Government swindle robs pensioners' increase

by PAUL FOOT

£1.60 for a married couple.

These included 40,000 people living as members of someone else's household; 9,000 people who pay an 'exclusive charge for board and lodging' and 16,000 people in 'Part III accommodation and hospital' whose 'total monthly allowance will be increased by 20p.'

The supplementary benefit swindle affects thousands of retired workers who have small occupational pensions, but are still on supplementary benefit. About 30,000 retired miners, for instance, who draw supplementary benefit, will not receive the full increase in their miners' pension handed out last April under the Coal Industry Act. In some cases the entire increase of £1.50 a week has been clawed back by the DSS.

Miners and other retired people in local authority housing will also have to fork out in increased charges.

David Knights, a retired miner who lives in Basnett House, an old people's home run by Dudleyshire County Council, received a letter from the council on 19 July informing him that the charge for accommodation was being increased by £1.30 a week from the date of his pension increase last April. The letter demanded payment of 'unearned charges' of £24.

Wiped out

Tom told Socialist Worker that he pays £4 for a room and a morning cup of tea. From the remaining £5.05 he has to meet all his other expenses, including food.

The extra 20p, he points out, will not go a long way to meet price increases since pensions were raised last year. The price of a piece of fish, he says, has gone up from 10p to 15p in the last two months.

If Tom has a fish supper four days a week (as is his custom) the Tories' 20p will be wiped out.

A spokesman for the Department of Health and Social Security said that Tom's case was "exceptional." About 100,000, or 5 per cent of all pensioners on supplementary benefit, would have their benefit adjusted downwards so that the total increase in their income would be less than the standard £1 for a single person and.

INSIDE the top socialist paper

THREE HUNDRED people died on Monday as US planes attacked towns in Cambodia. The war in South East Asia goes remorselessly on but now it is the forgotten war, ignored by press and television.

But Nixon's crimes in Cambodia reduce the Watergate affair to the level of a village bun-fight.

On page 2 Ian Birchall analyses a war that kills one day as many people as died in an average British city in the whole of the Second World War.

THE LIBERALS are cock-a-hoop after their recent by-election successes. They are busily presenting themselves as radicals and friends of the working man. In fact the Liberals' policies are identical to those of the Tories.

And the 'left wing' gloss of workers' participation is a cheap gimmick to build trade unionists more closely to the capitalist system. On the centre pages, Paul Foot looks at the two-faced wheeler-dealers running the junior Tory Party.

HISTORY? That's kings and queens. How many times have you heard that? And that is the history that is still taught in most schools.

But the working class has a history, too. A history of brutal oppression and magnificent struggle. On page 5 Alastair Hatchett starts a special series of articles on the industrial revolution and the birth of the modern working class.
The man who sat at Stalin's feet

THE EAST GERMAN Communist leader, Walter Ulbricht, who died last week, was one of the last representatives of a generation of Communists who put loyalty to Moscow above everything else.

Ulbricht was already a leading member of the Communist Party in Berlin before Hitler came to power. In 1932 he was one of the authors of the infamous program document which stated: 'At present Hitler's policy is causing the irremediable destruction of the Social Democratic Party, the Party of Reconstruction. We, the Communists, are the only party that can offer resistance to the Fascist policy.'

When Hitler came to power over the heads of a divided left, Ulbricht took refuge in Russia. At the time of the pact between Hitler and Stalin in 1939 some German Communists were handed over to the Nazis. But Ulbricht was too useful—he was saved for better things.

In 1945 he was sent to Berlin to try to save the flagging fortunes of the East German state. He moved quickly to establish a worker's committee which had been set up to get everything under party control.

The new regime made no mention of Marx, sadness was strictly discouraged from the 'international'.

Stony Ulbricht built up the so-called 'socialist' regime in East Germany. The regime showed its true colours in June 1955, when Berlin building workers stopped work and demonstrated against a move to increase productivity. As the strike spread Ulbricht threatened to ask the factory curators to restore law and order.

In 1949 the politics of Ulbricht's greatest contribution. He went further than Stalin. In 1952 the regime declared 'Socialism in one country': Ulbricht built the Berlin Wall just in time to prevent the spread of his socialist paradise.

But this was no time for Europe but socialism will not survive till the East German working class has something to work with. Unlike Ulbricht there is nothing to do with

PUPPET REGIME

By Ian Birchall

THE TRAGIC futility of the American attempt to keep a grip on Cambodia is obvious to everyone. Despite American bombing, the liberation forces are holding their own in the capital, Phnom Penh, where the US puppet regime of Lon Nol is still in power.

The Lon Nol regime is now collapsing. The members of the ruling clique are sending their families abroad, the Phnom Penh police chief and the commander-in-chief of the army have already done so.

Illegal visas are fetching up to £500, Soong Noi-Thanh, so only last year was Lon Nol's prime minister, now is in exile in Saigon, and has accused Lon Nol of surrounding himself with 'card-players, alcoholics and losers'.

Naturally it is the workers of Phnom Penh, for whom there is no exit visas, who are bearing the heaviest burden. Over the last few weeks rents, food and clothing prices have risen by more than 25 per cent, while wages have stood still and unemployment has risen to 40 per cent. Phnom Penh workers earn just 25 months and spend almost that on food. Since the spring the workers' cost of living indexes have risen by 60 per cent, while the upper or European index has increased by less than 25 per cent.

Lon Nol only survives because of the massive US bombing. In recent months there has been an average of 1800 B-52 sorties a month over Cambodia as against just 800 in 1971 for all Indochina (including Vietnam). In April the French paper Le Monde quoted a Western diplomat as saying: 'The Americans drop their bombs, we just turn up and collect the woman. They don't even know the effects of their own bombing.'

This weekend the bombing is expected to stop. The reason claimed is economic. But, according to the Washington Post on 31 May, there is 'no indication that the US B-52 bomber crews at bases on Guam and in Thailand who talk of being 'mercenaries' caught up in a war 'not in my country's national interest'.

The Americans are still trying hard to aid Lon Nol, and there is a possibility that the 'magnate and the propriety' may be used in the war. But, there seems little hope of Lon Nol being bailed out.

The debacle in Cambodia coincides with the US government's attempt to sell off facts about the past conduct of the war in Cambodia.

There is the evidence of a bomb plotter who deliberately bungled the bombing, and the doctors who gave false information, that 1971 US soldiers only reported.

The US government has foolishly tried to cover up for Prince Sihanouk, then head of state in Cambodia and now leading the opposition.

Sihanouk has, naturally, denied the US bomb plot, but he has raised the fear that his government is being blackmailed for these war criminals.

This is a situation calling for the unity of all classes in the defense of national independence and neutrality.

RAF was ready to take over dockers' jobs

I WAS interested in the recent article about the activities of the RAF at Linton-on-Ouse, York, during the dock strike of 1970. I was able to confirm in conversation with the workers of the armed forces being organized into an 'emergency labour force' that the various forces intended to man the docks in the event of the strike lasting any considerable time.

I was sent up to RAF Goxton, near York, to the camp and station which is normally closed down. We were crammed aboard military transport and buildings and emergency kitchens were set up.

The article reported that for three days only, but provision had been made for the dockers if necessary. In order to minimise the effect of the unpopular war, our work in the docks would have aroused, members of the forces were not sent to the docks nearest their base. For example, we went from York to Newcastle, people from the North East went to Hull, and these actions were designed at all the docks affected by the strike.

We were not used on that occasion. I am glad to say that, but,make no mistake, the government of this country is prepared to use the armed forces against the workers to enforce law and order. It is impossible to envisage a policy to hold back pickets, to support the workers and placate the workers to prevent the workers from winning the strike, to support the strikers, to prevent the workers from winning their strike.

So far Nyere is able to neutralise the competition between attires and peasants, town and countryside. He has performed the remark has been the fear of being the favourite African leader of both Britain and China's 'Sinners', says your headline, and that's the wrong road. On the contrary, all the indications are that he is extremely wily and bold for the present— the correct path along a thoughtful— PETER DEG: Dollars and Cents. (Lonsdale, Leeds 14.)

Nyerere's Tightrope

The article by Bob Carter headed 'Sinners': The man on a tightrope' (August 11) is the most revealing of the situation that exists under Nyerere's leadership in Tanzania.

For Nyerere is in a difficult situation. He has to strike a balance between the various groups that look to him for leadership. He has to keep the韬 rate and stay alive with the nationalist movement, to keep the army, to keep the intellectuals, to keep the peasants, to keep the workers, to keep the middle-class, to keep the bourgeoisie, to keep the United Party, to keep the British and Chinese who are always trying to undermine his position. So far Nyere is able to neutralize the competition between attires and peasants, town and countryside. He has performed the remark has been the fear of being the favourite African leader of both Britain and China's 'Sinners', says your headline, and that's the wrong road. On the contrary, all the indications are that he is extremely wily and bold for the present— the correct path along a thoughtful— PETER DEG: Dollars and Cents. (Lonsdale, Leeds 14.)

We were all handed a leaflet explaining that we were not in fact striking-breakers but that we were to support the workers and to help them.

Overthrow

But whatever Laird's motives, the charge has a ring of truth. On 5 January 1970, about two months before he was appointed, Sihanouk wrote a letter to the Guardian in which he described US intervention. For instance, we are fighting with our workers resources against Americans' blacklists of workers, against our border areas—and against Communist countries, who, taking advantage of the military situation, infiltrate into our territory.

Sihanouk has now been forced out of this attitude of neutrality to US aggression, but it is obvious that he is trying to build him up as a consistent revolutionary.

Sihanouk was a playboy—one of his favourite activities was making films with himself starring in a guerrilla leader. Recently he described his programme: 'Our internal policy will be socialist and patriotic: we are the people of the state and private enterprise will coexist.'

The question of the role of the Church is going to. What will follow is not clear, for Sihanouk will certainly be willing to discuss compromise. What is clear is that for the workers and peasants an attempt at any kind of revolutionary struggle is just beginning.
**BRITAIN'S WATERTUBE—AT LAST THE STORM BREAKS**

**Socialist Worker**

**WHAT WE THINK**

WHAT can we do about prices? Is there any way that ordinary people can protect themselves against inflation even if they are not fighting for a wage rise? And what is going to happen in the future?

Everyone is looking for answers and, naturally enough, many of them are studying the policies of the Labour Party to see how it intends to deal with and prevent such a situation. We believe that socialism is the way to do that and to stay that and that we have to take that as our starting point.

So various half-truths and various downright lies are being aimed at. We believe that, in order to fight back, we need to go through the facts again.

Will the rate of price increases slow down in the near future? Will there be a dividend as the proposal that the Labour Party have put forward? The Prices Commission has now let through 113 increases in the price of raw materials and some companies have put through two and three. This is only a beginning of the increase that has been allowed, on various raw materials, for example, to have gone through their way to retailers.

Inflation on a world scale shows no sign of slowing down. All the big industrial countries are booming and so long as the boom lasts the pressure on prices is all one way.

The boom will, in time, give way to a recession which will mean redundancies and higher unemployment. But it is not clear what will happen to the rate of increase will slow down. This was the experience of the recession of 1970-71 and it will be repeated. Nothing short of all-out economic slump will end inflation under capitalism.

There are those, including Neil Cockburn, who look to the market to solve the problem by 'cutting out the middleman'. Can inflation be checked or modified by creating an ideal market? A few of the large companies in the market? The fallacy in this line is that it would be obvious. Greater output means greater demand for fuel and raw materials which have already risen by some 80 per cent in price over the last 12 months. Greater demand means still higher prices.

Again, we do not have to rely on theory. We can point to the evidence. The Japanese have shown that growth of total output and of productivity of all the big industrial countries, Japan has the highest rate of inflation of all the big industrial countries.

**Calculated action**

Can government action check inflation? Yes, indeed it can. Though it is not going to be done all at once, and government policy has not yet been able to stop the price increase.

Take rents. There is no question of higher import prices here. Rents are being forced up, and the next round comes in October, by deliberate, calculated government action.

The farmer is seen as an example of the Common Agricultural Policy of the Common Market which is deliberately designed to push up food prices. The government operates it as a deliberate act of policy.

In fact the only ‘price’ that the government has seriously tried to hold down, and with some success, has been the price of labour power, wages. The government’s ‘anti-inflation’ policy, like all its other policies, is aimed at increasing the proportion of the wealth produced that goes to the owners of industry, to the rich, at the expense of the proportion that goes to the workers.

Government policy can be changed. But it cannot be changed by appealing to the government, by appealing to the government, the government instead of being forced to turn its workers. The government can be changed by working-class action, by making it a priority for the government to carry on with its policies.

The Housing Finance Act could and would have been wrecked if the big Labour councils had made a united refusal to operate it and backed this by occupying the ‘hollow’ tenants. The act is designed to increase the prices of the council tenants, the tenants’ wages, with price controls, with subsidies, and will be introduced (as they were during the war) if only to that the Labour government will have the same massive support when the Big Industrial Act is introduced.

The Daily Herald, which was a socialist paper before the TUC got hold of it, once wrote in a somewhat similar situation, ‘We have considered the matter. We know that the government is aware of the problem, and we will make a deliberate decision to give us this advice. Prepare your forces and then strike and strike hard.’

The old Daily Herald, which was a socialist paper before the Daily Herald got hold of it, once wrote in a somewhat similar situation, ‘We have considered the matter. We know that the government is aware of the problem, and we will make a deliberate decision to give us this advice. Prepare your forces and then strike and strike hard.’
AT Herford Prison in Bristol they are building a new maximum security cell block for "dangerous" prisoners. Don Nicholls, who is secretary of the steelworkers' branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union, is working there.

He told me that four of the labourers on the block have been recruited from the inmates of the prison. They are paid by the contractors—Niscolt Ltd—at the basic union rate of £22 a week, but they receive 50p a week by order of the prison authorities.

Don: One of them came to see me because he had a table two tables of cream crackers, half an ounce of tobacco, one packet of cigarettes and a couple of packets of Polo mints. That's what he'd bought with his weekly wage.

Last Sunday Don was asked to go into the prison to keep an eye on all the equipment. He asked the agent for the job as he could have some assistance, and the agent agreed that Don was the best possible man to do the job. The prisoner complained that Sunday was a holiday in the prison and that he should get some overtime.

**Demand:** Why don't you get some overtime?

Don: It's a holiday in the prison and I should get some overtime.

**Socialist Worker readers are free to believe whom they please.** At any rate, the prisoner confirmed that the difference between the union rates paid to prisoners for work done and the rate they receive, "is normally" paid into the prison service.

**GEORGE'S LOOTY**

Lord George Brown, after resigning as productivity director of Courtaural because he disagreed with the company's policy of raising wages in South African subsidiaries, is a little more than usual hard on the work. He is greatly looking forward to a "bureaucratic" issue which he plans to give at the invitation of the Borough Librarian of Whitehall in April next year.

The going rate for such a lecture, I understand, is £150 minimum, though experienced agents can get much more. Miss J. Ward, Lord George-Brown's secretary, wrote to her agent earlier this year asking him to get the "best possible rate of "pin money" for the job.

Perhaps you could tell him that it is difficult to "capture" him, etc., and how busy he always is, she wrote.

So the next time Lord George comes out of Newgate complaining about greedy trade unionists, remember how difficult it is to get decent pin money nowadays.

**HANDS OFF HANSARD**

The Hansard reports of House of Commons debates for the period between 11 and 3 June are still being published. They were printed in time because a work to rule in the Linotype section of St Stephen's Press, which publishes all parliamentary papers.

The workers there demanded an increase in piece rates which took them above the "reasonable" £1 plus four per cent. The management refused to discuss such a thing, and the workers started a go-slow, which meant that the daily Hansard reports—plus all the emergency Order Papers which are usually printed at all times of the night—didn't see the light of day.

The House of Commons was in a terrible flutter. Their precious, pompous papers were denied them! How could orderly business continue if the House didn't know which Honourable Member was to speak at which time?

Two terrible Tory baronets, Sir Evelyn King, a former Labour MP, and Sir Gerald Naylor, the careful driving enthusiast, started to demand that the printing contract should be put out to private enterprise.

Then a curious thing happened. The work to rule went on, but the workers at St Stephen's noticed that the copy for the Order Papers was arriving on time.

Shortly afterwards, the Order Papers appeared in the House of Commons, and everyone was happy again. After three weeks, the work to rule collapsed, largely because of the "sack" work on the Order Papers.

This work was done, it transpired, by our old friends the Alfred Marks Bureau, who supplied labour to print the Order Papers on an hitherto unidentified machine. The total cost of this work, and the materials, amounted to £22,000.

None of the three print unions with members at St Stephen's—the NGA, whose members were working to rule, SOGAT or Natsopa—attempted to discover where the printing was going on, and to picket accordingly. Their silence was equalled only by that of the parliamentary Labour Party, to whom the Order Papers were more important than the fact that non-union labour was doing the work of trade unionists in dispute with their employers—and all at the expense of the taxpayer.

David Stevens, a SOGAT member at St Stephen's, says the workers there are very bitter about the episode. They are particularly angry with the unions. If this had happened to one of their precious friends, they would have been an uproar" he said. "But the general print can go to hell."
The prisons they called factories

The system of industrial capitalism has existed for two centuries. Nine or ten generations of workers have had to work under this system. Industriallisation brought a whole transformation of life to the masses, workers were all accomplished in a new discipline—faced with the threat of reduced wages and lay-offs, they were toil in the conditions of slavery: despair, demoralisation and alienation. Under the system, work and wages were reduced to subsistence living, now just to ensure obedience to the machine and to wage slavery.

The new economic system required soulless, dehumanised workers. Entry into the new system was made worse by the fact that many factories were modelled on workshop and prison systems, and the new discipline was recognised with bitterness and despair.

Under these conditions, manufacturers—especially those in the cotton industry—found discipline difficult to impose. One employer had to admit: ‘I have not half my people come to work today, and I have no great objection if they can have to put myself in the power of such people.’

Severe

And in the Cattine cotton mills in Scotland, managers admitted that, ‘the children were well disciplined and very much beat at first before they could train their business.’

There was constant conflict between workers and employers over the enforcement of strict time-keeping, a ‘matter that the managers attempted to impose by every means possible. Beatings and severe fines were the most common forms of punishment for bad timekeeping.

Under the domestic system the workers had no control over their own work and time. Under the factory system workers lost all command over their daily lives and were made to feel it.

But despite measures taken against them, workers in many trades continued to honour the ‘31 Monday’ holiday. However, this was only a protest against Sunday’s drinking in South Wales at least. In 1825 it was estimated that the bosses lost one week in five and that in the fortnight after the monthly payday, one-third of the time was being worked.

Hostile employers reported how spinners and weavers were missing from the factories on early mornings. A cotton mill in 1840–45 was the key industry of the industrial revolution and vast fortunes were made by the mill owners, who used the factory system, oppression and exploitation of the workforce.

The workers were subjected to severe discipline. In the early factories, the first generation of factory workers were taught by their masters the importance of time; the second generation formed their short-time committees in the ten-hour movement; the third generation struck for overtime and time-and-a-half. They had accepted the idea of their employers and learned to fight within the factories. They had learned their lesson—but capitalist economy is money-only too well.

In the constant drive for the accumulation of profits, employers sought to keep their machines in continuous use, driving their workers for six days a week for 14–16 hours a day. Children, as well as women and men, were forced to work these hours.

In mining, textiles, and the light metal trades the proportion of young workers was very high—starting their lives of endless toil at the age of six or seven. In the Cumberfield mines children started work at the age of six or seven. Josiah Wedgewood, in 1816, had 36 per cent of his employees under 18, one-third of these being under 10 years old. The silk mills were almost entirely dependent on child labour with two-thirds to three-quarters of the hands under 18.

In the key industry of the industrial revolution, cotton, the proportion of children and adolescents under 18 was around 40–45 per cent.

Effects

It was the appalling conditions of poverty that forced parents to accept that children should work from such an early age, but it was the employers who cruelly exploited their defencelessness. A nineteenth century writer described the effects of the early factory system on children:

‘In the beginning, failing, failing, struggling against hell and death, knowing not what to do for food, not knowing where to ask for aid, dying by agonising inches, and breath when the end comes; wondering daily, no doubt, in their day long torture and night-long fevers, what they are, and where they are, and how they came to this fate; and that they exist—alive, but breathing, and crying their deaths, dying in death, with no flowers, no grass, no toys, no play, no children joy in their lives; and knowing that they are being crushed in the mortar where-with to build the commercial glories of England, that shall rise to such admiration and applause over their dust.’

One estimate suggested that in the early days of the factory system, one quarter of the children became crippled or otherwise deformed. In 1935 John Hobart published the Memoir of Robert Billicoe, a biography of a boy who had been “apprenticed” out of a London workhouse to a northern cotton mill.

The machine set the pace and any boy who was slow was savagely beaten. Once, when one of Billicoe’s fingers got crushed in a machine, he was not allowed to stop working.

And once a occasion, a sadistic overseer had punished Billicoe by hanging him over a machine, so that he had to lift his leg, to avoid getting hit every time the machine turned. Punishments took a variety of forms. In addition to beating, the threat of dismissal and the threat of injury were deterrents to enforcing discipline. One child reported: ‘I have worked here two years. I am now fourteen, work sixteen hours, and have a half a day. I was badly, and asked to stop at night. One night lately and I was told I went I must not come back.’

However, when labour was short, dismissals were ineffective, but when jobs became scarce, a sight of relief went through the ranks of the employers at the restoration of their power.

In some mills, weavers, singing or being drunk were punished by a fine of 5s. The average weekly deductions from a man’s wage packet of 1Ls was often as much as 2s.

Resistance to the beatings, dismissals and fines came in the form of riots, sympathy, machine breaking and the demonstrations of revolt, and in more organised forms of combination and early union organisation, but here the workers faced the full force of the law, which was at the service of the employer.

Even when the law was not explicitly against combination—the Combination Acts were law from 1799–1824—employers treated the organisation of workers as a criminal conspiracy. In 1833, one employer had stated that ‘the hands forming conspiracies or unlawful combinations will be discharged without notice.’

In this situation employers were unchallenged masters, able to do as they liked, with little or no law to hinder them. Workers were still part of their property and employers were able to make their workers more unbridled hounds of their own.

Many employers, particularly the cotton mills of Lancashire, made seduction one of the conditions which females could work at the factories. If they refused they had to be paid. Single or married women made no difference and the same practice applied to the girls of 16 and the woman of 30.

But in addition to the use of seduction to enforce discipline, the care was also used—although on a lesser scale. Bonus incentives and promotion were used on a few occasions, but rather than use ‘kind persuasion’ they had to be paid. Employers were also introduced as an incentive to the individual effort.

Symbolic rewards for outstanding effort were commonly used, especially for children, and the best known example of this system was the ‘Penny Royal’ of Rotherham. He awarded four types of employee: marks for colours for the day’s work; work black, blue, yellow, white; and were also rewarded with appropriate colour for his effort.

NEXT WEEK: religious terror backs the bosses
Ten little Tori

THE Liberal Party is another Tory Party. That elementary fact needs to be restated after the recent by-elections at Ripon and Ely, following so closely on other Liberal victories at Rochdale and Sutton.

Many workers in these areas tried to take refuge from the dull debate between the two major parties by voting Liberal.

The enthusiasm of hundreds of glowering young people in Liberal colours, large public meetings, talk of 'community politics' and 'the fight of the little man against the big battalions' have flooded at least a few trade unions into believing the cause of working men and women can best be served by the parliamentary Liberal Party.

But the truth is that when the rhetoric is stripped away, the Liberal Party is as hostile, and in some cases more hostile, to working-class interests than the Tory Party.

The Liberal Party supported, and still supports, the Industrial Relations Act. Much of its worst aspects, notably the 'cooling-off period' and mandatory ballots, were borrowed directly from Liberal Party policy. So was entry into the Common Market on any terms, so was Value Added Tax.

Surcharge

The Liberal Party supports the freeze. Its MPs voted for every round of the Tories' Count Inflation Bill last January, John Pardoe, Liberal spokesman on industry, said: 'I have consistently supported a compulsory and statutory prices and incomes policy. . . . He later added that 'other forms of surcharge should be substituted on national insurance contributions or in taxation'.

In other words, the Liberals want permanent restrictions on the free collective bargaining of trade unions and, in case trade unionists slip through their net and, as their incomes increase, they want the workers taxed extra to pay for their schemes!'s

JEREMY THORP, the Liberal leader, whose 'community policies' meant involvement in a 200 per cent interest second mortgage racket.

Over their deep antagonism to trade unionism the Liberal Party draws a veil called 'co-operation' or 'co-partnership'. They propose to replace Trade Unions by a 'partnership of the individuals' and to replace them with statutory bodies which will form part of management.

The right of management to take all the main decisions about investment and employment is never challenged. The only change is in the workers' independent power to resist.

The Liberal Party strategy is the same throughout its policies. Behind the smokescreen of the 'rights of the individual' they defend the rights of property. They are implacably opposed to any new form of public ownership.

Champions

In perhaps the most important area of public ownership—council housing—they show a remarkable indifference. When the Tories first introduced the principles that were to become the Housing Finance Act fewer subsidies and higher rents for council tenants—the Liberals voted in favour. They later voted against the Act without speaking on it. They have always made it clear that their housing policies involve higher council house rents.

The key to Liberal success is summed up in two words: 'Community Politics'. They have learned how to make the by-elections of the ordinary people. They have highlighted the neglect in local problems of industrial families, exposed the corruption and bureaucracy of councils and governments and pointed that they, when elected to those councils and governments, will sort these problems out.

Liberal councillors and MPs have proved no better nor more corrupt than Tory or Labour MPs and councillors. The cause of the problems with which the Liberals promise to deal is beyond the scope of parliaments or councils. The frustrations of individual families or 'communities' is a society split from top to bottom by class, and in which decisions are taken by a tiny minority, ever more reckless and powerful in their greed.

Defence

That power, recklessness and greed will not be solved by a bunch of impotent ombudsmen trying to get on the council or into parliament.

On the contrary, the Liberal Party plans above all to weaken the organised strength of the workers—the one bastion of defence against more greed and more recklessness. It takes its stand as it has always taken its stand, without property, with workers, and a vote for the Liberal Party is just another vote for the Tories.

CLEMENT FREUD in the kitchen of his home in the exclusive St John's of London. He is a director of the Playboy Club.

JO GRIMMOND: "We need a fairer world for women. I don't think most of the problems of the present day are due to some of London's expense-account men."


Imperialism, highest stage but one
International Capitalism
Permanent Revolution
British Labour Movement
Chin

Invasion

With this splendid FRED the Liberal party will win the next general election. Clement Freud, the toast of the Fleet, makes millions out of the exploits of the present. His income is the envy of the Liberals.
How to get rid of an overdraft

IT WAS symbolic that every guest at the glittering society dinner dance party given by the Liberal Party at St Ann's, Melbourne, was asked to contribute to the Liberal Party's campaign. The party has had to raise funds to fight against the tide of the temperance movement, which has been gaining ground in the last few years.

The Liberal's campaign has been largely successful, and in many parts of the state it has managed to attract large crowds. The Liberal leader has been very active, and the party's candidates have been having a tough time of it. The Liberal Party is in the ascendant, and the future looks bright for the Liberals in Victoria.

Slaughter

The aim of this book is to show that the British government's policy of appeasement has failed. The author has made a strong case for the necessity of military action in order to bring about a peaceful solution to the present conflict. The book is well-written and easy to read, and it has been widely praised by reviewers.

Weakness

American troops could not prevent the overthrow of the regime in Vietnam. They could not successfully destroy the armed struggle of its opponents. More and more troops were sent to Vietnam, but they did not succeed in stopping the Vietnamese. The Saigon government remained on the verge of collapse, a collapse which would have exposed the real weakness of American power throughout the world.

The main aim of US policy was to prevent the defeat of the regime in Vietnam. But the American government did not succeed in stopping the Vietnamese. The Saigon government remained on the verge of collapse, a collapse which would have exposed the real weakness of American power throughout the world.

The most important factor in the defeat of the regime in Vietnam was the collapse of the American government. The American government did not succeed in stopping the Vietnamese. The Saigon government remained on the verge of collapse, a collapse which would have exposed the real weakness of American power throughout the world.

The sale of the United States to the Vietnamese people was not achieved by the American government. The American government did not succeed in stopping the Vietnamese. The Saigon government remained on the verge of collapse, a collapse which would have exposed the real weakness of American power throughout the world.

The American government did not succeed in stopping the Vietnamese. The Saigon government remained on the verge of collapse, a collapse which would have exposed the real weakness of American power throughout the world.
The answer to apathy

The main cause of apathy is the feeling that it is impossible to change things no matter how much the effort. Working people are told all their lives that they are not capable of taking decisions themselves, but must obey the instruction of their ‘superiors’. As children at school, they are taught to keep quiet, obey orders, and to look up to the teachers. When they start work, they are expected to obey the same rules and work in the same way. In the trade union movement, they are continually being urged to ‘show loyalty’ to the union leaders by letting officials hold paid-off union jobs for as many years as possible.

It is hardly surprising that after so much brainwashing, many workers have lost both their ability and their autonomy to take decisions. When people who are told that they have no control over what they do begin to develop critical thinking, they are usually suppressed, or dismissed as ‘unions thugs’.

In the trade union movement, working people are told to obey the orders of the trade union officials. Thus, in the name of ‘loyalty’, the workers are told to obey the orders of the officials. They are then kept in the dark about the trade union officials’ activities, and are not given any chance to participate in the decisions that affect their lives.

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Miss Marie Lloyd.

Music hall star the ruling class knocked about a bit.

By Kathy Sims

Matilda Alice Victoria Wood was born on 12 February, 1871, in London's East End. She was destined to become one of the most widely loathed stars who ever emerged from the working class, and she made her mark on musical history as Marie Lloyd.

Marie Lloyd and the world of music hall were born during the late 19th century, a period of rapid social change. The music hall was a form of entertainment that appealed to working-class audiences, providing a escape from the drudgery of daily life. Marie Lloyd was one of the most successful performers of her time, and her legacy continues to influence the music hall tradition today.

Marie Lloyd was a master at pushing the boundaries of what was acceptable in public performance. Her comedy routines were often controversial, but she managed to avoid legal trouble. She was known for her wit and intelligence, and her ability to connect with her audience. Marie Lloyd was one of the first women to achieve true celebrity status, and she continued to perform until her death in 1922.

Marie Lloyd's music hall career began when she was just a teenager, and she quickly rose to fame. She was known for her ability to improvise, and her routines were often based on current events. Marie Lloyd was a master at using her talent to comment on society, and her comedy routines were often political in nature.

Marie Lloyd was a pioneer of the music hall form, and her legacy continues to influence the genre today. She was known for her intelligence, wit, and ability to connect with her audience, and her influence can be seen in the work of many contemporary performers. Marie Lloyd's music hall career is a testament to the power of art to express ideas and challenge the status quo.

Good clean family mayhem.

In the Daily Mail last week a gentleman by the name of David Levin argued that the public are sick of the music hall TV series. He cited the huge audiences that the shows attract, but said that the series is too risqué and should be toned down. Levin's argument is similar to the one that James Bond films, Live and Let Die, a film that he also wrote, has to do with 'blood and lust'. It has an extensive record which means all the family are welcome.

James Bond, who is played in the latest Bond film by Sir Roger Moore, clearly shares Levin's distaste for all this violence. He feels so strongly about it, in fact, that after four of us killed for his film in the first few minutes of the film—one stabbed, one tortured and finally beaten by a poisonous snake, another killed by a stinger, the fourth shot in the neck with a dart—guaranteed to stop all the perpetrators of this outrage a lasting memory.

The problem is that there are all these blacks who intend to spoil America with initially free heroin to destroy the Mafia's grip on the market, which they will then take over. This appalling scheme to rob good Italian Americans of their livelihood so outrages the powers that be that Bond is sent to deal with it. Bond, who is by the violence the blacks indulge in, deals with the Mafia simply by killing them all.

Brilliant camera work emphasizes the complete senelessness of the violent ways of the blacks as Bond shows them and throws them out of fast trains, leading to a finale in which the leader of the blacks is infiltrated by an ingenious shotgun cartridge until his body bursts and flesh splatters all over the scene.

Good clean entertainment for all the family.

Don't be fooled into thinking that while Bond is seen in bed with three different girls, there is any lust in it, it can reliably report that they had their rump jigs on under the sheets.

The only thing that puzzles me is that if David Levin thinks that Marie Lloyd's 'blood and lust' in Live and Let Die, then where does he go to see the films that in his view have too much?
Building union backs bosses’ clampdown

A MOVE by the building employers to crack down on militancy has been backed by the building workers’ union UCATT. From September, a “working rule” for the industry will set down that no worker can become a shop steward unless he has been employed on a site for a month.

At present a building worker can be sacked at two hours’ notice during the first six days of employment on a site. This rule has been a vital weapon for the bosses, who can use it to stamp out militancy through the use of the ‘Blacklist’.

The new rule, agreed by the executive of the building industry, will strengthen the blacklist. UCATT says some sites, in the TUC’s eyes, have a majority of workers on the blacklist.

On the TUC’s blacklist are the Glynde and Redland factories. The TGWU has three seats and the GMWU and furnishing trades association one seat each.

UCATT should challenge the new rule by demanding that the 12 regional councils of the union—which issue stewards’ credentials—declare full support for any member who is elected a steward and is refused recognition by the employers.

I S MEETINGS

EDINBURGH 15 social and dancing Friday 10 August, 8pm—Grosvenor Hotel. Tickets £3; 100 tickets only. Contact: 620 3319.

NORTH LONDON DISTRICT 15 public meeting FRIDAY NIGHT TALKS with George Johnson (American University, Washington DC). Friday 16 August, 8pm—Putney Town Hall, Putney. Tickets 1/6d. 1,000 tickets only. Contact: 873 3025.

CHELSFORD 15 public meeting Format: Half-hour talk by socialist, followed by Q & A, discussion, and films or socials. Monday 24 August, 8pm—Greenwich Cultural Centre, Deptford. Tickets 1/6d. 500 tickets only. Contact: 01-562 7090.

WORCESTER 15 public meeting: Women’s group this week. Monday 20 August, 8pm—Canal Hall, Redditch. Tickets 1/6d. 500 tickets only. Contact: 01-571 7335.

POSTAL UNION LEADER SNUBS CONFERENCE

by Tom Dredge

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL of the Union of Post Office Workers, headed by general secretary Tom Jackson, are refusing to carry out decisions of the annual conference for the second time in a year.

Last year, after being instructed by conference to refuse to co-operate with Post Office mechanisation, the executive decided that the instruction was unacceptable for parcel work and ignored it. When Jackson was tackled about the matter at his year’s conference he made it clear that he would do the same again if necessary.

Now it is apparent that he was not joking. The conference voted overwhelmingly against any increase in the number of temporary employees. A new circular from the union HQ makes it clear that the executive has been discussing the shortage of posties with the Post Office and has accepted part-timers as a solution where necessary.

Branches must campaign to reverse the executive decision and organise immediate walkouts if the terms of the conference resolution are breached by the introduction of dilution of labour in our industry.

RACE ACT CHALLENGE

OXFORD TRADES COUNCIL has pledged itself to fight the Tory Immigration Act and to help fight racism in the workplace.

The council will mobilise local support for any national movement to fight the Act. Produce a leaflet in as many languages as necessary containing immigration rights for discussion in immigrant areas.

Induce institutional action in support of immigrants and their families victimised under the Act.

Organise a campaign to unload immigrant workers.

Same night as the trades council meeting. National Front posters appeared all over the town and the next day three men were handing out NF leaflets in the main shopping streets.

The following have added their names to the anti-racist appeal: Ken Wallace, AEU/TASS No. 6, Divisional Council; National Shop Stewards’ Committee; Branch Secretary, UCATT; New York General Hospital Staff.

NOTICES

COMRADE SEEN SEEKING ACCESS IN MAIDENHEAD: Comrade seen in Maidenhead, 15 August. Comrade must be approached. Apply the National Comrade Search Committee, London E2 9TD. Phone 01-573 9550.

LARGE YORKSHIRE ATTIC sold: Items from October in exchange for being sent to North London. Contact Mary, 6 Glenmore Terrace, Birkenhead.

BOOKS: The following have added their names to the anti-racist appeal: Ken Wallace, AEU/TASS No. 6, Divisional Council; National Shop Stewards’ Committee; Branch Secretary, UCATT; New York General Hospital Staff. 35 books have been sealed into boxes and left at Lloyds Bank in Maidenhead.

DOUBLE ROOM demolished in Redcliffe: Three men were seen removing windows from a flat in Redcliffe, 15 August. Call 620 3319.

Cardiff public meeting

BRITISH LEYLAND—THE BEGINNINGS OF THE END: Speaker, Steve McRae (Land’s End—Solidarity). Address: NAACP, 15A Northumberland Street, London WC2. Tickets £1.00. 100 tickets only. Contact: 01-562 0123.

CARDIFF 15 public meeting: Women’s group. Monday 20 August, 8pm—Blue Anchor, St Mary Street, Cardiff.

CARPFISHERS 15 public meeting

BATTLE to keep Equity, the actors’ and variety artists union, in the mainstream of the trade union movement.

Several leading artists active in the Equity pension scheme among they among new pension ageing members to vote to deregister the union. They insist that Equity needs the broad trade union movement and warn that a majority of the membership means expulsion from the TUC. They also point out that Equity is the only union which does not only on a state-approved closed shop can become as effective trade union.

Several艺术ists, Michael Booth, Glenda Jackson, Michael Jenkins, Mician Karlins and Ian McKellen are among those ageing. Their petition sharply criticises the Union leadership for refusing to encourage maximum discussion on the deregistration issue.

The new Equity council, in contrast to its predecessor, favours registration and the government continue its closed shop that goes with it.

It is possible for Equity to hold full mass meetings of members to debate and settle the issue. We are told that the pension ageing members have discussed the possibility of holding a referendum, for which the Equity branch will be individually cut off from the flow of ideas.

Move to get: Equity of register

Their statement points out that whenever there have been mass meetings to discuss the pension issue, they have been for massive deregistration.

Since the Equity council has turned and rejected the issue of the pension scheme, Equity has not held a meeting of the previous council meeting.

Since the new council was elected in September 1971 Equity was deregistered, but it is not known if Equity members are the employers, neither in Equity than by independent action of the council.

The new council was elected in September 1971.

Since the right wing have constantly manoeuvred to keep the union members on the formality of the meeting, it has had a spot of being heard. In their statement of support was also, but Equity members have not been allowed to participate in the debate.

This is hardly likely to be the case. Details of the council’s encouragement that the state register of trade union requires or may provide are not available. But the Institute of Personnel Civil Servants recently came off the register because the registrar’s department has not accepted that the current council is not the current council.

IS NEWS

Picket put on big army tattoo

COLCHESTER—Members of the Independent Socialists, with members of the Independent Marxist Group and the Irish republican organisation Clann na n’Eireann, used the lowest point of the week to work a campaign for the withdrawal of British troops from Ireland.

Colchester is Britain’s biggest army town and the stepping off point for troops going to Northern Ireland, had military displays every night and two grand marches through the town centre.

The local Anti-Invasion League pinned more than 10,000 leaflets and posters calling for the withdrawal of troops. Every evening an entourage to the tattoo were picketed and leaflets given out.

We were received well, said one of the 15 members organising the leafleting.

"At one gate we had soldiers taking handfuls of leaflets and giving them to their friends. A lot of the troops here were being sent to the North." One soldier who took a leaflet complained: "I joined the army to play music and now they are putting me on a firing range, teaching me to kill. I’m really unhappy. I’d be sent to Northern Ireland soon and I don’t want to go."

Biggest socialist meeting for years

BRISTOL—The city saw its largest socialist meeting for years as Foot spoke on the Unacceptable Face of Capitalism. Foot was met by a packed crowd who welcomed him to the hall.

After a discussion which ranged from a lascic to the shape of a futures workers’ state, John Evans, the president of the Bristol Trades and Labour Council, said a city meeting on Thursday served to show the city the Party’s determination to frighten off the people.

Money collected at the meeting was split, those for Bristol 15 and the local trades council meeting who were working towards the building workers’ defence funds. Four workers joined in the split.
Workers from the naval stores depot on the march

Sinn Fein arms charge man freed

COVENTRY—T.J. Carty was acquitted of possessing ammunition near his residence on October 28th. The jury found that he had been guilty of possessing ammunition after the state had used his name as a means of getting into his flat, but the jury said that the charge did not involve any other charges with him. Mrs. Carty then returned to work and was asked to leave her and was ordered not to come to Coventry again. The jury was not biased in its decision and fined him £10,000 in accordance with the order of the judge. Mrs. Carty was found guilty of possessing ammunition after the state had used his name as a means of getting into his flat.

BIG STRIKE CALLS ON UNION DEAL

BIRMINGHAM—An emergency shop stewards meeting this week called for a total shutdown of the unior-busting building firm of C. Bryant and Son, who have also ranked union officials seem determined to resist workers’ pressure for better conditions. The strike call is over the sacking of a convention stewards and six carpenters at the Priory Ringway site in the city centre shortly before a site panel ordered the firm to rehire two sacked hotel drivers. Monday’s emergency meeting decided to use flying pickets to bring out walk-out and non-union sites. Bryant, who earlier this week sacked Peter Carter, Communist Party member and chairman of the city shop stewards committee, originally provoked the dispute when the men refused to work in the rain. The men introduced as overtime has been a go-slow because they felt Bryant was stirring up trouble to avoid paying a penalty clause. Shortly before the panel met to consider Bryant over the two sackings, the firm dismissed convention steward Pat Longworth and six carpenters for allegedly “not working” even though the lack of materials made work difficult. Two other Bryant sites came out on strike before union office official Harry Hunter negotiated a return to work on condition the men appeared before a national panel. After an emergency stewards meeting at which calls were made to defend the union and allegations of Bryant threatening bonus gains on organised sites, a mass meeting at Biggins hall demanded an all-out strike if the steward and his men were not reinstated. National officials did not reflect this marvellous rank and file spirit when, with the employers’ representatives, calling as they are not ready to discuss the men in a meeting lasting a record-breaking 20 minutes. The national official called on the union to get back into the union from which they were driven. With Monday’s vote the stewards have declared that they will fight Bryant’s union-busting tactics even when the employers seek help from their own national executive.

25 out over sacking

NORTH LONDON—Al 25 workers at the Serko watch service centre at Kilburn walked out at the beginning of last week after management sacked a watch repairer for “anti-social behaviour”, the man, who had previously been unorganised, joined the Engineering Union. Management wrote to the workers on Thursday last week threatening them with the sack unless they returned to work the next day. The threat has made the men more determined to establish basic trade union rights. The workers are demanding recognition of their union, proper negotiating procedures, reinstatement of their sacked colleague and no victimisation. Management is refusing to discuss these matters, claiming that it has first to get directors from its parent company in Japan. The company is trying to take on new workers though agencies to replace the sacked, but the factory is being picked by the workers with the help of the local branch of the International Socialists.

Oval Four demand inquiry into ‘anti-mugging’ squad

SOUTH LONDON—Four young blacks who were jailed after being attacked and franced by police, but were released early from jail and bailed last week are to press for a Home Office inquiry into their case and into the police mugging squad which arrested them and other young blacks.

The men, known as the Oval Four, say they are disarmed with the way the judge upheld their convictions for attempted robbery and assault at The Oval tube station. They want to clear their names and expose the police ‘anti-mugging’ squad led by Detective Sergeant Peter Ridgwell which arrested 16 young blacks in underground stations last year and earlier this year, and beat them up to extract confessions to crimes they had not committed.

Police brutality

If the Home Office refuses to act, the four may set up their own open inquiry and call witnesses. One of the 16 men arrested were later convicted—four were jailed, three were dealt by a magistrate and two to find them in court.

These of the Oval Four—four went to boroal—were freed after serving eight months of their two-year jail sentences, but the convictions still stand.

At a press conference two of them said they had spoken in jail to fellow-prisoners who had also suffered police brutality, saying one was told: “You know, waite tell him he’s a ‘muffed man’ because of the publicity given to the case. Said Christy: “We have to educate people about what is really happening in the community. If the Home Office does nothing the black community can judge for themselves about justice. There is certainly no justice in the court.”

The case had exposed how helpless blacks were if the state wanted to convict on a blatant lie. The transport police think highly of Ridgwell. Since the arrest he has been promoted to inspector.

I would like to join the International Socialists

Send to: I.S., 6 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN

ROLLS DIRECTORS CARRY THE CAN

The official inquiry into the collapse of Rolls-Royce, published last week, is a masterpiece of evasion and whitewash. It heaps most of the blame on two directors, Sir David Huddleston and Sir Donnachie Pearson, who are accused of allowing their retribution for the KR-211 to be coloured by their assessment of its financial potential.

In the report the view of the collapse of Rolls-Royce was due to the drain on the company’s resources by the increase in the price of the KR-211 from £69 million in 1965 to £92 million in 1971, when the recovery took over.

What the report does not do is that the Rolls-Royce board ignored its affairs and that the two ‘gally directors’ got caught up in the absurd obsession with technology promoted as a tool by the Labour government and the City of London.

It says nothing about the collapse Tory government that was willing to see 7,500 workers sacked.

The fact is that the contract with Lockheed to supply KR-211 engines in 1967. It was a time of enthusiasm. The Labour government gave a £47 million grant to build Britain’s biggest export order. In the City Rolls-Royce shares hit a new high of 216p.

The same City punters and financial press now see the link in the condemnation of the two directors.

Loans

There were hundreds of others. The chairman, Lord Kindersley, was an ex-director of the notorious Bank of Scotland and of Rolls-Royce’s merchant bank, and Gaunt was a financial director for various loans made to Rolls. He was also a governor of the Bank of England and chairman of the British Match Corporation. It is said to have found time to take up board meetings.

The report does not investigate Kindersley or the other directors for the role they played in the collapse of the company or how they found out what was happening in Rolls. The Tower group of Lord Cottier, who appointed, in 1971, who appointed Lord Kindersley, saying Rolls-Royce needed an extra £60 million to be saved by the report as an inadequate, and the report shows that the government was starved for the report as an adequate and one of the report as a result of the confusion over the government’s responsibility.

The report’s complete failure to show any mention of the report as an adequate that the workers exploits the myth that businesspeople are the only people who make the real difference to the country.

The report is out, of course, an exception, into which the Tory government has been injured and whose costs are far superior to the KR-211.

Backing Clay Cross

STEVENAGE—The trades council has joined a resolution deploring the recent High Court decision that imposed severe fines on the Clay Cross councilors who refused to rise council rates and calling on the government for the recall of the so-called ‘Fair Rents’ Act and for a continued boycott of the Rent Scrutiny Board.

The trades council has sent £5 to the councilors to support their struggle ‘in the interest of tenants everywhere’.
HUNGER STRIKE: BANNING GROWS

Belfast - The Tory government is continuing its obscene poker game with the health and lives of two Irish socialists, Tony Canavan and Michael Farrell, who have been on hunger strike for nearly four weeks demanding they be given political prisoner status.

They are now so seriously ill that they have had to be moved out of the hospital wing of the notorious Crumlin Road prison. Michael Farrell has been moved to the Royal Victoria Hospital and Tony Canavan to another city hospital.

They are both very weak indeed and still refusing all but water in their fight to be treated as what they are - political prisoners.

Last Sunday 2000 people joined the People's Democracy march in Belfast to denounce the second anniversary of internment, now called detention - Britain's polite name for its concentration camps in Northern Ireland.

Most of the protest centred on the fate of Farrell and Canavan.

TACTIC

But William Whitelaw, Tory overlord for Northern Ireland, recognises who his serious enemies are. He gives political status to sectarian murders but not to Farrell and Canavan, opponents of sectarianism, upholders of the socialist cause.

They are to starve to death as the Tory government dreads lest they get back on their feet and the sight of food will drive them mad. But they are far from food, the horrors of the prison system that this affords.

With this ghastly tactic Whitelaw hopes to win over the hearts of others, those who like Tony Canavan and Michael Farrell see that there is an alternative to ending sectarianism.

Mourners at the funeral of one of the 17 miners killed in the Marham Colliery disaster last week.

On Tuesday, the day after the pit cage plummeted to the floor of the shaft killing 17 and minning 13, NCB area director Robert Dunn was to visit nearby Marham colliery and give notice of closure. He postponed his visit as a mark of respect - for two days. He intended to go last Thursday, the day before the funeral.

But the NUM North Derbyshire area council voted to fight the closure, and local MP Dennis Skinner staged a pit gate meeting against Dunn's visit.

Some of the men from Glaspwell were to be moved to Marham, "to fill dead men's shoes before they are buried," as Dennis Skinner put it. Dunn's visit was abruptly postponed again.

STC anti-racism strike on again

NORTH LONDON: Machine shop operators at the Standard Telephone Company's new Southgate factory came out on strike again less than two hours after returning to work on Monday without a victory in their struggle against management-inspired racism.

The 120 shift-workers at the factory have been on strike since March 1973. They are demanding equal pay for equal work and union recognition.

It's a struggle against management-inspired racism, but management insists it can't be settled by bargaining.

The strike began on Monday when the workers decided to return to work. But as soon as they got back to work, STC management insisted not only that Roderick Adams be suspended while angry norsoap negotiations went on, that they had the right to sack him at the end of one month.

Refusal

This infuriated the workers in the machine shop. They came out again, determined to win and agreed with the council of action outlined in a letter produced by Tottenham International Socialists and given out before Monday's vote to return.

The management's move also angered the day shift workers who had previously refused to support the strike. They came out on Tuesday morning in solidarity.

The strikers have now set up a strike committee. They are mounting pickets and planning visits to other STC plants. The pressure is really on the company this time.

LONDON JONHT SITES COMMITTEE in support of Tottenham International Socialist Community Committee and a London striker.

STC: The unofficial strike of 4600 operatives at Cambridge works in support of 50 strikers at the company's other works but union general secretary Dr John Bird dismissed the strike as a "private battle".

The strikers have so far carried out the unofficial strike, hence the name. But 14 hours after returning to work and eight hours after handing written grievances to the company, the strikers have been forced to end the battle for a policy agreement. The agreement to return to work is based on promises that make it more difficult.