports, a firm that sacked all its registered dockers three years ago, is today doing more work than ever. It does dockers work right in the heart of the port with non-registered and non-union labour.

Whistable industries operate three years ago when Whistable Urban Council complained to the municipality-owned harbour authority to double the capacity of the port.

LONDON: Last Wednesday saw the most successful London building workers' demonstration for many years when more than 1500 building workers headed for Pontefract in solidarity with the jailed dockers. Rank-and-file militants have been given credentials to assist full-time officials in enforcing the same-time ban, and members have successfully shut down several "lumpy" sites until the overtime ban.

SOUTHBAMPTON: The main sites in the city are now all shut down on strike - Turner, Hills and Hill, Winnis, Myron and Lang. But many workers are now coming to the conclusion that almost complete national action. Derek Shepherd, federation steward (corner) on the Hills and Hill site, said: "We are prepared to fight to the death for our union, UCATT. We feel that if we win this battle, established UCATT is the building industry and we can move on from strength to strength."

LEE-Every building site in the city shut down last Wednesday at 7am building workers stopped for a token strike in support of the claim. 100 men marched and sang their way through the city centre to a rally outside the town centre. Resolutions passed were passed for solidarity with the jailed dockers and for raising the building wage claim to £1 per hour.

WOLVERHAMPTON: Management at the Tomax civil engineering deparp, where the employer has lost the case, have told the men a £200 'shirt' if they would go back to work.

The strike is for a reduction in the working week from 66 to 60 hours, an increase in the basic rate and against redundancy. They have also offered to suspend the redundancies for a further week, pending a meeting with the claims.

HARROW: Arounding victory has been won by 260 members of SOGAT, the local branch of the Office and Professional Fire Brigade, who have won a clause on redundancy after the firm threatened redundancies. Management had attempted to suspend the union's cover and charge all workers' insurance, over industrial relations Act 1971. The battle and striking pickets were enough to force the firm to accept the insurance.

NAPIER, HAWAII: A strike by all shop floor workers at International Synthetic Vulcan Fibre, a subsidiary of a Canadian company, has lasted for two months. The management has now been ordered to recognize the site's union and to meet its demands. The factory is also battling to defeat a gracing system which divides worker against worker.

This is the first official strike in the factory for 15 years, and there is an official support from members of the National Union of Engineers and Electricity workers. The strike is a bitter and violent affair, with lorry drivers being paid £80 a day to break pickets.

GOOLE-Eight hundred construction workers at the Drax power station con- centrated at the site in support of pickets during the 10-day strike by the Electricians' union. The strike has been made public by the Daily Telegraph.

LONDON: After two years of patient campaigning night cleaners brought the battle to a head on Monday night by walking out of a 24-hour office on the Defence office and throwing a large crowd of pickets outside. The cleaners have been pressed by the backing of the day-time its strike call.

The cleaners, united by Services, Employed to a picket line, agreed to a picket line outside the office. A meeting of support was called by the Local Labour Council and the office - which was closed - saw a crowd of pickets and cleaners outside the office.

MORE than 300 people attended a dockers' victory meeting called by the London I.T. on Stranfield last Thursday. Our picture shows three London Dock block shops, Ray Halsey, Colin Ross and Tony Delaney on the platform with Tony Cliffe, left, and Bob Light, the chairman, centre, from the International Socialists. The speaker is Tony Merrick (standing), one of the imprisoned Pontefract Five.

The day the British troops 'freed' Free Derry from Eamonn McCann, Derry, Monday

The day the British troops 'freed' Free Derry from Eamonn McCann, Derry, Monday

YIEHAME, naturally, in the early hours of the morning, surrounded them in cover, Saucers, Gartmore, Carters, Whippett and Landrovers, resuming past the Rossville flat as the Provost sworn with his men.

Officers showing orders, lights blazing, men screaming. Room packed by the group of policemen and Provost officers, and watch and watch at the shrine of the British life."

No one in the area has gone to sleep. We all knew what was coming from the massive build-up of armour around the dockers' home. The dockers opened their windows until, when the first women went out to indulge in what the press calls "verbal abuse".

But by the streets were filled with people. In the Creggan the kids were dripping with the sound of the song of several hundred people was being sung at the funeral of a small, precarious on the roof of a tin hut.

All the dockers were being re-established. Men checking round that even of the "lads" had been arrested. One republicans volunteer had been detained, though an unknown boy of Daniel Hegarty, had been shot dead by a police officer just outside the front door of his own home.

On the radio Whitelaw was saying that the troops had come to protect a place - a remark which caused the genuine only.

The redoubled efforts of the British were covered in the Creggan had been taken over, as the troops were said to have removed all the families forced to move out and stay with the Provisionals.

By 5pm the Official Republicans were saying that the citizens were not heartened nor defeated. Wait for the word. Forward to a socialist Ireland.

A meeting at the Bogside Inn, a thousand strong, heard Brendan Devlin

Announcing the people to 'cross red line', keep clear and the organisation were asked to join the Connor Dune Press to save the Free Derry. The rights. The press and TV-tv, concerned about the need to respect the law of the land, issued a joint statement that it is being carefully monitored. The Home Office has already mentioned these Illegal practices.

The Dockers' Union, National and Local, has come into its own in the last couple of years, and now the union is able to put its case to the public. The union is now fighting for a better deal for the dockers, and the dockers are fighting for a better deal for themselves.