SOCIALIST WORKER
PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

A GREAT STEP FORWARD—
that was Sunday's impressive march through London by 8000 against the vicious provisions of the Tory Immigration Act.
The marchers—Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, West Indians, socialist and trade union organizations—declared their determination to fight a law that threatens black workers with deportation and attempts to divide the labour movement with the poison of racism.

Behind the banner of the Joint Action Committee Against Racist Legislation came branches of the Indian Workers Association, Pakistani Association, the Indian National Front, and branches of international trade unions from many parts of the country.

Two and a half thousand members of the International Socialists, the biggest ever IS contingent on a national demonstration, formed a solid core of the march, red banners waving, chanting slogans against the Tory laws.

Trade union branches on the march included No. 1 Region of the Transport Workers, ASLEF, Camden AUW and London building workers.

SOUR NOTE
The Communist Party, Young Communist League, Labour Party, Young Socialists and International Marxist Group supported the march, which went from Hyde Park to Downing Street.
The only sour note came at the pre-march meeting in Hyde Park, when Liberal peer Lord Avebury and Southall Labour MP Sidney Satwells—a supporter of strict immigration controls—were allowed to speak by IS spokesman George Peake, but were not allowed to speak by Black and white get united.

Yes, a great step forward—but only a first step. At a time of rising industrial and political action by many sections of workers, the Tories and employers will spare no effort to drum up a racist scare campaign to detract attention from our real enemies.

TAKEN UP
A racist witch hunt must be fought. But not by timid appeals and reliance on the Race Relations Board and Liberal peers.
The call by the Southall branch of the Indian Workers Association—fully supported by the International Socialists—for local action committees must be taken up in the black communities. Such committees are vital to organize local demonstrations and meetings against the Act, to set up defence committees against police attacks, to back black workers fighting to unionise their workplaces.

And the fight must be taken into the heart of the trade union movement, raising workers to the dangers of this latest Tory attack. (See anti-racist appeal—page 2).

It is up to socialists and militants in the months ahead to forge a real fighting front against the Tory laws. Sunday's demonstration showed that the will to succeed is there.

Michael Farrell and Tony Canavan of the People's Democracy movement in Belfast are being kept in Crumlin Road prison after three weeks on hunger strike.

When Tony Canavan's mother visited him last Sunday, he collapsed and had to be carried out.

Orla Farrell, Michael's wife, told Socialist Worker: "Michael is very weak and cold, but he is coherent and determined to continue his fight."

The two men are protesting against the refusal of the authorities to grant them political status in prison, although they were imprisoned for organising a political demonstration.

The demonstration was held last February to protest against the wave of sectarian assassinations in Ireland, for which no one had been brought to trial. Michael Farrell was sentenced to eight months, Tony Canavan to six. The 'minimum sentence' for political treatment is nine months.

Both men have been banded into solitary confinement in the notorious 'D' wing of Crumlin Road jail, which is frequented by 'six months prisoners', most of them Loyalists convicted of possessing arms. The standard sentence for Republicans convicted of the same offences is five years.

Last week, two Loyalists escaped from their cells onto the roof, while in 'D' Wing, Farrell and Canavan are in permanent danger of sectarian assault.

Last Saturday, a demonstration of more than 1000 people marched through Belfast demanding political treatment for Farrell and Canavan. Speakers pointed out that political treatment—which brings substantial privileges in terms of more visits, more letters and freedom to wear civilian clothes—has been granted to the worst of the Orange sectarian murderers.

The three Loyalists who raped Mrs MacLaughlin in Belfast three months ago after shooting dead her mentally defective son have been granted political status. Michael Farrell and Tony Canavan, who have done more to protest about sectarian violence than anyone else in the city, are being treated as common criminals.

When their case was raised by a handful of Labour MPs in the House of Commons last week, Mr William Whitelaw, Tory chief of Northern Ireland's police state, contemptuously refused to grant the two men political status.

The London branch of People's Democracy is planning a demonstration, starting from Speakers Corner at 2.30pm this Sunday (29 July) to protest against the treatment of Farrell and Canavan.

Socialist Worker readers throughout the country must raise the matter in shop stewards committees and trade union branches and demand that Labour MPs keep up the pressure on Whitelaw and the Northern Ireland office.

TORIES NAMED IN DUBLIN TRIAL P 2/ CRACKDOWN ON IRA: P 2/ SOLDIER QUILTS: P 6

Hunger strike bid by two
Irish socialists

Michael Farrell and Tony Canavan of the People's Democracy movement in Belfast are being held in Crumlin Road prison after three weeks on hunger strike.

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Tories named bank robbers

WHILE the American nation has been turned upside down by the Watergate affair, which started when a hotel was burgled by agents of the administration, the press is taking 'no interest' in claims by two bank robbers in Dublin that they were working in Irish history under orders of the British Defence Ministry.

Keith and Kenneth Littlejohn were found guilty last week of robbing the Allied Irish Bank on Dublin last October of £67,000. They were first arrested in England last December, and in secret extradition proceedings at Bow Street court claimed consistently that they robbed the bank as agents of the British government.

They sought to call Lord Carrington, Minister of Defence, and his parliamentary Under Secretary, Geoffroy Johnson Smith, as witnesses. They claimed that they had met Mr. Johnson Smith in the Kensington house of Lady Onslow, where their role as anti-IRA agents was specifically discussed.

In secret sessions of the court, they named officials of the ministry with whom they had conducted conversations and briefings. All this was to no avail. Despite their claims that their efforts had been 'political', they were extradited to Ireland.

In the case of Dublin, the brothers tried without success to introduce the British government into the argument. The Irish legal profession refused to co-operate.

Recently Kenneth Littlejohn defended himself. His application to call witnesses to show the complicity of the British government was rejected.

But Kenneth Littlejohn did succeed in extracting evidence from three prosecution witnesses who seemed to substantiate his story.

Inspector Parker of New Scottish Yard, who led the arrest operation in British, admitted that he had had Littlejohn's[1] request to telephone Inspector Sinclair of the Special Branch at the time of the arrest. Sinclair, said Parker, acknowledged he knew Littlejohn but showed little interest.

The Gardaí (police) arms expert had evidence regarding the arms found in a Dublin flat. Inspector said that there were British War Department markings on them.

A Dublin solicitor who had done some business for the Littlejohns told how he had acted for Kenneth in connection with the case, and claimed that they seemed to be some danger that Littlejohn might 'get done' for it, he gave the solicitor a telephone number to ring in order to get him off. That number, Littlejohn claimed, was British Ministry of Defence number.

As he pointed out in an article in the Sunday Times (22 July) all the circumstantial evidence supports the Littlejohn's case. The Ministry of Defence refuses to comment. So does Mr. Johnson Smith. So does Lady Onslow.

The Littlejohns are awaiting sentence. The judge is said to be deliberating whether to put them out of harm's way for a long time or let them off with a fine in the hope that they will keep their mouths shut.

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Great profits bonanza for top firms and banks

THE SHAREHOLDERS’ bonanza during the freeze goes on and on. In the past three weeks of Britain’s top 40 companies have announced their profits for 1973. Three of the four large clearing banks have announced half-yearly profits.

Great Universal Stores, the retail group, which is Britain’s 22nd biggest in terms of profits, reported profits of £77.71 million compared with the record £68.69 million the year before. Profits before tax were £81.73 million on sales of £1,232.1 million. This was up from £97.68 million on sales of £1,214.7 million in the previous half-year. Profits before tax were £81.73 million on sales of £1,232.1 million. This was up from £97.68 million on sales of £1,214.7 million in the previous half-year.

Thorn Electrical Industries, the electronics group, has announced that its profits have been boosted by £250.3 million on sales of £551 million in the first six months of the financial year ending 31 December 1973. Profits before tax were £250.3 million on sales of £551 million.
BRIEFING

IN MOST big French towns the traditional left parties have held meetings against the banning of the Ligue Communiste. But in every revolutionary front has been launched from the platform—even representatives of the Ligue Communiste.

In Toulouse, the "Left" Radicals have occupied the stage platform as well as in the joint meetings with the CP. But the CP has refused to go along with the ultra-leftists.

In Marseille, amidst the clamors of the crowd, the CP functionaries have shown their effective leadership and the CP in Marseille is again the leading factor in the French revolutionary movement.

In a speech at the congress of the Young Communist League in Paris, the CP's national leader spoke about the need to unite the left elements under the leadership of the CP.

The CP's national leader concluded his speech by saying that the CP is the only force capable of leading the struggle for the liberation of France and for the international revolution.

The CP's national leader called on all the workers, youth and students of France to unite under the CP's leadership and to fight for the liberation of France and the international revolution.

Here we work and sell with no boss

THE LIP watch factory at Besancon, where 4,800 workers are occupied by the workers, who are producing and selling the watches themselves.

All over France workers committees are buying and selling, which are of course much cheaper than under the middlemen and the co-operatives. The final price will be paid by the factories. The first monthly rates were fixed to guarantee a flat-rate base of 1,600 francs per month for the CP, while the other two per cent, which they would have had under the bourgeois system, is given to the factory.

The end LIP's bankers paid up for the full wages plus holiday bonuses without the workers asking for the final production.

The factory is being run by the workers themselves, according to a plan that was made and coordinated by the workers.

Support

It is hot in Besancon in summer and cold in winter, but the workers are now the workers and have created their own operating system. The LIP workers cook the roof with a fire hose and water the lawns—any work that has to be done is done by the workers.

The workers are gathering together to make their own decisions and elect a new management committee to run the factory. They are demanding that the factory be free of government interference.

Gadagy's comic opera is no joke

As the comic opera of the Libyan "party worker" to Cairo seaferry, relations between Colonel Gadagy's Libyan regime and Egypt seem to have reached a crisis.

Libya is a small and relatively wealthy country. It is three times the size of France, but its population is only two million and its overall economy is grossly below $100 million. Its ports are closed to foreign ships, mainly because they import consumer goods and are not open to foreign ships, mainly because they import consumer goods and are not open to foreign ships.

The government has agreed to counter student militancy and has been forced to back down.

Apartheid has applied to higher education since 1959. Separate universities have been created, three for black students who do not respond to complaints from the students about the rigid power structure of the universities.

The government has opened the confrontation to counter student militancy and has been forced to back down.

The latest incidents indicate the power which blacks can mobilise and the permanent contradictions within apartheid. Since the closure of university in mid-June there has been a wave of meetings and demonstrations of support throughout the country. A rally of 10,000 blacks on 8 July in Cape Town launched the idea of a Free Black University in total rejection of inferior apartheid education and a white-controlled system.

Condemned

It was the success and militancy of this meeting that forced the government to order the closing of the university. For the first time in public, rank and file black leaders and black leaders in government-created institutions such as the ANC, have started to federate and several leaders claim to be trying to use this event as a means of fighting against the government policy. SASO has rightly condemned the government policy and called for the end of the government's policies.

Expulsions

These "busi college" have always been attacked by blacks, since they have taken part in the "busi college" phenomenon, they have to use them to get qualifications. They have been the birthplace of the new militant black student's movement, the South African Students' Organisation (SASO), which is the spearhead in the growing understanding by blacks of their oppression. All have seen struggles in the past two years often followed by victimisation and expulsions.

Several SASO leaders have been banned by the government, but under the circumstances it is not possible to get the government or the trade union leaders to back down.

The dangers in this are clear. The student leaders must inescapably tend to direct attention from the police situation where power really lies. Students and workers must reject this and focus the struggle in the industrial working class. The way forward is in intensifying the struggle mainly through black workers' organisations.

At times a contradiction in the government's "separate development" policy can be exploited. The very limited power and relative protection from state suppression of student leaders such as Chief Buthelezi can be harnessed in support of workers and students over specific issues. The weakness of black organisations means that their role is more crucial. Their opposition as blacks has tended to be immediately nationalistic, but some understand the need to go beyond this programme and begin to think in the black working class. The dramatic wave of strikes in Natal in February owed nothing directly to SASO's influence, although the government's policies for solidarity between Indian and African workers are a start.

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Keeping up with A Jones

IT IS rare that a shocking case of unfair dismissal is so handsomely settled, and I am delighted to be able to congratulate Laporte Industries, the chemicals group, on behaving like gentlemen.

But, after a disagreement about management policy, they unceremoniously sacked Mr. A. Jones, the Managing Director, who had been the head of the Price and Incomes Board under the Labour government. Mr. Jones's salary was reduced from £15,000 to £7,500 for six years, and his work was to 'restrain themselves' in the industry.

When the Times disapproved, the board said in June, 'We will make more money.' As Mr. Jones moved to Laporte with an immediate rise of £1,000. His salary was £20,000 a year.

Less than two years later he was sacked.

A few weeks later he joined the board of Alibright and Wilson, another chemical group, without a drop in salary.

Compensation, has at last, been agreed. Laporte will pay Mr. Jones £15,000 for sacking him so rudely, and at negligible loss.

While we're on grand gestures, it would be quite wrong not to mention the sacrifice of Sir Ronald Edwards, chairman of Beechems, who is the man who made the announcement. He is supporting his family in support of pay freezes. When Beechems were in the red, he took a pay cut during a national economic crisis, Sir Ronald suffers too.

Beechems' annual report, out this month, reveals that Sir Ronald voluntarily waived a £7,000 (£11,500 a week) wage increase promised him last September.

I am happy to announce that, in spite of the sacrifice, Sir Ronald has been able to hang onto his job in Belgrade at home for almost £7,000, as well as his country seat at Notte House, Dorset. Somehow he has been able to maintain his existing salary, which is £4,000 a year, about £80 a week.

The following advertisement appeared in the Evening Standard for 9 June:

**GREAT CLASS SPACE to Marry!**

Arch with shape. Multi-windowed. £240 per year. £350 deposit.

I gather that it is quite useless for homeless families to apply, since the 'heated space' has now been filled. I am also sorry to hear that someone has thereby been made £2,000 a week in rent for their whole families because they have been the number in the advertisement giving advice to the police to give a woman about to put their female relative in the community. Daily Express

**NOT much has been written in the newspapers about Ahmed Sefir Kharusi, the mysterious agent for the Portuguese government who organised the handling out of Portuguese propaganda by the Alfred Marks Bureau during the recent visit by the country's dictator, Dr Caetano.**

Since escaping to Britain after the 1964 coup, Kharusi has involved himself in right-wing politics of the nastiest kind. He associated closely with leaders of the National Front, the Racial Preservation Society and the Festival of Light.

At a meeting with representatives of the Racial Preservation Society and the Greater Britain Movement, a right-wing splinter led by Coln Jordan, he tried to muster a mercenary force to invade Zanzibar and restore the Sultan (and himself) to power. Each mercenary, he promised, would get a parcel of land for reward. The meeting, however, was packed with Special Branch representatives, and the plan came to an end.

Mr. Kharushi's Anglo-Zanzibar Society is a breeding ground for the most curious cretins on the extreme right. The Guardian last week quoted it as a 'spokesman for the society a certain Mr. Greig'.

This lady is the wife of Ian Greig, author of the standard McCarthyite work, Today's Revolutions, which was published in 1970. The publishers were the Foreign Affairs Publishing Group, which also publishes the East-West Digest, a monthly bulletin of ill-informed witch-hunts against socialist organisations.

**Terrible**

Mr. Kharushi's obvious devotion to right-wing politics has, of course, nothing to do with the Alfred Marks Bureau. Alfred Marks spokesman, after they had been exposed in the press, were quick to deny all political associations. This political impartiality has been doubted in the past by black people applying to the bureau for jobs.

Allison Langdon is employed by the Alfred Marks Bureau and worked until recently as a clerical assistant and interviewer at the firm's Fenchurch Street office in the City of London. One day the bureau was short of staff. Following the usual practice, the managements telephoned the company's Southend branch. Southend was able to obligate and a young woman was promptly sent by train to the Fenchurch Street office.

When she got there, she was shown in to see the manager-woman-who discovered that a truly terrible thing had happened. The young woman was black. She was promptly dispatched on some pretext or other and the manager got back to serious business.

Her counterpart in Southend was telephoned and Fenchurch Street explained that this must never happen again.

The Fenchurch managers, however, were acutely aware of the anti-discrimination provisions of the Race Relations Act. She knew she had to find a device to achieve her ends without giving the game away. 'I know,' she told Southend, 'If I ring Mr. Marks and tell him it's a colour girl you have in the room, then say: "Mr. Marks, Mr. Langdon," he knew, and it's a colour thing."

Allison Marks employed, according to Allison, are under phenomena pressure to get high targets and to profit. This, incidentally, is the real explanation why they took on the Caetano job and why they collaborate in supporting racism not just in far-off Angola but in the even more lucrative territory known as Central London.

**Gathering nuts in Mais**

PROBABLY the most scathing speech made to the fascist Caetano during his visit came from Lord Mais, Lord Mayor of London, at a banquet at the Mansion House held in the Portuguese Prime Minister's honour. Lord Mais gloved before Caetano, referring to his country as 'an old friend of Britain' and apologising for the Times revelations about the atrocities in Mozambique.

'Normal stuff, you might think, from a former Mayor of London whose office is traditionally associated with dodgy deals except that Lord Mais is an enthusiastic supporter of the Labour Party. When he took office he was described as 'Labour's first Lord Mayor'. In 1967, he was listed in the Times as one of the recommendation of that well-known Caetano-hater, Harold Wilson.

**Time Out for the censor**

EVERYONE knows that the shareholding company of this week's Time Out has absolutely no influence on editorial policy, and no one was ever very worried when rather more than 40 per cent of the shares in the courageous London weekly magazine Time Out were bought recently by that radical hippy happy family company. One of Time Out's big 'scoops' in the past week was to interview with the Littlejohn Publishing Company, who are convicted of Ireland's biggest bank robbery, the Village Company. They have done it on the instructions of the British government.

In last week's issue Time Out told of the important men and women who the Littlejohns suggested, had given the orders for the bank robbery, like this:

The detection, apparently, were made on legal advice.

Two days later, the Sunday Times, a fearless underground paper without the responsibilities weighing on Time Out, published the names of the mysterious Ministers: Geoffray Keating, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs, and Secretary of the TNAAB.

The following advertisement appeared in the Evening Standard for 9 June:

**THE DUE QUEUE DISAPPEARS**

The above headline in this month's Department of Employment News has startled readers all over the country. Can it really be that unemployment, the scourge of millions for two centuries, has now finally come to an end? No. The headline refers to the fact that the unemployed will now receive their benefit payments by post.
FAREWELL IN ARMS FOR A LCOURSER

by Bill Message

pig jumped out and demanded to be let through.' They were not allowed through, but they returned on several occasions. Dave Cunniffe went on to tell me: 'All night long there was shooting and the rattle of machine guns. The Catholics were telling us of people being shot by the B-Specials just as they were coming out of their houses.'

Dave's second tour of duty in Ireland lasted from October 1971 to February 1972. This time he was with the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in the New Lodge Road area in Belfast. The atmosphere was totally different.

'We were in a totally Catholic area and they despised us. They took us to be the tools of the Tory government opposing them while the government tried to appease the Protestants.'

'Most "lifts" took place between three and four in the morning. What would usually happen is that a platoon of troops would leave camp on foot, put on their faces blacked, carrying little equipment, and surround the area.

'The troops who were to do the actual "lifting" would leave by truck or jeep, and sneak to a halt outside the address. They would rap on the door a few times, but if there was no answer after a few seconds they would kick the door down.'

'If they found a guy of "military age"—over 11 no matter who he was they would take him.'

Talking about riot control, Dave described it as "organised chaos".

'Some of the army continued to create a situation by having numerous patrols in any one area at the same time—stop-popping everybody and searching them to.Encourage the population.'

Dave explained why he thought the IRA had to come to receive so much support from the Catholic working class.

'The Catholics were truly frightened of the Protestant mobs—later of the troops. I know I'd been around with armed troops marching around kicking doors in the middle of the night.'

Dave was in Belfast at the time of the Bloody Sunday massacre. He said a day that night. Some guy came into the disco and said that 13 Catholics had been killed in Derry.

'All the Protestant girls chanted and the soldiers from the Ulster Defence Regiment who were there were laughing and making jokes about it.'—"Unlucky for some", and other comments.'

'A friend had been in Ballymurphy when the Paras were doing a search there. He was present when a Para fired a rubber bullet at a woman and blinded her.'

The pressure of doing the British government's dirty work told on some of the soldiers too.

'He knew blow his brains out. They put it down to the fact that he'd got engaged to a local girl and a couple of weeks later she broke it off.'

Cunniffe was sent back to Ireland in July 1972. Initially it was an engineering job in the July parades, but once he got there it was extended to a full four months' tour.

'It was in July that he put in his application to get out. As soon as the year was up, I'd had enough. I was just pinned down here.'

Since he left the army Dave has been taking an interest in politics for the first time. What he did find particularly stimulating was opening his eyes to a lot of things.

TOP BRITISH BOSSES with world-wide interests have been giving evidence to a House of Commons Select Committee concerning the plight of wages they pay African workers employed by their subsidiary companies in South Africa.

One thing all the representatives of big business who have attended the committee are agreed upon is that they are very nice people indeed. They are mainly engaged not in sweating labour, but in the mission of bringing work, and if possible, to their African employees.

They have been asked to report to the committee that there are many things standing in the way of their mission, and in particular, of boosting starvation wages above the misery line.

Mr McAlpine, boss of the big construction firm Marchwell Holdings, which operates in South Africa, told the committee that no one can afford to make "grossly disproportionate increases" in the shameful wages paid to African employees.

He admitted that his company would pay higher wages to workers in the UK, but cited "industrial and related factors" as reasons for the difference.

Mr McAlpine told the committee that his company could pay higher wages, but his company could not afford to pay "higher wages for the low-paid workers who do not have to do any part-time jobs."

He said his company's policy was "basically to pay wages to workers who need to do part-time jobs to get by."

Mr McAlpine said he was "very concerned" about the "lack of training" and "lack of opportunity" for African employees.

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MTS Deane: no starvation

Evidence from J Donald McCull, a director of Consolidated Goldfields, is even more moving in its breadth of vision concerning the African's future.

He said for the first time, the basis of the system of hiring is not to avoid the payment of wages, but to provide for the general welfare of the community, particularly the supporting families, not to put men to work for a minimum wage, often in the prison-like labour camps and not to get out of any responsibility for the contract worker, whose mainparting gift from the company is a handful of fatal industrial disease.

No, the contract system is something which has grown with strong basic tribal needs, a necessary and desirable step into manhood, helping young African males to put together the money to buy a life in work together.
of child labour

by LAURIE FLYNN

They adopted two new arguments. The return on capital was perilously low and it would be highly dangerous to interfere in any way since it would lead to the bankruptcy of both manufacturers and operators.

The other argument was that no single employer could make concessions on shorter hours, ending the employment of child slaves or whatever the issue was.

After many years' bitter resistance, the Ten Hours agitation finally met with some parliamentary success. In 1847 a Ten Hours Act was passed. But it was resisted to the bitter end. Joseph Hume, John Bright and many others in the House of Commons made impassioned speeches on the dangers of reducing, or interfering with return on capital. Any job was better than no job.

Ten years later, after a move to regulate the horrors of bleaching and dying works had failed, a House of Commons Select Committee was set up to measure the problem once again. William Cobbert was chairman and he produced evidence from masters of factories that they were opposed to 'long and dangerous hours of work'.

Evil

But just like McAlpine and the other modern men, they explained that they engaged in it because others engaged in it. Only Karl Marx drew out the real significance—the system of competition itself was evil.

Still, that was long ago and things have changed. But at least the question of exploitation and misery in South Africa has been raised by the Commons committee. But as the chairman and directors of virtually every company have explained, often their interests in South Africa are subsidiary companies over which they do not have much control.

And, further, they are operating in a foreign country and have to obey the law. They ignore the fact that they have helped to shape South Africa and its laws in the pursuit of profit.

Neither do they describe the real nature of the misery and horror they inflict in South Africa. They have well-trained teams of public relations men fronting for them. Their so-called evidence is a force. Consolidated Goldfields, in its evidence, glories in the free medical assistance they give, in the housing they provide for migrant workers.

But a report last year by the radical research group Counter Information Services, shattered the pretensions of Consolidated. It showed up the lying and the deceit about wages, about living conditions, and about how the apartheid laws have been drawn up by the mining industry in the interests of the mining industry.

Consolidated Gold talks about health. As the CDS report noted, 19,000 men, virtually all blacks, died as a result of accidents in the South African goldfields in 30 years between 1936 and 1966. Accident deaths do not include the countless thousands who have died from lung diseases contracted courtesy of Consolidated Gold and others.

Visitor Heather, TUC general secretary, told the committee that British investment in South Africa could lead to the eventual development of similar social conditions to those which exist in Britain.

'I do believe there are a number of firms which like to project the British image of being concerned with the dignity of workpeople as well as the cash return,' he told the committee.

One wonders what he would have said to a committee on the regulation of child slavery. Exploitation stops at Dover, in all probability.

Young militants set bosses quaking

IT IS RARE that apprentices take a full and active part in a strike, but during the 12-week dispute at the Gardner engineering plant in Manchester, the vast majority of apprentices were either on strike or occupying the works.

As a result, the management are now trying to discourage or victimise some of the most militant apprentice by sending letters to their parents complaining of 'your son's attitude during the strike' and informing them to discuss the matter 'in their earliest possible convenience'.

Following a meeting with parents junior workers were threatened with a three-day suspension if they took part in another mass picket at the local SEI factory in Salford, where women clerical workers are striking for equality.

The threat was just the latest move in a long series of attacks on apprentices over the last few months.

Police

One Gardner apprentice who has joined the International Socialist told me: 'It really started during our own dispute when the management brought the police in several times and even started a court case to try to brake our movement and curb our enthusiasm.'

When the return to work the attacks were stepped up when we came on to work late after supporting an official mass picket called by the district committee. Obviously the management are trying to quash the Junior Workers' Committee, which they point out was in the early stages of formation as there are looking ahead to the time when we will hold AUEW posts in the factory.

They must be quaking in their boots at the thought of the effect the militancy of the apprentices could have on the factory as a whole.

Once the JWC is properly formed the days will be over when apprentices can be locked on as mindless child labour.

Struggle

The integration of the apprentices into the factory organisation, line by line, is the fact that the militant apprentices have already shown by involving themselves in the struggle that they can win significant gains and further strengthen the organisation of the factory as a whole.

Two other apprentices summed up the feeling of the young workers: 'They all have to remain nameless because of the risk of victimisation. 'If the bosses think they can't stop them, 18-year-old blokes like children are going to get away with using their parents for their own ends. They've got a fight on their hands.'

We have been pushed round long enough and we are now going to start as a united body to show our aw of this attitude of this antiquated management. For the first time apprentices are ready to fight back and we'll win.'

Glyn Carver

(Above): Black gold mine workers in South Africa stripped and searched in case they steal from their robbers.

(Right): Children being watched down a coal mine in the 1840s. How much real progress in the last 130 years?
Roche: hooking a nation

'MR A: It's my nerves, doctor, I can't seem to settle anything. Nothing seems to get done. Mr A is anxious because his apathetic and depressive state is affecting his work performance—things are piling up and he feels unable to deal with them.' So runs a Roche drug advert. The answer Mr A got, on £53,000 separate ECIQ prescription forms in 1970 alone, was a pill called Valium. When Aseanin Bevan prophesied in 1945 an avalanche of pills rattling down the throats of the British public, it was Valium he foresaw. In 1970 about 1596 million pills were taken, something like ten for every adult in Britain. When Aldous Huxley wrote in Brave New World of a drug called Soma which kept people quiet, it was Valium he foresaw too. For 12110e per kilo, a return on capital of 70 per cent. Between 1966 and 1970 Roche had a total sales revenue on Librium and Valium of £87,706.000. If one works on the estimated modest basis of the Monopolies Commission report's estimate of 48 per cent overcharge for Librium and Valium, for four years Roche has pocketed more than £42,877,000 from the NHS. To protect themselves this respectable Swiss chemical company uses business methods which would scandalise a secondhand car salesman. Its offices are in Switzerland, Uruguay and Canada for tax purposes and when the commission challenged some of the fraudulent figures they served up, they refused to provide more information.

Embezzled
In one year Dr £495,000 was spent on promotion with 66 full-time pushers, 11 of whom were actually qualified pharmacists making 38,000 separate visits to encourage what Drs Prescriptions Journal called 'the psychiatric indiscernibly of these'. Among doctors in America Timothy Leary, a radical psychotherapist whoacbused his patients, was voluntary for pleasure, faces a ten year jail sentence.

Roche's three main products were introduced just as this phenomenal growth was gaining momentum and at a time when the risks of barbiturates in overdoses, addiction and suicide were becoming appreciated. Librium was launched in 1960, Valium in 1963 and the sleeping pill Mogadon in 1965.

By 1970 Roche commanded 85 per cent of the British tranquiliser market and the Swiss based firm's annual turnover had passed £500 million with a declared annual profit of £454m and £1 share standing at £23.000 each on the stock market.

Research
The reason for this scale of profit making is the enormous overcharging of the health service. A simple sum was painstakingly worked out by the Monopoly Commission's report from figures found in Switzerland. Each kilogram involves about £100 in real chemical costs. It is sold for £19.62. One doesn't have to be a research chemist to observe a difference.

Even when allowing generous costs for 'research' (mainly on patients to prevent trials producing negative results) and 'distribution' (mainly pestered GPs with ads and by Dr GERRY DAWSON

International Socialism 60
The July issue of International Socialism features an important article by Paul Harman on the experience of Councils of Action and their relevance to the current struggles of the working class. Other articles include: Monetary Crisis: John Ure India and China: Nigel Harris Fourth International: Duncan Hallas Why did you join the Party?: Robert James Pius Notes of the Month and book reviews. International Socialism journal, 6 Cottons Gardens London E2 8DP. Annual Subscription £2.10

by Dr GERRY DAWSON

Roche adverts in the medical press: prescription for adding wealth to capitalism

by Dr GERRY DAWSON
Why our welfare is in ascet

JIM KINCAID, author of an important new book Poverty and Equality in Britain (Pelican, 60p), which estimates that five million people live in poverty in Britain, writes here of the crude economic and political reasons behind the employing class's conversion to 'welfare' this century and why such reforms cannot cure the cancer of poverty.

The feeding and medical inspection of school children. In this period, too, the more forward-looking industrialists began to appreciate that Britain could not develop a modern economy, able to compete with Germany in world markets, unless the health of workers and their political commitment to the system were improved by social reform. Hence big business was not sympathetic to the introduction of old age pensions and sickness and unemployment benefits.

The outbreak of World War Two, there were virtually no significant improvements made in the social services. On the contrary, for most of this period, the main concern of the government was to attack and limit the financial provision made for the army of the unemployed.

It is not hard to see why 1926 was the turning point. Until the General Strike of that year the ruling class, with the example of 'Tuske fresh in everyone's memory, feared the onset of working-class revolution in Britain.

The outcome of the General Strike laid those fears to rest for a generation. The working class was heavily defeated, and fell into deep demoralisation. The leadership of the trade union movement had proved themselves ready to fight in the last ditch in defence of capitalism.

Lord Beveridge, founder of the post-war welfare system. In his book, Kincaid says that Beveridge, far from being revolutionary, was concerned to use welfare as an antidote to working-class agitation.

For the next decade and a half the ruling class remained firmly in control of the social order. They had no need to generate popular support for their rule by making any serious concessions on welfare.

For the reasons given above, the poor and the dispossessed and the low paid have always been a target for the ruling class.

Ostensibly the objective is to make sure the man pays the price for his moral delinquency. But all along the line, it is the mothers and children who suffer. Social security is used as a weapon of retribution, not to give assistance in need.

For we have a rotten welfare system not just because governments refuse to raise the necessary cash by extra taxation of the affluent middle and upper classes. But also because improvements in welfare directly threaten the fabric of capitalist society.

The visibility of the existing economic system rests partly on the maintenance of a large sector of the labour forces who are subjected to exceptionally low wages and harsh working conditions.

In this way the state of the family allowance increase by £10 million, the state of poverty would cost £150 million more, but of course this money would be clawed back, leaving a net reduction...
BOOKS

Terrorism that's
born of despair

OTHER TEXT

REVOLUTIONARY socialists are often accused of being opposed to democracy. This is because we do not believe socialism can come through the parliamentary system.

But the present system is hardly democratic at all in matters that most concern people. They are compelled to spend most of their working lives in factories, offices and shops where they have to obey orders without question. They can be thrown out of their jobs and have their livelihoods taken away, merely because the seven per cent of the population who own 84 per cent of the wealth consider profits to be too low.

Yet voting 'parliamentarian democracy' plays no part in any of this.

To MARKS THE SHAM

began to take over the whole running of society.

The task of organisation they had created was far better for ensuring working-class control than any parliamentary majority could ever be.

Parliament is a debating chamber where those who claim to represent the workers argue with representatives of the ruling class. It is as useless for organising a mass struggle of workers as a joint negotiating committee with the employers is useless for running a factory.

By contrast, the workers' council brings together representatives of all those involved in struggle and enables them to hammer out a common policy.

Parliamentary representatives are cut off from the people who elect them, have higher living standards and cannot be replaced for five years. Delegates to a workers' council have no privileges and can be replaced at any time.

Parliament is concerned only with certain limited areas of our lives and has nothing to do with the questions of most concern to the working class. A workers' council leads a struggle where the forms the whole of society, challenging the power of the boss in the factory, the officer in the army barracks, the police on the street. It provides a higher, more direct form of democracy, in which every worker is involved in making the decisions that affect the most vital aspects of his life.

Revolutionary socialists are not opposed to democracy. What we are opposed to is a hollow sham democracy, in which workers are merely expected to put a cross against the name of one or other politicians every five years and then leave them to do whatever they like.

What we want is a real, workers' democracy, in which working people are involved, day in and day out, in controlling the conditions of their work and their lives.

Involved

Parliament is now considered by a majority of people to be a system which is supposed to represent the will of the people. In fact, it is a system in which the people have no say, and have no chance to express their wishes. The system is now the same as it was when it was first established.

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Our Norman

TERRORISM that's born of despair

M Y PEOPLE SHALL LIVE, by Leila Khaled, Hodder and Stoughton, £2.50, and GREEN MARCH, by John Cooley, Frank Cass, £3.50.

MENTION Leila Khaled's name to most Marxists and they hiss. Her reputation rests on her role as an armed revolutionary but in December she was arrested in London, where she had been living for 14 years. The British authorities then deported her to her former home in the West Bank. This week her case reached the European Court of Human Rights.

Leila Khaled, a Girl with One Foot in Paradise, is a powerful and intensely determined memoir of her life as a Palestinian revolutionary. When she was 16 years old she crossed into the Israeli territory of the Gaza Strip with her parents. She was forced to work in a factory. In 1981 she was one of the 22 Palestinians who smashed their way out of the Israeli prison and made their way to the West Bank. She has been in exile ever since and now lives in London. The book is an account of her life as a revolutionary.

Leila Khaled's life is not just a story of personal struggle but also a story of the struggle of the Palestinian people. It shows how women can play a vital role in the revolutionary struggle and how they can use their own experiences to fight for their own liberation.

For all the power of its appeal, the terrorists' perspective offers nothing but a violent utopia.

Green March, Black September is a different kind of book, sober, informed and illuminating.

Dick, a distinguished Communist Party member and a member of the leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, wasarrested in Aden in 1997. He was released in 1998 and is now living in London. The book is an account of his life as a revolutionary.

The book is a testament to the resilience and determination of the Palestinian people. It shows how they can use their own experiences to fight for their own liberation and to create a new society based on equality and freedom.

The book is a powerful reminder of the importance of solidarity and the role of the International Communist movement in the struggle for justice.

Dave, a British journalist, has spent many years in Palestine and his book is a testament to the resilience and determination of the Palestinian people. It shows how they can use their own experiences to fight for their own liberation and to create a new society based on equality and freedom.

The book is a powerful reminder of the importance of solidarity and the role of the International Communist movement in the struggle for justice.

Terrorism that's born of despair

N E I L H A M I L T O N
CHARLIE PARKER, black jazz musician, is one of the great tragic geniuses of our time. Almost single-handedly, he wrecked the whole music from the clutches of white commercialism, transforming it into something blacker, more personal, more poetic, more black anger and determination.

But the pressures and frustrations of being one of the few black jazz soloists in a racist society brought a terrible tuberculosis. His illness sealed his personal life that was to kill him when his views, musical and political, were still those of a small minority.

Charlie Parker was born of poor working-class parents in Kansas City in 1920. Kansas City was a peculiar oasis, both musically and politically. It managed to avoid the worst excesses of the Depression and sustained a string of clubs devoted to jazz.

And it was a distinctive jazz, almost unknown to the outside world until the great Count Basie band burst its boundaries. Its contribution to jazz was as rich and inventive as the earlier centres of New Orleans and Chicago. And it kept real jazz alive where it was threatened with extinction by the commercial world's attempts to mass-produce and sell it. It was in Kansas City, in short, saved jazz from Paul Whiteman and Benny Goodman.

It was in an early age Charlie was determined to be a musician. To the 13-year-old clucking his first satchel dances, it was one of the most exciting routes out of the ghetto of poverty.

Rhythms

He was impatient, cut his music classes, preferring to sit back at all-night jam sessions, studying at first hand the styles of giants like Basie and Young.

His public career was a disaster. He had no knowledge of music theory and his inability to transpose was turned into a rhythm in his head through his saxophone caused him to be booted and jeered from the stage.

He set out to teach himself music. Music had to be something he could learn all. He did not know that music was something that is learned successfully by just playing in four bars and then repeating until he had mastered them, committing to memory a vast storehouse of harmonic ideas that was to form the basis of his revolution in jazz within a few years.

But Bird learned other things besides harmony. Drugs were part of the jazz culture of Kansas City and it was inevitable that the raw and impressionable teenager should ape his elders, perhaps hoping that marjiuana, then heroin and cocaine would stoke the fires of his soul.

But Bird learned other things besides harmony. Drugs were part of the jazz culture of Kansas City and it was inevitable that the raw and impressionable teenager should ape his elders, perhaps hoping that marijuana, then heroin and cocaine would stoke the fires of his soul.

Ross Russell’s magnificent biography, *Bird*, portrays his first major study of men and by a white man—record in detail his bickering in the clubs and dance halls of Kansas City, his dazzling musical innovations that turned the teenager into a man old before his time, so restless and booted on hard drugs that his moods and temperaments lost him job after job.

It was in 1941, after a stay with the Jay McShann band, whose recordings had brought Bird to the attention of a wider audience, that he arrived in New York to begin the musical revolution known as Bebop.

**Contempt**

Home of the revolution was a shabby club called Minton’s Playhouse. But Bird carved himself a small dedicated group of black musicians—Kenny Clarke, Charlie Christian, Thelonious Monk, Dizzy Gillespie—bristling with new ideas. Added to the music innovations was a determination to use jazz as an expression of their contempt for the racist society.

With Bebop, jazz rediscovered its roots. Once again it was a black music, but instead of speaking of the jubilation of the southern slaves it spoke of the frustration and bitterness of the southern ghetto.

It was a hard, restless music. Casing aside all the restrictions placed upon earlier jazzmen with an enormous fund of harmonic ideas, it quickly became the leader of the Bebop revolution, which got its name from the way the new school of musicians would stress the second and last beats in the bar in sharp distinction to the old school’s one-two-three-four.

**Scream**

Bird lived his life as a man. His music, like his life, was intense and raw. He lived with a passion for music and life that was unmatched.

**The two faces of Charlie Parker**

RIGHT: The tired, far, dis-engaged Parker of five years later, only 33, but looking 10 or 15 years older.

LEFT: Charlie Parker, aged 24, in 1947, after he had come off heroin, and bounced back into jazz fresh with ideas and energy.

The new jazz caused uproar. For the younger generation, especially young blacks, it was their music, a voice crying out against the brutal injustice of American society. Crowds poured into the new clubs and halls that sprang up to accommodate the Bebop groups.

But to older America, to white America, to conservative jazz critics, Bebop was a nightmare. It dared to be different. It changed the status quo. It sparked of wild enthusiasm from the disenchanted young generation in the black ghettos.

**Scream**

I have one record from that session, ‘Loverman.’ Bird, fumbling, playing like a novice, is quite terrifying. It is a long, musical scream, a call for help that knows it will get no answer.

On other occasions, the great drama is still there. Dried out and a little older, after a long period in a sanitarium, Bird would once again play music that nobody else could match.

But Bird couldn’t shake off his dependence on drugs and alcohol. Gradually his sickness returned and with it the calamitous public scenes, quarelling with musical partners, storming from the stage, throwing his saxophone into a hotel window. He knew he was ill and on New Year’s Day, 1955 he told a friend he had not expected to see the year in. He died in the Rambai from Omoh Kusuyam:

Come, fill the cup, and in the fire of spring
Your Winter garment of Repentance
The Bird of Time has but a little way
To flutter—and the Bird is on the wing.

Roger Protz

He died three months later. The doctor put his age down as late fifties or early sixties. He was 35.

As soon as news of his death leaked out, the slogan ‘Bird Lives’ began to appear, chalked on the walls of black areas of New York. His music and his message lived on for a while by the hipsters of a new generation.

But Bird was to fly again, through the music of John Coltrane and the ‘New Wave’ musicians of the 1960s, linked this time to a conscious mass movement fighting against a corrupt and bitter racist society, a society that had smudged and defiled Bird andinity consumed him, but not his cause.

Read this book, the best political book I have read this year. Above all, read it to Bird (there are many albums now available) and understand why one sympathetic critic said on his death: ‘If he hadn’t been black, he wouldn’t have suffered the way he did. But if he hadn’t been black, he wouldn’t have played the way he did.’

Rogor Protz
WHAT WE STAND FOR

The International Socialist 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 organisations.

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

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

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

In Europe, the Common Market has been formed for the sole purpose of increasing the trade and profit of these multi-national firms.

The international power of capitalism cannot be overcome by international action by the working class. A single socialist state cannot exist to the exclusion of workers of other countries actively coming to its aid and extending the socialist revolution.

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 either Washington or Moscow. To this end we have close relationships with a number of other socialist organisations throughout the world.

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

We fight:

For rent and rate control of the trade unions and the regular re-election of all full-time officials.

Against the splits. We believe that all settlements should be agreed by or reached by mass meetings.

For 100 per cent trade unionism and the defense of shop stewards.

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

For equal pay and a better deal for our own less.

For productivity deals and job evaluation and for militant trade union unity and joint shop stewards committees both in the plant and on a com

For a minimum wage of at least £25 a week.

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

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

Against racism and police victimisation of black workers.

Against immigration restriction.

For the right of coloured people and all oppressed groups to organise in their own defence.

For real social, economic and political equality for women.

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

Against secret diplomacy.

Against all forms of imperialism.

We unconditionally give support to solidarity with all genuine national liberation movements.

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

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

The struggle for socialism is the central struggle of our time. Workers' power and a world based on human solidarity, on the increasing of man's power over nature, with the abolition of the power of man over man, is certainly worth fighting for.

It is no use just talking about it. More than a century ago Karl Marx wrote: 'The philosophers have merely interpreted the world, the point is to change it.' If you want to fight and build socialism, join us.

THERE ARE 15 BRANCHES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS

DUSTMEN

British Steel Corporation will spend £45 million on its Ebew Vale plant as part of its refitement of the steel industry

From The Sunday Times, 29 March 1970. Now, three years later, Ebew Vale is for the shop

NOW that the British Steel Corporation has succeeded in closing down production at its Newport Tube plant, it is worth looking at the methods used by the BSC to deceive the men into accepting a place on the scrapheap.

The ace card was to offer jobs at the Llanwern works to 160 men—fewer than a quarter of the Newport work-force. In addition, half-promises about new factories moving into the area were made, redundancy and retention money being used as a carrot— and resistance collapsed.

When shop stewards visited Llanwern they made an interesting discovery. During the summer about 200 students and other casual workers are normally taken on to cover the holiday and shut-down period. This year none were expected to be taken on. Their places have been taken by redundant Newport men being led like lambs to the slaughter.

BSC will probably have the fact to their discredit that if any Newport men were taken on to cover the holiday shortfall—were there any?—they would be axed before long.

The Newport Tube Fight for jobs was severely handicapped from the start as the struggle was purely localised and based on an appeal to prove to the BSC that the plant was or could be saved.

SAVED

Other steelworks seem to be set on re-running the tragedy. Ebew Vale, Newport, Hartlepool, Consett and East Moors have all come up with convincing and well-documented arguments that they are 'special cases' which should be saved because of local profitability, plans to modernise or the fact that they produce unique products.

The most typical example is Peter Davies, chairman of the works in街上 whose steelworks has outlined in detail all the influential people who have been spinning in his defence. One of the plant's profitability, informed of the position, was quoted as saying: 'If Peter told that BSC has got its sums wrong.'

The only thing wrong with this argument is that BSC is not interested in the profitability of individual plants. It is interested in the profitability of the whole steel industry, so to do this BSC wants to concentrate production into an even decreasing number of giant, so-called 'heritage' units producing huge quantities but with workforces slashed and productivity raised.

It is quite useless to mount the 'special case' argument against this.

It helps to divide plant from plant and in no way affects links with those few plants where closure is not threatened and which may even be expanded—but which are threatened by another prong of the productivity offensive.

The situation in the industry has grown more, not less serious in recent weeks.

The prediction by Steelworker, the rank and file newspaper, that the BSC work-force was to be chopped to 100,000, not the 180,000 promised by Peter Walker, is already receiving confirmation. A careful study of the latest statistics issued by the BSC and circulated by the Electricians Union shows that the 30,000 redundancies announced at the end of last year have now 'grown' to 36,000.

STRATEGY

The battles of the past few months have shown that the Tory-employer offensive cannot be resisted piecemeal coupled with lobbies of parliament or BSC headquarters. A real fighting strategy must be built up that pays more attention to all productivity deals and in support of the right to work.

Such a strategy means the whole work-force must be involved, with regular mass meetings and an end to decision-making behind closed doors.

That there are now severe steel shortages as a result of the closures and redundancies already pushed through, and fantastic increases in productivity at other plants not threatened, exposes the insanity and waste not only of BSC's strategy. But is in the system of which BSC is part, human considerations being nothing. The pursuit of profit is all.

The National Action Committee is currently operated by steelworkers is devoted to building a union-wide strategy uniting all steelworkers. If it can win the steelworkers away from the 'special case' arguments and the constitutional protest and can develop a united struggle for the right to work, then the Tory-BSC plans to murder whole communities—with the consent of union officials—can be frustrated.

The secretary of the National Action Committee is K. Moir, 20 Chester Clow, Shoreham, Dwidgette, Flint.

For to the front of the class

THE editorial office of The Class, the publication of the National Union of Teachers, has suddenly and unexpectedly moved office. The journalists are now housed in Hamilton House, NUT headquarters itself.

It is thought that this is entirely connected with newly-elected NUT president Max Morris's desire to increase his control over censorship of the paper.
Engineers, Don’t forget Scare Tactics

The press launched its political scare season this week as the preliminary agenda for the Labour Party Conference was published. Reaction from the right to the call from 65 constituency parties for “overwhelming public ownership was essential.” The Daily Telegraph on Monday, under a headline ‘Old-Time Socialism’, produced an old-time leader.

To judge from its provisional conference agenda, the Labour Party is continuing to move away from any serious encounter with the problems that actually face this country. Once again we have the same old motions calling for more state ownership, “democratic control” of industry, more taxation of the “rich” and “freedom in education.”

One of the problems that actually faces this country is the Daily Telegraph, for the leader continued.

“Yet Labour seems to show a pronounced tendency to bury itself in the daily doings of its party rather than a real-class solidarity, with the working class carrying the co-existing side by side, when what is needed is a moral crusade.”

The Labour Party and bad for Britain, since it impoverished the democratic soul.”

What the Telegraph really means is that socialism might impoverished a few of its rich readers.

Labour, however, is easy to laugh at this sort of poison and say that the only people to read it are of Telegraph type anyway. But the Telegraph is much respected by other Fleet Street editors and because it usually gets in first with political comments, sets the tone for the rest of the press.

The papers of the so-called left, in response, gratefully brought themselves to recommend people to vote Labour at the next general election. To read over their golden words on important issues is just to let their emotions run away with them and their real position come out with something so extreme that, on the one hand, advertisers are frightened off, and on the other, their employees tell them to put their money where their mouth is.

ATTI: A reply

As the writer of the ATTI Conference report I cannot allow Les to continue his attack, with its false accusations, to the public and to other readers (Letters, 14 July). In reporting a two-day conference, which was open to all, those who were not present have no right to attack it.

Les’s comments were prompted by the attitude of the executive and the emergence of a new, independent interpretation of the conference resolution was, in my opinion and that of many militant delegates, accurately correct.

Les says that the executive, which includes Communist Party members, played a reactionary role, and this damages the movement against the Party. The fact is, the Party has no policy except to support the ‘left’ union leaders — which renders the Party impotent in the face of rank and file pressure, including that of its own militant members.

This is not the only issue where Party militants on the floor vote differently from members on the platform.

On the question of the blacklist Kent was a progressive one, supported by the executive and carried with no opposition. This is itself should lead us to doubt the effectiveness of such a motion unless backed up strongly at local level, especially as Les considers it “desperate” at the “community level” when later the executive displayed much less enthusiasm for local campaigns and the action on the same issue.

One thing that conference rejected the flat rate claim in spite of Les’s fine speech, but to place responsiblity for this squarely on the leadership seems unfair. The conference, in fact, was led in the main by staunch Labour leaders — BRIAN ROSE, Middleton, Manchester.

March with us against internment

The next few weeks have two important dates in the continuing Irish struggle. Tuesday 31 July is the anniversary of internment by the British, when the British tanks crushed the non-violent demonstration in which my brother was killed while the year later the schools and sports grounds remain occupied.

The internment marked the beginning of the third year of internment, an attempt to be called but definitely to spread the “enemy” the number involved has increased from 500 to more than 1,000.

Internment may appear to be no longer an issue, judging by the press. This is not the case. From a technical point of view, internment is the time only Long Kesh (the Maze) is mentioned when another tunnel is discovered. Sadly, the press is not available as yet another ‘riot’ is quartered to escape from Long Kesh. The likelihood of suicide of an interned was highly mentioned.

The second anniversary of internment must not be allowed to pass without the interned contacting the workers, socialists, republicans and trade unions throughout Britain and Ireland.

The Coventry Seven Prisoners Defense Committee have been active in attempting to secure the unconditional release of our only political prisoners here in Coventry. Indeed, for further details please contact the Defence Committee. — WILLIAM THOMPSON, Coventry Prisoners Defense Committee 360 27 Poyes Lane, Hillfields, Coventry.

In the long term the strongest of shops can be undermined if they find their workers doing their strength on a collective basis. Other workers in weaker shops become more aware of the exploitation of their work, and the potential and necessity of trade union representation to improve their situation.

Socialist Worker wants to hear from you. What you like about the paper—and what you don’t like. Your thoughts and comments on problems facing work. Your own solutions to your own problems. We publish your comments. The workers, the significance of the equal pay increase becomes obvious. Unionists who are Members of Parliament may be hesitant to take on the government, will be more likely to do so if they are allowed by law to get their members involved. The potential for the equal pay increase will necessarily be used.

It is important that socialists in engineering should not overlook or ignore what is possible to do at a time when the Engineering Employers Federation is being given a new, broad-based influence when it is the cross-cutting details of how employers can avoid paying the ‘fair’ rate of pay, strike, and the question of government-imposed ‘equal pay’ legislation that will be necessary to be used.

MAGAZINE

This article by Roger Rosewell on the lessons from the last engineering pay strike is of more than passing interest — generalizing the next one was absolutely correct and published in plenty of time to make a serious attempt at getting a lead to rank and file engineers. The next one which must be hammered home is that in this kind of issue it is not just for a minor devolution that must be done on a union federation basis. This will tend to unite workers of different unions, unlike the many cases of majority unions. Various parties are being taken in and thus reducing any feelings of isolation and the most of all are being used.

Mass meetings of all shop stewards in the areas under Confederation agreements must be fought for and the leadership of the conference will hold within that context and not allow the activists to be defeated by the deep bargaining. All settlements must be vetted by the activists.

Many strong organized shops will still feature the illusion that they cannot do it on their own. This must be exposed as the policy of the suicidal.

PROFIT

On the domestic side of Fleet Street, poor Murdoch is in trouble again. Last Saturday the Sun’s two journalists held up production to play a show meeting to discuss the ways and means of persuading the management that they really ought to talk about rising in the form of merit money, which is allowed under the pay structure.

The journalists who helped Murdoch to make more than $100 million profit last year ought to have some concern about how it is being handled. Somewhere a big bank executive, who had been gnawing about the meagerness of their salaries, was a company car up to the value of $1800.

But on another page, in the ‘Youth World’ section, Mr Liddy was dosing out advice to his readers, not being a better man, but a socialist, on how to invest their savings. And Mr Liddy, who earns about $5000 a year plus expenses, came up with this incredible sentence: ‘Take a sum like $10000 — which many people have saved away.”

The news this week was that Murdoch was “improving” his murky image by supporting the Labour Party during the campaign.

It is one of the sheer ironies of this campaign that the electorate for the first time in modern time have a choice. Before, they did not have much of a choice, but now they do. And it is up to the electorate to make the choice.

Collape

The Daily Mirror, for example, gave its readers a strong injection of space as if it were tired of their failure to attract attention and interest at all.

But the reaction to this from the left was the removal of less comfort from this week’s Sunday paper. This is a consequence of the rise in sales and an ever-increasing number of subscribers, and these services would in any case be closed after the election. But John Liddell, who was there all right in the Sunday People, agreed that the country is in a much better place.

But on another page, in the ‘Youth World’ section, Mr Liddy was dosing out advice to his readers, not being a better man, but a socialist, on how to invest their savings. And Mr Liddy, who earns about $5000 a year plus expenses, came up with this incredible sentence: ‘Take a sum like $10000 — which many people have saved away.”

Leonard Hill

Leonard Hill

On Black Nationalism and Self-Determination 45p

Fascism. What is, and how to fight it 25p

On the Union Unions 45p

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London E2 8DN
IS branch backs locked out newsmen

NOTTINGHAM—50 people attended a meeting last week called by Nottingham International Socialists in support of 300 locked-out printers and journalists at the local newspapers, the Guardian-Journal and Evening Post. The workers are now publishing their own paper, The Press, in competition with the blackleg Post.

Four speakers from the joint liaison committee representing the journalists’ and printers’ unions, spoke at the IS meeting on the background to the lockout and the production of The Press.

Several speakers from the floor stressed that while the production of The Press was excellent, the enthusiasm must be on how to win the dispute. Members of the employers’ side agreed and the only way to win the employers was to stop materials going in and the papers coming out—and that meant mass picketing.

Picketing at the moment is sparse and unless the Post is shut completely the majority of the workers becoming demoralised. Geoff Johnson, an IS engineering union member, said that in spite of the AWU members out who were still working at the Post, a picket should be placed on the local union offices. It was the officials’ responsibility to see that their members did not get back.

John Kennedy, London IS print-worker, was the invited speaker at the meeting. He congratulated the Nottingham workers but also stressed the need for effective rank and file organisation.

Copies of the rank and file paper Printworker were sold at the meeting.

AGAINST THE ARMY

BEVERLEY, East Yorkshire—The market square of this small town was crawling with plain-clothes policemen when a small group of members of Clann na hAireann and the International Socialists gave out leaflets during a ceremonial procession by the Green Howards, the Yorkshire regiment, on Tuesday last week.

The regiment was formed in Northern Ireland, where they earned a reputation as ‘Brownhounds’ among the Catholic population. Leaflets handed out gave details of low army morale, the manipulation of working-class youths by the army, with the help of the working-class people of Ulster. They called for troops to be withdrawn.

The heavy police surveillance may have been prompted by reports of the proposed leafletting in the local paper, the Hull Daily Mail, which printed an editorial calling this ‘a squalid demonstration’.

Plain-clothes police were observed looking around a car belonging to a member of IS shortly after he had parked. Although those in the car had carried no number of leaflets, alongside police, including many uniformed men, Jim and really have outgunned the Green Howards band and the leafletters combined.

Outlookers at the ceremony were probably aware of police activity, any more than they would have rushed out that the soldiers in their red jackets were the same men who charged into Belfast homes.

MANCHESTER—Members of the International Socialists packed a conference last week to discuss plans for extending activity in the area. They heard national committee member Tony Cliff stress the importance of building factory branches of the organisation in order to raise political questions such as racism on the factory floor.

Cliff said there were now fantastic opportunities for building a revolutionary party and stated that it was not just ‘out of this world’ to expect to recruit 20,000 industrial workers in the next 12 months. Gerry Jones, a transport union shop steward at Chrysler's Stoke plant in Coventry, spoke on the important role of Wynn Action Group during the recent battle at Chrysler. He also pointed out the important role played by the IS rank and file paper The Carver, a left-wing party affair at Parkinsons.

Frank Brooks, of the new IS factory branch at Gunnedham engineering workers, spoke on the outbreak strike at Gunnedham. He said there was not really a strike itself but that the management left the works closed to the point where the IS branch, including the AWU, was put on strike. Other speakers were Paul Scottish, national secretary of the CWU, and John Cunliffe, chairman of the conference and the conference and 300 members were asked to help finance IS activity in the area.

Punjabi paper launched

TEN THOUSAND copies of Chingari (Spark), an International Socialist paper for Indian Punjabis, were printed late last week and a large number of these were sold on the big anti-racist demonstration in London on Sunday.

The first issue contains articles on the struggle of Asian workers against sweatshop conditions in London and the Midlands, an interview with an Asian shop stewards leading a strike, and an article by Chingari, a Know Your Rights column of advice on welfare claims, a look-back at the Manchester Festival dispute in Loughborough, an analysis of the House of Lords ruling on the Immigration Act and a piece on why Chingari is needed.

Special Chingari posters are also being produced for display in the Asian communities and IS branches will be making a major effort to get Asians to take bulk orders of the paper.

The paper costs 2p a copy and will be available in bulk from Shafiq Khan, Chingari, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E3 0DN. An Urdu edition of the paper will appear in the next few days.

Lock-out sparks total shutdown

HULL—Workers have been locked out at two factories, and one has developed into a major confrontation.

At Myasda's radiophony factory virtually the whole workforce is on strike after 48 maintenance men, members of the engineering and electricians' union, were sent home and then sacked. The dispute arose when management attempted to drop a new payment. Workers blocked a new part of the factory and were then locked out.

Members of the transport union and the engineering union's super-branch (TASS), which has made the strike official, have come out in protest. The factory is absolutely solid and the factory will be shut down and closed to deliveries until the 48th reinstated.

Meanwhile at the Manufacturing Company, a subsidiary of

Femina, 18 TASS members are involved in four days of another lock-out. They had already been “in occupation” anything until September and so applied sanctions. They too were locked out.

This is a small works, and the TASS members are a majority of the workforce and the only organised group. Management have put up a fraudulent notice beside the gate claiming that only a few ‘organised men’ are out and that members of the TGWU, ETU and AWU were working normally. There are only one TGWU, two ETU and four AWU members in the plant!

The propaganda has not fooled many people and the TASS men, who have official backing, have naturally turned back most deficiencies to the works. They are confident they can stick out until they win.

Don’t let it chance to take: take out a postal subscription to SW
Kodak workers fight for union

HEMEL HEMSTEAD—A 10-year battle for union rights at Kodak, the photography giant, came to a head on Friday last week, when 1000 workers walked out for a factory gate meeting, causing a two-week sit-down.

The men are the colour processing division, members of the Communication Workers Union, the ACTC, which Kodak recognises as their union.

They face not only an anti-union management, but also (in the words of the chairman) a union of Kodak workers, which struggles to keep both Kodak money and Kodak money and Kodak Industrial Relations Division.

The strike leader, Ron Pickup, is a personnel manager, said ACTC representative Frank Keoghan: 'We've been trying to get a job to see that the machinery is not damaged or used against the workers.

'The walk-out at the latest move is a productivity disaster. Kodak wants the men to operate a new machine which will save them money. But the machinery is too complex for the staff and the company's films—yes, to pay the men a penny more.

Kodak made £70 million profit last year. Now, it makes £0 million profit every day.

Kodak had already refused to pay extra for two innovations that increased productivity six-fold, and this third refusal was the last straw. The men blacked the machine and session in a working strike up to jobs on it in the firm's job evaluation scheme.

It means a third cut in productivity. Kodak has made five by switching from two shifts to three, stopping all overtime—up to which the men agreed to pay for their summer holidays.

The men, who are new to the firm, are entitled to overtime, which is only to strip the plant, they say. The men have to picket. Kodak has no alternative.

Kodak has a rule which allows it to dismiss workers.

The men have now told Kodak that they will stick to their jobs if Kodak does not agree to their demands.

The workers, who are new to the firm, are entitled to overtime, which is only to strip the plant, they say. The men have to picket. Kodak has no alternative.

NORTH YORKSHIRE—Miners at Gomersal pit came out on strike for one day last Thursday.

After the disaster at nearby Loftedge Colliery, where seven were killed, the Coal Board used old disabled shafts as an excuse to close Gomersal pit. But the company has refused to pay redundancy money to the miners. The press office at Longhurst says that the miners are the only ones who have not been paid for the first three days, or even been given any notice.

Originally the Coal Board said no one would be forced to go back, but on Thursday the nationalised industry is now paying £1 million to miners with the same job.

They have been fed the same story about Nationalisation, Nationalisation, the story of the Scottish Board to transfer them to. Yet in the past two weeks, the Coal Board has refused to pay any of these pits under the same excuse: they are not being paid for the old shafts.

The real reason for the closures is nothing to do with the danger to the mines, which has always been an excuse. This is simply the Coal Board's inability to manage the mining industry, and productivity.

In most of the pits in the north of Yorkshire, the colliery is only maintained in this last tough. This makes the use of modern machinery starting production impossible. Until recently at Gomersal most of the miners had been paid, but for several years the Coal Board has had to concentrate production in the east of the coalfields where the seams are thickest and more profitable. Many men at Gomersal want the Coal Board to pay them their redundancy money and let them get a day off and learn a new trade.
**Prices: Something to beef about**

The continuing rise in the price of beef is causing by-stander atrophying.

From Norman Buchan, Leithmouth's accounts, the following figures were given by the by-standers to the government which give the lie direct to the government's claim that the cost of living is not rising significantly...

Mr. Buchan's calculations are based on the figures of the United Nations to show that the wholesale price of American beef is now...

BIRMINGHAM-250 building workers demonstrated outside court on Monday when the five Birmingham building workers and three ATV cameramen accused of conspiracy were charged with breaking into the offices of a lump labour firm.

Workers came from all the major sites in Birmingham, including Bayswater, Taylor-Woodrow, Elvins, Wimpseys and Stubbing. The strength of the demonstration was good because it is the middle of the city's industrial holidays and many of the big car and engineering firms were unable to send delegations.

The demonstration was addressed by the UCATT Defender, as A. Franks, a member of the International Socialists. This case, he said, was part of a big Tory offensive against the working-class movement. The trial of 24 building workers at Shrewsbury, the Industrial Relations Act, the freeze, and now the racist Immigration Act were all part of a strategy designed to split and weaken the trade unions in the interests of higher profits for the bosses.

The case is likely to be sent to be heard at the Old Bailey, and the defence committee is planning a bigger demonstration for the trial itself. "We are going to make this a second Saalfeld," he said, to cheers from the crowd.

**Victory for builders' pickets**

FLINTSHIRE—Four more building workers were acquitted at Mold Crown Court last week in charges of intimidation of the press and threatening to damage a car. The prosecution brought 17 witnesses against four men accused of a number of crimes.

Last Thursday the jury returned not guilty verdicts on Arthur Murray and Leslie Davies, who were accused of intimidating workers, encouraging damage to property and threatening to damage a car. The prosecution brought 17 witnesses against Murray during the seven-day trial.

After the trial Murray said: "These trials are all nonsense. What is going on is the support of the police and the building unions for the building firms."

**Slave labour men get strike boost**

CRAWLEY—Indian engineering union members at Crawley Management, an ICI and Imperial Metals subsidiary, are on strike to call for equal pay and union recognition. The men have had to work for the past two months with two days without pay.

For some time ICI and Imperial Metals Management have been telling the men that their profits still further. Last Wednesday management declared they would start using strike-breakers if the union was not paid by 50 per cent.

Some workers said they were just enough, that the strike was also a severe test of patience and trust.

Some management calculated that the firm and insecurity produced by low wages alone would cost the company £50,000 in losses.

The strike has been made official by the IEC. The union is holding strike meetings and giving financial help to pickets.

Students from Brighton immediately responded to an appeal to send pickets to the Croydon strike to help local students or strike breakers on sites—some white, a few Indians—on the strike.

The Indian strikers, after contacting the newly formed Crawley Joint Shop Stewards Co-ordinating Committee, received widespread support from the large number of factories in the town, including APF, Trentham, William Stott, Edwards High Vacuum and Mynah.

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**Strike over racism**

LONDON—Standard Telephone and Cables, Southgate, where 120 night shift workers in the machine shop struck against racism, is a classic struggle of the trade union movement on the shop floor. STC employs 3,000 manual workers and about half are black. Yet the blacks are not found majorly in a few shops, which is the other trade union movement operation of a "thoroughly open" policy.

In words of personnel director A P Smith, "We have no intention of having a race-based shop."

The inevitable in a workforce of 830 is to work in wages between black and white.

The management has taken the stand that the workers that are operating open racial discrimination.

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The inevitable in a workforce of 830 is to work in wages between black and white.

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**UNION-BOSS ALLIANCE**

LOWESTOFT—Last week the management of the Pye television factory and the Pye National Union of Students formed an alliance to get rid of a militant union. The factory was taken over by the students.

Some weeks ago management suspended T. L. Smith, one of the most militant students. Some weeks ago management suspended T. L. Smith, one of the most militant students. The management had been working for a while, the workers...

Management has taken the stand that the workers that are operating open racial discrimination.

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