THE MESSAGE has come loud and clear from the Trades Union Congress at Blackpool this week: there will be no official fight against Phase Three of the Tories’ incomes policy.

The union leaders are prepared to go on talking to a government responsible for a massive assault on workers, their living standards and their organisations.

One reason dominated the TUC decision to continue the talks with Heath. They know that Phase Three will be more vicious than Phase Two and that living standards will be slashed this winter as prices, rents, rates and mortgages continue to rip. But at all costs, the unions must not get a "bad public image" by being held responsible for breaking off the talks. All the union leaders know the talks will break down.

The Tory demands will be too high even for the TUC to swallow. But appearances are vital and so the farcical debate dragged on.

The spuriousness, sentimentality and total integration of the TUC into the profit-making system could not be more clear. To break off the talks would not be a powerful step, the signal of an all-out fight, just an indication that some opposition will be put up.

They have refused to do even this. The threat of a general strike was raised over the Blackpool Opera House this week.

Unlike the union leaders, the rank and file of the movement have no choice but to fight to defend their wages and living conditions in the hard months ahead. They will have to take on Phase Three but without any official support from the windfalls of the腴fat cat infancy of the TUC.

STARTED

In fact that struggle has already started.

At Walsall Breedon in Birmingham, 450 maintenance men have refused a maximum £1.60 a week in order to be paid in full at the end of their week. The shop stewards are on strike.

At Deshop, 1300 maintenance engineers want a firm commitment from management to pay them more during the freeze when Phase Three starts. Deshop has dismissed 1300 maintenance workers.

At Atendham, China Clay workers at St Austell are fighting a government ban on a 3.5% productivity increase.

Talks or no talks, the Tory-employer attack will step up this autumn and winter. TUC or no TUC, the workers are already fighting back.

The heavy responsibility falls on militant trade unions, and socialists to help build the powerful grass roots organisations that can link up and unite workers in struggle to smash Phase Three.

The TUC has turned its back on the fight. Now it is up to us.

FIFTEEN THOUSAND PENSIONERS marched and rallied in Blackpool on Sunday on the eve of the Trades Union Congress, demanding action from the labour movement to end the scandal of the pensioner’s pitcance paid to them by the government. Brawling wind and rain they walked to a rally to listen to empty platitudes from Jack Jones and near-pensioned Vic Feather about all the tough and unapprising actions the TUC will think about taking on their behalf. But if the demand for a £10 a week single pension and £16 for a couple is to become reality this year and perhaps a few thousand fewer old people are to die from starvation this winter, then it is up to the ordinary shop floor workers to organise a real campaign of industrial action to back the pensioners.

REPORT: page 3, PICTURE: Peter Harrap.

Abuse

One man spoke out against the disclosures. Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, a miner for 21 years, described them as "another Racheta Fudger Fact.

He went on: "I just cannot believe that a miner can do this sort of thing. I am more inclined to believe that this is a made-up story by the NCB ... to win public opinion on their side at this time."

Abuse was heaped on Dennis Skinner from all sides. Quoted NCB forever filled the columns of local newspapers with smears and lies.

Now he is demanding an apology. He says: "If we have people running the Coal Board who can’t even tell the difference between the work of a hack sack and metal fatigue—no wonder they are spending all that unnecessary money on pit props."

Dennis Skinner’s statement, although distributed to all newspapers and television by the Press Association, was not published anywhere.

There will be no apology from the Coal Board. A spokesman for the Development area of the NCB told me: "The original sabotage statement was made in good faith. That is what we believed the situation to be at the time. We still think there was some sabotage. Some light chain and pieces of wood were found buried in a stope leader."
Phase 3 Tories will step up attack on your wages

by JOHN PALMER

It is also becoming clear that the world-wide rise in interest rates is also helping to push up prices charged by a wide range of companies.

Of course rocketing interest rates also push up the cost of living directly by forcing up the cost of home loans which now threaten to pass the 11 per cent level. And in spite of the recent—and current—round of rent increases many local authorities are now even deeper in the money than they were last year.

In other words tenants can look forward to even steeper rent and rate increases next year simply because of the crippling level of council loan charges.

Heath’s economic advisors are also worried about what is happening to the ‘summer miracle’—the boom in output and jobs. Working-class families are spending less in the shops because their take-home pay is buying less. At the same time big businesses are wary about laying down new plant and machinery with money costs so high and the outlook so uncertain.

That—without even higher taxes or other economic restrictions—is a recipe for the boom to the end and high unemployment in 1974.

To make matters worse all the most important economies in the world are facing similar problems and in most of them a recession is now expected. But if every one is producing and selling less on the world market next year there is a real danger of the nearest thing to a world slump since the 1930s.

But it might be a slump with a difference. Unlike past slumps when prices fell the signs are that inflation will continue unabated. One reason for this is that the giant companies these days pass on in higher prices the cost to themselves of having plant and machinery lying idle.

They will be even quicker to do this in future because worries about long-term trends in making management determined to use every trick in the book to boost profits.

The major crag in the whole operation remains the working people themselves. If they allow their living standards to take a big drop the Tories may be able to buy a little time before they come back to demand even greater sacrifices.

In the meantime some people need fear no sacrifices. Anyone with a minimum of £5,000 spare can earn a mere £6,000 a year merely by placing the sum on the City money markets.

This is just what some of the bright boys are doing, having made killings of 100 per cent or more speculateing in commodities, including the foodstuffs you and I depend on. No wonder they reported a record increase in the number of millionaires this year.

The rich and the privileged need a tough Phase Three to stay rich and privileged. The working class need it like a hole in the head.
INSIDE the Labour Party there is a struggle between those who want to push forward radical policies and those who are more conservative. The split is coming to a head in the next few weeks, and there is a strong possibility that a new leader will be elected in the Labour Party conference in the next few months.

The split is a result of the Labour Party's failure to win an election in the autumn of 1974. The party's traditional support in the industrial north and west has been declining, and the party has been unable to attract new voters. The demands of the anti-establishment left have been met with little enthusiasm, and many traditional Labour supporters have deserted the party.

The new leader will be faced with the challenge of uniting the party and making it more attractive to voters. The party's future depends on its ability to attract new supporters and to win elections in the future.
French immigrants fight new storm of racism

AN ALGERIAN immigrant with a history of brain damage went berserk on a Marseille bus, killing the driver and wounding several passengers, at the end of August. This incident has unleashed a racist storm in France and threw light on the position of immigrant workers there. The result has been a series of attacks on Algerians and other North African immigrants.

On the same occasion, for instance, a young Frenchman installed himself in a car near a taxi rank by North Africans in a Paris suburb and opened fire with a rifle, killing one and wounding two others.

In Marseille a young Algerian was murdered in what appears to be a racist attack on the day of the bus-driver's funeral.

The French newspaper Le Monde reports that many North African workers are terrorising their hosts and that there is a wave of attacks from the National Front—a coalition of extreme-right parties—and extremist organisations which were banned by the police.

There are 200,000 foreign workers in France, almost half of them from the former French colonies in North Africa. To many of them the racist incidents of the past few days are only a more extreme version of things going on regularly.

Not long ago a Portuguese worker was stoned by a mob and thrown into the river Seine, where he drowned.

Hunted

In the South of France racist incidents are now commonplace. The most notorious was two months ago in Grasse where immigrant workers wanted to demonstrate. The police, instead of helping them, joined against them.

These incidents are only the tip of the iceberg. Immigrant workers in France face racism in more everyday ways. As in Britain they have been brought to fill the dirtiest and worst paid jobs.

Immigrant workers have almost no rights. To get the right to live in France they have to have a job and be able to show they are not a burden to the company they work for.

Those who escape from these prisons and set up their own businesses are driven out into the tin and cardboard dwellings of makeshift settlements by the police, are smothered across the Alps or the Pyrenees, or are laid low by cold on the way.

The last straw, left notably the Communist Party, the biggest and most organised of the Socialist Party and the Communist Party's CGT, have just begun to mobilise immigrant workers. They have even joined the right in calling for stricter immigration controls.

Immigrant workers are fighting back. All over France, groups of immigrants have organised resistions against abuse and have fought back, often with the help of the support of revolutionary socialists.

One per cent of the North African workforce in the Marseille area struck for over two weeks against police attacks.

The government was forced to give an apology for illegal acts in the past couple of weeks most workers are under attack. As in Britain they are showing that militant struggle is the only defence.

CHRYSLER: 1950s RULE DETROIT: 100
data from Pat Denny in Detroit

Chrysler's Detroit plants are among the oldest and most dangerous in the town. Resentment has built up recently after two serious accidents, in one a black worker had a hand smashed by unguarded machinery.

Frazier, who usually spends his time trying to smash rank and file discipline, was quick to seek the attention of his long-suffering officials and racist strike activists.

Then came events which can only be described as a disgrace to trade unionism.

Frazier organised all the full-time officials and racist leaders, the armed bands and armed many with sticks. They took them to the Mack Avenue Plant where they proceeded to assault Gibbuth, who was on out, and anyone else who tried to point out the black worker's innocence.

The black worker was physically smashing the strike workers with his own hands.

UAW support for police action, and then thugs by the UAW itself against striking workers.

The 1,000 thugs who stopped the strike were all white, while the strike was almost totally black, the protection of black production workers at being black.

Militant workers are now contrasting with the results of the various strikes.

The tremendous success at the Jefferson Plant was won after throwing the UAW negotiations out and in spite of the strike. The defeats at Detroit Fort and Mac Avenue were directly caused by the UAW.

A STRIKE of 8,000 Ford workers in Dearborn, Michigan, has ended in no strike at the moment. The workers on the picket line have decided to take the strike for better conditions.

The United States government has made it clear just how low it rates Japan. The navigator of a bomber which chased and destroyed a Cambodian village by mistake, killing 157 people, has been fired $1,450, just over $1 a head.

The New York Times recently splashed a headline reading: 'Cost of feeding family of four here increases 3.9 per cent in just one week.' In the US prices are shotting up across the board. Chrysler has increased from 82 cents per pound to 97 cents.

The United States government has made it clear just how low it rates Japan. The navigator of a bomber which chased and destroyed a Cambodian village by mistake, killing 157 people, has been fired $1,450, just over $1 a head.

A HUNDRED and fifty of the 417 black workers at the University of Rhode Island have been in jail for a month following mass arrests on the campus. On 3 August students demonstrated in support of appalled workers at the university, and in protest against racism and the submission of the supposed 'multiracial' university to the pressures of the racist state. Police were brought in and they remained; the university is virtually a state penal.

Most of the students are being tried under the Law and Order Maintenance Act—the main weapon of the police states—and some leaders are being expelled. Some of them were not present at the demonstrations but are being viatimated for their support of the ruling regime's strategy for trying to suppress the growing movement of blacks and other students, and for making it an all-white university.

This week, Algeria is host to a massive conference of 'non-aligned' nations. For weeks the Algerian government has been full of praise for the country's diplomacy in getting the 56 countries to agree to a charter of non-pacification and 'non-aligned' figures as King Faisal of Saudi Arabia and the President of Indonesia.

For two years Algeria has been host to large numbers of political refugees, many of them very sophisticated and not such 'non-aligned' diplomats. A lesson for the West, perhaps, that the Algerian government has been none of the meeting, and that this meeting has been more for military and political purposes, to be continued...
A FEW weeks ago there was a row in Fleet Street after the Sunday Times revealed that the city editor of the News of the World had been boosting the shares of the Hodge Group, the massive Welsh financial combine run by Sir Julian Hodge.

The city editor and his wife, it seemed, had, at the same time, been buying up shares in the Hodge empire.

There were the usual shouts of hypocrisy as the newspaper assured its readers that such practices were entirely exceptional.

One city editor who kept rather quiet was Patrick Barry, editor of the Daily Mail, whose handsome features are perhaps the best known in Fleet Street financial journalism. Mr. Barry has been writing about Sir Julian Hodge and his financial empire for many years.

In 1957, for example, when the Hodge Group was in danger of total collapse, the Daily Mail lent it its assistance. Some big stock market gamblers seemed to be trying to shake the Hodge empire to bits," wrote Mr. Barry. In fact, he wrote, 'Hodge companies have done very well indeed.' He then handed over most of the Daily Mail to Julian Hodge to himself as the receiver of the newspaper and to the Daily Mail, which had been to buy back into Hodge companies. No one need worry about this, wrote Mr. Barry, as the 'big banks' had satisfied themselves as to security for all unit trusts.

In 1968, the Daily Mail reported gloomily on a lunch he had had with a director of Avana Saunage, of which Hodge was a director. In 1969, he defended the takeover by the Hodge Group, of Anglo Asso. In 1970, Julian Hodge was once more writing in the city pages of the Daily Mail, this time defending the financiers like himself who were making millions out of the unit trusts for second mortgages.

The city editor of second mortgages the villains publicly would have us believe? Hodge asked.

'Certainly we are not,' he answered.

The article went on to explain how the financiers who granted second mortgages were fulfilling a vital public service.

A FRESH attack on Julian for Mr. Hodge had by then been knighted—was attending the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund—and, of course, was Patrick Barry, editor of the Daily Mail. Jim Callahan and his friend Sir Julian Hodge are excited about the prospects of a new Commercial Bank for Wales which they hope to launch soon,' wrote Mr. Barry in the Daily Mail. The following year all three men—Callahan, Hodge and Sergeant were back at the IMF again, and Sergeant reported that Callahan and Hodge were in the running for the chairmanship of the IMF, or else, once again, Sergeant referred to the Commercial Bank for Wales and the Hodge—Callahan plans for it. The hope is to build up deposits quickly and if the target of £50 million could be reached, which would make the bank profitable quickly.

A month later, he wrote in glowing terms about the flotation of the new bank for Wales. The Daily Mail, in January this year, when the Hodge annual results were published, the Daily Mail had another glowing report which amounted to a straight share tip for the Hodge Group. But the following month there was some strain between the Daily Mail's news office, which was conducting a 'campaign' against the high costs of second mortgages, and the city office.

On 16 March, for instance, the Daily Mail highlighted the plight of a widowed tailor of slender means, who had borrowed £400 on a second mortgage and had been forced to pay back £900.55 to the Hodge—Callahan—Sergeant's Cardiff. The exposure, he is assured, has done nothing to upset the stable relationship which exists between Sir Julian Hodge and Mr. Barry.

JULIAN HODGE is a member of the Labour Party. He has always tried to combine his successful business with a devotion to Labour Party causes.

One life-long friend and business associate is the Treasurer of the Labour Party and former Chancellor of the Welsh Commercial Bank of Wales, in which Mr. Hodge has 4900 shares. Another director, with 4600 shares, is George Thomas, a Cardiff Labour MP and former Labour Minister. Mr. Thomas used to be a fiery lay preacher who used to warn his fellow socialists against the temptations of the devil, such as money. He is now altogether more reasonable.

Last March I printed in this column a list of seven Welsh Labour MPs who have taken shares in Sir Julian's new bank: Leo Abse, Postupsky (4000); T. A. Jones, Rhudded West (500); L. Evans, Cwm pressures (1000); C. Hughes, Anglesey (1000); and A. P. Probert, Aberdare (1000). A closer look at the latest shareholders' list, however, shows that other doyens of the Labour Party have shares, but have made some attempt to hide this. Who, for instance, has heard of Sir Fred E. Jones, who is listed as 1500 shares in Hodge's bank? He is none other than the well-known Sir Ewyon Jones, former Attorney-General in the last Labour government.

And who is Mrs. Jennie Short, who owns 1500 Hodge shares and lives at 4 Pottersdale Gardens, Wrexham? She is Edward Short, the truth is that Sir Julian and his advisers have managed in one way or another to entice several senior ministers in the last Labour government into holding an 'interest' in his bank—Callahan, Thomas, Hughes, Jones, Short, and the inevitable Ray Gunter, who left Wilson's Cabinet to return to the 'folk from whence he came' (the director of Security and the shareholders of Sir Julian Hodge's bank).

The shareholders' list of the Commercial Bank of Wales reads like a who's-who of the Welsh establishment. There are senior army officers, leading counsellors, even judges—such as Edmund Davies, the 'brain robbers' judge, who has recently distinguished himself by refusing Noel Jenkins leave to appeal against a 36-year prison sentence who has 1000 shares. His wife has another 2000.

All these have held on to their shares in the bank's second year of operation, although in December last year the Harnsworth Pension Fund and the Robert McAlpine Foundation, which sold 20,000 shares last New Year's Day.

As Patrick Barry might put it: With the Daily Mail, half the Welsh Parliamentary Labour Party, nearly half the last Labour Cabinet, Mr. Justice Edmund Davies and the McAlpine family rooting for him, how can Sir Julian go wrong?
WINSON GREEN in Birmingham hit the headlines a few months ago when children were found raiding dustbins for food at a local school.

It is in the headlines again with another grim story. A four-year-old boy, Leslie Follows, has been drowned in a canal.

Handsworth is usually known as the slum area of Birmingham, but Winson Green is worse.

In a street of more than a mile in length, with alleys leading off, only two houses have bath and a few more inside toilets. Imagine if you will, a half of detritus and semi-derelict buildings along with houses lived in by people but infested with rats and ants.

There is a 40-ft walk to the toilet and a road that is the main feeder from the biggest GKN factory in the Midlands.

Heavy articulated lorries rumble along the road from six in the morning until 10 at night. Parallel to the road is a feeder canal, the main channel for the north-bound railway from Birmingham New Street.

Christine O'Connor, a young resident in the area, says: 'There are activities other than one pub in the area which has a disco twice a week and you have to be 18 to get in there. The other nights all we can do is watch the box or wander around the streets.'

I'm still at school and all I do in the day is hang around the streets or cafes. I don't know what I shall do when I leave school, I probably shan't get a job. Winson Green has one of the highest unemployment rates for 16-18-year-olds in the Midlands.'

'Mother can't wait to get out of here and I reckon after living in Leamington, Hockley and Ladymead that this is the worst area I know.'

Commenting on the drowning of the small boy, Labour councillor Albert Jackson told a local paper: 'What concerns me is that such a tragedy could happen again. What the paper's report did not say was that in the last 13 years, seven other children have drowned in the same canal feeder, two of them in one day. Mr Jackson's office overlooks the scene of the drowning and it can be plainly seen that the flimsy fencing that shuts off 100 yards of the canal is frequently broken down.

The residents are giving the council two weeks before they fill in the whole of the feeder canal themselves. Some of the people plan to set up a Winson Green Residents Action Group to fight for other improvements in the area, particularly safe play areas for children and drastic improvements in housing.

Bad and shocking though Winson Green is, it is not unique. All big cities have their own versions. More than a million houses in Britain are without inside toilets and baths. Close on four million people live in slums while thousands of millions of pounds are spent on Concorde and armaments.

Office blocks by the score rise in the city of Birmingham, some no doubt to stand half empty. No matter what promises malnourished Labour or Tory hacks may make concerning slums, it is only when the workers who produce the wealth decide what to do with that wealth that the slums will be wiped out and everyone decently housed.

Story & pictures by Bob Whitehead and Larry Blewitt

by DUNCAN HALLAS

IMPORTANT NEW SERIES STARTS THIS WEEK

Every constitution rests upon a revolution. The British and Scottish revolutions of the 17th century that swept away the political obstacles to the development of capitalism served as the basis for the modern laws, conventions and political institutions needed for the functioning of capitalism and which together make up the 'constitution'.

It could not have happened in any other way. For centuries the old feudal order had been based on war, trade and manufactures (not yet in factories) had been becoming more and more important. So too had the mercantile class who controlled them.

But these classes could not re-establish society in their own interest without smashing the old constitution. Like a chicken growing inside an egg, they could only develop a long way under the old order but essentially they had to smash the shell or be choked.

So took a civil war, a military dictatorship, a 'restoration' and a second revolution to finish the job.

Everybody knows that the revolution took the form, at the beginning of a conflict between King Charles and parliament, especially the House of Commons.

The Commons had become by the early years of the century a stronghold of the new rich, the growing capitalist class.

They could buy the Upper House, His Majesty only excused, thrice over the House of Lords changing hands. The MPs were elected by a very restricted electorate and vocation who shared their outlook and their aims.

The Scots church was obviously to be set up in the same way and all the more so because of the Scottish mindedness of its leaders.

The Scots church—the kirk—organised on a Presbyterian basis (without bishops, dean and so on) was rather more democratic than the Church of England. James I had said, 'A Scotch Presbytery as well fitted by necessity as monarchy as God with the Devil. No bishop, no king.'

Charles was determined to force the bishops on the Scots more effectively than his father had done and to throw the English bishops out of Scotland. The Scots, or rather the property owners, associations, bishops and English church ritual...
THE GREAT REVOLUTIONS

property against the King

with royal tyranny and they were ready to revolt.

To force the King to come to terms they sent their army south across the border, defeated a small royalist force at Newburn and occupied Northumberland and Durham. The English opposition now had its chance. For all his arbitrary taxes and forced loans, Charles was desperately short of money. It was an age of inflation and the traditional sources of royal income were yielding less and less in real terms.

Dismissed

The new rich were more and more evading and even openly resisting the royal demands. To raise an army big enough to deal with the Scots, the King needed their cooperation. He was driven to call a parliament and demand from it the then enormous sum of £640,000.

When it proved unco-operative, he dismissed it after three weeks but his situation grew even worse and in November 1640 he summoned another, the famous Long Parliament. The first of Lennox’s three requirements for a real revolution—that the old ruling class cannot go on in the old way—had been met.

So had the second—that the rising class will not go on in the old way. ‘Both their ultimate aims and their immediate programme were in fact revolutionary. The parliamentary leaders, Pym, Elliott, Rouse and the rest, forged the Commons into a revolutionary weapon.”

Charles hoped to appeal to their patriotism. England and Scotland were then separate kingdoms united only by having the same king. There was no love lost between the English and the Scots, they had been fighting each other for centuries. Moreover, the Scots were negotiating with France for an alliance against the English.

The parliamentary leaders taught King Charles a lesson from which we can profit. They would be patriotic when the class they represented was in power. Meanwhile they would rather see the Scots in London than trust the King with an army.

Appointed

Even when the Catholic Irish broke out in a great rebellion, destroying a good deal of capitalist property and cutting a great many throats, the parliamentary leaders did not falter. They would indeed agree to pay for an army for Ireland—provided that they and they alone appointed its officers and directed its operations.

‘By God, not for an hour,’ was the King’s reply. After an unsuccessful attempt to seize the best known of his opponents by force, he fled north and called on his supporters to join him in arms.

The parliament elected a Committee of Public Safety, effectively a war ministry, and raised its own troops. The civil war had begun.

WEEK: fear ‘small people’

What’s happening to your wages?

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Getting away from it all

"August is nearly over, the people back from holidays are tanned..." 

AUSTRALIAN TIMES FROM AUTUMN JOURNAL 1953

HOLIDAYS, the organised kind, aren't really as good as people make out. For the entire year, life is made bearable by the promise of a holiday, planned beforehand and returned to by nightmares afterwards.

All the ingredients are there—the sun and the sea and the sky and last summer is too long to enjoy them. The postcards to the fortunate back home and the colour photos seek to prove what a good time was had by all and one.

But the acres of golden, un-marked flesh in the posters, the brochures of phallic, the "basking international nightspot" nesting beside the "tiny unspoilt village" and "sophisticated four course meals" are simply the best kind of fantasy, one which is half true and which we desperately want to believe in.

But look just below the surface: pleasure island turns into an Eighth-class-Sea where currency earnings prop up lousy police stations and teach a workforce of ill-paid pleasure dispensers the iron law that a big smile gets big tips.

The fine print in my Thomson's Winter Sun booklet actually says under one photo of sexy couples frolicking in the pool: "An artist has removed construction debris from around the swimming pools and has added water to the pool. He has also projected onto the photo a number of people."

For even capitalism's best fantasies are coming apart at the seams. There's cyanide on the beach and the gerrybilk industrial strength during the war, were part of the recognition that modern industry requires a healthy, contented workforce, with people on prodigious overtime to afford to go on holiday. The pioneers of package tours, like Clarkson and Horizon, now dominate one of the few immensely profitable areas of British capitalism. But the growth of the leisure industry was part of the more complicated tendency of modern capitalism to take political control over previous private spheres of life.

The more advanced capitalism becomes the earlier and the deeper it seeks to invade all human expression, not simply disciplining and defining them at work and school but in front of the television and on the beach.

The idea of holidying is becoming one of the system's most important safety valves, the idea that you can get away from it all (that being capitalism). The brochures have on offer precisely what we are prevented from having in the rest of the year.

Choice: will it be either the sun-terrace or the indoor bar or the lady's hairdressing salon, holiday romance are only undertaken in the certain knowledge they will be over soon. Even the leisure-wear fashions are pre-faded and have their individualised patches sewn on by machine in all suits.

For what those who own these companies want is a holiday world of international products when you aren't really sure whether you are in the Hotel Palma Nova, Majorca or the Hotel Majapra, Palma Nova, but you still buy plenty of Coca Cola and Eso and Ambo and Solanes and Kivells.

Devours

But instead of seeing the world, it is actually screened in a coach window and the hotel is only a planned shambles and souvenirs. As we clamber back on the plane, we don't really care if we stay the countryside is a thing to be sold to tourists the countries the been away from us.

Natural beauties are sold to us, turning the Mediterranean coast of Spain into a tarred macadam in Manhattan with a morality to match and making Northern Scotland an empty backdrop of oil derricks and heath for American tourists to photograph each other against.

In such circumstances no real holiday is possible. When you get away from it all, you actually take it all with you.

We have been made into people who want it. We are used to joy and almost prefer looking at the brochures to going there. And there is no holiday in Cambodia or Chryslers because our society which so wants to pretend its one big holiday camp is actually at war with itself.

Those who run it can afford to smile at how pathetically we are satisfied with two weeks' travesty of freedom. Those who take away the meat from the slimy Brains."
Sky—jacked!

HEATHROW AIRPORT is one of the marvels of technology. One plane takes off on average of the day and millions of passengers pass through it every year with any other large-scale industrial work as such human labour that keeps Heathrow running. And without that labour even the most advanced technology becomes meaningless and useless.

Over the years, and particularly during the past decade, a marked change in the nature of a significant proportion of the workforce has occurred at Heathrow. The virtual non-existence of the traditional Heathrow worker has given way to a new breed of staff, now termed Acme Industrial Cleaners Ltd. These workers are predominantly Asian women who are paid significantly less than their male counterparts for doing the same work. The female cleaners are often paid as little as £1.10 per hour, while their male counterparts are paid £1.40 per hour.

The introduction of Acme Industrial Cleaners Ltd has led to a significant reduction in the rates of pay for workers in the airport's cleaning departments. In 1973, the average rate of pay for a male cleaner was £2.50 per hour, while the rate for a female cleaner was £1.50 per hour. However, by 1979, the rate for a male cleaner had increased to £3.00 per hour, while the rate for a female cleaner remained at £1.50 per hour.

As a result of this, many Asian women workers are finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. The low rates of pay mean that they are unable to afford basic necessities such as food, clothing, and housing. This has led to a rise in poverty and social problems in the Asian community.

Workers' Pay at Heathrow

After 12 months' employment, workers are granted two weeks' holiday and after two years, three weeks'. Workers are employed initially for a three-month probationary period after which their contracts may or may not be renewed. As a result of this, many Asian women workers are finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. The low rates of pay mean that they are unable to afford basic necessities such as food, clothing, and housing. This has led to a rise in poverty and social problems in the Asian community.

Asian workers: Keeping the giant airport clean—at starvation rates. Pictures: MIKE COHEN

Cleaning in the public areas in this building is carried out by Acme Industrial Cleaners Ltd.

Today socialists need to be ever more prepared to combat the increasing racism that is riding in on the Tories' tide of laws against immigrants. This new pamphlet examines and demolishes all the racist arguments and is essential reading for every socialist militant.

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Organisation

Martin Tomkinson and S. Khemchand
ONE of the most popular arguments against socialism is that people are just too selfish for it to work. It is claimed that socialists are unrealistic dreamers for imagining that somehow things will change overnight and people will work together for the common good without coercion.

Certainly, if you look at society as it is at present, the argument seems justified. Many people do see life as a rat race, in which the key thing is to get what you can for yourself, regardless of others. Big businessmen turn out drugs such as thalidomide or building materials such as D ograins without worrying about the consequences.

And workers are not immune to the poison either—for instance, many work as much overtime as they can although by doing so they are depriving others of work.

But selfishness is not a result of some unchangeable inner nature of man. With the best will in the world, people are compelled to act in such ways by the structure of capitalist society.

Businessmen can only survive if they are more competitive than other businessmen. That means they have to be trying to get as much possible out of their workers all the time, and it's an added hacen for them if they can find some legal way of doing down another businessman or fiddling the consumer.

To boost their profits, industrialists have to do their utmost to prevent their workers fighting back. So all the resources of human ingenuity are employed to turn one worker against another, to inhibit the mass of the population with the same blind, unthinking interest in the survival among the rival capitalists at the top.

In the schools, children are brought up to compete with one another from the age of five or sixwards, continuously conditioned to think through races called exams, so that each child is supposed to be anxious about how he compares with other children rather than developing his own capacities as best he can.

OPPOSITE

Where possible the same system is imposed in industry, with repeated grading and regrading of workers, as if they were material objects rather than human beings.

Such a system can turn a man's conscience for his fellow human beings into the opposite.

A worker who is deeply concerned about the plight of old people or children can do little about it. He can vote Labour at the elections, but whether Labour or Tories win, the welfare of the sick or the aged is not his concern.

He can do something about the situation of his own family if he can somehow get more money. And the easiest way to get more money is to work longer hours, or to over-work or to reduce productivity bonuses while he is made redundant.

So that whatever there was to say, the outlook would be grim, it would be difficult to see how things could change quickly enough for socialism ever to come about.

But even within capitalist society there is another side to human behaviour. Property capital not only involves people in competing with each other. It also involves them working alongside one another on a scale never dreamt of before in human history.

In the modern factory or office hundreds or even thousands of people work together in producing goods. Without an element of genuine cooperation, without people often doing more than the minimum necessary to keep within the rules, the factory system would hardly work.

This is showed by the way production suffers whenever there is a work to rule. The co-operative instinct which is shown in something even capitalism cannot do without.

Workers give such co-operation even when it is against their interests individually and as a class to do so. The most blatant example of this is in wartime. In the first World War millions of workers marched off to sacrifice themselves for what they regarded as a 'higher ideal'—though, in fact, it was only to help their capitalists outdo rival foreign capitalists.

Such misguided heroism shows that people do care from always being selfish. In the case of the First World War, in fact, it would have been better for humanity if workers had been more selfish. Then they would have had less willingness to risk their lives killing other workers.

At times workers show the same spirit of co-operation in acting in their own interests. The results can be impressive. Power workers' struggles for a better deal in the last 10 years have always been marked by a degree of selflessness with which hundreds of others have always done their workmates in recent pit disasters.

The most important way in which the present system makes experiments co-operate is when it drives them to fight back against it.

Some 40 years ago industrial socialists did some experiments in electrical factories in America. They made what was, to the big business interests backing them, a horrifying discovery. Even in completely organised, competitive capitalist circumstances, workers instinctively co-operated to resist efforts of management to make one worker compete with another.

The strikes which took place to defend the miners last year or the three-weeks' strike at Fine Tubes show that workers in fighting against the employing class can display the same co-operative enthusiasm and selflessness, and that they have misguided put at the disposal of their own bosses in war time. Where system makes experiments in cooperation and leadership which shows them where their own true interests lie.

MEMOS INSTEAD OF BLOOD

INDUSTRIALISM AND INDUS

TRIAL MAN, by Kerr, Harbison, Dunlop and Myers, Pelican, 45s.

PENGUIN are pleased to publish this book, written in 1960, for modern students of industrial relations who wish to investigate further that illusive area in which the lives of workers and managers meet.

Kerr, writing in the middle of the 1950s, found that in his factory there was a sense that the workings of science was heralding a future of industrial harmony. But he saw that this would only come about if the workers themselves were to form the basis of control. "The battle will be in the workshops," he wrote, "where the expectations of the workers will flow instead of from the managers."

Some 15 years later, Mr. Vic Feather and his colleagues have been reading his book and have come to the conclusion that the process of industrialisation is discussed with only vague reference to capitalism as a whole, and that the real profit of profit. Kerr continued to praise the mythology of production and efficiency, which is industry today is run by producing output of all kinds, but by deadening the thought that they are ordinary nas of many.

ALEXANDER BERNSTEIN

Sweeden's road to nowhere

SWEEDEN: THE MYTH OF SOCIALISM, by Larry Huford, Young Pinguin, 50s.

Sweeden has a reputation for 'socialism'. This pamphlet gives this idea a thorough examination. The Social Democratic Party, in power continuously for 44 years, has lived hand in hand with business and the people's welfare unachieved.

In fact, the concentration of inherited wealth in the hands of a few is being increased, not reduced. And the gap between the rich and the poor has widened.

Here is a pamphlet full of examples of the failure of the other 'socialist' countries and a picture of a trade union movement that in the company of the anti-trade union law to 'assure the laws of the country' and its leaders are strong and incomes are increased. The other a Christian centre costing £17 million. The Post and Echo have a vested interest in them both.

PETER MARSDEN

MEMOS INSTEAD OF BLOOD

INDUSTRIALISM AND INDUS

TRIAL MAN, by Kerr, Harbison, Dunlop and Myers, Pelican, 45s.

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ALEXANDER BERNSTEIN
OUT on the east side of London is the theatre where Stratford hasn’t been born. What this Stratford is giving birth to is high-rise blocks, underpasses, overpasses, dual carriageways, and the symbols of soul-less modern cities.

The middle of the motorways is an old Edwardian building, the Theatre Royal. Joan Littlewood’s Stratford Theatre Royal is Joan Littlewood.

"Out of that window," she said, pointing out of her office, "they had one of those concrete bollards they knock down because it was banging away until yesterday. I couldn’t bear myself thinking.

Joan Littlewood has been at the Theatre Royal on and off for about 20 years. Many of her productions have moved from Stratford to the West End, or The Globe, where she made it the cinema as a wide-screen spectacular. Since her youth she has been, and remains, a revolutionary socialist.

In the 1930s she worked with Ewan McColl in theatre groups which toured the streets of the depressed areas of the Northern parts of the city and performed for the working class. She was then in the Communist Party, but left it after the purge. When the Communist Party accused me of dabbling in Trotskyism, I left it.

She hadn’t been, and still isn’t enthusiastic about some left theatre groups who preach to the working class. "What we did had to be brilliant done, I don’t like theQualified"

Later at Stratford she became well known. She was responsible for productions of Brendan Behan, The Embers and Brian Delaney’s The Honey, which were to go up west for the big money. Not something which makes her happy.

Shabby

"I’m reduced to bowdlerising my productions for the West End, for the money, like Oh A Lovely War. When we did it is 1950, we didn’t have to think about tradition, like there was an old lady whose sweetheart had died in the trenches who preyed to me, she’s got a remembrance.

The production had started off as a bitter comment on the Boudoir of the Labour Party, the subversive songs and accounts. On the screen it wound up as a shabby liberal song and dance. Joan Littlewood wasn’t surprised by this, but has never been bowdlerised to go on to see it herself.

Despite a string of Battles Joan, the little lady with guts, stories in the Fleet Street press, and a continuous stream of stars who emerged from her productions, the Theatre Royal has always existed hand-to-mouth.

"I don’t want a fraction of the money thrown away by the Arts Council," she says—but she hasn’t even got the fraction. Apart from putting on plays, the theatre has always been struggling on in continuous conflict with both national sponsors and the local council.

Any faith might ever have had in the Labour Party has been snuffed out as the rape of East London has continued. One of her productions has been using temporary structures with children’s education. The week before I met her the council had taken over the area for use as a car park. A school the kids used had been knocked down.

The council had approached her to help with the Lea Valley Project, which had been planned to develop leisure facilities in the area. It had come to nothing.

"Kids come here, people come here because there is nowhere else. "Where do we go to? Who do we protest to?" they ask. The local authority might as well not exist. A civil war is going on and people don’t realise it. The council won’t accept responsibility—and they are building high rise blocks that even Conservative architects say aren’t fit for human habitation.

"As for us—we’re worse off for premises than ever. They’re trying to pull down parts of the building. Sometimes it’s impossible to operate with the rats coming out of the drains."

After her failure with the Lea Valley project she went off to Tunisa for a couple of years, and got into the kind of theatre she is totally committed to.

"We had everyone there, Tunisians, Arabs, Jews, French. They all worked together. What I want is a theatre of life, learning through action.

"This place for me is a last chance to get people into their own mecca, to give people their own identity. When some of the people who made it on stage, screen and dope parties from the Theatre Royal come back and have a drink at the bar the kids look at them and see this kind of aura—of being stars. They don’t realise that they can have the aura themselves.

Last week the kids were doing a thing on villains and they consented to on the fact that the villain’s world was their world. They came to see who could be the most villainous. In the little girls it wasn’t done anything bad in the previous work. "Oh well," they said, "you have to be too rich to need to be villainous so you have to dress up to be good.

I sometimes wonder why we bother to put on plays with the smashing chickings.

When the dustmen were on strike the other day, the people thought which didn’t give the increase. They were left there on the streets. We got them down here on a Saturday morning with their wives. They did this play, about it, wearing crazy clothes, top-hat... clown outfits, we played it as a jazz band. It really gives you heart.

Mixture

'People round here are neither with each other nor alone. We need a community minded and our society has attempted to provide. If one could use the power of the working class round here.'

The most recent Littlewood production at the theatre was Nuts—a mixture of songs, recitations, and contributions from local political and community groups—and just people from the audience standing and they had received a standing ovation from the critics—I’d have a good time the night I went.

"You can’t invite crities to a thing like Nuts," she said. "It’s like inviting them to an American war."

"Nuts was an experiment and it was successful in the last 10 days. We had a woman who got up and sang a song about being a gossamer dresser, beautiful she was, and then a young fellow got up and sang a song about being a gossamer dresser and spoke effectively for two minutes.

Control

"A bloke from the Dockworkers Union came in last week and said I had to say to them what we want is five cent star messages, not speeches, and we want to say what we want and I can’t say what would be going on that night."

In the middle of that wasteland, in an old building Joan Littlewood at the theatre. She’s not the one who is going to be going on banning her head against a brick wall.

"Bizarre"

Where lies the problem, For the union succeeds in getting the Labour Party to accept its proposals, as it hopes to at this month’s party conference, and if the Labour Party by some bizarre accident is actually to nationalise the industry, what would we have? An industry producing a lot of good material interpreted with no James Bond?

The union lies outside the industry. For the excellent proposals to make sense they have to relate to the broader struggle of the working class against this system. It’s not just the Odeon on the high street we need to understand the control of the workers...

"For too long we’ve suffered from a situation where middlemen can cripple production. A film costing £1 million won’t go into profit until £3 million has been made. The distributors take 25 per cent plus expenses before anyone else gets anything." The 64-page report gives a comprehensive picture of an industry on the skids—skids which have been put under it by the big companies that have more interest in oil, breakfast cereals and accountant’s figures than the film industry itself, as one union member put it.

Shocked

Unhappily and unwillingly the TUC General Council have had to accept the union’s policy, which was adopted by the 1971 TUC conference. Vic Feather may wriggle to avoid it, but it is official TUC policy.

What would the bosses of industry think of the report? They’ll be shocked, I think," said Sapper. One comment from a supporter was that it failed to deal with the content of the film produced. There was a tendency to look back to the golden age of the cinema and imagine that they can just chuck out the movies, with or without San Francisco. If there had been, the technology of film has made possible a different kind of cinema," he said.

The point was countered by Roger Smith, who was involved in drafting the report. "If the industry was nationalised then the possibilities for the use of new equipment would grow with the security which could be given to people in the industry. It wouldn’t threaten their livelihoods, and large studios would still be needed for big productions."

"So would you still make James Bond films?" asked a questioner. "If people want them then James Bond films will still be made," Smith replied.

Bizarre

Where lies the problem, For the union succeeds in getting the Labour Party to accept its proposals, as it hopes to at this month’s party conference, and if the Labour Party by some bizarre accident is actually to nationalise the industry, what would we have? An industry producing a lot of good material interpreted with no James Bond?
Sparks' paper hammers union leaders

MEMBERS of the Electricians' Union who are also sympathetic to serious political unionism of members of them of the latter organisation publish in this the first issue of a Socialist Worker special issue for workers in the electrical engineering industry. The paper shows how the union's leaders have collaborated with government and employers in the electric engineering industry with particular emphasis on the discriminations resulting from contracting and the power industry. Full details are also given of the right-wing leaders' manoeuvres to prevent the strike at St Thomas' Hospital in London ended in favour of the employers and that the government and employers are also taking part. The paper also outlines a fighting programme for revitalising the Electricians' Union and unifying the membership for militant policies. The paper's editorial says: 'In this situation what can we do? Certainly we shouldn't sit back and wait for changes to take place. If we are to get what we have prepared to work for the necessary changes, to allow our union to take its rightful place in the vanguard of the working-class movement. Over the years the union has steadily become a one-man band with general secretary/general president Frank Chapple ruling with a rod of iron, with anyone daring to voice opposition quickly "red dust". We have to make sure that the union is brought back under the control of the membership, not by pressure bullet votes where only the executive line is put, but by real participation. To this end we stand for:

- Annual election of all full-time officials who will be paid the average wage of the members they represent and will be subject to recall.

Binding

For an annual policy and rules revision conference binding upon the executive council.

The industrial conference of the union to determine policy for their decisions taken are binding on the executive.

An end to bans and proscriptions.

Agreements to be ratified or rejected by the rank and file.

No victimisation, no readjustments, no incomes policy, no productivity deals or job reallocation.

Total opposition to the Industrial Relations Act and all government interference in industrial disputes.

Copies of this paper can be obtained from SPARKS, c/o B Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Builders demand union supports accused 24

THE Governing Council of UCATT, the builders' union, is being pushed hard to get the union executive's stand against supporting the North Wales 24 building workers reversed. The 24 are UCATT and Transport Union members facing trial for conspiracy for picketing during last year's strike.

Letters from the UCATT executive west round all branches earlier this year insisting that support should be given to the 24. The executive also said no other kind of support would be legitimate.

The stand has caused a wave of disgust in the union and branches have been petitioning for the suspensions to be reversed. In the rank, 40 branches have to send in appeals before the Governing Council will intervene. More than 70 branches have signed such appeals and the council has begun to push the executive. A decision is expected soon.

After last month's council decision that the executive should rescind there has been a flurry of manoeuvring in the executive. General secretary George Smith—already famed for his statement that "These lads are innocent then, British justice being what it is, they will be found guilty"—has been screaming that it is not possible for any further discussion to take place. Comment on the whole case is, he insists, ruled out because the matter is before the courts.

Crucial

But Smith's shameful line has been taken a bit of a battering. Governing Council members have pointed out that the executive decision only referred to financial support and that this has been arguing persuasively against any kind of support—when in fact it is not. The result of all this is that the executive will have to reverse its position to guarantee the hardship fund. This will bring the union, Transport and General Workers Union, some of whose members are also facing trial, the two unions and General Workers Union, some of whose members are also facing trial. This will bring the union, Transport and General Workers Union, some of whose members are also facing trial. But neither union is giving any real fighting support on this crucial matter. The UCATT leaders are very much caught up in horsetrading with the employers. What Smith and co are looking for is a trade-off, with UCATT offering "responsible" trade unionism and the employers granting membership rights in return. This deal, where the union leaders would become the employers' "loyal ios", become more of a possibility over recent months. For the lump has now caught up with many of the employers.

The employers have spread the lump with a view to buying the union. But with the boom in the construction industry, lump workers have been extracting high rates of pay and conditions not to site that the employers are having great difficulty getting finishing work done.

The employers are also under pressure from the Tory government, because construction is one of the few industries where the wage freeze has not been hit.

In this situation, where a deal looks a real possibility, the UCATT leaders want to do as little as possible to antagonise the big employers. They may be forced to change their line on the North Wales 24 case and that will be a formal step forward, but they will give no real fighting lead against the conspiracy trials.

Attack

The protection of the threatened building workers is squarely down to the rank and file. On Tuesday Edinburgh Trades Council held a special meeting to mobilise support for the North Wales 24, explaining the issue to workers and preparing the ground for industrial action against the trials and against any penalties.

Similarly, Liverpool Trades Council has called a national conference of rank and file on 22 September. This too will be a focus for organising opposition to the Tory attack on pickets.

But the crucial aspect of the struggle is to organise the men's defence on the shop floor. The Tories and their courts have got to be forced to retreat and abandon their attack on workers' rights to picket. Only widespread agitation can achieve this.
IT is too early yet to say whether or not any section of the Irish republican movement was responsible for the bombs in London and other centres, except perhaps the right-wing so-called nationalists. But attention to the possibility that British security forces may have had a hand in this as they have had other similar attacks in both the north and south of Ireland.

But assuming that a section of the republican movement was responsible for the bombing, it is right to say that the bombing was ‘misguided’. The whole campaign must be condemned and the general principles of life-work in the anti-imperialist movement in Ireland.

The fact is that every bomb left in the offices or streets is a boost to the cause of the landlords and a setback for the Tories and a setback for the movement in the south of Ireland: particularly the campaign in the north of Ireland, a one-pound token strike in even a few British centres could kill an end to internment and the withdrawal of the measures would be infinitely more damaging to the Tories than a bomb.

Some leaders of the republican movement do not see this and in their response have not been sufficiently ready to expose the British government’s actions and in some cases have argued against them. The crisis is to seek new means of resistance. The movement’s leadership should seek to organize the movement, to build up pressure on the British government to make concessions.

Sex and the left

The review of Don Milligan’s pamphlet was not published in the August issue (p.18) suggests that many revolutionaries have ideas about sex that are not yet ready to be put to the Mothers Union or Guardian editors. It is evident that the review was written by a woman, since it can have a personal bias. The review is not really against a reactionary or liberal on this issue.

The only actual politics referred to in the article are that of ‘the system’ maintained, sexual morally which fit its own overall values and systematically persecutes all those who ‘disagree’. It is important to see that this has any wider reference since many of those who are not just sexuality in the capitalist society, are persecuted under capitalism with far more horrifying results. The only actual politics referred to in the article are that of ‘the system’ maintained, sexual morally which fit its own overall values and systematically persecutes all those who ‘disagree’. It is important to see that this has any wider reference since many of those who are not just sexuality in the capitalist society, are persecuted under capitalism with far more horrifying results for example.

Lump officials

He was dead, but even a glance at the Fabian Society should be possible, if not a more systematic study. The society is likely to be a source of information for those interested in the subject. He was dead, but even a glance at the Fabian Society should be possible, if not a more systematic study. The society is likely to be a source of information for those interested in the subject.

Candidate hits out at anti-LS ruling

I WAS dismayed to read in Socialist Worker of Reg Underhill’s call to members of the International Socialist Workers’ party to resign from the Labour Party. He is the Labour Party’s own left leader, which is why I was so shocked to read of his call.

Reg Underhill has campaigned to prevent the rise of the Labour Party. He is the Labour Party’s own left leader, which is why I was so shocked to read of his call.

He then could do worse than investigate the activities of the 69 Labour MPs who support the National government in the House of Commons when it was discussing our entry into the Common Market.

Characteristics of the system

The result is that the government has not only failed to address the needs of the working class but has actively worked against them. The government has been called upon to step up its efforts to improve the quality of life for all citizens, especially those living in poverty.

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Recently I have visited a home from one of the Department of Health and Social Security’s social work officers to ask about my claim. After noting all the details of the case, the officer told me that the claim would be stopped at the start of the potato harvest, and that I would be expected to find employment there.

He then went on to say that it would be impossible for me to claim because my insurance card with a self-employed person’s name on it would not be accepted as evidence. The result is that the government has not only failed to address the needs of the working class but has actively worked against them. The government has been called upon to step up its efforts to improve the quality of life for all citizens, especially those living in poverty.

It is important to understand that the Social Security office was not interested in the situation of the potato farmers in the surrounding area. They do not bother to engage people into the potato farmers in the surrounding area. They do not bother to engage people into the potato farming community.

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST NEWS

FACTORY BRANCHES MEETING A SUCCESS

MORE THAN 120 delegates attended a meeting in Birmingham last Saturday to discuss the problems faced by local International Socialists' factory branches.

There were delegates from branches in a broad range of industries—carpenters, engineers, hospital workers, builders, bakers, Tony Cliff, of the IS executive committee, led off the discussion. He expressed the view that it had made considerable success in building factory branches over the past six months, doing much better than expected at the annual conference in March, but that it was not wise to over-express one's optimism in dealing with the problems that increasingly grow.

The aim of the factory branch should be to sit in and occupy the lead-ship in the factory. Success in this would also help the local IS organiza-
tions and the spreading of the influence of socialists in other factories.

40 at Cornish meeting

CORNWALL—More than 40 people, most of them industrial workers attended an informal meeting in Camborne, where Paul Foot spoke on the need for a national socialist party.

At the meeting several shop stewards and factory branches from the Camborne area, including some from the Camborne Cornish Tin Mines, were present. Many of the shops said that they were not part of the management but independent strikers who were informed that they would have to fight to avoid being blacklisted by the Camborne branch of the IS.

The Camborne branch of the IS is composed almost entirely of independent workers who have won recognition in the town. The branch has 15 members and has only 100 members of Socialist Worker—almost all of them in the town’s factories.

Some of the IS strikers in the firms’ offices during the occupation.

To do this effectively, the factory branch has also to ensure that its members take initiatives in trade union branches, district committees and trade councils.

Although such bodies are often almost dead at present, they can become very important, particularly where there is more than one strike in a union at the same time. For that reason IS members have to become experts on the particular meeting and organize them in particular branches.

Speakers from Edinburgh building workers, Chrysler carworkers and York busmen spoke of the problems of socialist education in their branches and how they had tried to overcome them.

A delegate from Oxford carworkers stressed that one key in building the factory branch was that all members had to become experts on their particular meeting and organize them in particular branches.

ACTIVITIES

Speakers from Coventry carworkers and from Hull told how in building their factory branches they had been able to draw into IS workers who had previously been indifferent but had now been prepared to join.

The meeting also discussed the activities of the factory branches in relation to the Chrysler electricians strike and the attempt by the Shrewsbury 24 building workers for picking.

A delegate told how Jack Jones, general secretary of the IS, had narrowed the membership of the factory branches.

The IS branch of the IS is composed of an independent workers who have won recognition in the town. The branch has 15 members and has only 100 members of Socialist Worker—almost all of them in the town’s factories.

new estate branch

MANCHESTER—At the first public meeting of part of the IS Walsall Preston, on the new estates, car workers in the area.

One delegate told how Jack Jones, general secretary of the IS, had narrowed the membership of the factory branches.

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Selko, whose parent firm is Hattori of Tokyo, are blunting when they want that they may pull out of Britain. Their British market is as profitable in its own way as the American and there is no question of them trying to do that.

This was proved on late Friday when the managing director of the company, in his statement, maintained that he had no intention of importing the firm’s products to Britain.

Outside a strike placard read: "Selko like robots because they don’t talk back."

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Lucas in parity strike

BIRMINGHAM—At Sim's Motors, part of the Lucas Group, a six-week strike by 3,000 workforce members has not seen any change in the parity fund. A deal was made official through the Birmingham District of the AUEW, but negotiations are ongoing. The strike, which started six weeks ago, was made official through the Birmingham District of the AUEW. Following the six-week strike, the company and the trade unions have agreed to a new deal that includes increased pay and improvements for the workers.

EDINBURGH—Over 100 delegates from 20 building sites, workplaces and trade union branches across Scotland have attended a conference in support of the 'Shrewsbury 24'. The conference was held at the Union Trade Centre last week, as a result of a resolution from the local branch of UCATT, the union's building workers.

Bill Jones, speaking for the North Wales and north-west declining area of the United National Union of Building Workers, emphasized the importance of trade union organisation in North Wales. The 24 men who have been victimised were not in any way acting illegally, he said. They had been picked on in the hope that they would be easy to crack and that a precedent be set that could be used against more militant workers elsewhere.

ATTACK

Bill Jones alleged the political nature of the strike. All pickets during last year's building workers' strike had been accompanied by police and no complaints or arrests had been made at the time. A full six months later, 26 ordinary workers, many of them pickets, were arrested. The strike was in full swing but the police ignored the concerns of the workers and children.

In the face of this serious attack, he said, the executives of the men's unions, the GTCWU and UCATT, had responded with action. Pressure from the branches forced the GTCWU executive to change its mind. But its support of the 24 is partly building sites, to prepare the way for industrial action in support of the 24.

JAB: “A very welcome move to stop the strike...”

SHEFFIELD—A mass demonstration outside the GMB office by hundreds of workers was held in support of the action at UCATT. The demonstration was held in response to the action taken by the National Union of Building Workers, which has resulted in 24 workers being sacked.

SUCCESS

Collection sheets should be taken round works for any money only to be used for the strike fund. It is hoped that the TUC will look into this situation and agree to provide the necessary funds.

SOUTHAMPTON—The 300 workers at Strachan's coachbuilders struck last week over their pay claims.

They struck a week in April in protest against the lowering of the 24 men who faced a charge of industrial action in support of the 24.

ATTACK

Rory Jeffery, EFL, pointed out that the TUC had not taken any action to change the situation.

The best form of pressure was independent action that would force the leaders of the TUC to change their stance. Therefore, we should campaign for industrial action on 20 July—by the time the trial starts.

Frank Drain, UCATT Ricketson shop steward, said that the co-ordinating committee at the Sports Council should be established by delegations from workplaces to organise as quickly as possible the strike fund and industrial action on 3 October. The collection of funds was started last week and the meeting raised over £50. At the end of the conference a resolution was unanimously passed calling for the trade union movement to use its industrial power to free anyone who was jailed, and, in this case, to support the 24.

The meeting marked a great step forward, not only for the campaign of support for the Shrewsbury 24 but also for the left in the Edwards District of the AUEW. The trade union movement in the South East has been weakened by the government's attempts to stop the 24 from continuing their campaign.

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300 Coachbuilders still owe pay claim

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COVENTRY: Almost all the workers at Chrysler's engine plant at Stoke are crossing official picket lines and working machines repaired by non-union sub-contracted labour.

This is the result of what one Stoke union official, Mr. Goldstein, has described as a "black" week of trade union solidarity.

The diary of disaster reads:

FRIDAY: Strikes, tardiness and the complaints of militancy on the joint shop stewards committee, the conveners meeting of Hugh Scallon and Jack Jones, advised a mass meeting to work machines repaired by non-electricians. The meeting agreed.

MONDAY: An International Socialists leaflet revealed that non-union labour had come into the factory over the week-end.

Midweights and truck drivers refused to cross the sparks' pitcet line. The stewards committee voted heavily for another mass meeting on the Thursday, despite almost hysterical opposition from the conveners. Throughout the factory, sections were walking out.

RUMOURS

TUESDAY: Eddie McClusky, secretary of the Shop Joint Staff Stewards Committee, announced that he could not get loudspeaker equipment over the strike as the local effective meeting was delayed. The company used the delay to put out rumour about a "financial disaster" if any strike took place, a statement threatening to sack any worker who did not return the next day and had no kick out.

FRIDAY: Almost all workers went back to work.

MONDAY: A fight-wit motion in the stewards' committee seeking to ban for five years any stewards who disobeyed the mandate to return to work after the mass meeting was lost by 70 votes to 30.

Stoke migrants are sickened by last week's events, but are preparing for a counter-attack. Their position will be greatly strengthened if militants in other parts of the country follow the example of Stoke and send money to the striking electricians.