Portugal's carnation begins to wilt

by Bob Light (TGWU)

PORTUGAL'S government is facing a deep crisis. Some left-wing ministers have threatened to resign from the government formed after the overthrow of fascism on 25 April. The right-wing officers in the army who supported General Salazar have been deploying their troops in an attempt to frustrate their opponents.

The crisis has developed out of the new government's efforts to work out policies that will keep up business and industry and 'discipline' the trade unions not to strike.

For 40 years Portugal lived under fascism. Murdering trade unionists and socialists was the national blood sport. The country was run as a prison with the working classes being the convicts.

But on 25 April that changed. The Carnation Revolution brought the working people the first time in their lives, ordinary people are free to talk their minds, free to think, free to organise. And the red carnation has become the symbol of their new freedom.

Since 25 April the full compressed power of the working classes is being felt. Every brick in Lisbon is coated with some kind of socialist slogan.

STRIKE

Virtually every single industry in Portugal is being set up by strikes. Workers in the electrical components industry fought a bitter battle to force their rates up from £10 to 48 hours to £14 for 42 hours. The minimum wage has been driven upwards to £15. The 35,000 post office workers have just returned to work. And now the merchant navy is on strike.

Throughout Portugal workers have been occupying the factories. Managers tainted with fascism have been removed. There was an occupation of the Timex factory just a couple of weeks ago. There is a work-in going on at a pharmaceuticals plant near Lisbon. Everyone is a bit of an unathletic looking youth's offer to tell you track suits.

Conductors on the trams called off a strike and went back to work. But they refuse to collect fares. They are British-owned. And hotel waiters refused to serve their 'guests' with anything but a bowl of water—and a leaflet outlining their grievances.

Most important of all, in just nine days the workers have rebuilt the whole trade union movement. In some cases this has meant taking over the old fascist syndicates and cleansing them of fascist and corporatists.

This is what has happened in the Stevedores Union, where the old executive is mainly the

When I first heard of the consultants' complaints about our private patient bans, I remembered what happened when the hospital ancillary workers were on strike. We were fighting to stay alive and we were attacked by the consultants. The same consultants are now screaming blue murder when we want to cut down their casual intake.

-Bill Geddes, NUPE branch chairman, St George's Hospital, London.

The private patient issue was ignored by the national leadership and the spontaneous revolt is now being headed off into another facelose inquiry. They will no doubt come up with the same grey platitudes once again to be forgotten. This is not the way to kill private practice or to fight any other battle, the way to fight is to go on with the ban and mobilise health workers themselves. We are going right ahead in the North East and we hope other hospital workers do too.

Mike Atkinson, NUPE hospital convenor for the North East.

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NOISY

The reaction of the Harlem Street merchants has been most illuminating. Behind their tough-stern faces and their public school manners lurk commercial principles at their worst. They can hardly conceal their fear about the revolt of the 'lower orders'.

Anyone who has any doubt about the real motives of some of the most noisy of the part-time consultants should take a look at the British Medical Association, which takes a lot of beating for short-term selfishness. It fought tooth and nail to stop the NHS coming into existence. It lobby vigorously and successfully to restrict the number of doctors in training to preserve its monopoly position.

When the BMA talks about freedom of choice, it really means its continuing right to bolt in comfort while for the rest of us hospital has become a nightmare of uncertainty, long waits and petty discomforts. Some freedoms. Some choice.

In addition the BMA has been threatening the consultants and the BMA that have been caught with their pants down.

The Labour Party has been passing resolutions on private practice for 30 years. Some of its more eloquent minds have made a hobby of writing pamphlets against it. But when the hospital workers have to lay on the luxuries while the Health Service falls apart the initiative, just watch Labour run for cover.

Harold Wilson complained to the House of Commons of the hospital workers' action: "I regretted it because it was wrong. It was wrong to do it. It should have been done by parliamentary procedure." Wilson and the newspapers that have so eagerly taken up the campaign against the 'unconstitutional' action of the hospital workers operate on a simple principle. When rich and powerful groups like the consultants threaten to withdraw from the Health Service they sanction this as 'pro-fessional behaviour'. But when lowly workers, hospital ancillary workers and nurses, make incroads into the privileges of the rich, that is an offence against 'parliamentary democracy'.

Such attitudes are shared by the official leaders of the trade unions.

FEAR

Alan Fisher, TV radical and NUPE general secretary, spent a year doing his best to discourage private patient bans in Portsmouth and the North East. Then he sprang on to the bandwagon, tried to take credit for the Charing Cross Hospital action and stee the enthusiasm for the ban from the very hospitals towards yet another facelose inquiry.

The reason for the union leaders' fear is clear. They all adore the poli-tics of committees and procedures but are terrified when rank and file workers take action on their own on issues that affect their own lives.

They have cause to be. More and more workers are going to ignore the Labour Party windbagger and do something for themselves about the fac-tories and the offices and companies for which they work. Action such as that at Charing Cross Hospital is going to grow to a wave—and Barbara Castle and a 32% strike are going to have their work cut out to ride it out.

Private patients, public parasites—see page 10
More Health Service workers strike—page 15

TURN TO PAGE 9

Maybe the sun doesn't shine on the righteous, but our case certainly holds water," convenor Len Brindle told a sold out solid mass meeting of 6000 British Leyland truck and bus workers last Thursday. "First we want the 7 per cent cost of living increase we are entitled to. Then we are prepared to talk about modifications in piecework payments and industrial engineering." Lord Strode's summer offensive is being stonewalled in Lancashire. Underneath the umbrella there is a serious strike going on.

FULL REPORT—page 14.
PICTURE: John Sturrock (Report)
FREE SPEECH FOR CHRISTIANS
by Duncan Halls

STOP racists and fascists speaking at universities! We are under attack from those who claim the right to free speech and free expression, say the Topic: a right-thinking men and women and should oppose it in the name of freedom.

Birmingham Tories have just struck at this so-called freedom. They have forced the city’s education committee to drop a schools council because of their religious communion in its religious education syllabus.

Freedom for racist demagogues, that is fine. Discussion about communism in schools, that is going too far.

The Tories got their way by appealing to the Department of Education and Science, as they do, to make a compulsory to teach Christianity in schools, not only religion, but legally compulsory subject in the school curriculum.

It is not actually called Christianity. It has been known variously as Religious Instruction, Religious Knowledge and Religious Education. But its real aim and content is clear enough from the fact that the Act allows Jews, Muslims and other non-Christian parents to withdraw their children from all religious teaching, just as right to the children themselves.

The idea was not only to teach children in the dogmatic way, but also to parcelize, right down to aottage godly lot. Some of them, Sir Keith Joseph, MP, minister for Education, do not even pretend to be Christians.

The idea was, to quote the prayer book of the Church of England, to encourage kids to accept that 'statistical data in life which the Labour Minister Reg Prichard, which ruled that the Act was illegal because it does not conform to the 1944 Education Acts.

SUBJECT

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FREEDOM

In Birmingham, according to The Guardian, a '40-conference which went on throughout the city's churches' drew up a syllabus which included some discussion on 'non-religious matters... including communism and humanism'.

Young Christians who are trained in Religious Education teachers, who are the professors of Christians, who are not intending to advocate atheism or communism, but merely to indicate that such ideas exist and perhaps to criticize them and that amount of freedom of expression is intolerable to the Tory defenders of free speech for fascists. And the Labour government comes to their aid and vetoed the resolution.

It is worth remembering the next time one is discussing British Labour, MPL prattles about freedom.

THE WAFLE AND THE VETO
by Eamonn McCann

THE Labour government will accept any amendment to the proposed Mercantile Code that benefits Ireland—except one which might threaten British interests. This is the message of the White Paper issued by Northern Ireland Secretary Merlyn Rees.

The White Paper calls for the establishment of a Mercantile Court. The Convention, which will be set up on the lines of the proposed Mercantile Code, will spend six months working out a solution. The solution will be submitted to the British government—which will have a veto on it.

Labour’s latest in a long series of Declarations, Agreement and Parliamentary and Constitutional Acts which have poured forth from Westminster in the past six years. It is also the shortest—only a sentence or two about the future. The rest is waffles.

CHANCE

The brevity of the document and the way the government has made it clear that Rees— to put it simply—hasn’t done his homework, or what to do next. It is not a policy document. It is an admission that there is no way to any well-worked-out British policy.

The Labour government is making a virtue of necessity. Rees has tried to maintain that this means the people of Northern Ireland are now free to decide their own future. Even if this were true it would be unacceptable to socialists, because the right to decide something is not the same as the right to join the British constitution. If this were true it would be unacceptable to socialists, because the right to decide something is not the same as the right to join the British constitution. If this were true it would be unacceptable to socialists, because the right to decide something is not the same as the right to join the British constitution.

The British presence in Ireland— the military presence in the North, the economic and political presence in the South—is at the root of the Irish question. It is not the economic threat against the Irish, but the economic threat against the Irish. It is not the economic threat against the Irish, but the economic threat against the Irish. It is not the economic threat against the Irish, but the economic threat against the Irish.

SOLUTION

In the next few months, as the politicians, newspapermen and television correspondents rub their hands in glee at the thought of Rees’s ‘initiative’, industry grows. It is a good bet that Rees’s initiative will work only in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people.

Sooner or later, the British government will have to change its policy, and it is not a change in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people—not in the case of the Irish working people.

Right again Sir Raymond

AN ATTACK on papers produced by Fighting Imperialism in the annual report of GKN, the giant engineering company. Sir Richard Brooke-Jones, chairman, says: ‘we have neither regard nor respect for the misdeeds and distorted—propaganda which are circulated in many of our factories.’

Last year our company reported quite a spate of facts, and we can expect a similar reaction this year.’

For once Brooke-Jones is right. The next article, information—even about Sir Raymond—ends to GKN, 153 Tames Road, Wotton, Birmingham.
**The ‘socialist path’ to concentration camps**

by Raymond Challinor

NEWSPAPERS recently carried the story of the Kennedy family, of the Falls Road, Belfast. For some time, the father—Billy Kennedy—has been interned at Long Kesh. Now his wife Mary has been put in Armagh jail. As a result, their six children are left with no parents.

The Kennedys, like other interned families in Northern Ireland, have been deprived of their liberty without first being found guilty of any offence. They have been placed behind bars for an indefinite period and given no legal redress.

Elated opinion throughout the world has condemned the atrocity of internment. Yet Stan Orme, Minister for Northern Ireland, defends it. In an article in the journal Tableau, he described the government’s policy as the ‘socialist path’ for Ulster.

The absurdity of Orme’s statement is clearly shown when it is remembered that the Wilson administration holds a record. It should appear in the Guinness Book of Records for being the British government that has interned the most people, for the longest time, in the worst conditions.

Even in the Second World War the numbers were fewer. After an initial panic in 1940, the figure fell until there were only 400 people detained under Defence of the Realm Regulation 188. In Northern Ireland, Mr ‘left-wing’ Orme and his fellow ministers have more than 650 interned—

in other words, more than half as many again as Churchill’s coalition did during the world war.

Nor does the content end there. The conditions in Long Kesh are exceptionally poor. Prisoners have to endure overcrowding, bad food, and are limited to a half hour visit per week.

By comparison, detainees in the Second World War lived in the lap of luxury. After 1942 Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary, permitted prisoners to have their wives living with them. For Mr and Mrs Cowdace Mooney, conditions were even more privileged. No barristered old Nelson but at Long Kesh, crammed with 90 other prisoners, for them! They lived in a four-roomed flat, with food specially prepared by their own servants. Mooney was leader of the British Union of Fascists.

**Shame**

The conduct of Mr Orme is just another indication of the political degeneration of the parliamentary Labour left. In 1940 Aneurin Bevan had fellow Mps that imprisonment without trial under 188 ‘brought us to shame before decent opinion throughout the world’. It would be nice to ask Stan Orme whether he is proud of his policy of internment. Does he relish treating drunkards today worse than British fascists were treated in the Second World War?

**DENIED**

On 26 March, Therese was phoned by John’s firm, Moss Bros. Her husband had collapsed. He died shortly after in hospital.

At the inquest a fortnight ago, the pathologist stated that John had died of a ‘progressive blood-clot in arteroy, or knitting of it for at least two of three minutes’.

The police denied it; they had had his head down to stop him hitting the top of the car. The jury accepted Mrs Lamartie’s version of the story and returned a verdict of ‘accidental death while under police restraint’.

Meanwhile PCs Maund, Price and Robbins are still enforcing law and order on the streets of North London.

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**No trouble, now**

Because, you see, we have a responsibility to ‘the movement’, ‘I believe’, said Brother Len, ‘that the TUC has got to do anything it can to remind unions of their obligation to the movement as a whole.’ All this in aid of the move to persuade the NUM conference not to put figures in its claim.

Now, presumably ‘the movement as a whole’ has a vital interest in reversing real wage cuts. Certainly the members have. And how on earth can the interests of the ‘movement’ be different from the interests of its membership?

They can for Murray and his friends. They want, above all, a good life for their families. And so do the members of the NUM. And so do the government. The membership will just have to tighten its collective belt.

The thing about all the wonderful things the Labour government is doing for you, say the TUC leaders. Remember, there will be an election in October. You don’t want the Tories back do you? So go easy lads, no ‘excessive’ wage claims. Best of all, no wage claims at all.

In 1966 the same singers sang the same song. The Labour government was duly returned with a comfortable majority. The first thing it did was to clamp down with a statutory total wage freeze.

‘We were blown off course’, said Harold Wilson, so there hadn’t to be a freeze.

Today the economic situation is much worse than in 1966. Not that less is produced now than then. The opposite is true. But capitalism is constrained with production for profit, not production for use. Profits are too low, say the bosses. The Labour government, as always, goes along with them.

The trade union leaders follow suit.

That is what the ‘socialist contract’ is all about. Cut wages to boost profits. The job of socialists is to stop them getting away with it.

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**WHAT WE THINK**

**‘Too good to bury’ Murray**

ACCORDING to Len Murray there is a danger of a ‘wages explosion’ this autumn after the end of the statutory incomes policy. He told the miners’ union conference: ‘An explosion at this time would blow up a great deal more than the retail price index’.

He meant, of course, that it would blow up the TUC’s ‘social contract’ scheme for holding down wages. That would put Murray and his colleagues on the spot. It would show just what their pretended opposition to ‘unfair’ incomes policies amounted to.

Now, wages, in real terms, have been falling on average. Working, material housing off 12 months ago. The official figures, produced very late as always, show that average earnings fell by 2% per cent in the first three months of this year. If that rate continued over the whole year average earnings would be cut by 10p in the pound.

The outcome will not, in fact, be quite as bad as that. The first two figures are affected by postal work. Threshold agreements, for those who have them, are providing some limited protection against price rises and so on. But the outcome will be bad enough. A realistic estimate is that earnings, in terms of purchasing power, will be down by around five per cent over the year.

Any union leader worth his weight in brass washers would, in these circumstances, be urging action to recover the lost ground and to provide against the price rises to come. Not Murray. Not the TUC General Council. Not most of the ‘left’ leaders either.

Instead, Len Murray told the miners, ‘what we have to do is to ensure an orderly withdrawal from that situation [Phase Three] and not to have anything at all, it means accept the cuts that have been and are being made by inflation and don’t rock the boat.’
Happy birthday Banda! It's been 10 years of torture...

LAST SATURDAY Malawi in Africa 'celebrated' 10 years of independence. I'm an ex-teacher in Northern Malawi, I'd like to say a few things about that country and Hastings Banda, its leader.

Two months after independence he sacked the radical two-thirds of his cabinet and when his rigid control has continuously increased. Even up to September 1964 people were wary of critical discussion. Since then the truth has died and spies are everywhere.

Banda's methods are modelled on the Portuguese secret police in Mozambique. Amnesty International has taped interviews (not used) by the BBC of interviews with Malawians arrested, detained and later released.

They told how they had to eat their own faeces, of their beaten dogs, and how they were brought to the cell and encouraged to respond to their advances. As soon as the penis erect it is whipped, and a match is stuck in the end and lighted. Any

Cops: wonderful
to me too

I WAS interested in 'Wonderful our Police'. (6 July). Due to an incident on Thursday night I believe that the Liverpool force deserves a niche in your hall of infamy.

I was waiting for a bus with two work mates, Noel O'Keefe and Ken Gallagher. A constable approached us and said, 'What are you doing Paddy?' We told him and he walked away.

Seconds later a Land Rover pulled up and five police surrounded us. A sergeant accused Ken of giving the V sign and threatened he would be walking away. When this was denied the police grabbed him and twisted him up his back, two grabbed his feet, and they threw him into the van. Noel and myself then received the same treatment.

The police got into the front and the other three and the constable who had first approached us climbed in the back on top of us. During the journey to Bredwell police station they started emitting arrest by kicking and punching us. When we reached Bredwell we were dragged in feet first and an inspector asked us if we had had enough or were we going to resist some more?

I asked if I could phone a solicitor, and a doctor for Ken, whose eye had been hit with his forehead bat. They seemed surprised that I was inquiring.

The shouting stopped, our names were taken, and we were locked up.

At five am we were charged with disorderly conduct and bailed, after which Ken had to return for hospital treatment for his eye injury.

Noel and myself had received numerous injuries to the body and legs.

We were subsequently found guilty and each fined £5. As we were neither drunk nor disorderly I can only surmise it was a case of 'pubby bashing', or the particular officers involved wished to boost their arrest quota that night.
I simply MUST make the 27th at Burlington!

Who's inquiring?

THREE LETTERS to the Harrington Times express concern about the possible closure of the Harrington Times. The letters are signed by: Mrs. J. A. Harrington, 112 State Street; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Harrington, 123 Main Street; and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Harrington, 134 Main Street.

The Harrington Times has been in operation for over 100 years and has served the community faithfully. However, due to changing times and financial pressures, the newspaper is facing potential closure.

In their letters, the signatories express their worry about the possible loss of a local news source. They recall how the Harrington Times has been a trusted source of information for generations and have strong personal connections to the newspaper.

The closure of the Harrington Times would not only impact the local community but also other newspapers that rely on the Times for their content and advertising.

As a result, the signatories urge the Harrington Times to consider alternative funding models, such as reader subscriptions or community support, to ensure its continued operation.

Wall to knock down

MRS. JUNE WALL, the director of the Harrington Times, reports The Guardian newspaper, urging them to co-operate with the organisers of the union leadership to reduce the number of strikes.

She said, in a letter to Len Murray, that women would bring some sympathy and responsibility to the issue. They would not be so quick to start or condone strikes. They have better understanding of men than how strikes affect families.

She also said that the growing militancy by a lot of women workers, in particular, is causing problems.

Certainly there is a crying need for women workers to make their trade unions because they do know how a pittance of a wage and long hours of work affects their families. Especially when a woman still has to come to another job of caring for her children and doing the part of the home worker.

It should be pointed out to Mrs. Wall that housewives also need what is like to try to make ends meet when their husbands come home with a wage that is constantly losing value in the shops.

From setting men against women, socialists should be working by the working class as a whole. Their fight for the same wealth that they produce.

The wrong variety at Heinz

I WORK AT A Heinz Harlesden factory and until recently my job has been stacking up on the tomato ketchup line. Since I started work on the line there were three men keeping the job going.

But last week one man was removed from the line without any regard for the men involved. No adequate explanation was given, the shop stewards approached the management and was told the job was 'overstated'.

In this instance the convener completely failed in his responsibilities. He should have done so much sooner. It has been an absolute disgrace.

As usual profits is the game and my workmates and I are being made scapegoats of the union and of the International Socialists; and if there is no trouble with the management it is a motion through the union branch.

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As usual profits is the game and my workmates and I are being made scapegoats of the union and of the International Socialists; and if there is no trouble with the management it is a motion through the union branch.
THE PAPERS are full of talk about economic crisis. Is this the usual con-trick to get the workers to lighten their belts?

There really is a crisis. Apart from the propaganda put out by the employers representatives, the facts speak for themselves. Inflation is running at 20 per cent a year, Britain has a staggering £400 million balance of payments deficit and there is bad recession coming. But, of course, the employers would like the working class to pay the price for the crisis by making a big cut in living standards.

But how true is all the talk about a profits crisis and stock market talk about a collapse? The share pushed won't be on the headline, will they?

Judging by the money being splashed around at Acorn, Henley and other upper-class jaunts this year, many of them are doing very nicely, crisis or not. The big shareholders have got a lot already salved away in works of art, land, commodities and other forms of savings they need not worry too much.

Some will go bust, however, and the stock market slide will have wiped out much of the life savings of some lower middle class and working class people.

Gobbled

But about the decline in profit there can be no argument. Measured either as the rate of return on capital invested in property or profits as a percentage of total output, profits are in structural decline.

So what? Does it really matter?

In a capitalist society, it is all important. Unless they can stop the decline in profitability, they can only jack it up substantially—whole firms and even industries will go under. They will be driven out of business by more profitable sectors, particularly abroad, or they will be gobbled up in take-overs etc.

Profit is the lifeblood motive of the system—and the only guarantee of survival in the jungle warfare of competition.

So there is a profits crisis. Why?

Two basic reasons. One is inflation.

Costs

Part of the reason for the present inflation crisis lies in the worldwide cost of raw materials, commodities and oil. But the underlying reason is the response of big business to the simultaneous slow-down of the world economy and the inability to pay for rising costs by increasing productivity—that is, raising the level of output per worker.

What has productivity to do with it?

Since the Second World War, the main way the system has increased in costs, including wage costs, has been through a huge increase in profits from the slow-down of the world economy and the inability to pay for rising costs by increasing productivity—that is, raising the level of output per worker.

What has productivity to do with it?

Since the Second World War, the main way the system has increased in costs, including wage costs, has been through a huge increase in profits from the slow-down of the world economy and the inability to pay for rising costs by increasing productivity—that is, raising the level of output per worker.

But stagnating markets also meant idle plant and machinery and industry poised on the edge of this in higher prices.

How did this increase in inflation become a world-wide tide wave?

Because, mainly, of the huge balance of payments deficit of the United States. American control of the capitalist world's banking setup means that other countries were obliged to hold a growing mountain of US dollars because of the trade gap and overall investment in the multi-national.

These dollar acted as a conveyor belt feeding US inflation into the world economy. The oil and commodity producers saw this inflation slashing the real value of the currency they were getting in return for their products. So they showed up prices to try and maintain the real value of their incomes. But that only gave another nudge twist to inflation internationally.

Where does the money supply come to all of this, as Powell and others keep mentioning?

The stock of money in every country is both the barometer of inflation and the means by which it is passed between countries. In addition governments have tried to deal with stagnation in investment and production by increasing their total imports, and the real problem is not natural limits, but the capitalist system of production and distribution. Take food for instance.

The main reason for recent shortages of wheat and meat production is the output by the US government and others in earlier years in the interests of holding up the level of world prices.

And the shortages in the Russian and European nations may not be the fault of capitalist economies but not so much because of the actual factors as of the whole system of bureaucratic economic planning.

Are you really saying that there are no years remaining to limits to growth under socialism or no problems of rising prices?

That's right, if socialism cannot release society's capacity for productivity, free from mindless labour and the abolition of poverty are utopian.

The profit system prevents the building up of stockpiles and other increase productivity. Under a system of democratic planning (ultimately internationally) we could achieve growth and higher real living standards for all.

Decide

That would involve surpluses being produced over and above what is consumed privately or collectively. But, these unlike profits, would belong to society as a whole—and it would then have to decide how best they are employed.

But what answer is there in inflation?

The bosses have only two answers. They can try drastically to increase profits by squeezing workers, cutting costs of materials etc, productivity will double, but this is not enough. Without massive new investment it is not on.

Now with profits and economic stagnation, they are not likely to. That has to be the case. The only other way is by cutting real wages both at home and abroad.

That is easier said than done. Working people are not likely to take kindly to having to pay for the men and women of world capitalism. And the labour shortage is still too strong to lie down under huge real wage cuts.

This has led some Tories (and others) to say that what is needed is a controlled recession with higher unemployment to force the trade unions to resist cuts in real wages.

Future

But this could be explosively dangerous. A recession could turn into a slump and, even more importantly, working class anger could bring a determination to get rid of the whole system. In the meantime every national capitalist economy is trying to export its problems to the selling by trade and tariff barriers and other measures which threaten trade war.

But what about a total collapse because of inflation?

The system will never simply collapse of its own will. It will have to be scrapped from top to bottom and replaced. But we could not be sitting down to a real inflation explosion and a recession at the same time. It will only work if we can talk about a national coalition government and the rest.

The next election in the Tory party and elsewhere are preparing for a change of government. It may be in the next few months. There may be a week or two of periods of partial recovery.

But without a showdown there is no way out for the system. That is why the battles over the next few years amount to being decisive for the whole future of society.
Howard's gonna keep him down on the farm

I CHALLENGE anyone to think of anything more depressing than Mr Eldon Griffiths, Tory MP for Bury St Edmunds.

Since being appointed a Tory spokesman on Industry, this un-speaking chaffan has been going on the toby and shooting about the "dynamic" of private enterprise and how horrid it would be if all his friends and supporters, who make money by selling things, were expropriated.

He has been appointed an "adviser to the board of Howard Machinery, a firm machinery firm which employs more than 3000 people in four factories up and down the country, and which is about to open a new factory in Aylesbury, Suffolk, which is the perfect coincidence is in the heart of Mr Griffiths's constituency.

Four weeks ago, Ivan Crane, an engineer working at Howard's factory in Halesworth, Suffolk, wrote an article in Socialist Worker about an exhibition he and other workers had put together to raise money for the factory, which was run by Howard.

There are no unions at Leofords, so the Howard stewards circulated leaflets urging the workers to join unions and press for wage parity with the other factories.

Ivan Crane's article continued:

"A wild scene followed. In a fit of rage this gentleman from the management marched a sufferer and threatened the fourth. He then removed an employee to the far with the seat, the "leather-monger" then knocked the factory gates, so the winter clothing was sold at the factory as the leaflets. Then he phoned the police.

I promised further news in Socialist Worker about the "non-violent " and "responsible industrial relations" practised by the firm for which Howard serves. How the workers of Industry is now the paid adviser.

Sieg along with Tyndall

BELOW is a booklet issued by the National Socialist Movement in 1962. The Phoenix Bookshop was run at the time by Mr. H. H. S, the National Front, is now constantly reassuring everyone he has nothing to do with Nazism. Tyndall's pamphlet is underlined on my copy.

The same circular included the following advertisement:

NATIONAL SOCIALIST PROCLAMATIONS

Available on tape or Ideal. Wonderful copy of recordings from Nazi Germany. Hours of glorious listening! Speeches by Hitler, Goebbels, Göring, Himmler, Hess, Goebbels, Deen, etc.

March music, head and voice battle-cries of the Wehrmacht, Hitler Youth, etc.

Many of high recorded quality.

Buy now fast, and you will be satisfied.

The story in the Sunday Times comes at a crucial moment in the career of Tommy Simpson. He's just been appointed leader of the majority Labour group on the huge and powerful Central Executive of the National Front. Last week, he became chairman of the Land and Buildings Committee, which will be responsible for awarding construction contracts.

The Scottish Sunday Mail on 30 June revealed on its front page that in June 1970, only a few months after leaving his job in Glasgow, Tommy was taken on a "public relations" advisory to the building firm of Wight Construction, a subsidiary of the big Edinburgh property company, Edward Holdings.

Wights specialise in building contracts for councils in Strangeways, especially in Grangemouth. At the moment, Wights are building houses for the council, an indoor sports complex for the council and part of the town redevelopment centre for the council.

Tommy Simpson has been getting £23,500 a year for his "public relations" services to Wights.

The story in the Sunday Times comes at a crucial moment in the career of Tommy Simpson. He's just been appointed leader of the majority
This man has a handful of death

TODAY and every day a whole community ran the risk of contracting asbestos because of one firm’s cynical violation of the safety rules and regulations for the storage and handling of asbestos.

This appalling situation came to light only when members of the International Socialists and a worker at the factory, in Livingston, West Lothian, invited Jim Heggie of 7/62 Glasgow insulation workers’ of the Transporter Union to look at the factory and speak to workers there.

Gleno Asbestos make asbestos cement cooling sheets. When you go to the factory the first thing you see is a rubbish tip. On it are empty asbestos bags. None are completely empty. Asbestos is lying about everywhere, the bags are all torn open. It’s a windy place and asbestos and cement dust are blowing about freely.

There are houses less than 50 yards from this tip. Whenever the wind is in the wrong direction the people who live there are breathing air containing asbestos dust.

I was able to walk on to the tip, pick up and take away a bag with asbestos in it. I had never been a child looking for something to play with.

The recommended safe procedure for bags that have contained asbestos is to place them in sealed containers and bury them at least 20 feet underground. For asbestos is a killer. If you inhale this dust it can slowly destroy your lungs. I have been too light-headed to work, to talk, even to dress yourself. Asbestos is incurable.

Horror

This factory has been in operation for six years. The chances are that already people living close by, possibly including children, have contracted asbestos.

When Jim Heggie spoke to some of the workers about the problem of asbestos, the workers in the factory are living with the certainty. Here are the stories of three workers. They don’t want to be named for fear of victimisation.

Worker A is 19 years old and has been at the plant for 10 weeks. No one told him asbestos was dangerous when he started work there. For the first three weeks the only protective clothing I had was a pair of gloves. I now know that this put my whole family at risk.

My job is to open the sacks of asbestos with a Stanley knife and put the asbestos into the mill with my hands. There is a tiny printed notice saying that the sack should be opened under an extractor fan, but that’s impossible because the edge of the hole where you put your hands into the extractor is all broken off and you would cut yourself.

In my case this is the way I was told to do the job when I started.

Crawl

When we’re doing one special job involving putting amosite (asbestos wood) into the mixture, we have to open up a door into the mill where the asbestos is being mixed up. If you put the stuff into the normal feed it won’t go because it’s too soft.

We aren’t allowed to put the whole bag in at once, so you have to keep the door open and feed the amosite in a bit at a time. It takes about two minutes and the air fills with asbestos dust all round.

Every now and then, if the machine gets too full with asbestos, the feed can jam. The last time this happened the general foreman ordered us to go in and fix it out. This meant climbing down the 34 foot ladder into a space about 8ft long, 4ft wide and 4ft deep with asbestos about 2ft deep in it. You had to crawl about on your hands and knees in the stuff and shovel it into the top.

The only extra protective clothing we got was wellbeing boots. When we went out and put on a mask, the other men asked me where I got it from. They hadn’t seen one before and didn’t know where to get one.

I didn’t know there was such a thing as asbestos. We were told that only blue asbestos was dangerous and white asbestos was safe. There is a union here, but they don’t seem to bother. Most places I’ve worked at they come up with a form and ask you to sign, but not here.

Worker B is 18 years old and has worked for Gleno for one week. He has no protective clothing except gloves. No one has told him anything about the dangers of asbestos.

Worker C is 21 years old and has worked for Gleno for 18 months. I still haven’t got overals. The ones they supply are useless. You are supposed to have them laundered at the works and keep the dust out, but these are just ordinary overalls. They charge 10p a week for cleaning them and if you go missing they deduct £7 from your wages. They go missing all the time.

No one in there wears a mask, of it they do, I’ve never seen them. The only protection you get is a pair of gloves. There is no changing room and no shower.

ASBESTOS

The dust that kills in the name of profit

A new Socialist Worker pamphlet tells the story of the Glasgow insulation workers’ union branch, of the men who have died because of asbestos and of their fight to save others from it. To the series of articles originally published in Socialist Worker has been added a guide to where workers are likely to encounter asbestos, what lives cover it up and how to forestall management to keep to them.

10p plus 4p postage (100 copies or more post free) from 18 Books, 260 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.
This country is like sweating gelignite...

by BOB LIGHT, recently back from Portugal

FROM PAGE ONE

same minus a few quiblings. In other industries entirely new fighting unions have been forged. In the private office, just ten days after this coup, there was a nationwide mass meeting of 15,000 workers [at which] a temporary committee of 22 to run the new union and draft a constitution. It is also agreed on the 16-point claim that led to the recent strike. But that committee of 22 is controlled by a larger body of delegates from all grades of post office workers throughout Portugal. It has a quota of 250 delegates and meets once a month.

In the electronics industry it's the same story. Next month there are to be around-1,000 workers. There is a complete split of rank-and-file candidates standing on a militant socialist platform. They could sweep the board.

Arrest

Politics are alive within the army too. Not just the radical officers, but rank and file soldiers as well. An entire company in Guine-Bissau, the Portuguese colony in West Africa, signed a letter to the Jotta declaring their support for the coup and saying that they were no longer prepared to obey orders to fight on.

Two days ago we were on a demonstration against the arrest of two socialist officers outside the Cacique Grande Barracks in Lisbon. There were threats that the whole barracks would be brought to a standstill so that the soldiers could join the demonstration. The authorities took it sufficiently enough to confine all ranks to quarters to shut the barracks completely.

And to mount two tanks outside the gates.

With their cannons facing inwards. At we marched past the barracks there were soldiers on plastic out of the windows giving the chunked fist salute. Salutes that have probably not been seen in Europe for 40 years.

The atmosphere in Portugal today is raw excitement. I had the experience of attending a mass meeting of the Communist Party in Lisbon's bullring. It was held in a terrible thunderstorm but still 40,000 people were crammed inside with thousands locked outside the gates.

All right, so the politics were an admission of socialism, but I've never in my life experienced the sheer fervour and determination of that meeting. 40,000 workers singing the Internationale is a moving experience in any language.

You can't touch it, you can't see it—but you can feel the charge running through the Portuguese working class.

Portugal today is a nation in the melting-pot. Thus far the majority of the individual class and the officer corps have supported the coup. But behind the scenes there is an increasing determination on the part of the masses to break the post office strike. And it is reported that authorities are demanding three years of imprisonment for both.

It is this situation that has made the collaboration of the Communist and Socialist Parties in the government so disastrous. The Jutta desperately need an insurance policy against the groundswell of working-class militancy. That is why the two parties have been in the government.

And to constrain the working class.

So far they've done a fine job. The Communist and Socialist Parties in the government are 100% united. They have been in the government for two years. They have been in the government for two years.

And the post office strike was called off under the threat that the army would be used.

Now the government is trying to save the army. Two socialist army officers, Carlos Marques and José Branco, have been arrested for refusing to order their troops to break the post office strike. They are to be court-martialled, and it is reported that the authorities will be demanding three years of imprisonment for both.

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The government is also moving against strikes and occupations. Troops were sent in to break the Times occupation. The army has seized four tankers to break the merchant navy strike.

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Rampage

On the other hand if the Communist Party are kept in the cold, the workers will be checked by any feelings of loyalty to the government. Then the dogs of class war will be on the rampage. The ruling class of Portugal will count the cost.

It might be a year. Maybe a year. But the showdown is coming in Portugal. It will be an all-out war between labour and capital. And they won't be taking prisoners.

The working class have got the power. In my opinion they have got the will. The decisive challenge will be whether the working class has the political organization and the self-confidence to fight class war through to victory and take power. And whether the ruling class can arouse the army and crush the working class.
### Private patients, public parasites...

**by ALAN ELLIS, NUPE Branch Secretary St George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner**

The astronomical costs of providing operations for private patients are assayed by the consultants, who then pocket much of the money themselves. How would you fancy being able to set the limits on what a consultant earns? This is what some consultants do. Quite often the cost of the operation is assessed on the size of a man's bank balance. Patents are normally of the class that tell the consultant to name his price.

The consultants also have full control over the waiting lists. The longer the lists, the more people will be persuaded to go private. We have to take control of the waiting lists from the hands of consultants who have anything to do with private medicine.

While these men are lining their own pockets, the crisis and decline of the NHS is accelerating because of the shortage of staff. Who would want to work on an appallingly low wage?

Today many hospitals, never mind cold wards, are being shut down because of chronic shortages. In my hospital, out of 14 wards, two have been shut since the beginning of the month. Private wards, of course, stay better staffed.

### Control

Wages are as low as £20 a week because government after government has put the NHS far down its list of priorities. It is always the sick who have to suffer and pay for the bosses' economic crisis. The Tories last year cut the planned budget for the NHS by £111 million. It has been calculated that just to keep pace with inflation the budget should be another £125-130 million.

If we ever had a chance to say where the money went, we would have spent twice as much as the Tories. Only when workers decide the priorities will we have really decent social services.

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**£500 FOR A FEW HOURS' WORK**

[SIX out of every ten consultants work part-time for the health service. A seventh of the consultants (there are 11,000 in this country) work as little as they can for the NHS and do all the private work they can lay their hands on. 47 per cent need only work 9 1/2 hours of their time with National Health patients. The rest of their time is spent in reaping the rich rewards of treating private patients. One in a hundred beds is efficiently staffed, yet consultants spend more than 15 per cent of their time on private patients. The biggest subsidy to these consultants is the use of National Health equipment, operating theatres and staff. They can get £500 from an afternoon's work. The back-up nurses, technicians, porters and domestics—don't see a penny of the fee, though the nurses sometimes get a box of chocolates and a pat on the back. FOUR hours' work can earn a consultant more than a nurse gets in a year.]

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### Luncheon

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### Dinner

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**WOMEN'S VOICE**

The women's voice is a crucial weapon in the fight against the cuts. Shopworkers, and a strike by women on behalf of men for 25p (up to 12p per hour) have had the following impact on the bosses:

**NO**\n
...and the bosses helped cut the wages of workers. According to the government's war on poverty...
The minority Labour premier who said when his party sang the Red Flag: 'I hope to break this habit'

Reg Groves was 15 when the first Labour government was elected in Britain. He was working as a messenger boy with the First Office's outside telephones.

He joined the Independent Labour Party in the same year, and stayed a member until he could stomach it no longer in 1927. That year he joined the Communist Party and within a few years became one of the best-known propagandists on the Communist Party's London District Committee.

Reg broke from the Communist Party in 1932. He joined the tiny band of British revolutionaries who supported Leon Trotsky. He remains today at 66 a committed revolutionary socialist.

Reg has written several books—about rebels and rebellions in Britain. He's written about the peasants' revolt in 1381, the Norfolk rebellion in 1549, the Chartist movement in the 1840s. He's also written a biography of Victor Grayson, the socialist agitator, and an official history of the agricultural workers' union. Socialist Worker asked Reg for his impressions of that first Labour government—elected, as Labour is now, with a minority of seats in parliament.

He's written two articles. First, his impressions of the government when it took office—impressions which stayed with him for 50 years.

Secondly—to be published next week—his assessment of that government's record, how they quickly dispersed with all their commitments to their class, and were rudely thrown out of office.

It was allowed somewhat by a belief that it was done to please the King, or, even, that it might be in the constitution, but glooms returned when it was known that John Wheatley, Minister of Health, and old Fred Jowett, Minister of Works, had refused to join the charade, and had been invited by the King, nevertheless.

What did it matter what they wore? asked several, echoing Daily Herald views. It's what they do that matters. But instinct told us otherwise. The two things went together—men who dressed as flaneurs would behave as such.

Deep down, we sensed that the costumes were an outward and visible sign of an inward corruption, a prior acceptance by the Labour men of social and political values alien to socialism and inimical to the party. Supposedly engaged in sustaining and speaking for the working people in their struggles for a better life.

In the workshops, the Labour men had insisted that Labour, as a workers' party, was different from the parties of Capital. You'd see, they said again and again, 'you'll see', and even those who voted for the others, or who didn't vote at all, appeared to hope at times that it might be.

Pressure
How vivid still, 50 years, two world wars and a great depression afterwards, is the memory of those pictures, and of the seared but not understood changes of mood in the pictures—the Labour supporters, puzzled, exclaiming, desponding, the scoters and sceptics, and, for the first time, seriously misled and deserted; the King, nevertheless.

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THE UNIONS

THE miners’ conference surprised many people, not least two observers...

IT WAS our first visit to conference. The gun-boat anchored just off Llandudno, considering some of the decisions made, may have had some influence on the delegates.

The conduct of conference was democratic, as far as Joe Gormley allowed it to be. In one of many incidents, a delegate wishing to raise a point of order was told there would be no points of order when I’m speaking.’

Joe Gormley also had two watches to time delegates—one for the right wing and one for the left. You can guess which one was fast. He also dropped little hints about what he thought might be discussed (between 20 and 30 times) and how he did not intend to work on his birthday.

McGilliey saccharically remarked: ‘Maybe we should make it an annual holiday.’

Delegations voted against their area mandates, notably the Midlands area on Yorkshire’s wages resolution. Their vote would have tipped the balance in favour of an exact money figure on the claim.

The Notts area also did this on incomes policy. Then, however, the resolution against incomes policy was carried.

These scandals really hammer home the point that 33,000 Notts miners who voted against an incomes policy were openly and unashambly sold down the river because a bastard like Len Clarke thought it right.

As the week progressed, it became obvious that the real purpose of the conference was not to decide union policy (though that did come out as a secondary priority) but to have a social jamboree.

Most nights some kind of function was scheduled. It came to a head on Wednesday when delegates were given a whole day off in the touring round Wales, all paid for by hotel money.

We thought it was bloody disgraceful for union funds to be squandered in such a manner. But it seemed that the majority of the old boys club (sorry, delegates) thought it was a grand idea.

The conference reached such an extent that, had the Labour Party conference been held next door, many delegates would not have noticed the difference.

The question now is how can we fight against such blatant disregard for the feeling of the men- serhood. Only strong rank and file organisation can combat the bureaucracy.

If, really, until we have a really effective rank and file group in the NUM, such conferences can only be run by Clarke, Lally and Smith will continue to sell us down the Swance.

Anger over ban on Socialist Worker

THE Springfield, Glasgow branch of the engineering union passed a motion last week against the ban that Hugh Scanlon and the engineering section executive have imposed on Socialist Worker reporters.

The ban is on the paper sending a reporters to the union’s national committee. The Springfield branch has deplored this ban and expresses its concern that papers like the Daily Express and the Daily Telegraph have ready access while SW is banned.

Acted

Socialist Worker first started to experience difficulties last year. The union’s president declared to the Labour-Lynn conference for the 1949 national committee that the ground on which he was not a member of the industrial cooperation, the rank and file revolt of 1960 and 1970 pushed the broad left towards action no pay as well as revolutionary and electoral moves.

Rank and file pressure helped to weaken the resistance of the right wing and brought support from several left so far left officials. In just four years, wage increases of around £25 were won. All this was done against a background of a fight against the traditional enemies—the Tories.

What happened at Llandudno

Socialist Worker needs your help, if you are an NUU or AUEW member, in putting this deplorable situation to rights. Resolutions and pressure in every branch and district committee are the only way to overturn this undemocratic ban. If your branch passes a resolution in support of Socialist Worker please let us know.

Lawrence Daly: Can the miners afford to share his confidence in Labour?

by Dick Hall, Warsop Main, and Steve Abbott, Calverton

OUR NORMAN

by Bill Message

THE National Union of Mineworkers is at a crossroads. The apparently contradictory votes on being his birthday on the Friday’s annual conference in Llandudno reflect this.

Over the last four years, during the period of Tony government, the broad left alliance of Communist Party members, ex-Party members and Labour Party left-wingers has grown from strength to strength.

After two and a half decades of subservient leadership, the rank and file revolt of 1960 and 1970 pushed the broad left towards action on pay as well as revolutionary and electoral moves.

Rank and file pressure helped to weaken the resistance of the right wing and brought support from several left so far left officials. In just four years, wage increases of around £25 were won. All this was done against a background of a fight against the traditional enemies—the Tories.

Now the situation has altered somewhat.

...what is a Labour government and the ups and downs of the voting at this year’s conference reflect the allures of the broad left.

The sharp contrast of this was Lawrence Daly’s decision to the ‘moderates’, shown by his support for voluntary wage restraint, the social contract and his assurance confidence that if the next election produces an overall Labour majority all the problems of the miners will be solved.

In his presidential address, Joe Gormley returned to his familiar theme of cooperation, the dangers of confrontation and ‘the need for a productivity deal.’ The mood on the plenum, showed up exactly what he wanted.

He praised the ‘moderate’ approach as a way of life and proposed the setting up of an all-party joint productivity committee to fix a ‘productivity norm.’

Since the end of the 1972 strike, both NUM and Coal Board have been committed to negotiating a productivity deal. The NCB wants local pit agreements to destroy the unity that a national wage structure has built, whereas the official union policy has been to continue only a national scheme. The dangers involved in Gormley’s proposals are several. They destroy the structure of the national wage structure. They ignore pits with bad geological conditions, date machinery and insufficient manpower, which could never achieve that supposedly productivity.

They would increase the productivity drain from pits into the high production pits. This would increase the Coal Board to many of their so-called unproductives.

Lawrence Daly, the traditional pillar of the left, gave unqualified support to Gormley’s proposals calling them a ‘desirable objective’.

After the defeat of the militant wages resolution, the left came bouncing back with a resolution opposing all forms of incomes policy, voluntary and statutory.

Opposed

A forceful speech, David Bolton, vice-president of the Scottish miners, pointed out that we have had over ten years of incomes policy but there was still inflation and huge profits and dividends being made.

Labour and Tory governments alike have sought to make the working man carry the burden.

Daily opposed the resolution on behalf of the committee saying it would be totally unprecedented for the NUM to reject a voluntary wage structure. He also claimed that the social contract and the government’s proposed Royal Commission on the Distribution of Wealth would take us forward rapidly to the creation of a genuine socialist society in this country.

He praised the ‘moderate’ terms of the social contract.

Replying, David Bolton, warned that some areas might vote against their members on this resolution. He hopes their own conferences will severely reprimand them,” he added.

This was greeted with cries of ‘mishandled from the gallery of the Westminster area officials. The resolution was carried on a voice vote by 58 to 47 votes, each vote representing approximately 1000 members.

Control

Social Worker had one complaint.

It was that the miners’ conference should be held without restriction and because the lobby involves agreeing to a confidentiality gag used by the state authorities to control the dissemination of information.

Last week, the paper again applied for credentials, this time for Steve Jefferys, who before joining the NUU had been a member of the AUEW engineering section. Again credentials were refused.

But this time the paper was taken by the AUEW engineering section executive. The decision was re-affirmed despite pleas from Joe Gormley’s secretary, who informed the AUEW that the NUU was opposed to any restrictions.

Tenn’s面向 the Truth Lab.

SWINGBALLS are the latest rage with students around the world!

SWINGBALLS are a fun and challenging game that involves precision and skill. Players use a small ball and try to make it swing through a series of obstacles, such as hoops or nets. The game is played in teams of two or four players, and points are scored for each successfully completed obstacle.

SWINGBALLS is not only a great way to socialize and have fun but also provides an excellent workout. It improves physical fitness, coordination, and concentration.

To learn more about SWINGBALLS and how to play, visit your local sports shop or check out online tutorials and videos. You can also join a local SWINGBALLS club to meet other players and improve your skills.

Keep an eye out for SWINGBALLS events and tournaments in your area. It's a great opportunity to challenge yourself and enjoy the game with friends and family.
CATERING workers picked the Bank's Bar in Leicester Square, London, the Trist House Forte hotel head office with TWH workers slapped at breakfast.

Ninety strikers at TWH's Post House Hotel in Cardiff were estimated last week after the line when management refused to recognise their right to negotiate a threshold payment.

Trist House offered to take them back in return for a 'trouble-free' six months at the hotel. But on returning to work, strikers found they had all been given the worst jobs. They walked out and the hotel was closed.

On Sunday, 17 shop stewards from the hotel industry met in London to discuss plans to link up rank and file workers. It was also decided to continue the running of the rank and file magazine, Hotel and Catering Worker.

There are plans to hold a hotel workers' conference in the next few months and to draw up a hotel workers' charter.

Copies of the first issue of Hotel and Catering Worker can be obtained from 345 Hanover Road, Horne, Sussex, price 2p each, plus postage.

BRUSH YOUR WAY OFF YOUR LATEST MIRACLE

THE BRITISH LAY-OFF MOTOR CORPORATION has picked a new target. After the eight-week curlew at Cowley, Leyland's industrial engineers have turned their attention to the Lancashire truck and bus plant, core of the combine and one of the few sections still making money for Leyland-Stevens and its shareholders.

The five factories at Leyland, Chorley, which started in 1908 making steam lawnmowers to keep the grass trim at Eton, are now the last remaining bastion of piece-work in Leyland. But the management's summer curfew has been launched on a new devious miracle called Methods Time Management (MTM) and monitored by Mr. P. J. Musgrove, Leyland chassis manager, an 11-week strike in May 1969.

Convenor Len Brindley said: 'This is not just about wages but the very conditions of work Leyland workers will be subjected to.'

'It's about flexibility, it's about work practices, it's about organisations. Management are asking for a fundamental and irreversible change in working conditions.'

But what they are offering doesn't even come up to the cost of living increase which the 24,000 workers are working without strings. If they gave us the 3 per cent, we'll talk. But no, that's not enough.

DAVID WADYGER's reports from Leyland, Lancashire

63 accidents per thousand workers in 1973. But it is only to be replaced if MTM is accepted.

Brindley said: 'We've been arguing for ten years for increased investment. We have a new factory now being built, new assembly area. Now all of a sudden they say we're not,' yes... if you accept MTM.'

'If we are not responsible for management's inefficiency,' and I deeply mean that idea that Leyland workers are quagmire. It is management who are earning money on this.

But the overarching strike vote last Thursday indicates that management have badly misjudged the mood of the 9000 workers. They have 'admitted' another strike, 'only this time they have pushed it a bit too bloody hard.'

As far as the stewards committee is concerned, the change from piecework to rates, the order from their police force to make tapes.

A number of these is being sent back to the old and ladies machinery in Leyland. The factory is the last remaining factory in the whole of British Leyland with a 'record count.'

The bus and truck management are under heavy pressure from strike to get quick results. Brindley says that during the six weeks of pointless negotiations which led up to the stoppage, management took an attitude of 'oblivious and unconsidered coldness, as never before.'

They have tied to every plant issue under this MTM proposal. The normally staid AUEW District 442/3 has been enraged that Leyland have attempted to 'persuade' the workforce to sign MTM papers.

The 'bus and the truck management have backed up their private police force to make tapes.

One of the allusions is that management is talking of replacing the old and ladies machinery in Leyland. The factory is the last remaining factory in the whole of British Leyland with a 'record count.'

The move is intended on introducing the move into each of the weakest trade union sections as an extension of the whole move.

But TASS, who received increases of up to £7 a week in their part of the deal, are now giving talks back to a 13-week hour and payment of a sizable amount of the wages are still to be paid. They have mended a down a £190 an year increase.

But the mood of the workers is unchanged. To the sight of their own hand which has official backing, would hit Marcon's big order book at 4am. Forty members of 345 will continue to work but will be led to support the two.

CONVENER Len Brindley: 'No holding the workers' Picture: John Sturrock Report)

'If we get this new system, it will be as if you're bloody dead.'

'My father died away my rights and my steward for a penny a line, it's two pen a day, and it's good to pieces,' said another. A few workers still show no threat of opposition, saying that the stewards are just signing along the length of the line.

'No one has any great love for the piece-work system which has been allowed to have several sections of the factory organised in low turns and which has been flown from since last December anyway.

If better, the 'deal you know, the new Methods Time Management and Leyland Synthesis you don't.'

'But we sign up our rights that an increase in pay for women, men layoff pay, that faker and sick pay.

Leyland currently has five grades with no less than 62 between the top and the bottom, while Ryniot has seven grades with some of the basic grades identical from this.

The movement towards parity is conditional on a move into the top and bottom, bottom and grading structure. And Brindley have said that whereas any Leyland grade makes the 33 1/3 per cent threshold payment will not be sure.

The offer has been drawn up to make it look attractive to the public.

Parity

The movement is therefore and the most dangerous aspect of the offer is the movement towards parity when legislation permits, conditions on acceptance of the offer. Leyland is now working on wages grades 1 and 2, about three-quarters of the industry, and this conditionally from this.

No other grades would receive an extremely small rise or no increase at all. The offer made to Ryniot is acceptable. Also, with the back pay money up, the offer's attractiveness will grow.

After we receive the stewards' organisation will have to start campaigning for its declared policy of a substantial across-the-board increase plus improved conditions.

NO SAFETY, NO JOBS

by Colin Clader, EPTU

DELEGATES from 13 factory branches and the British Leyland Combines in England and Scotland won the right last Saturday. After a long discussion of the issue, the members in Leyland, the home of the trade union movement in the combine and how stewards ought to be fighting back.

They decided to produce an open up-to-date and truly comprehensive listing of wage rates throughout the combine. Leyland earner workers are now in touch with EPTU and interested in the Industrial Department, International Confederation, 8 Cottesmore Gardens, London E2.

Prepare to meet thy doom again

by Peter Bain, TGWU

WORKERS at Chrysler's Linwood plant told the Mercury workers with their wage claim unresolved.

Chrysler have offered 8 per cent, £3.19 according to the board. EPTU's Consolidated Time Rate, and a 33 1/3 per cent movement towards parity with the Ryniot assembly plant, when legislation permits. They are due to pay the first increase on 1 July 1974, and the 8 per cent payment on 1 July, 1975.

Nothing has been offered on reduction of hours, or a pay rise for men laid off, for women's loss of earnings and men's loss of earnings.

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by Colin Clader, EPTU

MORTISERS following a threat of over 50 per cent redundancies, we electronics crippled at the new Watney brewery site in London by Pollard Eptu Installations on the 1500-member group, are on strike.

WE report for tomorrow that the client, Watney's, has halted the work programme and has accepted the 13 week notice that damaged the new fermentation building.

Watney's say the responsibility for site lies with the client, and that the redundancies, who is lying, we cannot accept the need for redundancies. As part of our building was affected and electrical work is still to be completed on the Watney installation.

We consider the redundancies a direct attempt to break our union organisation and this victimisation is a direct attack on our rights.
The battle over the threshold

The battle over the threshold

The battle over the threshold

THE INTERNATIONAL Socialists are a revolutionary socialist organisation open to all who accept the ideas of socialism and who are willing to work to achieve them. These principles are:

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION
We believe that socialism can only be achieved by the independent action of the working class.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORMISM
We believe in overthrowing capitalism, not patching it up or gradually trying to change it. We therefore support all struggles of workers against capitalism and fight to break the hold of reformist ideas over the working class.

THE CAPITALIST STATE
The state machine is a weapon of capitalist class rule and therefore must be smashed. The present parliament, army, police and judges cannot simply be taken over and used by the working class. There is, therefore, no parliamentary road to socialism. The working-class revolution needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers’ state based on councils of workplace representatives.

WORK IN THE MASS ORGANISATIONS OF THE WORKING CLASS
We believe in working in the mass organisations of the working class, particularly the trade unions, and fighting for rank and file control of them.

INTERNATIONALISM
We are internationalists. We practise and campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries, oppose racism and imperialism, and fully support the struggles of all oppressed peoples. We are opposed to all immigration controls.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot develop in isolation in one country, but needs the support of other countries. Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist but state capitalist. We support the workers’ struggle in these countries against bureaucratic rule.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY
To achieve socialism the militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party, and all the other trade union and political movements that can strengthen the self-confidence, organisation and socialist consciousness of the working class.

WE ARE
For rank and file control of the trade unions and the regular election of all of their full-time officials. No secret rooms or deals for all the trade union movement, for the building of such a party by fighting for a programme of political and industrial unity that can strengthen the self-confidence, organisation and socialist consciousness of the working class.

For the building of a national rank and file movement which will fight for these policies and involve all the workers in the trade union movement.

Against racist and police victimisation of black people. Against all immigration controls. For the right of black people and all other oppressed groups to organise in their own defence.

For real social, economic and political equality for women.

Against all nuclear weapons and military interventions. Against war in the Middle East, against the Warsaw Pact. Against all forms of imperialism, including Russian imperialism.

For unconditional support to all genuine anti-fascist movements.

For the building of a mass workers’ revolutionary party, organised in the workplaces, which can lead the working class to power, and for the building of a revolutionary socialist international.
£100: FIGHT FOR THE LOW

London allowance boost for teachers

by Ruth Nelson, NUT

LONDON teachers won a great victory. Through unofficial action, meetings and lobbying, we have forced our union executive to give official recognition to Thursday's strike for full payment of a London allowance. This will benefit 300,000 teachers.

Last Thursday, 300 teachers lobbied Mansion House, NUT headquarters, and the Department of Education and Science. The executive were meeting to discuss the Pay Board's offer of a two-tier London allowance at £100 for the first year, £200 for the rest of London, and £200 for most teachers in the rest of London.

The teachers, many of whom had been on unofficial strike on Wednesday and Thursday, carried banners and placards rejecting the offer and demanding a London allowance of at least £350, a uniform allowance for all London teachers and back-dated to November 1972.

A meeting of lobbyists passed a resolution calling on our executive to call us out on a one-day strike if the negotiations on the Pay Board's offer were not successful.

The motion also provided that, if the executive were not prepared to make the action official, we would take unofficial action.

Speaking after speech after speech stressed the need for militant action, the urgent need for links with other workers—particularly in the public sector—and our determination to go back to work.

On Friday, more teachers on unofficial strike met to lobby the meeting of the Burnham Committee on the Pay Board's offer.

The results of the Burnham committee are not yet known, but our union's Action Committee has voted to make Thursday's strike an official one-day-strike. This is a resounding victory for London teachers, Rank and File. We have shown that militant, coordinated action can force our union to act.

THE RECENT moves against Socialist Worker represent one of the biggest attacks against the paper in its history. If the Director of Public Prosecutions agrees to the police going ahead with criminal libel charges, we could be faced with serious fines or prison sentences for criticizing the violence of the police Special Patrol Group which led to the death of Kevin Gately four weeks ago.

But the criminal libel action is not the only threat we face. Paul Foot and Jim Nicholson are due in court soon to face charges of contempt of court arising out of the printing of the names of two prominent figures in the Janie Jones case.

Meanwhile, Labour councillors in Glasgow are taking the International Socialists to court in two weeks time for libel.

The posters, put up before the general election, said: Kick Out the Tories.

Those who have the power in this country don't like Socialist Worker. They don't like what we say. They don't like the truths we tell. They don't want the paper to publish the truth.

We are not going to be intimidated. But we cannot fight such attacks by ourselves. We need your support to fight back. One way every reader and member of 18C can help is by ensuring that our fund is sustained: We need money urgently. Send donations to Jim Nicholson, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2.

Last week the fund brought in £350. We thank all readers who contributed.

Steelworkers lock-out set to spread

by Rob Clay

LACKENBY—500 steelmen at the British Steel Corporation works have now been locked out for three weeks.

The dispute spread this week to other steelworks in Lackenby and to other steel plants in the United Kingdom.

The strike began to build up over pay and the workers' attempts to force through stage two of their Red Book productivity deal.

On top of this, the official union National Council of Coordinating Committee recently told the steelmen's national £10 a week claim for a 3 per cent Pay. Three deals, despite strong support for the claim, are still locked up.

Shop stewards representing the AEUW, the British Blackout Corporation

The GPO strike in the BBC. As the strike of 10,000 production assistants moves into its second week, the director general, has been denouncing the strike as a trade union dispute. His remarks do not refer to the BBC.

The depots are on target and production assistants are supposed to get time off in lieu but can never take it because they have the same time coming.

The Association of Broadcasters and Allied Staffs is still cancelling the rights. It instructed its members to resist the initiative of the ACTU, the Electricals and NATEC members in trying to spread the strike. Action continues and there is a growing awareness that more pressure is needed for victory.

Bonus fiddle

SCARBOROUGH—30 men walked out at the South Bay Paper Mill in Scarborough after a bonus fiddle was agreed for the bonus scheme to be scrapped and basic rates increased.

THE Pay Board's report on London Weighting, far from correcting any anomalies, creates new ones. It allows for an allowance of £100 for every four miles within Charing Cross, and £200 for the rest of London. The recommendation must be met by a fight for the full allowance right across the country.

Until now the teachers and local government workers have faced the pace. But all Londoners must take this up.

The report specifies that Weighting should be the same for all public sector workers, white collar and manual alike. For workers in the private sector, it is more ambiguous and states that only those sections on a national wage structure are covered.

Intervention in all sections related to the allowances and how it is to be distributed is necessary.

In London the action has been to throw the ones on negotiators directly tackle the ridiculous findings of the report.

A meeting has been arranged for 7.30 p.m. tomorrow evening, 12.30 p.m. London allowance. Now is the time to put in a claim and get what you can.

by Ian Morris AUEW shop steward Haast (now) 18 Branch ENGINEERING and maintenance workers at Heathrow Airport have won a London allowance of £4 a week for the first time with the agreement of the management to seek our demands.

The result was an appeal to our 1 July meeting to discuss the claim.

Management had refused to open a large security gate, which would have prevented the overtime division from joining the European division at the meeting. However, the gate was "mysteriously" removed and the workers were able to successfully join the meeting.

After an excellent statement from Fred Gore of the Electricians Union, the 5000 present voted overwhelmingly to strike from last Monday if the claim was not conceded in full.

Staggered and national officials met with a strong lobby of shop stewards before the 4 July meeting with management.

They had not intended to lodge the Weighting claim before August, but, unable to wait, Michael Penny, the stewards agreed to put the matter on the agenda. The result was that the claim being conceded in full from 1 July.

There has been a movement at Heathrow for limited strike action while the Pay Board were deliberating. The workers wanted to "wildcat and strike", but this time the gamble paid off.

NALGO SAY 'NO'

NALGO has turned down the Pay Board's recommendations on London weighting and have put the claim on hold.

The staff side of the National Joint Council have rejected the administration method of giving Londoner a little less than the full £100.

But they look set on trying to wear down the workers back to their March offer of £106 for outer London rather than dealing with the full distribution.

They also say they won't be pressing the issue at this stage and if they are dropped, another delay, Wadsworth is in London today to lobby the NALGO negotiators.

Stewards representing the AEUW...