A slap in the face for every woman

The biggest publishing company in the world, which owns the Daily Mirror, the Sunday People and most of Britain's top-selling magazines, has turned down a mass advertising campaign from the Labour Party which is directed towards women.

And the Labour Party are so frightened at upsetting the Daily Mirror—its only major supporter in the national press—that they are not even complaining about it.

Last month the publicity department of the Labour Party, sensitive as ever to the women's vote, dreamed up a massive advertising campaign to woo women to the Labour Party.

The campaign stressed Labour's Equality Bill and other matters (no one knows quite what) which Labour has done for women.

The department wrote to the International Publishing Corporation, which owns Woman (circulation: 1,841,078), Woman's Realm (948,378), Woman's Weekly (1,802,687) and Woman's Own (7,132,996).

The Labour Party letter set out ideas for four full-page advertisements in each of the four magazines—at a cost of about £20,000.

In late July, the Labour Party received a letter from Mr E G Court, managing director of IPC's magazine division, refusing to publish the advertisements.

Mr Court wrote: ‘Our readers do not expect to see this kind of advertisement in the present editorial content.’ Mr Court's letter made it plain that politics—especially politics about women's equality—were out of place among his 20 million readers.

The Labour Party publicity department drew up a press statement which said: ‘The first two days of this year's grouse season were spoilt by rain, but bankers, industrialists and landowners in the stately homes were raising their glasses in a secret toast—to the Labour Party’s “wealth tax” and to Harold Lever.

Lever is the multi-millionaire financial advisor to the Prime Minister, whose phrase in the Cabinet that Labour’s wealth tax would be watered down to a wash-out have triumphed.

Labour's programme, 1973, promised a wealth tax which would be progressively rate personal wealth-holdings in excess of £50,000 at present values and would thereby only fall on the richest 0.2 per cent.

But Labour’s wealth tax, 1974, only applies to wealth of more than £100,000—that is, 0.2 per cent of the population.

According to the jubilant Alan Day of The Observer: “It is perfectly possible that, for a time, the new arrangement could slow down the drift towards equality.”

That's because of a whole host of exceptions and allowances which accompany the tax. Chief among these is the promise that each rich man and his accountant—will be able to assess himself for tax. As the deputy chairman of Anthony Gibbs (Personal Financial Planning) told the Guardian: "I really have not found any tax which could not be legitimately avoided."

So that's it. The enormous fortunes which are made for a handful of people from the work of the majority are protected from Labour taxation.

Last week Shell, the biggest oil company in Europe, announced its half-yearly profits. They were £567 million—compared with £297 million last year. At least £100 million of this bonanza came from petrol hoarded last winter when the price was low and refunded when the price soared in the New Year.

The advantages

None of these profits, none of the fantastic wealth available to Shell shareholders as a result, will be endangered by the Labour government's proposals.

Another man who is laughing all the way to the bank is Sir Jack Callard, chairman ofICI. This week Sir Jack has sent an imperative letter to all his workers pointing out what he calls 'the advantages' of private ownership.

One advantage not mentioned by Sir Jack is his own salary—which, last year, was £65,692. That's £1,263 a week. Sir Jack makes more in a fortnight than almost all his workers earn in a year—and that's not counting his many thousands in dividends.

Sir Jack wants the Tories in government—because they're his personal friends and class allies. But he knows that if Labour stays in office he and his class allies can buy or bully the government just as they have bought and bullied every Labour government in history.

Shell, Callard, the gruene millionaires—they're all as safe as Harold Lever. But what is the point of introducing a wealth tax which doesn't tax any wealth? The answer comes from 'A City spokesman's' quote in The Guardian. 'I would not mind a wealth tax if it enabled Labour or any other government to institute a meaningful wage policy.'

So here's the policy.

Wealth taxes which tax no wealth and wage controls which control all wages. It's called the socialist contract.
A smashed hand for that 10 per cent more

This article was published in a recent issue of the Pirelli Worker, a factory bulletin put out by Pirelli workers who are members of the International Socialists.

The machine was switched off and with the help of his supervisor Brian was freeing the fabric when his left hand was crushed, causing four fingers to be broken and severe gouging of the flesh. Yet nothing could be done for him at the factory except to make a sort of splint, before the management did take safety seriously enough to employ a nurse on the night shift.

In fact, so concerned are they for safety that the machine was used again on the morning shift in the same condition, before a Factory Inspector saw it. Nothing must be allowed to happen for profit.

Later in the day the management admitted the machine was unsafe by getting the fitters to fix two new safety devices. Would someone have to get hurt first?

For this productivity deal the operators got a 10 per cent wage increase. The deal was accepted after a meeting when a union official told them that the only question was "Do you want the money or don't you?"

**Damage**

In fact a lot more is involved. We should fight productivity deals because they increase the chances of injury and in the long term do serious damage to our health.

Pirelli has a great safety record, or so it would seem after reading the local press. They have won two safety awards in recent years. The truth about this is best summed up by a welder in a local hospital when she said it was "laughable". This obviously meant that a few of her patients had received injuries at Pirelli.

What the papers say doesn't go with what we know from working in the factory. If any of us look around the shop floor there are more hazards knocking about.

And there are many others less obvious but just as dangerous, such as noise and excessive heat.

The fact is that accidents are caused, they don't just happen. A couple of examples from the Tyre Division show this.

Years of insufficient cleaning means that the floors are always covered in rubber. Recently an operator slipped and broke his ankle after some pettrol had been spilled and turned the floor into a sliding rink. Result: five weeks off work.

In one week all three screwcups on one shift suffered injuries to their hands. These were caused by not having enough room between their barrows round the corners.

The management are not interested in safety if it costs anything, otherwise they would pay people to keep this factory cleaner, they would ensure that there was sufficient nursing staff, that machines were safe.

**Attitude**

If anyone is going to fight for better safety it will have to be us, the people who have to suffer the consequences.

We have to fight for a serious attitude towards safety by the union and the management. When you see anything that is, or could be, dangerous report it to the supervisor and shop steward and don't let it rest until they've done something about it.

Some factories may pay average earnings to injury victims while they are off work. We should press for a proper compensation system.

What does the safety committee do? Perhaps the union has safety stewards elected by the workers to do the job.

We must fight work-systems and productivity deals that women our conditions of work.

All these sorts of matters should be taken up at union meetings, which, as we said in our first bulletin, should be held at least monthly according to the TCWU rules.
Portugal's islands of cheap labour
by Anita Sandberg

GENERAL Spínola, President of the Portuguese Juntas, called on his government in Madeira and the Azores to make Portugal's islands of cheap labour competitive. The islands have been a source of cheap labour for the islanders for centuries, but recently they have fallen into disrepair due to the failure of the sugar industry and the decline of tourism. The government is now taking steps to restart the islands' economy by promoting tourism and other industries.

The Portuguese islands of Madeira and the Azores have been a source of cheap labour for centuries, but recently they have fallen into disrepair due to the failure of the sugar industry and the decline of tourism. The government is now taking steps to restart the islands' economy by promoting tourism and other industries.

A consortium of investors has proposed to develop the islands as a tourist destination, with plans for new hotels, restaurants, and entertainment venues. The government has also announced plans to invest in renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power, which could provide new jobs and reduce the islands' dependence on fossil fuels.

The government is also working with local businesses to promote the islands' traditional industries, such as handicrafts and textiles. This could help to create new jobs and provide a source of income for the islanders.

In conclusion, the Portuguese islands of Madeira and the Azores have the potential to become a thriving tourist destination, providing new jobs and income for the islanders. The government is taking steps to make this a reality, and we can look forward to seeing the islands flourish in the years to come.
Asbestos: How my father died

I HAVE been reading Socialist Worker for about two months and have started selling it in my local pub. We had quite a discussion on what I thought was the excellent series on asbestos murderers and I decided to try my experience of this industrial problem.

Eighteen months ago, my father died — the death certificate said of lung cancer. Many people die of lung cancer but the number of lags (my father's job) is remarkably high. Discussing the matter with my mother, we agreed that not one lagger known to my father for over 40 years in his job is still alive. My father died at 67 — far earlier than at similar early ages.

As a child I can vividly remember him suffering from an atrocious skin condition which kept him in hospital for some time. Nobody was aware of the time that he was in the hospital with the condition which kept him in hospital for some time. Nobody was aware of the time that the cause was probably the material with which he worked.

My dad was possibly the strongest man I have ever met but once carcinoma of the lung tissue became apparent the painful path towards death was mercifully quick. The irony of the situation was my father was never aware of the severity and danger of his working conditions. Fear, dust, lack of safety provisions and the materials used.

People tell me that nowadays proper safety precautions are taken — let's look at that means in fact. I remember my dad complaining about the only thing I heard from him complaining about — the so-called safety mask. He was always in the habit of putting on the mask. The foreman told her to take it off or 'everyone would want one'. When the referee accused her of being a troublemaker she had the sense to leave shortly afterwards.

Profits in the insulation industry have kept pace with the death rate. To watch someone die from working with asbestos is disturbing but the 'washing of hands' attitude of those firms responsible is devastating. All they are concerned with is the set profit.

My dad died early because he was in a job he didn't have to be. If he had been a foundry worker, a miner, a building worker or whatever, he would have been a ready worker. My dad would be a ready worker. He had the sense to leave shortly afterwards.

GET YOUR HANDS OFF!!! Sadly Rod McNally writing in the Women's Voice, the international Socialist Women's movement, is exhibiting a complete lack of understanding of the nature and consequences of female oppression, particularly in relation to working class women. We all appreciate the difficulties of penetration of the core of industrial organizations but the sickening revolutionary can wriggle off. Female oppression is a very real issue. The women of the world can be useful to our revolution, LESLEY SMITH, Wigan

Thief? No, that's called profit...

I HAD just read the front page (3 August) about the artificial sugar shortage caused by the sugar monopoly, Tate and Lyle, in order to boost their prices and profits even more, then looking through the London Evening News I saw a story about a mother of four who had been fined £25 for taking ten of those little packets of sugar (worth £1 each) from the nearby London Metropolis Hotel where she worked as a £18 a week waitress.

I was really angry and disgusted. The Marylebone magistrates who probably have not the faintest idea what it is like to live on £18 a week, let alone raise four children, fined this woman £25.

Tate and Lyle who rob millions of people every day are now complicit in even more of our wages. Their profits for the first six months of this year, £14.2 million, are more than double those for the same period last year and nothing happens to them.

To cap it all, not only was she fined by thecompartmentalised sympathetic of ruling-class law and order of Marylebone Magistrates Court, but she was also sacked from her job, S. MASCARENHAS, London NW2.

Building opposition

The ROTHERHAM Branch of the AUEW (Construction Section) is submitting a resolution to the forthcoming AUEW Congress in opposition to the use of the National Front against the left wing whilst we counter-demonstrating against the National Front, which resulted in the death of Kevin Gately.

We also called for the disbandment of the Special Patrol Group, who are continually harassing left-wing workers and tradesmen whilst allowing the Fascist NF to parade openly and display their brutal tactics. We feel it is a must that all trade union branches send resolutions to their union congresses similar to the ones we sent. This is one of the ways we can show the rank and file workers of all unions condemn the way the police operate against all militant workers while we actively combine the activities of the National Front—DAVE HENDERSON, Rotherham.

Reds in white collar jobs

OVER 40 per cent of workers in Britain now work white collar jobs. The proportion is highest among women (over 50 per cent), and among London workers (over 60 per cent). White collar unions have been growing fast, in numbers and in rank-and-file militancy.

However, two aspects merit more attention than they get from trade unionists. The resentment of some manual workers towards white collar workers, and the 'policing' and ideological functions of some white collar jobs, such as those to do with supervising, or the conciliating and spreading of rank and file ideas at journalism, teaching, etc.

Resentment is declining as white collar workers demonstrate their ability to act as trade unionists. But militant trade unions do not necessarily ensure a sympathetic attitude from, or towards, other workers, and the 'policing' and ideological jobs will remain as a divisive element within the working class until this support is changed. Socialists in white collar jobs have particular opportunities to develop conscious opportunities. Socialists should organise their unions to frustrate trade union attacks on 'genuinely trade unionists', and here the print unions offer an excellent example.

Social workers have taken part in the building of a working class culture separate from their clients, and ASTMS members at the University of Buckingham took action when they were sacked by the head 'shrink' who didn't like their militancy in defending their own addiction had social rather than simply personal problems. But these are issues which are not attracting attention to the way the trade unions neglect the organized resistance.

Tackling such issues is not a substitute for the struggle against the conditions. It is an addition which must increasingly become part of the routine routine of tomorrow's SOCIALIST CENTRAL, London.
WHAT WE STAND FOR

THE International Socialists are a revolutionary socialist organisation open to all who accept our main principles and who are willing to work to achieve them. These principles are:

INDEPENDENT WORKING-CLASS ACTION
We believe that socialism cannot be achieved by the independent action of the working class.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORMISM
It is inevitable that the revolutionary process of 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 and leaders.

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 delegates.

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 survive in isolation in one country. Revolution is defeated by isolation. Russia, China and Eastern Europe are not socialist but state capitalist. We support the workers’ struggles in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

The revolutionary party
To achieve socialism the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party, and all the activity of the International Socialists is directed to the building of such a party by fighting for a programme of political and industrial demands that can strengthen the self-confidence, organisation and socialist consciousness of the working class.

WE ARE

For rank and file control of the trade union and the regular election of all full-time officials. No secret negotiations. All agreements to be voted on by mass meetings.

For 100% open trade unionism. Against all amalgamations and blacklisting. Against anti-trade union laws or acts on the right to strike and all effective picketing.

Against productivity or efficiency deals. Against any form of incomes policy under capitalism.

Against unemployment, redundancies and all the other demands five days work or five days pay, and the 35-hour week. For nationalisation without compensation under workers’ control.

For militant trade union unity, joint shop stewards committees at plant and combine level.

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

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

For real social, economic and political equality for women.

We fight for peace through world revolution. We oppose any arms build-up, except for defence against aggression. We are members of and campaign for the struggle against NATO and the Warsaw pact. For opposition to militarism, imperialism, including Russian imperialism.

For unconditional support to all genuine national liberation movements.

For the building of a mass working-class revolutionary party, organised in the workplaces, which can lead the working class to power, and for the building of a revolutionary socialist international.

International Socialists

Name

Address

Trade Union

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and would like more information, or would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: The International Socialists, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 BDN

THE MEDIA, especially the press are forever publishing the screams of the middle classes against the workers’ demands for better pay, and a fair deal at work which are said to be ‘ruining the country’. In the Conservative controlled borough of Bromley—by whose grace I receive a council house—the truth of the matter is rather different.

The self-proclaimed ‘hard working patriotic middle classes’ are doing very well indeed for themselves. Yet they have the efficiency to accuse the working classes of demanding ‘too large a share of the cake’.

It’s quite apparent that the British middle classes are getting the lion’s share if Bromley is anything to go by! They occupy large houses, employ servants, daily ‘helps’, gardeners and chauffeurs, drive expensive cars and send their children to expensive boarding schools.

There is plenty of money about—but it is not in the hands of those who produce it—the workers—SHIRLEY PIERCE, West Wickham, London.
Racist poison on the shop floor

The far right, the fascists represented primarily by the National Front, have begun attempts to move into the trade union movement in the past few years. They know the importance of establishing a foothold in the working class. Earlier this year they tried to set up a trade union, the trade unionists.

Although that conference failed, they continue their efforts. They are helped by management attempts to use racism to divide the workers and by failures of trade unionism, among both black and white workers.

A militant at Dagenham, Brenton-on-Trent, regrets how management had racism. Many new operators on the shop floor complained of tight-piece-rate timings. They had heard from foremen and other supervisors that the Pakistani and Indian workers were to blame for the production rates, because "All they were interested in was wages."

"It was a lie. The Asians were pressured by the management. They were told that they would either be "out the gate" or "have to grab a black.""

"The Asians didn't have proper shop stewards. They shouldn't have spoken English properly -- and they were called "loafers" and "shirkers,"" said one official. As a result they were made scapegoats by the white workers.

"What we need, obviously, is for all workers to fight the racist management are using."

A worker from British Leyland, Longbridge, Birmingham, pointed out another effect of the racism. "Years ago the rotton jobs in the factory, the labouring jobs and so on, were all done by blacks who came in from the Black Country, from the Midlands, from Birmingham towards Wolverhampton. Now they are done by black workers.

Attitude

"I can walk into Longbridge and tell you what a job the union is doing or what is going to be done by the colour of his face, with all the workers are black." To get on the track all I had to do was to say to them, "If they come and there's a really long procedure to go through, I'd say to them, "I'm going to prove I'm better than you get on."

This kind of attitude provides material for the National Front, and there are a few members at British Leyland. "There's this bloke in the West Works, who plasters the place with British Union, their paper," said a Leyland militant. "It's supposed to be up but it's too silly to last just gives it away."

"The GKN-Salisbury Transmissions works manager, John Foster, is the National Front parliamentarian candidate for Erdington in Birmingham. He got 145 votes in the last general election. A steward at Salisbury described the election campaign in the factory: "Well there wasn't one. One of the lads stuck his posters round the factory with a swastika drawn on his name. Someone else wrote a song which wound up with the chorus."

"Fingers inn't in parliament we'll all sing Sieg Heil! Sieg Heil!"

"But management gave him three weeks off for the election."

Fingers has urged workers to greater triumphs of productivity for the GKN boxes, telling them: "Stick with me, I'm going to be top and you people are going to help me put on more work, there, make our mark."

You can be sure that the position they hold outside the court does not make them sympathetic to working-class people or our problems - bad housing, schooling, health, environment, employment and unemployment. After all, these conditions are not suffered by the vast majority of magistrates.

PRACTICE

There are 19,000 magistrates in England and Wales. They try fines out of 10 criminal cases. They are clearly crucial people. But little is known about them.

So who are they? What are they? Who elects them?

A fascinating article by John Walker and David Bartlett in the magazine "New Society" in April reveals a few facts about the 43 strong magistrates' bench in Rochdale, working class town in Lancashire.

Technically appointed in Lancashire are made by the County Council, the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire. Both are members of the government.

But in practice the choice is made in every area by a magistrates advisory committee, says the article. The identity of those who form it is officially a secret, supposedly in order that they be shielded from unseemly public influence.

According to the article: "It is arguable that far from being, as advertised, an all-saintly assembly, this results at least in the suspicion of more subtle hidden influence."

Certainly the identity of the thrombosis of Rochdale's magistrates' advisory committee was known to some people. They are: Norman Wolstenholme, aged 69, a Liberal, and chairman of the Rochdale county council; George Egan, a Conservative, Rotarian and Mason, aged 75; chairman of the Rochdale; and of the local hospital management committee; Arthur Gollan, a Conservative, Rotarian and Mason, aged 75, Lord Lieutenant of Rochdale; and local accountant; and Derek Walker, aged 56, leader of the Labour group on the council, magistrate since 1953 and self-styled "radical".

The committee is virtually self-perpetuating as it nominates a successor to any member retiring.

The article says that according to the official Central Office of Information booklet on the legal system the 'Apostles' of which is supposed to be broadly representative of the community which it has to serve.

RELIGION

Yet in Rochdale only one employed manual worker is a magistrate. Not one of the town's 6000 Catholics is on the bench. Nor are any Catholics, though a large section of the community, are to be found among the church.

On the other hand the article shows that some sections of the community are, shall we say, over-represented. There are more Roman Catholics than you might expect were members of the Rotary Club or its associated Masonic club, the Masonic, the Conservative Rotarian, Mason, in which are quarter-are members or wives of members of the Masonic movement.

Six are members of the hospital management committee. Seven are on the county council's committee and 13 are directors or the wives of employers or directors of local employers.

You will notice the words 'secret', 'mystery' and 'whispers' all rung through these comments. These words and the people they describe have a mystique visiting the working class. What we have in fact could be called the 'International Association of Businessmen and Employers' public relations' to keep the working class in the second society.

They are the people who are magistrates, and magistrates have power not only to enforce laws down on the streets, but to do so in ways that underlies everyone.

They are in a position to produce the laws that are to be and at the same time keep the whole process from the knowledge. How democratic can we get?

Who are your local magistrates and what do they do to ordinary people?

Ian Olley
(TGWU, London docks)

by NIGEL FOUNTAIN

PICTURE: Peter Harris (Report)

The face of the extreme right: members of the National Front on the march, Red Lion Square, London 1974

CHINGARI

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IT IS worth reading the article on the right in full. The papers are full of reports from Chile about the trials of men for supporting the former government of President Allende. Recent visits and inquiries by Amnesty International have exposed to the world that no atrocity or torture is too horrible for the Chilean military junta, provided it is carried out against the left.

James Neill (Holdings) is a highly profitable engineering concern based in Sheffield. Profits last year were £1.6 million compared with £1.1 million the year before. The shareholders of Neill's are lucky people. Last year they were handed £654,000, more than a third of the profits.

Opportunities

The chairman's report last year was quick to point out that export orders were rising fast and singled out South America for special attention, reporting that a 'prolonged study of export opportunities' there had led to the purchase of a Brazilian sugar food factory.

No business was done with Chile as long as it had an elected government. But as soon as the barbarians of the present government took over, Neill's sent their 'consultants' to sniff out any likely profit. The report, used as a lead article in the Business News section of the Sheffield Telegraph tells its own story.

TAKING THE BISCUIT AWAY FROM TAXMAN

IT IS with profound regret that I report the death of Neil William Gardiner, for many years technical director of Hanley and Palmer, the biscuit manufacturers. I have been trying to find out just what the job of a 'technical director' of biscuits is, without much success. But if anyone is worth applying, Gardiner left £232,829. The greedy taxman took £35,404 of that, leaving a miserable £197,325.

NEWSPAPERS radio and TV are not the only organisations to receive regular reports on political, economic and social conditions in foreign countries. Many large business concerns are kept informed by their agents abroad. Today we reproduce parts of a recent report from James Neill (Sheffield) Ltd from Santiago, the capital of Chile.

Nine months have now passed since the combined military, naval, and police forces ousted the previous Marxist government.

General Pinochet is leading the country out of the debt and into an era of peace and order. Chile is now considered a model for other countries facing similar problems. The government has implemented a number of economic reforms that have resulted in increased foreign investment and a growing economy. Today, Chile is considered one of the most stable countries in South America.

Stabilise

The Chilean government has been successfully implementing an economic plan to stabilise the country. This plan includes measures to control inflation, reduce debt, and increase investment. The government has also taken steps to improve the country's infrastructure, including roads and bridges.

Sailors Gaoler

Two sailors found guilty of murdering a female employee in a bar on the Clyde were sentenced to two years in prison.

A History Teacher on Socialists

In connection with the City Council's policy of supporting those organizations offering a number of interesting experiences to the pupils, the History Department at the Holborn Restaurant, Mr. Hughes says: "We can see the importance of these events in the political climate of the day. What are we seeing today? A Socialist party is present as the past moulding us. Socialists, members of the Labour Party, are becoming everyday more powerful. We are seeing the merging of the parties and it is clear that Labour government is constantly being challenged."

Communists and Army

POLICE VISIT THE PARTY'S HEADQUARTERS

The Communist Party of Great Britain, in a statement issued following the visit of police ® officers, recently said: 'We remain convinced that police action is a threat to the liberty and rights of all citizens. The party is dedicated to the defence of the people's right to freedom of speech and to support the struggle for social justice."

Some people, at any rate, take comfort from the impending economic disaster. Mr. J.R. Stroud has a letter in the International Herald Tribune of last Monday taking his American colleagues to task for running down Britain.

The downturn in industrial investment is said to be 'unsurprisingly bad' but it's 'too early to say what the government's reaction will be'.

And so says Mr. Stroud, my own company (and we have the means of doing anything for establishing manufacturing plants outside the country). All of which suggests that there may be an opportunity in Britain for you, and that opportunity is now.

After all, with the prices now on the foreign exchange, Britain is going for a song.
Would you buy a Ford from this n——?

by

Bob

Light

Light

Watergate

Where it all started

SO NIXON has resigned. On 22 June 1972 he made his first public statement on Watergate: "The White House had no involvement whatever in this particular incident."

Two years and two months later he told the world what it had known for two years and two months: he had known about a break-in, a burglary and cover up all along. It was probably the first even half-true statement Nixon has made in his political life.

Now the other professional liars—the press—will get to work. The new brand of lie takes two forms. Already they are pleading that Watergate, and the cover-up, was all a slip, the single aberration that discoloured our hero's true greatness. All he did was tell a few lies to protect his friends, and followers, like a good All-American boy.

And the 'liberal' press will dump back into their editorials and assure us that it was just that Nixon, himself a scallywag. One had said.

But people like these wouldn't tell the truth even if they understood it. The real scandal of Watergate is very different. If that got his house improvement grant, so be it.

The US Treasury spent more than a million dollars defending Nixon's two private houses at San Clemente and Key Biscayne, and the government's "national security". It included 76,000 dollars on a lawn sprinkler, a swimming-pool cleaner, two golf cars, and an ice-making machine. And this was the man who mercilessly attacked "welfare states!"

Then Nixon repaid his paymasters. The work was hardly subtle. He ordered the dropping of an anti-trust case against ITT, which had given 400,000 dollars to the Nixon campaign.

Washington Post watered it down as the "same story in the milk industry". On 19 March 1972 Clifford Harding, the Agriculture Secretary, announced the ending of government support for milk prices—13 days later he announced that he was ending milk prices. Milk credits were going up from 4.48 dollars to 4.93, pure dairymen an extra 500-700 million dollars. During those 13 crucial days dairymen had donated 2,500,000 dollars to Richard Nixon's re-election campaign.

Nixon was always a good buy for capitalists. Lockheed donated only 100,000 dollars and received 225 million dollars' worth of government contracts.

And remember, while these 'political idealists' were swooping benevolently full of dollar bills, the working people of America were enjoying a wage freeze.

Denied

To his enemies—the poor, the blacks, the radicals and the Vietnamese—Nixon wasn't so chummy. Three months after winning the 1968 election by promising the end of the war, the television cameras showed the saturation bombing of Cambodia. A Congressional Law of December 1965 specifically outlawed an American invasion of Laos. In the pursuit of war, Nixon ignored it and invaded. Then in the following election he decried Congress to do just what he had done any way.

At home Nixon showed the same feeling for the rule of law. He set up the Law Enforcement and Assistance Administration. Its budget increased from 63 million dollars in 1969 to 1700 million dollars in 1973. But it wasn't over-concerned with crime. More than nine-tenths of the money was spent on intimidating Nixon's enemies. Meanwhile the Mafia were being given a sharp slap across the wrist with wet straw. Nixon's closest friend, Bebe Rebozo, has been a point man for the Mafia since he made his millions selling the government road contracts during the war.

In 1972, out of 2000 applications for presidential clemency, five were granted. The first was to the Mafia's union boss, Jimmy Hoffa, who had done an easy five of 42 years. The second was New Jersey torpedo Gyp de Carlo who had done 19 months of a 12-year sentence.

On 30 March 1972 the Iran Cabinet of the United States seriously discussed a scheme to kidnap radical leaders and intern them in Mexican detention centres.

Watergate was not an aberration. It was just one example of Nixon's war of repression against anyone who threatened his financial overlords. In March 1971 Assistant Secretary of Defense Robert J. Fordme testified before the Senate Subcommittee that the Pentagon Defense Control Index of investigations had dossiers on 25 million potential or actual subversives. Maybe the silent majority were silent because they knew someone might be listening.

Nixon was no political mutant. He was merely carrying on a long and proud tradition of presidential tyranny dates back through Johnson and even that golden boy of liberal fairy tales, Kennedy. Johnson had his own enemies list—although he called it the 'Anathema List'.

Kennedy's pedigree was even better, plotting the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba and sending 25,000 US advisors to advise Vietnam into a bloodbath.

Even in 1959 the New York police force had four police officers investigating Mafia crime networks. Meanwhile 423 were keeping an eye on the activities of the tiny US Communist party.

And when you raving about the democracy in this. If Nixon has egotistical as to record his every blunder he still be President. Nixon was born with his own stupidity. He had become a tool of his class—were his structure cunning, unqueen—so are just pure Fox.

But in the we the only crime is the ruling class know only one shark ethic—Nixon has out—Nixon has gone.

Nothing has wasn't just one whole party whose thinking rotten.
at 7:43 on Monday morning I arrived for work at the Trust House Forte restaurant at Barnsdale Bar, about eight miles up the A1 from Doncaster, two minutes early and eager to please my new employers.

The manager handed me my new uniform—badge ('We're glad you're here'), white coat and cap. 'You've no need to wear the cap after the Hygiene Inspector has finished this morning,' he apologetically added. 'That's why the place is looking fairly clean."

I went down to the offices to sign on. 'A 40-hour week, isn't it? I checked as I filled in the details.

'Well no, actually it's 42%,' You're allowed 40 minutes a day for meals and tea-breaks, though.'

'Oh! I thought the manager said 40 hours at the interview. Still, the basic rate is £17.802.'

'Well, yes, but you're only 18, so I'm afraid you'll only be on £15.20.'

'It's lucky there's free transport provided.'

'Ah, but unfortunately you don't live in the right place, so you'll have to arrange your own. Still, it's only about £2 a week.'

'I suppose I'll have to do even more overtime. Time and a half for the first eight hours and double time after that, isn't it, with time and a fifth for unsocial hours?'

'The manager has made a mistake when he told you that. It's time and a quarter for the first six hours with time and a half after that. And only time and a fifth from 8 to 12, not for the whole of the evening shift.'

'How much do I get stopped a week, then?'

'Well, there's graduated pension, your stamp. ....'

'Any union fees?'

'No, nobody's ever bothered with a union here. It's not really necessary you know."

On my way back I did some quick mental arithmetic. After my interview, I had reckoned that after stoppages, and by working 50 hours a week—students are anxious for money—I would be earning on average over £25 a week (no tax for students). After my new 'negotiations', I would be averaging after stoppages, expenses and 50 hour a week, a fraction over £17 a week! 'At least I didn't have to pay union fees, and perhaps those curiously shaped fire extinguishers are something to make ends meet, with what rising food costs, labour charges. Nuts! Come over here! There's a job I want you to do.'

I walked over, sweating already under the heat of the ovens (about 85-90 degrees F)."

'Take the cellophane off these pork pies and then wrap them in this cellophane here. Right?'

'Well, you see, Walls not only stamp the date they should be eaten by on the cellophane, but even worst they stamp on the recommended retail price—here, 10p. Now, that's no good when we sell them at 18p, is it? To avoid any unpleasant scenes we have to re-wrap them. Don't worry, you'll learn. You've done that, I'll show you how to make the soup."

On finishing the pies, I went to wash my hands, but had to abandon that idea, since there was neither soap nor towel provided at any of the kitchen sinks. Making the soup was easy. You made it up to the manufacturer's specifications and then added a quarter as much again of water. Simple.

When we broke for a meal I listened to the latest gossip.

'Anyway, when I asked if I could go to the toilet I was told that it was quite out of the question to go between 11.30 and 2.30,' related a waitress.

'Did you know what happened last night? You know those sandwiches—those breadcakes with a slice of ham, lettuce, leaf and half a tomato that sell for 34p? Well, the manager saw one that seemed to have more than the standard 1 oz of ham in it. Anyway, when he weighed it he was right—he was right—he didn't half tell Steve off about it.'

My gate wrinkled and came to rest on another group. My heart warmed to Sir Charles Forte. Forte men have some bad points, but at least here was a service they were selflessly doing for the community. Employing people with no experience and no qualifications; and then to catch a snatch of conversation.

'Do you know, I drew nearly £12 last week,' boasted one.

'Did you do much overtime for that, then?'

'Well, yes, they did tell me to do a fair bit,' admitted the lucky one.

Suddenly I was overcome by a sickening feeling. Was it the heat? Or could it be the famous Forte's food and service? Or was it the whole steaming pile of the place that had affected me?

**Pie Prices Up by 10p in Seconds**

by Neil Pepper

**Pickets face the gun**

A WAVE of strikes, almost unreported in the British press—has swept the South African port of East London, which is becoming a haven for British firms who want to export cheap labour. Over the past two weeks, more than 20,000 black workers—almost the entire adult black labour force in the town—have been on strike for higher wages.

Among the factories that struck were Cyril Lord, the carpet firm, where 600 workers were on strike, and Distillers, the company that sold shaladrome. Cyril Lord set up two factories in East London with machinery transported from two factories in Lancashire six years ago. All the Lancashire workers were sacked. Now the African workers are meeting the same exploitation.

The East London strikers caused panic in the local authority and in the police force. Bus workers on strike were rounded up and taken to a police station in their own buses! But so great were the numbers on strike that even the police found it impossible to clear them.

The strike wave spread into the Transvaal, to the towns of Germiston, Benoni and Springs—and later to the capital, Johannesburg. In all these towns, as in East London, the employers were stamped into easy wage increases, and GI CEC, Germain, for instance, 400 workers struck for two days and were granted a wage increase of 15-17%.

These wage increases were swiftly granted for fear that the strike movement would spread and the workers' demands would be increased.

Last year increases of 25 per cent were won by striking workers in Durban. This year, the rise has been held down to less than 15 per cent. In the first six months of this year, prices have risen at an annual rate of 13 per cent, so the real increase for the workers is almost negligible.

Yet the enthusiasm and solidarity of the black workers has shown black people in South Africa that there is a way to fight back against the racial tyranny which bans their trade unions, discriminates against their colour and shifts hundreds of thousands of their women, children and old people into specially-created homeland and townships.
The 83-year-old who kept the miners out

I saw her once in Monagahela. She was trying to organise the miners. She came down Pike Street in a buggy and horse. Two company thugs grabbed the horse by the bridle and told her to turn round and get back down the road.

"She wore a gingham apron and she reached under it and pulled out a .38 special pistol and told them to turn her horse loose and they sure did. She continued on to the park and spoke to a large crowd of miners. She wasn't afraid of the devil.

That is how one man remembered Mary Jones-Mother Jones as she was known to miners and workers all over America. In 1867 her husband and four children died in a yellow fever epidemic. Mother Jones was nearly 40, but from then on she became an active union organizer and travelled the country from strike to strike.

She became a full-time worker for the miners' union which was just beginning to fight for recognition in mines all over America. In 1900 she arrived in Arnot, Pennsylvania. The miners had been out on strike for over four months. Despondently they voted for a return to work. Mother Jones persuaded them to reverse the decision and continue. The company brought in scabs.

Mother Jones organized the women to see the scabs. She marched 2000 women over the mountains armed with brooms and mops to set free the mules and stop the scabs from working.

This is how she describes the scene in her memoirs:

"The mountain side yelling and hollering she [a miner's wife] led the women and when the mules came up with the scabs and the coal they began beating on the dispatch and barranca and all the army joined in with her.

"The sheriff tapped her on the shoulder. "My dear lady," said he, "remember the mules. Don't frighten them.

"She took the old tin pan and she hit him with it. "To hell with you and your mules." He fell over.

"The autobiography of MOTHER JONES, published by Charles H Kerr and Co. Chicago 1972, 83.95."

Inspired

"They did not ride in Pullmans or take trips to Europe. The rank and file have let their servants become their masters and their dictators. The workers have now to fight not alone their exploiters but likewise their own leaders."

"She had a touching (and wrong) faith in American justice—like many early radicals she believed in the raw America and its superiority over the old class-stricken societies of Europe, But no one can have anything but admiration for what she achieved and for the way she inspired thousands of men and women to fight this against the employers."

"When she died she was over a hundred years old. Thousands came to pay their tributes. Thousands more went on in their homes. Her struggles still remain an inspiration to all of us who are concerned with the fight for equal rights and freedom."

NURSERY WORKERS FORM ACTION GROUP

by Gill Dout and Sue Karlse

"NURSERY workers have been dissatisfied with pay and conditions for a long time but have been reluctant to take any action as they know one of the most vulnerable sections of the community would suffer, but the situation has reached such a stage that it can no longer be ignored."

"Because of the disgust at paying and long hours the nurseries are drastically short of permanent staff, the council's only answer is to employ agency staff. For doing the same work without full responsibility, the agency staff take home double the pay of a nursery nurse who has done two years' training. We only take home between £14 to £20 for a 40-hour week.

"An open meeting held in Islinton, North London, between government officers' union NATS and the council, decided that all nursery nurses in Islington nurseries should be phased out within 99 days, beginning 1 August.

"We also decided that no new children should be admitted to day care unless the nursery staff are available to care for them, that no members of staff are to be taken on, and that from 1 November we would refuse to work with agency staff.

Nursery workers in London are to join the Nursery Staff Action Group.

BEHAVED

Leaflets outlining our demands were handed out at a demonstration organised outside County Hall, where Ron Keating, an officer of the public employees' union NUPE, was speaking about the prospects for nursery workers. The meeting was for NUPE and non-union members, so there was no way anyone that attended that morning, other than those with union cards were to be allowed in. After much protest it was decided to let everyone in, and we all left the hall in high spirits, determined that our condition that we behaved and left our banners outside.

It was made obvious from the beginning that the government and associations had no time for action groups and demonstrations on the streets or in the press, to put the case on the "back burner". Keating gave no ordered action apart from reading out the new rules that were proposed by NUPE.

The ratio of staff to children is one to four but in reality it is closer to one to five, and the problems that were raised were raised Keating said he was fully understant but how he felt he had to do, he had looked after his children for one whole day while his wife was out.

At the end of the meeting in it was proposed from the floor that there should be more open meetings of this kind. Hopefully these will result in people having some sense of action. Even if we are only the fringe of the beer the Nursery Staff Action Group will still continue pressurising the unions to get better pay and conditions.

Information from the NSAG, c/o 11A, Boundary Drive, Raynes Park, London SW20."

RADICAL AMERICA

ANNOUNCES

TWO ISSUES ON THE WAR IN VIETNAM

Villages at War. The NLF in My Tho Province by David Hunt: a book-length study of the Vietnamese people's revolt.

Organizing Against the War, featuring articles by Jim O'Brien and Martin Reid on the Anti-War and G.I. Movements plus a review of Five in the Lake by a Vietnamese Marxist.

£2.00

Order from Radical America, 5 Upholster Rd., Cambridge, Mass., 02140.
We've hardly got enough to eat
And are only just alive,
For no one can do bugger all
On £7.75

DAVE WIDGERY TALKS TO
STEVENS HICKS, PENSIONER,
POET AND EX-BOXER

Paul Getty was a millionaire at 21. Now, at 80, he's probably the world's richest man. But he says, sadly, that money can't buy you most things.

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THE preliminary agenda for this year’s TUC at Brighton in two weeks time indicates that Congress is going to be a low key affair.

There is scarcely a contentious motion on the agenda, without doubt a major achievement for the top men and women in the trade union movement. It means there is going to be little or no challenge to their voluntary brand of incomes policy—social compact.

Motion after motion ‘welcomes’, ‘endorses’ and ‘upholds’ the social compact fraud, which is really a way of obtaining formal ratification of free collective bargaining in return for a binding agreement not to engage in it.

Only a motion from the Technical and Supervisory Section of the Engineering Union in any way challenges the logic of the social compact, and then only unsatisfactorily.

TASS seeks to tie the strings to the social compact. The motion says the compact cannot be accepted unless there is a large scale redetermination of income and wealth, substantial increases in public ownership, vastly improved social services and strike programs on the items agreed to by the TUC—Labour Party Liaison Committee.

The trouble is that this accepts that there can be some kind of “fair” incomes policy in a society where unfairness and inequality are built into the system.

What is needed is not only a head-on challenge to the ideas and assumptions of the social compact, but an outline of a way ahead in the present situation.

Strangely enough a motion from the shop workers’ union USDAW, whose secretary, Alfred, Lord Allen, has been such a bold pioneer of the social compact form of incomes policy, expresses the inevitable consequences of incomes policy.

Referring to poverty and low pay, a subject debated at every TUC for as long as anyone can remember and then largely forgotten until the next round of resolution passing, the USDAW motion points out that poverty has increased since the TUC’s 1976 resolution on the subject.

Rhetoric

The reason it has increased is not least because no co-ordinated challenge was put up to the Tories’ Incomes Policy. And it will increase again because the top levels of trade union movement are set to endorse the social compact fraud in a blaze of rhetoric and self-congratulation in Brighton in two weeks time.

Perhaps even more serious is that there is simply no attempt to appraise the gravity of the present economic crisis and no attempt to assess why it came about and how it might be solved permanently. In stead the motion regurgitates the familiar TUC stand—fund hopes for a bit of protection from the storm when it comes.

The Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians (UCATT) has put down a motion calling on the TUC to take up the issue of picketing rights and the Shrewsbury trials.

The motion demands that all steps be taken to ensure that no building worker tried at Shrewsbury be held in jail any longer—the appeal of Den Warren and Ricky Tomlinson are due in October. They are at present out on bail.

The motion, in saying that the sentences were excessive, is more than charitable to the prosecution which in no way differed in aim from the jailing of dockers’ pickets at Pentonville in the summer 1972.

But it does point out that the charges were pressed only because the strike was successful and because the employers were anxious to intimidate the workers concerned. It also demands a review of the law on picketing and “requires satisfactory curbs on the use of complicity charges in strike situations.”

The fate of this motion should prove one of the more interesting aspects of the Congress. The Socialist Worker will be publishing the names of those unionists who vote against and will report the attitude of the General Council.

They may decide that to demand such changes in the picketing laws is an unwarranted intrusion on the future of the social contract.

Among the many motions on safety is a Mine workers’ call for bronzchitis and pneumoconiosis to get official acceptance as industrial diseases.

This will be passed. The real question is why didn’t the NUM leadership make the scheduling of these diseases part of the recent pneumoconiosis package? They could certainly have won. But instead they chose not to press the matter, and go through the motions of having the TUC pass a resolution.

Support

Similarly the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE) puts up yet another motion against private patients in the Health Service. The TUC has been passing these for years. NUPE recently passed up an unprecedented opportunity to end private practice when, with industrial action on the cards, officialdom swallowed another of Barbara Castle’s proposals.

There are at least two truly intriguing motions on the agenda, both sponsored by the Electricians’ and Plumbers’ Union. Frank Chapple, the EEPTU boss, seems to have discovered that all is not well in his beloved free world and has put a motion concerning repression in Brazil.

The union also has a motion down in support of its vehement pro-Common Market stand. This seeks to persuade Congress to take up representation on all Common Market committees and institutions.

What is slightly curious is the near radical language used to urge this course of action. The move is compared to working men taking up the struggle for representation in a capitalist-dominated parliament.

Don’t hang about... Fight inflation now phase 3 is out

Two more AUEW protests

Two Engineering Union branches in Sheffield have passed resolutions condemning the AUEW executive’s ban on Socialist Worker from attending the union’s national committee meetings. Sheffield No 9 and No 10 branches also passed resolutions condemning the behaviour of police on the Red Lion Square demonstration, on which Kevin Bately died, and calling for the disbandment of the police Special Patrol Group.

The International Socialists issued a new information leaflet on the wages struggle this week. It sets out the facts about inflation and the social contract fraud and outlines the kind of wages agreements workers should be pushing for. At 15 pence for 100 copies, the leaflet is available from the IS Industrial Department, 8 Cottons Gardens, London, E2 8DN.
**WHAT'S ON - ITB**

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**SOUTHAMPTON** ITB public meeting: Discussion on the economic situation in 1974. Saturday, 22nd August at 6:30pm in the City Hall. All welcome.

**MERSEYBEAD ITB discussion meeting: The struggle of the Left in the context of current economic policies. Sunday, 23rd August at 2pm in the International Centre, Liverpool. For further details, contact the Merseyside ITB Committee.

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**Meeting for IS members**

**WOMEN IN STRUGGLE**

A special national day school for all women interested in the struggle for a socialist society. Saturday, 22nd August at 10am in the City Hall, London. All welcome.

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**IS NEWS**

**ANTI-FASCIST RALLY**

VICTORIA PARK, London Road and LEICESTER

2:00pm Saturday 24th August

*These posters, in Gujarati and Punjabi, have been produced by IS to get as much support as possible from Asian workers living in this country, to help bring down the Front in Leicester on Saturday 23rd August. A leaflet in three languages including English, has also been printed. Copies are available from Socialist Worker Circulation Department, Corbridge Works, Corbridge Crescent, London, E2 9DS. (Phone 01-739 2038)*

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**Setting out guidelines for action**

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**THE IS National Committee last Saturday adopted the following guidelines for action.**

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**Against Incomes Policy**

The committee refers to the state of the economy and the incomes policy and emphasizes the role of the workers in the struggle for full employment and a fair share of the social product. Workers vote Labour but build a workers' party. The committee supports the trade unions' refusal to pay money for wage restraint, whatever the result of the election.

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**Reflected**

Special attention was paid to the demand for a minimum income. The committee agrees with the Socialist Worker that this is the only way to ensure a standard of living for all workers.

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**Council IS branch is formed**

The increasing support for IS in the government workers' union NAGWU and in the textile sector union was reflected in the excellent attendance at the first meeting of the London Council of IS. The 60 trade unionists present heard Paul Foot speak on the government's economic and social policies and its threat to the left wing of British capitalism.

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THIS WEEK Socialist Worker is reproducing a special edition of the London Weighing campaign. Costing only a penny each, it explains how different sections of London's workers, manual and non-manual, private and public sector, are beginning to fight for an extra London allowance.

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**Women's school a success**

A SCHOOL for women members of IS and the wives of members in Liverpool last Sunday attended also by several members—discussed women's role in the struggle to build the revolutionary party. It was a tremendous success.

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This is what Asian workers in Britain are fighting for.

BY NERGIS

sum of 45p an hour.

But here is the catch. The women have been put on a three-day week, working from 8am to 6.30pm with no overtime pay after eight hours or for those who work a Saturday as part of their three days.

They've speeded up the work so that we now do in three days what we used to do in five. And we get no more pay than before," the women told us.

The Department of Employment has had the cheek to announce that it is going to help Kenilworth slave-workers. Masters Norman Prake and James Rowland Jones are increasing productivity.

The women know they are being cheated. They went back to work on condition that there would be no redundancies. But last Wednesday union official Ken Hampstead reported that management was now insisting that eight women would have to be 'made redundant'. The reason given was that there wasn't enough work. This doesn't square with the Department of Employment's search for ways to increase productivity.

Employment exchange officers have been trying to tempt the women with offers of jobs elsewhere to damp the fire among the women.

管理工作 at Kenilworth Components have repeatedly told the press they pay workers £15 a week, a sum they seem to think is acceptable. This pay slip shows that management have been lying.

The women at Kenilworth demanded a £2.40 threshold payment. The management threatened them with the sack.

The women walked out. Outside the factory they joined the Transport Workers' Union. Two hundred, workers from nearby factories joined their picket.

The pickets, according to a ward because of the TGWU's performance at the recent Imperial Typewriter strike, had succeeded in asserting themselves fast and negotiated a return to work. The basic rate went up to the princely

Strikers at Sir Charles Clere's Cottons factory in Loughborough leaving a meeting last week after unanimously rejecting a miserable company offer in response to their demand for a substantial wage increase. Three years ago there were 1800 workers at Cottons. Now there are 600. Two major offensives by the company were not fought by the unions. The workers have not had a rise for more than 15 months—and not a penny of the

by Les Kay

Editor, North West Platform

Buses protest jams town

by John Noon

TGWU Blackburn Corporation Transport

The incident occurred when the union steward, who took no notice, wasϱ 5.40 for six and 6.20 for seven days picketing. The union steward was not involved in the incident. The immediate incident was resolved by putting a bus and a ticket inspector on the route. The man had been paid for the time he lost.
MURDER IN ITALY—AND 200,000 REMEMBER

by Dave Schoenfield

BOLOGNA, Friday—There are 200,000 of us here gathered for the funeral of the 12 victims of fascist terror on the Florence-Bologna railway line.

Thousands have been arriving in Bologna since Saturday morning, in an outpouring of emotion and protest which begins at six o'clock each morning.

The President of the Republic and other Christian Democrats are coming today to add their voices to the victims of the fascist that they prowl about in the halls of parliament.

But for one colour which matters is red. Banners of the engineering workers, rail workers, police of the fascist—partners against Mussolini and the Nazis. Flags of the farmers-workers, all workers—Fiat and from Fiat.

Monday they struck for half a day on Monday and Tuesday from 5 p.m. to 10 a.m. to show their power before the very eyes of the Fascist parliament.

Suddenly a storm of hatred erupts from the crowd. It is six o'clock, and the Reds are arriving. Here is Fanfani, secretary of the Communist party and one of the fascist. He enters the cathedral, followed by Mussolini. The Prime Minister, de Gasperi, the Red banner, the stage.

But the cathedral is the service begins, here outside the crowd isullen and on the steps they have congregate, their hands over the coffins emblazoned on their red banners. Red banners encircle the stage.

Vague

The voices of thousands shout "Outlaw the MSI!"
The only speech is made by the Communist Worker, rail workers. The speech is short and vagued. There are some applause, especially when the anti-fascist traditions of the British railways are mentioned. The scene is a roar of applause when the speaker mentions that the Red method can be used in fascist workhouses.

The speech ends. The government and party leaders hurry away. For them the demonstration is mercifully over. The crowd begins to disperse as they are taken away with flags held high. Shouts and song of solidarity with the Railways, Musolinis, songs of the proletariat. Clergymen find their way. The workers looking from the barak windows raise their fists in salute, a small red clothe is waved.

This working class and revolutionary movement in Italy has grown enormously in strength in the past two months, but the Communist Party leaders persist in their plans for alliance with the Christian Democrats.

The Fascists are calling for the total occupation and police power of the state in the hands of the fascists, and the destruction of fascism and those who oppose it. The Red movement, the struggle of the working class against the fascists.

THE INDUSTRIAL WEEKEND SCHOOL

Two more weeks' schools will be held this summer for 15 industrial workers. Each will include sessions on working as a revolutionary on the shop floor, the rank and file movement and Ireland.

CARBONERS SCHOOL: 17-18 August

CRAIGMONDS SCHOOL: 24-26 August

(Socialist Worker: 7/7/1953)

NUT THE FUHRER US WORKERS

by Dave Widger

LONDON'S second ever strike is now under way at the heart of the film industry in Soho's Dean Street. Two weeks ago the 7th Fleet and the Princess, both at De Lane Lea Studios, the Rolls-Royce of sound recording, went on strike in the trade paper. It announced that they were to be sacked and that the studios were to be closed down and sold.

'At first, we were stunned,' said Red Swanson, ACTT organiser, 'we tried to talk with management, and we still are.'

Then somebody said from the floor, quiet spontaneously. 'Why don't we try to organise.' The stewards got hold of a full set of keys, shut off the power and posted a 24-hour watch on the studios which contain dubbing, recording and mixing equipment unique in Western Europe and worth nearly a quarter of a million pounds.

'It was magnificent,' said Jack Amos, National Association of Theatre and Kinema Employees union, 'the workers were very very good.'

Humphries Holdings, the company which owns De Lane Lea and who are facing the closure, appeared baffled that the film workers should object. Initially, Mr Nutman, the managing director, said that the closure would be permanent, but after a meeting with the unions, he admitted that it was in doubt.

When he did consent to meet them, said Mr Amos. 'It was a head master talking to naughty school kids.'

Humphries has failed to give cast-iron guarantees that the studios will stay open. Until they do, the film workers go on.

FREE-LANCE

But the strike is not an ordinary strike, an ordinary strike. The film workers are standing for their own rights, standing for a profit of £30 million.

'Obviously these people don't have the slightest knowledge of the film industry,' said Mr C. G. Coote, a veteran sound recording freelance, who has worked at De Lane Lea for 20 years and is chairman of the sound section of the ACTT.

'They just see it as a very nice bit of property in the middle of London. But De Lane Lea is literally treasurable. It's world-famous for dubbing and it's the only studio where all types of the process can be done under one roof.'

We've got Otto Prominger's new film 'Rosebud' scheduled to come through. Well, whatever the wholesalers like it or not. We have the support of the film-makers who are as worried as us about the loss of facilities.

The strike for the work-in is strengthened by the film-workers' feeling that their studios have been poorly managed.

The stewards suspect that the studios have been deliberately run down so that Humphries can claim the closure is economically inevitable.

Now there is a lot of excited talk of work-in stores.

The De Lane Lea closure highlights the urgent need for government action to save the British film industry. The film industry is suffering because of the money in the British film industry is suffering, but unless nationalisation is carried out and supervised by the film production workers themselves, the industry will simply be another ex- cise in pocket-lining for the like of British Film Tractors.

But a real campaign to preserve the Labour government into saving. De Lane Lea could make the film unions' abstract demand for nationalisation a reality.

In the meantime, the film workers' committee is meeting again to discuss the possibility of further action. A picket of workers is due to arrive at the studio and also to trade union support. ACTT's executive have given wholehearted backing, but more important, messages of solidarity from the shops are starting to flow in.

£30 million of support should be sent to The Joint Trade Union Committee, De Lane Lea Studios, 79 Dean Street, London W1.

Assistant general secretary United Film Union informed the shop stewards that he would not come to the meeting at the Department of Labour and would write to the Minister of Labour and the Secretary of State for Justice's department saying that the Act of 1920 allowed for a strike of this kind.

The pickets were allowed to go to the executive meeting. The Vice-President, Mr. J. S. Pool, was present, and Mr. J. S. Pool, also present, was present, was present, was present.

GLASGOW: Five days after returning from holiday, the 7000 manual workers of the British Electrical Traction company, voted overwhelmingly last Friday to accept the company's pay offer.

The workforce, who had been on strike for 26.5 days, to 100.4 days for £30. To reach this level, the company invited to settle the dispute payments were increased, and it is understood that the agreement will be signed at the meeting to take place next Tuesday.

Chrysler sold the deal by offering 'very good terms one and two, about threequarters of the workforce as well as including the trade workers.

Unfortunately, the fight against Chrysler was diverted into squabbles between the higher and lower-paid grades, and the size of the offer dented many people.

As an ISLEF point out, the highest offer to any grade was £2 per cent, which after tax and pension deductions, comes nowhere near reaching the government's estimate of the rise in the cost of living this year.

The fact that the Threshold was paid, and that £2.70 was paid, was pushed aside by the magic 5.

While some are still a tremendous number of grievances about the outcome, the mood of the workers is one of satisfaction about the settlement and the feeling that they have been heard.

For the first time since July 1972, Lausow workers had the chance to negotiate unhindered by government legislation.

But we've settled for an increase which fails to keep up with the cost of living. An offer which has split the workforce, as well as including the trade workers.

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Skimp on the Imp

ANYONE who buys a Hillman Imp in the next few weeks might detect the smell of engine fumes while driving. Don’t worry about it—its only Chrysler trying to cover up labour shortfalls.

When the Linwood workers went back to work on Monday 5 August after three weeks holiday, the assembly track was 30 minutes late in starting due to absenteeism. The management had drafted new starts on to the track, but were unable to man all jobs.

One job they didn’t man was the fitting of small pads over vents in the back corner of the Imp engine at the back, and these pad prevent fumes from entering the car.

Missing

The reason these pads weren’t fitted is quite simple—further down the line is a large ‘trim’ pad fitted which covers the small pad. So nobody will know the small pad is missing.

This went on all day Monday, and nobody was put on the job until Tuesday morning.

So if your driving along and look out because of engine fumes, say a prayer for Chrysler’s profits before you pass out. After all, you can’t stop them from getting adequate absence cover and protect their customers’ lives.

SOCIALIST WORKER

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DEFENCE FUND

READERS have sent £225 to the Socialist Worker Fighting Fund this week, making a total of £186 so far for August. We need £2000 by the end of the month, so keep it up!

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Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

EEP TO SHOCK!

Business consultants draft new union rules

by Laurie Flynn

THE executive of the Electricians and Plumbers Trade Union is going into special session on Sunday to consider a special report on union structure—by a firm of business consultants.

The report says the union should take a few more steps along the bureaucratic path. It recommends the creation of five national heads of department and pushes for the general secretary to have more and more powerful, personal assistants.

Most important it recommends that the union should no longer have two top officials elected every five years. The post of general president, says the report, should go, and the general secretary become the undisputed supreme. In the place of the union president, the report says the executive should elect a chairman every year, presumably from their own numbers. The reorganisation would in some ways merely formalise the situation which has existed at the top of the EPTU since the death of Sir Leslie Cannon in October 1971.

Since then his associate Frank Chapple has remained the one and only top official by a series of executive-approved manoeuvres.

If the report is endorsed throughout the union there would only be one top official. The most likely contender for the post would be (again) Frank Chapple.

The report has been done for an undisclosed fee by the Glasgow firm of business consultants Rilson Proctor (Organisation and Management) Ltd. The firm, which this week changed its name to HPL Management Consultants, had free access to all EPTU offices up and down the country while investigations were being carried out.

Its managing director, HPL is James Dobbie Houston, a man whose enthusiasm for making higher profits by getting fewer workers to do more work so in recent years a fellow employer once described him as a very dynamic bast’ard.

Houston is an intimate of Frank Chapple’s and of former EPTU president the late Sir Leslie Cannon. His association with their faction in the union seems to have started around 1966 when Houston was productivity director at Chrysler’s Clyde works and was a leading force behind the EPTU’s bitter strike there over a long running dispute.

But Houston’s interest in the affairs of the EPTU’s Electricians and Plumbers Union is not even more immediate. For Houston is also joint managing director of the Joint Industry Unionists (JIIU) for Electrical Contracting in Scotland and in England and Wales.

According to Houston, the late Leslie Cannon, then national president of the union, offered him a job at the JIIU. The JIIU was a branch of Houston’s Cappello’s and Cannon JIIU in Italy. Houston is also a director of the national union officials to do wonders for higher productivity.

Two other figures active in HPL could be said to have vital interest in maintaining and extending the type of union structure developed in the EPTU—by Cannon and Chapple. They are Houston’s co-directors on the HPL board, John Edward Edinburgh lawyer Alexander M Hodge and the high-flying Scottish capitalist Sir lain Stewart.

BIGGER

Hodge is an important enough businessman to be mentioned on his own right. He is deputy chairman of Britain’s third biggest insurance company, Standard Life. His politics are perhaps be gauged from the fact that he is on the board of an organisation called the Scottish Union Jack Association.

Sir lain Stewart is an even bigger fish. A Tory, Stewart is a director of the former state owned shipyard of the McAlpine’s Dordon jarl Holding Company, of the Thomas and Heatherwick newspaper empires and of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Even more interesting he is a director of the huge Cappello-JIIU insurance organisation which is directly interested in the electrical and electronic industry where the EPTU organise, through its major shareholding in the Scottish Union Jack Association.

Houston’s other business partners are also prominent. For instance, his firm, Marketer Penetration Ltd and Industrial Communications Ltd and the meeting of the executive where the report was first discussed could not have been held in the name of the union today.

Houston too keen on confidentiality, he told Socialist Worker, that the firm had not been allowed to keep any details of the report secret.

 Clients don’t want information about their operations being divulged.

UNUSUAL

Over recent months Chapple EPTU general secretary has been extremely active about the confidentiality of the HPL report on the union’s structure. The meeting of the executive where the report was first discussed could not have been held in the name of the union today.

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Socialist Worker supporters on the 400 strong march. PICTURE: Peter Harrap (Report)

Bengalis protest over repression

FOUR HUNDRED Bengalis demonstrated in London last Sunday in protest against mounting repression in Bangladesh. One speaker said it was "the first-ever demonstration of Bengalis in Britain".

The joy at Bangladesh’s independence last year after the brutal atrocities of the Pakistani invasion has quickly evaporated. President Mujibur Rahman, who only 18 months ago was voted in by an enormous majority, has now embarked on a series of atrocities against dissenters and in favour of big business firms which keep him in office.

The Bangladesh workers and peasants are now as badly hit as ever, and are suffering disastrously from floods from the Himalaya rivers.

More than 5000 have been killed and 200.000 marooned. Millions have lost their homes.

These floods were predictable. Everyone knew the floods were coming. Everyone knows what to do to stop them. A fragment of the wealth siphoned from Bangladesh by foreign businesses would have built the flood barriers necessary to prevent such a disaster. But nothing was done—and the wealth still finds its way into the pockets of landowners and businessmen, who will appear at excessive charity functions for the relief of Bangladesh’s flood victims.

Anti-Fascist Demonstration

Saturday 24 August, 2pm

Spinney Hill Park, Leicester

All IS branches to support