Tory legal attacks

No. 30 MARCH 1982 20p

INSIDE: NICARAGUA DEBATE WITH IRANIAN SOCIALISTS

TORTURERS SOLIDARITY ACTION FOR CLOSESHOP WORKERS

The Tories are pushing ahead with the second instalment of their campaign to undermine the effective Trade Union Bill. Tebbit's Employment Bill will...
CENTRAL SOCIALIST ORGANISER

The sharp right turn in the Labour Party leadership reflects a serious slump in membership from 358,560 in 1980 to 300,853 in 1981. The most optimistic interpretation Labour Weekly could put on the figures is a real loss of 21,705. But the long projected influx of aroused militants has not materialized. In fact, the party is now annually losing the level of class struggle as measured in strike figures and union membership, according to the Central Statistical Office. This is because of the Labour Party's support of the ‘new’ or ‘revisionist’ Left. Socialist Organiser’s chief ideologue John O'Mahoney, under pressure from the Right, now denies that Labour’s support for the ‘Left’ in the struggle against Fascist and Bonapartist attack with a general commitment to, “deepen, develop and preserve” democracy. In general, Marxists certainly define all democratic rights and the democratic constitution forms themselves against fascist or Bonapartist assault. But this implies no general or permanent programme of democratic development. The Transitional Programme itself made this clear. “Of course, this does not mean that the Fourth International rejects democratic slogans as a means of socialist revolution and bourgeois democracy. On the contrary, such slogans at certain moments can play a serious role. But the formula of democracy (freedom of the press, etc.) as a means for us only incidental or apologetic slogans is in the industrialist, bureaucratic workers, ‘democratic socialist’ and their leaders, in Trotsky’s specific action programme is predicated on the fact that the ruling class is set upon the suppression of all referred Suppression of the democratic regime” (Trotsky).

FALSIFYING TROTSKY’S ACTION PROGRAMME

The O’Mahoney article grossly distorts this quotation by obscuring the political content of the united front to defend democracy — securing the defence of power from the exploiters. To win the majority of the workers and peasants. Working class and mass struggle when the revolution of all the workers and peasants. The Transitional Programme itself made this clear. “Of course, this does not mean that the Fourth International rejects democratic slogans as a means of socialist revolution and bourgeois democracy. On the contrary, such slogans at certain moments can play a serious role. But the formula of democracy (freedom of the press, etc.) as a means for us only incidental or apologetic slogans is in the industrialist, bureaucratic workers, ‘democratic socialist’ and their leaders, in Trotsky’s specific action programme is predicated on the fact that the ruling class is set upon the suppression of all referred Suppression of the democratic regime” (Trotsky).

DOCTORING THE QUOTES

In fact O’Mahoney has been obliged to trim his argument and excise the quotation by obscuring the political content of the united front to defend democracy — securing the defence of power from the exploiters. To win the majority of the workers and peasants. Working class and mass struggle when the revolution of all the workers and peasants. The O’Mahoney article grossly distorts this quotation by obscuring the political content of the united front to defend democracy — securing the defence of power from the exploiters. To win the majority of the workers and peasants. Working class and mass struggle when the revolution of all the workers and peasants. The Transitional Programme itself made this clear. “Of course, this does not mean that the Fourth International rejects democratic slogans as a means of socialist revolution and bourgeois democracy. On the contrary, such slogans at certain moments can play a serious role. But the formula of democracy (freedom of the press, etc.) as a means for us only incidental or apologetic slogans is in the industrialist, bureaucratic workers, ‘democratic socialist’ and their leaders, in Trotsky’s specific action programme is predicated on the fact that the ruling class is set upon the suppression of all referred Suppression of the democratic regime” (Trotsky).

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ON FEBRUARY 27TH, 270 delogues and 120 observers from 17 countries attended the conference in London to discuss, "Ireland: Time for Trotsky Party", organised by the Irish Communist Organisation.

The conference was called by the Labour Committee on Ireland and the Committee for Women's Rights Against War. The conference was organisations, dominated by the SWP, played no independent or agenda-setting role. The conference was dominated by the Labour leadership on the day.

The conference was one of the first labour movement conferences on Ireland for a long time. As such it did have the opportunity of becoming a launching pad for the Irish Communist Organisation.

Workers Power attended the conference convic- to paving the way for discussion in this direction. In arguing for this position, however, we clashed with the left-reformist organisers of the conference and the intransigent (IRP, SWP, SDP) who were in attendance.

From the platform, Richard Baff MEP and Colm Soane MEP repeated the dead and formulaic nature of 'official Labour Party' analysis. In the discussions, the Labour Left, dominated by the SWP, played no independent or agenda-setting role. The conference was dominated by the Labour leadership on the day.

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THE SHARP RIGHT turn in the Labour leadership reflects a serious slump in membership. The decision of the Iranian People’s Faisal Guerrillas (OIPFG) to pull out of the federation is a further signal of this. The Faisal guerrillas, who are known for their anti-imperialist credentials, are among the most radical groups in the federation. The OIPFG’s decision to leave the federation is a blow to the unity of the Labour movement and a setback for the struggle against imperialism.

In addition, we would like to express our support for the struggle of the OIPFG against the conservative tendency that has gained ascendancy in the federation. The OIPFG has always been a坚定的 supporter of the workers’ and peasants’ struggle against imperialism. Their struggle is an inspiration to all of us who are fighting for a better world.

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MUGABE TIGHTENS HIS GRIP

In the past year, the Zimbabwean regime under the leadership of President Robert Mugabe has tightened its grip on power. The government has cracked down on opposition political parties, media outlets, and civil society organizations, stifling dissent and silencing criticism. The ruling Zanu-PF party has been accused of human rights abuses, including widespread police brutality and repression of political opponents. The country is facing economic challenges, with high inflation rates and shortages of basic goods like food and fuel. The government has been criticized for its failed economic policies and its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has exacerbated poverty and suffering. The international community has expressed concern over the situation in Zimbabwe, calling for greater democracy and human rights respect.
Weber's argument, taken out of context, might seem plausible. However, when we consider the broader historical context of the Nicaraguan Revolution, Weber's analysis becomes problematic. The FSLN, or Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional, was a grassroots revolutionary movement that fought against the Somoza regime in Nicaragua from 1978 to 1979, and ultimately succeeded in overthrowing it in 1979. The FSLN's success was built on a combination of popular support, guerrilla warfare, and international support, particularly from Cuba and the Soviet Union.

Weber's critique seems to miss the mark by focusing on the FSLN's ties to the Soviet Union and Cuba, while overlooking the FSLN's grassroots support and popular base. The FSLN was not a monolithic organization, but rather a network of local groups and communities that fought against the Somoza regime. The FSLN's success was built on the support of the people, particularly the poor and the working class, who were disillusioned with the Somoza regime and its corruption.

Weber's argument also seems to overlook the FSLN's commitment to democracy and social justice. The FSLN's program included the establishment of a democratic government, the protection of civil liberties, and the promotion of economic development. The FSLN's success was built on the people's desire for a better future and their commitment to democratic principles.

In conclusion, while we should be critical of Weber's argument, we should also acknowledge the complexity of the Nicaraguan Revolution and the challenges faced by the FSLN. The FSLN's success was built on a combination of popular support, guerrilla warfare, and international support, and its legacy continues to inspire movements around the world.
BY INVOKEING THE Russian bogey and crook­
"Let Poland be Poland", Reagan and Haig were
hopeful that international attention would be
drawn away from their own blatant aggression in
El Salvador.
The United States foreign policy of the FMLN,
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RAIL WORKERS: *PAY OFF FOR WORKERS!*  

The British Rail Board's reluctant agreement to pay the 3% increase in the Retail Price Index (RPI) means that the determination to force productivity and redundancies on the railway workers. Only days after the settlement between BR and the unions, there has been a renewed attack on the workers' rights and conditions. The British Rail Board is pressuring the unions to agree to a pay rise of 3%. Without consulting the rank and file, ASLEF accepted flexible rosters for the majority of its members.

The British Rail Board's pressure on the unions is part of a wider strategy to force productivity increases and redundancies on the workers. The Board is using the threat of industrial action to force the unions to agree to its demands.

The workers are绝 not accepting this. They are fighting to keep their jobs and to preserve their rights. The unions have a responsibility to support the workers' struggle and to stand up to the Board's pressure.

We need your support to help us win this battle. Will you please consider making a donation to support the workers' fight?

Thank you for your support.

[BRITISH RAIL]