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TUC-NEC-PLP

National Campaign to Bring Thatcher Down!

An Open Letter to Labour Party activists and trade union militants
From the Editorial Board.

Comrades

The Labour Party Conference presents once again the spectacle of a leadership which stands opposed to action to bring down the Tories. The TUC Conference managed to go a full week without any reference, save from Arthur Scargill, of the impossibility of granting Thatcher another three years to attack our unions, make us redundant and dismantle the welfare state. Can we tolerate this refusal to act in our interests?

If the trade unions were given a clear call from the TUC and the national executives for an all-out campaign to bring Thatcher down then the rank and file would respond in their millions. May 14th showed that, in spite of the confusion sewn by Congress House. If the Labour Leaders called the party to mount a political campaign to drive Thatcher from office then the ranks, in their hundreds of thousands, would show their hatred for the Tories.

All we hear is rhetoric, empty and meaningless. What use is it to merely catalogue the tragic march of unemployment, welfare cuts and attacks on union rights? The working class don't need to be told about the tragedy, *it is experiencing the effects first hand.*

All the rhetoric in the world cannot turn the Tories back. This is a class war government. It is out of the mould of the 1970 Heath administration, but more than that, it is out of the mould of the 1926 Baldwin - Churchill Tories. In short, Thatcher intends to defeat and

drive back the unions. She is being driven to prepare confrontation by the desperate straights of British capitalism. The idea of making the government "change course" by pressure campaigns is an illusion.

There will be no voluntary change of the methods of Thatcher, which are to make us pay for the crisis. We have only one road open to us, it is not an easy road, but the actions and class war preparations of the Tories themselves give us no choice -- *we must mount a national campaign to bring Thatcher down!*

In the face of Thatcher's class war preparations, what does James Callaghan do? He first tells the unions to keep out of politics. Then he stays silent during the steel strike. Now he offers a return to another 'social contract'. As if Thatcher is allowing the unions to 'keep out of politics'. As if the fight of the steel workers was not provoked by the Tory imposed offer of 2%. We know where we stand with Callaghan - he refuses to lead the fight against Thatcher.

Irrespective of any rules changes in the Labour Party, *Callaghan must go!*

Callaghan used the platform at the TUC to tell working men and women, to tell the youth, that they must suffer another three years of Thatcher only then to have to face another 'social contract'. The last 'social contract' did not solve unemployment. It did not help the low paid. It did not build up industry in Britain. All labour activists and union militants must reject this perspective, which is but a dressed up austerity programme designed to make the working class pay for a capitalist crisis for which we and our children bear no responsibility.

No to another 'social contract!'

In immediate terms we have the problem of Heseltine's most recent cuts. Are the Labour controlled councils going to be the vehicle, even if unwillingly, for Tory cuts? We have a duty, not merely to verbally oppose the cuts, but to stop them. What good is it to control some of the biggest cities if we attack our own class? Councillor Ted Knight and others in Lambeth have called a 'Local Government in Crisis' conference on November 1st. They say, "In our view the only alternative to cuts and redundancies is to force the government to change its policy or else get out." That was written on August 18th. Since then Heseltine has given his answer - more cuts!

There is only one way forward for Labour councils and the Conference on

November 1st. Labour Councils must make a co-ordinated refusal to implement cuts or put up rates and rents to cover cuts. This is a major step. It requires national co-ordination. It is a challenge to Heseltine and Thatcher, not to "change course" but to get out. What other choice have the Tories given us? There is no use controlling local councils on paper if the central government turns them into weapons to attack jobs and services. Neither can we throw the problem solely onto the backs of local government unions. Our councillors must fight, by obstructing business, by boycott if necessary, by mass resignation and forcing re-election on an anti-governmental line, by all available means. The public sector unions must be mobilized to fight redundancies and cuts.

But above all, our national leaders must end their tacit support for the
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BRING THATCHER DOWN~ from page 1

Tories. Not to fight to bring them down means to act as a 'loyal opposition.' This is not a time to play games in Parliament. Labour MP's must obstruct business, make it impossible for Thatcher to claim Parliament as her own. We do not need a 'loyal opposition', we need a leadership prepared to bring Thatcher down.

Every one of the problems working people face in Britain today poses a single question — how to get Thatcher off our backs? Removing the Tories will not magically solve all the problems in itself. But we cannot begin to even conceive of solving them while this government is in office.

Not alone are the Tories creating redundancies by cuts, they are allowing closures to occur in every section of industry. They are harassing and victimising members of the ethnic minorities. Ask any working class teenager how the Tories treat them. Thatcher even speaks of re-introducing conscription. The army and police have already been reinforced and received higher pay. Perhaps most immediately, trades unionists will have to bear the brunt of the anti-union provisions of Prior's 'Employment Act.'

What are all these preparations for?

They can mean only one thing — class battles of a major dimension. Already during the steel strike the prospect of a General Strike emerged. At that time it was crucially the cowardice and treachery of the TUC Leaders which prevented a rolling General Strike spreading from South Wales. We could have put an end to Thatcher then. Unlike the miners in 1926 the steelworkers did not go on to defeat. They pushed Joseph up from 2% to 18%. That was a victory. But the Tories are not fools. It was no accident they tried to crack the ISTC, which had not seen a national strike since 1926. They are making concessions to the stronger sections and gearing up to confront the weaker. That makes sense from their point of view. But not from ours.

We need unity against the Tories. We need to prepare our organisations for battle. We have a battle on our hands, to defend union rights, to defend jobs, to defend our hospitals, schools and services. These questions must not be left to chance. Workers' unity is not a good idea, alright for speechifying. It is an immediate necessary. How much longer are the TUC and the Labour leaders going to allow the Tory high command to hit us section by section? The dockers showed the way. A threat to 178 Liverpool workers was beaten back not by the action of 178 men, or even Liverpool alone, but by an immediate, national industry wide strike call.

We don't need a crystal ball to know where the Tories must attack. British Leyland is on the chopping block. £182 million loss in 6 months. This is a problem that can only be tackled on a national basis. The public service sector is another example. There is no way to fight these attacks except nationally. Industry by industry or town by town is not the way to fight Thatcher. The TUC and Labour Party NEC leaders have the platform — what are they going to do? We agree with Arthur Scargill that this government cannot be left to run its full course, what is he going to do to

bring it down? What are Tony Benn, Reg Race, Dennis Skinner and Eric Heffer going to do to initiate a national campaign to get rid of Thatcher?

If the Prior Laws are used to drive pickets into effective illegality are the trade union and Labour lefts going to break the law with them? The old expression, "An injury to one is an injury to all," will acquire a new meaning under the Employment Act. We will all find ourselves held in a straightjacket. Arthur Scargill said that if the Act impedes the actions of trade unions then it must be broken. He is right. What choice will we have, except that of bowing to Prior and Thatcher? The question is, can we accept, knowing that the Law must be broken if we are to picket effectively, that it remain on the statute book to penalise trade union militants time after time? We must remove it from the statute book, quickly, just as we removed Heath's 'Industrial Relations Act,' and by the same means!

We must move our great movement, both the unions and the Labour Party, into action to bring Thatcher down. This requires that we force our leaders, especially those who have declared that they agree that Thatcher cannot be left to govern on, to lead a great national campaign. We need the methods and the spirit of the Chartists, who brought hundreds of thousands onto the streets. We need the methods and the spirit of the industrial trade unionists who forced the employers to recognise them. We need the methods and the spirit of those workers who forced the release of the Pentonville 5 in 1972. We need the methods of Saltley Gate, of the low paid disputes of 1979. It was the actions of the rank and file which forced the leaders to act in these cases, and when the call came, there was no lack of response.

We are at a point in the history of Britain when largescale class battles are unavoidable. It is not that most people are more bloody minded these days.

But just as the industrial rise of Britain could not be achieved without class battles, neither can Britain's industrial demise. Indeed the working people have to try to stop this collapse and its result — a Thatcher government.

We can begin to mobilise our movement to throw out Thatcher. We certainly have the power to do it. We must shed any illusions that the Tories will "change course." That idea is only the excuse for leaving Thatcher in office which Callaghan uses. It will not serve Labour Party activists and union militants who want to defend the working class, its organisational rights and its living standards.

We cannot tolerate another day of this government. Now is the time to begin the campaign to bring it down. The TUC, the Labour Party NEC and the Parliamentary Labour Party must organise a Convention of all the forces of the workers' movement, with the express aim of united action against the Thatcher Government.



UNEMPLOYMENT: Make the TUC fight Thatcher

2,100,000 WORKERS, ACCORDING TO government figures for the end of September are on the dole. That doesn't take into account the hundreds of thousands who are not registered, particularly women and those in manufacturing and car industries who are on short-time.

At a time of year when the unemployment figures usually drop, due to school leavers finding employment, all economic predictions forecast 2½ million unemployed by the winter's end.

At the TUC we saw the same tired refrain, more talk about the need for a U-Turn from Thatcher. More, the Brighton Conference was marked by the unity of the trade union apparatus to prevent any glimmer of a perspective to really fight to get rid of the Thatcher Government from emerging. A polite request for an "urgent discussion" between the TUC and Thatcher was the extent to which these bureaucrats disturbed themselves about the hardships of 2½ million men and women. The "urgency" it seems, was

not such as to prevent Len Murray going on holiday before deeming to write politely for an appointment at Number 10.

What a contrast to the spirit and will to fight not just to defend jobs, but to take on the Tories demonstrated by the Liverpool Dockers.

So the TUC will go cap-in-hand to the Meeting on October 14th to ask for an "alternative" from Thatcher. What a disgrace!

Some of the more far-sighted and sensitive bureaucrats like Moss Evans, looking over his shoulder at the likes of the dockers, know that this kind of thing won't wash easily. That's why Evans has launched the diversion of calling on TGWU members to lobby the Tory Party Conference. Evans is trying to give the impression that he is for "a bit of action," when in fact the whole idea of going to the Tories Conference can only express the illusion that the problem is to make Thatcher change course and not fight to throw her out.

The "Right to Work Campaign,"

led by the Socialist Workers' Party, will also be going to Blackpool. Whilst we have the greatest solidarity with workers who want to fight Thatcher through this campaign, we want to make it clear that we think the SWP is engaged in a particularly stupid diversion giving a "revolutionary" cover to the TUC leadership and their refusal to mobilise the forces, that only they can, to bring Thatcher down.

A final word. The TUC leaders at Blackpool remained deaf, blind and dumb to 2½ million people who can be with us or used against us. The SLG thinks that we must learn the lessons of the way the unemployed were organised and united with the employed through the National Unemployed Workers' Movement. At a local level and at a national level, this problem has to be approached again today!

To fight unemployment we must make the TUC fight Thatcher.

**No to talks and deals with the Tories!
Not to Brighton but to Westminster!
Unite the Employed and Unemployed!
Bring Thatcher Down!**

Dockers victory~a turning point

By
George White

THE THREATENED NATIONAL Dock Strike revealed another fact of the battle between the working-class and the Tories. Thatcher and Co. deliberately confronted the Steel Workers in early 1980 to test the strength of the ISTC which was regarded as a weak union which had not been on strike since 1926. The Steel Workers despite their leader Bill Sirs proved willing and able to do battle with the Tories and thrust back the Government's attack.

The Tories did not feel so free to test the strength of the Dockers. In 1972 the Dockers not only checked Heath's offensive but secured the release of the famous Pentonville 5 and began the struggle which by 1974 broke Heath and returned a Labour Government.

Many jobs have been lost on the docks since 1972 but the Dockers organised in the TGWU remain an extremely powerful section of workers. The bosses deep in the grip of their own crisis need to cut thousands more jobs on the Docks. The crisis came to a head in Liverpool with the proposal to make 178 dockers redundant through the Temporary Unattached Register.

The response of the Dockers revealed an immediate willingness to fight the sackings proposed by the particular company concerned who were carrying through the expressed policy of the Tories to attack workers' jobs and living standards. The mass meetings in Southampton, Bristol, London and particularly in Liverpool demonstrated a willingness to fight class against class in defence of the 178 jobs. Indeed in Liverpool the original mass-meeting which voted for a national strike greeted with approbation the statement by Dockers' leader Kelly that the working-class needed to bring down Thatcher.

The Tories recognised the Dockers meant business. More than this, the Tories realised that a national dock strike could paralyse the capitalist economy in a way that the steel strike couldn't. The Tories and the Employers had to seriously reconsider taking on the Dockers.

The Steel-Workers forced Thatcher and Joseph from 2% to 18% on wages. But the refusal of Sirs to launch a national fight to defend Steel jobs allows the Tories to continue their attacks on the Steel Workers. The Dockers, by threatening a national-strike in defence of jobs raised the battle against Thatcher to a higher level. This Stand is important in that it is the first big successful defiance of the Tory's job-cutting plans.

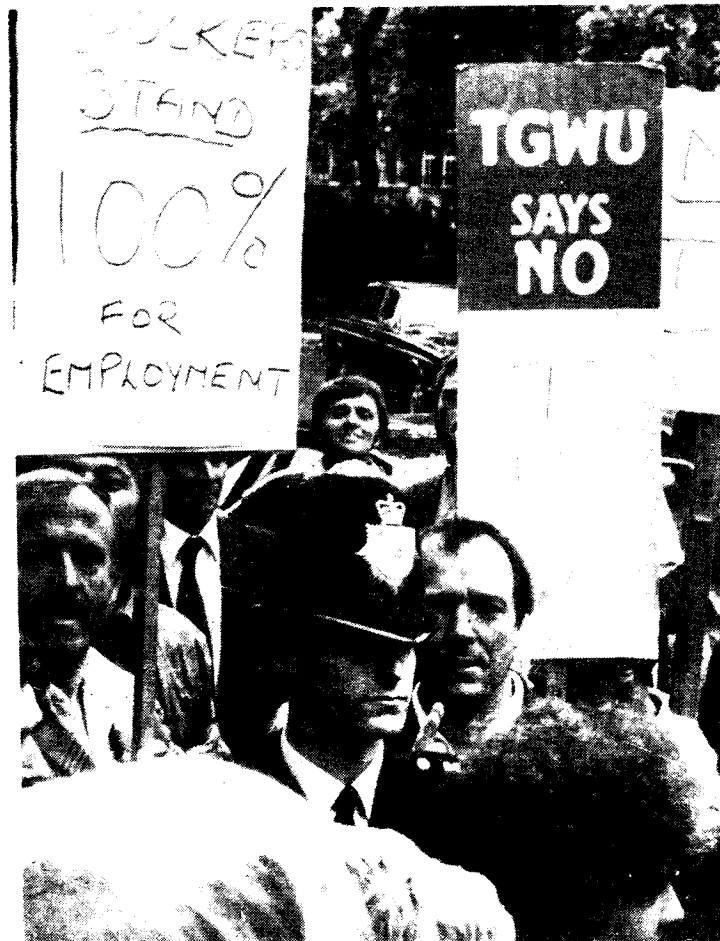
Within days of the Dockers' decision for a national strike the Employers caved-in. They have agreed to the re-employment of the 178 men. They have agreed to use the T.U.R. only for disciplinary purposes. This is a clear victory for the Dockers.

However the Tories cannot postpone forever doing battle with strong bastions of the working-class like the Dockers and the Miners. The Tories approach of attacking key industries like Steel and B.L., attacks on the public sector, with attacks on youth and blacks, and attacks on trade union rights, in effect generalise the confrontation. To break the back of the organised working-class the Tories must take-on at some stage the Miners, the Dockers and the Power Workers.

The Tories' general aim is to run-down the British economy according to the needs of the bosses and at the expense of the working-class. The steel strike showed the willingness and ability of the working-class to fight Thatcher. It could have become a generalised battle to bring down Thatcher, but for the role of Sirs and Murray who fought tooth and nail to block such a generalisation. A Dockers' Strike could have become a general battle against Thatcher, especially given the inevitable and devastating effects of closed ports. The Dockers' won without striking, but won a great victory.

The Steelworkers and Dockers have shown the way. What is needed now is a clear call from the leaders of the Labour Movement to launch a massive campaign of the Trade Unions and Labour Party to bring down the Tories. Murray and Callaghan have said and proved they won't fight the Tories. Scargill and Benn must, if

they aspire to lead the working-class, drive the right-wingers out and call for the bringing down of Thatcher. Militants must build on the Dockers' victory and call for a National Convention of the TUC and Labour Party to launch the campaign against Thatcher starting with a Great March on Parliament against the Government.



H-BLOCKS Build the Charter 80 Campaign

THE RECENT CONFERENCE of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions was faced with the question of the struggle for political status being waged by the Republican Prisoners in the Longkesh H-Blocks. On both sides of the Irish Sea the leaders of the trade union movement have remained silent on this crucial battle against the repressive measures of the British State directed against Republicans in the North of Ireland.

It has been revealed in a recent pamphlet called "Trade Unions and the H-Blocks" that there are 10 members of the Irish TGWU and 7 members of the Amalgamated TGWU on the blanket. This simple fact makes all the more criminal the silence of both Irish and British trade union leaders on the H-Blocks.

At the ICTU Conference in Belfast

the Irish trade union leaders tried once again to ignore the problem. But Waterford Trades Council advanced a resolution calling for a trade-union inquiry into H-Block. The National H-Block Committee Trade Union Sub-Committee organised a lobby of the Conference and secured the signatures of 150 delegates to a statement calling for a Trade Union Inquiry.

However the Executive of ICTU argued for and succeeded in referring back the matter. However the battle goes on to force the leaders of the Labour Movement to face up to their responsibilities to defend the H-Block men. The recently launched newspaper 'Irish Worker' has called for a Workers Conference for Irish Unity which as part of its work will discuss and plan the way forward for political status for the H-Block men in Ireland.

In Britain militants must take forward this battle and direct it at the Labour leaders forcing them to fight the British State on the demands of the H-

Block men. Tony Benn, The Editor of 'Morning Star' and many others have signed a 'Charter 80' which takes up 5 demands

1. the right not to wear prison uniforms
2. the right not to do prison work
3. for free association with other prisoners
4. for weekly visits
5. for the right to full remission

These are the elementary rights of prisoners of war denied by the British State. As such, militants in the British Labour Movement have a particular responsibility to take up the fight against the Thatcher Government who persist with this repression. 'Charter 80' should be raised in Trade Union Branches and CLP's demanding that the likes of Benn and the Labour Party NEC and TUC General Council call for national initiatives in support of the Charter against the Thatcher Government, for the genuine unity of the Irish and British Workers against the British State and Thatcher's imperialist policy.

IN RECENT WEEKS, every reactionary force has pressed its help on what serves as a government in Poland, in the wake of the Strikes. Carter and Schmidt join in a large "loan." Carter promises food supplies on credit. Even Britain makes her modest contribution. The Council of Europe appeals to every Western government to "adopt measures to help the Polish government." Nor is the Kremlin left behind.

The reactionary powers still have cause for concern. The Gdansk deal could have been tougher than it was, but the Silesian miners won all that Gdansk won and more. Yet the Gdansk deal sufficed to leave deep concern in "official" circles, because it provided for "self-governing trade unions," because it gave the go-ahead to every industrial worker in Poland and because its shock-wave in Eastern Europe has not yet spent itself.

The "official circles," West and East, all face a dilemma. **Either** the Polish bureaucracy must re-impose in fact the "leading role of the Party," by absorbing some of the new committees into the state apparatus and crushing those who resist . . . or the new committees will form a national free trade union centre and become what the workers have shown they want them to be, independent of the Party and of the State, and defenders of nationalised property and economic planning.

When they signed at Gdansk on Sunday, August 31st, the entire "official" press could talk of nothing but "getting the workers back in line." But in the coal mines and factories of Silesia, in the South, the strikes were only beginning. On Monday, September 1st, a "governmental commission" arrived in Katowice. It was led by the Minister of Mines, Leszczak. The miners demanded: "*the same agreement as at Gdansk.*" One of them added: "*Especially about the union.*" During that afternoon, the government's spokesman said that they were "seriously worried" about these strikes. That evening the 50,000 strikers, from nine coal mines and sixteen other undertakings, formed their Joint Strike Committee. At one o'clock the following morning, that of Tuesday, September 2nd, Warsaw announced "agreement in principle" in Silesia. No one in Silesia believed them, and the strikes spread like wild-fire. That morning eleven pits were stopped. Nine more stopped during the day. By the evening there were 350,000 people out on strike.

The Joint Strike Committee refused to negotiate with Leszczak. A Deputy-Premier had gone to Gdansk and a Deputy-Premier must come to Silesia. Post haste, a certain Alexander Kopec arrived, to face two new demands. That day there had been an accident in one of the mines that was still working. Eight men were killed and eighteen were hurt. For themselves, the miners demanded the five-day week, retirement at fifty and improved safety measures. For the fighters for free trade unions, they demanded that Kasimir Switon, who had been rearrested, should again be freed.

At ten o'clock that night the Joint Strike Committee represented twenty-three mines. It rejected the government's terms. All night the Deputy-Premier had the pleasure of watching the thousands and thousands of workers assembled in the yard of the "July Manifesto" mine, and the fresh delegates arriving to join the committee. All night the telephones were working to keep the safety men under-ground informed of what was being said. They finally signed at 5.40 on the Wednesday morning, and what they "agreed" went so far beyond what was won at Gdansk that the government hesitated before it made the terms public.

On September 8th Polish TV was still appealing to strikers to return to work. It threatened that the Gdansk, Szczecin and Silesian agreements "could be at risk." These agreements were indeed "at risk" before the ink on them was dry. It will not be easy for the state to recover its grip, but it must try, because it is a life-and-death matter. But just how are the new free trade union organisations to be "recognised" by the law? Here is a rich seam of bureaucratic obstruction. Militants from all over Poland are having to go to Warsaw, to the district court there. They have to comply with formalities: Where is the union office? Whom does the union claim to represent? What are the names of the committee members? and so on. Even when these formalities are fulfilled, registration can be delayed. There is a deep mistrust of the officials. In Gdansk, on September 17th, there began the first national meeting of the new unions. The London "Times" reports "*The necessity for some central organisation to represent all the new unions is becoming increasingly apparent. Many trade union experts feel that the registration could be simplified if there were a central office to do the paper work. The committees in charge of setting up the independent unions have also been extremely sensitive to what is regarded as official*

attempts to dissuade workers from joining. In many places attempts are being made by the local authorities or by management to intimidate the workers by spreading the word, sometimes on factory notice-boards, that they will lose various social benefits (such as old age pensions) if they leave the party-controlled unions."

What qualifies Konia to replace Gierek at the helm? First, he is hailed in Moscow as a "well-known fighter to strengthen the leading role of the Party" and "devoted to unbreakable friendship between the Polish People's Republic and the Soviet Union." He is an experienced and senior official of the security service and an agent in Poland of the KGB.

But there was something else to recommend him. It was Konia who organised Pope John Paul II's visit to Poland, for which the bishops expressed their "appreciation" of his "understanding." For some years he has had charge, not only of "security" but also of the relations of the Party leadership and the Church! There can be no mistaking the connection. This bureaucrat, with his "good neighbourly" relations with the Polish ecclesiastical hierarchy, heads the government.

It was the Archbishop of Gdansk, Mgr. Mazarek, who tried first to use his "authority" to get the strike called off, before the Primate of all Poland, Cardinal Wysinski went on TV with no better success. This is only the tip of the iceberg. When the Joint Central Strike Committee was formed at Gdansk, Lech Walesa had already had a long interview with Cardinal Wysinski. He may yet go to Rome to talk to the Pope. It was he who insisted that the presidium of the strike committee must be "assisted" in its negotiations by Catholic "experts." The most influential of these experts were nominated by the Catholic movement ZNAC, which also had representatives among the government's "experts!" Among them was Father Szczepanski, a "non-party" member of the Council of State and Edward Gierek's personal adviser on relations with the Church.

In Rome, M. Morawski, who advises the Vatican on Polish affairs, declared last week: "*The bishops are satisfied, both with the extraordinary political maturity of the members of the strike committee and with the realism and sense of responsibility which the leaders have shown.*"

The Polish Premier, Joseph Pinkowski, returned the compliment. In the first five minutes of his speech at the opening of the Polish Parliament (the "Diet"), on September 5th, he publicly and emphatically declared his "respect" for the "patriotism" and "sense of responsibility" of the Catholic hierarchy in Poland! There is more in this than just an exchange of courtesies. The Papal counsellor Morawski declared in Rome: "*It is the task of the Catholics to rehabilitate the discredited Communist Party.*"

This brings us to the heart of the matter. The Polish bureaucracy, seeing the abyss opening at its feet and not knowing what to do, leans as best it can on the Kremlin and the Vatican alike.

Rome is ready to help. But Rome's help is not disinterested. The historic functions of the Catholic Church, to

POLAND: I ~bureaucra counter

By Alan

represent directly interests completely opposed to those of the working class, takes on special importance in Poland today. This same Szczepanski, yesterday Walesa's "expert" in the Gdansk strike committee, and today a deputy in the Diet, is striking a new note. This was sounded by another Catholic Deputy, Janusz Zablocki, for whom likewise Premier Pinkowski's "respect" does not go far enough, who declared with brutal frankness: "*You cannot expect the Catholics to play their part in the construction of Socialism, if you go on treating them as second-class citizens.*"

Zablocki demanded "concrete measures" to improve the position of the Church. He called for a "continuous dialogue" between it and the bureaucracy. What would they talk about? The Church in Poland is openly calling for the restoration of private property in land. Before 1939 the Church was the largest landowner in Poland. Its demand to return to private property in land today can only be a step towards a general return to private property in the means of production in the future.

The Catholics press their advantage home without flinching. The bishop who preached in the very first Mass to be televised took the opportunity of demanding that the bureaucracy, in its crisis, makes still more concessions in payment for the Church's efforts to "get the workers back in line."

During the strikes in Silesia, a French journalist from *Le Monde* interviewed some miners. One of them told him: "*We are not opposed to socialism.*" Another was more precise: "*I am loyal to the Party, but as Lenin said, and he was no fool, the object is to give power to the working class. I don't want to buy myself a Mercedes or even a Volkswagen. What I want is the strikers' wives not to have to stand in queues outside shops, and people to have a decent life.*" This man was a member of the strike committee and is a member of the Polish United Workers' Party!

It is here that the tremendous combativity of the Polish workers can be expected to continue to be revealed in the struggle for the longer-term objectives to which winning the "right" to free trade unions leads on. All the indications are that the workers cannot fail to come into direct conflict again with the authorities in the near future, and that means coming into conflict with the alliance of the Church with sections of



New period its prepare - attack

Bridges

the bureaucracy. It is indeed already beginning to do so.

At the same time as imperialism supports the Stalinist bureaucracy with all its strength against the political revolution, the policies of the imperialist powers has longer-term aims, even though today these powers intend to act with prudence and without haste.

In the long term, imperialism retains its purpose of totally reconquering these markets, these sources of raw materials, these masses of labour-power in all the countries in which private property in the means of production has been expropriated by which are controlled by bureaucracies which endanger the conquests of the revolution in their struggle to protect their own privileges. Today in Poland imperialism relied on the collaboration of those layers of the bureaucracy which openly favour a deeper penetration of capitalism into the economy . . . with the Church leaders.

This is the logic which motivates the concern of the imperialists to make a success of the collaboration of the Church with layers of the bureaucracy.

Last week, the International Herald Tribune wrote: *"There is not much that USA and the other Western powers can do immediately. A serious economic reform is necessary in Poland. Such a reform is all the more likely if the workers can be persuaded that it is in their interests, even if its first result is that prices rise. They will not be easy to convince, but they may be induced to give a chance to some new leader like . . . Stefan Olszowski. This is naturally something which the West should not try to influence. But, if M. Olszowski were to replace M. Gierak at the head of the state and try to introduce reforms, the West could provide help for the people and the government at the same time. Such chances are rare and when they come they should not be missed."*

Now put this in plain English. According to this imperialist newspaper, the "interests of the people" lie in reforms which would begin with higher prices, and lead to unemployment and closing factories, just like in capitalist countries! The capitalist governments would support Olszowski if he set such "reforms" going!

Imperialism has never accepted that nearly half the population of the world has escaped from capitalist exploitation. The deepening of the world

economic crisis compels it to seek new markets. Hence a constant pressure on the bureaucratic apparatuses which are parasites on the planned economies . . . those who ride about in Mercedes while the workers' wives queue in front of half-empty food shops — in Eastern Europe to make them open their economies still more to capitalist penetration.

But no armed intervention — YET! That is impossible without first beating down the workers' movement in the West . . . and in Poland. Once having established their independence of the workers in the late 1940's, the privileged bureaucrats thought it would last for ever. The new stage of the political revolution, from East Berlin in 1953, through Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968, through Poland in 1970-71 and 1976 has seen the spectre revealing itself. The workers in Eastern Europe have shown that they have the means and the capacity to go forward to genuine socialism, whatever obstacles be raised in their path. As Trotsky forecast, when he wrote "The Transitional Programme": *"The laws of history will be stronger than the bureaucratic apparatuses."*

No one can dodge the fact that the Polish workers forced the bureaucracy to negotiate with them, on ground which the workers dictated, the ground of demands which the workers formulated and which they backed up with a generalised strike movement. This is a direct blow to the Kremlin. It is a real turning-point in the advance to the political revolution in Eastern Europe and it will have consequences all over the world.

The Western press might well comment: *"The idea of the Kremlin or a satellite government negotiating with strike leaders and signing an agreement with them is something which in its very nature the Kremlin cannot tolerate."*

And the Stalinist bureaucracies in the East are not the only ones to reveal the terror which the power of the workers inspires. The Western press has noted the remarkable unanimity with which London, Bonn, East Berlin, Paris, Belgrade and the Vatican looked forward to the Gdansk strikers getting back into line.

Thirty five years ago the agreements of Yalta and Potsdam were signed. Imperialism and the Kremlin bureaucracy intended to stabilise the "world order." The wave on international revolution had risen during World War Two and they both were concerned to put a stop to it. But during those thirty-five years the masses have been fighting against the capitalist order and against the parasitic bureaucracy.

These forces began to undermine the Yalta-Potsdam structure in East Germany in 1953. They have revealed themselves not merely in the Eastern Europe, but in the Cuban Revolution of 1959, in the General Strike in France in May-June 1968, in the opening of the Portuguese Revolution in 1974 and in that in Iran and Nicaragua five years later.

In every place these forces have revealed that history cannot be dammed up by signing agreements, even at the highest "summits."

Reuter reported ("Times," September 18th): *"Leaders of several hundred*

striking West Berlin employees of the East German State Railway tonight threatened to cut West Berlin's Rail links with West Germany if their demands were not met. They are demanding free trade unions and higher wages from their East German employers."

All the time we are getting nearer the knuckle. Kania knows what Brezhnev means by "strengthening the leading role of the Party" — he means the Polish government following policies which suit the Kremlin, **whatever those policies may be**, and holding the Polish masses in submission to them.

But Pope John Paul II, meanwhile, declares that "Poland has a moral right to independence, sovereignty, and self-determination." In plain words, Poland must be ruled by people whose policies favour the penetration of foreign capital, the progressive destruction of nationalised property and planning and, finally, a military threat to the Western border of the Soviet Union.

Without any doubt the Church and the State in Poland see their interests best served by a compromise, by some collusion in getting the workers back in line. The question of dependence on Russia is a diplomatic wrapping which hides their deeper problem. While Polish workers today may well see Russian domination and the rule of the Kremlin's friends as their most immediate enemy, the regime's real problems lie in the workers' demands — for higher living standards, which have led to the demands for independent organisations, for freedom of the press and of political life.

But also the very existence of the new trade union centre enables the workers to pose the great question — how to organise the economy without, on the one hand, being held back by the incompetence and greed of the bureaucracy, or, on the other hand, even more complete subordination to the Western capital than the bureaucracy has already managed to achieve.

Lech Walesa may say what he likes to Western TV interviewers about "no politics." The fact is that the leaders of the new unions are on the point of being pitchforked willy nilly into politics. They have got to convince their followers that they are trying to deliver the goods. The Polish workers are still in the process of selecting their leadership. They will without doubt change and replace it more than once. But the question of Workers' Control of Production, of democratic control of planning, of the luxurious living of the bureaucracy and of the defence of nationalised property are arising, and will not go away.

But this is the dilemma which faces these workers' leaders in Poland who hope for progress through a compromise between Church and Party, whether they take place themselves across and in opposition to the mass movement. There is no basis in Poland, or anywhere else in Eastern Europe, for a bureaucratic apparatus like the British TUC or the French CGT to shackle the unions.

Miracles are nowadays beyond the Church and the Stalinists alike. No uneasy coalition such as they may put together in the near future can do more than oppose the movement of the workers. It can be nothing but a counter-revolutionary government which cannot but oppose the demands which mobilised

the workers in the strikes.

The Kremlin and the Western imperialists will continue to try to take advantage of the difficulties of the Polish people in order to gain tactical advantages over each other. The Church and a section of the Polish bureaucracy may beat the patriotic drum, adopt a stance critical of the Kremlin and play on the Polish masses' fear of Russia. The Kremlin may denounce the "liberation" measures as "anti-socialist," thereby deceiving some in the West more than the Polish workers. In the West there will be talks aimed at winning the new regime in Poland into some united pressure on the Kremlin. The Kremlin, while it lets loose the KGB to assassinate the strike leaders will try to take the leadership of the workers' efforts to defend the nationalised property. Neither will have much success, because both depend on first defeating the workers' independent movement. **Our international duty in Britain, therefore, is clear. It is to make sure that the Polish workers' hands are kept free.** Everything that has happened after the end of August in Poland can lead to no conclusion other than that a new outburst is in preparation. In this new outburst the leadership offered by the Church, and elements in the bureaucracy will be thrown into crisis. Meanwhile Western statesmen warn the Kremlin to "behave well," that is, not to intervene. But who also should behave well?

Day by day the Western press may relish reports of the Church's taking the edge off the workers' activities. Revelations of corruption in the upper bureaucracy make good reading in the West.

The lesson of Poland is clear. When the bureaucracy comes into opposition to the working class, it is obliged to fall more and more into dependence on imperialism and this gravely endangers the gains of the working class which lie in the expropriation of capitalism and the planned economy.

The Polish workers fight for free trade unions. That means that in fact they want to take back again the control of the State which the bureaucracy has usurped. They have shown that the only possible defence for the conquests lies in the independent activity of the working class and its struggle for the political revolution.

The Labour Party Conference, then, must find means somehow to welcome the victories of the Polish workers.

It must place on record its support for what the Polish workers have won, which cannot in any way be to the advantage of capitalism or endanger the socialist property and planned economy.

It must bring home sharply to the representatives of the Polish bureaucracy at the Conference that it will supervise what goes on in Poland, to ensure that international labour agreements about free trade unions are observed in Poland, that trade unions free from state control and with the right to strike are really allowed without discrimination against their members.

The Labour Party must warn the Polish representatives that the undertakings to release political prisoners such as Edmund Zdrozinski given to the Gdansk workers do not appear to have been carried out and that it will not tolerate the continued detention of such as Zdrozinski.

CPSA: LESSONS OF THE BRIXTON STRIKE

THE UNOFFICIAL STRIKE of civil servants at the Brixton Unemployment Benefit Office over the summer months raised many fundamental problems, not just for the strikers, not just for civil servants but for the working-class movement as a whole.

It is becoming clear that the present Tory Government intend to cut many thousands of jobs in the civil service. To prepare for such an attack the Tories need to weaken and undermine the resistance of civil servants. At the centre of such preparations is an attack on the trade unions which organise civil servants. The Civil and Public Servants Association (CPSA) one of the main unions which organises workers in the Social Security Offices, the Unemployment Benefit Offices etc., is in the frontline of the struggle to defend jobs.

Fundamental Change

The CPSA has changed quite fundamentally in the last ten years due to the influx of workers unable to find work in Britain's many declining industries. This shift in the social composition of the clerical officers has coincided with government attempts to make huge cuts in the public sector and has led to a highly volatile situation amongst civil servants and outbursts of determined militancy from the rank and file of the CPSA.

The 1979 CPSA pay campaign although wrought with problems of leadership, union structures and the conservative weight of CPSA's history, revealed a rank and file with a militant willingness to fight government attacks and a preparedness to use the methods of the class-struggle to win i.e. mass-picketing etc.

The people who took most notice of the 1979 militancy was the leadership of the CPSA itself. Arch-reactionary Kate Losinska (President) and self-styled Tribune Ken Thomas (General Secretary) drew a careful balance-sheet of this militancy and have taken a decision to keep the lid firmly screwed on.

The dispute at Brixton blew up with the sacking of Phil Corddell for taking unauthorised leave. His sacking was followed later by the sacking of Richard Cleverley for similar reasons. Of course the official justifications were a very thin smokescreen for what was

actually taking place. Corddell and Cleverley, both SWP members, had been identified as militant trade unionists. Their CPSA sub-branch in the Brixton Office had gained a reputation for militancy in the very general sense. The victimisation of Corddell and Cleverley was without doubt an attempt to smash this militant sub-branch as part of the overall, national plan of the government to undermine trade union organisation in the civil service. As such it revealed the central task of this Conservative Government which is to defeat the working-class by breaking the strength of the trade union movement which Heath completely failed to do in the 1970-74 period.

These two victimisations immediately raised the question of who was in government and what were their plans for trade unions and the public sector. The dispute raised the need to fight the Tories. What was the response of the CPSA leadership? Their ploy was to isolate the dispute, to treat it as if it were a peculiar aberration completely unrelated to the plans of the Tories. They called a three-day token strike at the Brixton Office and then argued for the victimised two to place all their faith in the Civil Service Appeals Board. At the end of the three days the Brixton Strikers were totally isolated, but they decided to stand and fight and stayed-out on unofficial strike.

Clearly the strikers were up against their own leaders. The struggle for reinstatement now centred on a battle to face the CPSA leadership to make the strike official and to spread the action with solidarity strikes in other offices. Such a course is never easy and requires a firm rank and file leadership emerging from amongst the strikers.

Corddell and Cleverley as SWP members aspired to provide this leadership. What did they propose? For a start the most elementary necessity of any strike to elect a strike committee from amongst the strikers was persistently ignored by the SWP. They worked through a Campaign Committee which was superimposed on the dispute and grew increasingly out of touch with the needs and mood of the strikers as the dispute went on. This Campaign Committee argued that keeping Brixton out was all that was possible and therefore all they should do. They ignored the treacherous role of Thomas and Co. in the CPSA leadership and therefore put no pressure on the leaders to fight or resign and make way for others who would. Corddell and

Cleverley actually opposed a fight to spread strike action saying that the backwardness of other CPSA sub-branches prevented any possibility of sympathy action. They reduced the essentially political nature of the battle against the Tories and against the CPSA leaders' treachery to raising money.

Such a policy of self-isolation seriously weakened the strike. Some strikers started to return to work, others simply stayed at home rather than join the picket line. The idea of the Unemployment Benefit Office fighting the government was recognised as an ultra-left fantasy. But due to the artificial nature of the Campaign Committee led by the SWP such doubts and fears could never be adequately expressed and resolved. The SWP kept control of the strike by suppressing the demands for a proper, elected Strike Committee.

National attention was drawn towards the unofficial strike because of the activities of the police. As at the unofficial strike at Adwest in Reading, the police began limiting picketing to 6 according to Prior's Code of Practice which of course is not yet law. Skirmishes and fights broke out. The issue was now even more clear. The unofficial strikers were forced by the government and the state. Over a period of several weeks pickets were arrested including Corddell and Cleverley, the latter being banned from the picket line.

By mid-August a large mass picket was organised. Some 400 trade unionists responded to the call and the police limited picketing to 6. When local CPSA officials and Labour MP Reg Race approached the picket line to discuss the issue with the Senior Police Officer responsible the police arrested the officials and the 400 converged on the office gates to protect the arrested and establish the right to picket. The police made the mistake of arresting 18 workers. More large mass-pickets followed and within a week the Civil Service Appeals Board decided to reinstate Corddell and Cleverley. The strike ended.

Was it a victory? It is evident that the Tories did not want, at this stage, a major confrontation centred on a challenge to Prior's Code of Practice. They decided to defuse the situation and approved reinstatements. But this positive gain has to be measured against the following: Corddell and Cleverley were moved from Brixton and told that one more conflict with Management would result in their instant dismissal; 5 other strike leaders were compulsorily trans-

ferred from Brixton; the Brixton Sub-branch has been smashed and no less than 18 cases of victimisations have been reported since the strike ended. On top of this CPSA leader Thomas has launched a witch-hunt against left-wingers who he blames for the Brixton dispute and its consequences, with the CPSA right-wingers calling for an 'independent enquiry' into Brixton which will be the vehicle for the witch-hunt. These are all characteristics of a defeated strike. However the Brixton strike wasn't a clear victory or defeat for either side.

What was necessary for an outright victory? A strike committee elected by the strikers with the perspective of forcing the CPSA National Executive to mobilise the entire union behind the victimised and in defence of the union. To raise the stakes against the government just as the Tories had raised the stakes by sacking the two and sanctioning aggressive police strike-breaking. The lesson for rank and file trade unionists is to organise themselves the maximum unity of workers to force the leaders of the Labour Movement to confront the Tories in defence of the working-class, and if they won't do that then militants through committees for unity should kick-out the traitors and replace them with leaders, who will fight to mobilise the whole movement in a struggle to bring down the Tories.

Brixton was the tip of a very big ice-berg. CPSA members face a widespread escalation of victimisation. CPSA must defend itself, as a union and its individual members. The leadership question is at the centre of organising resistance to Tory Government inspired victimisation. Thomas and Co. betrayed the strike. Middle-ranking officials like Corbishley, Renard, and Farrell and the SWP in the CPSA refused to fight this betrayal and now talk of a victory at Brixton when every CPSA member left in the Brixton Office knows that such bravado is nothing but a lie.

The CPSA rank and file must unite itself against victimisations, against the witch-hunting splitters in the CPSA leadership and sweep aside all those like the so-called Communist Party and SWP who block the rank and file from forcing the leaders to fight or resign. What is needed today in the nationalised industries, the private and public sectors is maximum working-class unity to bring down the Tories and the sweeping aside of every leader who blocks or confuses that struggle.

BRAZIL

TROTSKYISTS FACE STATE PROVOCATION

IN BRAZIL, THE LAST few years have seen the emergence of a powerful working class movement. Through mass strikes and bitter struggles, notably those involving metal workers and construction workers especially those in San Paulo, the working class is rising up and organizing itself against the dictatorship of Figueiredo.

This movement has focussed on the fight to construct free trade unions independent of the State and to break out the shackles of the "official" State-controlled union structures.

Recently this movement has been expressed politically through the attempt by the Brazilian workers to begin to build an independent Workers Party.

The regime of Figueiredo is striving to preserve the institutions of the dictatorship against this mass movement, which is shaking them. In the last few years the workers have been able to wrest from the dictatorship certain limited freedoms.

No longer is the state able to rely on its ability through direct repression to force all expressions of the working class underground. The regime has not "conceded" democratic rights. What has happened is that the workers, by using and relying on their own strength, have been able to impose the legal or semi-legal existence of numerous organizations and publications of its own. These expressions are often not allowed by law and yet at the same time, because of the relation of class forces established by the offensive of the workers, the government can't simply repress them.

It is in these conditions that the Trotskyists of the OSI (Internationalist Socialist Organisation) have been able to make great advances in the building of a revolutionary workers' party in Brazil, establishing the OSI as a serious current in the struggles of the working class. It put at the centre of its activities the fight for independent trade unions and for an independent workers party and the struggle to bring down the dictatorship. The OSI has taken up the fight for its own legalisation as a political party. Also it was these conditions which enabled 'O'Trabalho' (Labour) to appear as a weekly newspaper, published legally, expressing the needs of the struggle of the Brazilian masses against the dictatorship.

Recently, the OSI and the "Conver-

gencia Socialista," the two organisations adhering to the Party Committee in Brazil, organised a series of meetings in various cities throughout the country, on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the assassination of Trotsky, under the slogan "Trotsky lives in Poland," which were attended by thousands of workers and youth.

It is no accident therefore that the dictatorship chooses the Trotskyists as the first targets of an offensive to try to shore up its position against the movement of the masses. The government has launched a provocation the OSI and the weekly paper "O'Trabalho."

The spate of bombings and terrorist acts launched by fascist groups (linked behind the scenes with the military), to float the idea of special "anti-terrorist" measures, to enable it to step-up repression.

In April, David Maximiliano, a teacher, was imprisoned and accused of being a member of the OSI and of charges of "terrorism." On the 3rd of September, the Brazilian press published an official note issued from the Ministry of the Interior, which alleges that the OSI and O'Trabalho are implicated in "subversive" and "terrorist" activities.

Clearly the regime wants to smear the OSI and Trotskyism with the label of terrorism, in order to try to move against the Trotskyists and the workers movement as a whole. Meanwhile the real terrorism of the right and of the state is allowed free rein.

The response of the OSI and of O'Trabalho has been immediate and sharp. A direct appeal to the workers and democratic movement to repudiate these slanders has found a response from trade union and political organisations up and down the country and also from such figures as Lula, the metalworkers leader.

At the same time, O'Trabalho has launched a massive campaign to mobilise the working class to denounce fascist terrorism and its state backers.

In Brazil, Trotskyism is becoming a force capable of mobilising masses or workers against the dictatorship. That is force capable of mobilising masses or workers against the dictatorship. That is why our movement is under attack.

We must defend the comrades of the OSI. The Labour movement must denounce the slanders against the OSI. We must tell the Brazilian Embassy:

Hands of the OSI!

Release David Maximiliano!

COLUMBIA

For the immediate release of Nora Ciaponni

AT THE BEGINNING of August, Comrade Nora Ciaponni, a leader of the PST (Socialist Workers Party of Argentina) was arrested in Bogota, Colombia. Since then she has been imprisoned and there is the likelihood that she will be extradited to Argentina and face certain death at the hands of the Videla Regime.

Nora Ciaponni is accused of using a forged passport to get into Colombia, this she does not deny, but justifies her action on the grounds that it was necessary to escape the reprisals of the Argentinian Police who have abducted and even murdered those opponents of the regime who have sought political asylum abroad.

Her situation now is extremely serious. The PST, which is the Argentinian section of the Parity Committee for the Reorganisation (Reconstruction)

of the Fourth International regroups thousands of militants, who in the present conditions of illegality, fights for the overthrow of the Videla Regime. Thus, it has suffered particularly from repression — more than a hundred of its members have been assassinated or have 'disappeared' since Videla came to power.

Following the arrest of Nora Ciaponni a commission of lawyers, known for their activities in support of human rights in Colombia, was set up. This commission concluded that as a political refugee it was perfectly legitimate to conceal her identity and that therefore she could not be regarded as having committed a crime.

A campaign has begun in Colombia to stop the extradition of our comrade and obtain her release.

**No to the extradition of Nora Ciaponni!
For the immediate release of our comrade!**

EL SALVADOR

PST leader in danger of death

ON 25th AUGUST, Concepcion Burgos Granados was picked-up by agents of the National Guard of El Salvador. Concepcion Granados is a worker in the confectionary industry, is a national leader of his union and of the United Confederation of Salvadorean Workers (CUTS). He is a member of the leadership of the Socialist Worker's Party (PST), affiliated to the Parity Committee for the Reorganisation — Reconstruction of the Fourth International.

This comrade, who is known as a trade union leader and as a Trotskyist, was imprisoned last year by the military junta. At that time it was only through an important campaign, marked by many strikes and demonstrations, that he was freed.

Since he was abducted on August

25th, no news has been heard of comrade Granados. His life is in danger. The National Guard deny any knowledge of his abduction and list him as "missing."

At the same time two militants of the PST have been wounded in the course of a clash between a patrol of the ORDEN (an extreme right-wing armed militia) and a peasant militia of the PST in the Usulután Zone of the country. The PST is without news of the fate of three other comrades who took part in this incident.

The Socialist Labour Group calls for an immediate campaign by the Labour Movement in Britain to free Granados.

Letters, telegrams and delegations should be addressed to The Embassy of El Salvador, Portland Place, London W.1. without delay.

**Freedom for comrade Granados!
Solidarity with the Trotskyist fighters
in El Salvador!**

1980 FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MURDER OF LEON TROTSKY

ON AUGUST 21, 1940, Ramon Mercader, an agent of the GPU, murdered Leon Trotsky. He died shortly after the close of the first period of the world proletarian revolution, which followed the defeat of the Spanish Revolution.

The Second World War had broken out and the shadow of Hitler began to cover the whole of Europe.

Trotsky died at his post, a victim of counter-revolution, because he was a fighter for revolution, in good days and bad days alike.

His last words sum up his major pre-occupation, the construction of an international revolutionary party of the working class, as the means to the construction of effective national parties. They were: "Go Forward! I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International!"

It was precisely his struggle for the foundation of the Fourth International in 1938, and to draw together the working class tendencies moving towards Bolshevism, on the basis of the experience and

principles embodied in the "Transitional Programme," which made him a danger to all "established" society. The Stalinists failed to destroy Trotsky politically by means of slander. The bourgeoisie and their petty bourgeois agents have failed to destroy his ideas and his movement.

In this fortieth anniversary year of his death, there takes place a capital event in the battle for the Fourth International. The Socialist Labour Group welcomes the conference of the Parity Committee at the end of the year, at which the majority of those in the world who claim to be partisans of Trotsky will establish a world regroupment, a major step towards the reconstructed movement Trotsky founded and to a mass revolutionary world party.

The theses to be discussed at this Conference are now being prepared. They will be available in "International Correspondence." The life's work of Trotsky, of Lenin and of Marx and Engels will be represented at that Conference in the living struggle for the Fourth International.



TURKEY: Down with the military! End Repression!

THE RECENT MILITARY COUP in Turkey came as no surprise to the Turkish working class. The 'Times' reported that, "The coup was carried out to avert the threat of all-out civil war in Turkey. . ." What lay behind that threat was more than the escalating rate of assassinations. This itself was a symptom, a bitter symptom, of the inability of the Turkish bourgeoisie to maintain its rule on the basis of the democratic state. Turkey was heading towards a collapse of government and the opening of a revolutionary crisis.

The Turkish working class has been far from quiet over the recent period. Massive strikes and class battles have taken place in Izmir and Istanbul and the demonstrations in defiance of a banning order last May Day showed that the workers wanted to fight.

The problem which underlies the prolonged instability is the absence of an independent workers' party, and the fragmentation of the trade unions. The RPP of Bulent Ecevit, which poses as a socialist party, is in fact descended from the nationalist party of Kemal Ataturk. The RPP stand on the basis of the preservation of private property and has never attacked the foreign capital which dominates the Turkish economy. The economy in Turkey is in fact utterly dependent on massive loans and savage exploitation of the working class, including child labour. There is no immediate prospect of the Turkish ruling class overcoming the political and economic crisis, save through massive repression. The praise which has been given in Western Europe for the "bloodless" nature of the coup must not serve to obscure an understanding that this is not a 'Philanthropic' but a counter-revolutionary act. The coup must be condemned.

Many worker activists and Kurdish nationalists are now in jail in Turkey. It is necessary to mount a campaign in the British Labour Party and unions for their immediate release. Political parties are now effectively illegal. Trade unions have been driven underground. Militants here must demand an end to the military regime, immediate general elections and full rights to political parties.

The future in Turkey very much conditions the class struggle in Europe. Turkey is a bridge between Europe, the Middle East and Iran, and a front-line base for NATO. We have an interest in calling for the immediate ending of NATO bases in Turkey and the ending of military aid, used to repress the workers, peasants and national minorities.

The future in Turkey hinges on the crucial question of forming an independent mass workers' party. Members of the Labour Party should call for breaking the link with Ecevit's RPP and for the formation of an independent party. The coup and governmental crisis, which the 'Times' says was to prevent civil war can only postpone, not prevent, the emergence of a revolutionary crisis proper. Towards that day the SLG and Parity Committee for the Reorganization (Reconstruction) of the Fourth International will lend all possible aid to the Turkish people against the military regime and towards the construction of a Trotskyist revolutionary party in Turkey, section of the Fourth International.