

SCOTTISH VANGUARD



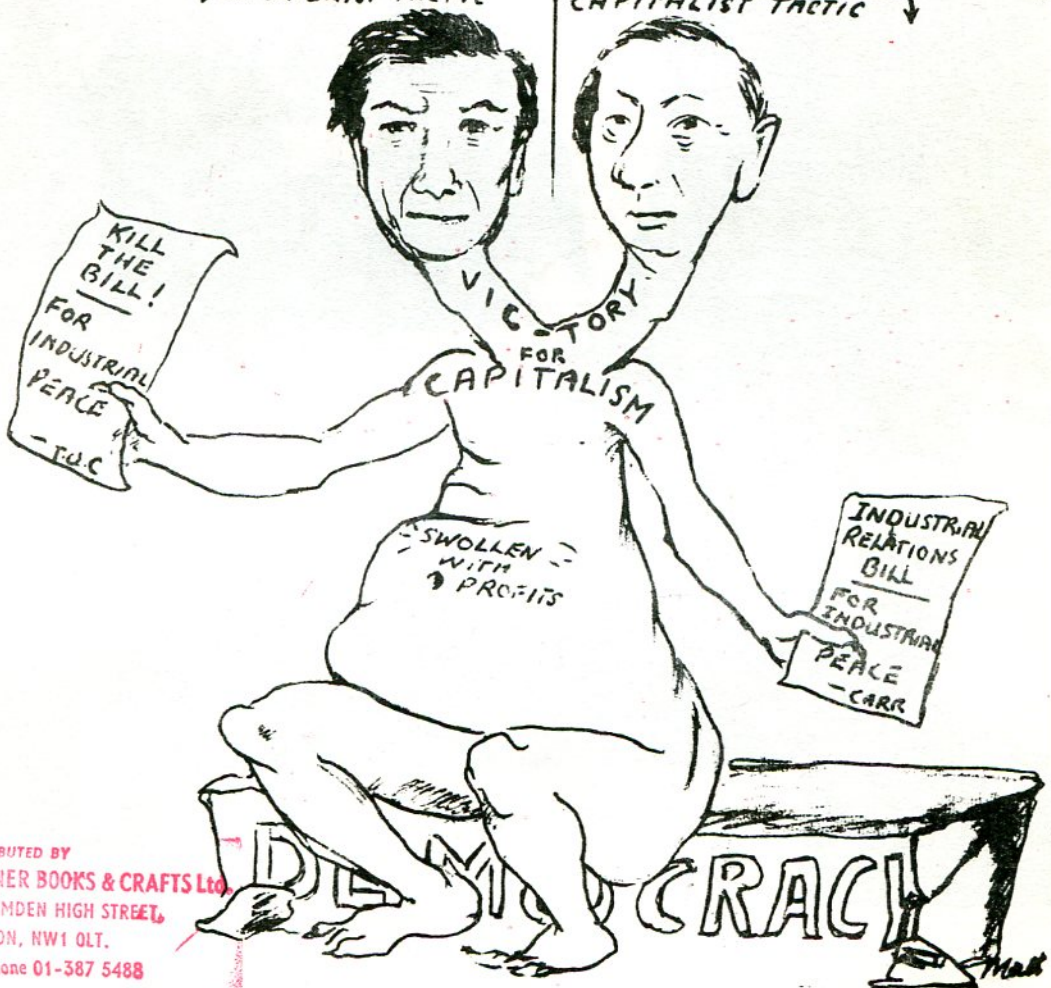
organ of the
Workers' Party
of Scotland
< Marxist - Leninist >

Volume: 4 No: 4

FEB - 1971

Price 3p

↓ OPPORTUNIST TACTIC CAPITALIST TACTIC ↓



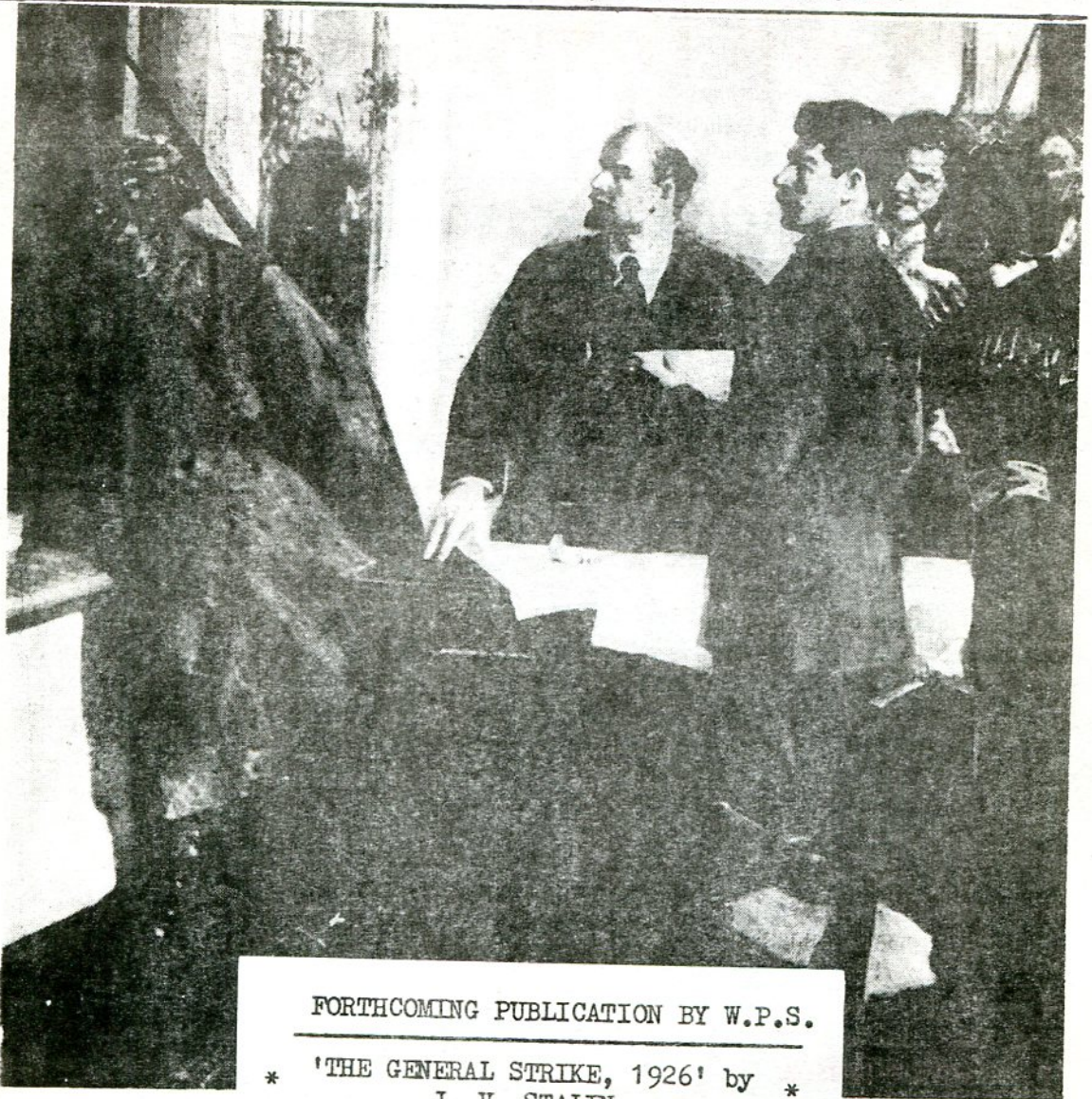
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BANNER BOOKS & CRAFTS Ltd
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LONDON, NW1 0LT.
Telephone 01-387 5488

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SCOTTISH VANGUARD BOOKS

270 PAISLEY ROAD, GLASGOW. C. 5.

19 NORTH ST. ANDREW STREET, EDINBURGH. EH2.1HJ.



FORTHCOMING PUBLICATION BY W.P.S.

* 'THE GENERAL STRIKE, 1926' by *
J. V. STALIN.

Secret plans to stop riots

A secret committee to co-ordinate the use of police and troops in the event of civil disorder in Britain has started meeting in London, writes Derek Humphry.

Its members are Mr Robert Mark, Deputy Commission of the Metropolitan Police, who was a member of the advisory body concerned with the reorganisation of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, and Home Office and Ministry of Defence Representatives.

PREPARE NOW FOR A GREAT OFFENSIVE!

"All reactionary forces on the verge of extinction invariably conduct desperate struggles. They are bound to resort to military adventures and political deception in all their forms in order to save themselves from extinction."

- MAO TSE TUNG.

In 'Great' Britain today a fierce battle of hot-air is being waged along the whole labour front. This is not new in itself, nauseating yes, but certainly not new. Every ridiculous device imaginable is being used to con the workers into believing that the opportunist leadership of the labour movement are really there to guard and defend the 'rights' of the workingclass. In unison the Labour Party, the T.U.C., the so-called labour left and the renegade and politically bankrupt Communist party of Great Britain come out to sing the anti-Tory chorus, while loudly proclaiming themselves to be the champions of the workers and defenders of the unions. However, in reality, they are nothing but fakers, cheap political frauds who, threatened with extinction, whilst still trying to maintain their hold over the workers, resort to downright deception in their desperate attempt to rally the support of the workingclass.

The reason for all this gum-beating, the whining and whimpering of our shining knights in armour- the opportunist labour leaders, is the proposed legislation by the Tory government entitled 'Industrial Relations Bill'. These whimpering curs put the case to the workers as though this was some form of punitive measure being taken by the Tories against the workers for being naughty boys. The question never being raised as to why the present government finds itself introducing such measures when in fact, as everyone knows, that Capitalism which functions best in periods of industrial harmony obviously does not deliberately set about creating a discontented workingclass. The real position is that Capitalism and World Imperialism are faced with an ever deepening crisis and cannot afford to keep things as they are.

The call for defence of the workers 'legal rights', in a society based on privilege where the exploitation of the majority by a tiny minority of parasites is legal, is so stupid as to evoke laughter were it not for the serious effect it has on the struggle of the workingclass. There can be no real rights for the workers in such a society, only temporary concessions which today are fading fast due to the crisis and decay of Capitalism. It is therefore a deliberate lie to put forward the suggestion that the removal of the Tory government and its replacement by a Labour government would ease the situation of the workingclass. Can it so easily be forgotten that the workingclass in this country had recourse to take similar strike action, as that on Dec. 8th & Jan. 12th, when the Labour government while in 'office' introduced its own White Paper - 'In Place of Strife'. We say 'office' because whether it be Tory or Labour they are in office serving the interests of Capitalism which is in power. The workingclass do not forget that this legislation is as much part of Labour governments policy as it is the present Tory governments, since it was spawned by Wilson, Castle & Co. and hatched by Heath, Carr & Co.

'A PARCEL OF ROGUES'

The time was when the workingclass could genuinely distinguish between Labour and Tory. That was around 1900, in the days when Labour was fighting for recognition as the workers' party. Those days are well past, and the record of the Labour Party in office is black and twisted as the Tories. They have played the parliamentary game as well, and with a more detrimental effect on the workingclass during periods of crisis than their Tory counterparts could possibly have done. It was no idle statement on the part of Lenin when he referred to social democracy as being the 'goal-keepers of Capitalism'. It is they who, upon seeing the mood of the workers turning towards revolution, call on them to 'be reasonable, don't rock the boat, leave it to us etc'. Yes for God's sake don't touch Capitalism!, they cry, for it is only under such a system that these pygmies could exist and function to carry on their role as arbitrators, capitulators and 'legal leaders' of the workingclass. In a genuine socialist society the workers would have no need for such tricksters who would find themselves having to work for a living instead of talking and hob-nobbing with those they are supposedly fighting.

Whether workingclass organisation is made legal or illegal, the workers must meet an offensive like this with a counter offensive. The only counter offensive possible is the struggle for Workers Power. The workingclass must wrest from the Capitalist class

their power over the land, the means of production, distribution and exchange and go onto build their own form of state power. The question today must then be, not which party holds office, but WHICH CLASS HOLDS POWER?

A PROBLEM OF CAPITALISM

The problem today is not isolated and peculiar to Britain alone. It is a problem of world Imperialism and Capitalism and the system of vested interest faced with a crisis in their methods of production based on exploitation. THIS CRISIS IS THE FINAL CRISIS IN THE HISTORY OF CAPITALISM AS A SYSTEM, AND THERE IS NO PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

Comrade Stalin speaking of the General Strike in Britain in 1926, stated:- "Britain formerly occupied a monopolist position among the capitalist states. Possessing a number of huge colonies and having what at that time was an exemplary industry, she was in a position to play the part of 'workshop of the world' and to rake in enormous superprofits. That was the period of 'peace and prosperity' for Britain. Capital pocketed superprofits, crumbs from these superprofits fell to the upper section of the British labour movement, the leaders of the British Labour movement were gradually rendered docile by Capital, conflicts between labour and capital were usually settled by compromise, But the further development of international capitalism, particularly the development of Germany, America and to some extent Japan, who made their appearance on the world market as competitors of Britain, struck at the very roots of Britain's former monopolist position. The war and the post-war crisis delivered a further decisive blow to the monopolist position of Britain. The superprofits became smaller, the crumbs falling to the British Labour leaders began to run out. Voices demanding the lowering of the standard of living of the workingclass in Britain were more and more frequently heard."

IMPERIALISM'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED

Today Imperialism is beset with deeper and much wider contradictions than in those days referred to above by Stalin. The Imperialists are in a mad frenzy trying to find ways of overcoming their problems. But for them it is the end of the line! "They are beset with insoluble contradictions both at home and abroad."

The countries which in the past have been the most exploited regions Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America, are today through revolution either free from capitalist exploitation or by the direct and revolutionary struggles of the workingclass and their national liberation movements dealing death blows to U.S. and

world Imperialism and as such heading for the establishment of Socialism.

The struggle between the Imperialist powers, the U.S.A., JAPAN, GERMANY, BRITAIN and the other COMMON MARKET countries has risen to new intense heights. The struggle for markets is on!! The COMMON MARKET is one aspect of this struggle. The U.S.A. and BRITAIN have introduced tariffs in a vain attempt to stabilise themselves.

The might of the Socialist camp, headed by the powerful Peoples' Republic of China, is seen as a source of strength for the international workingclass. The revisionist elements who have usurped power in many of the East European countries and who have caused setbacks to the struggle of the international workingclass movement will not remain in power long. In the struggles that lie ahead the workingclass, taking power once more into their own hands will sweep aside these traitors and bury them with Imperialism.

The internal contradictions in the capitalist countries has reached tremendous proportions which threaten to sweep away the mask of democracy. Rampant inflation besets them, mass unemployment, the colossal rise in the cost of living and the struggle of the workers and the national minorities for emancipation and self-determination, bear out fully the statement of Mao Tsetung that:-

"It can be said with certainty that the complete collapse of colonialism, imperialism and all systems of exploitation and the complete emancipation of all the oppressed peoples and nations of the world are not far off."

LEARN FROM THE PAST

A similar position has faced Capitalism before today. Notably the periods which arose and gave rise to the two world wars. These wars were the inevitable outcome and the direct result of the contradictions (in this case crisis) facing Capitalist and Imperialist competition for markets and new sources of exploitation. "War is the continuation of politics by other (more violent) means", and the Imperialist wars were the continuation of Imperialist politics, of the subjugation of the smaller nations by the 'great' powers.

The possibility of a third world war emerging from the present crisis of Capitalism must be seriously considered by every worker today.

When we analyse the statements emanating from our so-called Labour leaders and the other brands of opportunists like the C.P.G.B. we should take note and not forget the role played by their predecessors the 'labour leaders' during the first world war, when these despicable traitors supported the use of workers as cannon fodder for Capitalist profits under the slogan of 'defence of the motherland'.

Only a few people stood out in those days and openly declared the war to be an Imperialist plot against the people. One of these great men was JOHN MACLEAN the Scottish schoolteacher, forced out of the class-room because of his commitment to the class-struggle. JOHN MACLEAN declared that there was only one war worth waging and that was the class-war. He stated that ..

"The root of all the trouble in society at present is the inevitable robbery of the workers by the propertied class simply because it is the propertied class. To end that robbery would be to end the social troubles of modern society. The way to end that robbery is the transfer of the land and the means of production and transport from the present possessors to the community. Community ownership is Communism. The transfer is a social revolution not the bloodshed that may or may not accompany the transfer."

The workingclass in this country and the workers of the world gained nothing from the last two world wars. On the contrary they were the class to suffer most through loss of life (millions of workers died to preserve the profits of Capitalism) and degradation due to the drastic lowering of the standard of living. To date the workers and their families still suffer from the effect of these wars. The building of houses, schools and hospitals were all suspended as being secondary to armaments production and the need to preserve profits. Today house-building and all the other amenities so essential to the well being of the people are far from meeting their needs.

- BEWARE OF TRAITORS!

"A fig for those by Law protected,
Liberty's a glorious feast,
Courts for cowards were erected,
Churches built to please the priest."

~ Robert Burns ~

And yet today we are asked to swallow such rubbish as the "needs of the nation", the need for more production, etc.,. What have we been producing all these years and where has all the profits gone?, (see centre pages in this issue Ed.) is the reply of the working-class. Large adverts have been placed in the papers supposedly informing the workers about what the 'Industrial Relations Bill' really means. These adverts were put in by chief whistling in the dark, alias, Vic Feather of the T.U.C. tribe, and his main concern about the Bill would seem to be that 'it is not the way to get industrial peace'. Where is the fight here for WORKERS POWER or is it that the T.U.C. and Mr. Feather really believe that Capitalism, that blood soaked system of exploitation can really serve the needs of the people. As they cannot be considered to be just so stupid then the only fitting name they can be called is 'TRAITORS TO THE WORKINGCLASS.'

Continued over

WORKERS POWER TO AVERT WORLD WAR!

"An oppressed class which does not strive to learn to use arms, to acquire arms, deserves to be treated like slaves. We cannot forget, unless we become bourgeois pacifists or opportunists, that we are living in a class society, that there is no way out of this society, and there can be none, except by means of the class struggle. In every class society, whether it is based on slavery, serfdom, or, as at present, on wage labour, the oppressing class is armed. The modern standing army, and even the modern militia - even in the most democratic bourgeois republics, Switzerland for example - represents the bourgeoisie armed against the proletariat. This is such an elementary truth that it is hardly necessary to dwell upon it. It is sufficient to recall the use of troops against strikers in all capitalist countries. LENIN.

THE WORKERS' PARTY OF SCOTLAND (MARXIST-LENINIST), the only party in Scotland based on the revolutionary principles of scientific socialism and the direct successors of Scotland's greatest revolutionary of the 1920s, JOHN MACLEAN, declares that:-

- * This is not the time for reliance on Parliament or parliamentary parties.
- * It is not a time for struggling for workers elbow room but a time to struggle for WORKERS POWER TO AVERT WORLD WAR.

FOR CAPITALISM TO MAINTAIN ITSELF IT MUST INTRODUCE FASCISM, BE IT THROUGH A TORY OR A LABOUR GOVERNMENT.

THEY WILL ABANDON THE PARLIAMENTARY STRUCTURE AND INTRODUCE EMERGENCY POWERS TO DEAL WITH THE MILITANCY OF THE WORKINGCLASS AND ITS GENUINE ORGANISATIONS.

FOR THE WORKINGCLASS TO BE VICTORIOUS IN THE DECISIVE BATTLES THAT LIE AHEAD, WE MUST PREPARE NOW AND FORM WORKERS ACTION COMMITTEES THROUGH-OUT THE COUNTRY AND IN INDUSTRY.

ALL THE STRUGGLES MUST BE LINKED UP, I.E. THE QUESTION OF WAGES, PENSIONS, RENTS, ETC. WE MUST MAKE READY FOR DIRECT ACTION OF THE WORKINGCLASS FOR THE ONSLAUGHT AND OVERTHROW OF CAPITALISM AND ESTABLISH WORKERS POWER.

**DARE TO STRUGGLE -
DARE TO WIN!**

'DAYS GONE BY'?

Why should we idly waste our prime
Repeating our oppressions?
Come rouse to arms! 'Tis now the time
To punish past transgressions.
'Tis said that Kings can do no wrong—
Their murderous deeds deny it,
And, since from us their power is sprung,
We have a right to try it.
Now each true patriot's song shall be:—
'Welcome Death or Libertie!' - BURNS

The hammers stop, the din has ceased,
The air around resounds with peace.
Men are gathering, old and young,
The death bell knell has just been rung.
A million men with ashen faces,
Hang their heads and study their laces.
The young men grouped in threes and fours,
With hardened looks, crowd round pub doors.
One of them speaks, he cracks a joke,
The laughter dies ere it has broke.
An old man turns, he knows the score,
He's seen this same damned sight before;
His mind leaps back to 'days gone by',
While from his lips comes a weary sigh.
The world has known her ain great men,
Great in their day, and forever, amen.
But one of the greatest, our ain John MacLean,
A teacher who taught that the worker would gain,
Once the boss class, the tory, the traitorous scum,
Were finally ousted, thrown out on their bum.
Aye he was a man the most noble and best,
But alas through his suffering he lies now at rest.
The Capitalists they killed him, in jail they were rough,
Still MacLean never faltered, never once cried 'enough'.
Till the day that he died in the year Twenty-three,
He believed that the worker would fight to be free.
Though John may be gone, still his message is clear,
That the workers, once organised, have nothing to fear.
Yes things may be changed from those 'days gone by',
Still prices and profits go soaring sky-high.
James Connolly said and MacLean agrees,
'The great look great cause we're on our knees',
So get up now brave workers and show them your thunder,
Refuse to be scrapped for the Capitalist's blunder!!

Matt. Lygate.

Im. ON DOLE FORECAST

By Our City Staff

One million people will be on the dole by the end of this year. The Sunday Telegraph Business Forecast team claims in its latest monthly review. Business confidence, it says, is at a low ebb and widespread cutbacks in jobs are expected.



JOHN MACLEAN

£10m. rise in turnover

AS foreshadowed, William Hill Organisation, who are currently bidding for Hurst Park Syndicate, raised their turnover by £10m. to £55.3m. in their year to November. Much more impressive, however, was the jump from £467,000 to £1.4m. in profits before tax.

TOBACCO SECURITIES TRUST, CO. LTD

Net profit of the Group was £2,692,000, £393,000 higher than for the previous year, made it possible after retaining £132,000 in reserves to increase the dividend on the Ordinary Stock from 36% to 39½% and on the Deferred Stock from 96% to 112%

BARCLAYS BANK D.C.O.

During the past year we have suffered some setbacks in Africa as a result of political action but in spite of this our business has continued to grow very satisfactorily. Deposits in the consolidated balance sheet now stand at £2,239 million, an increase of 13 per cent in spite of the exclusion of those in the Sudan, Libya and Uganda, which territories in 1969 contributed £71.1 million to the total. Group profit before tax amounted to £27.2 million (1969 £20.5 million). The 1969 figures included a full year's profits earned in Uganda, Libya and the Sudan.

HIGHER AND HIGHER PROFITS IN HIRE PURCHASE

A staggering £130 million landed on the counters of S. G. Warburg and Williams Glyn on Thursday from 21,500 investors all hoping to get their hands on some of the 10.75 million Lloyds & Scottish shares on offer.

Lloyds & Scottish, the £60 million Edinburgh-based group who claim to have some 10 per cent of the UK hire purchase market, predict pre-tax profits of not less than £7.25 million for the year to end-September, —a huge improvement on the £5.68 million of 1969-70.

Shares in United Dominions Trust, the country's biggest hire-purchase and finance combine.

Pre-tax profits for the six months to the end of December were £5,027,000 against £3,665,000. Profits for the whole of the previous year were £7.47 million. A magnificent 37 per cent jump in profits, which would make 24 per cent for the year.

ADDITIONAL PROFIT

International Computers (Holdings),

have virtually doubled their profits and are planning for a further improvement in 1970-71, rising by a handsome £2.1 million to £7.56 million.

FLOWING GOLD

Harp maintained its place as brand leader in the British lager market and the consortium boosted their profits from £2.7 million to a new peak level of £3.48 million

HIRE PURCHASE TAKES BEST PART OF WORKERS WAGE INCREASES

For all 1970 the value of retail trade was more than 7% higher than in 1969 but most of this simply reflected price increases because the improvement in volume was less than 1.2%. In a year when the rise in earnings was running around 15% this is somewhat surprising.

Part of the explanation is that consumers stepped up their hire-purchase commitments. During December the total h.-p. debt rose by £17m. after allowing for seasonal variations, and all of this went to the finance houses

TORY STENHOUSE

Insurance broking and other Stenhouse original interests had a very good year.

After tax the whole Stenhouse group have made £1,232,000.

PROFITS DOUBLED

Proprietors of Hay's Wharf, the London port transport group who are rapidly changing their shape, announce pre-tax profits that have almost doubled in the year to last September. They totalled £1,198,000 against £643,000.

PROFIT, THE GREAT TYRANT
STILL REIGNS SUPREME IN
SCOTLAND.

● DEAR DEPARTED

British public was being robbed of £650 million a year in avoided death duties. — enough to provide £1 a week for every old age pensioner, plus a 35s a week per child increase in family allowances.

● DEAR HOUSES

House prices in Scotland rank second only to those in South-east England and this fact continues to make house-building a profitable undertaking for companies like Bett Brothers, of Dundee.

More has been added to the final dividend of 29 per cent than was expected, so that the total for the year is 45 per cent, a full 5 points up on the previous distribution.

● DEAR FOOD

Scots housewives paid about 3.5 per cent more for food in 1968 than their counterparts in the rest of the country, states a Government report published today.

The annual report of the National Food Survey Committee on household food consumption and expenditure

NO PRICES FREEZE PLANNED

The Government are not considering a prices freeze, Mr John Davies, Secretary for Trade and Industry, told M.P.s during question-time exchanges this afternoon in the House of Commons.

He had told questioners:—"We shall continue to encourage competition and to impress on the public that inflationary wage settlements make price increases inevitable."

The Profiteers achieve the remarkable feat of 'Eating their cake and still having it'.

For example: One invests £10,000, receives annual dividend of 25%, thus in four years ALL the £10,000 returns to the investors pocket but he still has his original £10,000 left in the kitty. (3,000 parasites in Scotland have yearly incomes averaging £10,000 each, or a grand total of £30,000,000 - Thirty Millions each year.)

By contrast: THE WAGE AND SALARY EARNER INVESTS HIS LIFE, receives £2 out of every £6 of the value he produces, and today in Scotland, over 115,000 workers are unceremoniously thrown on the scrap-heap, UNEMPLOYED.

- OLD AGE PENSIONERS, in large numbers, suffer from hypothermia (loss of body-heat) and hunger, through lack of money and inadequate social services.

- At least 150,000 children in Scotland are undernourished owing to the poverty of their parents. The poverty disease of RICKETS is again making its appearance.

LET US HAVE WORK TESTS FOR THE WEALTHY,
NOT MEANS TESTS FOR THE WORKERS !!

Workers Action Committees can sweep aside the mis-managers of capitalist industry, - ROLLS ROYCE, the U.C.S., TEXTILES, BUILDING TRADES, etc., etc., ignoring the Windbags of Westminster and proceed to run the whole of industry solely in the interest of the WORKERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS.

STUDYING WHAT? ~ FOR WHAT?

"It is my hope that you delegates will become just as aware as the masters are of the need for specific forms of education. The State provides an elementary and higher education that certainly needs purging and overhauling; the State may now be willing to enforce a technical or commercial training on every boy and girl not intending to enter the professions; but the State, because it must be a Capitalist State so long as Capitalism endures, will not provide a full education to equip workers to carry on the working-class movement or to fight for the ending of Capitalism itself."

(Extract from John MacLean's address,

(A Plea for a Labour College for Scotland.)

The Capitalist State provides a 'Teaching System' and calls it 'Education'. We have no 'Education System' and will not have one until the Capitalist State is overthrown and replaced by a "Workers' Socialist State", where the majority, the working class, will create real democracy, the prerequisite for raising cultural values to the highest pinnacle as the only basis for a Socialist Educational system.

THE 'BRAIN-WASHED' CHILDREN OF SCOTLAND.

Every child in our primary schools is assured that when "A" buys a commodity for 100 New Pence, and sells it to "B" for 125 New Pence, his PROFIT is 25 New Pence. Never is the child told where the Profit came from or that the Profit System has particular social implications for everyone - the rich few getting richer, the workers denied economic security, good and inexpensive housing and the best feeding, clothing and social amenities which the vast productive capacity of today can easily secure for all workers and their children. Thus is the receptive mind of the child prepared for the more sophisticated indoctrination with the idea of the "virtuous morality" of the spurious injunction to "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesars". From this small but vitally important beginning the schooling of our youth expands to cover the vast and complicated mechanism of private profit, commercial expansion from the small profiteer to the modern and apparently limitless swallowing up of the smaller by the larger in every capitalist State, the internationalising of industry and finance leading to the bloody rivalries of great imperialist States. All for the greater exploitation of man by man.

THE HIDDEN "COMMUNIST MANIFESTO OF 1848.

Our children, youth and students are not told that the "rotten immorality" of such exploitation has been exposed brilliantly, and, conclusively challenged in the "Communist Manifesto" of Marx and Engels, by V.I. Lenin, J. Stalin, Enver Hoxha and John Maclean and raised to a still higher state of refinement today by Mao Tsetung. In our Colleges and Universities our youth are not told that it is virtuous to "Serve the People" and a crime to allow a minority of capitalists to exploit the majority for private profit. The so-called merit of aiming for the "Glittering Prize" is a poison deeply embedded in the minds of multitudes of parents who urge their "clever" children to qualify, via, an examination system contrived to ensure the streaming of the most useful and docile robots into the service of production for profit. It is significant to witness our ruling capitalist class devoting enormous thought and finance to the development of technical and scientific schooling to provide highly trained dupes as tools for the defeat of their foreign competitors. In the midst of, and as the inevitable consequence of capitalist rivalries we witness the ludicrous spectacle of redundancies, rapid monetary inflation and a rapidly falling standard of living for the masses in a period of history long after the problem of mass production has been thoroughly solved so that now thousands of articles can be produced, without physical effort, where only a few could be produced before with weary and grinding toil.

THE SPECTRE FACING WORKERS AND STUDENTS ALIKE.

Today, the products of our Universities and Colleges, with great unease, stand helplessly by, fearing that the chopper may fall on anyone of them, as it is now falling on hundreds of thousands of wage and salary earners, with the horrible thought they may lose their petty-bourgeois money-value benefits and thrown back into the ranks of the 'common people'. Worse still they are likely soon to be conscripted into an imperialist army and into a bloody war for the defence of 'profits for the few'. Increasing numbers of our youth are asking loudly "WHY?". They are groping for an answer. No longer content to accept the superficialities of Keynesian economics. Some of them looking for short cuts by effervescent demonstrations, by industrial action confined to mere economic demands. Others, however, are recognising more and more clearly the class structure of capitalist society and the need for revolutionary change to transfer "Power", Political Power, from the exploiting Capitalist minority to the Working Class. Not mere "Workers'

Control" so ardently advocated by non-Marxist "Socialists".

It is the duty of every young worker and student to recognise a personal responsibility to become an activist in the mighty struggle now moving more rapidly than at any previous period of history to a final show-down with the exploiting minority and their imperialist structure. In-so-far as there is a rapid development of an understanding among our youth of the elements of scientific socialism and its correct basis of dialectical and historical materialism, there will be a rapid and less tiresome struggle for the revolutionary overthrow of imperialism, and particularly U.S.A. Imperialism, than will otherwise be the case. "The Manifesto of the Workers' Party of Scotland" provides the basis for uniting all the forces in our country towards this end as it recognises our obligation to analyse the situation in Scotland today and its relationship to the international struggles of the workers and peasants everywhere. Individually the worker and student is impelled to appreciate that today, whatever may have been the position in the past, "Getting on", on the basis of "Every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost" is intellectual bankruptcy, and that therefore his first duty is to participate in the revolutionary struggle, to "Serve the People".

Tom Murray.

(Copies of 'A Plea for a Labour College for Scotland' can be obtained from either of Scottish Vanguard Bookshops, Price; 7½p.)



The W.P.S. Information & New Addresses

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(Marxist-Leninist).

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Correspondence and articles
for publication in "S.V."
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The Editor, Scottish Van-
guard, 270 Paisley Road,
GLASGOW. C.5.

FEB. 1971

Notes on *Traditorem Vermis*

(Traitorous Vermin)

The particular creatures I am about to describe require for their existance a number of prerequisites viz;

Firstly, as it is a parasite, ideally its host would be in an unvarying state of stupor, but as this mental state is more normally found in vermin of its own kind i.e. 'labour leaders' and their like, its scope in this field is obviously limited. Because of this it has no choice but to procure its parasitical sustenance among certain sections of the workingclass who are, sad to relate, still suffering from that ancient malady presently known as credulous gullability. Happily however, due to events now taking place in China and Albania a cure is now possible. Before we go into that aspect of the problem, let us first examine more closely the bug in question.

The second prerequisite in the survival kit of the bugs and this is a marvel to behold, is their ability to change their form and colour at the least sign of social disturbance. For a much wider and clearer description of this loathesome phenomenon I can but refer the reader to the works of one of the worlds greatest authorities ever to deal with these pests, namely V.I. Lenin, the great Russian hunter and trapper of the then Russian variety. (With recent reports from the Soviet Union, definite evidence has come to hand of a resurgence of these sordid wee beasts, due no doubt to the absence of that famous curer of these ills -- Marxism-Leninism. We have every confidence that the workingclass in the Soviet Union in the near future will eliminate this vermin once and for all.)

Lenin's writings on these repulsive creatures are indispensable to the genuine Socialist. Here is one example of Lenin on the subject;

"One of the essential conditions for preparing the proletariat for victory is a prolonged, persistent and ruthless struggle against opportunism, reformism, social chauvinism, and similar bourgeois influences and tendencies, which are inevitable as long as the proletariat acts under capitalist conditions.

Unless such a struggle is fought, and unless a complete victory over opportunism within the workingclass movement is preliminary gained there can be no hope for the dictatorship of the proletariat."

I feel therefore, in order to carry out the foregoing, that a brief run-down on the habits of the indigenous British types is required.

There is the variety which parades under the pseudonym of 'Communist Party of Great Britain'. This specimen of the species, *Traditorem Vermis*, distinguishes itself with the trait of giving out application forms to all and sundry, no questions asked. One would imagine this to be both dangerous and stupid, and I can only conclude that this affords them greater cover by the confusion it must create. Another easily recognised trait of this type is that they only appear in the open when there is absolute social calm. This is the only real safeguard they have. To quote Lenin again;

"Socialist parties are not debating clubs, but organisations of the fighting proletariat; and when a number of battalions have gone over to the enemy they must be named and branded as traitors."

The second type you are liable to stumble across are Trotskyites. The title no doubt derived from the infamous parent bug Leon Trotsky. Under no circumstances should a healthy young person go anywhere near a person suffering from the syndrome Trotskyism. Recognition of this type is fairly simple. They can normally be seen sniffing at each others' behinds as if trying to discover the source of the theoretical and ideological clangers they are constantly dropping.

Again Lenin:-

"Such people as Trotsky with his puffed up phrases.. are now the disease of the age... Everyone who supports Trotsky's group supports the policy of lies and deception of the workers... it is Trotsky's special task... to throw sand in the eyes of the workers... it is not possible to discuss essentials with Trotsky, for he has no views... we merely expose him as a diplomatist of the meanest description."

A third group deserving of some attention are those who go under the fanciful heading 'labour leaders' of the

so called Labour party. Considering they have never worked in their lives this title is indeed strange. For treacherous acts committed against the working-class this breed can have no equal. The main characteristic of this type is the ability to perform a 180 degrees turn at any sign of danger. They are most efficient when doing damage to the workingclass. They are forever drawing up spectacular plans with a great hullabaloo supposedly to help the people but in actual fact only hindering them. There is a definite cure for this kind of pest. Shoot the worst of them and the rest will meekly submit.

Subservient to some extent to the above mentioned are a fourth type known as the Trade Union leadership. At times this venal group may actually appear to do battle with the above mentioned, but it is only a smokescreen, in fact they are the closest of allies, A condition most necessary due to the needs of survival.

To avert tedium arising in the reader I think it advisable to clump together the remaining vermin, they cover a wide stratum, here they are; We have mouldy weak kneed Liberals... Half-baked Syndicalists going back in time... Anarchist fantasia with a mystic thrown in ... Religious con-men of all kinds... petty intellectuals who are always ineffectual. One can't help but think that this odd assortment of social dross would be more at home in an archaeological site, than troubling the working class with their cockeyed notions.

To Lenin, I give the final word,
"Such is my fate. One battle after another against political stupidity, vulgarity, opportunism, etc.. It has been that way ever since 1893. And it has earned me the hatred of the phillistines. Well, I would not exchange this fate for "peace" with the phillistines."

"The Communists disdain to conceal their views and aims. They openly declare that their ends can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions. Let the ruling classes tremble at a Communistic revolution. The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win."

(Page 76 MANIFESTO OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY)

ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE!

"Our present land laws, by which a monstrous accumulation of landed property in the hands of a few is artificially encouraged, are, historically considered, merely a badge of conquest from the Conqueror downward, maintained and cherished by every device that the love of power, the pride of pedigree, family vanity, and the ingenuity of lawyers could invent." --- John Stuart Blackie.

The question of land in the form of Private Property is one which has been the subject of great discussion and struggle for many centuries. The church and state during the period of Feudalism and right up to present day monopoly capitalism have consistently stood in favour of private property as being consistent with the 'will of God' and 'natural to man'. They have openly and violently opposed the demands of the peasant for land to till and work and in periods such as the depressions of the '20s and '30s they employed troops and police to clear the workers off the land they had occupied and on which they hoped to grow food for their starving families. It was such scenes as this that made the immortal bard Burns write the following:-

The most crude methods of force and mysticism were used to confuse and rouse the people against the advocates of land-reform who arose during the 19th century against the land clearances and the terrible poverty imposed on the crofters due to the inhuman methods used by the Lords to clear the land for sheep and deer. In many instances the Highlander was told by the church that the clearances should not be opposed as it was 'the will of God' in retribution for the sins of their fathers, and for the superstitious this was sufficient to make them acquiesce to the will of the Laird and of the Lord.

' See yonder poor, o'erlabour'd wight,
So abject, mean, and vile,
Who begs a brother of the earth
To give him leave to toil;
And see his lordly fellow-worm
The poor petition spurn,
Unmindful, tho' a weeping wife
And helpless offspring mourn.

The history books used as texts in the schools and educational institutes of this country bear little or no testimony to the above facts, as they are chosen for their bias in favour of the present system or they are specially written and prepared in such a manner so as to give the reader no real understanding as to how the present generation arrived at such a society based on private property.

Many good books have been written dealing with the subject of the land, but alas however, most of them are out of print now and therefore to a great many people unavailable, although some of them can be obtained from certain libraries. One such book worth reading is Tom Johnston's 'Our Noble Families' and it is interesting to note here

that once Mr. Johnston started to climb up in this world via parliament, it was decided to withdraw this 'scurrilous book' from sale to the public. This of course was not the first time that such practices as buying up books to destroy them had taken place. Alfred Russell Wallace in his famous book 'Land Nationalisation' published in 1892, relates that many such incidents were carried out by the land lords and nobility in an effort to stop the public from becoming aware of the terrible atrocities and injustices being perpetrated by them on the Highland crofters. The attempt on my part now is not to give a detailed study of the development leading up to the 'clearances' and the theft of the 'commons', but simply a sketch by which I hope to engender in the reader the need for a thorough study on this subject.

CONTINUOUS ROBBERY

The robbery of the land is unlike the robbery of a sum of money or an article of clothing or food which ceases with the act. 'It is a fresh and continuous robbery that goes on every day and every hour'. It is obvious that a person or people robbed of food, money, etc., can by their continued labour and effort acquire more money and further supplies of food. They cannot, however, once the land has been stolen from them, regardless of how much labour they may expend, produce or create 'new' forms of land. Thus the robbery is continuous! Land in itself can afford no value other than that which is purely aesthetic, unless labour is applied to it. The potential it has for growth of crops is limited in so far as it requires to be nurtured, fertilised and in general tended to. The earth in itself which we know to be rich in all forms of minerals etc., will not of its own accord yield its wealth to man. Shafts have to be mined and wells have to be sunk - all this of course requires skill and labour. It follows then that, just so long as land remains as private property, the people are prevented from developing and using the resources of the land, unless of course, and this is the main point, they are prepared to sell their labour power to the capitalist land owning class for a fixed and determined wage. The position then of the worker is one of dependency on the whims of the capitalist, and as such he is placed in the position of the slave of the past with the difference that he receives a wage in money. Thus private property makes the worker a wage slave!

LEGALISED ROBBERY

The legalisation of private property in England dates from 1235 when the Statute of Merton was passed and which stated 'Because many great men of England have complained that they cannot make their profit of the residue of their manors' and that these 'great men'

should be allowed to enclose the common lands providing they would prove that there was sufficient pasture land for the freehold tenants. By 1255 another act, the Statute of Westminster the second, was brought in to safeguard the rights of commoners who were not tenants of the manors and yet had pasture rights. The enclosures which took place were directly responsible for the peasant risings which were so frequent during the 13th to the 16th century.

From 1709 to 1797, no less than 1,776 enclosures were sanctioned by parliament. The law makers were the land lords and the laws were passed to suit their interests. Still they were not happy. the procedure was too slow and costly, so another act was introduced to remedy this. This act was the first General Enclosure Act introduced in 1801 'To materially lessen the expense and difficulty formerly incurred in obtaining parliamentary powers for extinguishing rights of common'. The result of this act was that from 1801 to 1842, a period of 41 years, - 1,997 enclosures were sanctioned by parliament. "The Lords got most and the landless labourer was left out in the cold. By the enclosures the labourer lost the privilege of turning out any beast he possessed on to the common and received no compensation." (H. Cox) The outcry of the people at these new enclosures resulted in the implementation of a new act in 1845. This Act withdrew the power of enclosure from parliament and vested it in 'impartial' commissioners. In introducing the 1845 Bill, Lord Lincoln stated that in 19 out of every 20 cases the parliamentary committees had "Neglected the interests of the poor". By 1909 it was estimated that there was only 3,000,000 acres of land which was not owned by private land lords! -and of this 3,000,000 acres, half was owned by public authorities and the other half lay waste.

Prior to parliament legalising the theft of land, the Kings and Queens had divided up large areas of land amongst their nobles who held it in trust. In those days the common people were less alienated from the land than they were to be at a later date. It was from the end of the 15th to the beginning of the 16th century that much of the rural population was being thrown off the land. "The rapid rise of the Flemish wool manufacturing and the corresponding rise in the price of wool in England, gave the direct impulse to these evictions. The old nobility had been devoured by the great feudal wars. The new nobility was the child of its time, for which money was the powers of all powers. Transformation of arable land into sheepwalks was, therefore, its cry."

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE) M.L.

Workers' Militancy Not Traitorous Peace

The rising militancy of the working class was once again displayed in Glasgow on the 7th March, when the workers gave Vic Feather and Eric Heffer, Labour M.P. the roasting of their lives and completely refused to allow them to put forward their reactionary line of class collaboration.

It was this militant spirit which earned the workers in Glasgow the honoured title of 'Red Clydesiders' in the 20's and 30's and which we are proud to witness once more being displayed at a time when it is so much required as a lead for the workers throughout the country. Vic Feather, chief of the T.U.C. and Labour M.P. Heffer both attempted to hold the meeting around the legal terminology of the Industrial Relations Bill and the amount of clauses involved in it. They thought to treat the workers in Scotland as fools but they were sadly mistaken! The working class do not require to know all the legal jargon of this Bill - it is sufficient for them to realise that this Bill, like the one which Barbara Castle under the Wilson Government attempted to impose on the Workers, is the first major step towards the introduction of Fascism in this country.

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The workers were therefore 100% correct in telling both these clowns to 'go to hell' with their talk of 'Industrial Peace' and 'More Productivity' when the question should be a political one. It was this line of "peace at any price" pursued by Chamberlain which led the workers into a bloody war and it was the same line of 'Industrial Peace & More Productivity' pursued by MacDonald, Snowden, Thomas, etc., which resulted in the defeat of the 1926 General Strike. It is strange indeed to the worker to hear both the Capitalists and the so-called 'Leaders' of the workers calling for Peace, but it is not so strange when we stop to consider their reasons for this.

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Today the position is that Capitalism and World Imperialism are faced with an acute crisis politically and economically. This is mainly due to the struggles of the National Liberation Movements which are today inflicting defeat after defeat upon Imperialism and as such weakening it completely. The Capitalist Class for many years were able to afford the working class at home a reasonable standard of

of living at the expense of the blood and sweat of the workers in the colonies. That position is fast coming to an end and in order to maintain their maximum profits they are compelled to introduce measures such as the Industrial Bills of Castle & Carr in order to exploit still further the working class at home. This is why Carr and Heath are so concerned about Industrial Peace and why their main attack is not aimed at the official Trade Union Movement but against the rank and file who have found it necessary to organise themselves in 'unofficial' bodies.

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Feather and Co., on the other hand, require Industrial Peace because they see that in the event of Fascist legislation being developed in this country then the workers through their own 'unofficial' bodies and with their own political leadership, will choose the path, which has been taken by so many workers in other countries, of revolutionary action. In the event of this taking place the arbitra(i)tors & the negotiators such as Feather & Co. will be swept aside.

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What must be clearly understood by every worker in this country today, is that the present Fascist-Tory Government is preparing for a head-on collision with the working class which at present is completely disorganised and without genuine political leadership due to the dirty role of the opportunists and the social-democratic Labour Party which has channelled all the workers struggles into Parliament for economic objectives only. The call then for a General Strike is madness without first a complete purging of the traitors in the Labour movement by the workers today. These traitors must be fought and openly exposed in order that the working class can strengthen themselves for the defeat of Capitalism, and the establishment of Socialism.

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THE WORKERS' PARTY OF SCOTLAND (M.L.)

declares that:-

- * This is not the time for reliance on Parliament or parliamentary parties.
- * It is not a time for struggling for workers elbow-room but a time to struggle for WORKERS POWER TO AVERT the RISE of FASCISM leading to WORLD WAR.

FOR THE WORKING CLASS TO BE VICTORIOUS IN THE DESISIVE BATTLES THAT LIE AHEAD, WE MUST PREPARE NOW AND FORM WORKERS ACTION COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND IN INDUSTRY.
DEMAND NOW FROM YOUR UNION THAT THIS FIGHT BECOME 100% POLITICAL IN THE SOCIALIST SENSE.

PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY M. LYGATE
% SCOTTISH VANGUARD BOOKS
270, FAISLEY RD. GLASGOW, C 5-E
19, NORTH ST. ANDREW ST, EDINBURGH.

All Hail, the Scottish

Workers' Republic!

(First published, Aug., 1920.)

Reprinted 1971

For some time past the feeling has been growing that Scotland should strike out for National Independence, as well as Ireland and other lands. This has recently been strengthened by the English Government's intention to rely mainly on Scottish troops to murder the Irish Race.

Genuine Scotsmen recently asked themselves the question: "Are we Scots to be used as the bloody tools of the English against our brother Celts of Erin?" And naturally the instinctive response was—No!

Again, the land seizures by Highland crofters is arousing the blood of Highlanders driven south to the Clyde Valley for work. Especially the filthy tactics of Lord Leverhulme (an English capitalist), who has dismissed Stornoway wage-slaves as a means of beating the Lewis raiders who seized the farms of Coll and Gress. Divide and conquer again!

Interest in the Highland land question has again been roused, and students are re-reading the Highland clearances.

Scottish students of history now realise that Edinburgh lawyers and politicians sold Scottish Independence in 1707, although most blame has fallen on the Earl of Stair. Many of us are convinced that ever since 1707 the Edinburgh kings' and queens' counsels and politicians have been in the regular pay of London to keep Scotland as the base tool of the English Government. These scoundrels in the eighteenth century helped to ruin Burns, the peasants' and people's poet.

The "Rebellions" of 1715 and 1745 were natural reactions against the treacherous deed of 1707, but these unfortunate outbursts but gave the English the excuse and chance to subdue the Highland chiefs, and then corrupt them with an English education at Oxford or Cambridge.

Since 1790 the chiefs became Englishmen in outlook, and used their clansmen to defend English capitalism against the Revolution started in Paris in 1789. Since the Napoleonic wars Highland regiments have been used to defend the stolen lands of England all over the globe, and have largely helped to extend the English Empire.

Whilst doing this, the Dukes of Sutherland and Argyll and

other chiefs proceeded with the English landlord policy of land clearances. The friends of the fighters were chased off their native heath into the lowlands or out to Canada and Australia.

Now the reaction is beginning—inspired by Ireland and Russia.

Scotland must again have Independence, but not to be ruled by traitor kings and chiefs, lawyers and politicians. The Communism of the clans must be re-established on a modern basis. (Bolshevism, to put it roughly, is but the modern expression of the Communism of the Mir.) Scotland must therefore work itself into a Communism embracing the whole country as a unit. The country must have but one clan, as it were—a united people working in co-operation and co-operatively, using the wealth that is created.

We can safely say, then: Back to Communism and Forward to Communism.

The control must be in the hands of the workers only, male and female alike, each workshop and industry sending delegates to District Councils and the National Council.

The National Council must be established in or near Glasgow, as half the population lives within a radius of twenty miles from Glasgow.

In the period of transition a Wage-earners' Dictatorship must guide production, and the adoption of the machinery and methods of production, to Communist methods.

Many Irishmen live in Scotland, and, as they are Celts like the Scots, and are out for Irish Independence, and as wage-earners have been champion fighters for working-class rights, we expect them to ally themselves with us, and help us to attain our Scottish Communist Republic, as long as they live in Scotland. Irishmen must remember that Communism prevailed amongst the Irish clans as amongst the Scottish clans, so that, in lining up with Scotsmen, they are but carrying forward the traditions and instincts of the Celtic Race.

All Hail the Scottish Workers' Republic!

JOHN MACLEAN, M.A.

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