In Coventry, Liverpool, London, Glasgow... NO ONE'S JOB IS SAFE...and in Milan

BELOW: Workers of the British Leyland subsidiary Innocenti march with their families and 300,000 other Leyland workers to defend 1900 threatened jobs.

'C the working class does not bow down to threats. The hands of the clock of history cannot be turned back, and nor can we be. Workers are not pieces, to be added or removed from the productive machinery, according to whether that machinery is going well or not.'

—Lucio de Carlini, metalworkers' union leader, in Milan last Wednesday

IN a 40-bedroom country house in Buckinghamshire on Monday and Tuesday this week the jobs of 100,000 British workers were the stakes in a grotesque gamble. The players were an American millionaire and his humble servant, Harold Wilson.

John J Riccardo, chairman of Chrysler International alias Detroit's 'Godfather', flew in secret to London. He told Wilson that unless he got £35 million of American money now and a lot more later, he would take 'extraordinary actions' to improve long-term profitability.

That is, he would sack most of his 26,000 workers in Coventry and Scotland with devastating consequences for 100,000 other workers who supply components to Chrysler.

Wilson begged the Godfather not to make all the redundancies now. Perhaps, he suggested, they could settle for a few thousand now, and a lot more thousands later.

The deal which emerges from this horrible charade will bring humiliation and poverty to thousands of motor workers who have been told for 20 years to expect prosperity for a lifetime.

The prosperity has been reserved for others. A few months ago, after an inquiry from Chrysler Socialist Worker readers, figures were published by Labour Research showing secret profits for Chrysler through tax-free car sales by way of a Swiss subsidiary.

The Swiss company was making profits of £450 for every worker employed by Chrysler in Britain.

The Chrysler workers are not taking this lying down.

MOVEMENT

On Monday, the shop stewards at Linwood voted to occupy the factory if it is closed down. Shop stewards' leaders in Coventry say they will occupy and sabotage machinery if any closure is announced.

Peter Bain, TGWU shop steward at Linwood, told Socialist Worker: 'We are not fighting for Chrysler. We are fighting for jobs. The only way to fight this company is by occupation and a widespread campaign throughout the labour movement for nationalisation without compensation.'

The shocks at Chrysler are only part of an earthquake which is shaking the whole of British industry.

The Consumers' Association's 7,000-strong factory at Edge Lane in Liverpool, in North London, 6,000 jobs at Standard Telephones and Cables (IT&T) are in peril. In Glasgow and the West of Scotland, the threat of redundancies is turning into a flood.

This must be stopped. It can be stopped.

But it won't be easy. The workers must use their own industrial power. They must make Godfather Riccardo, Godfather Plessy, Godfather IT&T and Godfather Wilson an offer they can't refuse.

They should occupy their factories, hold the machinery and goods and demand that the government nationalise the companies, under shop floor control of management levels, and back every single job.

Eighteen Chrysler stewards call for nationalisation meeting—page 15.
SUPPORT GROWS FOR 26 NOVEMBER LOBBY

No more volunteers!

THE CAMPAIGN for the Right to Work got off to a good start in Coventry last week when 850 shop stewards attended a special district meeting of the Confederation of Engineering Unions.

The city has seen massive sackings and redundancies in recent years, with the most recent crisis at Chrysler. Many shop stewards have accepted short-time and voluntary redundancies, but have refused to accept the cuts in pay and the cuts in jobs, and to demand full intake of junior workers.

The meeting did not go far enough, it didn’t demand a complete overtime ban (it was a campaign for a 35-hour week). But it was a big step forward. We can point to those in Coventry who have kept up their own voluntary efforts in fighting redundancies inside factories, between the factories and with those already unemployed.

A DELEGATE conference on unemployment called by the Hampshire Association of Trades Unions (ATTU) has given great encouragement to the TUC’s ‘instruction’ and voted overwhelmingly in favour of the 26 November Lobby. The Association itself has been distinctly following the TUC’s line.

NORWICH Trades Council has decided by an overwhelming majority to support the Right to Work demonstration.

A resolution condemning Len Murray’s circular as a blatant attempt to sabotage the initiatives of those prepared to fight against unemployment was carried unanimously.

WELLINGBOROUGH Trades Council has decided to support the 26 November lobby and send delegations. It is also sending a letter to members of Parliament asking them to join the lobby and to circulate all branches explaining why.

The OUTER London Division of the lecturers’ union, ATTU, has agreed to support the lobby and to try to bring the union’s executive to do likewise.

Delegates said: ‘This is only the start of the battle. It’s not enough to make two teachers redundant.’

DELEGATE SARGENT said: ‘This is only the start of the battle. It’s not enough to make two teachers redundant.’

Jackson (UPW general secretary) got us back to work. Since then we’ve had a lot of trouble with working conditions. Because management won’t leave us alone.

The redundancies will affect us tremendously. If I lose this job I’ll lose my house, because I pay the mortgage. We only go out to work because it is absolutely necessary.

The union ought to be helping us keep our jobs, not getting us out. We pay the same dues as the men, though we are part-timers.

We supported the 1970 strike. We stood shoulder to shoulder on the picket lines with the full-time men. Sometimes there were more of them.

We’ve got to defend our jobs. We’ve got to fight back. We can win. We can win.

WORKER

It’s made more difficult for women. Women union meetings are normally held on Sunday mornings. We can’t do that. Nevertheless, 30 to 50 women women have joined the bus trip.

I’m hoping to get the women organized before January, so that we can fight. I’ll try to convince some of the men that they ought to help us for our jobs, that instead of sacrificing jobs for overtime we should all be fighting for higher wages and our jobs.

If the men workers don’t understand the need to fight, then the women are going to have to do it on their own fight the management, fight the union and fight to save men workers over.

That’s why we are organizing the Women’s Voice Rally in Manchester on 29 November. All those women who want to fight, whatever the reason.

This trial political? Never!

WESTCOTT: If a soldier was given an order to do something that he believed to be wrong, and which he regarded as a violation of his basic rights, would he have a right in any circumstances to refuse to obey that order?

COHEL: In my experience, if an order is given on an order he carries it out.

WESTCOTT: Do you remember the Second World War and the Nuremberg trials?

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.

WESTCOTT: I would have thought that it was the unfortunate Vietnamese who got into trouble.
The Chrysler crisis:

WHAT WE THINK

JUST TEN years ago, the first Wilson government proclaimed, with a fanfare of trumpets, its great National Plan. It was going to transform the British economy—so they claimed.

The plan was a remarkable and thorough piece of work. National economic strategy up to 1970, with priority for exports and the balance of payments, was set out with all its implications ... in terms of production, labour agreements and exports and imports, industry by industry including agriculture.

That is how Harold Wilson describes it in his book on the 1964-70 government. What happened? From the horse's mouth we learn: 'It was a brave effort. It was right. It was the end of an era, which proved we did not have the time for the Plan to work in real life—production, exports, import-saving—before term speculative factors overwhelmed us'.

In other words, the Plan was not worth the paper it was written on. In 1974 a new Labour plan emerged. There was going to be a 'major expansion of public ownership, mainly through a National Enterprise Board, planning agreements with big firms and an end to 'uncoordinated efforts'.

That plan too, is dead, if not yet buried. Its centreprise, the National Enterprise Board, has been castrated. Its resources are small compared with the size of the private sector and its ultimate impact is bound to be limited, especially since its activities are of a voluntary nature', comments the Guardian.

But now the government pulls another rabbit out of the hat—the New Economic Strategy. The NES is to be based on 'backing winners'. No vast sums are to be wasted propelling lame ducks, it is said. Resources are going to be put instead on the 'world-beaters of tomorrow'.

This latest turn was to have been proclaimed this week as the new path to economic salvation.

And then came Chrysler ...

The host of economists, planners, statisticians and whatnot of the government's payroll can hardly have failed to foresee the Chrysler crisis. Or if they did fall they are not worth paying in government wages.

Yet Industry Secretary Eric Varley went on preparing to sign his new version of Ted Heath's 'no lame ducks' at the very time when an outside one was limping towards the front office.

What is abundantly clear is that all these various economic plans, past and present, are worthless.

There can be no real economic planning so long as the centres of economic and financial power are in the hands of capitalists, so long as the lobbies of production are profit, not use.

In fact, the government has abandoned all real attempts to direct the economy. Its only serious economic policy is to cut real wages with the E6 limit and with mass unemployment.

No worker, at Chrysler or anywhere else, should accept 'sacrifices' for such policies. They are sacrifices on the altar of profit, not use.

The government must be forced to nationalise Chrysler without compensation to the shareholders.

It is their crisis, the crisis of their system, not ours.

They must be made to pay for its failures.
THIS SUNDAY morning (9 November) at least half a million trade unionists will be watching 'Union Jack', a new TV pro-
gramme in a new BBC TV series called Trade Union Studies. Made in association with the TUC and the government-supported Workers Educational Association, the series is accompanied by a BBC Study Book and TUC postal courses. There will be two further series. Socialists should make an effort to watch them, preferably in a group so as to develop the ideas further in discussion.
Some of the programmes, such as the one to be shown in the New Year on equal pay, are excellent.

JIM BAINES on a new TV series for trade unionists

But not all the programmes are so dire. Some are moulded and leave the viewer confused. Worse, you're left with the idea that if you leave your problems to your trade union official everything will work out.

The programme on redundancies (7 December) is particularly bad. There is little solid information about its causes and no ideas at all about how to fight it. Now that unemployment is over a million and increasing every month we might as well have praised for 'civilised redundancies' agreements.

Even in this programme, however, there are flashes of worth. Danny Cookey, from the Laser Aerospace Combine, raises some questions about the real causes of redundancy and shows the alternatives ignored throughout the rest of the programme.

It is our job to rescue the few words the programme allows him and carry the argument onto the shop floor.

Why is there this difference between the programmes? On some issues the producer may have been confused. More important is the TUC's influence.

The programmes generally exaggerate the importance of the trade union bureaucracy and ignore some important steps in building links between workers.

The final programme, on the multi-
national, stresses the need for inter-
national action. But, significantly, it fails to mention the need for trade unionists to link together in campaigns to fight against Courtaulds, ICI, GEC and other companies inside this country.

And yet the programmes do provide some much-needed information and some valuable arguments for socialists.

LEN MURRAY is probably coping between £50 and £100 for this little lot. There'll be plenty of other jamborees.

If his predecessor is anything to go by, he will, from an assessment of his appearances, be able to make at least £100 a week on top of his generous salary.

Certainly Vic Feather, when TUC general secretary, would have had a bad week indeed if that made less than £100 from TV appearances and after-dinner speaking engagements.

Vic Feather had up to 20 people on the TUC's staff writing speeches for him. You make a lot of use of the masters for good government.

What's more, it's interesting to note just how utterly ineffective generations of being reasonable, requesting, hoping and downtime have been, understandable when you think that competition for the drive for profit, and crisis are built-in features of the system.

THEORY

In any case, these union leaders who talk of their power to convince are often very reluctant indeed to set their magic powers to work where they would have some effect.

Jack Jones, for example, puts in a personal appearance at the London American Chamber of Commerce lunch in London this week. But there has never been up to the Labourshop's picket line in Glasgow where Transport union members have been on strike for over 20 weeks. He's never urged his thousands of other Transport Union members to finish off the miserable Labourshop house.

He's never been to Liverpool to urge dockers to black Chile's revolution. And when one such speech would produce tremendous results.

The simple truth about the fine
hunches and the corridor of power is that our leaders aren't getting through to people who matter. They're becoming people who matter, part of the establishment.

In that process, a great transforma-
tion is achieved, not of capitalism but of individuals men and women. Your tastes for food and drink change. Your expectations of what you can do for yourself.

Before long, you need a bigger salary. And little extras here and there from the Roehampton and Roundham Water Board. You start having your clothes made at the tailor your new-found friends recommend.

You start going to their clubs, investing in shares they recommend. Or, like Lords Feather, Brighouse, McGregor (of the Bollermakers Society), you employ a chauffeur.

In place of the progress of your youth, you come up on the social scale. It's even possible for you to confuse the two.

GRANT

At worst you become a bureaucrat. At best you become a patch-up merchant, a purveyor of compromises who does nothing to advance the real interests and organisation of working people in the place and now so that we may better confront the struggles of the future.

The operation doesn't only start at businessmen's lunch clubs. Increasingly it reaches down to the factory floor.

The boss can grant you petty privileges and turn a shop steward into a full-time official before you know it. The democratic union

GRANT

At worst you become a bureaucrat. At best you become a patch-up merchant, a purveyor of compromises who does nothing to advance the real interests and organisation of working people in the workplace and now so that we may better confront the struggles of the future.

The operation doesn't only start at businessmen's lunch clubs. Increasingly it reaches down to the factory floor.

The boss can grant you petty privileges and turn a shop steward into a full-time official before you know it. The democratic union

Would YOU join the trade union gravy train? "SO WHAT DO THEY DO?"
ONE

DICTATOR

AGAINST

ANOTHER

IN THE

SAHARA

THE right wing in Portugal have been planning another coup over the past week. Involved in the plot are representatives of NATO and the American CIA, fascist ex-generals and 'moderate' senior officers from the army.

Early last week the right-wing commanders of the air force admitted that it had two squadrons of fighter planes and had equipped civil aircraft and helicopters for military purposes. It claimed these moves in defence of the authoritarian government, 'the last chance against fascism'.

But the real reason emerged early on Monday morning, in a statement from the left-wing Armed Forces Revolutionary Committee.

The coup is to organise military exercises the coming weekend, 7, 8 and 9 November, just before full independence is due to be granted to Angola on 11 November. Troops would be deployed as if responding to an invasion of Portugal from the south.

All military units in the south would be withdrawn from co-operation with Lisbon, where they would be joining troops from the Northern and Central military districts. From there they would invade the Alentejo region, where the population is strongly right-wing.

At the same time, the two paramilitary police forces, which have recently been reorganised, would work with the right-wing influenced commandos and the new handpicked military intervention force, AMI, to 'restore' the Lisbon army area. Lisbon is the stronghold of the revolutionary left within the armed forces.

These plans were drawn up at the Military High Command Studies Institute on 27 October. Present were Bredero Charias, head of the Central military region who was to be put in charge of all land forces, and General Pinto Frias, head of the air force. These are being members of the ruling military Council.

Also present was Pietre Zevaco, head of the Pro-Angola military region, who has been responsible for the recent military occupations in the CIA and RASP barracks in Oporto.

The brains behind the operation was Colombo Oliveira, a Nato representative at Brussels, and Major Espirito Santo, who has just returned from a course in information and spying in the US. Most of these officers used to belong to the staff of the fascist ex-General Betancourt Rodrigues.

Seize

Betteracanba himself has just been transferred from Trafalgar Prison to Caxias Prison, which is controlled by another member of the Anuntas group, Costa Neves. It is well known that the right-wing prisoners in Caxias meet freely, receive guests without interference, and are even allowed out for up to two weeks to go abroad. This recently happened to two of the key figures involved in the attempted coup last week.

The moves in Portugal were due to be matched by action in Angola. Portugal's armed forces commandos were to seize key points in the north of the country, from the authentic liberation movement MPLA, destroying its media installations. This would fit in neatly with the plans of the western-run factions, FNLA and UNITA, which are trying to advance towards Luanda with the backing of armed Portuguese fascists and white South African troops.

All this has been planned at a time when there is a build-up of US warships off the coast of Portugal, where an attempt is being made to secure the basis of support for the left and for the rank and file solidarity movement, by discharging the army tens of thousands of conscripts.

Protest

The conscripts, who, with more than 10,000 unemployed, have no chance of getting jobs, are resisting such moves. As a protest, representatives of 1000 soldiers controlling the arms dumps refused to allow any turning in of arms in the last week.

Another move of the right has been to try to seize control from Communist Party supporters of Lisbon's biggest morning paper, O Escudo. Members of the Socialist Party occupied certain of its installations after getting the support of about half its employees in a postal ballot boycotted by the left.

The left organised in the factories and among the rank and file soldiers, has not been taking these moves sitting down. Last week, 1000 left-wing soldiers and 30,000 civilians marched through the streets of Oporto in the right-wing led movement against the military, while SUN announced that it had members in every military unit in the Central military region.

Workers in Portugal are aware that the right wing, the CIA and NATO are out to smash their movement. The movement was smashed in September 1974. It is vital that the right-wing plans for Portugal is brought to the attention of every factory in Britain.

Blueprint for another Chile

from Robin Ellis in Lisbon

by Laurie Flynn

THE Spanish fascist regime and its new front man, Prince Juan Carlos, look as if they are set fair to stumble into a serious confrontation over the mineral-rich Sahara.

The part of the Sahara which Spain still controls is the last remaining relic of its once extensive empire. Until 1956, when Morocco got formal independence, it was jointly occupied by Spain and France. Now the Moroccan state, a vicious dictatorship in its own right, but nevertheless with more claim to the Sahara territory than Spain, has organised a mass march to claim the land.

The march followed the defeat of Morocco's and neighboring Mauritania's joint claim to the land at the International Court of Justice. This far from impartial Court ruled that there should be no sort of United Nations presence in the Sahara until the 75,000 population voted on their future. The Spanish regime has suddenly become more interested in such 'democracy' for the Sahara, because it believes it will be able, by bribery or force, to get the population to vote for its nominee.

If it does come to an armed conflict between Morocco and Spain, let us hope that the struggle will result in the back of the Spanish regime being broken.

The Moroccan regime is using the march to further its own end. Most of the marchers are unemployed seasonal workers who have just finished their only labours for the year.

Six Greek socialists jailed

THE new government in Greece is everywhere praised for its democratic qualities. But last week a political trial showed the real face of the Karamanlis government.

Six members of the Greek organisation Socialist Revolution, with which Socialist Worker has fraternal links were jailed for eight months and then released to the volume of protest building up pending appeal. The six are Sophia Kropogolou, Niko Ris, Andros Zozos, Niko Dromos, Vasilis Pavletoudous and A Apostolou.

Their crime was putting up posters denouncing the government for using police against strikers, for protecting fascists, and for putting trade union activists and their supporters on trial. Socialist Revolution also condemned the trial.

In the six months between arrest and trial every single prediction made in the Socialist Revolution posters came true. Parties were given to the three for the reported Greek dictatorship. There are no trials of those responsible for the bloodshed in Cyprus.

What's more, there have been three major trials of military men for "treason against democracy" and "serious crimes against workers in Greece."
The man who 'makes good'

A READER from Leeds asks for comments on three questions that have often come up in discussions with workmates.

1. If a man starts with no capital and works for an average wage but saves a sum each week to start a business... he does not gamble, drink or smoke. What right has any government to take over his business at a time when his small beginnings have become a giant concern?

Myth

What would be the justification for not allowing such a man, with his national qualifications, who is a manager far more money than his government? What about people (a small number) who just do not want to work but prefer to make a living by playing cards?

The first thing to be said about the hard-working, non-smoking worker who becomes a capitalist and builds up a giant concern, is that he is a myth. There are no such animals. Like the dodo, he was always a very rare species and he has long been extinct.

I am not saying that a man or woman can't make a living by running a butcher's or baker's shop by such methods. What he or she certainly cannot do is create a big concern of any kind.

Why not? Because it is impossible to save out of wages, even if you live on bread and water, the kind of money needed to set up an enterprise that can compete with the giants of modern industry. The big fish dominate the capitalist sea, and they are getting bigger all the time.

Huge

In Britain, the 100 biggest firms produced 15 per cent of total output in 1909, 20 per cent in 1940, 50 per cent in 1970 and now are pushing towards 60 per cent.

These are concerns like ICT, GEC, British Leyland, Reed International, Rank-Hovis-Douglas and Cadbury-Schweppes. They are vast concentrations of capital, and, typically, the result of mergers between already huge companies.

The last of the output comes from a larger number, some of 'medium-sized' companies which are themselves very big, in terms of capital invested—compared with the companies of 50 or 100 years ago.

Many of the top 100 are multinational concerns, often US based like Ford, Vauxhall (General Motors) and Chrysler. The economist Charles Levenson writes: 'Nearly all the Western world's non-US production is accounted for by American subsidiaries or American-associated firms.'

This trend towards ever fewer and bigger firms is not the result of a deliberate policy to slim down big business. Look at the oil business. So huge is the capital requirement that it is not possible to have even one company that even very big companies like Getty Oil—by far the biggest US producer—that can build the refineries which are needed to combine with others to compete with the super-giants.

The 'small man', the small capitalist left alone, the worker doesn't get a look-in. He is absorbed, killed or made to make a lot of money.

How? By getting into the racket of financial manipulation, take-overs, asset-stripping and speculation.

This sort of racket has always been a weak, on an accountant who made £1 million from very little by these methods.

Paid

But such people produce nothing, nor do they organize production. They are pure parasites, like burglars. Their only concern is that the burglary is legal whereas, under capitalism, financial manipulation is an honoured trade.

Where do the giant firms get their resources from? They get them from the workers they employ. Leaving aside 'windfall profits' from war-time profits, a man's wage, apart from the pain is another man's loss in these cases—there is no saving. Profit is the difference between the value of what the workers produce and the wages paid for his labour.

How much does a worker produce, a man's output is not just machinery and equipment—use. He produces.

But, that, too, is produced by workers. Capitalists own, they do not produce. They are the very heart and soul of capitalists, small as well as big.

Power

The justification for taking over big business is that it's the small ones really hardly make a dent in the bigger business... they have immense and irresponsibility to the rich, to the rich, and their operations cause a military, war, unemployment, inflation and a host of other evils.

We need a planned economy controlled by the actual producers, the workers.

But what about management? That is a convenient starting point for discussing the second question which has been n't up yet.

CIRIL PORZL

ALARMED by the growing PR presence in Labour's 1974 election campaign, Labour Party仍然 held a recruitment rally. It was a model ofLabour dynamism.

Star speaker, Stan Newens, (Tribune for Wales) never turned up. Another speaker—Local MP Michael Ward

DANNY HALLAS

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Duncan Hallas

BRITISH executives' salaries rose only 23 per cent last year, BBC TV news said today. Averages rose by 21 per cent. But the BBC, impartial as always, failed to point out that, in nominal terms, the average executive got £224 a week rise, leaving them up to £4720 a year and above.

To me, it is not possible to have even one company that even very big companies like Getty Oil—by far the biggest US producer—that can build the refineries which are needed to combine with others to compete with the super-giants.

The 'small man', the small capitalist left alone, the worker doesn't get a look-in. He is absorbed, killed or made to make a lot of money.

How? By getting into the racket of financial manipulation, take-overs, asset-stripping and speculation.

This sort of racket has always been a weak, on an accountant who made £1 million from very little by these methods.

Paid

But such people produce nothing, nor do they organize production. They are pure parasites, like burglars. Their only concern is that the burglary is legal whereas, under capitalism, financial manipulation is an honoured trade.

Where do the giant firms get their resources from? They get them from the workers they employ. Leaving aside 'windfall profits' from war-time profits, a man's wage, apart from the pain is another man's loss in these cases—there is no saving. Profit is the difference between the value of what the workers produce and the wages paid for his labour.

How much does a worker produce, a man's output is not just machinery and equipment—use. He produces.

But, that, too, is produced by workers. Capitalists own, they do not produce. They are the very heart and soul of capitalists, small as well as big.

Power

The justification for taking over big business is that it's the small ones really hardly make a dent in the bigger business... they have immense and irresponsibility to the rich, to the rich, and their operations cause a military, war, unemployment, inflation and a host of other evils.

We need a planned economy controlled by the actual producers, the workers.

But what about management? That is a convenient starting point for discussing the second question which has been n't up yet.

Sooner Worker

Public Meetings

THE AND THE BRITISH LABOUR MOVEMENT

PWP (Aerm (former CIA agent)

BRISTOL

Shepherd's Hill, 11 November, 7.30pm.

EAST LONDON

The Connaught House, 12 November, 8.30pm.

BRIGHAM

Gospel Hall, 11 November, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.

Daglish Hall, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.

Daglish Hall, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.

Daglish Hall, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.

Daglish Hall, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.

Daglish Hall, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.

Daglish Hall, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.

Daglish Hall, 7.30pm.

TIPPLE

Wednesday 15 November, 8.30pm.
Car is jury throws out police cases

WHY on the night of 11-12 December last year were 150 police and other workers sent into the Carib Club in Clarendon, Newmarket, London? Why was there massive police violence and racist abuse? And why were 12 young blacks arrested?

The reasons are now clear. They came out in the course of the 80-day trial here at London's Central Criminal Court, the Old Bailey whose motto is ‘Justitia Lactans’, the goddess of Justice vomiting poison. The jury were told that the police could not stomach the police and their lack of public sympathy claimed they raided the club because they were seeking some one who was 'under suspicion of theft'.

There was some antagonism as soon as the first policeman entered the Carib Club dance hall, understandable when one saw that young blacks know no dozens of causes that the police had dropped into a club or restaurant for little fun.

But at the Carib the police reaction was particularly violent and intense. Massive reinforcements were immediately summoned until the raiding party numbered a total of 147 police. Even the restaurant above the dance hall was immediately ordered to be evacuated.

The inspector in charge of the operation—interestingly enough it should be an inspector—took his men to 'arrest anyone they recognised' and they came down the narrow stairs.

The stairs were lined with police. The Yard men blurted out that the police were really angry. They had been in such high spirits they had been back from the worst. But before long they started to hot up and some tried to file down the stairs. The police had ordered them in, using their beloved truncheons.

The worst single incident that happened was the murder of Earl.

Earl is a homophile. The slightest touch can precipitate a ferocious reaction for him. When he came to turn to the end of the line he pulled out his hospital card and held it up so fear that he would be attacked. His fear proved groundless.

His card was seized from him. He was searched and then returned to the treatment. He was lifted as one of those condemned to the gas chamber and charged with affronting an officer with abusive and indecent language. He was in the chair of the death house.

According to Constable Eric Wodcote, a detective constable, they had in the bottle, charged down the stairs by the police with the 'stink of a toilet'. A police witness described the police as having destroyed the police fabric. The defendant had been a 'badger' and his task was to storm down the stairs', he admitted to the court.

Roger Steward was the subject of a classic joke. He didn't even risk being hung down the stairs. That might be the case. The defendant was a 'livery stable' and the police wanted to make a confession. He was escorted to the court.

What's more, police and other attackers could not get hang down the stairs. The court was in session. Although police were prevented from the court by the police, they were prevented from the court.

HOPE

Finally, owing to the above listed activities, the police in their attempts to defend me, I presented a petition to the Metropolitan Commissioners of Police at a meeting of the Metropolitan Police Committee, Westminster on May 1st, 1978.

Although my estimates were low, the Commissioners further increased the figure involved to £1,000 and £54 respectively. The only breach of the evidence. Complicating the Commissioners would agree to was £1,000, although the remainder for food, footwear and clothing.

HOPE

So far all the pestilence, delaying and effort I managed to win what amounts to a pitance. Yet on present inflation, the police in general engineering should be on the at least £1,000 a year.

During the past four years 1 have been endeavouring to get the highest tax exemptions for an exact statement of items for the rate of tax in Britain that I would not give me this information. As 1 wrote in my letter to Harold Heseltine virtually every MP is a participant, in case accounts, phones and directorship tax-fee perks of every description. So there is any hope of ending tax discrimination through the courts.

In order the judge decided that the case was based on reprints against young blacks and on lies and fabrications, familiar police techniques.

The acquittal is a victory. The judge predictably decided that the matter of police behaviour was one that he was supposed to decide if the police were prosecuted. Usually they decide against the police. They prefer to keep the lash of the law for the police and the police.
Tyndale: The battle for schools opens

THE CAMPAIGN

TERRY ELLIS became headmaster of William Tyndale School in January 1974. One of his first acts was to introduce democratic decision-making among the staff - in place of the rigid hierarchical system which exists in most schools. The atmosphere in the school immediately became more relaxed and friendly.

Dolly Walker, a part-time teacher at the school, didn't like this new approach. She started a one-woman campaign against Terry Ellis and the majority of the teachers. The managers of the school weighed in on her side. So did Tory councillors, and even some Labour councillors.

Dolly Walker peddled her own black paper about the school around the parents' houses. She complained that "anarchists and Trotskyists" were indoctrinating the children.

The campaign terrified many middle-class parents. They promptly removed their children from the school. As a result, reading standards have dropped. As one inspector's report admitted last March, this mass exodus was the main reason for the low reading standards in the first and second-year children.

Finally, Dolly Walker proved her underlying concern for the children of William Tyndale and the whole state education system. She left to take a nice job in a private prep school in South London.

THE FACTS

The campaign against the teachers at William Tyndale is founded on one suspicion: that the reading standards of the children there are worse than average.

The exact opposite is the case. The report of D V Rice, district inspector for the Inner London Education Authority, on 11 March 1973 stated: "Out of 44 fourth-year children who will be transferring to secondary school this year, eight had a reading age below nine years."

In other words, 17 per cent of the children were falling behind with their reading.

Now listen to Geoffrey Howard, headmaster of Samuel Rhodes School, Islington, at a teachers' conference in Islington last year: "In my estimate, 30 to 40 per cent of the fourth-year children throughout Islington have reading ages below the age of nine."

In other words, the standards at William Tyndale School are twice as good as in other Islington schools.

The situation in the third year is even more remarkable. The inspector's report went on: "In the third year, all but four had made progress, commensurate with their chronological age." That's better than the third year standard in any London primary school!

Or again: "The visit was unannounced, but at 9.45am, four classes out of eight were engaged in some reading activities."

In this the same school the press has been picturing, where children run riot all day long!

With the smaller numbers and the very generous staffing ratios, there is now much greater control and a quieter atmosphere throughout the school, said the inspector.

Even the more hostile inspector's report of October agreed: "The teachers undoubted- ly care for their children and are prepared to go to the background to solve their problems."

How do the teachers themselves use their job? Here is a short statement of aims they presented.

1. To encourage all children to live together in social harmony.
2. To encourage children to think for themselves and make their own decisions about their ideas and actions.
3. To ensure that each child can read, express himself/herself clearly and thoughtfully in language.
4. To ensure that each child is well grounded in basic mathematics.

5. To provide a wide choice of activities and interests for a child to experience and enjoy in a stable environment.

And how did they organise the school?

During the mornings, the children were in mixed-age groups, concentrating on language development, mathematics and other curriculum areas, and working with their own teacher. During the afternoons, there was a system of options in three teams. Options that were offered included: steel band, boxing, ice-skating, drama, art, cooking, dress-making, embroidery, woodwork, and crafts for boys and girls. The whole school was involved in conversation, project work and library visits. Parents were welcome to come to work with their own children, other children, at the facilities for themselves or simply meet each other.

THE national press and television has discovered a schools crisis.

Is it the atmosphere in staffing, which means 5000 teachers out of work, a third of the students at teacher training colleges facing unemployment, and huge increases in school classes?

Is it the total collapse of the programme for building nursery schools and the resulting strain and chaos in the lives of hundreds of thousands of working women and their children?

Is it the desperate shortage of school meals facilities, which means more hungry children than ever before since the war?

No. It is none of these things. They are reserved for the inside pages of liberal newspapers. On the front pages, in the nation's newspapers and on television, are the details of a single school in one of London's worst slum areas, the William Tyndale Junior School, in Islington.

During the past five weeks, 24 reporters from national newspapers have been set to work full-time on a hideous witch-hunt of the teachers at William Tyndale. Egged on by the rantings of Rhodes Boyson, the reactionary Tory MP, they have strained the limits of their trade to persuade their readers that the main threat in education is left-wing teachers.

Two weeks ago, Baroness Macleod, wife of a former Tory minister, told a Tory meeting in Northamptonshire that the 'main cause' of crime and delinquency was the presence of 'International Socialist teachers in our schools'. That lurid chortle has now been taken up by the entire national press over the William Tyndale affair.

What are the real facts? Why has this campaign been mounted?

You couldn't get two more decorously dressed lefties in trendy Islington than John and Alfie Gittings. They live in the same street as the school and until recently two of their children went to William Tyndale. Alfie Gittings, a well-known member of the school, and became worried at the campaign mounted against it. So worried in fact, that he and John decided that one of the children should leave the school straight away, and another, who was at the infant-school, shouldn't go on to the junior-school - they might fall foul of the 'trots'.

John Gittings is an expert on Far Eastern affairs and in his left-wing days was something of a Maoist. He writes on such matters for the Guardian, a paper which has been a specifically vitriolic in the campaign.

The good old days' good for

by Eamonn McCann

Is this what they want? The far from 'good old days', with three children's heads on a desk.

In the 1950s and early 1960s, the new middle classes would have expected their children to be taught in spacious, well-appointed classrooms, with well-paid teachers and a wide choice of subjects. The curriculum was more rigid, and the pace of learning was slower. The emphasis was on rote learning and memorization.

In contrast, today's schools are often overcrowded, with class sizes ranging from 30 to 40 students. The curriculum is more diverse, with a greater emphasis on critical thinking, problem-solving, and creative expression. The pace of learning is faster, with a greater emphasis on real-world applications and project-based learning.

The good old days' good for

by Eamonn McCann

Is this what they want? The far from 'good old days', with three children's heads on a desk.
Teachers’ pawn

I’m no blackleg, says boy who fled strike school

By James Davis and John Barry

ANGRY parents accused striking teachers of using their pupils to boycott a school yesterday. One mother complained: "I’m not going back while they’re in power like this."

The ‘slogan’ that came from Blake

CERI FRANKEL, (above) has been at William Tyndale School for six years.

'I like school, but it was better organised when our regular teachers were there. Now I get a bit bored. There used to be work on the board for when we got into school and options in the afternoon.

Ceri’s mother: ‘Ceri goes on perfectly OK. Her work is good. She’s self-confident and secure. There have been no problems except perhaps recently from outside harassment.

I first heard about trouble in the school in July last year. Mr. Walker, a teacher at the school, visited me and said there were a few things I ought to know. She started off by talking about the lack of academic standards, but I knew this wasn’t so because Ceri had always got on so well.

Mr. Walker then went on to make political allegations against the staff, especially Mr. Hadow. She talked about anarchists and the politically indoctrination that was going on.

The Daily Express quoted his mother as saying: ‘He can’t read and write properly. That’s true—but what the Express neglected to mention was that Johnson had only been at the school for three weeks!’

Report by JENNY JACKSON

TEACHERS’ PAWNO, wrong... But press pawn, yes. Johnny Boylan refused to be a blackleg, he refused to go to school while his teachers were on strike. The Daily Express quoted his mother as saying: ‘He can’t read and write properly. That’s true—but what the Express neglected to mention was that Johnson had only been at the school for three weeks!’

Report by JENNY JACKSON

WAV IN BRITAIN?

ANYONE TIRED of READING about Ireland should consider the fact that bomb sites are not a Monday Club regulars in London tube trains in the near future. And on buses in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The Provisional IRA, or a section of it, may decide it has nothing to lose, and possibly something to gain, by launching an all-out bombing campaign against British life. As a result many people might well find it impossible to go about their daily business.

The Provisional IRA has already made two threats to the north of England, with the promise of cabinet seats in the north of the Convention. A cynical manoeuvre by the Orange demagogue Craig to buy off the SDIF with the promise of cabinet seats is being used to justify extending the life of the Convention.

This is why we must step up the ‘Troops Out’ campaign

LOYAL

This move will convince many Provo leaders that they have been missed all along. On its own, it might be enough to re-start full-scale hostilities. And the implications of this time that the Provos will try to ensure that Britain ‘grinds its teeth over the bracelet.

It must be pointed out that Ministers have been playing a devious and dishonest game in Ireland. It has been clear for months that while the Irish Republic, the RUC and the Army have been talking peace and moderation, the Army and police collusion with extremist paramilitary elements has gone on unchecked.

Reaction to the sporadic bombing in the London area in the past few weeks—probably carried out by an ‘independent’ republican group or, possibly, by agents provocateurs—shows the government still has no intention of tightening its Tory line and facing up to the reality of the Irish situation.

Broken

Challenged by senior police officers and the Daily Express, Roy Jenkins has promised to continue to use the conspiracy laws against suspected republicans.

And he ended the applause of the Provisional IRA for his decision not only to release the ‘independent’ republicans, but also to re-investigate the shooting of one of the British soldiers, who was shot dead in a shoot-out.

All the energetic militancy in the world will not save an organisation which stands to lose from the campaign to get the British Army out of Ireland. Nor would such an end mean the end of the Provisionals.

If you are not a revolutionary on Ireland, you are not a revolutionary anywhere. If you are not against the British presence in Ireland, you are not against the British presence anywhere.
S

news...and WHAT'S ON

ZIMBABWE:
Social Worker public meetings
No to 'dementia'!
No to thewestern-kenda part!
Support the freedom fighters!
Speakers: Katsi Katsi, Chris & Chon
Chimukwemwe (members of the
African National Council of Zimbabwe, ex-ZANU), Bheki Nkandu and Johnstone Alexander (members of the ANC, ex-ZAPU), Alan Blundell, John Rogers and Alex Callinicos (Social Worker)
There will be a speaker from each group at each meeting.

SOUTH LONDON: Friday 7 November, 7.30pm, Brixton Town Hall, Ist Room.

NORTH LONDON: Saturday 8 November, 7.30pm, Brixton Town Hall, Ist Room.

NORTH LONDON: Friday 7 November, 7.30pm, Brixton Town Hall, Ist Room.

NOISS "TOUR: 2000 HEAR PAP FOO"

By Simon Turner

THE NATIONAL Organisation of IS Societies has been given a great send-off by its supporters at a tonten-hour of big public meetings.

In eight days, Paul Foot and I spoke at nine meetings in seven cities and held a ten-day tour of big public meetings.

In eight days, Paul Foot and I spoke at nine meetings in seven cities and held a ten-day tour of big public meetings.

In eight days, Paul Foot and I spoke at nine meetings in seven cities and held a ten-day tour of big public meetings.

How can I help Chingari?

I WOULD like to try selling Chingari, like a small Lancashire mill town in2011, and then in a self-conscious Palestinian community. I am white, and work in a factory where there is a lot of white racial healing among both workers and employers.

In these circumstances, I think it would be difficult for me to sell to people of the Palestinian community. I do not know any of them. I do not speak their language. However, I support the socialist Worker and therefore its sister papers.

Are there anyone to whom I can go for advice before trying to sell Chingari? Anything that you have published or distributed in this area is useful to me. I am a member of the British People's Solidarity Committee.

PHILIPPE Mosandza, Vauxhall

A Socialist Worker success story

SALES of Socialist Worker are up and up in Birmingham. Since September, the monthly sales have almost doubled to 200 to well above 500.

Sales have risen up new sales, in new areas, by better organisation so that we sell more copies at less expense to the public.

As we approach the election, we are running a campaign to keep up sales, in new areas, by better organisation so that we sell more copies at less expense.
The First Workers' Government

Drowned in Blood

ANDY MILNER on the Paris Commune

The victims of 'law and order'; above left, some of the 30,000 slaughtered Communards, above right, the legalized murderers on the rampage.

The first workers' government

ON 1 SEPTEMBER 1870, 82,000 French soldiers, among them their supposed commander-in-chief, the Emperor Napoleon III, surrendered to the Germans at Sedan. So ended Louis Napoleon Bonaparte's fanciful attempt to recreate the 'glories' of the Empire of the first Napoleon.

The fall of the Empire, and the capture of the Emperor, created a power vacuum in France. It opened up all sorts of new possibilities—just as the fall of Castile did in Portugal. And nowhere was this more obvious than in Paris.

Stage

But the new republic itself was a sort of vacuum—it had neither the support of the workers, who openly defined it in periods of rioting in October 1970 and January 1871, nor that of the middle classes. It was held together only by the continuing war with the Germans.

And when that ended, with the surrender of Paris on 28 January 1871, the stage was set for a new class of citizen-jackals.

During the war with the Germans, concessions had been made to the workers to win their support. Payment of both rents and debts had been suspended, and more important, the workers of Paris had been organised into the National Guard to defend the city—and armed.

But now, with the war lost and the new government under Adolphe Thiers set about the task of turning a return to 'normality'—that is to say, to the bourgeois state in which the bourgeoisie is free to exploit the workers as it pleases.

Fire

It ended the suppression of debt and rents and cancelled pay to the National Guard. Finally, in the early hours of 18 March, Thiers sent regular French troops into Paris to seize the Guard's armories.

But his attempt right-wing coup failed. In the working-class areas of Montmartre, soldiers fraternised with workers. When orders were given to fire on the workers, they talked over the rifles to the crowd and placed their commander, General Lecomte under arrest.

Later that day, Lecomte was shot—not by the National Guard, as the newspapers alleged the time, but by his own soldiers.

Meanwhile, the whole of working class Paris was alerted to the attempted coup. Barricades were hurriedly thrown up throughout the city. And the tricolour, the French national flag, on which had been hoisted on to the Bastille Column by regular soldiers the morning, was taken down and replaced by the Red Flag.

Open

By nightfall, Paris was firmly in the hands of the working class National Guard, and all those government troops that had not gone over to the Guard had retreated from the city in disorder.

The political situation was now widely understood in the next week, the revolutionary movement spread throughout France.

On 22 March, the red flag was raised in Lyons, Marseilles and Toulouse followed, then Limoges on the 23rd, and Nantes on the 24th. There were riots in Cété and Persigny, Saint-Etienne and Creuse.

A decisive blow directed against the government in Versailles, would at that time, almost certainly have been successful.

But the majority on the Central Committee of the Paris National Guard contended themselves with arranging for the election of a new revolutionary government for Paris—the Commune.

Certainly, this was of vital importance. But the failure to take the offensive against Thiers was to prove disastrous.

The Commune, elected on Sunday 26 March, was without doubt one of the most important events in world history.

This was the first working-class revolution not a bourgeois revolution in which the workers participated, but a working-class revolution against the bourgeoisie. And the Paris Commune was the first over workers' government.

All the repressive instruments of the bourgeois state were smashed and replaced by the totally different institutions of a workers' state.

The Army was abolished and replaced by the armed people, the National Guard. The police, the courts, and state bureaucracy were all abolished and replaced by the Commune and its representatives—elected, mandated, recallable and paid working men's wages.

Learn

These are the real lessons of the Commune—that socialism can only be achieved, not by reforming the bourgeois state, but by smashing it and replacing it by a workers' state. And that a workers' state means the direct rule of the working class, not the rule of a state bureaucracy. Here are some lessons more relevant than in Portugal today.

We must also learn from the Commune's failures. Lacking any decisive leadership, it stood in the offensive and allowed government troops to encircle Paris.

On 8 May, government troops commanded by Marshal MacMahon launched their attack. The Commune resisted gallantly, but gradually the ring tightened. On 21 May, the final general attack began. The advancing government troops behaved with the utmost ferocity; prisoners were shot out of hand.

In the fifteen and a half months of the Terror of 1792-94, which conservative historians regard with such horror, just over 2,500 people were executed.

In the last ten days of the Commune, government soldiers killed somewhere between 20,000 and 30,000 men, women and children in the streets of Paris.

Among the dead were many members of the Commune itself. For example, Eugène Varrin, the organiser of the Bookbinders Union, was hanged for wealth over an hour until, his face smashed to jelly, he was finally shot.

There's only comment was 'the ground is paved with their corpses, this terrible spectre will be a lesson to them'. And the massacre was only the beginning. There followed a series of rigged trials in which nearly 21,000 people were sentenced either to death, imprisonment or transportation to the hellholes of New Caledonia.

The 'restoration of order' after the defeat of the Commune clearly reveals what even the most enlightened bourgeois classes, the French, are capable of once their power is challenged.

Lived

But the last word should surely go to one of the Communards themselves. Théophile Ferré, a member of the Commune, was one of the many thousands tried in Thiers' courts. Before he was sentenced to death, Ferré pronounced his own judgement on the court and on the class it represented.

'Members of the Commune', he declared, 'I am in the hands of the victors. They want my head. Let them take it! Never will I save my life by cowardice.'

'I have lived a free man. I intend to die no less. I have but one word to add. Fortune is capricious. I entrust to the future the care of my memory and my vengeance. We are that future.'
Postal Points

YOUR REPORT on the National Abortion Campaign conference (28 October) seemed to indicate that the decision not to demonstrate against SPUC was taken not to counter-demonstrate but to avoid confrontation. I hope Women's Voice supporters will understand in future that 'working with' NAC means working together, not against each other.—LIZ ADAMS, NAC Steering Committee.

THE NAC Conference was right to reject the attempt to commit NAC to a revolution line. This is an issue which can be won without revolution. Organising in unions is important, of course, but it is not the only effective tactic. Demonstrations are valuable but it is not on the streets and in the trade unions that the crucial decisions will be made; it is in Parliamentary Committee and behind the closed doors of the DNB. It is here that pressure must be applied.—DAVID FLINT, London E7.

YOU SAY the NAC conference 'voted to allow meetings to count postal and telephone votes. Anyone can now come to meetings and anyone can vote—even if they don't come. This decision relates only to national planning meetings; only applies to certain issues, and postal and telephone votes will only be counted on the recommendations of the chairing body.—LORI STREICH, for the National Abortion Campaign.

IT IS NOW up to all of us to smash SPUC. They have gone on long enough and had their say. They must be stopped. The anti-life thrust continues throughout the country.—R. R. LEE, London SW5.

I TOOK PART in the SPUC march. It is curiously difficult to find socialists—those who are committed to a future free from anti-life thrusts as to favour abortion on demand. Why is it that the anti-abortion millionaire... has not a program of action? It seems to me that if the silent majority, which is not given the right to choose if abortion is legal.—R. W. WILLIS, Shenley, Herts.

GRANTED we are not a moral majority (Talking about Socialism, 25 October) but that doesn't necessarily mean people don't distinguish clearly between right and wrong in many specific situations. We on the left are ‘in the minority’ and also in the wrong.—DAVE BRADNEY, London N10.

IN SAYING there is no absolute morality Duncan Hallas fiddles. Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt love thy neighbour. Thou shalt not bear false witness (Legal and moral issues) are concepts depend on their validity on the existence of the State, the will of the majority.—R. MOUNGER, London N22.

WHAT IS the socialist view of the Third World War? KITTY PELLEY, Manchester.

Death of a freedom fighter...

THE FOLLOWING letter from a comrade in Barcelona was received by a Socialist Worker supporter in London this week.

WHILE France is dying in a blaze of international publicity, I thought I'd give you some details I've collected on the murder of one of France's most recent victims.

The photo shows Tixi (Juan Parejos Manzana) a few hours after his execution. There were a number of people present—apart from the firing squad—and here is an explanation of how the sadistic pigs in the Civil Guard carried out the sentence...

There were six Civil Guards in the firing squad, each had two bullets. When the order was given to fire, the shooting was 'very irregular'—like a slow machine gun—so someone described it.

The guards were shooting at their own pace, in order to prolong the agony of Tixi. Six bullets were fired into his stomach (that is not the way you normally kill someone quickly) and five around the heart. One bullet went missing.

Tixi didn't die immediately and the officer in charge had to finish him.

Smuggled out of Spain — the truth about a militant's execution

For my sake, fight for the right to work

SINCE EARLY August I have been without a job and living on £9.80 a week dole, which I got after six weeks' disqualification.

I was sacked by a British Rail for misconduct—taking four weeks holiday without pay. I had booked my holiday before the sack. So I gave plenty of notice for special leave, which is provided for under the conditions of service. I was refused, however, because the personnel officer was a British Rail (National Union of Railwaymen) rep.

So I was sacked for my overt stance, because management want to push through national wage redundancies, which the NUR are not fighting. I can't get work—perhaps Menzies is one of the worst places in the country for unemployment. I just hope other workers buy The Sun and Mirror, railwaymen—will learn from my experience.

I was sacked for misconduct and I was sacked for not being a British Rail (National Union of Railwaymen) rep. Now a railway rank and file ballot for the Civil Guard endorsed and management and union officials must be shown that railwaymen won't take it any longer.

The alternative is to end up like me—sacked, on the dole and trying to exist on money that's not enough to live on and only allow a human being.—P. HALSLAND, Ormskirk.

Where SW is going wrong

I AGREE very much with Eammon Dall's letter, (Letters, 16 October) and will translate his words to the situation here in Ireland. SW has become too apologetic, too conciliatory, and too sympathetic to the NUR. It is no longer an honest and progressive socialist paper. Its stance is even more unbelievable and its criticism of the workers who are fighting back is completely one-sided. SW has repeatedly called for the workers to end their struggle and has said that the Trotskyites are right.

M. F. McG, Derry.

I MUST complain about a comment of Pam Brighton's in the interview (18 October) on the TV series, Days of Hope.

As a professional actor in Equity, I get angry when I hear of the use of non-union labour in television and films. Equity is a closed shop because of the vast competition in the entertainment business, and any use of non-union labour, of which course can be engaged more cheaply, takes work away from the already struggling members, who are now, faced with approximately 50% unemployment.

I am disturbed that many working people don't think of actors as trade unionists, but rather as people who happen to perform for them, and who are outside the struggle.

We're going to expect the BBC to try to use non-union labour, but it is surprising when people reputed to be socialists, such as Tony Garnett and Ken Loach, use non-union labour in Days of Hope. Here we have a series presenting history and politics from the working class point of view, while employment on the series is against the interests of a section of that class. Socialist views have to be enacted, not left in theory.

Pam Brighton says in the interview: 'Loach cast some of the workers' parties using trade unionists, not professional actors. They could really understand the politics behind what they were playing.' That's like saying doctors should play doctors because they really understand the medicine behind what they're playing.

Pam Brighton also makes the unbelievable mistake in saying 'trade-unionists' were used in some parts, not professional actors. Actors are trade-unionists, and some of us are trying to fight within our union the forces which Pam Brighton's Sarah was fighting in Days of Hope.

If she is interested in helping in real life, she should contact Equity Rank and File, 29 Stamford Hill, London N16 2TN—JOHN GILLET.

I see that, despite the clampdown in real life, she should contact the Communist Party, 18 Goswell Road, E1. I would like to point out, however, that the abolition of wage labour, capital and human relations is the only solution for the working class, and that the subjection of the working-class, and the establishment of an international world community is the only answer to the problems of humanity. —MARTIN SHAW, Hail.

Days of hope—daze of disbelief

MY LOCAL shop in a mainly working class area, SW hardly sells at all. This saddens me, as I love it, while finding the Morning Star and all the silliness and hasheen 90 per cent unreadable.

I believe sales could be increased simply by always putting on the top story, not some smarmy, sensational, topical or horrific. For example, the articles about the Berlin Wall was timed up and SW (18 October) could touch anyone believing in solidarity, instead of only jingoism—K. D. HARDING, N W London.

HOW TO BOOST OUR PAPER

IN MY LOCAL shop in a mainly working class area, SW hardly sells at all. This saddens me, as I love it, while finding the Morning Star and all the silliness and hasheen 90 per cent unreadable.

I believe sales could be increased simply by always putting on the top story, not some smarmy, sensational, topical or horrific. For example, the articles about the Berlin Wall was timed up and SW (18 October) could touch anyone believing in solidarity, instead of only jingoism—K. D. HARDING, N W London.
Concorde, ‘sacrifice’ and Lord Boot

THE OTHER night I was watching tele when that boring programme Views at Ten came on. I was just about to switch off when the new reader, Gordon Moneyogue (I think that’s his name) started talking about this exciting item that caught my eye.

It was about a couple who had waited 11 years for a plane ticket. This made me think... couldn’t I remember any attempt being on strike for 11 years? I thought I’d watch and find out.

The cameras zoomed in on this bloke writing a cheque for a thousand quid. Bimsey thought, after waiting 11 years’ he’d decided maybe to buy the bloody plane instead.

Hobby

Then the reporter said this bloke was Vincent Leather (he looked like an old boot) and he was buying a boat. The locked-up million pound white elephant called Concorde, expected to be designed for the working class, so that they can nip over to the Riviera, weekends.

The reporter asked his Lordship why he’d just forked out £1,000 for the first flight. ‘A hobby, old boy’, replied his Lordship. ‘I always go on the first flight of any new plane.’ Then he scratched off a few names from the fuselage jot, giving right back to the times of the Biggles.

‘But surely your Lordship would be taking Lady Boot with him?,’ asked the reporter. ‘Of course, your Lordship. Boot.

This flight is an overnight stop at Rehovot at back again.

‘But that isn’t much for £1,000 XX,’ asked the reporter. ‘Just a joy ride old boy, just a joy ride,’ said his Lordship.—Stan SIMPSON (Herb)

In reply to T. Briccic (Pitax Point last week) councils that allow private house owners to sell their own houses and move into council houses just don’t know what it’s all about.

That’s almost as bad as the Falkenham Owners’ Association (FOA) with its 400 million pounds for ‘key workers’ which local industry has hived off into the council. It also gives houses to retired workers at a cost of £3000 or £4000—plenty for a de­posed house owner. This is a preference to people living in houses without council tax class, say, in Falkenham, Norfolk.

What we stand for

SOCIALIST WORKER is a communist newspaper that seeks to organise its supporters around the ideas of the revolutionary socialist movement.

Independent working-class action

We believe that the fights of the working class are best achieved by the independent working class. We do not believe in... and none of our editors are interested in reforming capitalism. We support the working class.

Revolution not reform

We believe in overthrowing capitalism, not reforming it as so many are trying to change it. We therefore support all struggles of workers against capitalism and the right to vote, to work and to education. The more they fight the more powerful they will become.

What the class war is all about

We believe that the working class must organise itself around the ideas of the revolutionary socialist movement. We will publish an article about this.

Join us

We welcome all who support the ideas of the revolutionary socialist movement to join our ranks.

The CONVINCION of these members of a British council of the... and the strike by the dockers in New York in the summer of 2002.

PHIL EVANS

PLA: Why Our Jobs Are Threatened

By Michael Ferr NASD

WE MUST all give a year for the Port—more productivity, no industrial disputes, an end to restrictive practices and more redundancies.

That was the message last week to 300 representatives of the Port of London Authority— including representatives of the dockers—from John Gaidney, Director of Manpower, to their local MP, Trevor Llewellyn, who met to discuss and assess the state of their industry.

The London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) has been accused of having a “no union, no work” policy, which has led to the closure of the PLA.

DO YOU LEAVE THE NATIONAL UNION TO HOLD IN YOUR FACTORY?

Gandhi minister pelted with eggs

Abhorrently, a south Indian minister, Subramanya, was pelted with eggs by a group of workers.

The minister was on his way to address a meeting in South Asia when the incident occurred.

SOCIALIST WORKER GUIDE TO WORKPLACE SURVIVAL: No. 10

DON’T LET THE NATIONAL UNION TAKE HOLD IN YOUR FACTORY.

About 1000 people, mainly mem­

bering of the Indian Workers’ Associa­
tion, took part in the demonstration.

They were demanding the resigna­
tion of the minister and an end to the usage of religious symbols.

The protesters were so angry that they smashed windows and threw eggs at the minister's car.

The minister was later forced to leave the area.

The incident has sparked outrage in the country.

The minister has since apologised for any inconvenience caused.

Join us

Welcome to the STRUGGLE for SOCIALISM

Become a Socialist Worker Supporter—fill in the form on page three.
**Walls 1400 ordered back by TGWU full-timers**

by Jim McGann, deputy convener, ACTS

NEW YORK: Transport Union officials have instructed 1400 strikers to return to work after just over a week's strike, leaving the company with just 100 men on the job. The company refused to put the job on hold and pay the union's wages, saying that wages are paid to anyone who is not on the job. The TGWU and some ACTS members refused to return to work.

**CENTRAL HALL**

Transport Workers Union International Branch members at the TAV of the London in Ealing Square, the Heathrow Branch, under the auspices of the TGWU, have been ordered by their branch to return to work. They have been told that the strike will be continued as long as the company continues to refuse to negotiate.

**PICTURE**

Christina, a TGWU member and a member of the strike committee, said: "We're not going to give up. We're going to fight for our rights and we're not going to let the company get away with what they've been doing."

**Alcoa strike on strike**

SOUTH WALES: The strike of 500 workers to save the jobs of 29 employees at the huge Alcoa rolling mill in construction site near Swansea is now in its 11th day. The site is completely idle, and press reports of more than 100 arrests have been circulating.

The 29 were arrested two weeks ago at a meeting and a half-hour break held by the Workers' Union (WU), an electrical contractor. Among the 29 was the shop steward, who is also secretary of the joint shop stewards' committee.

The electricians had just won a 35%-to-47% wage increase. They had set up a joint shop stewards' committee which brought together the interest of all the construction workers on site.

The committee established a wonderful spirit of solidarity and militancy throughout the site.

Up to now, the company has granted only the 'minimum wage', which is a bit higher. They have offered to take the workers back and work six days a week, but they are not coming in.

But the workers will not go up the strike unless they get a guarantee that the 72 men will not face the same of all new electrical jobs—which will become available shortly.

This is a crucial strike for the principle of the right to work. If the strike fails on 29—and they can win if the strike that's solid.

Contributions to the strike fund are urgently requested from building workers all over the country. Support to: J. S. Stevenson, 4 Carlton Terrace, Swansea.

**LEN BLOOD, a leading member of the TGWU, stands for the Engineers Charter candidate in the coming Engineering Union election for assistant general secretary.**

The vacancy arises on the retirement of Arthur Roberts, the first of the two AUEW assistant general secretaries. The election will be in late October.

Voters are still being counted in the subscription ballots, which were distributed to engineers on which the Engineers' Charter Bill was voted for or against. The ballot was won by the AUEW Union, which has been criticized for not being open to members of all parties. The result of the ballot is expected to be announced shortly.

Len Blood is a member of the Australian Workers' Union and has been secretary of the union for the past five years.

He is also a member of the International Socialists and has been a fighter for his class.

Len was a shop steward at Ford Halewood and a member of the strike committee during the eight-week strike in 1969 and the 14-week strike in 1971. He was also a member of the National Union of Street, Building and Allied Trades (NUSBAT), which was part of the GEC, where he became secretary of the AUEW Local 1400.

He was a member of the executive committee of the AUEW Local 1400 in the 1980s and was a member of the policy committee.

The problem is that the present leadership of the union won't listen to its members. They don't want to fight for us. They want to fight for their jobs.

We were 13000 at the rank and file meeting, but they were won over by the leadership."
Unemployed builders plan action

by Ray Storey, (GMWU) secretary, Unemployed Workers Action Committee.

SOUTH LONDON: An action committee has been elected after weekly meetings of unemployed workers outside Charlton's Thames Barrier site. The single consistent demand coming from the meetings is for a complete ban on overtime on the site, and the employment of extra men.

The committee met for the first time on the site, but only 26 on the nightshift. By the morning the number had risen to fully 150-hour shifts. Make that three eight-hour shifts, plus the morning of the proposed 600.

The committee has now been met, by the present 100 missing jobs will have been filled.

We've asked to put our case to the employers and we intend to continue our meetings of workers on the site. As yet we've had no reply.

Our committee has also issued a statement condemning the use of strikebreakers and CEU branches in the area, asking them to co-operate with the work of overtime while 1 per cent are on the dole, and to effectively reduce the number of men working on the Thames Barrier site.

But we have two weaknesses. Firstly, most of the unemployed men at the meetings are working on the site, so thinking that this is a sectional issue is a mistake. Secondly, we have not yet won the support of any rank and file body in the area, linking together, shop stewards committees, branches and district committees with the full support of the workers. That is work that can be done.

We are asking unemployed workers on our own, mainly from our union, but we've also had a call and the campaign is going to continue.

300 picket Lovells

NORTH LONDON — 300 building workers from London sites formed a picket outside the firm's new building on the Caldor Road site last Thursday. The picketing was by the Lovell's shop stewards at Lovell's Guildford Street site, who are demanding a return to work for a month over the sack of 24 men.

by Peter Bain, TGWU shop steward, Chrysler Linwood

WHEN the boss of one of America's biggest corporations has to come across Britain to negotiate secret talks with Harold Wilson you can be sure he's got sucking on his mind.

Richard. Chrysler's top dog, made his threat to pull out of Britain after there was a meeting of Chrysler shop stewards in Linwood last Wednesday. At this meeting we had a report from the Chrysler Combine's meeting with Chrysler UK deputy managing director Peter Griffin. He has refused to give long-term work orders, which is a breach of his 'Early Retirement Programme'.

Chairman of the Chrysler combine shop stewards committee, wanted us to promote for a better deal for Chrysler with the £35 million it had requested to build a new model.

SOCIALIST

But the stewards spoke of Chrysler's rationalisation policy. Its European expansion plans based on Spain. Where it's a matter to strike -- and France, where the Chrysler subsidiary Simca, has a company union. Chrysler has been accused of pernicious financial miracles with its Swiss subsidiary and it has already received tens of millions from public funds.

An attempt to carry recommendations of the committee's over the head of the board. The Combine therefore refused to discuss the statement. There is another meeting in the evening.

A visit to Carpey's recommendation was then made, calling for a clear line from the board. The board can only be saved, and the head of the board, if the government and that the government won't force to guarantee our jobs, then at least let the model, thousands of jobs would go.

This amendment was defeated by 200 votes at 50 to the shop stewards' meeting. The argument used against it was that it would be 'unlawful' and 'unlawful' to do so. Then came the bombshell threats which were aimed straight at the shop stewards' committee. Chrysler's perspective is to build 'in Britain' -- it threatens no reverse production outside Britain. The new French-built 2.7-litre V8 engine for the new Avenger was launched on the British market since the Avenger in 1970.

Crisis in the Motor Industry

National Rank and File Meeting

Saturday 15 November, Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham

11.30am: The Crisis — Introduced by Willie Lee, AUEW senior shop steward, Chrysler Linwood, and Whip. Ian,溃疡 chief steward, Alfreton Road Chrysler engine plant, Detroit, USA.

2.30pm: Workers' Participation — Introduced by Frank Hendrickson, CHARDGWU steward, Leyland Trucks, Lancashire.

3.30pm: Rank and File Resistance — Introduced by Barry Coffin, FCAFLT, Stafford. National meeting ends: 4.30pm.

Creditworth: 50p at door for trade unionists working in the industry.

Rank and File Organising Committee, 46 Prince George Road, London N16

Woodhead workers: we fight closure

by Otto support of the Engineers Charter.

WOODHEAD: Woodhead are planning to close down their crazy safety factory in Ottesta, Devon — if plans are carried through on the basis of redundancies.

The Press office at the factory, said: 'There's no doubt they're going to close the factory. Through our action this year we've won £1.6 million, and we've justified for us, the whole Woodhead combine. That's what we've done. If it's not possible to make a profit, we're just losing. Everything the workers' have won.'

Local TGWU official Hugh Wyper, said: 'It's not true that we've walked out of our work. We appeal to workers in the industry who normally work with Woodhead's products or stockshopers, to let us know immediately if there's any attempt to substitute another make.'

WORLD WORKERS WIN AT TRIBUNAL

GLASGOW: A tribunal ruled last week that Woodhead's unfairly dismissed toм of the workforce should be reinstated and get £1,000,000 compensation.

The tribunal ruled that a section of the 130 workers involved in our action were the test case for the 130 workers involved in the tribunal and the other workers involved. Local TGWU official Hugh Wyper, said: 'It's true, we've walked out of our work. We appeal to workers in the industry who normally work with Woodhead's products or stockshopers, to let us know immediately if there's any attempt to substitute another make.'

The whole year of the scandal is going to be hit. Will we vote, our actions will be hit by the workers, and that includes those who are unemployed.
500 at Tomlinson meeting

TUC chief Murray: a slaming letter to Ricky Tomlinson

Pathetic, Murray

SHREWSBURY PICKET TOLD: BUT WE DID OUR BEST...

TUC GENERAL SECRETARY Len Murray has written a pitiful reply to a letter from Shrewsbury picket Ricky Tomlinson asking him how he could sleep at night while Mr Warren was still in jail.

In the letter, refused exclusively to Socialist Worker this week, Murray writes:

'I can well appreciate that your own experiences and friendship with Mr Warren have led to a feeling of frustration about the present situation.

'But it is completely wrong for you to imply that our attempts to secure his release have been half hearted or insincere.'

He adds: 'You know that we have met the Home Secretary four times and the Prime Minister to make every demand to be granted, but regrettably so far without success.

'In the last, we had hoped that parole would be granted as in your case, but this apparently will not now be possible until at least May next year.'

'It's clear the only form of action Murray can envisage is lobbying Home Secretary Roy Jenkins. Murray hastens to add that if 'further steps were practicable' and 'would have a chance of success', then they would 'receive serious attention'.

'It could well be that the next decisive form of action entertained by the TUC General Council is prayer.'

THE PRICE of PROFIT

Some of the 500 people who packed East Ham Town Hall on Tuesday night—and gave the Right to Work campaign in London a massive boost. The meeting, chaired by Royal Docks shop steward Michael Fern, heard five speeches from Ricky Tomlinson, the Shrewsbury picket, Bill Freeman, Sew, a London print militant.

THE DEATH of five steel-workers at British Steel's Appleby-Frodingham plant this week came as no surprise to the working community of Scunthorpe.

When the nearby Flixborough plant went up last year, killing 58 men, many felt sure it was the steel plant that had blown.

The hazards of working in Appleby-Frodingham are so well known locally that workers have run their lives left for 'cleaner, safer' jobs at Flixborough.

The men who died were involved in moving molten metal, perhaps the biggest single hazard in steel. Complaints about BSC's methods—about inadequate montages and bogies—are legion.

The dead men join the fast-growing list of 'industrial fatalities'. Ten construction workers were killed building the new BSC Anchor complex up the road.

And far to the north last weekend, three rig workers were killed in an explosion—just days before the 'celebrations' over BF's first barrel output.

Some of the deaths attract publicity. They result in official expressions of regret, perhaps even a committee of inquiry. But at soon as the niceties are out of the way, business gets back to normal. You start right back where you left off on the profitable mugging game.

From time to time, of course, the odd boss does end up in court. But the charges are so slight and the fines so derisory that you know the operation is a farce.

What's more, it's cheaper to pay a fine than to invest a safe, properly-designed equipment.

This was well illustrated at Billericay Magistrates Court in Essex last week. In the dock was Land Reclamation, owners of the Pitsa tip.

Period

The firm, charged with offences which caused the death of waste disposal driver Thomas Carroll, were fined £150.

Mrs Carroll has an official expression of regret to see her through the rest of her life. The widows at Appleby-Frodingham can expect the same.

Leyland 'participation': The ugly truth

THE BRITISH Leyland workers' participation agreement signed last week involves the most unequal deal between management and top union men.

Some workers are to be 'tailed' in 'company finance' so they are 'better equipped to understand the needs of the company.'

And the management are giving them their own little office in Leyland House, Coventry, which they will be able to travel to and use at any time.

Not that Leyland is giving anything away. The plan underlines that 'executive responsibility rests with management.'

In appendix 4 of the management document, there is a carefully worded note: 'Voting committee and council members will not vote' as it says in a clear classification. Instead, the 'chairman will generally seek to achieve the maximum areas of agreement'. The chairman will 'decide the matters of management'.

When it comes to reporting back to the shop floor things go even worse. Instead there will be an 'agreed result' drawn up by the chairman and jointly trade union representatives. Only this will be circulated and put on notice boards.

In a letter to the shop floor the shop stewards who signed the document informed the pickets back to his stewards' committee. And some did call mass meetings to allow rank and file members to express their opinions.

These proposals amount to an attempt in disguise to preserve independent trade union organisation. They must be opposed.

No more negotiations.

For bulk orders phone 01-739 2639

mixed and published by Socialist Worker's Printers Ltd ET and not for distribution without permission. Printed by Cambridge Printers, Cambridge, London £2 800. Registered at...