Steel workers’ strikes shake the BSC

No SACKINGS! NO WAGE CUTS!

NO working-class man is going to sit down and be dictated to by his employer. They always tell us to honour our agreements. Now they come and rip up our agreements and cut our wages by up to £20 a week.

Wyn Bevan, Electricians and Plumbers convenor at Port Talbot steelworks, summed up the fury which has swept through every steel town in Britain.

The steelworkers face wage cuts. They are told that 40,000 of them—just for starters—must join the dole queues.

The steelworkers of South Wales hardly match up to the ‘mindless militants’ you read about in the newspapers. They have little tradition of militant action.

Yet on Sunday at Port Talbot, they voted by 428 to seven to stay out on unofficial strike until the British Steel Corporation withdraws the wage cuts. At Treforest and Velindre, two big tinplate plants, a series of enormous mass meetings have voted almost unanimously to stop all tinplate production from Thursday afternoon.

TINPLATE

The BSC and the steel unions have had the shock of their lives. Already there is talk of ‘drawing back from the brink’. BSC spokesmen are hinting that ‘some extra concessions’ on weekend working will have to be given, especially at Port Talbot and in the tinplate plants.

Steelworkers must not be put to sleep by these half-breeds. The BSC has made its intentions clear. It intends to sack at least a fifth of its workers and to cut the wages of those who are left. The BSC bosses will not rest until they

STEEL BLACKMAIL

WHY SIRS GROVELS TO THE SIRS

have achieved these ‘savings’?

If, from time to time, they are forced to retreat from outright offensive, they may manoeuvre, as they get round the then Industry Minister Wedgewood Benn early last year, until they can attack again.

The steel unions cannot be relied upon to lead the fight back. The leaders know only one game: compromise. When employers are not prepared to compromise, the union leaders are impotent.

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LABOUR’S PROMISES? NOW YOU SEE ‘EM... NOW YOU DON’T!—page three

THE RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN—round-up page four

TWO Labour MPs agreed this week to sponsor the Right to Work Campaign. The campaign is being organised by the National Rank and File Organising Committee.

Harry Salt, MP for Glasgow Govan, wrote to the Campaign: “You can count on my support in this venture. It is a real indictment of our society, 40 years after the great unemployment marches of the 1930s, that we are once again finding ourselves in the same situation.”

The Labour Party makes great claim to the struggle carried out against unemployment in the past, but in spite of proud boasts we have been unable to overcome the deficiencies of capitalist society.”

Brian Sedgemore, MP for Luton West, wrote: “I will be pleased to have my name added as a sponsor to the Right to Work Campaign. The broad aims are right, though I wouldn’t agree with every dot and comma of your ten points.”

IRLAND: THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THE KILLINGS—pages 8-9

MPs back the Right to Work Campaign

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Torture

Frigates of the Chilean Navy were used on 11 September 1973 during the coup which overthrew Allende. They shelled working-class areas of the port of Valparaiso. Since then ships have been used as prisons and torture chambers.

The Labour government publicly denounces the Chilean torturers. And privately arms them.

Socialist Worker supporters in Teesside and Darlington have distributed an open letter to the transport, engineering and civil service union members at the depot. It explains what is going on in Chile and appeals to them to black all goods made by Chile and not to go out on strike while the Chilean torturers are still in power.

Not a word about blacking the supplies has been received from the stewards from that would-be opponent of fascism—Jack Jones, Transport Union general secretary—or from any of his full-time officials.

INSIDE

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STRIKE WAVE SEEKS SPAIN—page seven

IRELAND: THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THE KILLINGS—pages 8-9

SOCIALIST WORKER EXCLUSIVE

Navy buy spare parts for Chilean warships

by Adrian Sugar, Teesside

The British Navy is buying 11,000 spare parts for the navy in fascist Chile.

Engine room spares for diesel generators, auxiliary pumps and coolers, spares for Oberon Class submarines and O'Brien, spares for Leader Class frigates and corvettes, Type-22 frigates, and parts for the Ship Repair Centre in Scunthorpe.

The British government has yet to be asked whether the proceeds will be made by Chile and the proceeds will be used for the development of Chile's oil sector.
THE ADVENTURES
OF
SEBASTIAN FILCH

This time last year, two tragedies struck Sebastian Filch. The Stock Market fell to an index figure of 140—the lowest since the war—and Sebastian’s wife, Joan, died.

The tragedies were compounded when it was later revealed that Aunt Janine had left her during Sebastian a mere £3,500. The post—£23,650—went to Battersea Dogs Home.

But Sebastian kept his head. He invested his money—£8,500 in four companies—ICI, Marks and Spencer, Tate and Lyle and Ladbroke. His stockbrokers told him that ICI could be a good investment because they had a monopoly, Marks and Spencer because they exploited their suppliers, Tate and Lyle because they enjoyed European patents, and Ladbroke because they nuanced trade deals.

GILTS

Last week there was a miracle. The Stock Exchange index went over 400 for the first time since 1973. Sebastian sold the shares he’d bought for £8,500 last year. He was paid £25,600. He quietly invested the money in gilt—this is, he loaned it to the government. Now he’s assured an annual income of interest alone of £3120 per year. That’s £60 a week—from the taxpayers.

For doing absolutely nothing, he’s got a lucky break. Sebastian will get slightly more than the average wage that these heavily industrial workers get for an average of 47 hours of hard work a week.

STEEL BLACKMAIL!

Here’s what BSC want the union to sign

by Margaret Renn

The British Steel Corporation and the steel unions drew up a discussion document last week in which they have already been signed by BSC. They have given the unions two weeks to sign it. What does the document mean to steelworkers?

There are some examples:

Paragraph 1: The Corporation and the Steel Committee (union leaders) affirm that significant reductions in manpower have to be made. The scale of the reductions which is needed is such that very significant changes in the organisation and structure of work will be required.

Which means fewer men—44,000 fewer, to be exact—and more shift working.

Para 2: After jobs have been declared redundant it is the Corporation’s intention that if the number of workers has not been reduced below 12 weeks, other redundancy measures will have to be applied.

Each time redundancies are called for, BSC will give the steelworkers 12 weeks to leave of their own accord. That’s called voluntary redundancy. If the voluntary redundancies are not accepted, or enough men don’t want to put themselves out of a job, BSC will sack them anyway.

BAN THE CANEL!

Schoolkids walk out over equal rights

MORE THAN 200 schoolkids walked out of Heath Comprehensive in Newcastle upon Tyne last Thursday. "Ban the cane! Equal rights!" they shouted at headmaster Harry Askew.

Askew had announced on the Tuesday, that he would try to get girls into the boys. He would punish both with the strap. The girls were, of course, other students were locked in their classrooms to stop them from joining in.

Askew, a local magistrate called the police. Ten panda cars, a black-marble police dog, and 30 police were on the scene. Errol Hay, aged 14, tried to stop a teacher from shaking his victim. The teacher, named I. M. I., let go of the girl and hit Errol in the mouth. Errol was arrested for assaulting the teacher. His mother, Mrs. Maureen Hay, will fight the charge in court.

Discipline has been in the school for some time.

Thrusting

Heath Comprehensive used to be a grammar school. Askew is a former grammar school head. He was against Heath becoming a comprehensive. In fact, he was a leader time helping an aristocratic household.

The parents and children of the nearby heights are anxious to know that they are not going to be sent to the school.

Heath Comprehensive is in a middle-class neighborhood. There is widespread feeling among the parents and children that the school is not a good place to be.

"We don’t want to send our children to school," they said. "We don’t want to go to school." They were told Socialist Worker. The parents from Heath Comprehensive were talking about the school. Every time the school complains about a kid you find always there is some family problem.

Mrs. Vette Bell, whose 13-year-old daughter Yvette has been suspended from school, has told Socialist Worker. The parents from Heath Comprehensive were talking about the school. Every time the school complains about a kid you find always there is some family problem.

Yvette has been branded a "destruction" by Cathy Cotton

form. BSC will use the steel unions to put pressure on the shop floor.

Para 5: The steel unions have agreed actively to support management in an economic sense in order to minimize beneficial strikes. BSC will use the steel unions to put pressure on the shop floor.

Para 7: Both the Corporation and the Steel Committee have agreed in principle to the joint management to cut down to 4,000 people and the adoption of the arrangements agreed above. During the next few weeks, the detailed assembly of these arrangements will be worked out.

Once the agreement has been signed it will be four weeks before the cuts will be implemented. They will be put into effect from now on the fate of thousands of steelworkers jobs will be decided.
How the CIA spent £3 million on politicians

THE American intelligence agency, the CIA, has been receiving considerable publicity since the shooting of one of its agents in Athens a fortnight ago. The US Agency has been given a full military honours last week, in the presence of President Ford.

But less publicised has been the issue by the British press to what the CIA has been paying out to its agents. The New York Times revealed on 7 January that the Agency had paid three million dollars in secret funds to political parties in the present government countries.

CIA director William Colby briefed two Congressional committees last month on the Agency's programme of covert support for non-communist groups in the region. The New York Times revealed that the three million dollar figure had been arrived at after consultations with various parties.

Pullahaloo

The significance of these donations is shown by comparing them with the British Labour Party's annual spending—less than £1 million. The CIA is paying for Italian politicians enough money to influence the Labour Party three times over.

But not all the politicians are benefitting. Remember all the hollabaloos last year about Portuguese Social Democratic Party leader Mario Soares defending Portuguese democracy against a 'threatened takeover' by Russian-financed Communists? Comedy? Yes, but Comanits are also being given to anti-Communist groups in the country, mostly through European socialists.

Soares's campaign for 'democracy' were in fact financed by the CIA, to try and get organised the murder of the Chadian president. And, it seems, Harold Wilson and his friends were too happy to let things happen.

THE CIA AND ANGOLA

Speaker: Philip Agee, former CIA agent.

EAST LONDON: Thursday 22 January, 5 pm, Queen's Hall, Cumbernauld Road, E13. Telephone: 249-9718.


CENTRAL LONDON: Thursday 5 February, 6 pm, Fraser House, 71 Eaton Road, London NW1.

U.S. was the first to start war moves in Angola

THE press described the failure of the Organisation of African Unity meeting in Addis Ababa yesterday at the weekend to call a clear line on Angola as a defeat for the Russians. In fact it was a victory for the South African government, according to the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

As the African premiers met, further proof emerged that South Africa and the CIA are the two main protagonists in the movement to take control of South Africa from the MPLA. The United States and the CIA have been leading the movement, with United States support from the MPLA forces.

The Observer newspaper confirmed last week that US State Department claims that the armament carrier Independence was in the Mediterranean, not heading for Angola, were false. It estimated that there were 1000 to 2000 South African troops in Angola, not 1000 as previously thought. It suggested that there were 3000 mercenaries, equipped with South African armoured cars. Finally, The Observer pointed out that while the Americans have beenเริ่มวิ่งเร็วขึ้น in the war, Washington has taken the lead in the war.

The situation is that in Angola is simple. It is to be run by a regime based on the needs and wishes of the local population. This is to be an important factor in the fight against apartheid, 1983 & 1984. The article in the Times of London takes up the idea that the government in power in the fight against apartheid is a quick way to achieve the co-operation of the United States government in the fight against apartheid.

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The third article in our series on past struggles against unemployment

CONTINGENTS poured in until Whitehall became a dense mass of unemployed workers, some of them wearing their war decorations. The crowd was quite orderly and there was singing and cheering.

Then suddenly mounted and foot police began to charge into the crowd in an effort to clear Whitehall. We were compelled to fight back at the police, or simply stand still and be clubbed down.

A roar of anger rose from the workers as they swayed backward and forward, for many of them in front of the police.
ONE of the richest men in Britain is preparing to wreck the lives of 1,400 workers and their families at Thorn Electrical Industries, according to Dr. Charles Radford, GMUW convener in the factory. "If anyone thinks we're kidding, they've got another think coming!"

Last Friday, as the workers assembled for the announcement of the redundancies, they were told to 'hold their horses' while the document circulated by management. The confusion was compounded when the document itself was not delivered to the workforce. A week later, the announcement of the redundancies was made, to the fury of the workers, who were left to face the prospect of job loss and financial ruin.

"But this is not the first time we've been left hanging," said Terry, a junior worker. "We're not going to be around to suffer again."

Thorn Electrical Industries, based in Skelmersdale, has been in decline for some time. The redundancies were announced after the company was forced to close one of its factories. The remaining workforce is expected to be transferred to the plants in Manchester and Wrexham.

Moderation, cooperation, voluntary redundancy... Did they help?

EVER since Thorn started whining about their prospects, orders at Skelmersdale have been on a downward spiral. In December 1976, it was announced that over 200 workers would be made redundant. This figure has now risen to 1,400, as the company attempts to cut costs and improve its profitability. The move has been met with protests from the workforce, who see it as a betrayal by their employer.

"It's not just about money," said John, a worker for 10 years. "It's about the future of our community."

Import controls? And how many jobs have they saved?

MANY workers at Thorn blame Japanese imports of television tubes for their plight. They accuse the Japanese of dumping cheap tubes on the British market.

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RAISE FUNDS WHERE YOU WORK FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN

Everyone who supports the Right to Work Campaign can raise money by taking a football card around their workplace or workmates. Please £1 in a week—cards from local Right to Work Co-ordinators can request. Right to Work. 4 Prince George Road, London, N16.
What about violence?

REVOLUTIONARY socialists talk about arming the working class, writes a reader from Manchester.

'It criticised Allende's failure to do so in Chile. But, if we are to place our faith in an armed working class, the scene in the United States, where guns are freely available to all citizens, looks pretty dismal. The fire-power of the capitalists is undoubtedly greater than that of the masses.'

This letter raises a number of important issues which I will discuss over the next week or two.

First of all, it would be a very satisfactory state of affairs indeed if political and social problems could be solved without resort to violence at all. If only because—as we read says—the capitalists have most of the fire-power.

Unfortunately, we do not live in that kind of world. We live in a world in which the threat of violence is normal and habitual mode of operation of all the various ruling groups.

Let us be clear just what this means and what it means now.

It does not mean that most regimes commonly use troops against their populations as a matter of course. A regime that does this—as the British government does in Northern Ireland—is in a state of crisis in at least part of its territory.

Normally, the most powerful means by which systems of privilege and inequality are maintained is 'breadth' or 'bigness' of the system. Sociologists politely call it: 'the power of ideas' imposed on the upper classes which are drummed into the rest of us day in and day out. This, supplemented by the fairly low-level selective violence of police forces plus judges, pentards and paid gofers.

But every state, without exception, maintains the means of violence on a far scale—for political ends.

There isn't much hypocrisy about this. All sorts of politicians, preachers and pundits deplore 'the use of violence for political ends'—by others.

For war

The very same people enthusiastically support the armed forces of their own states. Armies (and Navies and Air Forces) exist, in the last resort, to undertake military operations against foreign or domestic opponents of the state. They exist to make war. That is what they are for. Armies are trained, armed and equipped for.

Of course, the rulers of nearly every state claim that their forces exist to prevent war by deterring.

This amounts to no more than saying that, though they hope the threat of violence will suffice, they are willing and able to fight for what they regard as their vital interests.

New war is undertaken for definite political aims.

War, as the famous German military theorist von Clausewitz, who predicts, by the way, that the violence will suffice, is an act of violence intended to control our opponent to fulfill our will.

Nasty

Often the violence is quite limited. British governments have fought a whole series of nasty little colonial wars since the end of the Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, Aden and so on—to try to keep out rival colonial powers and to ensure that the territories which they could well survive without, which in fact they would rather be rid of, do not fall into the hands of their opponents.

It would be madness to imagine that our ruling class, with its long record of large-scale resort to armed violence all over the world, would not think twice about using its armed forces to be deprived of its home bases in the Arab nation and capital of the socialist revolution, that it may be, or in the Latin American community, by which it would lose a great deal of its power of control abroad. The British army will find no lack of candidates in the Arab community for General Pinheiro or General Franco. It is not necessary to say that they will be able to do so without making a clean break from the other side.

Terrorism is another point from the other side.

We would prefer a peaceful transition to socialism, but the decision does not rest with us.

Secondevs out—but for how long?

IT MUST have been a wrench for Britain's Ambassador in Chile, Mr. Reynolda, when he was recently recalled after the torture and murder of Dr. Salvador Allende's government.

On the first anniversary of the bloody coup, an advert sponsored by the British Chamber of Commerce in Chile appeared in El Mercurio, a leading business newspaper. It was grandly entitled 'the honourable Santy' on their first year of power.

And the Chamber's secretary at that time: 'That's right ... Mr. Reynolda's no loss.'

TELEVISION has finally come to South Africa. Why the long delay? Was the government not afraid that the people might expect from supporters of that monument to morality, called apartheid, feared its power to corrupt and pervert—blocks, that is.

A former Minister, Dr. Albert Hertzog, once claimed that an African "housewife" was an old hand and knew polishing the drawing room floor. He looked up to see a scantily dressed white woman on telly, he immediately "lush upstairs and rape the madam."

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LAST WEEK's massacre of eleven Protestants and five Catholics led the Daily Mirror to describe the situation in Northern Ireland as one which could not be controlled, except by the Nazi SS. As if in direct response, the Labour government dispatched the nearest equivalent to the Special Air Service.

Despite denials, the SAS have been active in Northern Ireland before. For example:

MAY 1972: Patrick McVeigh, standing with four companions in Andersontown area of Belfast, died when 'civilians' landed out of passing car and raked them with sub-machine gun fire. Army admitted civilians were in fact, soldiers but refused to produce them or name their regiment.

JUNE 1972: Three men seriously wounded by Thompson sub-machine gun fired from passing car in Belfast. Almost immediately, random police patrol stopped car—and arrested Captain James Alastair McGregor, MC, veteran of Aden. He was charged with unlawful possession of a firearm. (Officially, no British Army unit is issued with Thompsons.) A judge ended this embarrassing affair by dismissing the case on a technicality.

SEPTEMBER 1972: Daniel Rooney, 18, killed by shots from 'civilians' car, later admitted to be army surveillance vehicle.

Similar examples abound. The latest to emerge concerns Alther Baker, now serving life for the murder of John Cumberbatch in 1975. Baker, who led a UDA murder squad, now claims that at the time he was an ascending member of the UDA.

A native of Belfast, he joined the Royal Irish Rifles in 1961, with a character reference from Edlen Panyer, wife of the UDA leader.

He says he was admitted to the SAS in those six months after October, including a spell at Fort Worth, Texas, and then served in the Persian Gulf.

He appeared in Belfast in June 1972, where Becker told the UDA he had devised a plan to kidnap and murder an informer, resulting in the killing of the former gang man he was in regular contact with a 'fascist' officer.

Getting tough, Martin.

TOP NAD Martin Webster is in trouble.

Big trouble. Hard on the heels of the split in the National Front—which left the fascist in the bastion of its wilderness—comes another. The NF Association is more than a little interested in the current spat between Becker and the NAD leader. Nielsens the UDA believe he is splitting his own movement into two, and within Britain—and have a murder contract out to shot him up.

SAS: Special Armed Savages...

Garnier Tad, the plain goat...

Plain truth

IT'S CALLED The Plain Truth and, like all such non-political rip-roaring magazines, it is nothing of the sort. Its claim to fame is 400,000 copies in Britain and its FPI is published by the Worldwide Church of God, PO Box 11, Burbank, California, an organization headed by one of the Armstrong family...

Armstrong's son, Philip Tad, owns the Los Angeles business of shaking up the group and getting them in line. Somehow, too, it is America that gets this little news.

As for this group, according to Armstrong, the plain goat is for this country. Apparently, Garnier Tad has recently been discovered at the tables of Las Vegas, playing dice for the good old country.

Further shocking are the other revelations that, despite Herber's own claims, he is a dondey, having purchased a house, and has also been married, his recent wife, with a persistence of being at the position, has been associated with the National Front. Garnier Tad has a long record of association with the National Front.

More fascinating, many of the people involved in this case, including the former National Front leader, have been arrested and charged. The case is currently being heard by a jury.

Even more, the former leader has been charged with the murder of a police officer. Whether or not he has been found guilty is not yet known.

For 18 months after the announced Fascism, the revolutionary underground had been growing. But now it seems to have dried up.

Then, on 25 November, it suffered its first major defeat. An abortive coup attempt in Chile failed, leaving the Chilean government in control.

Why did this happen? Does it mean that the political struggle in Chile would become the only country on the political agenda?

This important new pamphlet explains what went wrong—and what needs to be done to put Portugal back on the road to socialism...

Portugal

The Labour Party of the 20th Century

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Strikes wave sweeps Spain

THE REGIME of Franco's successor in Spain, King Juan Carlos, is being shaken to its roots by a massive strike wave.

In Madrid, more than 50,000 workers have staged a two-day strike, including those at Standard Electric. FIT, Kelvinator, Siemens, Bosch, Philips, and the aircraft manufacturer CASA.

They have been fighting for the right to organise and against a legal wage freeze.

Last Friday 10,000 workers marched in support of the Chrysler struggle. Numbers of the strike have been boosted by demands from the trade union federations that Organised the strike have also been boosted. Among them are six from Chrysler.

£6.50 a day

But the struggle is not confined to Madrid. In Barcelona on Wednesday seven hundred agricultural workers in Palma de Mallorca demonstrated against rising unemployment and demanded a minimum wage of 650 a day.

In Leganes, an industrial town near Madrid, 2,000 workers demonstrated against rising unemployment and demanded a minimum wage of 6.50 a day.

In Leganes, an industrial town near Madrid, 2000 workers demonstrated against rising unemployment and demanded a minimum wage of 650 a day.

In Madrid and Valladolid there have been on strike, and construction workers in the capital went on the point of walking out. In Madrid the metal workers at the key Enmaesa steel works are on strike, and 600 shipbuilding workers in Valencia are locked out.

An impressive degree of solidarity was shown in Madrid when people refused to use the buses laid on to break the underground strike.

Fear with the massive upsurge of working class militancy, the Juan Carlos regime has reacted with all the brutality of Franco.

Troops were used to attempt to break the Metro strike, the riot police have used batons and tear gas every day in Madrid to break up demonstrations and meetings of workers.

Workers trying to hold mass meetings in church, the only place in Spain where gatherings of more than a few people are illegal, have been evicted and beaten up.

Franto may be dead, but the spirit of the regime he created lives on.

WHY FRANCO'S HEIR GOT A BLOODY NOSE

THE BACKGROUND to this massive strike wave is a familiar one. The new government, formed by Carlos Arias after the death of Franco, has promised reforms but are scared stiff of making any real concessions.

The arrests, the torture and the murder of militants continue. Trade unions remain illegal; workers' parties remain illegal; strikes are illegal; mass meetings are illegal. The massive police machine which kept Franco in power remains intact and armed to the teeth.

Over the last year, the government have held down wage rises and allowed unemployment to rocket.

Mrs. Gandhi: 40,000 seized - in one day

In JUST 24 hours, 40,000 Indian workers were rounded up and flung into jail last week.

Their crime was to demand their annual bonuses. They have no right of appeal.

Mrs. Gandhi's regime now has 100,000 political prisoners to its credit.

Having secured her position by the murder of all opposition elements, she has got the legislature in her pocket.

The State of Emergency has been extended indefinitely, and general elections have been postponed for a year.

Every week, some basic freedom is attacked: press corps has been suspended, freedom of speech and association, including with many other rights, have been done away with.

Demonstrate Sunday 25 January Speakers Corner, Hyde Park, London. Assembly 1 pm for march to Indian High Commission.

ITUC will compete in this massive strike wave.

In the wake of this comes the attack on the working class: strikes are banned, allowances of government employees discontinued, bonus agreements have been cancelled.

Resignations are being forced through, and lock-outs cannot be easily fought because of massive repression.

Three weeks ago, the All India Trade Union Congress, which is backed by the Congress Party, got together with the government and the bosses. Despite rampant unemployment, the bosses pushed through a demand for a seven-day week. This was accepted by the ATL.

The Indian masses face a fierce and bitter struggle. With the law and the baton, Mrs. Gandhi has tried to silence them.

There is nothing left to do but to mount a solidarity campaign in Britain. The Alliance Against Dictatorship in India has been set up to protest against the erosion of civil rights and to demand the release of all political prisoners.

IS members and Chingari and Socialist Worker supporters are asked to:

Workers and students are asked to raise the issue of Indian political prisoners in their union branches. We have affiliated to the Campaign for the Release of Indian Political Prisoners—and now we need to give it our active support.

LYS

Mrs. Gandhi: now 100,000 political prisoners.
IRELAND

The only way to stop this...

TROOPS OUT OF IRELAND

By EAMONN McCANN

THEY WERE some who hoped that horror at recent events would mean in Northern Ireland to be slightly less intransigent about 'sharing power'.

But after their conference at the weekend, Paisley's Loyalist Coalition was as implacable as ever in refusing to give an inch to the Catholic minority. And they made it clear that if they do not get their way by democratic means, 'other methods' will be used.

As the same time, some experts in 'other methods' — some of the parliamentary leaders — were using the killings in Armagh as an excuse in advance for hard line paramilitary attacks on Catholics — and gaining with pleasure at the prospect.

Clearly, the Labour government is as far away as ever from solving the Irish problem. Not that Northern Ireland Secretary Marilyn Rees gives any sign of understanding this.

Paisley put his finger on an important truth about Northern Ireland when, defending his call for a return to the old-style Stormont junta, he told pressmen that 'anything else would mean the end of Ulster.'

What he meant was that to undermine sectarianism is to undermine the state itself, that Northern Ireland needs sectarianism for its very existence.

SUPER-THUGS

At least Paisley recognises the reality — unlike Rees, who still thinks by the old circle, and Harold Wilson, who expects to MPS on Monday that the way to bring tranquility to troubled areas is to send in the super-thugs of the SAS. Neither is willing to lose face.

As long as Northern Ireland exists, there will be sectarian hatred. And as long as there is sectarian hatred there will be at least the possibility of sectarian killings.

British people who throw up their hands in horror at this are either ignorant or hypocritical or both. Down through the years, British governments have stoked up sectarianism in Ireland for their own reasons.

It was the Tory government of William Pitt which, in the 1790s, first talked of the Orange Order, and the Orange Order andadianed them to put down the Catholic peasantry.

It was the British establishment politicians like Lord Randolph Churchill who, in the 1850s, used phrases like 'Orange card' even their supposed to be the Catholic as the Protestant in the State.

Thus, when Northern Ireland came into existence, Britain was able to provide it with a ready-made set of sectarian institutions. And Irish people have been suffering since as a result. There has been sectarian violence almost every decade with Catholics overwhelmingly on the receiving end.

The withdrawal of the army, more than any other possible development, would encourage that clarification. It would put the rug from under Paisley and force consideration of other options.

The Labour government can decide to stay in Ireland — which would mean a continuation of the drift to the right and no prospect of an end to the violence.

Or it can get out — which would not bring peace instantly but would at least create the pre-conditions for peace, and open up the possibility of working-class unity and an advance towards socialism.

The choice is as simple as that.

So this is 'Bandit Country'

PEOPLE in South Armagh are angry. They are angry that their area has been dubbed 'bandit country' and that they themselves have been projected as an inscrutable breed with primitive sectarian passions scathing just beneath the surface.

There is not an ounce of bigotry in this place they tell you. And, strange as it might seem, anyone knowledge of the area is derived solely from the popular press, they are speaking the truth.

WINDSSS

But a withdrawal which meant there was no British-sponsored force sustaining the state would create a new situation entirely.

There would still be violence, perhaps even very serious violence, as some Protestant leaders, including the openly fascist elements would want to fight on for a return to the Stormont-style regime.

But others, including the best elements of the working class, would realise the days of 'British Ulster', and all that went with it, were forever. They would begin to consider how to relate to their Catholic fellow-workers.

That division within the Protestant working class is already expressed — adroitly in a very concealed and per-ceived way — in the bitter dispute between Paisley and some paramilitary groups.

The UDA told him sharply this week that they are not at his beck and call. Protestant workers understand well that politicians like Paisley do not really represent their interests.

The idea that South Armagh has been a hotbed of violence since the start of the present troubles, that it welcomed war half-heartedly, is entirely groundless. It is a striking fact, for example, that in the first interment swoop, on 9 August 1971, when 342 Catholics were rounded up, not a single man was lifted or a single house searched in the area.

South Armagh was about the only part of Northern Ireland with a sizable Catholic population and not one person on the wanted list.

Violence erupted soon afterwards. Because, while there was no sectarian feeling, there was much latent nationalism in the area, and this was quickly brought to the surface by the troops drafted in to enforce the post-interment crackdown on Catholics.

People in South Armagh have never thought of themselves as British. The area was never 'planted'. Its barrows and stone vvalls had not been inside the British people as they had inside a conquered Ireland in the 17th and 18th centuries.

And indeed, if you drive south from Belfast today you can still tell at a glance where Catholic country begins. Farmland gives way to scrub.

Even those who accept the partition of Ireland are hard put to find a logical reason for the inclusion of South Armagh in the North — except that the Unionists wanted to grab as much territory as they thought they could control. And therein lies the basic reason for all the violence in the area.

The violence was continuous after late 1971,
CHOU EN-LAI

Prime minister of China who died last week, joined the newly-formed Chinese Communist Party in the early 1920s when Lenin was still alive, Stalin had just established his iron rule over the world's Communist Parties and there was still hope of workers' revolution.

As Chou dies, the Stalinist orthodoxy has long since crumbled, partly broken by the action of Chou and his associates. For the world's Communist Parties, workers' revolution is no more than talk.

The main strength of the imperialist powers, divided into petty kingdoms of warlords and gangsters, is also evident. But China has been transformed by the imperialist powers has been expelled, a new order imposed and the living standards of the masses of people greatly improved, even though the workers still do not hold power.

NATIONALIST

In the mid-1920s Chou was a leading figure in carrying out Stalin's policy of working with the nationalist Kuomintang. This was to lead to the driving of imperialism from China.

When the Communist Party successfully broke the leadership of a massive revolt of workers and peasants against the Kuomintang-linked to Chinese capitalism-terror, they looked to ways to crush their Communist followers. In 1927, Stalin, who had asked to remain in control, insisted that the Communist Party continue to act as a junior partner to the Kuomintang.

In 1926 Chou was transferred to the Proletariat. In 1927 he was arrested, his party colleagues arrested or executed. He was imprisoned in the Marcos region. In 1928 he freed the city from pro-imperialist forces. In 1931, Chou's forces overran the areas of southern China once occupied by the Kuomintang. Chiang Kai-shek was forced out of the country.

SHATTERED

Chou eventually escaped but thousands of workers were killed. The party was shattered. Its member workers were destroyed, and Stalin now insisted on a new policy that ensured they went from defeat to defeat. It meant whatever the odds against success, Chou had to struggle on for what was left of lives. The Party became a shadow of its former self. Those who began to refuse to question Stalin's orders were rewarded with still higher positions in the party leadership. The only policy the Party to survive as real force was the section led by Mao Zedong in the rural region of Kiangsi and after the Long March, in the remote area of Yenan. There Mao built up his army, led by Communist Party leaders.

Chou seems to have been Stalin's supporter against Mao. But after 1959 he always supported Mao. He has been in charge of the Communist Party of China's leading group.

MOUTHPIECE

As prime minister of the new People's Republic, Chou continued as Mao's mouthpiece, identified with the key task as to get free the productive forces of our country and begin the oppression of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism. He opposed what Mao when he attacked egalitarianism as a petty bourgeois outlook which encourages backwardness and hinders progress.

But the task of turning China into a modern industrial power proved to be more difficult than Mao and Chou had thought. An attempt to short-cut the problems, the Great Leap Forward of 1959, ended in disaster and Mao was removed from chairmanship of the Republic, although he remained chairman of the Party. Mao took the initiative again with the so-called Cultural Revolution of 1966-7.

MYSTERIOUSLY

He was born apparent, Liu Shao-chi, was removed from power. But the country's problems were not solved. The terms when Mao's next heir, Liu Piao, mysteriously died was a talk of a plot with leading generals 'to kill Mao.'

During these years Chou gained the reputation of being a mildly conservative figure who avoided involvement in the great rows of China's future but was always present in the background, as a bureaucrat who kept the system functioning. He was credited with bringing Teng Hsiao-pin back into a key position after Teng's power of after Mao's power of after the Cultural Revolution as the so-called 'capitalist roader' after Liu Shao-chi.

DEVASTATION

It was Chou who negotiated with Kissinger and invited Nixon to China while US bombers were continuing the devastation of Vietnam. It was Chou too who sent greetings to Ayub Khan of Pakistan as he directed the slaughter of the Bengalis, to Mrs Banda-rak stroke of Sri Lanka as she crushed the revolt of 1971, who sponsored the Shah of Iran or Emperor Haile Selassie, who sent aid to Holden Roberto, the CIA's stooge in Angola.

But he was no more than an instrument of policy. He presided over the modernisation of China, a serious defeat for imperialism, and the loosening of industrialisation for a quarter of a century.

But the leadership crises of Chou's last years, the counter-revolutionary foreign policy and widespread strikes in China all show that transformation was not enough. China's workers still have a battle to fight against China's successors.

NIGEL HARRIS

Is China a socialist country? If so, why does Mao win and China remain a socialist country? Could it have been otherwise? What was the Cultural Revolution? For the answers to these important questions, read Nigel Harris' in-depth analysis in IS Journal 70 (also: inc postcard) from ISJ 4, 8 Cottons Gardens, London E2 8DN
IN March 1972 the Chilean paper El Siglo wrote: "The Chilean experience is exciting the interest of the British people because in Chile in the present perspective of achieving socialism is only possible within the constitutional framework, following a path similar to Chile's."

Eighteen months later the Chilean experience proved that that path was closed.

The election and overthrow of Allende and the Popular Unity government in Chile has many lessons for socialists. It is the other side of the coin from our own experience of Labour government's "socialism"—health services cut, schools cut, housing cut, unemployment soaring, virtually all aspects of the British class struggle.

Now the SW agitprop group has produced a slide and tape show that draws the lessons of the Chilean road. It lasts 45 minutes, includes 125 slides, and is designed for IS education meetings and SW discussion groups. The sound track, made by CAST Recording, includes several Chilean socialist songs.

CHILE SLIDE SHOW: £2 hire from Rob Lumsden, 4 A 165 Parish Road, Birmingham 5. Book well in advance.

KEY CONFERENCE FOR STUDENTS UNDER ATTACK

THF funds of the Lancaster University Students' Union are to be investigated by the authorities because of payments by students' newspaper to any other—the Socialist Worker Defence Fund. This was announced shortly before Christmas.

Already North London Polytechnic Students' Union, under the threat of closure, has been closed as a result of political struggle. A fighter against the Manchester in to arrest students protesting against increasing tuition fees and the Thursday paper. Students have appealed to the National Union of Students to help other gains on the issue. It is a point to the needed for a strong fighting organisation of students—the sort that we in the National Organisation of International Students are trying to get set up.

In a few weeks time we are holding the third national delegate conference, where our policies for the year will be discussed by delegations from all local IS societies and other affiliated bodies. We will welcome, observers, with speaking rights, from all student organisations and societies interested in fighting NUS over specific issues. Discussion will include overseas students, women, international solidarity, workers' and students' rights, education cuts and unemployment, NUS, and founding NOUS.

STUDENT ORGANISATIONAL CONFERENCE Weekend 7-8 February 1974

At Lancaster University, Lancaster 2a. Delegates and observers from the 3 Colleges. Lancaster, Liverpool 6G (60p each). Observers welcome

...and WHAT'S ON

HURRY, hurry, hurry. There are still places left for the Socialist Worker rally and dinner on Saturday 16 March at 6.30 p.m. at the Meeting House, 440 Kingsway, London, £2. Late bookings may be too late—there is a limited number of places available.

Notes for What's On should be posted to reach Socialist Worker by first post on the Monday before publication. Submissions will not be accepted after the deadline.

Socialist Worker MEETINGS

CAMBRIDGE IS presents CAST Thumm Griffe meeting. This year will see the Social Labour Party at the Cambridge Arts Centre, 37, Regent Street, London, 6p.m. 9p.m. and 11p.m. 21 March, Thursday 23 January, 8 p.m. The event will be open to all.

ABERDEEN SW Readers' Meetings: Every Monday 11.15 p.m. at the United Free Church, Aberdeen. Speakers: Tony Clark and Christopher workers.

PALEYE Socialist Worker Meeting: The night of the 17.30 p.m. at the £5p.

Socialist Worker EVENTS

WHATSOEVER HAPPENED TO BLACK POWER? Black power reawakens in the United States and in Britain. Who are the American blacks who are seeing their dreams of a socialist revolution in the US? What are left-wing groups in Britain doing to combat racism and black power? Should the movement of the '60s be seen in the light of the present day? Speakers: Tony Clark and Christopher workers.

EAST LONDON SW gives its first ever film presentation in the Working Class Movement Library. The screening is of a film called "The Black Man's Fight for Freedom". The event is at the Library, 3 Rapho Road, London, 8p.m. 11 March, Thursday. The film will be shown at 7.30p.m. and will be followed by a discussion. Speakers: Tony Clark and Christopher workers.

The film is directed by the London Film Centre and is available for hire. For further information contact the Film Centre on 01-791 9772.

MADISON and friends, Kent. Any SW readers and supporters of the Labour Movement are invited to attend the screening of "The Black Man's Fight for Freedom". The event is at the Library, 3 Rapho Road, London, 8p.m. 11 March, Thursday. For further information contact the Film Centre on 01-791 9772.

PETTERBROOK STAFFORD, MARCH 17.30, London, UK. The film is directed by the London Film Centre and is available for hire. For further information contact the Film Centre on 01-791 9772.

TEAYSW SW Public Meeting: "The Labour Movement and the Black Power Movement in Britain". The event is at the Library, 3 Rapho Road, London, 8p.m. 11 March, Thursday. For further information contact the Film Centre on 01-791 9772.

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SOCIALIST Worker NEWS...
to the top
our class!
They call these children write-offs
—but just look at their poems...

RICH LUXURIES
Why did Taylor Woodrow build the hotel?
When they are done, who will live there?
who have nowhere to dwell,
The Tower Hotel is only for millionaires.
There nowhere for us to live or to play.

ON THE BOX
THURSDAY
With the present standard of TV programmes, most people are faced with two alternatives: getting down the pub, or switching on the radio. But this is not the whole story. Radio, too, has its share of dullness. The CO-OPERATIVE IDEAS (8.00pm) is a programme of interest to the left, but not to the right, of the spectrum.

FRIDAY
Yorkshire viewers can watch Local Government Week programmes among their choice of activities. One programme, which is worth watching, is the one called "Britain's Best Local Authority" (8.30pm). It's a programme which is trying to show the positive impact of local government on the community. It's a programme that should be watched by everyone who cares about the future of our local authorities.

GET THE DRIFT (BBC2) is a very funny collection of sketches and songs. Features Alex Glasgow and Henry Livings.

Scottish viewers can ask for BBC1 (8.00pm) about the life of a current account manager. "John Smith, who has been fighting for safety in the Glasgow Transport Strike, gets his break.

BUSH? (BBC1)
Want to know how the middle class sees the world? Watch "THE MIDDLE CLASS TV" (7.25pm on BBC1). Arthur Mullard and Quentin Wootton as wealthy council house tenants. RED LETTER DAY (6.00pm) is a series of plays on important days in the lives of different people. This week's play is about a middle-aged man trying to understand his marriage and his values.

TRADE UNION STUDIES (BBC1) is on again next week with more unions and industries. TV'S OPINION (6.30pm), a very dull programme on the rights and wrongs of unionism, this week features the lesson that has been taught by the most boring man in Britain.

MONDAY
HORROR (BBC2) shows us how Tanzania is fighting disease. HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY (BBC1), based on the novel of the same name—said by some to be good. BATMAN (ITV 5.20pm) is just pure, unadulterated American trash.

WEDNESDAY
Alan Patridge's OH NO ITS SELWYN FROGGITT (BBC1, 8.30pm) with Bill Maiwatt as Selwyn, looks like being a good series.

TUNE IN-AND DROP OFF
Television, he thought hopefully when she'd gone, she'd go barony if they had taken her. I'd love it if Big Black Marias came down all the streets and men got out with hitches to go in every home and shout shetking. Everybody'd go crackers. They wouldn't know what to do. There'd be a revolution. I'm sure there would.

THAT CONTEST: TV expressed by Arthur Newton, the hero of Alan Sillitoe's novel Saturday Night and Sunday Morning, is a film that could hardly be better. It must have shared in frustrated moments.

You've called a mass meeting, say, to announce the coming collapse of capitalism and when only three blokes and a ferret show up you suddenly remember there's Moseby and Winnie and they're still up replay on the box...
The sheer scope and penetration of the communications media are staggering and something that Marxists haven't fully come to terms with. Statistics just four at the size of it all: audiences of to 80 million for popular programmes: a radio or television or both in place of all 99 per cent of British homes since 1965—the average person watching 10 hours of TV a week, and so on. Granted these facts, a book calling itself Television and the Working Class ought to be important. Unfortunately, it's not.

It's not for at least two reasons. First, although part of the book seems to be an impressive survey of the literature on cybernetics (250 or so footnotes in less than 170 pages), it's a survey that's loaded. There's a heavy reliance on right-wing theorists, but not a reference anywhere to radical thinkers about the media.

ON THE BUSES
That leading means that the really penetrating, important questions about the whole set-up of television scarcely get asked never mind answered, so the book is confined to discovering the obvious and the tiresome—for example, that people in Portsmouth who consider themselves middle class claim they prefer Panorama and University Challenge to On the Buses and The Generation Game.

The second snip is that the book moves largely within the terms of a debate begun by sociologists in 1968 about the affluence worker and his allegedly increasing middle-class attitudes and values.

FADS
The authors of this book set out to discover how far workers, as they become better off, tend to adopt, characteristically middle-class attitudes towards TV and its programmes.

But the fact is that the so-called affluent worker is a bourgeois thesis that has collapsed, not just under theoretical attack, but, more importantly, under the impact of history.

The idea of ear workers as the new, stable, prosperous genre (the original study was of fishball workers in Larone) now seems a joke in a period of mass sackings and sharp rise in the unemployment rate.

To do them justice, the authors begin to realise this, so their last chapter is the best, in a kind of postscript, that they can from their earlier suggestion and admits that the entire style of life illustrated in our studies and those of other people have grown from an economic structure and an economic structure under consideration.

RUBBISH
What the book had clearly set out to establish as permanent shifts in working-class consciousness and tastes it ends by conceding as no longer than temporary fads based on a brief boom that's now gone bust.

It leaves the authors scratching their heads and offering a few confused if interesting 'maybes' in the final pages.

* Television and the Working Class, by Anthony Porper, Miles Emerson and Judy Ball (Sidon House, £2.50)
WE MUST GET THE TROOPS OUT...

THE SECTARIANISM in Ireland is as poisonous as it ever was, so the call for 'Troops in the Special Air Service' is not new. The sad fact is that it's not enough.

How can we help Irish socialists in the difficult but not impossible task of creating conditions where Protestant workers will see clearly that sectarianism is not in their own class interests?

How do we campaign in the British labour movement for industrial action, boycotts, to try to check any attempted pogroms?

We'll not manage anything if we don't first campaign against the British-chauvinism typical of calls to 'bring our boys back home'.

The ineffectiveness so far of the Socialists is the result of no opposition to the union head office. By the next Monday, we had got the firm organised, and all building workers in the union.

Then we formed a new group and have had some success in improving the pay and conditions of workers.

Rota System

Exposed - BSC's 'fantastic' accident record

Worn out

If everyone stood behind their workmates and fought for good wages for 35 hours' work, and not just talking all the time, we could have won.

I am surprised to see the Labour Party doing just the same thing.

MAGNIFICENT, SW!

ALISON is 8 and dying. Thanks to you, her life is hard-worth living.

CONGRATULATIONS, Socialist Worker. Last week's front page was great. All the readers at our factory agreed it was the best for months. That's the sort of front page we need, said one. Even non-readers were stripping off shoulders in the tea room to read it.

Let's see more coverage like that. We need to escape the misery this system inflicts on us. Only then can we begin to fight it.

We need your help to get Socialist

DURING my recent stay in England I met many JS members, all of them very keen to see a socialist revolution in my country. Portugal.

I think that some organisation should talk about life before and after the coup in a public meeting in Bedford. I wish I could express myself much better and tell your workers that what has happened in my country (we sacked the bosses seven months ago) can be done everywhere and should be done. I want to thank all JS members who make my stay as good as being at home.

I am preparing a report of the revolution in the north of Portugal in the last couple of months, and also my ideas of a mass revolutionary party in the north.

I think that JS should concentrate a bit more on the north, and not only in London. It is much better to be here.

I am very happy telling Portuguese workers of the activity of British workers and I am sure that you will be glad to help us.

MARGARIDA COSTA, Oporto, Portugal

POSTAL POINTS

FOOTNOTE to last week's article on the unemployment campaign of the Independent Workers of Great Britain (IWB), the surge of humanitarian concern among the working class has been highlighted by the emergence of Salvation Army, for instance. But this is a case of the working class now helping the working-class party. For example, in 1886, the Lord Mayor's Mansion House, the headquarters of the Salvation Army, was a centre for the unemployed workers and this was a meeting place.

CERTAIN academically-minded know-alls in the Socialist Worker office seem to me that Benjamin Disraeli could not have been Prime Minister in England if there had been an employed agitation in 1827, as stated in the article. However, if I've pointed out these pendentives, been dead for seven years. - PAUL FOOT

HOW SAD to see that Paul Foot's film on the IWB stopped short of the 1920s revolution, which was essentially a struggle against a temporary revolution of the liberals. To me, the real story of the film was the IWB and its role in the 1920s revolution. - ETHEL FREEMAN, London

I'D LIKE to answer Karen Anderson's two points. First, that she says that in the chaos of revolution 'the workers control their 'masses'. Precisely - the working class control the leadership of a revolutionary party.

Secondly, she says that in the chaos of revolution the workers need to destroy capitalism but lack the stability of a backbone that workers controlling society.

I would say that we need to destroy capitalism but lack the stability of a backbone that workers controlling society. It is not a question of workers' control of the 'masses'. - STEVE SMITH, Birmingham

HALF MOON THEATRE PRESENTS

KARTOON KLOWNS in their 90-minute socialist spectacular

EVERY weekend supports money to the Socialist Worker. Support continues for the past few weeks because of the strike. We think it's important to keep the money going.

KARTOON KLOWNS in their 90-minute socialist spectacular

MUGGINS NO LONGER SOCIALISM OR BARBARISM

KARTOON KLOWNS in their 90-minute socialist spectacular

SUNFLOWERS: Thanks for your support!

Every week you can buy 'SUNFLOWERS' for 10p.

The secret vote was the figure published for the SIS budget. - GEORGE SMITH, N London

SW Fund: Thanks for your support!

Money for the Socialist Worker Supporters Fund should be sent to the National Treasurer, Mal Norgaard at 8 Cartoon Gardens, London E2 0BN.
In the struggle for socialism

JOIN Socialist Worker

Become a Socialist Worker Supporter—fill in the form on page three.

While steelworkers all over the country are striking and demonstrating against sackings and wage cuts, their biggest union, the 120,000-member Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, is appealing to the employers. Every day it makes a new concession on weekend payments or on sackings.

This is nothing new. Throughout the union’s history, in crises and in boom, it has adopted the same posture: flat on its face before the firing squad. And apart from the 1926 General Strike, the union has never called an official strike.

The union’s executive has decided to use its power to resist the employers’ demands. In a meeting with National Alliance of Employers and Employed, the body was set up by the big engineering and steel employers to bring in direction of labour at the end of the war when the industrial truce ended. Not only did the Minister of Labour sponsor this strike-breaking anti-trade union Alliance, but Arthur Pugh, the Confederation’s assistant secretary, joined its ruling body and urged many of the employer’s list of committees.

Despite the hostility of rank and file bodies such as the National Shop Stewards Movement and the Glasgow, Manchester and Sheffield Trades and Labour Councils, Steel Confederation organisers in Sheffield, Rotherham and Penistone joined the Alliance and its executive council in London affiliated the union. Thus, they remained all through the bitter class struggle after the end of the First World War.

All the general secretaries of the Steel Confederation since Arthur Stewards have carried the policy of co-operation and conciliation with employers. Such bodies as the Metal Trades Welfare Fund, the Steel Sheath Board, the Heavy Trades Steel Negotiating Committee—joint employers and workers, it is in reality an attempt to divide the men concerned from the union.

The Confederation has never had any success in getting a closed shop agreement from the employers it controls. That the occupation of the executive is the same as when they were set up in the 1930s.

Refused

If any branch or section goes against the union’s policy of conciliation with the employers, the branch executive or secretary or即使是 the men concerned from the union.

The Confederation has never had any success in getting a closed shop agreement from the employers it controls. That the occupation of the executive is the same as when they were set up in the 1930s.

By this method five metal shop branches in Rotherham and Sheffield were brought into line when they refused to accept the Sunday Convention Working Agreement in 1944. Twenty years later, branches at Corby and Southport, as well as the executive and officials sacked because they refused to accept the closed shop agreement, now maintain that the employers follow expansion.

The union’s appeal is an attempt to divide the men concerned from the union.

The Confederation has never had any success in getting a closed shop agreement from the employers it controls. That the occupation of the executive is the same as when they were set up in the 1930s.

Against all nuclear weapons and military alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Against all forms of imperialism, including Russian imperialism.

For unconditional support to genuine national liberation movements.

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.

Against all nuclear weapons and military alliances such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Against all forms of imperialism, including Russian imperialism.

For unconditional support to genuine national liberation movements.

For the building of a mass workers’ revolutionary party, organised in the workplace, which can lead the working class to power, and for the building of a revolutionary socialist international.
CHRYSLER RIGHT TO WORK ATTACKED

THE top table of the Chrysler Stork Joint Shop Stewards Committee tried to put the boot into the Chrysler and Chrysler Right to Work Committee at Monday's stewards meeting—and almost succeeded.

The meeting was opened by Duncan Simpson, the Engineers' convenor, who complained that the Right to Work Committee, which includes Stork shop stewards, had set up an alternative platform at the Ryton mass meeting and had attempted "to intercept the meeting and dissuade workers from voting for their own shop stewards' policy." To hammer home the point, Bob Morris, Treeites' convenor, got up and said: "We have a specific policy to deal with them.

The specific policy that was referring to was the "right to work" stewards committee to have a steward from holding office for 12 years if he goes against an executive decision. This policy was incidentally, derived from the dispute at Edison in 1973 when dozens of stewards and their members used to cross the pickle bucket line.

Open and Shut

What seemed like an open-and-shut case was one of the highlights of the stewards' meeting. Duncan Simpson, the Engineers' convenor, explained that the Ryton Stork Joint Shop Stewards Committee had been invited to the Ryton mass meeting at the request of the Chrysler Stork Joint Shop Stewards Committee and had agreed to attend. However, during the meeting, the Ryton stewards were not allowed to speak on the issue of redundancies.

The meeting was closed by Ben Brereton, the convenor of the Ryton Stork Joint Shop Stewards Committee, who stated that the stewards were not allowed to speak on the issue of redundancies. He also stated that the stewards were not allowed to vote on the issue of redundancies. The stewards were not allowed to vote on the issue of redundancies.

The battle moves to the shop floor

by Gerry Jones, T&GWU standard

COVENTRY. About half the 4300 workers at the Chrysler in Coventry have walked out to protest at the way the company is forcing them to accept redundancies. The workers say they have no choice but to leave the factory as the company plans to close down the factory.

The walkout was called by the T&GWU after the company announced plans to cut 1000 jobs at the factory. The workers say they have been given no choice but to leave the factory as the company plans to close down the factory.

Victory for Isle of Grain sparks

KENT. The electricity at the Isle of Grain power station construction site has been switched on. The electricity will be used to power the construction site, which is currently being built.

The electricity at the Isle of Grain power station construction site has been switched on. The electricity will be used to power the construction site, which is currently being built.

GLASGOW seaman John Mcgill is on the dole because he tried to get his union to fight for safety standards on board ship. The union won't do it. The ship's owners sacked him.

Now he is bared from the 'pool', where he would normally expect to find another job. He told the Social Work: "I don't expect much from the ship, it's only a government agency, even though he is a long-standing and disciplined servant. But I expect my union to do something for me when the reason given for leaving me is that I called the union officials'.

John was second engineer on a 960-tonner, the St. Augustus, owned by Chandlers. He had written to the Clyde office of the United Kingdom Seamen's National Union for advice on what to do next. The union advised him to fight for his rights, but not to sue the ship's owners. John then wrote to the Clyde office of the United Kingdom Seamen's National Union for advice on what to do next. The union advised him to fight for his rights, but not to sue the ship's owners.

The Clyde office of the United Kingdom Seamen's National Union for advice on what to do next. The union advised him to fight for his rights, but not to sue the ship's owners.

Not just our struggle... it's Maidstone's

MAIDSTONE: 'It's not just us. We're all in it together,' says the Stork's right to work. The Stork's is not just a battle against Chrysler. Our story is the story of a long struggle for survival. The company has been in administration for months. The workers have no job, no money and no future. But they fight on. They will not give up. They will not be defeated.

The Stork's story is the story of a long struggle for survival. The company has been in administration for months. The workers have no job, no money and no future. But they fight on. They will not give up. They will not be defeated.

The Stork's story is the story of a long struggle for survival. The company has been in administration for months. The workers have no job, no money and no future. But they fight on. They will not give up. They will not be defeated.

Black workers plan campaign

TWENTY black members of the International Socialists in London are planning to march to the meeting of the Socialist Party of Great Britain. They are calling for a Black workers' campaign to fight for jobs in Chrysler and throughout the area.

The Socialist Party of Great Britain has a policy of supporting the struggle of black workers. They have a policy of supporting the struggle of black workers. They have a policy of supporting the struggle of black workers.

Locked-out Asians fight on

STOCKTON: Eleven Asian workers at the Craddock Ellisons in Enfield, North London have won their legal fight for reinstatement. The workers had put up a strike fund but the house owners threatened to evict them and the house was repossessed. The workers won their case and the house was returned. They are now working as a team across the country.

AINSILLE OCCUPATION TO SAVE THE JOBS

MACCLESFIELD: Workers at Ainsile Wire Products make bacon wire. It closed down last week when they decided to occupy the factory. They have barricaded themselves inside the plant which now looks like a fortress. The owners, management and one blob of their labour force have been locked out. The workers have organised a picket in front of the factory and are refusing to leave. The management has offered to sell the factory and the workers have refused to accept this. The workers are now in control of the plant and are running it as a cooperative. The management is now in negotiations with the workers to try to reach an agreement.

APPEAL

We are appealing to all former workers of the plant to join the occupation. We are also appealing to all workers to support us.

LIVERPOOL: 20 engineers and electricians are on official strike at Naylor Bakeries in a dispute over trade union recognition and the right to negotiate with management.

The strike began last November when 200 workers, who are now trying to set up a new factory, went on strike to demand better working conditions. They have been on strike for 2 weeks and are planning further action. The management has offered to negotiate with the workers but they have refused.

The strike is supported by the Liverpool Trades Council and the Merseyside Trades Council.

Blackman's lock-out

By members of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union at Blackman's Arch in Blackfriars Road, London.

By members of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union at Blackman's Arch in Blackfriars Road, London.

Newton's strike still solid

LONDON: The Manchester Evening News reported that the strike continues to be very strong. The workers are determined to win their demands and the management is determined to defeat them. The strike has been supported by the Trade Union Congress and the Labour Party.

Why the press are out for Thorne's blood

By By Anna Deanson, NUT

The National Union of Teachers is embroiled in a dispute with the government over pay and conditions. The union has called a series of strikes in protest at the government's proposals.

The press have been quick to attack the union, calling it a "junta" and a "terrorist group." The government has accused the union of being a "provo" and a "provocateur." The press have also been quick to attack the union's leaders, calling them "terrorists" and "thieves." The government has threatened to withdraw funding from the union if it continues to strike.

TEACHERS STRIKE AGAINST THE CUTS

By By Anna Deanson, NUT

The National Union of Teachers is going on strike against the government's proposals for cuts in education funding.

The strike is expected to affect schools across the country. The union has called for a strike on Monday to protest against the government's proposals for cuts in education funding.

The cuts include a 3% pay increase for teachers, a 1% pay increase for support staff, and a 1% pay increase for non-teaching staff. The cuts are expected to save the government £1.5 billion a year.

The government has said that the cuts are necessary to save money and to improve the quality of education. The union has said that the cuts are unfair and that they will harm the quality of education.

The strike is expected to cause widespread disruption to schools. The government has said that it will ensure that essential services are maintained during the strike.

Avonmouth solid

AVONMOUTH: Strikers at the Avonmouth shipyard are planning to continue their strike for a further week in protest at the closure of the shipyard.

The strike began last month when workers were told that the shipyard was to close down. The workers are demanding that the shipyard be kept open.

The government has said that it will not intervene to save the shipyard. The government has also said that it will not provide any further funding to the shipyard.

The strike has been supported by the Trade Union Congress and the Labour Party. The strike has also been supported by the Steelworkers' Union.

The strike is expected to continue for a further week. The workers are determined to win their demands and the government is determined to defeat them.

A new strike ballot is expected to be held next week.
BARBARIANS!

ONE OF BRITAIN'S biggest local authorities is planning to cast several hundreds of its poorest people into permanent darkness and cold.

Orders for economy have come from the senior officials at Strathclyde Regional Council, which covers half of Scotland, to stop payments to poor families for light, heat and electricity.

In many cases payment has been stopped, even though the cheques for electricity bills have already been made out! As a result, more than 1000 families in Strathclyde will have their electricity cut off.

A memorandum written on 19 December by W. Williams, the council's 'finance officer', is calling for drastic cuts on spending on poor families who sought relief from the council.

This relief is only given if the council can save money. The council states that it is in the best interests of the ratepayers.

Memorandum

In the past, the council's logic was simple: people existed because they couldn't pay the bills; they should be rehoused — so it cost the council less. But now it is cutting off electricity meant taking children off cars — so it is cheaper to cut the bills for the council to pay the electricity bill.

The council made available sums for rent and electricity known as S12. But the memorandum says the council's average S12 spending for the next year is £29.40 a month. So in the past 12 months, for the next 12 months.

Hence the words written to every family on the council's front page: 'NO ELECTRICITY TO BE USED UNLESS RECEIVED FOR ELDERS OR BABIES.'

A social worker in Glasgow told 'Socialist Worker', 'This means we can only pay the bills for very old people or for families with new-born babies. But most people whose bills we pay wouldn't fall into these categories.

Dispossessed

Almost all the cases I deal with are large families from the poorest sections, all of them unemployed. These people are just going to be cut off.

Electricty is becoming one of our greatest problems. In many Glasgow council estates, the bills are as high as the rent.

Social and council workers must root out the full strength of their trade unions any attempt to do this will just result in damage to the old, the sick and the dispossessed under their care.

Electricity boards should be nationalised and de-signed. Cutting off electricity because the bill can't be paid must not be tolerated.

If these cuts are accepted, we will be back in the dark ages.

SHIVERING IN THE DARK...

THE BOMBHELL from Glasgow social services is spreading across the country. This week the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaus issued a

Council orders cuts — and hundreds of poor families face winter in the cold

pamphlet with horrifying examples of the tyrannical

Action needed to stop the cuts

Councils are not the only organisations that are cutting off poor families. In London, the council in Hackney is also cutting off electricity.

A letter from the council, sent to a family of four, states: "You are not entitled to electricity unless you pay the full amount due to the council."

A family of four, living on £20 a week, were told to pay £20 a month for electricity. They were given a £20 note and told to get the money from friends or relatives.

This is the latest in a series of cuts in the council's spending on poor families.

A family of four, living on £20 a week, was told to pay £20 a month for electricity. They were given a £20 note and told to get the money from friends or relatives.

By Maggie Jones

THE ANGRY reception for Glasgow City councillors at they arrived at the annual Civic Ball last Friday.

The demonstrators were enraged that they are expected to accept cuts in education, health and social services while 280 local 'bigwigs' enjoyed the £600 night out on the council.

The local Labour Party passed a resolution forbidding their councillors to attend the banquet, but only one or two paid heed. The rest were greeted with shouts of 'Scab!'

The car of Sally Oppenheim, the local Tory MP, collided with another car as they scrambled to get to the door.

Maggie Jones

That's enough from you, my boy: Gloucester's mayor gets a little upset at being exposed...

CARDIFF

CARDIFF busmen strike

CARDIFF: After three months of fruitless discussions, Cardiff City bus strike began at midnight on Monday. The delivery men, ignoring their own dispute procedure, introduced a revised roster, taking in a notably narrower and shorter Blanche St. Broadway junction.

Angry local residents regard the area as a death trap, even without the buses. They recently signed the Council petition against the reduced service and petitioned for the re-opening of the route to Blanche St.

So far, no action has been taken by the City Council.

The busmen said: 'We are doing as we have been told by the Transport Union.' Cardiff Transport Union secretary said: 'The strike will continue as long as transport unions stick to the City Council decision.'