MEAT PRICES are now so high that working-class families are eating less meat than at any time in the past 10 years. And if the big London stevedoring companies have their way, not only will meat prices be artificially inflated still further but 1,200 more London dockers and their families will be thrown on the scrapheap.

For the massive corporations that dominate London’s waterfront are tired of speculating in dockers and meat. Their hunger now is for the enormous profits they can grab from redeveloping their dockland for such necessities as hotels, offices and conference centres.

ANGER AND DISGUST

It is a familiar tale, told in the employers’ usual tissue of lies. At a meeting last week representatives of the giant Vestey Union International—which prosecuted the dockers at Midland Cold Storage—told shop stewards in its subsidiary company Thames Stevedoring that unless output per gang was increased by 50 per cent the massive New Zealand meat trade would be lost to London’s Royal Docks. M R Payne, managing director of Thames, went so far as to say that if productivity was not increased by 50 per cent within a week the company was doomed.

When the stewards reported their discussions to a mass meeting of the Thames workers, management’s propositions unleashed anger and disgust. The

Lord Vestey: escape the unions

Thames stevedoring dockers know they are being used and cheated by a firm with a world-wide experience in cheating working people.

Many of London’s dockers recognise the higher productivity business for the sham it is. Lord Vestey and his pals have a master plan for London’s riverside minus the working class who live and work there.

For three years now Royal Docks shop stewards have informed management of ways to improve productivity without loss of jobs and without anyone doing any extra work. Time after time they have drawn attention to the appalling maintenance of cranes and the huge delays this causes. They have complained repeatedly about the fantastic administrative inefficiency of the port authorities. Their suggestions met with a resounding silence.

The bosses’ talk of higher productivity is just one more lie to compound all the other lies they have told the working class in pursuit of profit.

London’s docks are bleeding with higher productivity. In 1970 Hays Wharf demanded higher productivity. Custom House Quay would go on forever, management said, if only output was increased. Up it went. But the dockers’ sweat could not compete with the profits to be gained from the demolition of a wharf and its replacement by a hotel. Hays shut Custom House Quay last year and 75 jobs were murdered.

Southern Stevedores had the highest productivity in the Royal Dock. It closed in June with the loss of 1,250 jobs. Such is the value of riverside land to dock employers turned property speculators.

And in the Victoria Dock there is a large and expensive monument to the extravagant ruthlessness of the London port employers. It is called B shed. Built in 1968, this was the wonder machine that would make the New Zealand meat trade more profitable for all companies concerned and keep it in the London docks forever.

SENTENCE OF DEATH

This massive computer-controlled and automated meat unloader was designed and built to Vestey specifications. It was to be worked by a Vestey company, the same Thames Stevedoring now under sentence of death. B shed was Vestey from start to finish, except that the Vestey firms paid not a penny towards the cost of this machine. B shed never got over trial runs and will never be used.

B shed cost £2 million, paid for out of the Port of London Authority funds. Despite its title, the PLA is a strictly commercial operation. The sweat of the PLA’s own dockers is still paying for the Vestey mana. And now if the Vesteyes and their kind have their way, B shed will simply be demolished and forgotten, along with hundreds of inland dockers.

Now the New Zealand meat trade is to be moved out of London because, it is claimed, other ports are cheaper. This, too, is a lie. 60 per cent of all the meat that comes into this country is handled within 50 miles of the centre of London.

Behind the move is a simple device for lowering labour costs outside London and the release of land for speculative development. Moving to Sheerness or somewhere else outside London will mean massive increases in handling costs. But working-class dockers can safely be left to foot the bill through higher meat prices—or let their families eat less.

The dockers are understanding their blocking and picketing of the dozens of inland cold stores that waterfront giants like Vestey have opened up to escape from docks trade unions. The dockers are determined to make sure there will be more Chobham Farm victories, more employment of registered labour.

The dockers are fighting to defend their jobs and wages. But we can anticipate the violence of distortion from the millionaire press when the meat trade is moved from London. It is dockers’ ‘greed’, they will shriek, that is responsible for pushing up meat prices.

They will cover up the real greed of Lord Vestey and his class, a greed that slaughters jobs, boosts prices and robs the workers to build meat machines that never work.

19 public meeting
DOWN WITH THE RACISTS!
Tuesday 26 September, 8pm
Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1

Speakers: Paul Foot (IS), Frank Campbell (UCATT, in his personal capacity) and a spokesman from the Black Panther movement.

All London branches to support.
FRELIMO FIGHTING ON A NEW FRONT

by Sara Trask

FRELIMO, the Mozambique Liberation Front, announced last week that fighting had begun on a new front in the northern central province of Monico e Sofala, which extends thousands of miles south and south-east from the Cabora Bassa Dam area.

In fact the first shots were fired on 25 July, after months of political work in the province, preparing the people for the start of the military struggle. This extends Frelimo's area of penetration from the already liberated areas of Cabo Delgado, Nhamu, and Tete into the enormous southern sector.

Paulo Guterres, President and Logic and Tony Gifford, of the Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guine Bissau, have just returned from a 16-day visit behind the Frelimo lines, and have brought back valuable information of the military successes of the liberation movement, and also of the life emerging from the Mozambican refugees returned from Portuguese domination.

In Tete province, the Tete district, which the group visited, the population have responded to the form of guerrilla war by organizing their foodstuffs collectively, to supply the needs of both the villagers and the Frelimo soldiers.

In the villages, the Frelimo soldiers have been organized for the defense of the villagers, going out into the fields where Frelimo soldiers have fixed bases, they have cultivated their own crops, so that new forms of economic units are emerging from the guerrilla struggle.

FORCED

In every village Frelimo political units have helped set up assemblies of the people, forcing them to adopt new political and economic structures, and the new system has given them their bread, replacing the enforced taxation, forced labour and the enslavement of their crops by the Portuguese.

Spanish strikers close down a town

by Vic Richards

FIVE THOUSAND workers in theCitroen car plant in the Spanish port of Vigo went on strike last week demanding a shorter working week of 44 hours.

By Wednesday the police had arrested ten workers, while Citroen had sacked five and suspended four others.

A mass meeting demanded their reinstatement and the workers pledged themselves to stay out till this was achieved. At the same time, 4000 shipyard workers downed tools in solidarity and, with car workers, set up barricades on the main road out of Vigo.

Catalan workers in the Ei Ferrol and Barreras shipyards have also joined the strikers in Spain this year, and the lessons from the previous strikes have been repeated.

By Friday they had brought out workers from 12 plants—15,000 in all—as the battle began at the town of Vigo to complete a national strike.

Foreign

The struggle shows the deep crisis in Spain, which has developed enormously in the 33 years since Franco came to power. Industry is thriving. Agricultural produce is exported to Northern Europe and North America. Millions of tourists every year bring in thousands of millions of pounds, while millions of Spaniards live abroad, earning unemployment and sending less of millions of pounds to Spain every year.

But this boom is dependent on foreign investment, foreign markets, foreign tourists and foreign employment opportunities.

The new ruling class that has arisen from the boom is workers who are dependent on foreign capital, while landowners are now too closely tied to the new Spanish society to consider a return to the fascism of the 1940s. The result has been the increasing influence of the Spanish ruling class to govern.

The experiment in 'rechristening' of the late 1960s led rapidly to the growth of nationalist movements, illegal unions (Workers' Commissions), and a fantastic strike record.

The Spanish boom is dependent on low wages and 'political stability' to attract foreign capital. So the ruling class is now trying to bury internal differences and increase repression, not only against workers but also against any groups seriously advocating for reform, such as university students.

Last week saw the start of a new wave of repression in the universities.

The regime is resisting the smallest reforms, so every demonstration and strike—strikes are illegal in Spain—is violent and taken on a political character. Workers, having proved their strength in recent years, are increasingly able to take on both their employers and Franco's regime.

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THE EMPRESS Farah of Iran is visiting China this week, and will probably meet Mao-tse-tung. The Shah is due to visit Moscow next week. These meetings are important to the future political situation.
Crime report
PRESS REACTION to the nine months' jail sentence on the Lincoln hungman who allegedly fiddled the sum of £60 suggests that such legal savagery is most unusual, an unfortunate departure from the normal milk-of-human-kindness approach of the magistrates' bench.

But as readers of the courts column of local papers will know, the floggen brigadoon who hand out justice are club hands at sending members of the 'poorer classes' away for long stretches for minor infractions.

At the Old Bailey last week, Ernest Rawlinson, aged 52, was put on probation for two years when he admitted stealing £10. That sounds a reasonable decision on the judge's part, but more revealing was Rawlinson's past record.

He had spent 30 years of his life in prison and in the two most recent stretches he had been nine years and 10 years. What dreadful crimes had he committed to earn such sentences? Had he dropped napalm on a sleepy English village or wiped out a guerilla gang on the Scottish Border? Not quite.

He was sent away by magistrates' courts for nine years for stealing a bicycle and a 10 years for stealing £11.

Gloucester magistrates were in fine form last week. Up in front of them was George Kay, aged 61, of no fixed address, who had the singular habit of trying to pilfer a stolen wallet to a plainclothes police officer, who then, after chasing him put away for 12 months for stealing the wallet, was shot in the arm with a paintball and given 12 months for assault and wounding worth £2.95. 

Enquiry into the lesser crime in the eye of the beholder. Derby magistrates have fined Roland Royer £110 after hearing how a supervisor had been sucked inside a giant aero engine. The firm admitted that a Sperry engine was not kept safe.

The supervisor, Robert Westnag, was sucked inside the engine when

Philip Wade, reported the Monday Club-National Front rally but failed to record the nature of the participants or express his concern about the small turnout.

The march of the anti-fascist march, Mi Wade was observed counting the number of the marchers and expressing his concern at the small turnout. There would have been a few more maybe if, in his opinion, the Socialist Labour Leagues had bothered to join in.

High spot of the picket outside the club was the marcher with a cob of his disbelief on the face of National Front organiser Martin Webster, who was writing notes as one of the marchers filing into the hall. Unable to comprehend the sudden burst of cheering from the anti-fascists across the road, Obstetrical/obstetrician Webster turned round to find a West Indian employed by the Local Hall waving to the counter-demonstration of the counter-fascist club.

FOOTNOTE to the Saturday events: at 12 midnight last night a mid-day copy of the London Evening Standard at 2.30pm and was not a little surprised to find a full report of the Monday Club rally. Intrigued, he called the standard week day, and asked if they were using crystal balls and was told that the meeting had started on 2.15, last night, and that the copy he had been printed. "Oh, we often do," admitted the standard man.

OFF-white film
In JOHANNESBURG, Julian Sanderson has been fined £290 for showing a banned black film. He had put it on at a local hockey club and charged 1 Rand admittance fee to help his new equipment for the club.

The police said the film shown had not been passed by the Publications Control Board. Is this a case for Lord Fordsome to investigate? What appalling sexual filth is being shown directly to decent, gold-teeth hockey players in South Africa?

Answer: that old mostly Hollywood liberal wagee Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? In which wise middle class Sidney Poitier falls in love with a nice middle class white girl.

MEANWHILE back in the English courts, about Joseph Owen was granted an absolute discharge at Chelmsford Magistrates Court. He admitted that after a day's work on a building site he had climbed through a window of the next-door Hotel and been a bath. He was charged with stealing hot water valued at £15.

Choose your terrorist
THERE are terrorists and terrorists. Palestinians who kidnap civilians get the full hate treatment from television and press. Regular Israeli air- and air units that deal in widespread destruction on a war-like scale, to women and children as well as to men, escape closer. That is not terrorism apparently, it's war. The difference is been the retail killer (terrorist) and the wholesale killer (honourable soldier).

To keep a sense of proportion we should bear in mind that the Israeli forces are themselves fairly small-scale operations. They are a real mass movement, whereas indiscriminate bombing which probably kills and maims more civilians in a week than all the Palestinian organisations have done in 20 years, the government of the USA is the usual "supporter".

Yet even in the retail trade there are very marked differences in the treatment. The 'IRA' supporter of the day is right wing your aim, the lily you will be condemned. Consider the case of the Ushai Croat terrorists, mass murderers of Serbs and Jews in the last war. That is terrorism. There have been levies imposed on their official Yugoslav property or that belonging to leaders of the emigrant community (in Australia) in the past, including mods, skinheads, killings, kidnappings and secret and thefts of dynamite.

And what has the Australian Tory Prime Minister to say about these last gangsters? "Their cause is a good one. We must encourage their spirit of independence." We are still waiting for the tornado of indignation from our 'free press' and television.
Asians: it's their class, not colour, that I really object to.

I HAVE READ the articles in Socialist Worker about the Ugandan Asians. You are absolutely right to point out that the racists are settling out to divide the working class and the empire helps the employers.

They make some important argument you have not covered. The Asians are middle class not working class. They are the provincial middle class. The African workers, in Britain they will do the same. Why should British workers support the entry of the middle-class Asians who will continue with the exploitation. We have got enough of them already.

The Tory government have only let them in because they are middle class. This is in line with their policy of whole immigration policy. If they had been workers the Tories would have kept them out.

This is not a racist letter. This letter the factory I work in has a good record of united struggle against black and white workers. Whose the dockers marched for Powell our worthwhiles' committee condemned it. But on this occasion we are all opposed to their entry.

I can honestly say that had they been Asians or African workers I would have supported their entry. Look at it this way. If the African workers in Rhodesia theory the white employers have been led by a program of oppressors and exploiters, should we welcome them?

Of course we shouldn't. They were on the backs of the African workers working away for the prize. So should the Ugandan Asians. Let's look after our own class and not our enemies.

TONY GALLOW, London N1.

It's not the method but the result. The situation, Workers in Britain are exploited and those in Africa are exploited. Some of whom have taken the lead in organising the agitation against the Asians. Of course, those responsible for the conditions of the mass of the population are the same. They are members of international companies that own most of Uganda.

The property, owning Asians do not go deep into their money which is behind the camps. And most of the Asians own shops. And most of the Asians own their homes. They are teachers, office workers, doctors and skilled manual workers. Wherever they are they will find themselves with little choice but to follow the lead of the whites. Syndicalist, Trotskyist, Indian or Scottish or Japanese.

But this is not the main point. Even if the trade unions in Britain and those in Uganda were not exploited would the trade unions have to reject the suggestion to keep them out of Britain. They are not saying agitators are directed against them because they are black and not because they are white. Otherwise, those who are leading it would be in the forefront. It is the policy of the British white unions to support the expulsion from Britain of the white people. It is they who are responsible for the policy not the whites in Uganda.

There is only one reason why people are supporting this move, the Daily Worker, the Monday Club, the Daily Express and some other publications. The Fair Rents Act, has chosen to campaign on the question. It is an indication that they want to deflect attention from the main question.

To do this they have to encourage the myth that superficial things such as colour has nothing to do with the condition of the working class and the agitation is directed against the whole class. It is a way of weakening the small minority of landlords and the landlords of the immigrant area while guarding the vast majority who are exploiting them.

No worker should fail for this trick. We know that agitators are used in the agitation against all immigration controls. Only in this way will they be able to defeat all those workers that can kick out those who are exploiting them and exploiters and exploiters and exploiters in this society.—EDITOR.

Racist ideas have to be fought

IT IS very sad to see Tony Greenstein (16 August) try to completely ignore the opposition to immigration control in the West Indies. He is wrong in his main article of 9 August, where he refers to the case against all immigration controls, when the case as he himself regards it, is one of race.

It is interesting to see Greenstein's whole attitude towards the case is to ignore the fact that it matters because it is about race. It is important to argue against all immigration control because it is about race and the other's own political purity and correctness. It is a matter about race which has a real force in the labour movement.

Many workers are quite legitimately opposed to immigration control. We have to start, not from abstract arguments about immigration, but from the fact that the movement is about race, which is a cause of fear and fears of real workers. Otherwise we might have a Foreign Office or a Daily Worker or a Daily Express paper with no one at all.

TONY GREENSTEIN, 16 August.

That Munich massacre: how Fleet St. covers up for the lie machine

THE BIG LIE of Munich added a victim to the carnage: the credibility of the world's press. To the discerning eye, it has been clear for some time—this press has rightly been suspect for its political bias, its nasty distortions of facts, its sensational scare-mongering, and its crude misrepresentation of the truth. Liberation struggles both at home and abroad have been ruthlessly lined. In the Munich gassing of 1938, the Daily Mirror promised much under a bold headline YOUR PAPER AND THE TRUTH, but delivered nothing but empty words and an apology for co-operating with the lie. When the world was究竟 there was any debate about Fleet Street's crown because it was not being conducted in public.

Ron Knowles' Eve on the Press

plastered

UK Press Gazette, the Fleet Street weekly that covers press affairs, completed its recent number with what can only be described as an article that was the lie machine's crowning achievement.

The newspaper, a regular spectator of press affairs, is anything but a racist; in fact, its record in that department is a model for any other press. Yet, in this recent number, the Gazette published a piece that was pure propaganda.

The article, written by an anonymous contributor, was a thinly disguised attempt to undermine the German government. It argued that the Germans were responsible for the Munich massacre, and that the German people were being tricked by their leaders.

The Gazette's article was a clear case of press manipulation. The paper had no right to publish such an article, and it is clear that it was written by someone with a clear political agenda.

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Refugees in Syria

Refugees in Syria living in a cramped tent on a starvation diet supplied by relief organisations. The man was injured in a clash with Israeli forces.

THESE are pictures of the people portrayed in the west as ‘butchers’, ‘heartless murderers’ and ‘terrorists’.

MORE than a million of them live in tents, tin huts, four yards square and crude concrete boxes more like coal bunkers than homes in the sun-baked, dust-swept compounds in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

The only regular source of income for most of them is a meagre 25p a day donated by the United Nations.

The children go to school to study and acquire skills they will never have the chance to use. The only future they know is one of never ending confinement to the camp, of waiting, year in year out, for something to happen.

Yet if they climb the hills near the camp, they can see the villages they lived in until 35 years ago, in some cases five years ago. The land they used to till is still cultivated. Its fertility is still providing a living standard of much better than 25p a day.

They could walk over the hills and through the Jordan valley in a few hours and enjoy part of that living standard.

Except that in the way are the tanks, the armoured cars, the squadrons of jets waiting to strafe and machine gun them.

And so they remain confined to the camp. The Palestinians were driven there by Chris Harman

Refugee picture

by Red Saunders

In 1948 when the rulers of Israel and the then ruler of Jordan, Abdullah, divided up their homeland, the unofficial Israeli force, the Irgun, organised systematic measures to drive them out of what it described as the Jewish State. In 1956, when Egypt nationalised the Suez Canal, the Israeli government slapped its paymasters by collaborating with the French and British to invade Egypt.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian people have been left to rot in exile, a few miles from their former home, the majority in the refugee camps.

It is no wonder that the younger generation of Palestinians is determined to do something, however desperate, to change things.

Guerrillas

After the Arab-Israeli war of 1967, they joined the guerrilla movements. They argued that it would be possible by armed force to defeat Israel and build a new, secular Palestinian state, where Jews, Moslems and Christians would live and work side by side.

But this dream was shrunk to a few thousand men. Their guerrillas broke the back of the guerrilla movement, murdering 20,000 people in the process.

Since then, many of the depots have been destroyed, the media curbed, the banks broken and the puppet regime established.

Socialists criticise such methods because they offer no real solution to the mass of refugees, who continue to suffer in the camps. They lead also to needless deaths of innocent people, while big busi- ness interests who pull the strings go untouched.

But we should not make the mistake of seeing the futile attempts of some Palestinians to fight back against oppression as in the same light as the organised terror of those who oppress them. The real terrorists are those who, a fortnight ago, bombed the defenceless huts and tents of the refugee camp, deliberately maiming and killing those they had previously driven from their homes.

Refugee huts blasted in the Israeli raids two weeks ago. The huts are in North Lebanon, nowhere near Israel. The Israeli government claimed the raids were to protect their borders.
OVERCROWDING

City that gives the lie to racist nonsense

BY MURRAY ARMSTRONG

GLASGOW was described last week in a Corporation planning report as suffering from 'serious multiple deprivation'.

It is the centre of a region with the highest unemployment rate in the country (excluding Northern Ireland). 'Ripper', Mr Powell, Mr Sunders or the Daily Express might say, 'as an illustration of the real problem in our midst—immigration.'

But they won't say that, because immigration to Glasgow and the West of Scotland is marginal.

Coloured immigrants account for less than one per cent of Glasgow's population. The current racist arguments of the right wing cannot be used when the 'flood' hardly amounts to a trickle.

But Glasgow is not just an exception—it is the exception which proves the simplicity of the Tory right wing's racist slander.

Most of Britain's coloured population, about two-thirds, have settled in Greater London and the West Midlands, with a few concentrations further north such as Leeds and Bradford. These are the areas where there were labour shortages during the expansion of the 1950s.

Glasgow and the West of Scotland received few immigrants because the city's unemployment since the war has been double the national average. Since 1960 alone employment in the basic industries of Central Scotland—steel, coal and shipbuilding—has slumped by 100,000.

The idea that unemployment is caused by immigration is exposed for what it is by a brief look at the latest unemployment figures, which conclusively show the barrenness of Powellite ideas.

COAL FIELDS

In the areas of high immigration, unemployment is below the national average. Greater London 7.7 per cent, Birmingham 4.1 per cent, Wolverhampton 4.9 per cent, Bradford 3.6 per cent, Leeds 3.5 per cent. In Glasgow unemployment stands at 7.7 per cent, in Greenock 8 per cent, in the Ayrshire towns of Irvine 7.2 per cent, and in the deserted coalfields of North Lanarkshire 8.4 per cent.

Not only in jobs, but in health and housing, Glasgow stands as a monument to capitalism. Last week's Corporation planning report, entitled 'Areas of Need in Glasgow', shows that the city's death rate is higher than elsewhere (13.3 per thousand), with the highest incidence of deaths from TB and cancer.

In housing, 92.7 per cent of multi-storey buildings—two of the worst tenements of the old city and the multi-storey barracks of the newer working-class areas, 32.7 per cent of houses have no bath, 22.8 per cent have no hot water, 17.8 per cent have shared lavatories.

All this is caused, not by immigration, but by the historic lack of planning for people's needs which characterises capitalism. Overcrowding—45.9 per cent of Glasgow people live in dwellings with only three rooms or fewer—occurs in spite of a loss of population. In the past 10 years Glasgow has been losing 25,000 people year by year.

Peter Makeley, Glasgow's Director of Planning, said last week that the rate at which people were leaving must be slowed down, stopped, or even reversed if the city is to become an area of economic growth. This conclusion may be questioned, but one fact is clear: immigration is NOT the cause of unemployment and overcrowding.

In spite of the massive waste and human suffering, the ruling class will stop at nothing to divide the growing workers' opposition to unemployment, bad housing and social service cuts. The predicament of the Ugandan Asians has given them their latest opportunity.

RACIALISM IN BRITAIN

To many blacks in our cities, police harassment has become a way of life. The police are viewed as the army of the enemy, the oppressors of colour, the advertisers for South African capitalism, friend of the oppressor, the guard of the good.

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It's not white, it's just wrong

HARRY McSHANE: Clydeside revolutionary and a leading figure in the unemployed movement between the wars, speaking to Steve Jefferys.

IN YOUR 70 years of activity in the trade union and socialist movement on Clydeside have you come across racism?

We've never really had much racism in Glasgow through the years. There was some anti-German feeling at the beginning of the First World War, and some attacks on Italian shops at the beginning of the Second World War, but it didn't last long. And with all the unemployment of the 1930's, this split was used again to divide the opposition to unemployment, overcrowding, and poverty.

The attendant problems of poverty, violence, drunkenness and crime—were directed into the sectarian fighting of the 1930's.

Racialism on any lines is the deadly enemy of the working class movement. Solution to this is: Glasgow and every other working-class town defeat the Toryism which they represent.

As Glasgow's planning report says, the city is capable of any improvements...
The myth of inevitable poverty

Overpopulation, say the apologists for imperialism, will increase the poverty of the people in the 'underdeveloped' countries, as if the people themselves were responsible for that poverty. In fact their plight is the result of being subject to the imperialist power. This group shows the people of the 'underdeveloped' countries as if they had been delivered up by their governments to the clutches of the imperialists. It is a myth of primitive imperialism.

Thomas Mathus

Overpopulation is not an illusion. The population of the world is increasing, and the rate of increase is also increasing. The world's population has doubled in the last 50 years, and it is estimated that it will double again in the next 50 years. The rate of increase is highest in the 'underdeveloped' countries, where the birth rate is much higher than in the industrialized countries.

In 1960, the United Nations had a population of 3 billion people. In 1970, it has a population of 4 billion people. In 1980, it has a population of 5 billion people. In 1990, it has a population of 6 billion people. In 2000, it has a population of 7 billion people. In 2010, it has a population of 8 billion people. In 2020, it has a population of 9 billion people. In 2030, it has a population of 10 billion people. In 2040, it has a population of 11 billion people. In 2050, it has a population of 12 billion people. In 2060, it has a population of 13 billion people. In 2070, it has a population of 14 billion people. In 2080, it has a population of 15 billion people. In 2090, it has a population of 16 billion people. In 2100, it has a population of 17 billion people.

The raw materials and labour of the so-called 'underdeveloped countries' are instead of being mobilized to produce more food are exploited by huge international companies. The American United Fruit Company, for example, owns two million acres in various South American countries where bananas are grown and controls a third of the world's entire banana market. It economically dominates three countries—Panama, Costa Rica and Honduras, where average income is 250 dollars, 240 dollars and 120 dollars per year respectively. The wealth they produce goes to New York, Boston, San Francisco, New Orleans and other American cities. In 1960 new American investments were made amounting to 267 million dollars but the take-home profits were 641 million dollars.

Greed

This rich consumes millions of people in order to satisfy his own desires—private profit. Instead of blaming the arms race and imperialist greed they blame the poor themselves and suggest massive birth control schemes. They give transistor radios to encourage sterilization and cash prizes to those who remain childless.

Whatever applies to these examples of food and population is also relevant to the shortages of houses, education, and jobs in the rich countries. Instead of tackling the causes of these problems, the racists complain that there is 'not enough space', and that the Asians will make the housing shortage worse. But the shortage of housing and the millions of people in poverty and unemployment are not the faults of workers—nor of any capitalism itself. One simple example should suffice: In 1969, 185,090 council houses were built. Each cost £6,000, but because of the enormous interest charged by the banks and other money lenders the final repayment costs will be a staggering £25,000 for each house. If instead of blaming Asians for the shortages the whole credit and banking system was abolished then the rate of council house building, even assuming that only the current

BOOM OR BUST?

The crisis in the aircraft industry

'The huge sums of money being spent on Concorde will only serve to save a few hours for businessmen or to carry on pleasure trips a tiny handful of privileged people. We have to ask what sort of society refuses to spend over £650 million on building a reliable and efficient bus service for ordinary people while at the same time wasting millions on Concorde.'
Bosses who have a stranglehold on a town

The neighbouring town of Milrem was virtually destroyed when its single industry, iron, was closed a few years ago.

This vulnerability is constantly used by the management to threaten town and workforce in times of dispute. The managing director of the shipyard, J. Redshaw, recently threatened to do a UCS to Barrow should the workers fail to comply with his wishes. (Incidentally, Redshaw has recently been knighted for ‘services to export’ - when it is well known that Polaris submarines, built on fat government contracts, are not commercial vessels for export, have been the major source of profit for Vickers in Barrow.

Revealing in the background as a director of Vickers on a reported £70,000 per year is the minor friend and expert in redundancies, Lord Robens.

It is in this context that a proposed "package deal" based upon continental shipyards and in line with entry into the Common Market is being introduced by the Vickers management.

The structure of the deal directly from the report of a 'study team' to a number of continental shipyards. This team, comprising of the shipbuilding group training manager, the local director and the shipbuilding works production officer, reported favourably upon the organisation of the yards visited.

Ignored

Each account included the observation that 'the unions and workpeople co-operate fully towards achieving company policies and objectives', and 'consultation with the unions on the employment of labour does not take place'. The report, however, impressed on workers and unions that the management does not usually consult with the unions on the employment of labour does not take place.

Finally, the firm generally guarantees 'full employment' for all local men until the end of the 1974 subject to there being no cancelled or deferred orders.

This is no concession, for orders will carry the firm over until 1974, including naval submarines, and naval vessels for two of the most oppressive regimes in the world, Brazil and Iran. After this date the final 'shut-down' will begin and any short-term benefits will be completely destroyed by long-term unemployment after this date.

These proposals, now being debated by the unions, pose a direct threat to the workers and the town as a whole. They give the employer full control over the working time higher than that in Britain, the fixing of workers' grades - and so earnings - by the foremen, and a retirement age of 60 in one yard.

This report appears in the firm's magazine, Link, for May this year. The softening-up process which precedes 'comprehensive' productivity deals appears in the same edition when the proposals are outlined. It is worth examining these proposals in some detail.

Secret list of 'danger' power stations

A SUBSTANTIAL number of the mills which grind coal for fuel with its power stations are unsafe, according to an internal and 'confidential' report issued recently by the Board of the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The report, entitled 'Safety Operation of P.F. (pulverised fuel) Plants', which has come into the hands of Socialist Worker,ests UK and Midland power stations in three categories, in order of danger.

The danger in the worst part of the system between the mills and the power stations is into which is fed the ground-up coal.

In the older power stations, the machinery is grown in America and is too rich to burn. But in the newer, more technologically complicated power stations where the pipes are much longer, the risk is greater.

As it ignites, it sends shock waves through the pipes. The longer the pipe, the more powerful the shock waves. During the first and sixteenth rows there is a great number of pressure explosions in power stations all over the world. One such case caused the pipe system burst.

The first category, Category One, is in which it is possible for shock waves and pressure ratios greater than four to be developed.

Risk

'The plant in this category is that which is at greatest risk and suitable containment can present a serious problem.'

Five stations - Cottam, West Burton, Rugeley 'B', Drakelow 'C', and Willington - are listed in Category One. The Marthon, among the biggest in the land, are listed in Category Two, in which, according to the report, there is a possibility of a major explosion.

The report gives urgent instructions for strengthening the pipework in both categories. In some stations, for instance, it has been found that the pipework system will have to be replaced.

A spokesman for the CEBG assured me that there is a "safety margin" between the maximum pressure demanded in the report and the pressure required for an explosion which can burst the pipework. But the report makes clear that at present, in at least five Midland power stations, there is no safety margin whatever to ensure against such an explosion.

Sacked

Which is why, no doubt, the report and its recommendations have been quietly thrashed out with the Factory Inspectorate, which has been insistent with complaints about power station explosions. The spokesman for the CEBG assured me that no body has been killed by these explosions.

Over the past three years there have been serious explosions at Thorpe (South East Region), Rugeley (Cottam) and Rugeley 'B' (Midlands) and Tilbury and West Thurrock (South East) - all of them caused by pulverised fuel.

A court of inquiry at Tilbury, perused the German plant manufactur- ers. At West Thurrock, a station which has since been closed, a court of inquiry found that there had been "serious超的安全margin" between the maximum pressure demanded in the report and the pressure required for an explosion which can burst the pipework. But the report makes clear that at present, in at least five Midland power stations, there is no safety margin whatever to ensure against such an explosion.

Eighty per cent of Britain's power stations use pulverised fuel.
SOLZHENITSYN: SEARCHING FOR THE ROOTS OF HIS OPPRESSION

Alan Purkiss reviews August 1914

WITH his latest novel, August 1914, Alexander Solzhenitsyn has begun what he describes as 'the principal project of his life'. His purpose is to uncover the roots of the Russian Revolution.

This struggle—by Russia's greatest living writer—is bound to provoke extreme controversy among Soviet socialists. Especially since August 1914 provides a clear indication of the German role.

Like his earlier works, The First Circle, this later novel has been banned by the Russian government. Anonymously it is establishing itself as a great literary reality through the central relevance of its subject, its moral intensity, and the fact that it is not limited to a narrow intellectual background.

In depicting the common man, Solzhenitsyn once again displays his deep sympathy and understanding for soldiers and displaced workers, a man of the people and an inmate of Stalin's slave camps.

But August 1914 also reveals a political outlook which Marxist writers will want to take issue with.

Clearly, Solzhenitsyn believes the Revolution would not have taken place if Russia had not been freed from the First World War. The novel revolves around the life of Tannenberg, in which the Russian army was decisively defeated by the German army.

The German cavalry led by General von Kluck annihilated the Russian army at Tannenberg and in September, 1914, the German army occupied easternmost Russia.

THE TASK

And tragically, Solzhenitsyn's understandable hostility to the regime that transformed Russia into a prison camp—and expelled him from the Soviet Union—has effectively neutralized him against socialist ideas.

The task of the writer is to define or critique one or another of the social, political, or economic product of neoclassical empires, or to defend or criticize one or another of the dominant systems of production.

The task of the writer is to select one or another of the social, political, or economic fabric of the society, unanswerable, and the secrets of the human heart and consciousness, to show the reader the grim, the dark, and the death, the triumph over the spirit of man, the triumph over the spirit of man.

In August 1914, the engineer, Obovsky—one of the characters in the novel on whom the author clearly identifies—says: 'My disapproval is a matter of principle. The best brains and hands in the country should concentrate on doing something that will save safety distribution to the Secondator.

Existing in an environment in which political terminology has been corrupted by the universal dialectic, Solzhenitsyn stresses clearly as 'honesty' and 'decency', the importance of 'Tannenberg' rather than 'Terror'. At one point there is a sharp exchange between Solzhenitsyn on this question as character, and the most sympathetically portrayed—Lieutenant M. Obovsky, a revolutionary intellectual who has described the situation.

THE RUINS

As a time like this, Lieutenant, party disappears, and it is impossible to communicate with anyone about international politics. There's nothing you can do about international politics. We're not only living in a society where we're fighting, aren't we? In that case, why not stop trying to keep one's principles and as far as possible, in the spirit of Solzhenitsyn, believe that today's existence depends directly on the revolution, not that it arose in its own.

All the revolutionaries in August 1914 are hampered and withholding and incapable of really communising with anything in their society. Solzhenitsyn sets up a couple of courts of law, which he says are revolutionary courts, but Obovsky is not convinced. He considers the verbal attack on him over dinner table, perfectly so later than the soup.

THE MISERY

But then along come some young men, arks students... and they explain to the workers that they are coming too little, and that little engineer over there in spectacles is earning God knows how much, and that's his livery, and these simple, uneducated people believe in it and get angry, they understand the value of their own work, but they are incapable of understanding or putting a price on someone else's.

Forget about distribution, he says, industrial development is the important thing. When enough has been built and made, then even if distribution is less than perfect no one will be left completely without his share.

Never mind inequalities of wealth, economic growth will take care of that. The workers are incapable of running society. Strikes are caused by a minority of troublemakers, it's all self-interest in a right-wing mythology, with socialists in the West are only too familiar.

Obovsky's idealism is realistic and non-revolutionary. He believes that socialists can create a peaceful 'liberal' Russia, if it has been spared the war's misery and deprivation. This gives the business class more viscosity than it had. It was tied to West European business, it faced a home market dominated by an impoverished peasantry, and it was so frightened of the revolutionary workers that it was incapable of fighting Turan.

The revolutionary who appears most frequently in Solzhenitsyn's novels is a Bolshevik. The worse Russia's fortunes in the war, the more evident the obvious reference to Lenin's revolutionary solutions.

Characteristically, Solzhenitsyn has him argue once with a doctor at a military hospital, 'It even helps if we're so inefficient that we treat the wounded badly', he says. 'It brings the day of reckoning.'

But in the exhilaration of a victorious night attack, and later in his longings to escape the German encirclement, his principles seem less important. Presumably it is in such situations that Solzhenitsyn believes the success of the human spirit—more deeply rooted than political beliefs—will triumph.

In August 1914 we meet vivid characters from practically every group in Tsarist society: the workers. They will probably appear in subsequent volumes—Solzhenitsyn is working on October 1917, behind the lines—but Hancock's Half Hour

NEXT Sunday on Radio 4 at 2pm the last of a series of four 1958s episodes of Hancock's Half Hour is repeated. It'll be well worth listening to.

The character that Tony Hancock created in that brilliant series proved to be tragically close to life, until his attempts to destroy it destroyed himself.

The Hancock of East Cheam was a lower middle class everyman, delusions of grandeur, delusions of money, delusions of a world that would recognise his talents, crashed against the wall of a father's wretchedness and the rapacity of one or two of his chapmen and the rapacity and crafty Sid James, James, the not-working member of the team, who takes over the money, and left Hancock, in juggling and in the role of the 'Wild Man of the Woods', with Jesus-like abjuration.

A generation grew up on that programme. Hancock's return to his themes and situations can be heard every day from a thousand people as they drive, or are driven, to somewhere.
Union elections
the family way

LAST Thursday's Morning Star, daily paper of the Communist Party, ran an article on the coming elections in the General and Public Service Workers' Union for the post of general secretary.

"Among the main contestants, the supporters of Mr Bennett and of the 'Socialist' leaders of the union is likely to go to Mr David Bennett, a national industrial officer," the Star said of Mr Bennett who welcomed the results of the by-elections and which gave the union a shake-up, which has projected it on to the stage of modern trade unionism.

To imply, as this article does, that Bennett played a progressive role in the Pilkington strike is a complete distortion. Bennett was howled down after he had restored the union members from the platform because he had instructed the Pilkington workers to return to work.

The role played by Bennett, Cooper and regional 'Socialists' throughout the strike is documented in detail in the Star file committee with every dirty weapon used.

The Pilkington strike of 1970 did shake up the NUM, and accentuated the dismantling of the large branch system. But the ever-increasing reactionary bureaucracy is still firmly in control, and Bennett is a part of this establishment. After all, he was born a trade union official. Bennett was a full-time GMWU official, and he has worked for the union ever since he left school. If there is a difference between Bennett and the two chief opponents for Mr Bennett's post, it is for the replacement of the regional power block in the union by national groups similar to those in the Transport Union. This would give the union a structure better fitted to nightmares and amalgamations with other unions, but it has nothing to offer the membership.

A genuine 'progressive' candidate for general secretary is impossible. All candidates are approved by the national executive committee, which is controlled by the regional 'Socialists'. Only candidates who have satisfied the NEC as to their fitness and qualifications shall be submitted to election. (Rule 1.2).

Briant workers face threat of eviction

THE 150 workers at Briant Colour Printing in London elect the 13th week of their work-in fact, it ended. But they do not compromise, they do not recognize the un-equal authority of the 'Socialists', including the national secretary, to determine the fate of the Briant workers. Briant workers are standing firm. They have been free far more than 90 days, and still have nothing to show for their efforts.

The fire is the result of the workers' struggle against the Briant management, which has brought the workers' family to the brink of disaster. The workers have been free for more than 90 days, and still have nothing to show for their efforts.

WHAT'S ON

ORDLEME DAY: eight anniversary of the struggle against the armed struggle in the mining areas. There has been nothing concrete in the case of a national campaign to reduce the working week or to put an end to productivity dealing. The Pilkington strike is complete.

Enfield: Basic and Findal meeting with Eric Blackburn, £3 and £5 plus expenses.

NATIONAL ATTENDANCE FRACTION meeting on Saturday, 18th July, at the Socialist League's political conference (2nd room). The meeting will be attended by the following.

TOTTENHAM: 15 public meeting, Eric Blackburn, £3 and £5 plus expenses.

BRIAXLEY: 17th July, 7.45pm, Gaelic society, £3 and £5 plus expenses.

NOTICES

Thank you for your response to our last notice, but we have no price and the order is now too high. We will therefore be unable to accept any new orders.

WANTED—A short history of the 'Socialist' movement in the mining areas, by Tom Bell, Unemployed Struggles. We would like to make an arrangement for a meeting with him. We are both trade unionists and believe that the mining areas should be the focus of the new campaign. We would be grateful if you could provide us with some information.

TheSEVENTH of eight meetings of the World Socialist Party is on July 15th. The meeting will be held at the British Music Hall and the British Institution.

MANCHESTER is set. 20th July, at 7.45pm, in the Great Northern Club, Cheadle Avenue, M20 9ER.

GLASGOW: 50 Glasgow, Bob and Dorothy Wylie, £3 and £5 plus expenses.

STREETPER is free meeting. Walnut Tree, 20th July, 7.45pm.

TWEEDIE: 15 public meeting, Arthur Black, £3 and £5 plus expenses.

COMRADE, with car, needed to take Socialists to Central London branches. Rates vary from £3 to £5 per mile. Must be available. Please phone 195 2345.

AVAILABILITY and sign up workers' supply. We are looking for experienced sign up workers to work on a permanent basis. Please contact us at 215-3456.

COMRADE receives letter from Cuthbert Lea, York. He has been in touch with our office and we are pleased to hear from him. He has been in touch with the Socialist League and we are looking forward to his visit.

BRAZILIAN INFORMATION FRONT—organizing meeting for Socialists and allies. This meeting will be held on July 20th at the Socialists' headquarters. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

INEXPERIENCED but committed actives sought. We are looking for experienced actives to join our team and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

WOMAN'S VOICE NUMBER 2

Articles on equality, pay, housing, letters and news. Price 5p each. Please order in advance. We will be happy to send you a package.

WHEN writing to Socialist Workers please state your full name, address, telephone number and occupation.

15 National Office men wear an ex-armor suit to work in administration and other jobs. We are looking for someone who would be interested in this job. Please contact our office at 456-7890.

1979: The Year of the Socialists. We are looking for quality newspapers and leaflets to promote our message. We would be grateful if you could provide us with some information.

Telephone 01 319 2679
Willie Whitelaw starts the chat show to background of UDA murder campaign

From MIKE MILLER: Belfast

YORKSHIRE IS region slips into gear

From Davie Gibson

LONDON 100 delegates from the main groups in the movement and representatives of the Socialists crowded into Leeds Towns Club to hear Nigel Harris, of the Revolutionary Communist group, introduce the Fight the Tories Campaign to be run in the region. Harris stressed that he expected the events of the last year to have a vital impact on the 1974 elections, and that the campaign would be a key alternative in the revolutionary alternative in Britain. Harris stressed that the events of the last year to have a vital impact on the 1974 elections, and that the campaign would be a key alternative in the revolutionary alternative in Britain.

Last year/ Carrington-Villery made profits of £2,644,000, four times the figure of the previous year. This massive boost to profits was achieved while the workforce was cut by 6000.

The Yarmouth closure is intended to continue this trend of producing more profits from a smaller workforce. For some time many of the better lines from the factory have been transferred to the main Goodyear knitting mills factory in Sadbury, Suffolk.

At Sadbury, work is organized on the inhuman, 'continental shift', system of four rotating shifts, seven days a week.

Yarmouth workers suspect that Villery bought the factory two years ago in order to make a handsome profit by closing it. They reckon that the land on which it stands will be worth at least £2m to the company and the machinery another million.

Meanwhile, one of the few sources of stable employment in this seaside town will be finished, raising total unemployment in the area by 4% per cent at one go.

That is why they are determined to stand firm and not let the company move on any work or machinery.

Message of support to Dave Arnold, Grensborough, St Nicholas Rd, Yarmouth, Norfolk.

VACUUM

They recognise that Britain is unwilling to restore old-style Unionism and that if they were to win their case back they will have to fight for them. The absence of a political solution that could take them beyond that outlook means that right-wing unionism will continue to be the main priority. This can only be changed by a change in the political vacuum. The UDA and the Loyalist cause could be rescued only if the Unionists’ own leadership hands over to the IRA. That means, in effect, the whole Unionists but could find nowhere else to turn for sovereignty. This will result in a political vacuum, and that is why the current ‘betrayal’ will not happen again.

WITHDRAW

The official Unionist Party is publicly committed to a political settlement that does not meet its demands. It is committed to the restoration of a power-sharing government with a new structure of government that will ensure the retention of the Unionist party’s state. This is unlikely to be granted. The Unionists have made a declaration from Britain to withdraw its support, leaving home-grown ‘Green Tories’, who are opposed to the maintenance of imperialism, firmly in control.

The ‘loyalty’ argument is that, without the support of the Ulster loyalists, the violence can be brought to an end. This will mean a new round of violence, and that the loyalists will accept and condone this violence.
WAVE OF PROTEST AS BUILDERS PAY BILL

THE leadership of the main building union, UCATT, signed a deal late on Thursday last week to end the mass strike of 11,000 workers over a 12-week-long strike. It is a deal that has caused a wave of protest throughout the industry.

There is a wage increase of £6 for craftsmen and £5 for labourers, but no concessions on the key issue of the shorter working week. There is actually an increase in the different between the lower-paid labourers and the better-paid craftsmen.

Nevertheless, many of the best organised building workers will see the settlement as a partial victory. A victory, however, not for the executives who tried to end the strike on much worse terms than the present ones five weeks ago, but for the workers and the women who rejected that offer and fought the strike, extending the struggle into a national struggle.

This is a clear example of the successful struggle of the miners and the other coalminers, which have brought about the strike. Yet with the loss of work and income and the workers can look to the future. The total number of workers on strike at around 30,000.

The strike continued for three weeks, then it is quite certain that the full demands would not have been met, and a victory won that would have translated the slogan 'kill the lamp' into a reality.

The present settlement will enable George Smith to continue the 12-hour, 600-hour week.

There are no provisions for the examples of the successsful struggle of the miners and the other coalminers, which have brought about the strike. Yet with the loss of work and income and the workers can look to the future. The total number of workers on strike at around 30,000.

Fines by John Fontaine (UCATT)

Battery factory stopped

WOLVERHAMPTON: Four women production workers at the Ever Ready factory staged a protest against the rates set for their work, which means they earn £4.60 per week less than workers on assembly.

Their action opened a string of almost all the workers in the assembly shop, and a meeting was held to protest at all production levels. This had the full support of Indian workers in the factory and forced managers to put the issue back on the agenda.

Although this action showed the united action of workers of different races it was not reported by the local press and does not form part of the propaganda about the entry of Uganda.

HALIFAX: Corporation tradesman struck on Monday for £1 increase to £3.20 per week. The claim was first submitted and rejected, and although the basis have been making a profit of between 8 and 10 per cent on a £1 wage.

After the man had voted for strike action, management offered £1 more with 'producing' and 'playing'.

The meeting last Saturday rejected this, and the strike was announced to take effect 6pm today.

The lesson already emerging is the need for co-operation with other West Yorkshire builders.

LONDON-Night watchmen from the Home Offices building in Highbury Road, who are paid £3.20 per week, went on strike for the back wages of three cleaners in a dispute lasting five weeks. They have also asked the minister of their contract, G. Mendel (Industrial Relations) to look into the matter. It is expected that they will arrive for a meeting last Friday afternoon.

PICKET LINES

FIFE-Workers at the Royal Naval dockyard in Fife went on strike for a claim of £4.50 per week. The government settled the dispute on Monday.

This strike has been the first organised by Indian workers in the Ministry of Defence which has lasted less than a year. The workers were breaking a system which an employee is bound into, and the conditions of employment were not to strike.

Although the strike was called, but this lack of confidence in the union leadership and the strike was broken without a by-election.

The picket lines at BAC are the latest redundancies at BAC are the

ON 15 June 1970 workers at Fine Tubes, Plymouth, went on strike for trade union rights. They are still out, in spite of local pressure campaigns and other forms of support.

The workers of their strike committee: 'We have received more support for the strike than the last week, but we have also been able to do some damage to the management.'

The management has already been forced to admit that it will not engage in a strike of this kind, and to negotiate a settlement.

The TUC has already agreed to send a delegation to the Fine Tubes Strike in support of the workers. The Fine Tubes Strike is one of the most important in the country, and the TUC will be represented at the Fine Tubes Strike council of the South Wales NUM.

The Fine Tubes Strike is one of the most important in the country, and the TUC will be represented at the Fine Tubes Strike council of the South Wales NUM.

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

Name

Address

SOCIALIST WORKER 6 Cottons Gardens London £2 SDB

BAC: 600 more for the chop

BY BOB WHITFIELD

The British Aircraft Corporation is threatening another 600 workers with redundancy. The company has told them on the last week of Friday, after a meeting of managers and union reps, that 700 workers are now on the chopping block.

As the trial of the 13参照(0,0),(999,999) from a natural language perspective.