MAY DAY was a great achievement. Well over two million workers struck, a significant number in defiance of the troops who instructed them to work and said the strike was "irrelevant".

This fine response up and down the country was achieved in the face of the TUC leadership's attempt to sabotage its own day of protest and action. The TUC leaders tried hard to ensure that it was a sorry display of "reluctant acquiescence" (in Feather's own words) in the Tories' plans to drive down working-class living standards.

Early in 1973 the TUC called a demonstration against the Tories' Industrial Relations Bill. And the TUC organised for it.

The 40-strong staff of its London headquarters issued propaganda of every kind and arranged publicity. As a result of these efforts coupled with those of rank and file militants up and down the country, 250,000 workers demonstrated in London.

The massive was the response, and it was significant that the rally was not called by any of the TUC leaders. The TUC leaders made the same call that the Tories were trying to force the government to accept.

Yet across the country rank and file militants and some union officials stepped in and fought for the May Day strike. And the response was obtained.

Thousands upon thousands marched to show their contempt for the Tory government and their refusal in any way, reluctant or otherwise, to acquiesce in its anti-working-class policies.

SWINELLING

Feather and company were and are terrified of a real fight with the Tories. They know and fear its consequences - a real confrontation with government and employers. And it is this fear that has led them to renew their swinehill plans for conciliation, reason and moderation with Heath and his cabinet.

While militants up and down the country were organising to make May Day a success, the TUC leaders were engaged in secret, off-the-record talks with Heath about a new deal. The contribution of Jack Jones, Hugh Scanlon, Vic Feather, Sir Sidney Greene, Alf Allen of USDAW and David Bassett of the General and Municipal to May Day was a quiet trip to Heath's country house with the bugging bowl.

Already the outlines of the deal are known to these secret diplomats of the labour movement. Scanlon's "strange" speeches calling for amendments to the Industrial Relations Act show that he knows what the Tories are willing to give.

He and the others are simply trying to dress them up as "concessions". The Tories want to make the Act more "efficient". Heath cannot afford any more martyrs, so the Tories are prepared to inflict penalties only on organisations and not individuals.

No NIRC proceedings will be started without the consent of the Tory law and order men, the Attorney General. And unregistered unions will be allowed to obtain agency shop agreements by spending the closed shop.

But all these proposals are hinted at in the Tory Counter Inflation Act published in between the TUC decision for a day of protest and May Day itself.

And the TUC leaders are desperate to swallow and collaborate in a "voluntary" Phase Three of the Tory incomes policy provided there are some other phoney concessions on price controls.

For them ducking, diving and collaboration are moral principles. They are terrified of the potential of the working-class movement.

May Day showed the way ahead. The rank and file delivered the goods. It showed once again that a real fighting alternative can be built, an alternative which will combat the forces of incomes policies and organise to defeat the governments that impose them.

Nixon: the man who's bugging America: special report on Watergate inside

MAGNIFICENT - that's the only way to describe the response by rank and file trade unionists on May Day. Millions struck and tens of thousands demonstrated against the Tory freeze. But even while the strike was on, union leaders were planning to sabotage their members by holding further talks with the government. Mike Cohen's picture shows a section of London's giant demonstration. More pictures page 15.
Key body plant keeps up Ford pay fight

by Sebby Segall

FORD militants at the Dagenham body and paint trim and assembly (PTA) plants have come under increasing pressure from the company to abandon their campaign against the paltry offer of £2.40 under phase two of the freeze.

At a mass meeting four weeks ago, 20,000 Dagenham workers reaffirmed their rejection of the offer, but went on to reject action short of individual retirement to hold out in their fight to stop redundancies and defend trade union organisation.

The management has cut back the workforce by more than 300 in recent years. Last year it tried the same trick again and demanded 103 more redundancies. But this time the workers said no. Talks followed and the redundancies were suspended while a joint working party was set up to examine alternative savings.

Supported by both sides recommended £30,000 in economies but the company refused to implement it. In February management broke the agreement. Phase 2 and 3 of the freeze were announced.

The workers’ response was immediate. A mass meeting of 15,000 workers was held earlier this month in protest at the answer to the phase 3 demand for further savings.

In early March, senior SEGOT shop stewards approached the company to try and settle the dispute.

The body shop stewards with the support of the SEGOT executive committee in a joint letter to the company,

"We are prepared to discuss new arrangements that will stop the phase three freeze. This is the company's determination...

"We are prepared to discuss..."
CIVIL RIGHTS FIGHTS REJECTED BY COMMUNISTS

Joint declaration by the International Socialists of Britain and the Socialist Worker, issued at the second national conference of the International Socialist movement on 24th March 1975.

IS and the SLL pledge themselves to jointly defend the democratic rights of the working class against the legislative attacks of the Tory government, which seek to strangle trade unions and their working class as well as all groups on the left of the labour movement.

1. They oppose the threat against democratic rights arises from:  
   1. Raids carried out by the police, the purpose of which they do not feel obliged to explain. These raids are often to target unemployed or isolated sections of the workforce, or by under conditions in which the work of the organisation can be disrupted.
   2. Holding suspects for lengthy periods before they are brought to trial.
   3. The secret decision to arm the police.
   4. The use of telephone tapping, tape recording and letter opening by the police to allegedly incriminate those on the left who are under surveillance.
   5. Planting spies and provocateurs within the working-class movement. This is based on the so-called theories of counter-insurgency developed by Nixon, Claret and Clertatber with the support of the Tory cabinet.

IS and the SLL believe that the fight for democratic rights must be an integral part of the struggle of the trade union movement and the working class to expose the operation of the National Security and Relations Act. However, the government, through laws which are directed against the democratic rights of the working class.

The aim in the event of a further attack on the democratic rights of the workers, the government or its agencies against working-class organisations we will together organise such public campaigns as are considered mutually necessary to protect these organisations and their membership from such attacks.

The fight to end all forms of proscription in the trade union and political movements is an essential part of the struggle to defend democratic rights against the attacks of the capitalist state.

Jim Higgins, national secretary.
Gerry Healy, national secretary, SLL.

On the basis of allegations of "disruption" John Gollan refuses to subscribe to the most elementary solidarity of the joint statement. What does he mean by disruption? Does he refer to the witchhunting activities of CP member Max Morris in his capacity as the General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers? Does he mean the spurious solidarity of the NUT, referring to the NUT's support of the NUT's attitude of saying to the Labour movement, "Our concern is with the defence of the NUT's position as an independent union"? "Disruption" Perhaps John Gollan is referring to the CP members who have set out on the sidelines or even assisted the right wing as it victimises our comrades in the factories and the unions. If this is the "disruption" referred to, the solution is in John Gollan's hands, now.

The accelerating rightward drift of the Communist Party and its fear of its left wing is symbolised by the recent refusal of the Central Committee to follow up the demand that the British Communist Party should take on board the attacks of the state machine and the right wing in the labour movement.

Jim Higgins, national secretary.
BELGIUM—which has had more general strikes than any other European country—has recently been hit by a new wave of industrial action. Workers, doctors, air traffic controllers and factory workers all striking in the past few weeks.

Many strikes have been unofficial, sometimes from refusal of workers to accept demands from workers. Typically, union leaders have accused "inflators" of fomenting trouble.

Workers have also been agitating in protest against a plan to abolish departmentalism of military service similar to the French proposals. The Belgian government now seems to have stepped down on this issue. However, the government has been in disarray for months, causing uncertainty. Military wages are attached to a cost of living index, and, the gap between the average factory employee's wages and the price of consumer goods, has led to a wave of strikes. Workers are now calling for a return to basic salary, not prices.

In England, the nationalization of the railways has led to a series of protests by workers demanding higher wages. The government has imposed a freeze on wages, leading to further unrest. The situation is tense, with the government under pressure to act.

The situation in Belgium is complex, with various political and economic factors at play. The government is under pressure to act quickly to avoid a wider conflict. The situation is closely monitored by international observers, who are concerned about the stability of the country.

In other words, it was not done because of the workers, as the Wankie mine ban was only a part of a larger strategy to increase productivity. The Wankie mine's main reason for the ban was the lack of coal during the rainy season.

The report is specifically designed to ensure that Wankie coal continues to be produced in the most efficient way possible. The mining company is using the latest technology to increase productivity. The report is a result of the company's efforts to increase productivity and ensure the safety of all workers.

The ban on coal mining in the Wankie mine is only temporary. The mining company is working on a plan to increase productivity and ensure the safety of all workers. The report is a result of the company's efforts to increase productivity.

RACIALISM

Tuffy Murphy and Jimmy Robinson are both lodge secretaries and president of the Anglo-Rhodesian Mineworkers Union at Wankie. They have both explained why they believe the union is not at fault.

The mine manager meets with a few selected workers and appoints a union representative to deal with the issue. The union is taking action to deal with the problem. The mine manager has also been in touch with the union to discuss the issue. The union is taking action to deal with the problem.

The Union is also discussing the issue with the mining company and looking at ways to improve productivity. The union is also discussing the issue with the mining company and looking at ways to improve productivity.

The Union is also discussing the issue with the mining company and looking at ways to improve productivity. The union is also discussing the issue with the mining company and looking at ways to improve productivity.
Pit managers prop up profiteers

IN CASE any miner who reads this column has not seen the March issue of the National Letter of the British Association of Colliery Management, which has some 15,000 members in senior posts in the National Coal Board, he may wish to quote a few sayings of Mr George Tyler, the 'union's' general secretary, Mr Tyler's wife, it will be recalled, together with several senior NBC officials, was lucky enough to buy shares in Bonser Engineering, shortly before that firm was the beneficiary of substantial Coal Board orders for pit props in the mid-1960s (and even before the sale of the Coal Board chairman, Alfred Roberts, joined the Bonser board).

Mr Tyler was, and is, very angry that the Coal Board should have set up an inquiry into the ownership of Bonser shares by its senior officials. On 27 November he wrote to the Coal Board chairman to complain about the move, writing in his letter his association's journal: "Investing in the Stock Exchange", he writes, 'is a legitimate pursuit and one which I pursue myself, I have invested in companies producing mining machinery. My investments in the Stock Exchange I know something about... I have a son working in textiles and his wages are paid by his firm in his own company and in a company for which his firm are main suppliers..."

The inquiry set up in the Coal Board, Mr Tyler wrote, was 'a feature of totalitarianism'.

Many readers may find it surprising that such a stern defence of the 'right' of senior members of a nationalized industry to buy shares in firms which supply industry should be made at a time when the trade union is official, but of course the BACM is not, and cannot, be independent of the Industrial Relations Act and has recently negotiated a 'agency shop' agreement with the National Coal Board. It is not affiliated to the TUC, though it is.

It is doubtful, in spite of the high degree of co-operation between the BACM and the NBC, that BACM members will do at Westminster as their association's officials did last year. The year's accounts show the total wage and salary bill for the two years of official co-operation between the regional organizers has risen from £2,589 last year to £2,970 this year.

To this has been added 'meetings and three travelling expenses' for full-time staff, which was up from £895 to £1,434, and 'advice taken expenses' of £617.

In spite of another increase in subscriptions, the union had to record a small deficit and to sell some of its shares, and these were a block worth £8,350 in Dobson Talk Industrial, the country's most profitable mining machinery manufacturers.

SOME socialists in Lincoln have been heard to express surprise that Dave Tavener's Labour candidates in recent county council elections in the county were previously held by Labour. In one case, at least, the Democratic Labour intervention hit the Tory in a county seat.

Anyone who knows anything about Mr Tavener's ideas, his lifestyle or his business commitments, however, would be under no illusion as to his class allegiance.

He is, for instance, the director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies—arguably the best organisation for a deeper understanding of the economic and social implications of existing taxes and different fiscal systems.

The president is Sir Richard Powell, a director of Hill Samuel, merchant bankers, Chairman of the executive committee is William J Hopper, a director of Hill Samuel, merchant bankers; the first officers of the Institute in St James Square were Hill Samuel, merchant bankers. Hill Samuel's close contacts in intelligence on both sides of the Atlantic have earned it the nickname 'spy bank.'

The former Tavener's 'all-party' body, the All-Party Parliamentary Group for American Affairs, which was founded by Mr Tavener, has its membership and banks are represented on the council.

TAVENER: Who paid?

Tyler: Defending his shareholders

LABOUR'S surprise win of control on the new Northamptonshire County Council caused a bit of a flurry among the Labour group as to who was to be leader. Past form suggested Dilliege, the influential Northampton District Labour leader, but the job finally went to Mr J R Richardson, a railwayman, with Dilliege as deputy leader.

The group's failure to appoint Dilliege had, I am assured, nothing to do with Dilliege's connection with the formidable Dan Smith/John Poullin partnership which played such an active role in construction in the 1960s. Nor had it anything to do with the difficulties caused in Mr Dilliege's firm, Dilton Electricals, over problems with the contract at the Doddington Road Council Estate in Wardsend, South London.

The estate, which is one of the biggest estates in London was at the centre of the Spofford corruption trial in 1971, as a result of which a 'middleman' called Peter Tavener was sentenced to 15 months for suggesting to Wardsend council officers that they might receive several thousand pounds if the contract went to John Laing the builders.

The contract went to John Laing. The estate had to be 'strengthened' after the Ronan Point disaster, which caused a lot of expense for subcontractors, including Dilton Electricals.

Mr T Dan Smith is now living in Northampton.

Lords of a Feather

VICTOR FEATHER, general secretary of the TUC, greatly enjoyed his lifetime's work as general secretary of the Institute of Electrical Engineers in London five days before the TUC's massive 'day of action' for the first time in their history. His address before dinner was mainly devoted to a plea for more 'standing and co-operation' in British industry. The Industrial Relations Act, he said, 'needs to be amended'. There would be some good points which we could make use of.'

In conclusion, he told the institute: 'The expectations of working people are rather modest. Perhaps this is a good thing.'

The institution, which pretends to be a learned body of professionals, is the personal property of the GEC combines. President this year is Sir Eric Eastwood, GEC's research director. Last year's president was Lord Nelson of Stafford, a director of a EI until taken over by GEC, of which he is now a director.

The Institution's deputy president is GEC's A R J Clayton, the firm's technical director.

GEC's devotion to the trade union movement has recently been demonstrated by the firm's victimisation of some of the GEC's workers and their union UKEA as this is more in line with the ethical considerations of the profession.'

THE latest news in The Guardian's bold campaign against slave labour in South Africa is the publication of a detailed questionnaire about profits, wages and conditions which concerned shareholders in British companies, with South African subsidiaries. This has led to a statement from Lawrence Scott, chairman and main shareholder of Guardian Newspapers, that the Guardian Pension Fund will not be circulating the questionnaires to those companies in which it holds investments which are subsidising apartheid. This, Mr Scott told NUJ members, would be an 'imperative'.
Landlord demands rent for fire gutted room

COME TO SUNNY FOLKESTONE, for the holiday advertisements. But Mrs Ann Lee is more interested in the ruins of her living room than in the sun. For on 11 March last year Mrs Lee's sitting-room was gutted by fire—and since then the landlord has refused to do anything more than replace the windows.

After the fire, which was caused by an electrical fault, Mrs Lee, who works in a local supermarket, and her husband Jack, a school caretaker, have withheld their rent as a protest. Now, they say, the landlord has threatened to take them to court for non-payment.

Meanwhile the Lees and their 12-year-old son have been forced to live in two rooms of their three-room flat—and that room is small and damp. As a result, Jack Lee has had time off work with bronchitis and Ann Lee—on her doctor's advice—had two months off.

"I can't invite my friends to come home after work," says Mrs Lee. "Even my sister doesn't like coming here now."

In the flat above the Lee family, Mrs Jean Ferguson, who has three young children, Mrs Ferguson moved into Trinity Crescent in January 1971. The flat she was offered suffered from damp—she was told the leak was connected with nothing. But Lee has been made to sit in the sitting-room with water when it rains. Jane has been withholding her rent, and she too is now facing the threat of legal action.

Both cases have been taken up by Folkestone Corporation, but to repair the property the corporation must know the identity of the owner—who can then bill the tenant. Trinity Crescent is owned by Mr Frank Davis of Cannon Hill, London. He refuses to attend court hearings or take any interest.

FACTS, ARGUMENTS, ANALYSIS for every trade unionist in the fight against the Tories

ABOVE: A corner of the Lees' burnt-out sitting room.

LEFT: Mrs Lee standing in the middle of the room. The fire happened a year ago, since when the landlord has refused to repair the fire damage.

BELOW: A wash-basin, with cold tap only, in the Lees' flat.

Urgent

On 2 February this year he was fined £5 at Folkestone Magistrates Court for refusing to give the public health inspector information about the property. Despite his position as chairman of the local medical officers of health and the public health inspector, Folkestone Corporation has so far been powerless to repair the property—which he is not allowed to repair. Even the replacement window in Mrs Lee's flat was carried out at the cost of the rent-collector, without Davis' knowledge.

As a last resort, Mrs Lee phoned the Folkestone Herald, the local newspaper, and told them of her plight. A journalist and a photographer visited Trinity Crescent, and asked them about the case. But even this was too much for the Herald, which refused to publish the story and told its reporter not to hand the story of the Lees and Ferguson on to anyone else.

According to the Folkestone Herald, the case is being taken up by Morgan Grampian, who has also written to the Guardian and the Daily Mirror.

ANTIFREEZE
a handbook for trade unionists

by Roger Kline

Singles copy 60p, 10 copies 50p, 100 copies or more posted free.

An International Socialists pamphlet

price 2p

ON 26 MAY last year five men checked into the Watergate Hotel in Washington. They used assumed names. It was six months to the US presidential election and the surprise Democratic candidate, George McGovern, was sweeping to victory in the presidential primaries. Following the arrival of the five men at the Watergate there were two attempted break-ins at the Democratic Party's National Committee offices in the hotel complex—on 12 June and the following month, just the clear favourite to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

The five men at the Watergate went into action. They made a spate of phone calls, held a series of secret meetings, acquired substantial sums of money and espionage equipment. On 6 June McGovern triumphed in the key Democratic primary in the major state of California. The outsider, despite the last-minute intervention, was now the clear favourite to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

Then on 6 June McGovern triumphed in the key Democratic primary in the major state of California. The outsider, despite the last-minute intervention, was now the clear favourite to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

The five men at the Watergate went into action. They made a spate of phone calls, held a series of secret meetings, acquired substantial sums of money and espionage equipment. On 6 June McGovern triumphed in the key Democratic primary in the major state of California. The outsider, despite the last-minute intervention, was now the clear favourite to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

Political parties in a capitalist society are by nature competitive, sometimes competing interests within one class. In modern America, the political parties have adopted the best of all possible worlds: two parties, as in Britain, and a virtual mirror images of one another. Their policies are in the interests of big business, according to the system, equally ruthless in pursuing the world-wide imperialist aims of their paymasters and crushing the most meagre and timid reformers at home.

THE WATERSIDE AFFAIR is filling newspaper columns and television screens around the world. For most commentators it is a scandal because it appears to be a sharp break with the normal democratic process and therefore must be condemned. But it is nothing of the sort. Watergate has exposed not just the thuggish, autocratic reality of the Nixon regime. The phony nature of American democracy and the cozy, sweetheart deals between the capitalist class and the political parties have also been laid bare—for those who choose to see it.

Political parties in a capitalist society are by nature competitive, sometimes competing interests within one class. In modern America, the political parties have adopted the best of all possible worlds: two parties, as in Britain, and a virtual mirror images of one another. Their policies are in the interests of big business, according to the system, equally ruthless in pursuing the world-wide imperialist aims of their paymasters and crushing the most meagre and timid reformers at home.

The Watergate Affair

On 26 May last year five men checked into the Watergate Hotel in Washington. They used assumed names. It was six months to the US presidential election and the surprise Democratic candidate, George McGovern, was sweeping to victory in the presidential primaries. Following the arrival of the five men at the Watergate there were two attempted break-ins at the Democratic Party's National Committee offices in the hotel complex—one on 12 June and the following month, just the clear favourite to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

Then on 6 June McGovern triumphed in the key Democratic primary in the major state of California. The outsider, despite the last-minute intervention, was now the clear favourite to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

The five men at the Watergate went into action. They made a spate of phone calls, held a series of secret meetings, acquired substantial sums of money and espionage equipment. On 6 June McGovern triumphed in the key Democratic primary in the major state of California. The outsider, despite the last-minute intervention, was now the clear favourite to win the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

Political parties in a capitalist society are by nature competitive, sometimes competing interests within one class. In modern America, the political parties have adopted the best of all possible worlds: two parties, as in Britain, and a virtual mirror images of one another. Their policies are in the interests of big business, according to the system, equally ruthless in pursuing the world-wide imperialist aims of their paymasters and crushing the most meagre and timid reformers at home.

Repression.

For the 1972 election the secret big business coalition plumped for Richard Nixon and began a massive campaign to stop the adoption of the one man they feared could beat him—Edward Kennedy. They were determined to secure the Democratic nomination for Hubert Humphrey, a sure loser after his 1968 defeat by Nixon.

One of the secretaries was a virtually unknown senator McGovern of South Dakota, challenging the party's primary victory—winning support from not just the anti-Vietnam lobby but blacks and other groups feeling the lash of the poverty programme, such as Nixon for the Republicans and Humphrey or Muskie for the Democrats—the original plan for last year.

Occasionally, one candidate will appeal to almost the entire ruling class, regardless of formal party allegiance. This happened when Lyndon Johnson was the Democratic choice, the man who had the major South at home and pursued a low-key involvement in Vietnam. The Republicans wanted Johnson, too, and solved the problem by plumping for a wild, far-right extremist, Barry Goldwater, who with his threats of going back to the womb in S E Asia, sent the Republican voters dutifully flocking to the Democratic camp.

But from time to time, a movement or political party can find issues that is not in the mainstream of American capitalism will win the best-placed plans of the secret coalition that controls both parties. Although Kennedy’s brief stay in the White House did nothing to harm ruling class interests, big business was not comfortable with the Kennedy clan. They wanted a man in the White House who was a trusted and trusted puppet. They don’t come better than Richard Nixon.
IT IS an interesting insight into the minds of the US ruling class to realise that many of them believed that McGovern would implement some of his timid reforms if he were elected. Something akin to panic seized them at the thought of a tiny fraction of their immense wealth being directed to a few of the victims of their exploitation.

One outward sign of that panic was seen in the creation of a group known as 'Democrats for Nixon,' with leading party members like Governor John Connally openly raking and campaigning for their old arch-enemy. They still might not buy a second-hand car from Nixon, but they had made him back in the White House. But more sinister moves were in preparation behind the scenes. The plan was a simple one: to intimidate the McGovern campaign at all levels, to spy, bug and photograph in the hope of discovering some incriminating is-bit to publicly discredit McGovern.

CREEP

A top-secret fund—known as a 'shush fund'—was set up to launch the Stop McGovern campaign. The Republicans' wealthy supporters chipped in, including such giant enterprises as International Telephones and Telecommunications who were exposed last year for their part to another, less successful attempt, to rig an election in Chile. But the campaign, organised by the Committee for the Re-election of the President (CREEP) also gained substantial handouts from worried Democrats. In four months alone last year, CREEP was estimated to have collected at least $10 million dollars.

In charge of CREEP was White House official Charles W Colson, John Mitchell, the Attorney General of the United States and a member of Nixon's cabinet, and Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans. As the money rolled in they hired a bigger and bigger staff to organise both the public campaign for Nixon and the secret one to spy on and discredit McGovern.

They chose as their chief of the espionage side of the operation E Howard Hunt Jr, a leading official in the Central Intelligence Agency, an expert on subversion in Latin America who had acted as chief operations officer in the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961. Second to Hunt was C Gordon Liddy, a former FBI agent who had joined Nixon's White House staff. When the New York Times published the top secret Pentagon Papers on the US conduct of the Vietnam war, Liddy had strongly advised buggin' the paper's offices.

Backed by the millions of dollars pouring into the CREEP shush fund, Hunt and Liddy prepared their spying campaign. To finance the bugging and grease palms, money was channeled into a secret bank account of Bernard L Barker, a CIA associate of Hunt's, who was also involved at the Bay of Pigs.

Barker was put in charge of the Watergate affair. He recruited a three-man commando team from among the hit-men, anti-Castro, pro-CIA Cuban exile community in Florida. One of them was Frank Sturgis, former member of Castro's guerrilla forces who had later defected. Sturgis was investigated by the Warren Commission into the assassination of President Kennedy. His evidence ran to 20 typescripts pages but it was not published in the commission's report. (Prominent journalists such as Joe Nelson of the Los Angeles Times, who have probed the killings of Kennedy, the Pentagon Papers affair and now Watergate, are convinced that the team that did the Watergate break-in had links with the real murderers of Kennedy.)

The fifth member of the Watergate team and the most important was James W McCord, full-time security chief of CREEP and the Republican National Committee. He was officially employed by the CIA until 1951.

LOBSTER

He was also involved in a short-lived plan to cause a 'left-wing' riot at the 1972 Republican convention and explode bombs there to stampede voters behind Nixon and help him to declare a State of Emergency and the arrest of the socialist movement.

This, then, was the team that broke into the Watergate Hotel, using names drawn from characters in cheap spy novels written by Hunt. They were their lobster dinner on 16 June and made their unsuccessful raid on the Democratic offices in the early hours of the 17th.

The two men in walkie-talkie contact in the motel across the road were E Howard Hunt and C Gordon Liddy.

LAST SEPTEMBER the Watergate Five, plus Hunt and Liddy, were indicted on charges ranging from conspiracy to burglary. George McGovern, deserted by the ruling clique of the Democratic Party, twisting and turning in a desperate attempt to jettison his 'pink' image, made a half-hearted attempt to squeeze some political capital out of Watergate.

But Nixon was in charge of the state machine. He had not appointed hard-line conservatives to the Supreme Court just out of charity and the Watergate trial was simply and cynically put off until after the presidential election.

At the postponed trial, heavy jail sentences were handed down to the Watergate Five, Hunt and Liddy. James McCord, facing 45 years in prison for his part in the conspiracy, went before a Senate committee and blew the whistle on his employers, the hope of getting a considerable reduction in his sentence.

Under oath, McCord named former Attorney General Mitchell, H R Haldeman, Nixon's White House Chief of Staff, John Dean, Nixon's legal adviser, Charles Colson and Jeb Stuart Magruder, deputy director of CREEP, as partners in the Watergate affair.

McCord also claimed last week that he was offered a pardon by Nixon if he remained silent on the conspiracy and spent just one year of the 45 in jail.

All those named by McCord first denied their complicity and then, under press pressure, started to change their tune. John Mitchell, who until his resignation last year was the most powerful law officer in the United States, has now admitted that he was in on the Watergate bugging discussions—but he disapproved.

New Magruder has resigned from the White House along with the acting head of the FBI, Patrick Grey. And Mitchell and Stans are under investigation for receiving secret property speculation Robert Vesco.

There is a thickening smell of hypocrisy hanging over the crises of Watergate. The disclosures of the ITT-CIA attempt to overthrow Salvador Allende's leftist government in Chile was not denounced by them with equal fervour.

The reason is not hard to find. For the critics of Watergate are in the main members of the Republican Party who are frightened out of their wits of the erosion of capitalist democracy in the US but of the threat to their own seats in Senate and Congress because of the fiasco of Nixon's methods.

The Watergate affair is maintaining a discreet, nervous silence. They do not want, too close a scrutiny of secret election spy techniques for fear it may disclose the operations run from their side as well as the Republicans'.

If the ruling class, it will swallow its bile and prepare to continue as before. A few heads will roll, including top White House officials. They may suffer the indignity of a former Attorney General getting a close look at one of his own penal establishments. They will tolerate Nixon until his term is out and then quietly write him out of the history books.

Goon squads

But not everyone will be prepared to see things continuing as before. Watergate has removed the scales from many people's eyes about the real nature of American democracy and political freedom—democracy and freedom fashioned to suit the interests of the industrial giants, the banks and the merchants of death in the Pentagon and guarded by the state goon squads of the CIA and FBI.

The Blacks and other groups suffering at the hands of Nixon's racist backhanded, the Vietnam veterans and the young demonstrators who are courageously on for an end to the war, and above all the slandering giant of the organised working classes will break the back of the 1972 election.
Socialist Worker talks to brewery steward Tom Kelly

Victor Serge

The Case of Communist Fighters in the Far East

Victor Serge

Price £2.75p, plus 6d postage

8 BOOKS
6 Cottons Gardens
London E2 8DN

THE Labour-controlled Kirkby Council in Lancashire is using new tactics in trying to break the six-month rent and rates strike on the Tower Hill estate.

The council last month decided not to issue any notices to quit or to send out eviction orders to tenants on rent strike. Since rents rose by 9.1 per cent per week under the Unfair Rents Act, Kirkby council have used the threat of evictions before to smash the rent strike.

Last November six tenants received letters from the housing officer stating that they had up to 4.30pm the following Monday to pay their rent or arrears or the council would start eviction proceedings. When the deadline came several hundred tenants from the Tower Hill estate and other areas of Liverpool sealed off the three roads leading to the estate, virtually making Tower Hill a no-go area to bailiffs.

The council immediately withdrew the eviction notices saying it was all a mistake by the housing officer.

The council did however decide to issue money judgment orders to tenants on rent strike. These court orders have been going out to tenants in batches of 40-50 a week, starting with the tenants who are the highest arrears and working down.
Hill's
arts
ACTION

by
Tony
Boyle

Secretary,
Tower Hill
Rent Action
Group

Hill's
Fair Rents
Action Group

Some of the members of the Tower Hill Fair Rents Action Group. PICTURES: Mike Cohen

Some tenants are fighting to protect their homes from rent increases.

The tenants have received a letter from the owner-occupiers of the Old Half Estate, Kirkby, that they are going to increase their rents. The tenants of Tower Hill, who are also experiencing rent increases, have decided to fight this battle.

The tenants of Tower Hill have met with Kirkby Labour Party members to discuss the struggle. The Kirkby Labour Party have offered to help the tenants by providing legal advice and support.

The tenants of Tower Hill are planning to hold a rally in the near future to raise awareness of the issue and to encourage others to join the struggle.

A group of children on the Tower Hill council estate

International
Socialism

The May issue of International
Socialism features an important and
controversial article by Tony Cliff
Lenin on the Revolutionary Party.
This is an article that will be quoted
and argued about for a long time.
Other features include:
Crisis in Steel: Rob Clay and Nick
Howard

The Communist Party and the Left:
Steve Jefferys

Gauldism and After: Ian Birchall

Memoirs of a Revolutionary Part V:
Reg Groves

Reforming the Labour Party?

Duncan Hallas

Plus Notes of the Month and Reviews.

International
Socialism

The Communist Party and the Left:
Steve Jefferys

Gauldism and After: Ian Birchall

Memoirs of a Revolutionary Part V:
Reg Groves

Reforming the Labour Party?

Duncan Hallas

Plus Notes of the Month and Reviews.

International
Socialism

The Communist Party and the Left:
Steve Jefferys

Gauldism and After: Ian Birchall

Memoirs of a Revolutionary Part V:
Reg Groves

Reforming the Labour Party?

Duncan Hallas

Plus Notes of the Month and Reviews.

International
Socialism

The Communist Party and the Left:
Steve Jefferys

Gauldism and After: Ian Birchall

Memoirs of a Revolutionary Part V:
Reg Groves

Reforming the Labour Party?

Duncan Hallas

Plus Notes of the Month and Reviews.
That sham they call democracy

THE last Labour government was a disgusting spectacle of broken pledges, even though these were few and threadbare to start with. Harold Wilson, with his massive ‘personal record’ of those six and a half years, is called on by The Times, Government 1964-1970, to go some way to explain what happened.

‘We had to listen night after night to demands from the Government to the Bank of England that there should be immediate cuts in government expenditure which related to the social services. It was not long before we were being asked, almost at pistol point, to cut back on expenditure, even to the point of stopping the road-building programme. Schools which were part way to completion had been programmed by our Conservative predecessors in 1962-63.

‘Was it our view that we should cut them off half finished—roads left as an eyesore on the countryside, schools left without a roof in order to satisfy foreign financial felons? This question was difficult for him, but it was difficult for everyone to feel, what he had to ask. And this discussion took place not against the background of a collapse in sterling, but in a period of calm following his successful wage offer.’

Scapegoat

When Wilson was elected he and the many hundreds of thousands who voted for him (including myself) imagined themselves secure in the knowledge that all his colleagues were about to take charge of the state. In fact the state took charge of him and his government and drove it to attack the working class of the whole of society.

There is no understanding of the sham that is parliament and a so-called democracy in which each person over 18 has equality and freedom to the tune of just one vote. There is nothing to be said against the fraud of a so-called justice. These things, they say, are merely a few minor blemishes which can be righed by getting the correct majority into that wood-panelled debating chamber in Westminster.

These people would have us all believe the class struggle and capitalism itself are things of the past. Yet there is no other explanation of the behaviour of the last Labour government (or the present Tory one) than that they are the agents of the few in the oppression of the many. And there is no other way to genuine human progress than through a clear and uncompromising understanding that parliament, the law, the courts, are part of an organised machine for keeping the people in their allotted place.

The whole panoply of the state, the government economic development committees, the high courts, the magistrates courts, the police and the standing army, the whole massive government bureaucracy, has been carefully constructed to ‘harmonise’ fundamentally antagonistic interests. And if this imposed ‘harmony’ is challenged by the exploited majority, then ‘order’ and ‘civilisation’ can be preserved either by granting reforms just enough to head them off, or in more serious circumstances by beating the movement.

For the working-class movement, threatened and attacked by the agents of the tiny minority with wealth and power, there is no way forward but through seeking places within the machinery of power.

There is no value in having working-class judges who dole out the law of the men of property. There is no point in being gained in having the odd decorative ‘worker director’. Indeed such things are designed precisely to weaken the working class more lightly to the system.

‘What then is the way forward? How were the few freedoms we have taken? Freedom of assembly, to meet and speak your mind, to combine in organisations to speak a common aim, the right to print, publish and distribute opinion—these did not fall out of the sky.

Destiny

These freedoms were won in precisely the same way the miners broke the Tory wages norm last year, in the way rank and file trade unionists got the five dockers out of jail—by a general awareness and demonstrative action.

Workers have to exercise their rights not on the back of electoral wards and constituencies, but on the basis of the real power they have as the producers of the means of life themselves.

All over the world freedoms already won are under massive and sustained attack. The struggle of the workers’ movement is more vital than for many years, the struggle to build a new society where class antagonism is ended, where the organised power of the workers can unleash the world’s massive potential.

And that can only be achieved by people taking their destiny into their own hands.

For this there is still no better guide than the struggle of the Paris Commune and V I Lenin. In Marx’s studies of the first workers’ revolution, the Paris Commune, Lenin’s examination of the whole question of the state and revolution, the secret of socialism is teased out. For human freedom to be free philistine and corrupt policies of parliamentarians are but a hindrance. What is needed is the politics of the millions, the politics of life.

The theory and Revolution is available from IS Books, 8 Cottons Passage E2 8DN, price 25p plus 3p postage.

Over the whole of society.

Torretted

Troops surrounded the Camden Assembly building. Inside, the deputy leader of the workers movement Sihanouk in a ‘secret ballot’ which was to be signed to be valid. They then voted to suspend constitutional liberties for six months under a new emergency dictatorial dictatorship.

For the last new rulers of Cambodia have removed what little democracy there was in solving the National Assembly and declaring government by decree and permanent martial law. Nonetheless, the regime tottered almost before it started. The situation was so great that six weeks after it started, Che Guevara invaded from South Vietnam to prevent the resistance fighters from being crushed.

The dictatorship is now propped up merely by US dollars and US bombs. US ‘advised’ shot up from 25 million dollars before the coup to 341 million in the year after. The US air force now flying 1800 B52s and 6000 tactical strikes into Cambodia every month.

If anyone doubts that Sihanouk was fighting the US before the coup as well as after, this book provides a pile of evidence, from the testimony of an ex-officer in the US ‘Fifth Special Forces’ who led a unit into Cambodia in 1967 and murdered a Cambodian agent on orders from the CIA, to the tale of Lon Nol’s stay in an American hospital near Paks not long before the coup, where he was briefed by CIA advisers, disguised as patients.

But no socialist need have any illusions about Sihanouk himself. Though he branded as King of Cambodia in 1955, he still emulates his ‘royalty’. His government in exile is titled the Royal Cambodian Government.

His attitude towards socialism may be judged from the sort of democracy he instituted for Cambodia: the only candidates allowed to stand for the National Assembly were those on a carefully selected list.

The US did not engineer Sihanouk’s overthrow because of any socialist or communist leanings, but because of his nationalism. His policy for Cambodia was independence and neutrality—which meant a refusal of US demands that Cambodian troops attack the Vietcong and cut off the Ho Chi Minh trail through Cambodia to South Vietnam.

Some indication of the Cambodian people’s support for these months can be judged from the fact that just one year after the coup, the resistance government controlled four-fifths of Cambodia, an area inhabited by five million of the country’s seven million people. For then, the first step towards controlling their own lives is to remove American control over their country.

This book is a fascinating, detailed ‘inside’ story—𫔎eriously biased. When it comes to the South East Asian brand of political in-fighting, Sihanouk can be as dirty as his opponents.

It’s a story worth reading. The high price is simply for a pair of left-handers. The typography reveals it as a paperback in disguise. So either get your local library to buy a copy, or wait for the paperback edition.

PETER MARSDEN
**INTERVIEW/PUBLISHING/TELEVISION**

Things aren’t Dandy in Dundeec

TO MOST people the phrase ‘capitalist press’ brings to mind big national newspaper groups such as the International Publishing Corporation, or the Thomson/Morrand/Beaverbrook organisations. But one of the most successful British press empires is no different from the others that it demands special attention: D C Thomson.

‘Of Dundee’ gives the first close-up to its unique character. Although it has London offices, it is a local provincial, unlike the other big publishers. It controls The Dundee Evening Telegraph, known as The Courier, which was started in 1857 as Evening Post, one of the most widely read Scottish newspapers in the world. More recently it has been bought by three瞭m. in England.

The Courier and the Tay Bridge, D C Thomson important, however, is its magazines and comics, including the Dandy, Rinso, Beano and Dandy and many others. Some of these you may see the name ‘John Long’ rather than Thomson. This is because the business grew out of two Dundee publishing firms, the Tay D C Thompson and one of the most successful, J Thomson and Sons.

The original D C Thomson (1961-1954) was gone by the time his son, and later his grandson, John Long, took over. The business was left to the second wave of the family, the third generation of the Thompson line. John Long, and eventually took the Advertising over.

Sentimental

As well as newspapers, the two firms had weekly magazines, such as the People’s Journal and the Sunday Post, and their money was in the titles of these magazines. They were part of the Thomson empire at the early days took a liberal medical standpoint. The People’s Friend, which today ranks alongside the Daily Mail, is a particularly affectionate title. It started out in 1849 as a magazine which would open its pages to the contributions of the people.

A poem in the first issue, The Birth of the People’s Friend, contains fine phrases such as:

Against oppression’s iron might.

Sandy Hobbs

The magazine’s publishing was presumably more profitable than continuing against oppression, however, and publications such as People’s Friend and The People’s Journal ceased to be for jobs to soldiers returning from the front! They were also very successful financially.

Later came their most famous publications of all:

Brian & Dandy. Today, although some of the older magazines decline, contract and combine, they continue to bring out new ‘products’. In 1965, for example, a new comic titled Buzz started publication earlier this year.

D C Thomson, like many other press barons, used the power of his purse for his own personal vendettas, not only against trade unions and critics of both right and left. He started the Dundee Post and its stableness are hallucinations: there is no stron of the Daily Mirror. Imagine Norman Holland.

doesn’t change, but my values are fundamentally the same. My palate is more discerning, now I can’t taste like modern furniture where a few years ago I went for Scandinavian. But there’s a natural evolution. People are not only about such superficial things as ‘bland’ like marvellous. West End audiences aren’t the same anymore. They like what they see, they expect something. But people are so much like what they experienced and what they like, so that they have a general idea of what they want.

Collin Welland and Stephanie Turner in ‘Say Goodnight to Grandma’

I don’t believe that the worker is an angel. He is uneducated and easily led. You can’t tell a strike if there is no money in the kitty. You have to be realistic. I’d like to see a socialist state but I’d be finished. The system would be put back 40 years and our children would be the ones to benefit, not us. You work hard, knowing you’ll suffer a great deal.

Welland has done some sports work for the BBC and somebody joked: How could anybody against violence support Leeds United? ‘I support Leeds because they play to win and are unpretentious. The players are not all that you see on the big screen. They are the people of the city.’

The TUC had had its guts taken out of the government and destroyed it. In the end he had his guts and they all enormous, that it hadn’t been properly worked out, and that they had a new approach. He said the police were away to pay off the debt.

Then one day, old and tired, she meets her boss and becomes the original model. She only slightest of errors.

The only people for whom Maupassant showed any affection or sympathy were the oppressed—poor artists, prostitutes, the condemned—men of all ages, who were in life he knew during his childhood in Normandy. All he could do was sympathise. They are cruel and rough, brutalised by work and hunger, and the corrupt middle class, they are hypocrites. He had no faith in the workers or in society itself. He was cut off from the reality of society, but it was also an alternative to offer.

Ian Birchall

**SOCIALS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CLASS**

I believe in the ordinary man and woman and I write for them’, says Colin Welland, the ‘nice fellas’ to Z-Cars who starred in Ken, and its story, one of the new breed of committed television and stage writers who enlarge life rather than reflect life, testimonials of a 19th century.

Welland, a socialist, sees television as an important medium to show the exploiters they are exploiting, as well as reaching the exploited. Some exploiters are very nice people. They just don’t know what they’re doing. I never make my characters real villains. It’s a matter of getting real solutions to the problems I get things right on detail.

Welland is keen on the idea of Walter Sickert. Tony Gomst (The Lump) say they so rarely get the chance to get the other side that when they do go for strong but those way you’re only highlighting the awareness of the converted.

Welland, a former teacher, is a socialist ‘because the education system only trains people for jobs and no more. Society is not institutions, it constrains people. Education is not just about filling your head with facts. Education should be about expressing artistic and human emotions, not moulding preconceived ideas in people. It’s vital that we get away from the institutional relationship and build something new. I would not do without my car as it meant the end of enslaving people in our factories. While I was doing some research about the word trade in Leeds I went round a factory and saw 300 ladies with thick glasses picking cloth. Rather than build machines...’

Welland’s new West End play, Say Goodnight to Grandma, a diatribe on Northern male chauvinism and the family, is as they say packing them in. He defends the production of plays for the longed America tourists and ‘nice’ middle class out for a sophisticated night at the theatre giving them the titillation of No, No, Nanette. ‘Hearing that big song with big titties’ (a line from the chorus) out of their compass and leaves them at their own price. I’ll make it, the play will divide the provinces and find a life and energy of its own.’

Robert Thomas, ‘He’s in the Labour Party. I did it for my dad and grandad. My grandad was from the start, sells Reynolds News, I despise the Labour Party but I work inside it for change. I would like to see change come through the ballot box but I can’t see it happen.

I don’t like violence but I believe in the industrial revolution of the organised power of the working class. The miners’ strike showed it—and if the TUC had had any guts they would have taken on the government and destroyed it.

The author, who is a socialist, has known both sides, the poor and the rich. He has lived in poverty and in luxury. He has seen the affects of the Great Depression of 1930 to 1937, he wrote, ‘I demand the suppression of the ruling class’.

Welland gained his reputation for his work on some of the most controversial topics. But his work is always an accusation against society; adultery is the product of the boredom and corruption of the upper-middle class, the prostitutes who haunt all his books are the symbol of society where everything is bought and sold.

Maupassant grasped one great truth about capitalist society. Men do not construct things and use them for their own benefit, they take over the property and dominate and destroy men.

One Man and His Dog is about a short novel that illustrates this about a poor woman who has the chance of a lifetime to attend a glamorous ball. She borrows a necklace from a family friend and loses it. She buys a replacement and for years she and her husband slave away to pay off the debt.

BEL-AHI, Gay de Maupassant’s novel, first serialised on BBC television, is a reminder that any literary success is the French writer still. It is an exemplar of how a young man makes a career and a fortune by total lack of originality, manipulation of women and the price of his own humanity.

The first novel in a series of life, which saw men totally without freedom, women’s ‘rights’ (like clothes) were fragmented and without meaning. He held the middle class. He hated the bloody defeat of the Paris workers in the Communards in 1871, in 1872, he wrote: ‘I demand the suppression of the ruling class’.

Men without freedom

In the end he was destroyed by the society he portrayed. In only 11 years he wrote six novels and more than 300 short stories, driven by an obsession with sad and financial reversals. Over-extortion and syphilis drove him mad, and he died at the age of 43.
The International Socialists is a democratic organisation whose membership is open to all who accept its main principles and who are willing to pay subscriptions and to work in one of its branches. We believe in independent working-class action for the abolition of capitalism and for its replacement by a classless society free from exploitation and poverty.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.

The international power of capitalism can only be overcome by international cooperation between the working class. A single socialist state cannot by itself successfully resist the pressures of the world capitalist system. In addition to building a revolutionary socialist organisation in this country we also believe in the necessity of forming a world revolutionary socialist international independent of any existing political parties.
Police attacks threaten future of Black paper

AS YOU are aware, our newspaper Grass Roots is under increasing attack from the Special Branch. Attempts are being made to prevent us from providing a community service that seeks to report and investigate all the problems that affect the Black community. The effect on the publication of our newspaper has been crippling, as we are now unable to report all the issues due to intimidation, harassment, and confiscation and destruction of production materials.

It will be costly to replace these items destroyed by the Special Branch raiding party. Coupled with this we have two outstanding bills to the printers, £145 and £45, which must be met before we can restart publication. We hope that you will be able to assist us. If you want to see Grass Roots appear again, please make a generous contribution to our survival fund.

Unless we raise £50 or more within the next two months, we will be forced to cease publication altogether. Please make cheques etc. payable to Grass Roots, 54 Whitehorn Road, London NW4.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, Grass Roots, London NW4.

Sterile

SOCIALIST WORKER (April 7) carried an advertisement from the ‘Labour Party Association. This organisation openly supports the repatriation of republicans in Northern Ireland, under the sterile title of ‘Two Nations’. They say that the ‘Protestant nation’ is being attacked by a foreign country and have the right to resist to barbarism to defend themselves. This includes the murder of children, pensioners, the working and terrorising of politicians.

Recently they appeared before the Independent Television Authority that David O’Connor was giving television time to put forward the republican position. In this they aligned themselves with the Monday Club. We do not think it is right for a British socialist organisation to accept an ad from such people. We call for the British imperialist organisation. If it is going to take an ad from them, why not from the Monday Club? Or the Loyalist Association of Workers?

The most important question facing the British left today is the struggle in Northern Ireland. What sort of politics is going to determine the future of British workers, chauvinist and racist politics, or consistent Marxist politics? If chauvinism is not firmly attacked, it won’t be destroyed.

Today Irish and black workers—tomorrow British trade unionists. British socialists should know that Kelson and the British state are testing our weapons and tactics on Irish workers to use on British workers.

Which class is going to learn the lessons of struggle in Northern Ireland, the British ruling class with its long experience of battering and divide and rule, or the loyalist class with its short but destructive experience of socialism?—R ASCAL, T HAIL, London NW1.

Social Security for Strikers

The struggle is not a matter of bad publicity, which was the case in 1966, after complaints by black workers in north London that the pensioners were being charged up to £150 to receive estate agents for false building society cases. This case was quietly dropped after a length of imprisonment by the Fraud Squad.

Although in theory non-profit making, building societies work on the same basis as the old practice of corruption as the rest of the parasitic Labour movement. —TERRY WARD

Housing and the great tax racket

A FEW points on T H Roggnar’s article on building societies (April). Total tax relief to mortgage holders in 1972 was five times greater than a subsidy to council housing, while in 1963 the figures were similar. While inflation in house prices has increased tax relief, the tax subsidy to council housing has been cut.

As there is no limit to the amount of a mortgage on which tax relief is granted, someone waste £20,000 per annum, and more each year in tax relief to most workers.

Many property speculators, for example, find it advantageous to take large mortgages on their own houses. Look what they are doing to the life policy when it matures, and a large capital is put up for the annuity at little cost.

Building societies were thousands of pounds each year opening offices where it is fashionable to be. For example, before the so-called development of Romford four building societies had offices there, now there are about ten. The result the original societies have opened larger, plusher offices. But mortgages in Romford are more difficult to get.

When the building society manager says he has no money in the land, this is not true. They always make money available for speculators and estate agents who have a common interest in getting people for long and business lunches.

Building societies do not like bad publicity, which was the case in 1966, after complaints by black workers in north London that the pensioners were being charged up to £150 to receive estate agents for false building society cases. This case was quietly dropped after a length of imprisonment by the Fraud Squad.

Although in theory non-profit making, building societies work on the same basis as the old practice of corruption as the rest of the parasitic Labour movement. —TERRY WARD

KEY CONFERENCE WILL CHALLENGE ARMED FIGHTING IN NORTHERN IRELAND

SINCE August 1969 the British Army has been used to maintain law and order in Northern Ireland. Yet during that time the Provisionals, Sinn Fein, and the police has reached a level which few foresaw in 1969.

The successive prescriptives of the British government have failed to cure the patient. Three Stornmot prime ministers, internment, the Derry massacre, direct rule, Operationennifer and now the whitepaper—none have succeeded in putting down the workers fighting Phase Two. These aim at whitewashing a war in which the workers who do not doubt that a massacre has been taking place everywhere. The police and army’s strength would embarrass their future talks with Heath and the other powers.

Many militants are disillusioned with the way the police have been used to defend the total alternative other than outright surrender. With sections of workers being isolated and falling to the Torries, the worst thing that could happen is a real danger of demoralisation.

What has to be realised here is that a defeat at the hands of the government means more than a wage cut, it means future attacks upon conditions and trade union organisation as the bosses gain greater control of the workers.

The right wing are echoing these justifiable doubts and fears in order to undermine the position of the socialists’ union and push the leaders into a direct collaborationist role. Indeed the ‘lefts’, anticipating such a shift in the workers’ resistance, are already shifting their ground to accommodate it.

Scallon’s remarks on the Inter-Trade Unions Act, Jones and Feathers plea to the workers over the hospital workers’ and teachers’ promise to hold back other groups of workers if the Torries will consent to an above-inflation increase for the ancillary workers, the TUC’s abject submission to Heath about Phase Three, and the betrayal of the miners by the CEFJ all suggest that the TUC, with the active help of the left, is preparing for a total retreat.

One only forces can prevent such a retreat—the rank and file militants united across plant and union boundaries behind a common programme. To the rank and file falls the task of building a fighting leadership at local and national level. To us falls the task of providing a militant focus within our districts which will encourage and support every section of workers opposing the Tory norm and the inevitable management attacks on conditions.

We have to fight inside those branches, district committees, confeds and trade councils for such a policy. But we also have to fight inside our respective bodies against the threat of a right wing resurgence and left wing retreat that looks certain to follow this.-MAL COLLINS, (TASS), Coventry.

SOCIALIST WORKER is always printing statements about the way the Labour Party and union leaders like Scallon, Jones and Feathers betray their members. But why on earth doesn’t IS and Socialists in the Labour party unite and say how to kick these traitors out of office?

We say their wage, so we can form more militant unions or withold our subscriptions to Scallon, Jones and Fishers to head—J PREEN London SW9.
Please sir, you're a shambles

by Jim McDonald

SCOTLAND—With the consent of the Communist Party, Jimmy Reid and James Arlott the AUEW shop stewards at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, have refused to stand in next October's crucial elections for the Scottish seat on the seven-man AUEW executive.

At an Engineering Voice "bread and salt" meeting called last Saturday to discuss the union's candidates, the Communist Party nominee was Colin McKay, the union's district officer of Falmouth, who has just been deleted for the post of Scottish regional officer by a right-wing committee.

McKay's chances of beating John Boyd, who is defending the seat, are not as good as Reid's or Arlott's; both of whom candidates were pushed back by a substantial section of the meeting, to the embarrassment of the platform and the chairman of the meeting, James Hamilton, a Communist Party member, who criticised "the lack of initiative in his work as a councillor". More important, Mr. Abelson, Reid wants to be the first Communist Party MP since 1929.

A new role in the union means that if Boyd wins the seat this year, he will stay in his post for 10 years. If Reid wins, instead of 10 years, they would command an unchallenged majority on the union executive.

SOUTHAMPTON—Car workers at Strachans Shipbuilders, part of the now Wilton-Joseph empire, struck on Monday in pursuit of their claim for a 12-hour week and a 33-hour week; a 15-hour and 12-hour week; a 23-hour week. Car workers at the firm have been slow to break down with a management agreement to their demands, which are up to 23 per cent, and a nine-month agreement.

In an effort to avoid a strike, the stewards' committee have refused to negotiate with the manager while notices were being posted up against the management saying that management could not afford the cost.

On 1 May, John Hoagland, AUEW shop steward, said, "We have been told that we are in the freezing zone. We have all had to do the best we can. We are the biggest car plant in the country and we are the smallest car plant in the country."

The strikes hope that when the strike is over it will provide a way for the firms in the area to break through the disease line.

MANCHESTER—A large meeting was held at the Peace Hall with a speaker from the Central Provident Fund, who said that the fund was now a protection against sickness, unemployment, and old age.

CONFERENCE ON THE FAMILY

The Family in Victorian Society—Speakers: Mr. John Smith, Mr. William Brown, and Mr. Robert Jones.

NOTICES

LARGE YORKSHIRE ATC (tidal) to be held at the YMCA in Leeds on Saturday, 11 May, at 3.00 p.m. Details of the conference are being arranged by Mrs. Mary Taylor, 12 York Street, Leeds.

CHARTER

Perhaps the worst blow for the executive was the conference's decision on the charter, which was strongly supported by the majority of the association.

The conference decided to rescind the charter that had been adopted by the association, and to refer the matter to a new committee for further consideration.

A motion to remove Knowles as chairman of the association was defeated by the conference by 171 votes to 155.
A MAY DAY TO REMEMBER

Skelettons in the printers' cupboard

LONDON: Some of the most amazing scenes ever witnessed at any union meeting took place at the quarterly meeting of the London Clerical Branch of the print union NATSOPA last week.

The chairman of the meeting refused to accept an emergency resolution protesting at the disciplining of most of the branch committee, although 90 per cent of the 400 delegates in the hall protested. Pandemonium reigned for at least half an hour.

The previous quarterly meeting of the branch was adjourned by the then chairman, Harry Fitzpatrick. He had told by the union general secretary, Richard Brightnash, not to let the meeting discuss the events leading to the sacking of the father of the chapel (shop steward) of the Press Association, John Lawrence. Rather than take part in the suppression of discussion Fitzpatrick adjourned the meeting, expecting the branch committee to reconvene it within a few days.

Instead, the union executive took away his right to hold any office in the union for two years, so removing him both from the branch chairman-ship and the executive itself.

Concede

Five members of the branch committee, Len Metcalfe, Charlie Pratt, Mike O'Brien, R K Smith and R W Smith—had won a majority vote preventing the branch itself from disciplining Fitzpatrick. So the executive banned them from office for two years and left the branch with a ramp committee made up of the executive's own supporters. These appointed the chairman for the spring meeting, with instructions to prevent discussion of this affair.

Delegates at the meeting last week were unable to persuade the chairman to allow discussion and eventually decided to give way, to allow discussion on other important matters.

One of these was the John Lawrence case itself. This time the mood of the delegates was such that

by SW Reporter

the committee had to permit some debate.

It was reported that eventually the Department of Employment had been forced to concede Lawrence's claim for unemployment benefit on the grounds that he had been victimised—something the union leaders have been claiming did not happen.

Delegates then tried to move a resolution for the reinstatement of Lawrence in his job and continuing the conduct of the branch secretary as refusing to support his fight. The chairman ruled this out of order, again amid massive protest from the delegates.

The assistant national secretary of the union, Arthur Davis, was asked by Fitzpatrick to give reasons for executive decisions in the Lawrence case. Davis refused and told delegates to wait for the executive to report to the union's governing council in June 1974. Meanwhile, Lawrence is to remain out of work without a salary.

The officials became increasingly agitated as the meeting progressed. Davis launched an outburst accusing Fitzpatrick of being deliberately dis-ruptive on every occasion we get down to serious business. After this, the gates had jumped to their feet round disapproval, the chairman asked Davis to withdraw the accusation. He reluctantly did so.

The meeting showed the depth of rank and file feeling and was a severe shock to the officials and the ramp branch committee.

The disciplinary actions taken by the executive against Fitzpatrick and the other five should be cause for concern to every serious trade unionist. Brightnash and his friends are using the cruelest bureaucratic means to try to prevent socialists from expressing their views. But the leaders are also scared stiff of publicity. NATSOPA militants must campaign for the unconditional reinstatement of the disciplined members, the reinstatement of Lawrence at the Press Association and the ousting of the executive. This should be the beginning of a campaign to ensure that the union is run in a democratic manner. If the NATSOPA leaders are allowed to continue with their present antics they will smash the union and destroy the aspirations of thousands of members.

I would like more information about the International Socialists

Name

Address

Send to: IS, 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN
MARCHERS DEFY BAN ON RALLY

ONE TRADE UNIONIST in three suppressed the strike in Scotland, making a grand total of 250,000 out. All the car factories and the ship yards were out, as were all the major factories in GLASGOW.

Most of the Scottish pits stopped, although a few, including at least one that had voted overwhelmingly for an all-out strike over the miners’ claim, worked.

Ten more 10,000 workers demonstrated in Glasgow. Despite the refusal of managers to accept them as they had in St George’s Square, engineers and building workers marched to the town hall for the first demonstration to be held there in 50 years.

The May Day stoppage got a massive response from workers in the surrounding areas. Work completely shut down in the coalfields, steelworks, and foundries. A number of National Council of the city.

By the afternoon all the miners were on the march through the centre and 5000 attended a meeting addressed by R. L. W. Macdonald in the Scottish TUC. George Mathieson,Labour MP for Dundee East, and his wife, secretary of the Scottish miners and member of the Government.

Big turnout in valleys

SOUTH WALES—All 50 pits in the region were shut down on May Day in spite of plans of the mining companies to maintain the nation’s leadership to safeguard the stoppage. In Swanscombe alone 1500 miners were on strike along with the docks, railwaymen, charwoman and Ford. 400 postal workers struck for the first time in their history.

In Port Talbot 1200 AWU members at British Steel Corporation. At HPS’s new Glendy chemical plant some 1000 workers stopped. At Thorne, and David S Smith’s factories were all shut down. At Merthyr Tydfil 30 per cent of the workforce struck.

In the afternoon 400 trade unionists and students marched through Swansea on a demonstration organised by the Trade Union Council. The IS contingent was the biggest on the day.

Almost 1000 people joined the protest march in Cardiff, mainly miners, steel workers from BSC’s East Moors works give the miners occupying Abercorn Cables. The meeting after the march had to be switched from a hall to the open air because so many wanted to attend.

Teesside engineers show way forward

LONDON—More than 20,000 trade unionists marched through London on May Day. Red and multi-coloured bands of columns followed miners from the Embankment to Hyde Park.

Central London came to a halt and big crowds jammed the pavements to cheer and applaud as the march west went, accompanied by a lively band provided by the Musicians’ Union. Among those marching were official contingents of colliery, dockers, post office engineers, engineers, transport workers, printers, teachers, NAPO and APEX members. Branches of the Communist Party and the International Socialists were also represented.

The mighty demonstration concluded with a rally in Hyde Park where several trade union and Labour Party dignitaries addressed the marchers with the same reactivity as government in the area which wanted nothing more than the rank and file to let off steam on May Day.

Massive strikes in North West

NORTH WEST—In the MANCHESTER area there was massive but patchy strike action. Most of the workers went out in the city alone and printworkers, dockers and bakers were not represented. 4000 workers from virtually every union marched in an open-air meeting in Salford.

In WOLVERHAMPTON more than 6000, and some of the city’s major factories were closed. Among the affected were Ford, Triumph, Vauxhall, Lusso and Daimler. The docks were closed, many buses were off the road and the newspapers did not go out.

12,000 workers marched in one of the biggest demonstrations seen in Liverpool for many years. At a mass meeting afterwards, Jack Jones, general secretary of the transport workers’ union, had a heckle from those who were stopping the meeting and for continuing to support the strike.

In STOCKPORT a 5000-strong demonstration was attended by the police. The people who occupied Baxo’s factory in the afternoon, which was also occupied by the police, were affected by the strike, as all dockers who worked in the docks, the Seamen in Middlebrook and Dartington, marched all except emergendness and demonstrated to work. Most of the steel industry continued to work.

STRIKE GOES ON AS BOSS RATS ON DEAF

FINANCIAL journalists everywhere have been celebrating hard for the past few days at the news of a merger between the Hill Samuels, Dainton and Slater Walker Securities.

From the Daily Mail to the Sunday Times, financial analysts have been quick to point out that the merger will provide a major boost to the company’s share price and could lead to further deals in the future.

Hill Samuels was Britain’s second-biggest “broker-dealer” company, together with Barclays Investment Bank. The two concerns will control a near monopoly in the City of London, in the rich and expanding area of unit trusts.

In a rare moment of undiscrimination, the Sunday Times Business Review has suggested that the massive power of the two companies will lead to increased competition in Europe and will be subject to the scrutiny of the Monopolies Commission. Some rude people in the City have even said that it will be a joke to see whether the Combine’s Sharebroker Manifesto in 1970.

We will pursue a vigorous competition policy. We will check on any undue concentration of power or monopoly, or any other practice which is anti-competitive.

The two companies are to be merged under the name of Slater Walker Hill Samuels, which will be the largest company.”

Loyalty

The man who decides whether to keep his job or not is not necessarily the same man who is loyal to his old firm. He has already been recognised in the Slater Walker office, whereby James, the elderly office boy, had already left. Soon after the first time in the company’s history, the formally-owned Slater Walker office, was sold to the Conservative Party for £150,000.

Hill Samuels’s man in the government, Mr. J. F. G. Turton, was recently rescued by Hill Samuels after being co-opted on to the board of the United Kingdom Development Corporation.

Mr. Turton is also a director of the Confederation of British Industry, and his appointment was a result of the backing of CBI bosses. Mr. Turton is mainly concerned with the good name of Hill Samuels, that Mr. Davis managed to win with the help of the Cabinet.

Mr. Turton has already invested in the new penny farthing, and Mr. Cheyne, who is one of the four wise men appointed to “look after the interests of the Hill Samuels office,” was one of the senior office boys in 1971, when John Davis was made a director of the firm. Mr. MacGregor, a young executive at Hill Samuels, was appointed to the office.

The Slater Walker/Hill Samuels merger has been hailed as a triumph that both companies can begin to compete in the City of London.

Backup and other facilities that the merger will be refered to the Monopolies Commission.